

MOURNE HERITAGE TRUST



Summary Accounts 2013 - 2014

Mission Statement

'To sustain and enhance the environment, rural regeneration, cultural heritage and visitor opportunities of the Mourne Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and contribute to the well-being of Mournes communities'

Chairman's Statement



I am pleased to present the annual report of Mourne Heritage Trust for 2013/14.

This year saw continued progress on a number of fronts. The major exercise to repair eroded sections of the path network in the high Mournes concluded with the final sections on the 'Brandy Pad' at Donard and Commedagh. The completion of this phase saw the investment in the path infrastructure of the AONB reach close to three quarters of a million pounds since 2010. This work has been a true example of joined-up government. It brought together funding from Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Northern Ireland Tourist Board, Sport Northern Ireland and Heritage Lottery Fund to achieve the complementary objectives of protecting the environment and enhancing the visitor experience. On behalf of all who enjoy, work in and care for the Mournes, I would like to express our gratitude to the funders and also to the various land owners, Northern Ireland Water, National Trust and my fellow local farmers.

Another significant development in visitor management has been our development of a ranger service for the world class mountain bike trails at Castlewellan and Rostrevor forests. The combined impacts of tree disease and a particularly stormy winter made the context for maintaining these quality trails very challenging and thanks are due to our partners in Down and Newry and Mourne District Councils and Outdoor Recreation NI and to the landowners, Forest Service, for their cooperation and assistance.

We have continued to work to address threats to, and where possible to enhance, priority habitats and species of the Mourne AONB. A particular focus has been on working closely with Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service to learn about and adapt best practice in wildfire prevention from across Europe to devise approaches that can be effective in our particular context. Among other biodiversity enhancement actions we have continued our research into heathland regeneration techniques with a view to trialing specific approaches and further developed our propagation of the genetically distinct Mourne Juniper.

I am pleased also to note the successes achieved in the first full year of operation of both the Mourne Mountains Landscape Partnership, our £3m plus programme of actions to 're-connect' people with the special landscape qualities of the High Mournes, and also of the Mourne Cooley Gullion Geo-tourism programme, led by Newry & Mourne District Council and in which the Trust has a key role providing expert input and guidance to the project team. Alongside other achievements, these projects have built on the work of our Active Lifestyles programme in adding to the huge volunteer effort that goes into caring for Mourne and for which I wish to thank all who give freely of their time, not least my fellow Mourne Heritage Trust Board members.

For the second year in a row the Trust received commendation of its work from Europe, recognised by the EUROPARC Federation in a ceremony at the European Parliament in Brussels for an outstanding contribution to the promotion of sustainable tourism. I congratulate both the Trust's staff and the tourism enterprises who work with them and who very much share in the credit for this award.

The year past saw the Minister for the Environment announce that he would not at this time be taking forward enabling legislation for national parks in Northern Ireland. I was encouraged to hear that he would continue to seek other opportunities to promote and protect our wonderful landscapes and historic buildings for the enjoyment and benefit of visitors and locals alike. This, of course, is exactly what Mourne Heritage Trust has endeavoured to do for the best part of two decades and I look forward to engaging with policy makers to consider how both the inherent qualities and vast potential of our wonderful landscape can be safeguarded and sustainably developed. A key concern for Mourne Heritage Trust in particular is how management services that are themselves sustainable and fit for purpose in the 21st century can be supported.

Looking ahead, the implementation of new local government arrangements in 2015 will for the first time place the entirety of the Mourne AONB in one local authority area. I believe this provides an immediate opportunity to improve the stability and consistency of the environmental and visitor management services provided and I look forward to building a strong working relationship with the new Council to this end. I would like to acknowledge the support and cooperation received over the 17 years of Mourne Heritage Trust's existence of Down and Newry & Mourne District Councils, whom we will continue to work with in their new guise, and also of Banbridge District Council, to which we will say farewell as a formal partner when it combines to form the Armagh-Banbridge-Craigavon entity. We do hope however to continue to work with the wider Banbridge area and its Council as a key gateway to Mourne. Finally, my thanks to our other main funders and founding partners, Northern Ireland Environment Agency and Northern Ireland Tourist Board, to our various project funders and to the many other organisations and individuals who have contributed to the achievements outlined in our online annual report at www.caringformourne.com

