



venturetrust

Reflections

ANNUAL REVIEW 2012-13

This year we said we would:

Work with even more participants

950 people worked with us during the year, to overcome challenges including homelessness, caring responsibilities, substance misuse, a history of local authority care, and involvement in the criminal justice system. We launched a new programme - On the Hoof - supporting young people with learning difficulties. We experienced greater demand for our provision than ever before, and delivered 50 residential wilderness expeditions, plus hundreds of one-to-one and small group development sessions, supporting and inspiring people to make and sustain positive changes in their lives.

Celebrate participants' achievements

Every small step towards more positive, resilient circumstances is a huge achievement, so this year's Midsummer, a rather wet and windy day, saw our first ever graduation ceremony for participants. Undeterred by the weather, almost 60 people, from across Scotland, celebrated their achievements, receiving certificates for completing one of our 12-18 month programmes.

Develop an internship programme

This year, we piloted our new internship programme. This offers young people, aged 16-19, meaningful paid employment and the opportunity to develop employability skills in a supported environment. Each intern is supported both by a line manager and an outreach worker - preparing the young person to understand expectations of work. Five interns took part last year and have all successfully gone on to other jobs or to take up college places and volunteering opportunities.

Secure new high-profile support

We were delighted to receive funding from Comic Relief to support 100 women seeking to escape substance misuse and involvement in offending over the next three years. In July, the Big Lottery Fund backed our work by awarding a multi-year grant which will enable over 180 young people from Inverclyde and Glasgow who have caring responsibilities, or who've experienced the care system to develop their skills, build confidence and raise aspirations for their transition into adulthood.

Launch our social enterprise

Venture Mhòr began trading in 2012 by welcoming guests to our youth hostel in Applecross. This followed extensive renovations to create a bright, modern and welcoming environment to support all our activities - greatly assisted by funding from LandAid, the Redevco Foundation and the Highlands and Islands Enterprise. We also delivered professional training to other third sector organisations, focusing on effective group work, dealing with challenging behaviour, and working as a team. In January, Venture Mhòr achieved a top five finalist position in the Local Business Accelerators awards.

Hand over in Malawi

Continuing our plans for sustainable handover of our work in Malawi, this year we supported 250 young men in Kachere prison, and communities in Lilongwe. Participants accessed life skills development, training and health advice and, on release, access to local services and work opportunities. The process of fully handing over the programme to local partners including the police, social services and courts began in March and will culminate in five Commonwealth Fellowships taking part in an eight week knowledge transfer and study programme with us in Scotland.

Looking ahead, in 2013-14 we aim to:

Transform lives across Scotland

We will continue to refine our programmes to deliver effective, relevant support, aimed at holistically supporting those who are considered the 'hardest to reach'. We will continue to make our support available as widely as possible, and to monitor our outcomes to ensure that our participants are supported to make and sustain real change in their lives.

Enhance employability support

In communities, we will enhance our support to enable participants to acquire core life skills and tackle barriers to employment, education, training or volunteering opportunities. We will expand our internship programme and deliver recognised accredited awards valued by employers.

Grow our UK partnerships

We will work with other organisations to support people experiencing homelessness into more permanent accommodation. We will also launch a new personal development programme to assist ex-service personnel experiencing difficulty adjusting to their new circumstances to make a positive transition into civilian life. The addition of peer mentor training will enable them to offer support to younger people in their communities.

Showcase success

We are committed to enabling our participants to find their voice and share their stories of the issues they face and the successes they achieve. We will publicise the importance of the issues our programmes address, launch a new film about our work, and represent our participants among decision makers.

Become more self-sufficient

We will broaden our network of our supporters, and raise income through a range of exciting fundraising events, ranging from outdoor challenges to team building activities. We plan to increase Venture Mhòr's trading income by marketing and delivering training opportunities, and by promoting the Applecross youth hostel.

Find out more about our plans for the year ahead at www.venturetrust.org.uk/ambition



10,260

Miles walked

621

Number of people joining a wilderness journey

3,780

Nights we've spent under canvas

85

Midge nets purchased



“Venture Trust’s innovative approach was what stood out to us. The physical and mental challenges participants are faced with, the time and space to reflect, and the ongoing support they receive on their return home are a powerful combination. Participants develop the strength to manage their lives better, and the skills and confidence to build a better future for themselves. This is great work, which we are proud to support.”

Comic Relief

Chair’s remarks

I am extremely proud of what Venture Trust has achieved this year. Our first graduation event in June was a wonderful moment to recognise the progress made by our participants, and to witness the dedication, expertise and quality of the work undertaken by the staff team. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, my heartfelt thanks go to all our supporters and partners for their commitment and enthusiasm this year. It is thanks to you that we have been able to support our participants to achieve real and lasting change in their lives. I am excited to look ahead to the opportunities and - undoubtedly - the challenges that the coming year will bring, and have no doubt that 2013 will be a year of even greater success for Venture Trust and our participants.

