

# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

**‘Climb the mountains and get  
their good tidings. Nature’s  
peace will flow into you as  
sunshine flows into trees.’**

*John Muir*



# Chair's report



ONCE AGAIN THE TRUST has had a very productive year, as you will see from this annual report. This covers some of the highlights but by no means all of the activities we are involved in across the full spectrum of wild places throughout the United Kingdom. The best way of keeping up with all our news and progress with projects is by signing up to our monthly eNewsletter or joining as a member and receiving our high quality publications.

Communication is critical to our ability to influence change. Wild land, by its definition, is often remote and can be challenging to access. Modern forms of electronic communication have enabled us to share some of the wonders of these places with everyone and I hope that not only inspires people to get out and experience them for themselves but also appreciate just what we have on our doorstep. As we welcomed our 100,000th visitor through the doors of our Wild Space centre in Pitlochry, and over 300 people to a sell-out Spirit of John Muir event with Alastair Humphreys in Edinburgh, I know that we are doing a great job in helping to connect a wide cross section of our society with wild places.

Our engagement with the politics of land management can bring us into conflict with those who seek to develop and industrialise wild land. I believe this report demonstrates a proportionate response to developments by the Trust with a staunch resolve where necessary to protect our nationally important wild land. We were very disappointed at the eventual outcome of the Judicial Review taken against the Scottish Government for consenting a windfarm at Stronelaire in the Monadhliath Mountains and the Trustees were immensely grateful to everyone who

supported us. I know some of our members are uneasy about objecting to windfarms which can make a positive contribution to efforts to address climate change. The positive response we still get from supporters and professionals alike to our action on Stronelaire suggests that we achieved a number of things – we demonstrated that wild land will be defended from massive industrialisation and we highlighted the unreasonable costs to the public of seeking environmental protection in the Scottish Courts.

I am pleased to report on a positive financial performance in 2016. Through some hard choices, hard work and the generosity of our members and supporters we have been able to rebuild a strong financial reserve as well as investing in a wide range of projects on our properties. I am also very pleased to report an upturn in our membership which has grown by 3.5% in 2016 to just under 11,000.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow trustees, other volunteers and the staff for their contributions this year. In particular, I would like to thank Will Williams, Bill Wright, Rob McMorran and Gill Bond who stood down as trustees at the 2016 AGM – and pay tribute to the enormous contribution of Stuart Brooks to the Trust and wish him well in his next 'wild adventure'.

I hope you enjoy reading this report.

**Peter Pearson**  
Chair  
John Muir Trust

#### PHOTOGRAPHY:

Mark Hamblin,  
TGO, Kevin Lelland,  
James Brownhill,  
Romany Garnett, Andy  
McCandlish, Toby Clark,  
Davey Nelson

#### COVER IMAGE:

Hiker on footpath  
towards Beinn Eighe  
ridge, Torridon by  
Mark Hamblin

Acknowledging  
support from:



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Annual Report  
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Geared up for the outdoors

A full list of Trust supporters  
are on the back page.

#### TRUSTEES

David Broom	Duncan Macniven
John Finney	Jo Moulin
Peter Foulkes	Peter Pearson (Chair)
John Fox-Davies	Hugh Salvesen
Jim Gibson	Chris Townsend
Steve Green	Deirdre Wilson
Patricia Jordan	Douglas Wynn
David MacLehose	

#### JOHN MUIR TRUST MANAGEMENT TEAM

Stuart Brooks, *Chief Executive*  
Kate Barclay, *Head of Fundraising*  
Rob Bushby, *John Muir Award Manager*  
Mike Daniels, *Head of Land Management*  
Fiona Kindness, *Director of Resources*  
Kevin Lelland, *Head of Communications  
and Membership*  
Helen McDade, *Head of Policy*

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# Chief Executive's report



ON THE BACK OF A challenging financial year for the Trust in 2015 we started 2016 with a reduced staffing level and the knowledge that we had a lot to do with fewer resources. My staff colleagues have done an exceptional job this year and I would like to acknowledge the contribution they have all made on behalf of our members and the charity.

We are all motivated by a desire to make a difference and we are privileged to have the opportunity to do that: helping nature to flourish on our properties, healing the damage from millions of tramping feet, supporting people of all ages on their journey of adventure into wild places, preventing inappropriate development and helping everyone to discover the beauty of wild places. In my time at the Trust I have tried to ensure that all of our actions contribute and complement each other to help achieve our vision:

“Of a world where wild places are protected, enhanced and valued by and for everyone.”

