

# Ocean Youth Trust Scotland

Adventure under sail  
Inspiring young people



# ANNUAL REPORT 2010



6<sup>th</sup> June 2010 Ballycastle → Greenock  
**Voyage Watch Review**

**Watch:**  
Think about how you felt on the first day of the voyage (before 2 weeks start)

**Dislikes:** Curious, anxious, full of anticipation, happy, nervous

**Loves:** calm sea, tiredness, waking up early, zzzzz

**Highlights:** singing, porpoises, sun/heads, no sea sickness, helming, nightwatch/sailing in dark, running sail hoist, lunch, cake, seas day, wanting to put sail up, bubble fight, 5 sails!! exploring:

AW	C	AW	C
EB	SB	EB	SB
R	Learning From Experience	SB	SB
EB	Working In A	R	Building My Confidence
			Responsible

If you think



# Ocean Youth Trust Scotland inspires young people through adventure under sail.

## *Belief*

**Ocean Youth Trust Scotland** believes that 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 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 the personal development of young people from a diverse range of backgrounds throughout Scotland and beyond.

## *Our Voyages*

**Ocean Youth Trust Scotland** voyages are inherently safe, however the unpredictable environment aboard our vessels presents real and honest physical, mental and emotional challenges. It is a genuinely life changing experience with many unique learning opportunities.







## PATRONS' MESSAGE

This year, Ocean Youth Trust Scotland has once again helped to improve the quality of life of many hundreds of young people. Life at sea requires teamwork and self reliance, decision making and judgement and as a result, people ashore are helped too. Indeed, sometimes parents and teachers can hardly recognise the young adults who step off the boat as being the same children who stepped aboard only a few days before. We are delighted to be a part of that.

Congratulations and well done everyone!

*Curly & Barbara*

Curly & Barbara Mills

PATRONS | OCEAN YOUTH TRUST SCOTLAND

**“Ocean Youth Trust Scotland has helped to improve the quality of life of many hundreds of young people.”**





## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

2010 was the 50th anniversary of the founding of Ocean Youth Club from which more than a decade ago Ocean Youth Trust Scotland was born.

In Scotland we continue to follow closely the vision of our founders and particularly Chris Ellis. An Educationalist he found that his most successful teaching of young people from all backgrounds was done through the medium of adventure and fun at sea. We follow too the mixture of paid staff, volunteers and young people that he used to achieve this, with the many opportunities this gives for the modelling of good character and behaviour.

The Curriculum for Excellence underpins education in Scotland and recognises the value of outdoor learning in developing the four capacities; successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors, and responsible citizens.

In Ocean Youth Trust Scotland we have fantastic opportunities for meeting the Curriculum's objectives and for young people from diverse backgrounds to develop leadership ability, team working skills, risk awareness, self confidence and the social skills which living and working in the close confines of a boat require.

**“More and more young people are having the opportunity to experience adventure under sail and to develop as a result of it.”**

In the 1970s we had one vessel in Scotland. Now thanks to the generosity of our Patrons, Curly and Barbara Mills, we have three fine vessels and we plan to have them running at full capacity by 2012.

This rapid development over the last three years has resulted in challenges but my board is confident that we now look forward to a strong future.

2011 will see the arrival of the Tall Ships Races in Greenock and Lerwick. This is the biggest event of its kind in the world, and is a great opportunity for young people throughout Scotland. We are entering two of our vessels, and sixty four young people, paid for by Scotland's local authorities, will sail with us.

More and more young people in Scotland are having the opportunity to experience these challenges and to develop as a result and on their behalf my fellow trustees and I thank all who helped us in 2010 and hope you will continue your support in 2011.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Malcolm MacArthur'.

Malcolm MacArthur  
CHAIRMAN | OCEAN YOUTH TRUST SCOTLAND



Port Ellen  
by Caille  
of Kinige  
dash on Arran  
79.4 miles

10

Ge



A photograph of two young people sitting on the deck of a sailboat. They are wearing dark blue sailing jackets and life jackets. The person on the left is wearing a dark hooded jacket and a life jacket with a 'Kru' logo. The person on the right is wearing a blue and orange jacket and glasses. They are sitting on a white boat deck with a blue stripe. In the background, there are large, rugged mountains under a clear blue sky. The sea is dark blue. A white rope is coiled on the deck in the foreground. A white boom is visible at the top of the frame.

