

Annual Report

September 2017 - September 2018



KEY FACTS

- We have 1276 social media followers
- FACT established the Forres Town Hall Users Group in January 2018 with over 30 members.
- FACT moved into Forres Town Hall in July 2018
- Forres Town Hall is used by over 80 different groups each year
- FACT supported over 30 local organisations in their work in the last year
- We have developed a regular volunteer base of over 25 local people
- Participated in and supported Glasgow School of Art Winter School 2018

FACT Development

We have had a busy year with steady growth in membership numbers, volunteers, groups asking for support and lots of change too. We said goodbye to Samantha as she moved to work for Findhorn Bay Arts and it is good to know she is still nearby.

Our biggest project this year is that we have taken on a two year lease from Moray Council on Forres Town Hall and have been overwhelmed with the level of support and encouragement that we are receiving from the user groups, other Forres area organisations, HIE and Moray Council. The building does come with challenges as it very old and in need of refurbishment, but we have a plan for development and will take it one step at a time.

Glad I came - I learnt new things and looking forward to future lessons where I hope to gain more information. It was a good day.

TRAINING PARTICIPANT 2018

Forres Online

FACT's Digital inclusion project has continued to grow and we have seen changes as two tutors; David and Iain have moved on to study and a new post. We have welcomed Eleanor Symon as the Forres Online Co-ordinator and Janice Cooper as the Digital Tutor. We were lucky to receive funding from Money for Moray to run techie teas outreach in Dyke, Alves, Rafford, Dallas and Findhorn, helping people get online and be ready for the job market. That enabled us to reach new people and help them improve their digital skills. The weekly drop in sessions continue now in the Town Hall and we have been working with many people in preparing them for the changes in the Universal Credit system. We have funding until March 2019 and are looking to secure funding for the future to continue to develop the project and reach more people as the need to be 'digitally savvy' increases.

Cameron's Champions

Due to securing funding from the Auchernack Trust, Berry Burn Community Fund, Volunteer Support Fund, Awards for All and the Corra Foundation. The Cameron's Champion project is going from strength to strength. We have hosted a range of activities including Charity Begins play by Right Lines Productions, a tea dance, craft sessions, sensory impairment training and supporting the volunteers with training and supervision sessions to ensure they are ready for their role as a befriender.

One of the highlights of the year was the Big Lunch that was held on 3rd June 2018 in Grant Park. Over 15 organisations and businesses came together to celebrate community and volunteering on a beautiful sunny day with ice cream, lawn games and lots of fun and laughter with over 100 people attending as we enjoyed a great day in the park.

Community Tourism Initiative

FACT continues to convene the Forres Area Tourism Network and it continues to be a fantastic opportunity to grow what is on offer to visitors and local people alike as we promote the culture and heritage of our area. We continue to work in partnership with Moray Speyside Tourism and supported the project that meant Moray achieved Regional World Host Destination status in March 2018.

Forres Skate Park Initiative

With support from the Loft Kinloss, Tesco Forres, Forres Community Activities Association, the Skate Park Initiative and a team of volunteers, the pop up ramp has had 3 events this year whilst having a semi permanent base at the Loft Kinloss. It was a very popular attraction at the Toun Mercat in June and this was followed by a successful afternoon in the Tesco car park on the Sunday after. This profile has meant that the steering group is reinvigorated and have undergone governance training with TSI Moray in preparation for their plans to fundraise and develop a permanent skate park in Forres.



Financials Extract from Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2018

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	2018 Restricted funds £	Total funds £	2017 Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	11,570	126,278	137,848	119,895
Total income		<u>11,570</u>	<u>126,278</u>	137,848	<u>119,895</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	6,7	–	118,043	118,043	67,740
Total expenditure		<u>–</u>	<u>118,043</u>	118,043	<u>67,740</u>
Net income and net movement in funds		<u>11,570</u>	<u>8,235</u>	19,805	<u>52,155</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		15,545	51,752	67,297	15,142
Total funds carried forward		<u>27,115</u>	<u>59,987</u>	87,102	<u>67,298</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

	Note	2018 £	£	2017 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	11		1,457	679
Current assets				
Debtors	12	9,270		13,237
Cash at bank and in hand		77,030		58,045
		<u>86,300</u>		<u>71,282</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>655</u>		4,664
Net current assets			85,645	<u>66,618</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			87,102	<u>67,297</u>
Net assets			87,102	<u>67,297</u>
Funds of the charity				
Restricted funds			59,987	51,752
Unrestricted funds			27,115	15,545
Total charity funds	15		87,102	<u>67,297</u>



A Volunteer's Story

Directors as at September 2018

- Fabio Villani *Chair*
- James Mackessack-Leitch *Vice Chair*
- Bea Jefferson *Treasurer*
- Tina Coffey *Company Secretary*
- Peter Airey
- Lorna Creswell
- Sandra Maclennan
- Jim Farquharson

Staff as at September 2018

- Debbie Herron *Development Manager*
- Charlotte Grigg *Administrator*
- Kirsty Williams *Older Person's Co-ordinator*
- Vicky Flood *Community Development Worker*
- Eleanor Symon *Forres Online Co-ordinator*
- Janice Cooper *Forres Online Tutor*

Thank you to our members, volunteers, partner organisations and funders for your help and support over the last year and in particular to:

Highlands and Islands Enterprise
 Scottish Land Fund
 The Big Lottery
 Digital Scotland - The Scottish Government
 Awards For All
 Auchernack Trust
 Berry Burn Community Benefit Fund
 Co-op Community Fund
 Money for Moray
 Volunteer Support Fund
 Forres Area Forum and the Moray
 Towns Partnership Fund
 Tesco Forres
 TSI Moray
 Development Trust Association Scotland (DTAS)
 The Loft, Kinloss
 AJ Engineering
 Forres in Bloom
 Forres Heritage Trust
 Findhorn Bay Arts
 Moray Waste Busters
 Re Boot
 Moray Council
 Moray Well Being Hub
 Forres Town Hall Users Group
 Glasgow School of Art Design Campus at Altyre

When I was a jobseeker, I was becoming worried about feeling stale and irrelevant and lacked motivation, despite continuing to look for work (in the IT support sector). I had heard that volunteering would be a good start, and at least the idea was a positive indication of a way to feel fulfilled. I happened to be passing TSI Moray, in Elgin, and took the opportunity to enquire. I was issued with leaflets and also recommended to attend the launch of the 'Cameron Project' where I first met Kirsty Williams who suggested becoming involved as a 'Cameron's Champion'. This led me towards making friends and connections within the FACT office.

Since I was experienced in IT, the iDigital Project was a naturally suitable role, although I had already enjoyed and was feeling happy when enjoying working with groups, and helping out with the mini-bus when collecting 'older people' attendees.

Volunteering for Forres Online meant I was able to contribute to the expanding project, this was good for my over-all health. I enjoyed being asked to perform the odd job and ensure tables and chairs were put away!

Apart from a boost in moral, I found I could obtain support for my own administration tasks and keeping myself up to date. I immensely enjoyed the first 'Techie Teas', visiting remote locations and providing support as an outreach service. This all was added to my CV, and I felt proud that the blank space between my last job and the present was fulfilled with useful experience, and finally I had a positive outcome from a job interview in Inverness.

Matthew Tomlins



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