



**OCEAN
YOUTH
TRUST
SCOTLAND**



INSPIRING YOUNG PEOPLE

**ANNUAL REPORT
2018-19**

PATRONS' MESSAGE



Curly and Barbara Mills



Ocean
Youth
Trust
Scotland

BARBARA AND I LOOK BACK WITH A SENSE OF AWE AT THE THOUSANDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE SAILED SUCCESSFULLY THROUGH ALL SORTS OF WIND AND WEATHER OVER THE 20 YEARS SINCE THE FORMATION OF OCEAN YOUTH TRUST SCOTLAND.

This year Alba Explorer had an extensive five year refit. We visited Fairlie to see the work going on and were blown away by the loving care being lavished on her, and she now looks brand new rather than a veteran of two trips round the world. Alba Venturer will be next in line for a major refit, and once done our fine vessels will be in excellent shape for another quarter of a million miles helping thousands more young people benefit from 'Adventure Under Sail'.

Our congratulations go to all those who have helped make Ocean Youth Trust Scotland one of the world's most outstanding youth training organisations.

We are very proud to be the patrons of this superb organisation.

Curly and Barbara Mills

“From beginning to end this experience has been challenging, unique and inspiring. After first stepping on to the boat knowing absolutely nothing, the knowledge and skills that the entire team and I have developed is astounding.”

Young Person



“Youth work *on the waves*”



Our Belief:

We believe 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, and make a positive contribution to their community.

Our Mission:

We exist to inspire young people through the challenge of youth work on the waves. 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

The unpredictable environment aboard our vessels presents real physical, mental and emotional challenges. It is a genuinely life-changing experience with unique learning opportunities.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



This year has been another immensely successful one for the Trust. All the figures that we record show increases - including qualifications for staff and volunteers, qualifications attained by young people who sail with us, positive outcomes for young people and the many new organisations who have sailed with us for the first time. While this presents the organisation in good

health, we continue to push further with our plans and we all recognise that none of those great outcomes come about by chance. I think this picture shows us as a Trust with strong and committed Staff, Volunteers/Members and Board. My sincere thanks to everyone who contributes to all of the positives you will see in this report.

Our financial footing is sound and incrementally we are improving and extending our financial planning in order to keep the Trust in good health. On behalf of us all I would like to take this opportunity to thank our funders, supporters and benefactors for the confidence they place in us.

Providing challenging and life changing experiences for the young people who sail with us does cost a little more than

what others might see as our comparators. However, we all believe in the positive impact and outcomes that we deliver for individuals and as a Board we regularly discuss how to maintain the USP that is OYT Scotland.

That opportunity to challenge and test oneself, build resilience, develop personal and team skills and take home perhaps some of your first qualifications, all using the context of sailing, is what we are fiercely committed to maintaining. Again, my thanks to everyone for making all of this possible.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David G. Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

David Anderson



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE



All young people deserve the best chance in life and to have the opportunity to equip themselves with skills for life. That's what we offer young people at Ocean Youth Trust Scotland. Through our voyages we build confidence, develop

problem solving and team work skills, and increase young people's independence, encouraging them to look forward and think positively.

This year has been another successful year for us as we welcomed 765 young people on board and delivered 1,965 qualifications.

It is the people that make us what we are; from the young people and committed volunteers, to our dedicated staff and generous supporters. This Annual Report provides an idea of everyone and everything that together, make up Ocean Youth Trust Scotland.

Best wishes

Nick Fleming

2018

IN NUMBERS



765
YOUNG
PEOPLE



72
Youth voyages
planned
(3 cancelled as unsold,
1 cancelled by client)



£137,949
given to groups to
support the costs
of their voyage



93
GROUP LEADERS



1,530
Jacket potatoes

340kg
PASTA EATEN



3,216
BERTH DAYS
SAILED BY
YOUNG
PEOPLE



26,000m
of toilet roll
was used

745
RYA
CERTIFICATES



1,220
SQA Units
delivered

“OYT Scotland voyages are amazing! Not only do they give young carers respite, but they also provide them with valuable life skills and lessons.”

Young Carer

“Being pushed out of your comfort zone is scary sometimes, but satisfying too. If you get this amazing opportunity, grab it with both hands.”