737

young people sailed as crew  
on youth development voyages





## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

One of the many joys of working for OYT Scotland is observing how the organisation brings people together. During a voyage, that magical moment (usually around day 3) when a group of strangers suddenly gels into a tight knit efficient team, loyal and supportive of one another, never fails to amaze me. Somehow the friendships made at sea over a few days based on values such as trust, integrity and respect seem to have a special durable quality that will often last a lifetime.

OYT Scotland brings people together in other ways too. Whether it's a fundraising event or social gathering organised by one of our shore groups, a training course or a refit weekend in the depths of a Scottish winter, OYT Scotland is constantly connecting people.

Our volunteers and staff are a very diverse bunch, from all over Scotland and beyond, including students, lawyers, doctors, social workers, nurses, boat builders, musicians, plumbers, farmers, taxi drivers, business men and women, teachers and soldiers to name a few. The one thing that brings us all together into the family of OYT Scotland is a

passionate belief in the power of adventure under sail to help young people develop into confident, capable, responsible citizens.

2010 proved to be another successful year for the Trust, with over 800 young crew members and young sea-staff experiencing the many benefits of adventure under sail. Fundraising events such as the Big Commute and our inaugural Gala Ball helped to raise much needed funds and proved very enjoyable to all who took part.

Looking forward, this is shaping up to be a very busy year for the Trust, with the Tall Ships Races returning to Scotland. Thanks to COSLA we will have young people from all 32 Scottish Local Authorities participating in this spectacular event and representing Scotland at the biggest event of its kind in the world. This gives us an amazing opportunity to really raise the profile of the Trust in a big way.

Fundraising activities will continue to ensure we keep our voyage fees as low as possible for all young people; to provide assisted berths for disadvantaged young people and for those with additional support needs; to equip →



and maintain our vessels and train and volunteers and staff to the highest levels.

I would like to sincerely thank our Patrons, Ambassadors, funders and supporters for their support over the last year and hope that this will continue through 2011 and beyond.

I am immensely proud of my staff team who bring an amazing array of strengths and skills to the organisation. Their professionalism and dedication are second to none.

Finally I would like to pay tribute to our wonderful volunteers who continue to provide the life blood of the organisation. Their energy, skills, commitment and enthusiasm play a huge part in the business of inspiring young people through adventure under sail.

Nick Fleming

CHIEF EXECUTIVE | OCEAN YOUTH TRUST SCOTLAND

## Facts & figures

From March to November 71 voyages provided 852 berths for young people to participate in adventure under sail. 737 young people sailed in these berths giving an occupancy rate of 87%.

A further 73 young people sailed in follow on training or sea-staff berths.

We maintained a high level of repeat group business which speaks volumes about the quality of our work with young people. 75% of groups that sailed in 2009, returned in 2010.

21% of the young people who sailed with us were from disadvantaged backgrounds or had additional support needs. This was made possible by our assisted berths scheme which contributed £41,000 towards their voyage fees.

40% of our youth voyage programme was taken by groups booking multiple voyages or vessels.

At total of 10 voyages were made up of individuals and smaller groups of young people.

**76%**  
of groups  
who sailed  
in 2009  
returned  
in 2010



# FINANCIAL REPORT

As at 31st of October 2010, The Trust had net assets of £684,476. The biggest part of this being our three vessels. Alba Venturer is in our books at a nominal value of £1, Alba Explorer at £291,746, and Alba Endeavour at £199,999. The latter two vessels being depreciated annually at £26,522 and £16,667 respectively.

It is The Board's view, that unrestricted reserves should be able to provide for three months operating costs, which currently would be £170,968. Our present balance of £109,311 is £61,657 short of that target, and our aim is to close that gap over the next three years.

