



Minute

G4G Membership Virtual AGM

Date Wednesday 28th October 2020

At 7.00pm

Location

(This was a virtual meeting conducted online using O365 Teams Meeting)

Present: Alan Gorvett (Trustee/Chairman), Tom Morrow (Trustee/Treasurer), Rob Rowe (Trustee/Station Director), Brian Boyde (Trustee), Brian Cran (Volunteer), Racheal MacKay (Volunteer), Jim Buchan (Secretary/Trustee), Mary Buchan, Helen Rowe, David and Atia Rowe.

Items

1 Welcome – Open with Payer

Brian Boyde Welcomed all to the meeting and formally started proceedings by committing our time together in prayer.

2 Approve Minutes from last years AGM – All

Alan Gorvett referred to last year AGM minute which has been published on the G4G website in draft for some time. He invited a proposer and seconder.

Proposer – Rob Rowe

Secunder – David Rowe

The Minute was unanimously approved.

3 Chairman's remarks – Alan Gorvett

Can I first add my welcome to all who have joined this AGM and we hope that you will have a better idea of the work of Gospel 4 Grampian as a result of your participation.

Since our last AGM so much has changed. Initially it was business as usual with concentration on programme content, from both varied music choice to taking advantages of recording outside broadcasts and live events. In Oct 2019 Rob was at Fraserburgh recording a testimony by John Buchan followed quickly by producing a G4G Calendar which provided funding for future equipment upgrades.

At the end of 2019 listener stats showed UK, America & Canada making up the main listeners but there was also listeners noted from many other countries – Podcasts were also on the increase.

In early 2020 John 3:16 was being broadcasted by G4G in 30 languages including Gaelic, Mandarin & Russian with Podcasts rising to over 14,000.



Then Covid 19 hit resulting in lockdowns, live events being cancelled, church services going on-line and normal G4G content being reduced. For the next few months it is a credit to Rob and volunteers Rachel & Brian for keeping the broadcasts relevant even though some of the normal content was no longer available. We all experienced the lockdown in our own vicinities and the quietness that came with virtually no traffic and meeting very few people when we were out exercising. The background noise of everyday life was suddenly silenced – it was as if God was saying 'Can you Hear me now'? Well many people did hear God through the broadcasts produced by Gospel 4 Grampian during this frightening and uncertain period where our lives were altered and freedom as we knew it were substantially constrained.

The broadcasts continued but equipment upgrades was required in order to improve the functionality of the Station. I'm sure Jim and Rob will provide more detailed information on this but it would be remiss of me not to mention the work that Jim put in by providing the specification, ordering, building and installing of the new equipment. This happened over a couple of months and was a major effort under the circumstances.

Rob has committed a substantial portion of his time in keeping the Station relevant for today's listeners and we thank him for the significant contribution. Rob has excellent support from Rachel & Brian who have been assisting in the work of G4G for some time and we thank them for their continued devotion.

Uncertainty with Covid 19 continues and with the decision that The Victoria Hall, where we broadcast from, will no longer function under the present arrangements, then alternative premises for G4G may have to be found.

Uncertainty applies to many things that we continue to be dealing with but throughout God is in command and His hand can be seen in all aspects of His work. We are constantly amazed with His provisions and how the work of G4G reaches out to surprising places. A year ago the main listener numbers came from UK, USA & Canada. Latest listener numbers show a huge increase from China who are now topping the listings with Brunei being consistently in the top 6. Who would have predicted this a year ago? We are also pleased to announce a recent addition to our team of Volunteers with Tayo Shining joining the team and we look forward to her talents being used in God's work.

I think that this is a good time to close my address other than to thank all the Members for their continued support and interest, our friend Richard Gray for auditing the accounts meticulously prepared by Tom, the Trustees for their involvement in overseeing the work and direction of Gospel 4 Grampian and to our many listeners who are seeking God in their lives.

From Psalm 34 we hear 'I sought the Lord and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears'



A fitting Bible verse for our continued work and for the uncertainties that lie ahead.

4 OSCR report – Jim

Jim Presented a draft of the annual OSCR return for the benefit of the members present. This report is submitted annually and is approved by the Board of Trustees. It will be published on the G4G website, along with the annual accounts as usual once they have been signed by two Trustees. This is to meet our legal obligations and maintain our status of a registered charity. The links to all the formal papers will be notified to the membership on published on the G4G website.

5 Treasurers report – Tom Morrow

Tom provided an overview of last years Receipts & Payments and explained how some of the items are the sum of a number of payments or receipts. The accounts are currently quite healthy and we continue to meet all our of our financial obligations. Tom outlined the sources of funding which include regular giving from some members, one of donations from various churches and the proceeds of fund-raising efforts.

This year included a major investment in the studio computers all of which have either been either replaced or upgraded. This has allowed the station to move the most recent version of the Myriad – the playout software which allows the station to be online 24/7.

