2015 - 2016 Annual Report



About the Trust

Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust (PKHT) was established in 1988, with the aim of conserving, enhancing and promoting the archaeological and architectural heritage of the Perth and Kinross area. The Trust is a partnership of the Gannochy Trust, Perth and Kinross Council and Perth Civic Trust. and is funded by the Gannochy Trust and Perth and Kinross Council with this support supplemented by grant aid from other sources for specific projects. The objectives of the Trust are achieved through the combination of projects, the administration of grants, and the provision of information and advice. PKHT is a company registered under the Companies Acts and is limited by guarantee (Company Reg. No. 111258), and a Scottish Charity in terms of the relevant legislation (Scottish Charity No. SC003139).

This annual report covers the period from April 2015 to the end of March 2016. For further information, please visit www.pkht.org.uk







The Trust's Registered Office is: The Lodge, 4 York Place, Perth, PH2 8EP

Front Cover image: *Grants of over £400,000 from Perth City* Heritage Fund saw significant improvements to two historic tenements at the corner of High Street and George Street.

Back Cover image: The Tay Landscape Partnership "UNEARTH! The Mystery of Prehistory" street festival in Perth city centre attracted over 900 people (© George Logan).

The **Trustees** consists of the following representatives nominated by the Gannochy Trust (GT), Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) and Perth Civic Trust (PCT):

Chairman

Cllr Dave Cuthbert (PKC)
Mrs Sue Hendry (PCT)
Mr David Rice (GT)
Mr Tony Simpson (PCT)
Mr Mark Webster (GT)
Cllr Gordon Walker (PKC)

Trust staff:

Manager/Archaeologist:

David Strachan MCIfA FSAScot

Conservation Architect:

Andrew Driver RIAS RIBA (*until December 2015*) **Heritage Officer:** Sarah Malone (*as of January 2016*)

Heritage Officer (maternity cover):

Sarah Winlow ACIfA (until December 2015)

Historic Buildings Development Officer:

Sara Carruthers BSc(Hons) MA MCIOB (as of June 2015)

Outreach Officer: Sarah Winlow ACIfA

(as of January 2016)

Tay Landscape Partnership Scheme staff: Scheme Manager:

Shirley Paterson MSc CEnv MIEEM (until April 2015 and as of January 2016)

Scheme Manager (maternity cover):

Lindsey Gibb (May – December 2015)

Historic Environment Officer: Sophie Nicol ACIfA **Access and Biodiversity Officer:** Catriona Davies **Learning and Interpretation Officer:** Lisa Snedden

Volunteer Coordinator: Lindsey Gibb (*until April* 2015 *and as of January* 2016) **Volunteer Coordinator** (*temporary cover*): Andrea Hudspeth (*May – December* 2015)

Supporting staff:

Secretary: Gillian Taylor (PKC) **Treasurer:** Sandy Rattray (PKC)

Deputy Secretary: Heledd Rheinallt (PKC)

Deputy Treasurer: Jane Moy (PKC)

Technical Advisers:

John McCrone (PKC: The Environment Service)

Helen Smout

(PKC: Education and Children's Services)

Chairman's Report



Sara Carruthers (L) and Sue Hendry meet with a Perth City Heritage Fund grantee John McEwan at Tay Street (© Louis Flood).

Once again I am delighted to introduce the Annual Report of the Trust, which covers the many different aspects of our work. Not surprisingly we have had another very busy year and it has been most successful.

Our two major schemes, the Perth City Heritage Fund and the Tay Landscape Partnership are a large part of the work we currently do. The **Perth City Heritage Fund** is progressing well and we were delighted to see work on the Cunningham Graham Close and George Street completed and the improvement it brought to that area of our city. We were also pleased to see work on the John Buchan House completed – it had been a significant eyesore on one of the major routes into the city centre.

The **Tay Landscape Partnership** has, again, had a busy time. Nest boxes are being erected for birds and bats and bee hives are being installed in various locations. We had a month long excavation of the hill fort on Moredun top in September, the first of three planned seasons. Work is being done on interpretation boards for various locations, new trees and hedgerows are being planted, archaeological and wildlife surveys are being undertaken and many other projects are on the go.

Perth and Kinross Archaeology Month had 53 different events and approximately 2,600 visitors attended these. **Doors Open Day** in September saw 57 different buildings opened up to the public and over 5,000 visits to these were recorded. Once again we were pleased to be working on the **Glenshee Archaeology Project** which is also planned to continue for a further year. We were also delighted

with the number of volunteers who helped us on our various projects throughout the year.

