

Edinburgh Union Canal Society SCIO

Scottish Charity Number – SC051467

Annual Report And Financial Statements For The Year Ended 30 September 2025

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ford Buchanan', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Dr Ford Buchanan

Treasurer

18/01/26

For The Year Ended 30 September 2025

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report together with the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2025.

Reference And Administrative Information

Charity Name

Edinburgh Union Canal Society, hence referred to as EUCS

Charity Number

SC051467

Address

32 Cowan Road

Edinburgh

EH11 1RH

Current Trustees

All elected on 03/11/2024 at AGM

Andrew Burns	Chair
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Vicki Morton	Secretary
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Sandra Purves	Membership Secretary
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Ford Buchanan	Treasurer
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Andrew Devenport

Bridget Stevens

Glen Liddall

Guy Chisholm

Ian White

Raphael Uddin

Richard Allen

Robin Morton

Shawn Waddoups

Stuart Rennie

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The charity is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO). It was registered on 22 December 2021. EUCS replaces Edinburgh Canal Society, SC018330, which is now wound up. EUCS received all assets and liabilities of Edinburgh Canal Society. EUCS has a two-tier structure. There is the board of trustees, as listed above, and members. Trustees are also members of the society.

Appointment Of Trustees

Trustees are elected at the annual general meeting held in November each year. There must be a minimum of twelve and a maximum of eighteen trustees.

Objectives And Activities

Charitable Purposes

To encourage and promote the public use of those stretches of the Union Canal and its towpath lying in and near Edinburgh, for educational, sporting, leisure, and recreational purposes.

Fundraising Activities

Throughout the year, we've used information stalls on the canal towpath to publicise the society. All our stalls have been publicised on our website and via social media, with posters put up locally. At these events, we sell refreshments and home baking, as well as providing information on our ongoing activities and future plans. We also invite other local organisations to use our gazebos. Merchiston Community Council regularly took us up on this offer.

The information and cake stalls took place as part of the Flotilla of Light in November 2024, Rowing Boat launch in April 2025, the Canal Festival in June 2025, and Rowing Boat season finale in September 2025 which provided an income excluding boat hire of £537, £502, £757 and £407, respectively.

We held a pub quiz and social night in October 2024 and a social night in March 2025. These helped gain members, volunteers and raise our awareness in the community. We raised £800 in membership and we were successful in getting an extra £172 gift aid.

We carried out continuing maintenance on our three traditional rowing boats in the winter of 2024 – 2025. The main costs for the rowing boats were the cost of materials and marine insurance. Our fleet currently consists of three traditional Dory rowing boats. We hired these out from early April until late September on Sunday afternoons. As described above, we held events to mark the start and end of the season. We secured a grant towards rowing boat maintenance from City of Edinburgh Council.

Over the season, we managed 3/5 occupancy of hire slots and received very positive feedback from our customers across the season. We hired some sets of oars out for a photoshoot for an advert. The total surplus for the rowing boats was £2,938.

Achievements And Performance

Aside from events and hiring rowing boats, our main activity in 2025 has been commissioning surveys from surveyors, landscape architects, ecological surveyors etc. This has amounted to £10,800 for the year 2024 – 2025. These surveys will allow us to put figures to the business case that we developed last year. There will be some more surveys and costs in the coming year.

We have worked on preserving the heritage of the Union Canal with Edinburgh Printmakers. This involved being part of the EP Changemakers group which aims to highlight canal heritage.

Financial Review

Our sources of unrestricted income are fundraising activities, membership fees, and donations. We can take cash, bank transfers, card payments and have been able to sell some of our rowing boat hires online as well as in person. During this financial year, we have raised £5,110 of unrestricted funds.

We have continued to successfully apply for grants. These total £6,600 this year.

Reserves Policy

This is currently set at reserves of £4,000 in unrestricted money. For the year ended 30 September 2025, we had £6,879 in unrestricted money. So, we were well ahead of our reserves.

Insurances

Another search to try to combine our two insurances has proved fruitless.

Plans For The Future

We are aiming to finalise the costs for our business case by the end of 2005. This will allow us to decide what we do next. The likelihood is that we embark on raising the large amount of capital expenditure needed to develop the Ashley Terrace boathouse and site.

During the winter of 2025 – 2026, we will refurbish our three popular rowing boats. This will result in three pristine boats, which we can hire from April to September 2026. We were also given two electric dinghies. We will get them ready for use next season over the winter of 2025 – 2026.

We will continue our drive for membership and increase the number of volunteers. We currently have 57 members.

