

Adventure under sail inspiring young people



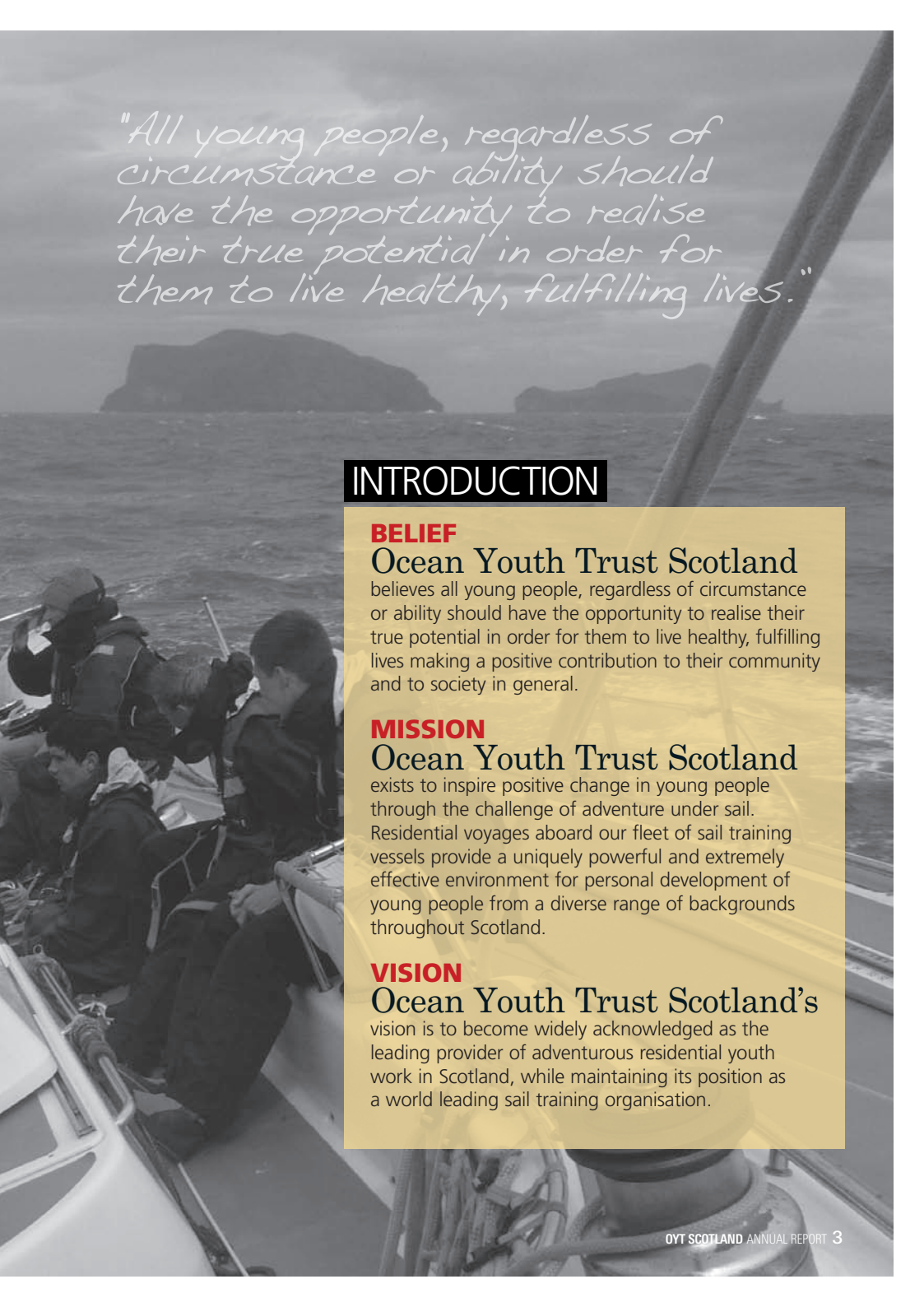
Ocean Youth Trust Scotland **2009**
ANNUAL REPORT



OYT
SCOTLAND

Ocean Youth Trust Scotland
Registered as a Charity No. SC029531





"All young people, regardless of circumstance or ability should have the opportunity to realise their true potential in order for them to live healthy, fulfilling lives."