The year has also seen a number of changes of staff at the Trust:

- TLP staff: Shirley Paterson returned from Maternity Leave having had a daughter – congratulations Shirley, and thanks go to Lindsey Gibb who provided maternity cover.
- Sarah Malone, our Heritage Officer, returned from having a second son – congratulations Sarah, and we are delighted that Sarah Winlow, who provided maternity cover, has been kept on as Outreach Officer.
- Sadly Andrew Driver, who had been with Trust since 2002, retired as Architect in December 2015. We appointed Sara Carruthers as Historic Buildings Development Officer in June 2015 and look forward to working with her contribution on the Perth City Heritage Fund.

As in previous years I could not possibly end my report without thanking our Manager, David Strachan, and all the staff and many volunteers for their enthusiasm and help in enabling us to achieve our objectives.

> Sue Hendry, Chairman



The period of this report covers the first year of the second tranche of funding which runs from April 2015 to March 2018. During this period nine grant offers were accepted totalling over £250,000. These included grant assistance towards a comprehensive tenement repair of the Category B-Listed 1-5 George Street; repairs to the finely detailed 222-224 High Street, which, together with an Empty Homes Grant from Perth and Kinross Council, is bringing three empty flats back into use; and smaller projects addressing repairs to cast iron guttering, leadwork, sash and case windows and structural repairs to chimneys.





Highlights of the year were seeing projects that had received grants during previous years being completed. A notable example being the conversion to offices of the double villa at 18-20 York Place, the birthplace of John Buchan, empty for several decades and on the Building at Risk Register for Scotland. The Trust was delighted to see local charity Mindspace take up residence in January 2016. Also the project to repair Cunningham Graham Close at 13-19 High Street was completed in mid-2015. This stunning building, said to be the oldest inhabited tenement in Perth, is now an adornment to the end of the High Street and the shop units ready for let. Number 13 is already home to a bespoke jewellery designer.

Over the wider Perth and Kinross area, the Historic Building Grant scheme has this year offered grant support to seven new projects including roof repairs at Tibbermore Church, repairs to a lead fleche at St Serf's Episcopal Church, Comrie and a contribution to shop front repairs at 167 High Street, Kinross. After assisting the conservation of over 328 significant historic buildings in Perth and Kinross with grants under this scheme, Trustees decided to close this grant stream for new applications from December 2015.



13-19 High Street and 1-5 George Street in 2012 (L, © Arc) and 13-19 High Street following conservation work in 2016 (R).





18-20 York Place, Perth: empty for decades (L) now new offices for charity Mindspace (R).

Over 2015, the Trust's community small grant scheme, created with funds provided by the **Friends of Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust** to support local groups to carry out new or existing heritage projects, provided seven grants of £100 to local projects. The grants supported members of the Abernyte Heritage Group to gain dry-stane walling training; Kinross Museum to continue their Old Kirkgate Churchyard Project; Dunning

The state of the s

Local Charity Mindspace congratulated on their new home at 18-20 York Place.

Community Trust to install interpretation at Kincladie Wood, Dunning Parish Historical Society to produce a village leaflet; Breadalbane Historical Society to host local lectures; Arngask Old Graveyard Preservation Group to carry out conservation study, and small scale archaeological excavation by PLUS Perth, a member-led mental health charity covering Perth and Kinross.



A 'Friends' grant supported an archaeology dig by PLUS Perth.

Projects

A fourth season of community archaeological excavations were carried out at Lair, Glenshee, through the Glenshee Archaeology Project, delivered in partnership with Northlight Heritage. The project continues to explore the well-preserved early medieval longhouses that survive in the area and provided training in archaeological field skills for 20 volunteers and University students, while also engaging with Kirkmichael Primary schoolchildren providing through a special event and guided walk of the wider landscape. Supported in 2015 by the Gannochy Trust, Historic Environment Scotland and the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, the project is gradually revealing the complex history of a series of turf and stone buildings that survive from the 7-9th centuries AD. One interesting find made in 2015 was a small spindle whorl, used to spin wool into yarn, inscribed with several marks and designs. Details of the project can be found at www.glenshee-archaeology.co.uk.





