

## **Reforestation Scotland – summary report and finances 2014/15**

### Projects:

The main areas of activity during the year were the 1000 huts project and the StarTree project.

The 1000 huts project continued to make significant progress, with huts becoming part of Scottish Planning Policy for the first time. Work began on a publication called “New Hut Developments: Guidance for planners”, ideas around technical guidance in respect of building regulations were developed, work began on developing a voluntary code of good practice in agreements between landlords and tenants, and the proposal for a pilot hutting site on Forestry Commission Scotland land was further developed.

The StarTree project is a 5 year, Europe wide, investigation into the place and benefits of non-timber forest products in Society. Work in Scotland during the year included a survey of the mushroom supply chain, interviews to explore wild harvesting practices, a survey of the honey supply chain and a visit to Italy which included an exploration of the potential for insects as a source of human food.

### Communications and Networking:

Two journals were produced during the year – issue number 50 focusing on “Restoring the Land and the People” and issue number 51 on “Stories from the West”. There were also two issues of the Radical Rowan newsletter for members.

A successful members gathering AGM was held in Kyleakin on Skye, with visits to a variety of inspiring projects in the area along with the usual good conversations, food and ceilidh.

Last year's upgrade to the RS website continues to be bedded in and activity on the RS Facebook group (and now Twitter) continues to grow.

### Other matters:

RS membership continues growing and is now over 500 (496 last year).

### **Financial Review and Reserves Policy**

Income for the year was £81,615 and expenditure £74,655, leaving a surplus of £6,960. An increase in donations (notably from the cosmetics company LUSH), tight control on costs and some contributions to core costs from projects resulted in unrestricted funds rising from £9,845 to £20,407.

The board reviewed its financial reserves policy during the year and concluded that it would aim to hold unrestricted funds of between £20,000 and £30,000 to allow it to run projects where grant funding is receivable in arrears and to cope with sudden changes to significant income streams.

### **Future plans**

The coming year will see more action on the 1000 huts front and by the end of the year the StarTree project will be heading towards the end of the delivery phase. The next two journals will be published and the annual gathering and AGM is taking place in Assynt. Online forums to facilitate member discussion will be set up.

A new area of work will be the development and planning of a “Scottish Study Tour” to visit sites of best practice within Scotland. The current aim is for the tour to happen in mid-2016.

## Income and Expenditure;

	2014/15	2013/14
<b>INCOME</b>		
Subscriptions	12,522	13,420
Donations	6,000	1,938
Gift aid	4,000	3,000
Journal	3,528	2,882
Gathering	4,825	5,099
Other	25	939
Year of the storm	0	6,000
1000 huts	23,280	20,718
Star Tree	27,335	0
Coppice Network	100	900
Doreen McIntyre Competition	0	1,667
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>81,615</b>	<b>56,563</b>
<b>SPEND</b>		
Journal / Rowan	12,082	16,367
Gathering	2,550	2,712
Admin	8,157	10,402
Year of the storm	0	5,371
1000 huts	25,856	12,915
Star Tree	26,010	18,480
Coppice Network	0	800
Doreen McIntyre Competition	0	0
<b>Total Spend</b>	<b>74,655</b>	<b>67,047</b>
<b>Surplus / Deficit</b>	<b>6,960</b>	<b>-10,484</b>

## Balance Sheet;

	At 31/3/15	At 31/3/14
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	0	0
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash	75,007	72,545
Other	8,805	5,177
<b>Total</b>	<b>83,812</b>	<b>77,722</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>26,960</b>	<b>27,830</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>56,852</b>	<b>49,892</b>
Star Tree	31,931	30,606
Thousand Huts	2,847	7,774
Coppice Network	0	0
Doreen McIntyre	1,667	1,667
<b>Total Restricted</b>	<b>36,445</b>	<b>40,047</b>
<b>General Funds</b>	<b>20,407</b>	<b>9,845</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>56,852</b>	<b>49,892</b>

The full accounts are available on request