In the scheme of UK conservation organisations the Trust is a relatively small operation but I think we make a big impact. In my role as Chair of the International Union

for Nature Conservation (IUCN) UK National Committee I come into contact with a global network of organisations. I think the Trust stands up very well in comparison and we should be proud of what we do and what we stand for. I would also like to single out our John Muir Award initiative which I think is a global leader in terms of connecting people from all backgrounds to the positive values of nature. Ultimately society will only protect what it values and I see our investment in young people, the future decision makers, as critical to achieving our vision.

There is a lot of progress to acknowledge in this report and even more which we haven't had space to include. 2016 is my last year as Chief Executive of the Trust and I leave it in good heart with my best wishes for its future.

**Stuart Brooks**  
Chief Executive  
John Muir Trust

## 2016 mapped out

We're working towards a world where wild places are protected, enhanced and valued by and for everyone. Here's a snapshot of some of our work around the UK.

**1** 'Sandwood Bay' tops online searches for beaches on VisitScotland's website

**2** New programme of guided walks at **Quinag** is a hit with locals and visitors to Assynt

**3** Following re-measurement by OS during trig point repair work, the official height of **Ben Nevis** rose by a metre to 1,345m

**4** 140 tonnes of stone airlifted to **Druim Hain**, to repair the path from Glen Sligachan to Loch Coruisk on Skye

**5** 15,000 Scots pine seedlings germinated ready for planting at **Li and Corie Dhorraicail** in two years' time



**6** Wild Space in **Pitlochry** welcomes its 100,000th visitor

**7** New John Muir Award partnership established with **Telford and Wrekin Council** Outdoor Education Service

**8** 15 bat boxes built for **Glenlude**

**9** We met with over 60 MSPs following the **Scottish Parliament** election in May 2016.

**10** Trust continues to campaign to reduce the impacts of National Grid's Cumbrian connection through and around the **National Park**

**11** **Cardiff** student is the 50,000th recipient of a John Muir Award in Wales

**12** Trust joins supporters calling for **London** to be a National Park City

# Protecting wild places



PHOTOGRAPH: RAVEN BY MARK HAMBLIN

**The Trust's campaign for long-term legal protection for wild land in Scotland received a boost in 2014. However our work to watch over wild places continues**

WE HAVE MADE SUBSTANTIAL progress since the Wild Land Areas map was published by Scottish Natural Heritage and recognised as a planning constraint by the Scottish Government. Since mid-2014, eight major wind farms in or on the edge of Wild Land Areas have been refused consent. Adverse impact on Wild Land Areas was cited in seven of these decisions.

Some Wild Land Areas, however, remain under threat. We were extremely concerned at the decision in October 2016 to consent a 22-turbine application at Creag Riabhach, which will mean five turbines built within Wild Land Area 37 (Foinaven-Ben Hee). This is the first breach of the boundaries since the Wild Land Areas map was published in 2014.

Through 2016, we were involved in challenging six industrial windfarm applications, which are at various stages in the planning process. Of these, four are in the far north of Scotland: Caplich, Drum Holliston,

Gordonbush Extension, Limekiln (re-application). The other two are Culachy near Loch Ness and Crossburns in Highland Perthshire. We are awaiting a Ministerial decision on Strathy South, on which the Trust gave evidence at Inquiry in 2015.

## **Transmission lines**

Following a long-running campaign by Dumgal Against Pylons, supported by the Trust, we were delighted to hear that Scottish Power reduced its plans for a major transmission line through Dumfries and Galloway in July.

In October, we welcomed news that the National Grid plans to reduce the impact of a new Cumbrian transmission line connection by undergrounding the part of the line that falls within the Lake District National Park, although concerns remain about proposed pylons in south west Cumbria, close to the National Park boundary.



‘Nature is always lovely,  
invincible, glad, whatever  
is done and suffered by  
her creatures.’

*John Muir*



## In defence of wild land

In July, the Inner House of the Court of Session appeal overturned an earlier judicial review decision in the Trust’s favour that would have prevented the building of the 67-turbine Stronelaig wind farm in the heart of a major area of wild land. The appeal was lodged by Scottish Ministers and the developer SSE.