Young Person

BEN'S STORY

Being a carer at a young age is a really stressful experience. Ben tells a little about the way an OYTS voyage helped him.



I care for my little brother who has autism and my dad struggles with PTSD, depression and anxiety. Sometimes I care for my grandparents as well. I have acted as a carer since I was nine. I took over from my older brother when he left home – I saw my family struggle so I thought I'd try to help. Initially my brother told me what I had to do then I just got used to it.

I was okay at school in the beginning but over the years, especially with homework, I've struggled and I ask more questions than others about the work we need to do. It feels like my education has slowed down and because of this my mental health has been affected. I have spoken to the counsellor in the school about my family in general and I have talked to teachers about my homework and why I've not been able to do it. The teachers have not made it easy for me but they have given me more chances because of my situation.

At home, sometimes the amount of responsibility hits you and it's a lot to handle and I do lose it a bit and I shout at my brother. I regret it instantly but having that level of responsibility at a young age is stressful. There's so many expectations put on to you that it's difficult to handle.

The voyage gave me the opportunity to get a bit of space to myself. Going on the boat meant I didn't have to think about

what was going on at home. Usually I'd be thinking about what is happening at home but on the boat it was more about thinking what I had to do. I learned from my watch leader about how to keep cool on board, to take time and think before I act.

I was nervous when I first came on, but now I'm ready for the next adventure. The weather was great and I saw so much wildlife it blew me away. The dolphins were amazing! The biggest thing for me was the impact the experience had in relation to my career – I've decided I would really like to join the Navy.



OUR GOALS

TO SUPPORT AND INSPIRE YOUNG PEOPLE FROM DISADVANTAGED BACKGROUNDS

What we are doing?

- 20% of young people who sailed with us are from the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland and 44 had additional support needs.
- Our two major funded projects target the most disadvantaged young people (On Course with CashBack and CORAL Young Carers jointly supported 183 young people).
- We offer bursaries to the most vulnerable young people who would otherwise struggle to come sailing through our Assisted Berth Scheme (£68,000 awarded).

TO INVOLVE YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DIRECTION AND WORK OF THE TRUST

What we are doing?

- Established a youth council consisting of eight young people aged 16-24 with the aim of providing a voice on behalf of the young people to whom we deliver our youth work. Their input will directly impact our programmes.



Future plans

- Continue to seek funding to reach most deprived areas, broaden our reach, and ensure that we continue to support those furthest removed from opportunities such as ours.



ON COURSE WITH CASHBACK



2018 saw us deliver the second year of On Course with CashBack, an ambitious three year national project to inspire and support young people from all over Scotland who are at risk of poorer outcomes. Thanks to funding from the Scottish Government's CashBack for Communities scheme, we delivered 12 CashBack voyages to 103 young people from 10 Local Authorities across Scotland.

As we enter in to the project's third and final year, we are on target to meet or have already surpassed all of the project outcomes. Through these voyages, young people build their capacity and confidence, develop personal and physical skills, improve behaviours and aspirations, and improve wellbeing.



80%

Increased aspirations

99%

Learned new skills

89%

Increased their confidence

79%

Improved behaviour and attitude



10

DANNI'S STORY

Youth work on the waves can be life-changing. We asked Danni (aged 16) to tell us about her trip.



WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO TAKE PART?

When the opportunity was given to me, my friend who'd been on a voyage told me it was really good and I should go. I thought that it would be a good opportunity to get away from the life I lead at home, like on my phone and sitting about not doing much. It seemed like a chance to take on different challenges.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST CHANGE?

The trip has had a huge impact on me. Some things I would never do at home, I now do. I go home and cook dinner for the family, I am friendlier and more positive in my outlook and talk to lots more people. Sometimes I would come into school and couldn't be bothered, now I come in positive knowing I can achieve anything I put my mind to.

WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?

The changes in me came about from what we did on the boat. I did things that I didn't think I could do, like putting up sails, talking to different people - I never knew I had that in me. We took on challenges, worked in teams, we were given responsibility. On one occasion I was sick, but I wouldn't let that get me down and I just got on with the things that needed to get done. My confidence has gone through the roof because everyone on the boat looked

out for each other. There was a task I needed to do, and I was nervous about getting it wrong, but everyone was really supportive and encouraging and that helped me complete the task.