INTRODUCTION

BELIEF

Ocean Youth Trust Scotland

believes all young people, regardless of circumstance or ability should have the opportunity to realise their true potential in order for them to live healthy, fulfilling lives making a positive contribution to their community and to society in general.

MISSION

Ocean Youth Trust Scotland

exists to inspire positive change in young people through the challenge of adventure under sail. Residential voyages aboard our fleet of sail training vessels provide a uniquely powerful and extremely effective environment for personal development of young people from a diverse range of backgrounds throughout Scotland.

VISION

Ocean Youth Trust Scotland's

vision is to become widely acknowledged as the leading provider of adventurous residential youth work in Scotland, while maintaining its position as a world leading sail training organisation.

"OYTS will help them to weather the challenges in their voyage through life."





PATRONS' MESSAGE

It is a great privilege to be patrons of Ocean Youth Trust Scotland, helping the staff and volunteers to continue the 50 year tradition of taking young people to sea.

Those youngsters will soon be adults facing far greater challenges and will need to adjust their individual aims to match their abilities if they are to lead happy and fulfilled lives. At sea with OYTS, they will have learned to reduce sail or alter course in adverse conditions and this will help them to weather the challenges in their voyage through life.

Congratulations to everyone at OYTS on another brilliant year.

Curly & Barbara

Curly & Barbara Mills
Patrons, Ocean Youth Trust Scotland



*"Together we
have the capacity
to make a real
difference to
young people."*

www.oyts

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The speed of the passing year mirrors the speed of Ocean Youth Trust Scotland's developments and the continuation of giving young people from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to experience adventure under sail.

As ever, there were real highlights on the water: the Young Leaders Challenge Voyage to Iceland and the ASTO Small Ships Race from Greenock to Belfast when Alba Explorer took line honours and the young crew of Alba Venturer won the inaugural MCA Safety Awareness & Preparedness Award.

During 2009, 750 young people sailed as crew on youth development voyages. This opportunity to experience a residential sailing voyage with OYT Scotland, has helped them to develop their core skills, confidence, responsibility and sense of social worth. Having begun to increase our voyages from 5 to 7 days is enabling us to deliver these outcomes more successfully. Our new Voyage Syllabus, piloted in 2009, is enabling young people to better record and understand their achievements.

A further 382 places were taken by young people on follow-on and training voyages: 1132 in total but I feel splitting the figures better demonstrates the range of our work. The first figure is lower than last year, partly because we have increased voyage length. The latter is higher due to our increased efforts to encourage young people to return as volunteers.

Our voyages were delivered by six staff and 125 dedicated volunteers from a membership that has grown to 305. Last year 72 volunteers completed our new induction programme and others completed the range of training that ensures we offer an effective youth development experience.

Off the water, a major change thanks to Riverside Inverclyde was the office move to

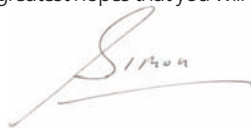
Greenock. Coupled with the nearby pontoon in Victoria Harbour, we have a home for all staff and vessels in one place. Many thanks too, to KPMG who for many years provided excellent office space in Glasgow. We are continuing to work with RI to ensure local people can participate in our voyages and in preparation for the Tall Ships Race 2011.

In September we had a strong presence at the Scottish Learning Festival at the SECC. Alba Endeavour, moored alongside, was the ideal vehicle from which to show-case our work to Scottish Ministers, Local Authority chiefs, the teaching community and youth-work sector.