For financial reasons, we decided to end the action, which, although ultimately unsuccessful, did demonstrate the Trust’s determination to take whatever action possible to defend Scotland’s wild land from industrial development. At each stage, the courts refused applications from the Trust for Protected Expenses Orders, which would have limited our financial liability. We’d like to thank all who supported our Stronelaig appeal.

We are now in discussions with the Scottish Government and SSE over costs. We are grateful to members and supporters – and to the Scottish Green and Conservative parties and individual SNP politicians – who wrote to the Scottish Government and SSE to ask for our costs to be waived.

## Other actions

### > Political engagement

The Trust has engaged with politicians from across the political spectrum. Prior to the Scottish elections we wrote to Scotland’s five major political parties and received responses from the SNP, Labour, the Conservatives and the Green Party. We wrote to all MSPs in the new Parliament and offered visits to our properties. Two Labour and two Conservative MSPs took this up. Green Highland MSP John Finnie sponsored a John Muir Trust stand inside the Scottish Parliament. We attended spring conferences of the governing parties of the UK and Scotland (Conservative and SNP) and held a fringe meeting at the SNP’s autumn conference, chaired by George Kerevan MP for East Lothian (which includes Dunbar, location of John Muir’s birthplace).

### > Wider engagement

The Trust attended a number of conferences and meetings with a wide range of organisations, from the environmental, academic, outdoors, energy and planning sectors on issues as diverse as land reform, energy transmission, tourism, the state of nature, and environmental law; and commissioned a research paper as a contribution to an ongoing debate in Scotland over the impact of wind farm expansion on the tourist sector.

### > Environmental justice

The Trust addressed a conference in Edinburgh – Securing Access to Environmental Justice – examining some of the flaws of the current planning system. We have been campaigning with other environmental charities and community organisations for an Equal Right of Appeal, to redress the imbalance that allows developers the right to appeal if their application is refused, while denying that right to those who object to the development.



### > TGO Award

For the third year running, the Trust won strong recognition for its campaigning work at The Great Outdoors Awards 2016 gaining the ‘highly commended’ accolade in the Outdoor Campaigner of the Year category. Trustee Chris Townsend also received two commendations in the Outdoor Personality of the Year category, and for his book Out There.

# Managing and enhancing wild land

PHOTOGRAPH: REGENERATING WOODLAND AT CREAG MEAGAI DH BY MARK HAMBLIN



More people are enjoying the outdoors, but footfall and rainfall can turn paths into deep scars, blemishing the places we love to visit. We're helping these beautiful places recover

IN 2016, WE CONTINUED our focus on repairing and maintaining the 120km of paths we look after, from the coastal trails of Skye and Sandwood, to the mountain routes on Quinag and Ben Nevis. Thanks to funds from our ongoing Wild Ways appeal and other sources, local-based contractors helped tackle some larger projects. The Trust has received considerable accolades for our sensitive approach to maintaining our routes into the wild.

## **Sandwood**

Countryside Management students from Scotland's Rural College's Elmwood campus spent a week in May undertaking path repairs while completing a John Muir Award. Their work (alongside work parties, contractors and other groups) means that the Sandwood path is now in much better condition.

## **Skye**

A local Path Project officer was appointed to oversee contracts and work with rural skills groups from Broadford. Our two key path repair projects – the route from Sligachan to Coruisk at Druim Hain and the route

across Beinn Dearg Mheadhonach in the Red Cuillin – made good progress in 2016. 100 tonnes of stone were airlifted to construct steps and drainage features. Substantial work was also carried out to revegetate some of the bare ground and speed up recovery of the sites. Meanwhile, in April a work party repaired the Blà Bheinn footpath and car park.

## **Nevis**

Ongoing work was carried out by a local contractor – who also helped repair the damage caused by a rock fall in Steall Gorge in September.

## **Schiehallion**

A survey of the path revealed collapsing water bars and a need for substantial further stonework to consolidate. A plan was drawn up for remedial work to start in 2018.

## **Suilven**

Following a fantastic response to our Suilven appeal, we are working with our partners Assynt Foundation and the Coigach-Assynt Living Landscape project on plans to fix the main path. Work is due to begin in spring 2017.