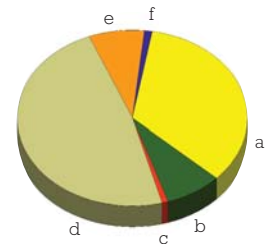
Our total income for the year is £597,254. However, this figure should include a further £29,520 for six voyages in November 2009 that was included in the previous year in error. Allowing for that adjustment, our income would be 18% down on the previous year, and our deficit reduced to £57,099.

Expenditure, at £683,873, is 22% down from £879,044 the previous year. The biggest component of this being salaries, and fleet operations, amounting to 82% of our total expenditure.

With the economy continuing to offer challenges, these are difficult times we operate in. However, if we keep to our budget, meet our sales targets, and maintain a tight reign on expenditure, it should be possible to have a year of stability in 2011.

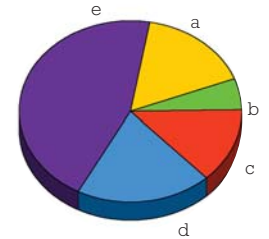
## OPERATING EXPENDITURE

Fleet Operations	234044	34.2%	(a)
Office Costs	54306	8.0%	(b)
General	6922	1.0%	(c)
Salaries	327839	47.9%	(d)
Events & Training	52488	7.7%	(e)
Marketing	8274	1.2%	(f)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>683873</b>	<b>100%</b>	



## OPERATING INCOME

Donations	98446	16%	(a)
Other Income	32429	5%	(b)
Fundraising	79373	13%	(c)
Grants	118768	20%	(d)
Voyage Fees	268238	46%	(e)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>597254</b>	<b>100%</b>	



### REGISTERED ADDRESS:

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 Tel 01475 722 722 Fax 01475 727 977 Email [info@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:info@oytscotland.org.uk) [www.oytscotland.org.uk](http://www.oytscotland.org.uk)  
 Registered as a Charity. No. SC029531 Company registration No. 193204

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

“Our voyages are exciting, challenging and full of learning opportunities.”



## 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 twelve crew-members needed to sail our boats. Almost all will never have sailed before and 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 are customized to meet the abilities and needs of each group; a diversion for young people at risk of offending, respite for young carers, 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.



Our Voyage Syllabus 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 young people to increase their:

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

The Voyage 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.

## VOLUNTEER PROFILE

**Name:** Joanna MacKinnon  
**Occupation:** Police Officer  
**OYT Scotland Position:**  
*Watch leader*  
**Age - Under 34!**

I first became involved with OYT Scotland in 2010 after deciding to take part in their charity challenge, The Big Commute. After my initial weekend of training I became hooked and became a volunteer. I sailed with several different groups in 2010 and I love what OYT Scotland is all about. Adventure under sail is inspiring for both the young people and volunteers like myself. I experienced the most exhilarating moment of my life whilst at the helm of one of their 72 foot racing yachts through 'Da Roost' off Sumburgh Head, Shetland with a large swell and slight breeze!

Volunteers donated close to

**30,000**  
hours



# Volunteers

Volunteers play an essential part in the smooth running of the Trust. In 2010 our volunteers contributed in many ways ashore and afloat to ensure another successful year of adventure under sail. Helping with tasks such as maintenance, administration, PR and organising events including the Glasgow 10k run, Forth Bridge abseil, ceilidhs and bag packs; to mention just a few.

In addition to this a total of 193 volunteers sailed with us onboard our vessels, 73 of whom were under 26 years. Altogether, our volunteers have generously donated close to 30,000 hours.

In September, OYT Scotland accepted the prestigious invitation from Shona Robinson, Minister for Health and Sport to a reception at Edinburgh Castle. The evening presented a fantastic opportunity, for volunteers and crew to tell of their personal adventures under sail.

In October we celebrated 50 years of OYC/OYTS with a day sail on Alba Venturer, Alba Explorer and Alba Endeavour, followed by dinner and a ceilidh at Greenock Town hall. The event was a huge success, with current and previous volunteers catching up and reminiscing about voyages of past. Roll on the next 50.



*Getting to grips with the man overboard practice dummy*



# Training

Safety comes first and foremost in everything we do. Therefore our training is an essential part of this and our safety management system. We encourage our volunteers to progress through the ranks, gaining both internationally recognised and OYT Scotland qualifications along the way.