With the rapid growth we have experienced there were some major changes in the way we run the organisation: most notably, the appointment of a part-time Finance Officer, giving us stronger financial control. We have 'cut our cloth' eg reducing the 2010 sailing programme in line with sea-staff resources, but we have determined plans for partnership working, volunteer recruitment and fund raising so that the next ten years are as successful as the last.

These are challenging times for any charity but OYT Scotland is not 'any' charity. We are now in our 2nd decade; our roots go back 50 years; we have a growing membership and client base; world-wide renown; three magnificent vessels and trained sea-staff. Together we have the capacity to make a real difference to young people.

On behalf of my fellow Trustees, sincerest thanks to everyone who has helped in 2009 and my greatest hopes that you will continue in 2010.



Simon Fraser
Chairman & Volunteer Skipper

FACTS & FIGURES

From March to November 78 youth voyages provided 936 berths for young people to participate in adventure under sail. (This excludes follow-on young volunteer training voyages). At 87% occupancy, we used 770 berths plus 45 by group leaders. The latter's participation strengthens their relationship with their group members so that when they return home, they can build upon the achievements made together.

Given the speed at which our fleet has developed, 2009 was challenging. However, in growing our client base, we have continued to develop useful partnerships. We recognise that in order to help young Scots make bold moves into positive destinations we need to work closely with these partners.

We maintained a high rate of repeat group business which speaks volumes about the quality of our work. 80% of groups booked in 2008, returned in 2009.

As part of our commitment to making Adventure under Sail available to disadvantaged young people, we supported 264 young people from our Assisted Berths Scheme. The average grant was £257 from a total fund of £68,000. We are grateful to all those who contributed to it. Some of the young people who were helped by a grant came from the following groups:

Aberlour Childcare Trust
Berwickshire High School
Caol Youth Centre
Craigmount High School
Doon Academy, East Ayrshire
Falkirk High School
Islay High School
Kinlochleven Youth Cafe
Scottish Agricultural College
Strathclyde Fire and Rescue
Wigtown West Community Safety Forum

55% of 2009 bookings were new business made by the following groups:

Glasgow Community Initiative to Reduce Violence
Inverclyde Council
Lordswood Boys' School, Birmingham
Micro & Anophthalmic Children's Society
NHS Scotland East Glasgow Health Improvement
Oban High School's Princes Trust XL Club
Quarriers James Shields Project, Glasgow
Selly Oak Trust School, Birmingham
Whitehaven Harbour Youth Cafe
Youth Scotland, Girls on the Move
Riverside Inverclyde
St Luke's High School
Barnardos 16+
Charleston Academy
Clydeport Limited
East Lothian Council CHCP

"78 youth voyages provided 936 berths for young people to participate in adventure under sail."





INSPIRING YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH ADVENTURE UNDER SAIL

Everybody has an adventurous side and we help young people to discover theirs. Our adventures are exciting, challenging and full of learning opportunities.

Young people aged 12 to 24 years become one of the twelve crew-members needed to sail our boats. Almost all will never have sailed before: no special knowledge or kit is required just enthusiasm, a spirit of adventure and an open mind.

Slip the lines, leave harbour and hoist the sails. It's a physical, hands-on challenge but worth it when the boat is sailing as a direct result of the team's hard work. The twelve crew steer the boat, navigate, help change sails, keep a lookout, do all the domestic tasks and go ashore to explore. Together, they and six sea-staff voyage along the beautiful coastline of Scotland, taking on the challenge of the sea and the elements.

Our voyages may offer an escape for young people, a welcome break from challenges at home or simply a change from their everyday routine. Life aboard is simple: all that matters is that the boat is safe. The duties necessary

to run it cause time to pass quickly and offer a distraction. This allows sea-staff to work with the young people and their personal development to be undertaken almost subliminally.