**‘Walk away quietly in any direction and taste the freedom of the mountaineer.’**

*John Muir*



## The joy of volunteering

In 2016, our volunteers took part in 32 organised work parties on the land we manage as well as with our partners (Knoydart Foundation, Coigach and Assynt Living Landscape project, North Harris Trust, West Harris Trust, Corrou Estate and others). 150 people donated 659 days of volunteering during which they helped:

- maintain over 2,550 metres of path and repair over 200 metres including resurfacing, building cross drains, anchor bars, pitching and improving drainage
- remove rubbish from beaches - Sandwood (Sandwood Bay, Polin, Dromin and Oldshoremore), Inverie in Knoydart, Harris (Huishinis and Meavaig) - and mountain tops (eight bags from Ben Nevis)
- plant 4,500 trees, and weed 10,000 trees - mostly on Li and Coire Dhorrcail as well as at Glenlude
- monitor mountain ringlet butterflies and water voles at Nevis plus red squirrels, adders and vegetation at Glenlude.

## Other actions

### > Lake District talks

Trustees started discussions with the Lake District National Park Authority about leasing Glenridding Common, a large and important property including Striding Edge and the summit of Helvellyn.

### > Deer management breakthrough

In November, the Trust welcomed Scottish Natural Heritage’s Deer Management report to the Scottish Government. The report concluded that ‘the evidence does not enable us to be confident that present approaches will bring about early improvements in the natural heritage or deliver other potential public benefits’. In December, the Trust gave evidence at the Scottish Parliament’s Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee – along with the RSPB, Scottish Wildlife Trust and Forest Policy Group – putting the case for ‘light touch’ regulation that would enable gradual change of deer management practices.

### > Beavers to stay in Scotland

In November, the Scottish Government announced that beavers – hunted to extinction in Scotland in the 16th century – are to be granted native species status. This will mean that both groups of beavers – at Knapdale in Argyll and Tayside – will be allowed to stay and expand naturally, while managed to protect the interests of farmers and landowners. The Trust welcomed the news, and praised the government’s ‘sensible and pragmatic approach’.

### > UK National Seed Project

The Trust’s land team made their final deposit into Kew’s Millennium Seed Bank as part of the UK National Seed Project.

Seed from rowan and silver birch on Schiehallion; rowan, birch, honeysuckle and holly on Quinag; and holly, wych elm, raspberries, downy birch, ash, elder, honeysuckle and birch from Skye will provide useful genetic information to ensure their survival in face of future challenges from disease and climate change.



### > Knoydart woodland plans

2016 saw us plant 11,000 birch, hazel and alder trees, and germinate 15,000 Scots pine seeds (which will be ready for planting in spring 2018) – thanks to our land team, volunteers and donors. We also built a new tree nursery at Inbhir Dhorrcail. We plan to plant a further 10,000 trees in spring 2017.



# Promoting awareness, connecting with wildness

PHOTOGRAPH: KNOYDART BY ANDY MCCANDLISH

The Trust encourages thousands to connect with, enjoy and care for our wild places

THE JOHN MUIR AWARD is the main educational initiative of the John Muir Trust. It works with organisations across the UK to encourage people of all backgrounds to value and care for wild places and enhance wild places in a variety of settings.

Since its launch in 1997, at least 25% of take-up has been with participants from a range of challenging backgrounds – from prison inmates and ex-offenders, to at-risk families and those with drug and alcohol addictions. In 2016 this target was exceeded and 30% (10,423) of Awards were achieved by people who experience disadvantage.

During 2016 we maintained a fairly even 52% male to 48% female

gender split. While the Award is largely youth-focused, there is a significant involvement from over 16s with 12% of Awards achieved by people aged 17 or older.

Our 2015 UK-wide audit of the ‘conserve’ element of the John Muir Award helped quantify what people give back to wild places through taking part. It showed that 36,200 days of activity were committed, valued at the equivalent of £1.3m labour cost. During 2016 we interpreted these data in various ways, producing a range of regional and themed Conserve Audit summaries. These proved useful for our key audiences in Scotland, England, and Wales, focusing on schools, National Parks and Youth Social Action.

**‘When I was a boy in Scotland I was fond of everything that was wild, and all my life I’ve been growing fonder and fonder of wild places and wild creatures.’** *John Muir*





## Other actions



### > Wild Space milestones

Three and a half years after opening, our Pitlochry visitor centre welcomed its 100,000th visitor through the door. Our Alan Reece Gallery hosted six shows, including a two-week exhibition showcasing our 10 winners of the *Scottish Landscape Photographer of the Year - John Muir Trust Wild Places Prize*.

