

INTERFAITH GLASGOW

**Annual Report and Accounts
for the Year Ended 31st March 2019**

Interfaith Glasgow

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Trustees' Report

Board of Trustees and Administration Details

Interfaith Glasgow is registered as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (No. SC046525), governed by a constitution. The structure of the charity consists of charity trustees who are also the organisation's only members and comprise the organisation's board.

The board may at any time appoint any person to be a charity trustee.

The constitution requires that the board includes individuals from a number of different faith and belief traditions in Glasgow: Bahá'í; Buddhist; Christian (2), Hindu, Jewish; Muslim (2), and Sikh. Further trustees may be appointed who are either people of particular religion or belief, or people who have particular skills, knowledge, connections, or experience pertinent to the purposes of the organisation. Within the board there are three office bearer roles: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Treasurer.

All board members undertake their roles in a purely voluntary capacity. The board has the power to appoint additional trustees and there are smaller working groups to look at matters such as policy and funding. The term of office for board members is three years with the possibility of re-election.

The current trustees are:

Dr. Anthony Allison (Treasurer)	Christian – Catholic
Abdul Aziz	Muslim – Sunni
Ruby Bhopal	Sikh
Saba Forsyth	Bahá'í
Rev. Roy Henderson	Christian – Church of Scotland
Emma Christina Leighton	Buddhist
Manjula Math	Hindu
Gordon Matheson CBE	Appointed Member
Philip Mendelsohn (Chair)	Jewish
Azzam Mohamad	Muslim – Shia
Safa Yousaf (Vice Chair)	Muslim – Sunni

Also serving during the year were:

Dr Richie Adams	Police Scotland
Rev. Cedric Blakey	Christian – Scottish Episcopal
James Gillies	Bahá'í

The office of the charity is Flemington House, Second Floor, 110 Flemington Street, Glasgow G21 4BF.

The Objects of the Charity

The organisation is established for charitable purposes only and, in particular, the promotion of religious harmony, equality, and diversity; and the advancement of education through:

- increasing mutual understanding, harmony, and equality between people from different religious traditions and none by providing opportunities for mutual-learning, friendship-building, dialogue, and cooperation

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Trustees' Report (continued)

- supporting and collaborating with other organisations, groups, and individuals whose activities foster positive interfaith engagement
- increasing awareness, understanding, and appreciation of religious diversity and interfaith activity

Annual Report of the Board of Trustees

In the financial year 2018-19, Interfaith Glasgow continued to work towards furthering its aims through events and activities focused on encouraging friendship-building across religious boundaries; faith and belief dialogue; and practical interfaith cooperation on issues of common concern, such as poverty.

Scottish Interfaith Week (SIFW)

SIFW continues to present an important opportunity to raise awareness of, and participation in, interfaith activities. This year 25 events took place across Glasgow. Of these, Interfaith Glasgow organised 8 events that engaged hundreds of members of the public across all ages: Family Fun Day; Civic reception at Glasgow City Chambers for approx. 80 people, showcasing and celebrating interfaith engagement in Glasgow; Religious Dress Workshops at Shawlands Academy; 3 Interfaith Volunteer Swaps with the Interfaith Food Justice Network; a Scriptural Reasoning event; and a Faith to Faith event. We additionally supported: a book reading and head coverings activity by author of children's book Hats of Faith at Hyde N Seek Nursery, Springburn; a community lunch on theme of Food Justice at the University of Strathclyde Chaplaincy Centre; and a Glasgow City College interfaith event. The Annual Interfaith Family Fun Day continues to go from strength-to-strength with a record 220 people in attendance.

Scriptural Reasoning

Scriptural reasoning is an effective way for adherents of different faith and belief traditions to explore the foundational texts of different traditions; and investigate differences and similarities both between and within traditions. This year saw Interfaith Glasgow deliver scriptural reasoning events on shared religious figures across traditions and themes such as hospitality and charity in the Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and Sikh traditions.

Faith-to-Faith

Following its launch in 2016, our 'Faith-to-Faith' series in partnership with St Mungo's Museum of Religious Life and Art has continued to go from strength-to-strength with current demand resulting in a move to the larger Function Suite at St Mungo's so as to accommodate numbers. This series of monthly dialogue events explores issues and topics related to religion and contemporary society such as angels, sexuality, domestic abuse, gender, Israel-Palestine, immigration, and death.