In 2009 we piloted our new voyage syllabus and will roll it out for all voyages in 2010. It breaks down the onboard activities into measurable and achievable goals from which the young people develop their personal skills. Reviewing and evaluating these goals consolidates the learning and contextualises the new skills for everyday life. Our core Voyage Outcomes help participants to increase their:

- Self-confidence**
- Responsibility and respect**
- Ability to learn from experience**
- Ability to work with others**

The Syllabus documents young people's progress to becoming confident individuals, successful learners, active citizens and effective contributors. They also have a lot of fun, learn about themselves and others and take away memories to last a lifetime.

VOYAGES



Our youth voyages last a minimum of five days. This allows young people to become familiar with the boat, enter into the development process and make some real achievements.

In March young people from the Microanophthalmia and Anophthalmia Children's Society (MACS), who are blind or visually impaired, set sail on Alba Explorer for a voyage on the Clyde. The crew operated a system so that each MACS member had a sighted buddy. Over the week and in some challenging conditions, the crew became familiar with the boat's complicated layout. The voyage presented an opportunity for the MACS members to challenge themselves in a way in which they had not previously been given the chance.

In May Youth Scotland used Alba Venturer

to deliver an all female youth development voyage as part of their Girls on the Move initiative. It took applications from young woman throughout Scotland and placed 10 of them with us. The voyage fulfilled the aims of the initiative by helping to increase their level of physical activity and to develop their leadership skills which they will put to use in their local community.

Having ocean-going vessels, equipped and insured for international travel, presents some exciting possibilities. In July Alba Explorer departed Kyle of Lochalsh on a twenty day expedition to Iceland's west coast. The journey was split into two ten-day legs. Both crews got to experience blue-water sailing and had the opportunity to visit Iceland and sample its culture.

YOUNG PEOPLE PROFILES

The Young Leaders Development Programme

The YLDP harnesses the enthusiasm and talent of twelve past crewmembers each year. It enables them to complete leadership training and a one-off Challenge Voyage. In 2009 the Young Leaders sailed to Iceland. They needed to form a close knit team to complete the 700 nautical miles over open ocean. They will now train to become Watch Leaders, work with a local community group of disadvantaged young people and learn to use their new skills for life ashore.

Already they have:

- Represented OYTS at the Scottish Learning Festival
- Served on the OYTS Board as a young person's representative
- Spoken at the Scottish Parliament
- After graduating they could support hundreds more young people in their adventures under sail.

The Young Leaders Development Programme is generously supported by Braehead and Liberty International PLC.



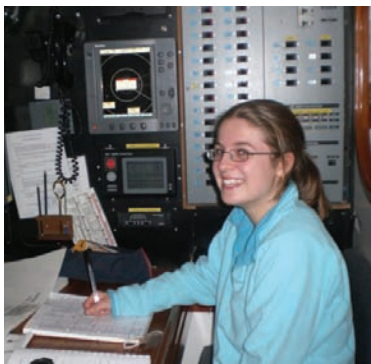
18 months ago I saw a presentation about OYT Scotland. I'd never considered sailing but a few weeks later I was off on my first trip with some local lads. Sadly manual labour seemed too much for them and the trip was cut short but seeing my enthusiasm, the Trust invited me back.

I applied for the Young Leader Development Programme and the Challenge Voyage to Iceland and was over the moon to get a place. It was obviously going to push me but the thing I found most important was team work. Nobody gets anywhere if you don't work well in a team.

I've since represented OYT at an event, done Bosun Training and sailed as a volunteer. On every trip I learned something new about the boat or myself.

Being involved has definitely changed me. I have tonnes more confidence; relish new challenges and get a buzz out of teaching young people and watching them develop. It can open doors in your life as it has in mine.

Kevin (18), Barrhead



The best thing about OYT voyages is the way that you can escape everyday life. You get the chance to learn new things, visit new places and meet new people. Before my voyage I was quite anxious as I didn't know what I would be doing for the next week. Luckily, I had nothing to worry about.