Victoria Hall has been very generous in limiting the monthly costs of the use of office space to £20 per month as a contribution to electricity costs.

The detailed summary is available below which will soon be published on the G4G Website along with the more detailed return which will be send to OSCR as part of the trustees report.

Receipts & Payments Account April 2019 to March 2020

	2019	2020
Income	£	£
Members Donations	2160	2160
Other Donations	1493	3182
Quiz Night Kemnay	430	-
Gift Aid Received	876	-
Sale of Cards/Calendars	1208	873
TSB Compensation	655	-
Refund	14	-
Total Income	6835	6215
Expenditure		
Telephone & Broadband	917	736
Computer Repairs	-	157
Broadcasting License	1334	604



Computer Maintenance	692	692
Office Insurance	423	438
Web Hosting/Streaming	257	123
Rent	450	-
Heat & Light	487	240
Alarm	127	-
Office Costs/Equipment	151	-
Calendars	493	384
Line Running Costs	180	-
Total Expenditure	5511	3374
Surplus (Loss) for Period	1324	2841

Notes:

The income shown reflects the amount paid into the charity's bank account for this financial year.

The expenditure is for items directly paid for by the charity, or refunded to trustees who have paid items on behalf of the charity

6 Directors report – Rob

Rob presented his annual report a transcript of this follows.

Gospel4Grampian Director's Report 28 October 2020 AGM held on line for COVID 19 Requirements

This last year has again been a test of skill, patience and tenacity. It has proved that we could, as a radio station do much of the work from home including; live broadcasting using mobile phones. We were even able to have two presenters on the same program. I'd like to give a snap shot of how we have been managing during these last few months. Once lock down had been lightened, our play out system was upgraded. I'd like to thank both Jim Buchan for coming in and carrying out the physical work needed to install the two new computers and upgrade our main studio computer. Thanks are also due to Broadcast Radio technicians who remotely have done sterling work with the upgrade, ironing out teething problems and have helped to keep us on air over the past year. I'll say more about the new system during this report.

During these past months, Rachel McKay has been a regular voice on the Gospel Café Request show. She has recorded a series of devotions for broadcast. Rachel is now familiarising herself with the workings of the station. She is able to find music tracks on the system, insert these into the on - air play list and operate the system to play the tracks remotely. During the Gospel Café Show, we have been having fun while listening to tracks. The jazz numbers in particular have us jigging and playing air instruments. On a more serious note, Rachel has also been helping out with rationalising the tracks on the system to take advantage of the extra flexibility and capacity available. This work is helping to streamline our output for the future and, iron out anomalies.



We are grateful to use Teams provided by Microsoft which allows team members to collaborate on projects, share files and meet via video link. The sound is good enough for broadcast.

In the earlier days of lockdown, Rachel and Rob used TEAMS to video meet to discuss links and give visual cues to the start of live sections. We used our mobile phones to broadcast our voices to the studio and to air. This still required quite a plethora of equipment laid out on the bed!! It worked and we were able broadcast live and record the programmes on the computer in the studio to re broadcast and to air.

We now use Teams so that Rachel can speak live with Rob in the studio. Rachel can see both Rob and dial in to see the screen of the studio computer. In this way she can see for herself what is playing, what is to come, search for music to play and insert items around to play. She is learning on the job.

Upgrade

In the last few months, the equipment has been upgraded with higher spec computers. Our studio computer has had its memory upgraded. Two further high spec computers have been purchased. These are much faster and capable of doubling up tasks which means we have hot reserves in case 1 computer fails. All computers now run the most advanced version of the Myriad Automation Software.

This is more integrated meaning that functions can be carried out within 1 application rather than 3. It's much faster and allows a streamlined output. Generally, we have a much improved system.

One of the important differences is that programmes can be imported onto the system much quicker. As the software is integrated, I don't have to switch between different pieces of software to carry out different tasks as in the past. An example is importing programmes then schedule programmes. Programmes can be scheduled with even an hour notice if required. Early teething issues have caused a few headaches and gritted teeth moments. At the start we spoke about changes during lockdown. There has been another important change which has been brought about by both the current pandemic and our upgrade. It has forced me and the volunteers to consolidate what we do rather than constantly reaching and stretching to do new things. We have been working on how we can do things better. By that I mean removing out of date tracks from the system, re assigning categories, putting in new music and programming. This is only part of what has been done. The work is on-going. The new system is making things easier.

Outages

We've had a few outages in the recent past. These were caused when a faulty boiler pump at Victoria Gospel Hall failed and tripped the electricity out thus taking us off air. This happened a few times before the issue was diagnosed. The boiler part is on order. We hope there will be no more outages as we move forward.

Volunteers:

As well as Rachel, we also have Brian who has been beaver away. He not only provides 4 good news stories each week, he has also sourced the scriptures which have been included



on the calendars that many people have purchased or have as gifts. Brian has already provided the scriptures for next year's calendars and for cards which we are planning to sell to raise funds.