Mairi Brackenridge, Chair of the Board of Trustees

Trustees’ statement

These summarised financial statements incorporate all the operations of Venture Trust and are intended to give the reader an assessment of the overall financial position but are not the statutory accounts. This information is taken from the audited financial accounts, upon which the auditors’ opinion was unqualified. The full report and accounts were approved by the trustees on 24th September 2013 and have been submitted to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, the Registrar of Companies, and the Charity Commission. A copy is freely available from Venture Trust’s website, on request from the Venture Trust office, or on the Charity Commission’s website.

Signed on behalf of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mairi E. Brackenridge". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line underneath.

Mairi Brackenridge, Chair of the Board of Trustees



Fundraising and Finance

What we've raised

- Our income in 2012-13 was £2,904,673.
- The majority of our income comes from grants, with 42% of our income (2012: 49%) from statutory bodies and 50% (2012: 44%) grants from trusts and foundations.
- Looking ahead, we will continue working towards attracting a wider network of supporters and voluntary donations, providing greater stability and diversity of funds.

What we've spent it on

- We spent £1,296,068 on our outreach and community activities plus a further £1,510,554 on the delivery of personal development journeys in the wilderness. We also spent £118,713 to deliver our Malawi programme.
- In support of our UK programmes we invested £153,858 predominately towards renovating Hartfield House, Applecross including installing energy efficient heating, insulation and solar panels plus upgrading the fire alarm system and improving the comfort of common areas.
- This year, we have further reduced our costs seeking to demonstrate value for money in delivering our programmes.

9,460

Number of meals
cooked on Trangia stoves

324

'Positive destinations'
reached during the year

85

Head torches purchased



“Inspiring Scotland selected Venture Trust as one of our portfolio of ventures due to their track record of working with excluded young people, their openness to engage with us, their willingness to work in partnership and their commitment to evaluate their impact and performance. Venture Trust is clearly passionate about providing longer term support until their young people reach a positive destination.”

Inspiring Scotland



Our supporters

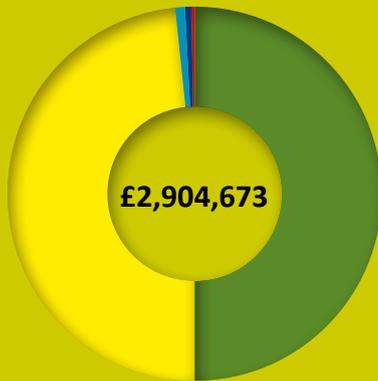
- Long-term support from Inspiring Scotland and the Scottish Government has been critical in enabling us to develop and deliver increasingly effective programmes and results.
- We have received vital support from Trusts and Foundations including The Souter Charitable Trust, The Volant Charitable Trust, The Henry Smith Charity, The Gannochy Trust, The Rank Foundation, The Robertson Trust and many others.
- We are grateful to statutory partners including Cashback for Communities, Local Authorities, Highland Leader and Edinburgh and Midlothian Pipeline (ESF).
- Our Malawi programme was funded by the Scottish Government’s International Development fund.
- We were delighted that more companies chose to support us this year, and special thanks go to Barclays Wealth, and to Sainsbury’s Quatermile, Edinburgh, for their donations, events, and in-kind support.
- Sincere thanks to every single one of our individual supporters, including Angus McLeod for his five year commitment to our work, and Karl Wills, who took on an epic Land’s End to John O’Groats cycle in aid of Venture Trust.

Our overall financial position

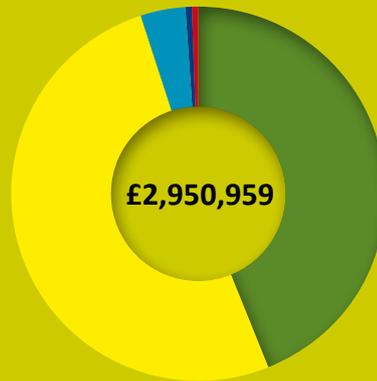
Net outgoing resources for the year amounted to £46,286 (2012: £85,446). However this includes a deficit of £48,857 (2012: £98,442) relating to depreciation on capital purchases in previous years. Excluding this capital fund, net incoming resources on revenue funds for the year amounted to £2,571 (2012: £12,996). Unrestricted reserves increased to £289,280.

Thanks to all our supporters, past and present, who help us offer individuals ‘a chance for change’. We couldn’t do it without you.

INCOME 2013



EXPENDITURE 2013



Financial figures

Income	2013	2012
Trufts, foundations & lottery	£1,456,645	£1,290,214
Statutory grants	£1,405,370	£1,575,675
Donations	£19,603	£26,627
Training & events	£20,040	£18,567
Interest	£3,015	£1,081
Total	£2,904,673	£2,912,164

Expenditure	2013	2012
Outreach & community support	£1,296,068	£1,443,293
Wilderness journeys	£1,510,554	£1,392,581
Moving On: Malawi	£118,713	£141,425
Fundraising	£15,336	£9,071
Governance	£10,288	£11,294
Total	£2,950,959	£2,997,610



www.venturetrust.org.uk hello@venturetrust.org.uk

The Venture Trust is a registered charity in Scotland (Number SC038932) and in England & Wales (Number 285891)