

Manish-Scarista, Isle of Harris

The charge of Manish-Scarista, on the Isle of Harris, has a congregation of 28 members and approximately 60 adherents. We have three church buildings; a church in Scarista, on the west coast; a church in Manish, on the east coast; and a church and halls in Leverburgh, the centre of population. The Manse is in Scarista, and has required extensive renovation within the past few years. The roof tiling has had to be replaced, at a cost of £26,000. The General Trustees have given a grant of £16,500 towards the re-tiling of the roof.

Over the past few years, many people in the Western Isles have left The Church of Scotland. They have left for a number of reasons, but principal among the reasons has been decisions of The General Assembly which have been viewed as showing a disregard for biblical truth and biblical principles. The Church of Scotland members and adherents who remain have taken a very conscious and definite decision to stay in The Church of Scotland, which they regard as being their home in terms of faith and life. The members and adherents who remain in our Church look to the national Church for support and encouragement. This grant by the General Trustees is greatly appreciated in financial terms, but even more so in terms of the love and support which this grant represents.

I, as minister here, am immensely grateful to the General Trustees for their support and endorsement of the heroic faith and witness of the people of this congregation. This grant is a reminder to all of us that the work of the General Trustees is about much more than buildings and money; it is much more about demonstrating the support of the whole Church for good, faithful Christian people who for one reason or another need help with the very practical matters of building repairs.

Rev David Donaldson