The Tay Landscape Partnership (TayLP) is a £2.6 million initiative, led by Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust in partnership with Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust, Perth and Kinross Council and the Gannochy Trust. The Heritage Lottery Fund provides £1.4 million support with other major funding bodies including: Historic Environment Scotland, Scottish Natural



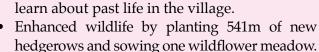




Heritage, The Robertson Trust, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation and The Cross Trust. The project extends 250km² around the inner Tay estuary and is now half way through its delivery.

The TayLP seeks to celebrate the Tay estuary by conserving the natural and built features of the local heritage, connecting people with the river and providing training in local traditional skills. TayLP works closely with local groups to support social, economic and environmental benefits for all.

Income for 2015-16 was £422,619 and expenditure was £406,301. Over 722 hours of in-kind contributions has been provided by our lead Partners and over 4,400 hours from volunteers. Additionally, £137,000 has been donated as in-kind contributions from contractors. Over the year, the scheme has delivered the following within four themed programmes:



Searching for lithics and signs of early settlers in the Carse of Gowrie.

Completed 10 days field walking with 75

Finalised designs for a new community clay

Produced a touring exhibition throughout

 Completed one oral history project with Dunbarney Primary School, Bridge of Earn, who engaged with the local community to

Tayside and Dundee showcasing clay buildings

Community Participation

legacy structure for Errol.

from the Carse of Gowrie.

volunteers.

Conserving and Restoring

- 6 weeks archaeological excavation on two hill forts, Moncreiffe and Moredun Top near Perth, with the help of 123 volunteers. Stone wall defences, worked tools, beads and lithics were all uncovered.
- 1 topographical survey of Deuchny hill-fort.
- Removed extensive ivy growth from Kinfauns Church to reduce damage to the walls.
- Conserved 7 Pictish stones and 1 undated carved stone bowl on behalf of Forteviot Church.
- Offered conservation grants to Errol and Abernethy homeowners towards restoration of buildings.
- One Wee Big Dig community weekend in Abernethy engaging 45 people in 12 gardens.
- Installed 90 bat and bird boxes for priority biodiversity species
- Undertaken restorative pruning on 232 heritage fruit trees and completed 5 orchard work parties with the assistance of volunteers.



Community excavations at Moncreiffe Hillfort.



Conserving clay buildings in the Carse of Gowrie (© Becky Little).



New wildlife hedge planted around Rait Church.

Projects



Tasting freshly pressed apple juice at the Orchard Festival (© Lindsey Perth).

Access and Learning

- Conserved and professionally displayed 2
 Pictish stones in conjunction with the Museum
 of Abernethy.
- Completed 6.4km of path improvements, either adjacent to or having views across the River Tay.
- Delivered "UNEARTH! The Mystery of Prehistory" street festival in Perth City centre, attracting approximately 900 people. The creation of Moredun Top hillfort in Minecraft has subsequently been used across the country as an educational tool in Iron Age life.
- Delivered one Orchard Fruit Festival at Bellwood Park, Perth, celebrating the history of fruit production and historic orchards in the area. Approximately 200 people attended.
- Delivered 5 professional training events for teachers introducing new outdoor learning techniques and engaging 136 teachers and 723 children in learning activities linked across all of TayLP's themes.



Learning from ancient crafts at UNEARTH (© George Logan).

Training Skills

- Delivered "Clayfest!" in Errol, a week-long celebration of clay buildings with workshops and expert speakers. In conjunction with Earth Buildings UK and Historic Environment Scotland, the event comprised 60 events and attracted 104 people to the conference. Over 240 members of the public attended free events with representation from over 18 countries.
- Supported installation of 2 new bee hives in Perth.
- Planted 700 new fruit tree rootstocks into two fruit tree nurseries
- Delivered 9 orchard skills training sessions on subjects such as pruning, grafting and budding.
- Awarded 10 bursaries to further research or college work.
- Supported one Modern Apprentice to complete their Level 2 Business & Administration MA qualification.

TLP 15-16 in a nutshell:

Since 2014, TayLP has secured 6028 volunteer hours, 861 volunteer days, engaged 4200 people and 1700 children whilst involving 25 schools and 15 community groups. TayLP has 530 members and 381 volunteers. In 2015-16 we delivered 18 outreach events and employed 111 contractors, many of which were regionally based.



'Hands on' learning at Clayfest! (© EBUKI).



Meeting the Bees.



'Hands on' learning at Clayfest! (© EBUKI).