I was immediately welcomed and shown the ropes – literally! The crew and staff that I sailed with were very friendly and the fun and the laughter that we had is one of the things that has drawn me back for more. I now volunteer as a Bosun.

I am glad that I can help provide this fantastic experience for others. **Emma (16), Falkirk**



MEMBERS & VOLUNTEERS

MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to the Scottish Government's funding the post of Volunteer Co-ordinator, the membership grew from 265 to 305 in 2009 – welcome to the new faces. We are well on our way to the projected number of 360 volunteers by 2014.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are a defining characteristic of the charity and we are grateful for all their help. At the AGM Volunteer of the Year awards went to David Wisdich and young member, Paul Steele. During the 10th Anniversary, special recognition went to Pete Bentley, Malcolm MacArthur, Ross Ritchie, Bob Rutherford, Tom Sage, Geoff Steedman and Sandy Taggart for 30 year's continuous service with Ocean Youth Club/ Trust.

125 members are active volunteer sea-staff, helping to lead our youth work at sea. On land, volunteers are members of the Board, committees and regional Shore Groups which help to direct, promote and fundraise for the charity. They help with boat maintenance, organising events, driving, writing newsletter articles, liaising with youth groups and recruiting new volunteers.

TRAINING

Our award-winning training programme ensures that sea-staff are able to deliver a safe yet life-changing experience for young people. It is a mix of soft skills, leadership and hard skills training delivered on and off the water. 87 volunteers passed sea staff assessments in 2009 and 46 completed shore-based training. So that young people can take on positions of responsibility and work alongside their peers, our volunteering opportunities are open to those from age 16, like Jen (*see profile opposite*).

DO YOU WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT VOLUNTEERING?

Contact either
lorraine@oytscotland.org.uk
or your local shore group

Aberdeen & North East
aberdeenne@oytscotland.org.uk
Scotmates
scotmates@oytscotland.org.uk
Southeasterlies
southeasterlies@oytscotland.org.uk
Tayside & Fife
taysideandfife@oytscotland.org.uk

VOLUNTEER PROFILES



Stuart Simpson

VICE CHAIRMAN & VOLUNTEER SKIPPER

Stuart completed his first OYC voyage aged 15 in 1987. He even got his Higher Exam results delivered to the boat. Fitting in his volunteering between school, University and day jobs, he moved up the ranks from Watch Leader to becoming Skipper in 2004 and served in many of the Trust's committees. We're looking forward to seeing his eldest son Matthew as crew in 2016.

Jen Davis

BOSUN

I decided to get involved and was booked onto a Bosun's training weekend that coincided with the 10th anniversary. It was a wonderful, fun-filled weekend and confirmed that I wanted to be a part of OYT.

I volunteered as Bosun for 4 weeks altogether. These were fantastic voyages that gave me the chance to work with other young people and help to run the boat. With the different youth groups, we encountered lots of new things, recording them in our log books and playing games after dinner.

I managed to squeeze loads into the time - lots of learning and wonderful people. That is the great thing about OYT: not only fun, adventure and learning but also the chance to meet others and make friendships. I have gained a lot as a volunteer. Give it a go.



FUNDRAISING & PR

The biggest fundraising effort in 2009 was the Arctic Challenge. In July, a fantastic team of 12 participants and 6 sea-staff (*pictured below*) departed Wick Harbour and sailed for Norway's Lofoten Islands. Amazingly, they did it with two hours to spare: 1,925 nautical miles there and back to Peterhead Harbour. Thanks to all their sponsors, the guys raised almost £40,000 and four of them have become volunteers.

In June OYT Scotland Ambassadors Colin Stewart and Anne Gunther, organised a networking weekend out of Kyle of Lochalsh. Another, West of Scotland MSP Stuart McMillan, invited the Trust to give a presentation at the Scottish Parliament in June. Following on, First Minister Alex Salmond MSP, then invited some of the staff and volunteers to lunch there.