I'd like to join with the other Trustees in welcoming new volunteer Tayo who is not able to make this meeting but hopes to catch up later. Tayo brings with her a wealth of story writing for children and a great infectious enthusiasm.

We greatly value all our volunteers, not only for the ways in which they have helped us: but also, for the people God has made them to be, for their friendship and good cheer and company.

Programmes at Gospel4Grampian

Here is a flavour of what we broadcast in the past year. We have been broadcasting The Gospel. The program element 'Your Gospel' makes the Gospel available to people of different nationalities. John Ch3 Vs16 is broadcast in different Languages at the top of the hour almost every hour. Over 30 different languages are broadcast and we believe is attracting listeners from different nations. There are 6500 languages in the world. Who knows we might be able to broadcast and podcast the Gospel in many or all of these as we make The Gospel available to all.

During Lockdown our Wednesday mid week service has been compiled by David Aird from churches in the Central Belt. David Aird presents Heart of the Matter which is broadcast here on the station. While eyebrows may be raised that these are not local churches, it is important to bear in mind that firstly much of the work of the station is done by Rob. Time is pressing. Secondly and importantly, David Aird's compilation takes in worship from different churches and sources. The heart of the station is to feature believers from all denominations and not just a few. A believer is a person who believes and confesses that Jesus Christ is Lord and Saviour. Those who listen to the station can more readily appreciate a more unified church.

In the last months, we have greatly increased the number of testimonies we broadcast. Testimonies are a valuable record of God at work through people's lives. This is done through Your Story which features two testimonies per show and is broadcast several times a day.

On Saturdays and Sundays, we have started Weekend Book Club where listeners can tune in to hear audio books of classics and other uplifting books. Settle back at 4 pm on Saturday and Sunday to hear God's Smuggler, Pilgrim's Progress, Hind's Feet in High Places.

On Wednesdays and Saturday's at 8 pm, we welcome Pastor Fergus Buchan of Faith Like Potatoes fame. Pastor Fergus has been giving his testimony in interview form. In the second series of programmes, he is speaking about the missionary work both in Africa and other countries. Pastor Buchan is connected with Grampian as his the family originally came from Aberdeen and Peterhead/ Fraserburgh area. The program Kingdom Come is accompanied by much Faith and prayer.



Scriptures from the bible are broadcast 4x a day as Hearing is Believing and more on live programmes such as Gospel Cafe, Community Elements show and Power Hour.

Music

We broadcast; Gospel, hymns, instrumental , worship, classical music genres each day.

Broadcasts:

Every quarter we are required to do a royalties report on our broadcasting to Public Phonographic Licensing. This includes a report on the number of countries we regularly broadcast to. Every quarter, we regularly reach listeners in between 70-80 countries. In the last quarter our top listening country has been China with many listeners in UK, US, Japan and Brunei Darasalam. Our listener numbers are climbing slowly.

Podcasts

In the last 12 months, our podcasts have had 6.4 K downloads with the highest in March this year when downloads exceeded 1,200. Over all, our podcasts have been accessed 17616 times. Top listening countries in the last month include; United Kingdom, South Africa, United States, India and Kenya. We have 967 Podcasts to access.

A vote of Thanks

Before I go on to set out a view of the future, I must first Acknowledge God for bringing us to this point, for His love, Grace and mercy and for using us. I want to acknowledge and thank Helen, my parents, all our trustees and especially Jim, Tom and in the background Richard for their hard work. Thank you to our supporters, intercessors without whom we cannot manage and to our volunteers. A very big thank you to you all.

The Way ahead - Integrity

The word Integrity comes to mind in everything. While thinking about our vision to proclaim and demonstrate the Gospel here in North Scotland and beyond, to work towards ensuring that our vision is fulfilled so that people can live life to the full, our new system which allows for better streamlining of our broadcasts, our work to consolidate and improve our output – Integrity should be what we do. This work should continue. It is important that people know who we are as a charity and what we do and that we fully stand for the Gospel with excellence.

Once we have established integrity with Christ Jesus at the centre, it will be that much easier to progress when conditions allow.

Thank you all for your interest over the past year and we invite you to continue.

7 AOCB

Jim raised the matter of the benefit we have had in being accommodated at Victoria hall. We are so grateful for their generosity in limiting our costs to be there. This has allowed the project to continue to broadcast many aspects of the Gospel on the internet and we really



have no real knowledge of the impact that these things have. It is so gratifying to see the number of listeners that we have and also the considerable amount podcast downloads that have been taken. We should pray that we will be able to maintain the stations work through continued provision of accommodation in the months ahead.

There were no other matters raised so Alan brought the formal business meeting to a close but the call remained open to allow those present to have some conversation as is our custom at previous AGM's.