Consultancy

The Trust provides the planning archaeology service to Perth and Kinross Council's Environment Service ensuring that development is carried out in line with national planning policy for the protection of the historic environment. Over the year this has involved the detailed checking of 112 planning applications and the recommendation of 60 archaeological conditions. These recommendations and those from past years have resulted in 33 archaeological interventions over the year, ranging from surveys to archaeological monitoring and full-scale excavation with associated post-excavation analysis and dissemination of results.

The excavation of the **Carmelite Friary of Tullilum** continues following its resumption in July 2014 after being 'mothballed' for six years as result of the

recession. Derek Hall, the site director for the current excavations and those in 2008, has continued his investigation of the friary church, its cloister and the western ranges. The walls of the church survive well with evidence uncovered for the remodelling of the friary in the 16th century. New evidence continues to be revealed for the systematic post-Reformation demolition of the friary, the substantial redesign of the church by the Bishop of Dunkeld in the late 14th century and a pre-friary chapel or church. Preservation of organic remains is good, with organic material such as shoe leather and other organic artefacts surviving with some of the individuals interred. Due to concerns for the archaeology being exposed over the winter months the excavation has halted, with trenches backfilled, and will resume at the beginning of April 2016.



South face of the junction between the West and North walls of the Carmelite church (© Derek Hall).

An archaeological evaluation at the Red Rooms, **Perth Theatre**, carried out by Alder Archaeology, has revealed the character and significance of archaeological deposits on the footprint of the new studio theatre, entrance and café. The evaluation confirmed that the southern part of the site was more archaeological sensitive given its proximity to the High Street, with the discovery of what appears to be a large, stone-built medieval building at a relatively shallow



Evaluation trench at Perth Theatre showing wall line of medieval building (© Alder Archaeology).

An important archaeological excavation has taken place at **Strathallan Estate** in advance of T in the Park site works. Features excavated included two ring-ditches with associated palisades, a ring-ditch round house and three concentric palisade trenches forming an enclosure. The area contains several burial and ritual sites, which have been designated as scheduled monuments, and the analysis of the excavations will greatly increase our knowledge of these nationally important sites and pre-historic activity in the surrounding landscape.

In advance of the A9 Dualling Project a metal detecting survey was carried out by GUARD Archaeology in collaboration with the Centre for Battlefield Archaeology, University of Glasgow, at the perceived location of **Killiecrankie Battlefield** to the south of Blair Atholl. The objective of the

depth, contemporary with and overlying midden deposits and numerous pathways. Further northwards the evaluation revealed a build-up of deep garden soils rich in medieval ceramics and bone, with backlands features such as pits and an unusually large ditch, aligned north-south, cut into the subsoil. Following the demolition of the buildings, further archaeological recording will be carried out of any archaeological deposits which cannot be preserved *in situ*.



Excavation of a pre-historic ritual landscape at Strathallan Estate.

survey was to further pin-point the action of this famous battle. Significant finds included 41 musket, carbine, pistol balls, six copper alloy buttons, two buckles, four horse shoe and horseshoe fragments, several fragments of a copper alloy bangle, a copper alloy pendant, a copper alloy harness boss and a part of a sword belt fitting. The results of the survey will inform the cultural heritage input into the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges Stage 2 Assessment for the Killiecrankie to Pitagown A9 dualling project.

During the year, the Trust also gave consultancy support outwith Perth and Kinross, carrying out a peer review for Edinburgh World Heritage and preparing an application for Scheduled Monument Consent for the 2016 phase of conservation work at Castle Moy, Lochbuie for the owner and the Mull Historical & Archaeological Society.



Perth and Kinross Archaeology Month 2015 was held throughout June and presented 32 events delivered by the Trust, local societies, archaeological contractors, and regional and national organisations, including Dunning Parish Historical Society, the Breadalbane Historical Society, Kinross (Marshall) Museum, AOC Archaeology, Northlight Heritage, the University of Glasgow and Historic Scotland. Popular events included visits to the Glenshee Archaeology Project, archaeology walks in Fortingall and Dunkeld, and workshops run by the University of Glasgow's Strathearn Environs and Royal Forteviot (SERF) project.

Analysis of feedback from the 2015 suggests over 600 people took part in guided walks, lectures and presentations, while an additional 2,000 visited exhibitions and special events presented through the programme.