Weekend Club

Interfaith Glasgow's 'Weekend Club' continues to tackle social isolation and assist integration for refugees, asylum seekers, and new migrants. This year we have held 10 events, welcoming more than 240 participants from Albania, Algeria, China, Iran, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Libya, Nigeria, Somalia, and Syria. The number of children attending has grown and we now have a sub-committee of volunteers to organise children's activities and a new youth steering committee to enable young people to have a say in developing a youth

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Trustees' Report (continued)

specific programme of activities. Events have ranged from: a picnic at the Hidden Gardens; an Eid Party; a women's only craft event for Refugee Festival; kite making with Ricefield Community Arts; a tour and lunch at Glasgow Gurdwara; a safari park trip; a dialogue on fasting hosted at St Mary's Cathedral; a Hogmanay themed party; an event for Chinese New Year; and a consultation event to gather participant feedback and enable participants to influence our 2019 programme.

Interfaith Food Justice Network

We have continued to support the Interfaith Food Justice Network (IFJN), which brings together local groups and organisations in Glasgow who are working to tackle food poverty from a variety of faith and belief perspectives. Those involved include Christians, Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists, Humanists and many non-religious people. IFJN members seek to support each other's work and use their collective voice to push for food justice – based on their shared vision, laid out in the Interfaith Food Justice Declaration. The IFJN is partly funded by Sustain and is co-ordinated by Interfaith Glasgow in partnership with Faith in Community Scotland's Transformation Team. The support provided has this year included hosting bi-annual networking events, servicing monthly meetings of the network's Development Group, and supporting the delivery of One Big Picnic (see below) and the 'Interfaith Food Share' WhatsApp group.

One Big Picnic

Now in its second year, One Big Picnic (OBP), a volunteer-led, free community meal in George Square in Glasgow city centre to promote unity and dignity took place on 13 May. The event was organised by the IFJN Development Group with support of Interfaith Glasgow and Faith in Community Scotland's Transformation Team. On Sunday 3rd September 2017 a wide range of faith and belief groups involved in tackling food poverty, handed out over 2,000 food portions to people from diverse backgrounds. In addition, musicians provided free entertainment, there were Tai Chi and Yoga demonstrations, and participants had the opportunity to try on a Sikh turban or a Muslim hijab. The event has attracted considerable support from local businesses and politicians; a number of whom attended the event in person. The event was also covered by media outlets such as STV and the Pakistani news channel UK44 TV.

Interfaith Outdoors

Interfaith Glasgow partnered with the Forestry Commission Scotland to facilitate interfaith experiences through a series of woodland activities and outdoor explorations over the Summer. Four religiously mixed groups of 6-10 people visited beautiful locations near Glasgow: Aberfoyle; Loch Arding; Mugdock Park; Falls of the Clyde; and Inchcailloch. Participants learned new skill such as bushcraft and outdoor cooking and the dialogue focused on interreligious perspectives to nature. A short film documenting the event was created and added to our YouTube channel.

Religious Dress in the Flesh

In August 2018, Interfaith Glasgow partnered with both St Mungo's and the University of Glasgow to host a public event to learn about the significance of articles of clothing from a range of different religious perspectives. The event was a great success. We had a full turnout of 35 participants and feedback was extremely positive. A film documenting the event and the contributions of the speakers was made and is now being used in a variety of educational contexts, including by St Mungo's Museum and the University of Glasgow.

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Trustees' Report (continued)

World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize

Interfaith Glasgow was the 2018 bronze medal winner of the prestigious H.M. King Abdullah II World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize, in recognition of our activities during World Interfaith Harmony Week (WIHW) in February 2018. IG Chairman, Philip Mendelsohn, and Director, Rose Drew, were presented with the bronze award by H.M. King Abdullah II at a ceremony in Amman on 24th April. Subsequently, a motion was endorsed by the Scottish Parliament congratulating Interfaith Glasgow and stating their support for our work.

WIHW 'Show and Tell' Afternoon Tea & Tour

This Vibrancy (Glasgow City Council) funded event took place at the Hidden Gardens on 3 February to mark World Interfaith Harmony Week 2019. Participants from different faith and belief backgrounds were invited to bring along an object relating to their religious practice, spiritual outlook, or ethical values, to discuss with each other over tea and cake; the feedback was overwhelmingly positive.