### > Growth in support

Local members' group meetings and events spanned the breadth of the UK with events from Bristol to Aberdeen. In Edinburgh an audience of 100 joined the annual local members' gathering. Membership of the Trust grew by 3.5% to 10,919, with an overall retention of 95.9%.

### > John Muir Award expansion

We worked with 1,480 organisations (Award Providers) during 2016 – up 22%. Thanks to them, 34,928 John Muir Awards were achieved across the UK – an increase of 4% on 2015's figures. Activity in England and Scotland increased by 16% and 3% respectively and remained constant in Wales, where a milestone of 50,000 Awards was marked at a special presentation.

### > Glenlude gains new fans

Thanks to everyone who donated to our appeal, and support from players of the People's Postcode Lottery, our plans to transform this former sheep farm and conifer plantation into a mosaic of native habitats is making great progress. It continues to be recognised as a place to gain valuable skills, confidence and a sense of wellbeing by connecting with and giving back to nature. In addition to regular volunteers, visitors include youth groups, schools and participants in rehabilitation or unemployment programmes – many of whom participate in the John Muir Award.

### > Beautiful film locations

The land we manage at Skye, Nevis and even remotest Sandwood once again drew lots of filming/photography enquiries during 2016. Requests ranged from fashion and car shoots, music promos, dramas, sci-fi blockbusters and wildlife documentaries to a much loved US actor doing a whisky promo... A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to bringing in this small, but valuable, income source to help protect and restore wild land and wildlife, and maintain access to these beautiful areas.



## Spirit of John Muir with Alastair Humphreys

Three hundred people heard adventurer, author, filmmaker and blogger Alastair Humphreys speak at our second Spirit of John Muir event in Edinburgh. He entertained a packed theatre audience with tales of cycling around the world, rowing across the Atlantic Ocean and trekking round the M25 – before challenging them to think about how we can encourage more people to embrace adventure.

Alastair signed off by premiering a new film, *Wilderness*, that he and film maker StudioCanoe created mostly on John Muir Trust properties.

The evening was bookended by two other adventurers – Trust founding member and retailing legend Maude Tiso and John Muir Award participant and Bill Wallace Grant recipient, Zeki Basan.

# Financial report



I AM PLEASED TO present the accounts for 2016 as approved by the board and am grateful to Fiona Kindness and the team for the work involved in producing these.

The Trust, in common with many charities, has been under financial pressure. We began 2016 with a budgeted deficit of £380,000 but I am pleased to report that 2016 has been extremely successful and we have ended the year with a surplus of £769,000. This turnaround is partly due to increased legacy income (£914,000 equating to 32% of our total income for the year) but also reflects increased support from voluntary donations to the appeals we ran, growth in membership, successful applications to Charitable Trusts and the Heritage Lottery fund and generous gifts from a number of major donors, all of which indicates that our investment in fundraising, membership and communications is generating results and enabling us to fund more of our charitable work.

The fundraising environment for charities is tough for many reasons and new data protection regulations about how we contact supporters could have a negative impact on our ability to raise income from certain sources in the short-to-medium term and are likely to involve added costs. We are very fortunate to have such a loyal and generous supporter base and we never take that support for granted but we know we face challenges going forward.

Total income in 2016 was £2.85 million (2015: £1.9 million) including:

- A second tranche of £200,000 (2015: £200,000) from the Reece

Foundation to support our core costs. The support from the Reece Foundation at this time is hugely valued and is making a real difference to improving our back office business functions which increases our ability to protect and enhance wild places;

- A grant of £96,000 (2015: £106,000) from SNH to support our work with the John Muir Award in Scotland;
- Legacy income of £914,000 (2015: £462,000) from 23 (2015: 21) individuals;
- Membership subscriptions of £319,000 (2015: £310,000), an increase of 3%;
- An additional Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £137,000 towards the work of the John Muir Award in England (on top of the £364,000 received previously);
- Appeal income of £71,000 for Suilven, £50,000 for Glenlude, and £76,000 towards the ongoing Wild Ways appeal;
- £128,000 raised from individuals, Charitable Trusts and the Heritage Lottery Fund towards pathwork on Skye;
- £26,000 from the first year of our 'Adopt an Acre' scheme.