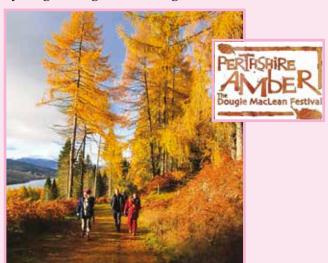
Feedback from participants:

"...a local historian revealing the past and bringing it to life" Footprints in the fields and Fortingall translated

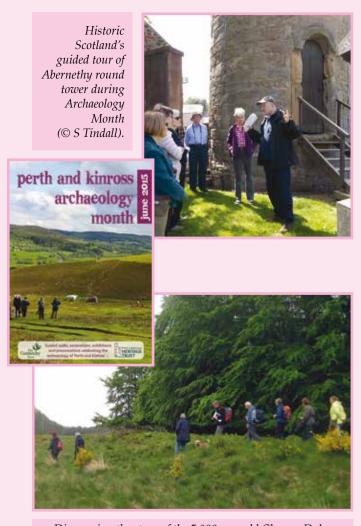
"First time I had been to an event like this and would definitely go back to others".

The Archaeology of the Beauly-Denny Line' talk

The Trust also provided a number of archaeological guided walks in partnership with communitybased Crieff and Strathearn's Drovers' Tryst walking festival and the Perthshire Amber music festival led by singer-songwriter Dougie MacLean.



International visitors enjoy a visit to the Queen's View through the Perthshire Amber music festival.



Discovering the story of the 5,000 year old Cleaven Dyke, near Blairgowrie.



Doors Open Days 2015





Studios and artist's residence at 5 Melville Street, Perth (© Bart Masiukiewicz/PKHT).

Open Days in Perth and as co-ordinators of this annual civic heritage event, the Trust was keen to celebrate this fact. Perth was one of the first places to host the event, along with Glasgow and Ayr, and this first event in 1991, organised by Perth Civic Trust, included six key buildings in the Fair City. Four of these buildings took part in this year's programme and celebrated the Silver Jubilee with music, special events and, of course, cake. Other 2015 highlights included Outlander-



Scots bard Paraig MacNeil, transported visitors to the Jacobite era with songs, riddles and folklore at Tibbermore Church (© Bart Masiukiewicz/PKHT).

themed music and stories at Tibbermore Church, organised by the Scottish Redundant Churches Trust, fully-booked tours of HMP Castle Huntly, a pop-up vintage car rally at the open doors of a private collector near Coupar Angus, and the Studios and Residence at 5 Melville Street, Perth.

Perth and Kinross bucked the national trend of a decrease in visitors outwith the cities of Glasgow and Edinburgh, with over 5,000 visits made over the Days weekend to 57 venues opened by private owners, companies, churches, interest groups and custodians. The success of the partnership working in delivering Doors Open Days is evidenced by figures collected by each participant building: with 80 professional staff worked 459 hours and 296 volunteers worked 1,537 hours to ensure the success of this heritage event.

"We love Doors Open Days, great opportunity to explore your own town and learn history."

Comment from Doors Open Days visitor in Perth

"Really buzzy - great feedback from people coming from all over Scotland, not just locals." Roz Arno-Button, organiser of Doors Open Days in and around Coupar Angus

Looking Ahead

The Perth City Heritage Fund is set to continue as a major work stream for the Trust with strong interest in the scheme from owners in Perth who have been inspired by the transformation of key buildings in the city. The Trust is working with owners to develop projects on several significant buildings, including 1 Hospital Street and 31-43 High Street. The fund will also seek to provide investment on a smaller scale such as for shop fronts, chimney and window repairs. As members of the nascent Fife and Tayside Traditional Building Forum, the Trust will continue to encourage the appropriate repair of historic buildings and raise awareness of training opportunities in traditional building skills.

A key task for the Trust will be as lead partner in the continued delivery of the **Tay Landscape Partnership** (TayLP), supporting the scheme with our partners Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust, the Gannochy Trust, and Perth and Kinross Council, and in securing the successful delivery of historic environment related projects. In 2016 these will include archaeology projects such as Hillforts of the Tay; the Early Settlers field-walking project, and historic building projects at Abernethy, Errol, Kinfauns churchyard, Rait churchyard, and on Pictish stones at both Forteviot parish church and at Abernethy Museum. Following the hugely successful Clayfest! in 2015, work will also continue on the Clay Biggins o' the Carse, to promote the clay building tradition of the Carse of Gowrie.

