

TREASURER'S REPORT – YEAR TO 31 OCTOBER 2024

The year has again been very challenging, both logistically and financially as we prepared to close the office at 5 St Vincent Place and transfer the contents to the homes of the Secretary and Treasurer.

At the start of 2024, there were 290 Clubs in Membership. However, 6 Clubs have made no contact with the Fellowship over the past year, in spite of several letters and 4 Clubs have resigned.

Most Clubs remitted their Fees by Bank Transfer and we would ask Clubs to continue to do so as Banks move away from cheques and cash. 15 Clubs have continued to make an annual donation to the Fellowship instead of taking Badges and donations were received from 5 Clubs in addition to Fees. No Life Memberships were taken out during the year.

Over the years, the Fellowship Trustees have ensured that Funds were held in reserve to meet at least one year's financial commitments. The interest rate on our NS&I Investment Account is now 1.00%. However, our Property Bond continues to yield interest at 4%.

The Accounts for the year to 31 October 2024 show a net shortfall of £15,184, against the previous year's shortfall of £4,923. A copy of the Examined Accounts will be available on our website to download.

During the year, we continued to receive applications for assistance and one Grant for Bereavement was made totalling £500. Five Para Handy wheelchairs were purchased for Trinity, St Fergus, Broughty Castle, West End Stranraer and Drumoyne Bowling Clubs at a total cost of £4,220. and West End Perth, Abronhill, Giffnock, Langside, Gourrock Park and Stamperland Bowling Clubs received Grants totalling £2,554.54 towards the purchase of bowling aids, including Bella Bowling Seats, Bowling Arms, etc.

As many clubs indicated last year that their Members no longer wished to receive an annual Badge, the Trustees decided to offer a pen as an alternative. For 2025, on a trial basis, EITHER a Badge OR a pen will be available. The annual Membership Fee will continue to be £2.00 per Member for 2025.

Applications for help can be made at any time by those Clubs who have paid Membership Fees.

To assist Clubs in accessing Bowling Aids, we have joined forces with Colin Bain of David Gourlay Bowls, based at the Glasgow Indoor Bowling Club who, has an online ordering system and can offer a Price List for Fellowship Members. Details are on our web page.

Olive A Allardyce, Treasurer