Total expenditure in 2016 was £2.16 million (2015: £2.38 million) reflecting the effects of the cost cutting exercise carried out at the end of 2015. £1.7 million of that (including allocated overheads) (2015: £1.9m) is spent directly on our charitable activities, with £414,000 (2015: £454,000) (including allocated overheads) spent on raising funds (trading, membership and fundraising costs).

The JMT Trading Company made a small loss (£63) in 2016 (2015: loss

of £44) which comprised trading income of £105,000 (2015: £98,000) offset by merchandising costs and the recharge of certain salary costs from the Trust. Trading activities continued to go well with gross profit margins increasing to over 40%.

At 31 December 2016 the Trust had reserves of £7.0 million (2015: £6.2 million), of which £1.48 million (2015: £0.8 million) was 'free reserves' (funds where their use has not been restricted by donors or designated for specific purposes by the trustees). The Trust has a policy of keeping 4 to 6 months of budgeted expenditure as free reserves. The reserves at 31 December 2016 equate to 7.1 months of 2017's budgeted expenditure which is slightly higher than the policy. This position is very welcome after the recent uncertainty and will help fund activities in 2017, giving us the confidence to go forward into 2017 carrying out our charitable objectives whilst also continuing our planned investment in growth in fundraising and membership support.

The budget for 2017 is expenditure of £2.5 million including significant work on footpaths on our properties. We have been prudent in budgeting income of £1.7 million for 2017. We are therefore entering 2017 with a budgeted deficit of over £800,000, which will be met from funds already raised and from the reserves built up in 2016. Our fundraising team is working to a higher aspirational budget income figure and given progress on income streams during 2016, we hope to be able to report further success in a year's time.

**JN Gibson**  
Convener of the Finance Committee



Fig 1: Total income

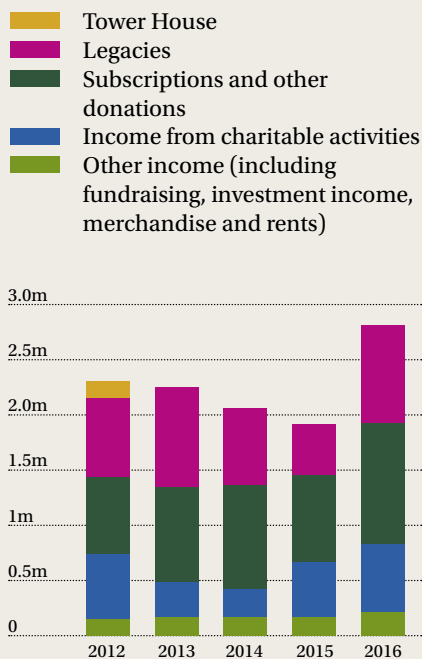


Fig 2: Charitable expenditure

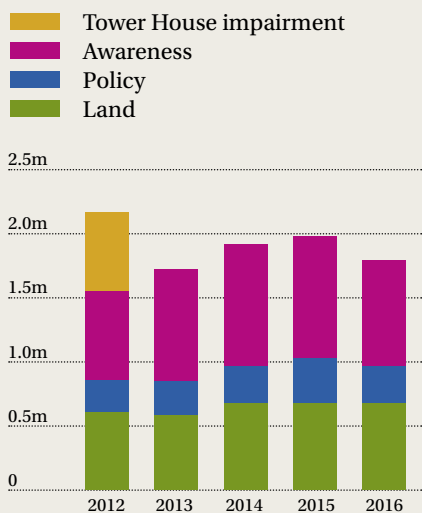
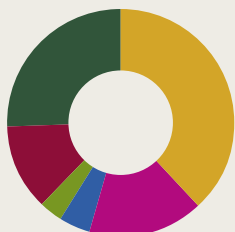
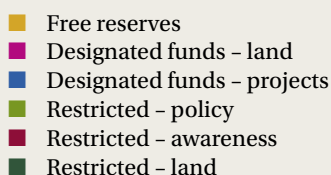


Fig 3: Reserves (excluding fixed assets and heritage properties)



## Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account (extract)

for the year ended 31 December 2016

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:</b>		
Donations and legacies	2,007	1,242
Charitable activities	624	505
Other trading activities	139	131
Investments	65	31
Other	16	10
<b>Total income</b>	<b>2,851</b>	<b>1,919</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>		
Raising funds	414	454
Charitable activities:		
Land	666	660
Awareness	797	920
Policy	281	341
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>2,158</b>	<b>2,375</b>
<b>Net gains/ (losses) on investments</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>(15)</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<b>769</b>	<b>(471)</b>
Fund balances brought forward	6,209	6,680
<b>Fund balances carried forward</b>	<b>6,978</b>	<b>6,209</b>