HAVE YOU NOTICED ANY CHANGE AT HOME?

My mum doesn't like boats, so she was a bit worried about me going. At the beginning I was thinking about home and how my mum would be feeling, but when we started getting involved in sailing I forgot about everything. When I got back my mum and dad have said that I am more helpful around the house and they've said I am happier and more comfortable with myself.

HAS IT HELPED YOU IN ANY WAY WITH SCHOOL?

Since my voyage, in school my grades have gone up and I am passing every class. Before I went away I'd have off days but now my confidence is up and I enjoy school much more.

CORAL PROJECT

Ocean Youth Trust Scotland's award-winning **CORAL Project** (Carers On Residential Adventurous Learning) provides adventurous sailing voyages for young carers from across Scotland. Supported by The National Lottery Community Fund, this year we worked with 80 young carers from nine different areas.

The voyages offer young carers a chance to have a break from their caring responsibilities and be with others their own age for a week of fun and adventure. With a focus on improving wellbeing, voyages are full of games and laughter.

From January 2017 to January 2020, the **CORAL Project** will have provided respite time to 270 young carers across Scotland, changing their lives in the process.



VALUING OUR VOLUNTEERS



Without our dedicated volunteers, we simply could not provide youth work at sea. We rely on the generous support of our sea and shore based staff who give up their time and energy to help young people broaden their horizons.

This year, our volunteers contributed 20,475 hours at sea and 1,307 on shore.

Our Shore Groups bring together volunteers and supporters from across the country and help with fundraising and training. This year saw their expansion, as a new group was set up in the South West, adding to Aberdeen and North East, Edinburgh and the South Easterlies, and Clyde Shore Groups.



Goal

- Ensure we have a number of highly skilled, motivated and loyal volunteers, both ashore and afloat.

What are we doing?

- Continue to provide ongoing high quality training for all volunteers.

2018

WHO DID WHAT?



140 volunteers took part in training - **56** on Alba Volunteer

24 attended Big Boat Training

12 attended Drills Weekends

26 new bosuns

21 volunteers were assessed and moved up a rank

9 new watchleaders

14 Day Skippers

7 Coastal Skippers

6 Yachtmaster Exams

4 x 60 mile passage weeks

7 took part in skills weekends

2 members' charters

Future Plans

- Our learning from this year is to focus our training around requested areas. We have also introduced a mentoring programme for voluntary sea staff. Both were launched at our annual training seminar in February and the Training Committee is looking to implement these in 2019/20.



109 members attended our annual training seminar with **275** places on training courses which included: Mental Health First Aid, Supporting Young People with Learning Difficulties, Safeguarding, and LGBT Awareness.

YOUNG LEADER

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2018

Our Young Leader Development Programme harnesses the enthusiasm and talent of past crew members. It is a chance for young people to develop their leadership skills, take part in more adventurous sailing, and build a variety of soft skills. This year, eleven intrepid young people embarked on a challenging adventure to the remote archipelago of St Kilda.

The Programme not only taught the group how to maintain and operate the boats, but also how to cooperate with fellow crew members, and put their leadership skills to the test. All eleven young people successfully completed the programme with an SQA in Leadership, RYA Essential Navigation and Seamanship certificate, and memories to last a lifetime.



ASH'S STORY

Coming back from YLDP may have been the saddest train journey of my life. The last two weeks had just been really special - 18 people, one boat, 552 miles, and lots and lots of Nutella.

The trip did not begin slowly. After the first night bonding

we soon set out on the 80-mile leg, headed straight to Vatersay, just south of Barra in the Outer-Hebrides to begin our adventure. There's nothing that quite pulls a team together like six people sharing two sick buckets on a long and rough passage.