Interfaith Community Meal

Interfaith Glasgow, in partnership with Glasgow City Council, brought together approximately 30 people from Glasgow's diverse faith and belief communities to share a vegetarian meal provided by Glasgow's Sufi Muslim community at Masjid Khasra in the South East of Glasgow. The event sought to foster participant reflection on issues of community cohesion in a relaxed and informal context; the feedback from this event was excellent.

Chaplaincy Project Research

Interfaith Scotland commissioned Interfaith Glasgow to undertake some research on interfaith activity in relation to Scottish University Chaplaincies, to feed into a broader Scottish study, still underway.

Support for Glasgow LGBT+ Interfaith Network (GLIN)

This year we supported the establishment of GLIN through advice, networking assistance, advertising, and other practical support. GLIN's aim is to support people of faith and belief who are LGBT+, and their supporters. It aims to promote the visibility and acceptance of LGBT+ people of faith, facilitate interfaith dialogues from a specifically LGBT+ perspective, and allow non-LGBT+ people of faith a place to ask questions and grow in their understanding.

Partnership

Maintaining and developing connections, networks, and partnerships is essential to interfaith work. We also work with other organisations concerned with equalities, education, good interfaith / intercultural relations, and social justice. Here are a few specific examples from the past year.

We have strengthened our links with Glasgow City Council through for example, the Lord Provost's hosting of our SIFW City Chambers Reception and support of OBP. We frequently work in partnership with St Mungo Museum, not only to deliver our Faith to Faith series but also on one-off events such as 'Religious Dress in the Flesh', deepening a highly creative and mutually beneficial collaborative relationship. Our Interfaith Outdoors project evolved out of links with the Forestry Commission and a range of other organisations who helped with the smooth delivery of the project, such as the Branching Out Programme (which provided us with volunteers); and Ruzbowl (a social enterprise) that helped with the outdoor cooking preparation and delivery.

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Trustees' Report (continued)

Through our support of the Interfaith Food Justice Network (IFJN) we are linked to organisations all over Glasgow who work to tackle food poverty from a variety of faith and belief perspectives. Our work with the IFJN has also involved partnering from the start with Faith in Community Scotland's Transformation Team. As members of the Scottish Food Coalition, The IFJN have been increasing our visibility and developing connections outwith Glasgow. As members of Sustain's Food Poverty Alliance, we have shared our ways of working with a UK wide network.

Delivering our Weekend Club events has required that we work with other agencies, such as Ricefield Community Arts and a variety of faith communities, enabling us to introduce 'New Scots' to Glasgow's rich religious and cultural diversity as well as helping local faith communities to engage with refugees. Interfaith Glasgow is a member of the Scottish Alliance against Prejudice and Hate Crime (coordinated by VAF), helping keep us abreast of important initiatives and developments. Our annual Interfaith Family Fun Day always involves working closely with community stakeholders of various kinds, this year including Police Scotland and Glasgow Life.

Organisational Development

We continue to consult with our supporters and diverse faith and belief communities at our AGM and other events to help us generate ideas for future relevant projects and to ensure we continue to serve Glasgow's diverse communities.

Our board continues to meet every 6 to 8 weeks and we hold regular staff meetings and staff progress reviews. On-going training and support is offered as appropriate.

Our annual publication, Flourish, showcases our activities and is an important tool for us to share our work with the wider public. We continue to use and develop our social media platforms and website to raise awareness of our work and promote good interfaith relations.

Funding

Following a cut in core funding from the Scottish Government, we continue to seek opportunities to diversify and strengthen our funding portfolio to establish our work on a more secure footing. We are grateful to all those trusts, organisations and individuals which have funded our activities.

Financial review

At 31st March 2019 the charity held £15,354 of cash reserves in the bank. The unrestricted cash balance at the year end was £8,574; the restricted funds cash balance was £6,780.

Interfaith Glasgow is funded on a project basis and unrestricted reserves would not be included in this funding. The Trustees consider that a level of unrestricted reserves of £5,000 to cover costs of redundancies and other costs associated with winding up the organisation is reasonable and at the end of the year this had been achieved.