## Consolidated Balance Sheet (extract)

as at 31 December 2016

	2016 £'000	2015 £'000
Tangible assets	539	599
Heritage properties	2,573	2,573
Investments	1,672	1,546
Current assets	2,393	1,653
Current liabilities	(199)	(162)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>6,978</b>	<b>6,209</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
Free reserves	1,481	833
Designated reserves *	1,338	1,436
Heritage properties	2,573	2,573
	<b>5,392</b>	<b>4,842</b>
<b>Restricted funds *</b>	<b>1,586</b>	<b>1,367</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>6,978</b>	<b>6,209</b>

\* Three funds have an objective of property purchase with a total value of

	849	845
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This information is a summary of the Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet derived from the group financial statements, which received an unqualified audit report from Scott-Moncrieff and were approved by the Board on 20 March 2017. It may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. The group's statutory financial statements are available free of charge on the Trust's website ([www.johnmuirtrust.org](http://www.johnmuirtrust.org)) or by writing to the Director of Resources, John Muir Trust, Tower House, Station Road, Pitlochry PH16 5AN. The group financial statements have been submitted to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator.



# Looking ahead to 2017

We very much hope that 2017 is the year we take on the management of land in the Lake District. If a three month public consultation period is successful we hope to take on the lease for Glenridding Common which includes the summit of Helvellyn and Striding Edge – one of the most iconic and loved wild places in the country. This is a big move for the Trust and we believe that we can make a positive difference to the management of the property. It will also help to broaden awareness of the Trust in England and enable us to attract new supporters. This opportunity has arisen on the back of an existing positive long term relationship with the Lake District National Park who are the current landowners of the

Common. By working with local graziers, other members of the community and organisations involved in conservation and access management in the Park we plan to invest in maintaining high quality public access and ongoing biodiversity improvements.

Other significant planned activities include:

- defending wild land areas at public local inquiries at Caplich (NW Sutherland) and Culachy (near Fort Augustus, Scottish Highlands) and campaigning for protection of wild land in the far north of Scotland
- publishing a new policy on the protection and enhancement of wildness in the UK

- continuing to advocate for reform of deer management policy and practice
- launching a major new native woodland restoration project centred on Schiehallion – The Heart of Scotland Forest Partnership
- completing major restoration and repairs to the footpath on Suilven and ongoing repairs to footpaths on Skye and Quinag
- beginning a new funded partnership with East Ayrshire Council for enhanced provision of the John Muir Award
- reaching a milestone of 300,000 John Muir Awards achieved across the UK
- launching of a new donor partner scheme.

## Thank you

The support from our members and friends, our fundraisers and volunteers, and from all our donors is invaluable. We cannot name each individual, but a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you.

### LEGACIES

Thomas William Bisset Brown  
Brian David James Carmichael  
David George Cran  
Miss Nora Elliott  
Mary Donald Gardner  
David Greenhill  
Dr John Robert Johnston  
Mrs Jean Kingcome  
Mary Jean Elizabeth Laurie  
William Charles Macartney  
Margaret Emilie Mitchell  
Mrs Fiona Piggins  
Donald Hodge Plant  
Miss Jean Katherine Helen Playfair  
Mrs Helen Stewart  
Imogen Dulcie Vickers

### CHARITABLE TRUSTS, FOUNDATIONS AND GRANTS

A & N Daniell Charitable Trust  
A Sinclair Henderson Trust  
AEB Charitable Trust  
ALA Green Charitable Trust  
Alan & Karen Grieve Charitable Trust  
Anderson Burgess Charitable Trust  
April Trust  
Bothwell Charitable Trust  
Braithwaite Charitable Trust  
Brown Forbes Memorial Fund  
Castansa Trust  
Craignish Trust  
Cruden Foundation Ltd  
Dr Elizabeth Calder Memorial Trust  
E M Whittome 2013 Charitable Trust  
Ethel & Gwynne Morgan Charitable Trust  
Ettrick Charitable Trust  
European Outdoor Conservation Association  
Faslane Trust  
Gamma Trust  
Gannochy Trust  
Garfield Weston Foundation

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