Desmond Patterson

Desmond Patterson

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2014

	Notes	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	TOTAL 2014 £	TOTAL 2013 £
Incoming Resources					
Voluntary Income		-	233,596	233,596	183,930
Investment Income	3	-	13	13	21
Charitable Activities	4	373,925	209,274	583,199	558,290
Other Income		-	220	220	380
Total incoming resources		373,925	443,103	817,028	742,621

Resources Expended

Voluntary Income	5	-	4,779	4,779	7,386
Charitable activities	7,8	375,547	358,986	734,533	656,981
Governance costs	6	-	45,705	45,705	47,017
Total resources expended		375,547	409,470	785,017	711,384
Net Incoming resources before transfers		(1,622)	33,633	32,011	31,237
Transfers between Funds	15	(148,683)	148,683	-	-
Net Incoming resources		(150,305)	182,316	32,011	31,237
Actuarial gains/losses on defined benefit pension schemes		-	78,000	78,000	(56,000)
Net movement in funds for the year		(150,305)	260,316	110,011	(24,763)
Total funds at 1 April 2013		210,733	(50,565)	160,168	184,931
Total funds at 31 March 2014		60,428	209,751	270,179	160,168

Summary income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 March 2014

	Notes	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	TOTAL 2013 £	TOTAL 2012 £
Total income		373,925	443,103	817,028	742,621
Less: Total expenditure		375,547	409,470	785,017	711,384
Net income for the year before transfers		(1,622)	33,633	32,011	31,237
Transfers between funds	15	(148,683)	(148,683)		
Income less expenditure for the year		(150,305)	182,316	32,011	31,237
Net income for the year	15	(150,305)	182,316	32,011	31,237

The income and expenditure account has been prepared on the basis that all operations are continuing operations.

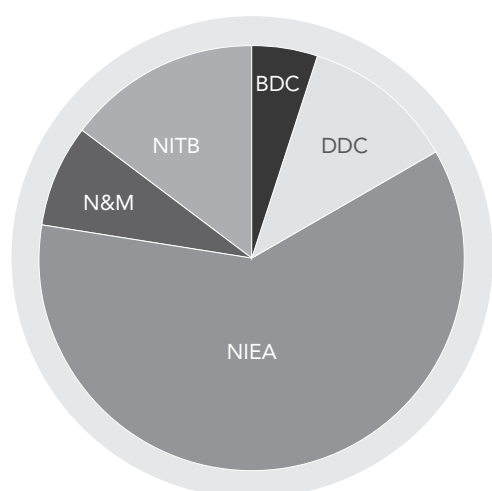
Statement of total recognised gains and losses for the year ended 31 March 2014

	Notes	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	TOTAL 2014 £	TOTAL 2013 £
Net income for the year	15	(150,305)	182,316	32,011	31,237
Actuarial gains/(losses) recognised in relation to the defined benefit pension fund		-	78,000	78,000	(56,000)
Total gains and losses recognised since 1 April 2012	15	(150,305)	260,316	110,011	(24,763)

There is no difference between the income on ordinary activities for the year stated above and its historical cost equivalent.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2014

	Notes	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	TOTAL 2014 £	TOTAL 2013 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		73,336		74,413
Current assets					
Stocks	12	335		825	
Debtors	13	505,269		440,581	
Cash at bank and in hand		191,623		13,841	
		697,227		455,247	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(451,384)		(239,492)	
Net current assets			245,843		215,755
Total assets less current liabilities			319,179		290,168
Defined benefit pension scheme liability			(49,000)		(130,000)
Net assets including pension scheme liabilities			270,179		160,168
Charity Funds					
Restricted funds	15		60,428		210,733
Unrestricted funds:					
Unrestricted funds excluding pension liability		258,751		79,435	
Pension reserve		(49,000)		(130,000)	
Total unrestricted funds			209,751	Total	(50,565)
Total funds			270,179		160,168



Mourne Heritage Trust Core Funding 2013/14

Northern Ireland Tourist Board	£55,000
Newry & Mourne District Council	£30,000
Northern Ireland Environment Agency	£231,000
Down District Council	£45,000
Banbridge District Council	£19,000