Approved by the board of trustees on 3 Sept 2019 and signed on its behalf

REDACTED

Signed Philip Mendelson

Interfaith Glasgow

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Interfaith Glasgow

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2019 which are set out on pages 7 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 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 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 **REDACTED** Date 9.7.19

Stanley Wynd ACIS FCIE
122 Giles Street
Edinburgh
EH6 6BZ

Interfaith Glasgow
Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended
31st March 2019

	Restricted funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2018/19 £	Total 2017/18 £
<u>Receipts</u>				
Grants	22,947	50,000	72,947	70,950
Donations	982	3,955	4,937	9,404
Fee and earned income		3,692	3,692	-
Other income	-	196	196	207
Bank interest	-	6	6	1
Total receipts	23,929	57,849	81,778	80,562
<u>Payments</u>				
Payments for charitable activities:				
Staff costs	3,989	30,541	34,530	41,920
Freelance costs	6,226	6,081	12,307	13,091
Event and project costs	7,152	2,843	9,995	21,701
Print & design costs	628	670	1,298	775
Staff travel	30	101	131	189
Staff training	-	155	155	100
Office	2,169	4,977	7,146	6,260
Volunteer expenses	453	64	517	1,148
Admin & payroll fees	119	3,028	3,147	2,986
Bank charges	-	-	-	60
Governance costs:				
Board meetings	-	395	395	341
Total payments	20,766	48,855	69,621	88,571
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(deficit) for year	3,163	8,994	12,157	(8,009)
Cash funds brought forward	3,617	(420)	3,197	11,206
Cash funds carried forward	6,780	8,574	15,354	3,197

Interfaith Glasgow

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31st March 2019

Bank and cash on hand

	2018/19	2017/18
	£	£
Opening balances	3,197	11,206
Surplus / (deficit) for year	12,157	(8,009)
Closing balances	15,354	3,197

Restricted funds

	Balance at 01/04/2018	Received	Paid	Balance at 31/03/2019
Weekend Club	1,559	12,627	(8,050)	6,136
Food Power	2,586	5,000	(7,349)	237
Glasgow Equalities Forum	(1,072)	1,507	(435)	-
One Big Picnic	155	55	(210)	-
Stella Reekie	389	-	-	389
Vibrancy Fund	-	2,100	(2,082)	18
Interfaith Outdoors	-	2,540	(2,540)	-
Family Fund Day	-	100	(100)	-
	3,617	23,929	(20,766)	6,780

Weekend Club

Funding from Scottish Refugee Council, Souter Trust, FISCAF, Mactaggart & Mickel, Goldberg Family Trust, Young Movers, Glasgow Life and St Nicholas Fund, along with a number of donations, for the Weekend Club project - a programme of events providing activities over the weekend for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants.

Food Power

Funding from Sustain for the Interfaith Food Justice Network.

Glasgow Equalities Forum

Funding to organise a 'Religion, Belief, and Equality in Glasgow' conference in March 2018, received in arrears in April 2018.

One Big Picnic

Funding to organise a free community meal in George Square in Glasgow city centre to promote unity and dignity.

Stella Reekie

Funds received from the Glasgow Sharing of Faiths for the purpose of honouring the memory of Stella Reekie.

Interfaith Glasgow Receipts and Payments Account for the Year Ended 31st March 2019

Restricted funds (continued)

Vibrancy Fund

A pilot programme funded by Glasgow City Council's 'Vibrancy' fund providing opportunities for people from different faith and belief backgrounds to gain a better understanding and first hand experience of each other's religious festivals.

Interfaith Outdoors

Project funded by the Forestry Commission to deliver interfaith engagement and woodland sessions to individuals with little or no previous exposure to Scottish Woodlands, and to produce a short film reflecting participants' experiences.

Family Fun Day

Funding from Interfaith Scotland towards the cost of putting on the Family Fun Day.

Assets and liabilities

Interfaith Glasgow had equipment valued at the year end at approximately £81 (2018: £187). It also had debtors of £4,647 (2018: £9,213). At the year end the charity did not have any liabilities (2018: nil).

Trustee payments

The members of the board of trustees did not receive any remuneration or expenses in either year.

Approved by the board of trustees on03/07/19.....and signed on their behalf

Signed
Anthony Allison

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