The next morning a loud UB-DUB HEAVE can be heard from the deck. Five young people haul the main halliard as the leader looks on and watches the sail stubbornly move barely an inch. We groan, muscles sore from the four previous practice main sail hoists we

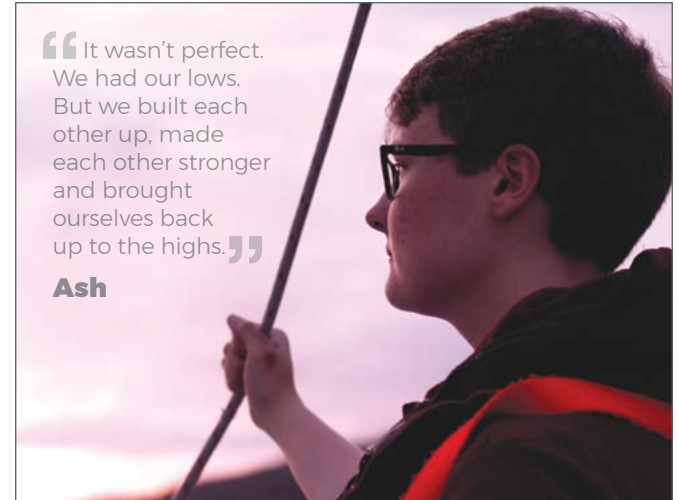


have done that morning, and reach again for the winch handle.

We are young leaders and this is what we do. We lead sail hoists, decide our compass course, fill out the log book, rotate the helm, write passage plans, plan and cook our meals, check the engine, plot positions, lead sail stows, call our tacks and change our watches. We were learning how to show others how to sail and that meant practice, which, in this case, meant sore arms, backs, and throats! Over the program there were lots of questions, lots of answers and lots of learning - including two RYA courses and an SQA qualification.

Of course, amongst cramming our heads full of sailing facts we found time for lots of fun too. Without technology around (except for a small speaker) it was up to us to entertain ourselves, something which came to us easily. There were several ceilidhs, some beach Olympics, boat games, the cup song and plenty truly awful singing - luckily there was no one around to hear us!

We explored the beauty of the Hebrides both from the land and the sea, having a six-mile walk on the Isle of Lewis to see the Callinish stones, finding the beautiful little bothy on the Shaint Isles, spotting pods of dolphins and whales and of course, seeing the



“It wasn't perfect. We had our lows. But we built each other up, made each other stronger and brought ourselves back up to the highs.”

Ash

stunning views from the cliffs of St. Kilda, all of which made the voyage that little bit more special.

YLDP was an incredible, challenging and completely unique experience and one that it would be difficult for anyone to forget. We learnt so much, both about the technicalities of sailing and about ourselves as people. It's surprising how easily 18 people from all over the country and from different walks of life can bond so quickly. It wasn't perfect. We had our lows. But we built each other up, made each other stronger and brought ourselves back up to the highs. Because that's what families do.

WHO WAS ON BOARD..