In 2010 129 volunteers sailed in training berths including Bosun, Big Boat Seamanship, Command and Induction training weekends, 25 % of these volunteers were previously young crew members. A further 14 volunteers achieving RYA sailing qualifications including Day Skipper, Yachtmaster Coastal and Yachtmaster Offshore during the summer months.

At our annual seminar, 39 volunteers gained RYA Shorebased qualifications, and 56 volunteers attended our soft skills training workshops.



*The Big Commute stopping off in Lerwick*

## *Fundraising & PR*

OYT Scotland's adventures under sail and the life-changing outcomes for so many young people is only possible with the marvellous support we receive from generous organisations and individuals.

In the last financial year, statutory and voluntary income rose to £296,587, accounting for almost 50% of the Trust's income. Achieving that meant a challenging twelve months; here are some of the highlights.

Our first ever Gala Ball proved a "very happy occasion" according to one of the 220 guests who joined us on the evening. Thanks go to those who attended and provided great prizes, to all the helpers and to Emma Harley, who explained why she is a volunteer. The night raised £26,000.

On the water, the two crews of the Big Commute raced Alba Explorer and Alba Endeavour 850 miles around Scotland. Thanks to the sponsorship of their friends, family, complete strangers and some great companies, the race raised over £36,000 and the vessels and crews were welcomed warmly in Edinburgh, Lerwick and Glasgow.

On land, The Scottish Government continued to provide a grant in recognition of how adventure under sail contributes to the Government's National Outcomes for young people; Shona Robison MSP, the Minister for Schools & Skills held a reception at Edinburgh Castle to meet our young people; Braehead and its parent company Capital Shopping Centres moved into the second year supporting our Young Leaders Development Programme; the number of charitable Trusts supporting our youth work increased from 10 to 26 and their combined value increased by 33%; OYT Scotland became a member of the Scottish Government's Cross Party Group on Recreational Boating & Marine Tourism, and lastly, with fantastic support in Inverclyde and across the country, we won £50,000 from the Big Lottery Fund's People's Millions TV competition.

OYT Scotland's people, boats and adventures make for great stories. We'll be working harder in 2011 to report these back to funders and supporters to show what a difference they have helped to achieve; and also to build on the success of PR generated in 2010 – a total of 42 articles in the press, radio, online and on national TV.



# 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



## OTHER FUNDERS

OYT Scotland's Ambassadors and Shore Groups; Aberdeen & North East Support Group, Scotmates, Southeasterlies, Tayside & Fife Support Group

Edinburgh Airport  
BAE Systems  
Baillie Gifford  
The Bellahouston Bequest Fund  
The Big Commute crews & sponsors  
The Bulldog Trust  
CashBack for Communities  
Clydeport PLC  
Curly & Barbara Mills

Destination Edinburgh Marketing Alliance  
Major Dominic Dobson  
Dr Guthrie's Association  
The DWT Cargill Fund  
The Endrick Trust  
Gala Ball guests & sponsors  
The Gannochy Trust  
Glasgow City Marketing Bureau,  
Henry Abram & Sons

HSBC plc  
Hymans Robertson LLP  
The James Wood Bequest Fund  
The Kintore Trust  
Mark Tynhall  
The Martin Charitable Trust  
The Mary Andrew Charitable Trust  
The Merchants' House of Glasgow  
Miss ME Swinton Paterson's Charitable Trust

Ponton House Trust  
The Russell Trust  
Sir Maxwell Harper Gow Charitable Trust  
Society of Deacons & Free Presses of Glasgow  
The Souter Charitable Trust  
St Patrick's Day Ball Committee  
Talleg Ltd  
The Trades House of Glasgow  
W M Mann Foundation

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.

# Staff

In September we said a fond farewell to Development Manager Matt Roche. Matt played a key role during the expansion of the Trust in developing the number and diversity of groups sailing with the Trust and helping to ensure a high level of repeat bookings. We wish him all the best for the future and look forward to seeing him aboard our vessels as a voluntary First Mate and before too long as skipper.