We will also continue our grant fundraising for the steps towards a future building.

We plan to have several information and cake stalls.

Statement Of Receipts And Payments For The Year Ended 30 September 2025

Receipts	Unrestricted	Restricted	30/09/2025	Previous Accounts
Donations	18		18	208
Grants	0	6,600	6,600	6,650
Fundraising less donations	2,259		2,259	3,897
Membership fees	800		800	942
Rowing Boat Hire	1,822		1,822	1,598
Gift Aid	172		172	294
Oar Hire	39		39	0
Total Receipts	5,110	6,600	11,710	13,589

Payments	Unrestricted	Restricted	30/09/2025	Previous Accounts
Fundraising expenses	135		135	155
Equipment & keys	854		854	405
Petrol	70		70	33
Consumables	542		542	808
Committee Rooms & Social	229		229	176
Van Hire	50		50	0
Website Domain (biennial)	14		14	0
Kelvin Demolition Cost	0		0	1,000
Subscriptions	73		73	73
Postage	94		94	0
Just Giving Fees	0		0	54
Movement of Boats	58		58	0
Insurance	1,309		1,309	702
Consultants Fees	0	10,800	10,800	0
Repayment A Devenport	0		0	2,514
Repayment A Burns	0		0	657
Repayment F Buchanan	0		0	123
Total Payments	3,428	10,800	14,228	6,700

Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year	1,682	-4,200	-2,518	6,889
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Table 1

Statement Of Balances As Of 30 September 2025

	Unrestricted	Restricted	30/09/2025	Previous Accounts
Opening cash at bank and in hand	8,911	11,386	20,297	13,408
Surplus/ (Deficit) for year	1,682	-4,200	-2,518	6,889
Closing cash at bank and in hand	10,593	7,186	17,779	20,297

Bank & Cash Balances

	Unrestricted	Restricted	30/09/2025	Previous Accounts
Bank deposit account	10,493	7,186	17,679	20,197
Cash Float	100		100	100
Total	10,593	7,186	17,779	20,297

Table 2

Grants As Of 30 September 2025

Grants	Unrestricted	Restricted	30/09/2025	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22
McNab Trust						1,000
J K Young Endowment Fund					1,000	
One City Trust					2,000	
JT Howat Charitable Trust					250	
Fairfield 11/2022					2,500	
H & M Miller Bequest					500	
Fairfield 06/2023					2,500	
Dr Guthrie's Association					1,000	
Edinburgh Airport				1,050		
Folio Trust				5,000		
H & M Miller Trust				600		
CEC CGF SW2425		2,000	2,000			
H & M Miller Bequest	600		600			
McNab Trust	1,500		1,500			
Cordis Trust	1,000		1,000			
Nancy Roberts Trust	1,000		1,000			
JT Howat Charitable Trust	500		500			
Total	4,600	2,000	6,600	6,650	9,750	1,000
Total Grants by 30/09/2025	24,000					

Table 3

Payments To Consultants Projects As Of 30 September 2025

HarrisonStevens	7,692
Blebo Tree Surgery	714
Echoes Ecology	1,794
Archilink	600
Total	10,800

Table 4

Rowing Boats As Of 30 September 2025

	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Hire	1,822		
Grant Frm SW2524	2,000		
Fibre-glass etc		102	
Moving boats		78	
Marine Insurance		781	
Total	2,000	961	1,039

Table 5

Income From Events As Of 30 September 2025

	Income	Previous Accounts
Information & Cake Stall - Flotilla of Light	537	543
Information & Cake Stall - RB Launch	687	752
Information & Cake Stall - Canal Festival	817	860
Information & Cake Stall - RB Finale	527	685
Quiz March	80	48
Rowing Boat Hire	1822	1,598
Total	4,470	4,486

Table 6

Notes To The Accounts – For The Year Ended 30 September 2025

1. Basis Of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

2. Nature And Purpose of Funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for day-to-day running of the society.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. In 2021 – 2025 we raised money for the continued refurbishment of the rowing boats £4,050, for the development of the Ashley Terrace boathouse and site £14,950 and an unrestricted grant of £5,000.

3. Insurances

We currently have two types of insurance. Employers' insurance for third-party liabilities. This insures against accidents on-site and at the events that we host on the towpath. For the year 2024-2025, this was £528. To hire rowing boats, we need to have marine insurance. For 2024-2025, this cost £781 for our three boats. We searched for a way to combine these insurances in August of 2025, but we were unable to find any saving on two separate insurances.

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