3RD GLASGOW
SCOUTS

ATC

BALFRON HIGH
SCHOOL

BARNARDOS

BAROCHAN ROAD
CARE HOME

BEESLACK HIGH
SCHOOL & FRIENDS
OF THE AWARD

BRANCHTON
COMMUNITY CENTRE

BROADWAY
ACADEMY & TRINITY
ACADEMY

BUCKSBURN
ACADEMY

CALDERGLEN HIGH
SCHOOL

CASTLEBAY HIGH
SCHOOL

CEDAR HOUSE

CHARTERSHALL BASE

CLACHAN YOUTH
PROJECT

CLYDE CRUISING CLUB

CONNECT
BERWICKSHIRE
YOUTH PROJECT

COWAL & BUTE
YOUNG CARERS

DEANES & DAUBENEY
ACADEMY

EAST
DUNBARTONSHIRE
CARERS LINK

EAST LOTHIAN YACHT
CLUB

FALKIRK &
CLACKMANNANSHIRE
YOUNG CARERS

FALKIRK CHAMPIONS

FIFE YOUNG CARERS

G15 YOUTH PROJECT

GEORGE HERIOT'S
SCHOOL

GOUROCK YACHT
CLUB

HELENSBURGH
YOUNG CARERS

INVERCLYDE
ACADEMY

INVERNESS HIGH
SCHOOL

KINLOCHLEVEN HIGH
SCHOOL

LADY MANNERS

LARGS ACADEMY

LARGS SAILING CLUB

LARKHALL ACADEMY

LGBT YOUTH

LINLITHGOW
ACADEMY

MERKLAND HIGH
SCHOOL

MIDLOTHIAN CLD

MONTROSE ACADEMY

NEWBATTLE HIGH
SCHOOL

NEWCASTLE YMCA

PERTH & KINROSS
YOUNG CARERS

POLICE
SCOTLAND YOUTH
VOLUNTEERING

PORT GLASGOW
I-ZONE

ROBERT GORDON'S
COLLEGE

ROBERTSON TRUST

ROTHESAY ACADEMY

SHETLAND YOUTH
SERVICES

SMITHYCROFT
SECONDARY SCHOOL

ST. PAUL'S YOUTH
FORUM

STIRLING YOUNG
CARERS

STONELAW HIGH
SCHOOL

UDDINGSTON
GRAMMAR SCHOOL -
VISUAL IMPAIRMENT
UNIT

WALLACE HIGH
SCHOOL YOUNG
CARERS

Y-SORT-IT YOUNG
CARERS

...AND WHERE DID WE SAIL?

ARDEN CAPLE BAY

ARDFERN

ARDMUCKNISH BAY

ARDROSSAN

ARDTORNISH BAY

BALNAHARD BAY

BANGOR

BLACKFARLAND BAY

BLAIREMORE

BRODICK

BURNT ISLES

CALGARY BAY

CAMPBELTOWN

CARRADALE

CARRICK CASTLE

CASTLE BAY

COLL

COLONSAY

CRAIGHOUSE

CRAIGMORE BAY

CUMBRAE

EAST LOCH TARBERT

FARLIE

FISHNISH

GICHA

GLOMAIG HARBOUR

GREENOCK

HOLY LOCH

INVERIE

KANES BAY

KERRERA

KILCHATTAN BAY

KIP MARINA

KYLE OF LOCHALSH

LAMLASH

LARGS

LOCH ALINE

LOCH ASCRESORT

LOCH BREACHACHA

LOCH CARRON

LOCH GOIL

LOCH HARPORT

LOCH NA DROMA

BUIDHE

LOCH NA LATHAICH

LOCH NA MILE

LOCH RANZA

LOCH RIDDON

LOCH SHIELDAIG

LOCH TARBERT

LOCHBOISDALE

LOCHGOILHEAD

LOCHMADDY NORTH

UIST

LUNGA

MALLAIG

MILLPORT

MULL

OBAN

OITIR MHOR BAY

PORT BANNATYNE

PORT ELLEN

PORTAVADIE

RHU

ROTHESAY

RUM

SCALASAIG

SORIBY BAY ULVA

STAFFA

STRANRAER

TARBERT

TARBET

TIGHNABRUAICH

TIREE

TOBERMORY

TROON

ULVA FERRY

VATERSAY

VILLAGE BAY

WEST LOCH TARBERT

WEST LOCH TARBERT
(KINTYRE)

WHITE BAY

WHITING BAY

WHITLEY BAY

WRECK BAY



FINANCIAL REPORT & FUNDRAISING



The last twelve months has been another positive year for the Trust, and we continue to ride the waves in what has been a rather choppy economic backdrop. Finishing the year with a surplus of £30,932, we are hugely grateful for the wide ranging support across all fronts, and appreciative of the difference our volunteers make to the success of the Trust.

Total income is up from £873,289 to £905,592, while our expenditure increased slightly from £860,453 to £878,560. We endeavour to equip and maintain our vessels to a very high standard, and this year Alba Explorer had an extensive refit over the winter months in the shed at Fairlie. Next year Alba Venturer will be due her five year survey, and it will be her turn to go under cover when she is lifted out in November.

Our general reserve stands at £189,024,

and is enough to cover at least three months running costs of the Trust. The Designated Assets Fund is mainly our vessels and at £216,519 is a very prudent figure. Finally our vessel replacement fund has grown to £514,151 which is in line with our five year strategy. 2019 has started strongly, and in our 20th year we are well placed to build on our achievements of 2018.

Without the valuable support of our donors we could not continue to deliver life changing adventures to vulnerable and disadvantaged young people.

A huge thanks to KPMG who continue to support the Trust with a gift in kind and carry out our printing needs throughout the year.

In September, 130 cyclists made their way to the Isle of Arran for our third Arran Sportive, generating valuable income to fund our Assisted Berth Scheme.





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