



ULLAPOOL MUSEUM & VISITOR CENTRE

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Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2016

The museum board had an active and productive year, meeting every two months to review our planning objectives and progress, and our budget against target as well as discussing events and concerns that can sometimes jump up and threaten to derail us. One of these was the serious implications of reduced funding from the Highland Council. The museum has been working with the Highland Museums Forum to look for solutions in co-operation rather than competition.

Further detailed and important tasks related to our own funding applications for projects. This was a productive time – we applied for and were fortunate to be awarded four separate grants – a small one from Museums Galleries Scotland for our Fowler weekend in March 2016 for the Festival of Museums; a significant award from Heritage Lottery Fund for the 2016 exhibition and project on WW1; a very significant award from Museums Galleries Scotland for our museum re-display project (more on this during the AGM); and a very welcome award from the Highland Council Ward Discretionary Budget to renew and update our tired and damaged interpretative boards in and around the village. Gaining the awards is excellent; managing them can sometimes prove problematic and time-consuming.

Our open season started successfully with the Klondyker exhibition and launch. This ran throughout our open season as one significant exhibition bringing in many local people with their own particular memories. This exhibition was very well received. As with all of our exhibitions we can never include all the stories that are brought to us – time and space are against us, but with new technology and re-display, we should be able to extend what we can provide for visitors and for local contributors and supporters.

Once again, we joined with our Creative Ullapool partners, the Ullapool Book Festival in providing an exhibition in the Museum Machine (often referred to as the book trailer!) – this time another showing of the Pear Tree Project.

We had a very exciting visit to the museum in June 2015 from the Oxford Museum of Natural History with their prize object, a model of their dodo. This met our prize object, our building. Almost the entire Ullapool Primary School came down to see and learn about the dodo, referred to by one young visitor as an opportunity of a lifetime.

During the open season we carried out a survey of where our visitors come from. Analysis was included in last year's newsletter, but it is useful to repeat – the majority of our visitors are from Scotland, closely followed by the rest of the United Kingdom. European visitors are very important, with German visitors most numerous. Commonwealth visitors are very significant, frequently looking for family history stories.

We again had an active closed season – with children's workshops bringing in around 90 participants, New Year's Day free opening bringing in nearly 100, locals and visitors being very appreciative, and volunteer training opportunities and meetings. And always, planning, planning, planning and trying to achieve.

Our fundraising team work throughout the year bringing in around £8,000 from sales, lunches, soup and sandwiches, raffles etc. This work is hard and can be frustrating and new members for the committee are always welcome. During this season, fundraising was divided into traditional, mainly local fundraising and a separate group of “alternative funding” – looking for all sources of bringing in funds, either temporary or long-term to enable our wonderful museum to continue. Frustratingly, we can often be very successful in receiving funding for specific projects, but it is extremely difficult to fund the heating, the lighting, the insurance and staff salaries.

Staffing – changes early in the season caused disruption but quickly got back into action and successful progress. Active professional support from our curatorial advisor Helen Avenell is highly valued and valuable.

New volunteers also worked well in joining the team and contributing successfully.

Towards the end of the financial year, March 2016, our new website was up and running! This had been a frustrating process but a change in direction led to a new team taking this over and delivering the site on time before the start of the 2016 season. The site still has material to be added, and over the next year or two we hope to develop new features. But immediately we received positive feedback.

Visitor numbers were similar to the previous year, very slightly up with over 5,000 through the till and 3,500 at events and to our offsite exhibitions. Admission takings of approximately £13,500 were matched by other takings – shop sales, memberships, genealogy research, fundraising and donations – and one of our priorities continues to be to increase our paying visitor numbers in the open season and to increase income wherever possible – particularly shop sales, membership, and donations.

Developments and plans

Our priorities are as ever maintaining and sustaining our precious building, doing our best to preserve and exploit the local heritage, and finding the funds necessary to do these.

Funding from Museums Galleries Scotland has allowed us to start again on the re-display project that was put on hold by the major restoration works. You will be hearing much more about this and, we hope, contributing your ideas.

Some significant repairs to the fabric remain outstanding which will need to be addressed in the near future. To be able to do any of this however requires a substantial increase in our basic funding. This remains the constant challenge for your volunteer board of trustees.

Approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by

Catriona Martin
(Chair)

Date: 15 September 2016

Ullapool Museum Trust

Precis of the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2016

	Unrestricted Funds			Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
	General Fund £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £		
Income					
<i>Grants, donations and subscriptions</i>					
Donations	1,947	-	-	1,947	3,389
Membership subscriptions	1,173	-	-	1,173	978
Gift aid	106	-	-	106	932
Highland Council - operating grant	12,006	-	-	12,006	12,006
Ullapool Harbour Trust - Klondyke exhibition	-	-	-	-	1,000
Ullapool Harbour Trust - WW1 exhibition	-	-	1,000	1,000	-
Rowan Tree - 'My Heart's in the Highlands'	-	-	250	250	-
Museums Galleries Scotland - redisplay grant	-	-	7,166	7,166	-
Highland Council - notice board Replacement	-	-	2,910	2,910	-
	<u>15,232</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,326</u>	<u>26,558</u>	<u>18,305</u>
<i>Activities for generating funds</i>					
Admissions	13,503	-	-	13,503	12,195
Fund raising	7,785	-	-	7,785	10,288
Shop sales	2,332	-	-	2,332	1,500
Miscellaneous	150	-	-	150	454
Gift aid	899	-	-	899	456
	<u>24,669</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>24,669</u>	<u>24,893</u>
<i>Investment income</i>					
Bank interest	33	-	-	33	18
Dividends and interest from	1,078	-	-	1,078	1,129
Gift aid	269	-	-	269	282
	<u>1,380</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,380</u>	<u>1,429</u>
Total income	<u>41,281</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,326</u>	<u>52,607</u>	<u>44,627</u>
Expenditure					
Fundraising costs	568	-	-	568	987
Cost of goods sold	686	-	-	686	1,227
Salaries	19,588	-	-	19,588	20,278
Insurance	4,219	-	-	4,219	4,015
Light and heat	3,833	-	-	3,833	3,087
Repairs and maintenance	1,721	-	-	1,721	741
Office costs	489	-	-	489	470
Advertising and publicity	1,712	-	-	1,712	1,170
Exhibitions	106	-	1,250	1,356	1,692
Telephone	707	-	-	707	658
Computer costs and IT support	3,406	-	-	3,406	1,280
Subscriptions and miscellaneous	1,788	-	-	1,788	1,280
Depreciation	-	1,913	-	1,913	3,547
Examiner's remuneration	850	-	-	850	850
Investment revaluation	-	1,203	-	1,203	(296)
Transfer (building maintenance fund)	1,500	(1,500)	-	-	-
	<u>41,173</u>	<u>1,616</u>	<u>1,250</u>	<u>44,039</u>	<u>40,986</u>
Surplus / (deficit)	<u>108</u>	<u>(1,616)</u>	<u>10,076</u>	<u>8,568</u>	<u>3,641</u>

Ullapool Museum Trust

Precis of the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2016

Balance sheet summary

	2016	2015
	£	£
Fixed assets	230,663	232,576
Liquid assets		
Investments	23,916	24,041
Stock	1,529	100
Debtors	2,262	3,391
Bank balances	34,534	24,328
Creditors	(384)	(484)
	61,857	51,376
Total assets	292,520	283,952

Reserves

	At 01/04/15	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31/03/16
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds					
General fund	25,131	41,281	(39,673)	(1,500)	25,239
Designated funds					
Capital fund	232,576	-	(1,913)	-	230,663
Contingency fund	17,745	-	(1,203)	-	16,542
Repair fund	6,000	-	-	1,500	7,500
	256,321	-	(3,116)	1,500	254,705
Restricted funds					
Website	1,500	-	-	-	1,500
Ullapool Harbour Trust - Klondyke exhibition	1,000	-	(1,000)	-	-
Ullapool Harbour Trust - WW1 exhibition	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Rowan Tree - 'My Heart's in the Highlands'	-	250	(250)	-	-
Museums Galleries Scotland - redisplay grant	-	7,166	-	-	7,166
Highland Council - notice board Replacement	-	2,910	-	-	2,910
Museum renovation	2,500	11,326	(1,250)	-	12,576
Total reserves	283,952	52,607	(44,039)	-	292,520

Trustee remuneration and related party transactions

No member of the executive board committee received any remuneration during the year. No travel expenses have been reimbursed during the year (2015-nil).

No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year (2015-nil).