Staff Mate Ian Nicholls departed in February to start a career in Maritime Safety Management. Ian sailed aboard Alba Endeavour for her first season, providing support and consistency to the many Skippers she had before the appointment of Dougie Walker. Ian is now kept busy as a volunteer in his role as Chair of the Safety Committee and as a voluntary Skipper.

We welcomed Kerry McMillan to the team as staff mate to replace Ian in February. Kerry has now passed her Skippers assessment and will be skippering several voyages in 2011 in addition to her First Mate duties.

Stuart Picken is volunteering full time for 18 months as he completes the ASTO Skippership Scheme and is currently preparing for his First Mates assessment.



# Fleet

We have two Challenge 72's and one Oyster 70'.

The Challenge 72's (Alba Endeavour and Alba Explorer) have successfully circumnavigated the world, sailing the 'wrong way round' in the world's toughest yacht race – the BT Global Challenge. Optimised for heavy upwind sailing they performed well in the wide variety of conditions faced while racing around the world. They were specifically designed to be strong, safe and seaworthy in even the most demanding conditions.

The Oyster 70' (Alba Venturer) is an equally well found vessel. Built especially for Ocean Youth Trust Scotland, she is an easily handled boat that has proven herself to be well suited to sail training - ideal for first time sailors.

**OFFICE TEAM** Chief Executive Nick Fleming [nick@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:nick@oytscotland.org.uk) • Development Officer Jan Margetts [jan@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:jan@oytscotland.org.uk) • Fundraising Officer Helen McMeekin [helen@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:helen@oytscotland.org.uk) • Volunteer Coordinator Lorraine Toner [lorraine@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:lorraine@oytscotland.org.uk) • Finance Officer Hazel Wiseman [hazel@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:hazel@oytscotland.org.uk) **OPERATIONS TEAM** • Operations & Training Manager Trevor Farrar [trevor@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:trevor@oytscotland.org.uk) • Staff Skipper (Alba Explorer) Dan Russell [dan@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:dan@oytscotland.org.uk) • Staff Skipper (Alba Endeavour) Dougie Walker [dougie@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:dougie@oytscotland.org.uk) • Staff Skipper (Alba Venturer) Helen Walker [hels@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:hels@oytscotland.org.uk) • Staff Mate Craig McNeil [craig@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:craig@oytscotland.org.uk) • Staff Mate Kerry McMillan [kerry@oytscotland.org.uk](mailto:kerry@oytscotland.org.uk) • ASTO Trainee Stuart Picken

## SOME OF THE HARBOURS THAT WE HAVE VISITED IN 2010

Greenock, East Loch Tarbert, Portavadie, Holy Loch, Brodick, Campbeltown, Rothesay, Largs, Ailsa Craig, Millport, Leith, Lerwick, Glasgow, Kerrera, Oban, Corpach, Fort Augustus, Inverness, Torshavn, Fair Isle, Montrose, Loch Reraig, Gairloch, Lochmaddy, Vatersay, Tobermory, Oransay, Plockton, Mallaig, Loch Drumbuie, Stavangar.

## ...AND SOME OF THE GROUPS WHO SAILED WITH US IN 2010

Air Training Corps  
Boys Brigade Monkton  
Banchory Sea Scouts  
Banchory Academy  
Charleston Academy  
Covey Befriending Project  
Craigmount High School  
Deaf Connections  
Doon Academy  
East Ayrshire Young Carers

Eastwood High School  
Eyemouth High School  
Falkirk High School  
FARE Scotland  
Glasgow College of Nautical Studies  
Hutchieson Grammar  
Inverclyde Social Work  
Kinlochleven High School  
Lady Manners Grammar  
Locharron Sailing Club

MACS  
Oban High School  
OYTS Young Leaders  
Outlook Trust  
Perth Academy  
Pilton Youth  
Rothesay Academy  
Strathaven Academy  
Whitehaven Harbour Project

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



**Sail with us  
Volunteer with us  
Join us  
Support us**



Ocean Youth Trust Scotland  
[www.oytscotland.org.uk](http://www.oytscotland.org.uk)

**Adventure under sail  
Inspiring young people**

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