All were great opportunities to highlight how private and Government support of adventure under sail makes a big difference to the lives of young people.

READ ALL ABOUT IT

Events and achievements this year generated 27 press articles and several radio interviews, including Tony Amey's regular Arctic updates to BBC Radio. All this coverage ensured that even more people got to know about our work.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Given the prevailing economic climate, the Trust succeeded in holding cash reserves at £211,121, down by £47,911 on the previous year. Although a little below where we would ideally want to be, this does represent a considerable achievement by the staff and volunteers.

During the year, there was a concerted effort to reduce the amount of money owed to the Trust. As a consequence, there was a cash inflow of £65,808.

Accounting convention demands that our vessels are written down by a depreciation

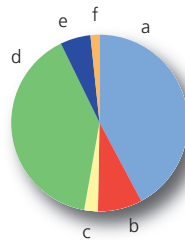
charge each year even though the Trust spent a similar amount on refit costs to maintain the vessels' value and sea worthiness. This was also charged to the Income and Expenditure Account.

The overall fall in the Trust's liquid reserves of £47,911 is therefore mainly attributable to the operating deficit shown in the Income and Expenditure Account of £84,474 less the non cash depreciation charge of £46,886.

Paul Collins 03 February 2010

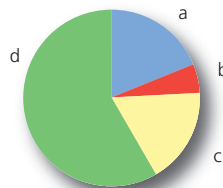
OPERATING EXPENDITURE

Fleet Operations	367151	(a)
Office Costs	70300	(b)
General	22911	(c)
Salaries	354195	(d)
Events & Training	49208	(e)
Marketing	15279	(f)
Total Expenditure	879044	



OPERATING INCOME

Donations	149854	(a)
Other Income	41003	(b)
Grants	139399	(c)
Voyage Fees	462693	(d)
Total Income	792949	



REGISTERED ADDRESS: Ocean Youth Trust Scotland, 191 West George Street, Glasgow, G2 2LJ
Tel 0141 221 1200. Fax 0141 221 2002.
Email info@oytscotland.org.uk www.oytscotland.org.uk

ACCOUNTANTS: Cook & Co, Suite 525, Baltic Chambers, 50 Wellington Street, Glasgow, G2 6HJ

SOLICITORS: Holmes Mackillop, 109 Douglas Street, Glasgow, G2 4HB

Ocean Youth Trust Scotland is registered as a Charity. No. SC029531. Company registration No. 193204

SUPPORTERS

The life-changing challenge of adventure under sail is only possible with generous support from a number of people and organisations whom we would like to thank. These include:

PRINCIPAL SUPPORTERS



Aberdeen & North East Support Group
 The Arctic Challenge Crew
 The Barcapel Foundation
 D.W.T. Cargill Fund
 Eagle Plant Hire
 Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust
 Hugh Fraser Foundation
 Hymans Robertson LLP
 Admiral Sir John Kerr
 Martin Charitable Trust
 Curly & Barbara Mills

Ocean Youth Trust UK & The Greendale Foundation
 Riverside Inverclyde
 Robert Barr Charitable Trust
 Rotary Club of Queen's Park
 Scotmates
 Southeasterlies
 Society of Deacons and Free Preseses of Glasgow
 Tall Ships Youth Trust
 Tayside & Fife Support Group
 Mark Tyndall
 Richard Wood

To find out more about supporting our work contact helen@oytscotland.org.uk

Working with the following organisations has enhanced the achievements made by our young crews:



Design by Iain Barbour, printing by Cann Print. Thanks to both for this generous donation.

Sail with us
Volunteer with us
Join us
Support us



Ocean Youth Trust Scotland
Registered as a Charity. No. SC029531

Ocean Youth Trust Scotland is making a positive impact on the lives of young people throughout Scotland. **You can be part of it.**

For more information, log on to www.oytscotland.org.uk or call us on 01475 722 722