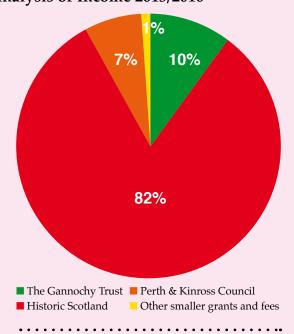
A fifth season of work is planned for the **Glenshee Archaeology Project** providing archaeological training in the field for primary school, secondary school and university level students, as well as lifelong learners, and our annual lifelong learning events of **Doors Open Days** and **Archaeology Month** will respectively celebrate the Year of Architecture and recent Bronze Age discoveries on Loch Leven.



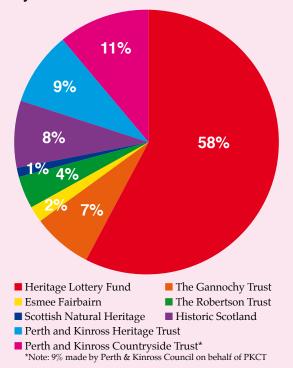
The Perth City Heritage Fund has offered grant assistance to the owners of 1 Hospital Street, and look forward to improvements at this key location in Perth.

Financial Report

Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust Analysis of Income 2015/2016



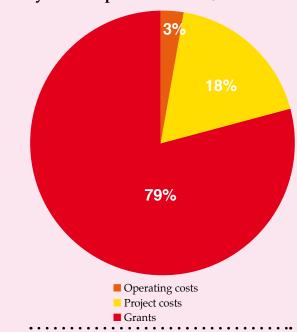
Tay Landscape Partnership Analysis of Income 2015/2016



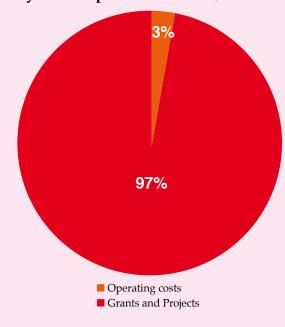
The income and expenditure of the Trust and the Tay Landscape Partnership is analysed in the above charts.

The Trust's total income for the financial year 2015/2016 amounted to £1,609,118. The two largest contributors during the year have been Historic Scotland and the Heritage Lottery Fund. Historic Scotland provided support for the Perth City Heritage Fund and the Heritage Lottery Fund is the major contributor to the Tay Landscape Partnership. Other major contributors to the Trust's activities were once again the Gannochy Trust

Analysis of Expenditure 2015/2016



Analysis of Expenditure - 2015/2016



and Perth and Kinross Council. The Trust appreciates the founding partners' continuing support. The Trust also appreciates funding from all other sources.

The Trust's expenditure in 2015/2016 totalled £1,308,424, which resulted in a net operating surplus for the year of £300,694.

The net assets of the Trust amounted to £934,918 as at 31st March 2016.

Note: Historic Scotland became Historic Environment Scotland (HES) on 1 October 2015.



Income & Expenditure Account Year ended 31st March 2016

				Total	Total
	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Funds	Funds
	Funds	Funds	Funds	2016	2015
	£	£	£	£	£
Total income	188,071	2,203	1,418,844	1,609,118	985,957
Total expenditure	131,589	43,703	1,133,132	1,308,424	922,305
Net income /(expenditure) for the year	56,482	(41,500)	285,712	300,694	63,652

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Restricted funds are subject to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of an appeal. In respect of the Trust this relates to the Historic Building Grants Scheme, Tay Landscape Partnership, Perth City Heritage Fund, Glenshee Excavation Fund, Lower City Mills Option Appraisal, History and Heritage Market, Kilmagadwood Excavation and Friends of Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust Grants Fund.

Balance sheet As at 31st March 2016

	2016	2015
	£	£
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	72,000	73,500
	72,000	73,500
Current assets		
Debtors	631,197	114,385
Cash at bank and in hand	931,245	815,213
	1,562,442	929,598
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(699,524)	(305,374)
Net current assets	862,918	624,224
Total assets less current liabilities	934,918	697,724
Deferred income	-	(63,500)
Net assets	934,918	634,224
The funds of the charity		
Restricted funds	559,399	273,687
Unrestricted funds:		
Designated funds	89,041	130,541
General unrestricted funds	268,663	212,181
Revaluation reserve	17,815	17,815
Total charity funds	934,918	634,224

Note: Full accounts are available on Companies House website (https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/companies-house).

