Directors' and Trustees' Report and Accounts

For the year ended 31 December 2014



Directors' and trustees report For the year ended 31 December 2014

The directors and trustees present their report and the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2014

Reference and administrative details of the charity, and its trustees

Across Country is a charitable company. The charity was registered on 11 April 2005, number 1108983 and the company was incorporated on 18 November 2004, number 05290993.

Registered Office of the Charity: 10 The Dell Huddersfield HD2 2FD

The directors of the company, who are the trustees and who served during the year and up to the date of this report, were:

Sonia Dorward Abigail Page Jack Noble

Christina Minett Stevens

Company Secretary: Simon Crook

Company Treasurer: Christina Minett Stevens

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank plc

Nine Brindleyplace

Birmingham B1 2HB

Directors' and trustees report For the year ended 31 December 2014

Structure, governance and management

Across Country is a registered charity, constituted as a company limited by guarantee, and is therefore governed by a memorandum and articles of association.

Recruitment of trustees is done on two bases:

- 1) At the Annual General Meeting the members elect trustees
- 2) Trustees can be co-opted for a period of 1 year

Persons wishing to become trustees should be interested in the work of the charity and be able to contribute to its objectives and management; they are encouraged to first attend a trustees meeting as an observer.

Induction and training includes being involved in at least one of the activities of the charity, and receiving the Charity Commission leaflet on the duties and responsibilities of trustees. Further induction and training depends on the roles and responsibilities that the trustee takes on.

The trustees meet at least 2 times a year at present to discuss and manage the activities and future development of the charity.

Objects and activities

The charity's objects are to improve the conditions of life of all people, but particularly those persons who are at risk of social exclusion or isolation, and to promote their development and self worth.

This is to be achieved by the provision of facilities, in particular a retreat house, which will be used as a means to promote the spiritual, mental, and physical development of people by a mix of outdoor adventure activities, appreciation of the environment, prayer and meditation, and the care of a Christian community.

When reviewing the aims and objectives of the charity, and in planning future activities, the trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

Directors' and trustees report For the year ended 31 December 2014

Developments, activities, achievements during the year and future developments

During 2014 ACross Country again extended its services to clients drawn via The Saint Augustine's Centre in Halifax, West Yorkshire. A programme was delivered for a group of asylum seekers once more using facilities rented from Scargill House in the Yorkshire Dales. This year we had asylum seeker families. Being the first year we have run a programme for families meant that it was somewhat of a pilot. The programme itself was again found to be highly effective in reaching the emotional, physical and spiritual needs of the clients.

Our board of trustees is rather small, but continues to operate effectively. ACross Country would welcome additional trustees who are sensitive to its aims and objectives and with suitable skills or qualifications.

In the long term, ACross Country still believes that operating from its own, dedicated property would enable it to best meet the needs of its target clients. Establishing such a base remains a central aim although it is recognised that current circumstances preclude such a development within the next few years. We have looked at various properties, and it seems likely that a suitable one could be found and made functional for under £750 000.

In the meantime the Board has committed to running at least one programme, preferably two, per year, targeting particularly the socially excluded. We will look to continue to develop our partnership with both the Saint Augustine Centre and Scargill House.

Risk review

We have Child and Vulnerable Adults safeguarding, Health and Safety, and Data protection policies. They are reviewed by the trustees and updated as necessary. Risk assessments have been made for all projects. The policies and risk assessment have been implemented and work well, they are reviewed annually.

Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a deficit of £794 for the year and its reserves at 31 December 2014 total £16521.

Directors and trustees

The trustees who served during the year are set out on page 2. In accordance with the requirements of the Articles of Association, 2 trustees, Sonya Dorwood and Abigail Page, retire and are available for re-election.

Directors' and Trustees' Report For the year ended 31 December 2014

Statement of Responsibilities of the trustees

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the company as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that year.

In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities, issued in March 2005, and was approved by the directors and trustees on April 11th 2015 and signed on its behalf by:

Abigail Page

Director and Trustee

ACross Country

Statement of Financial Activities
For the ended 31 December 2014
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds 2014		Total funds 2013
	£		£		
Incoming resources from					
generated funds					
Voluntary income:	•				
Donations and similar incoming					
resources	1322		-	1322	800
Activities for generating funds:				0	
Investment income	65			65	77
Total incoming resources	1387		-	1387	877
Resources expended					
Charitable activities:					
DBS (formely CRB) checks	36		-	36	61
Web domain	24		-	24	12
Training	14			14	216
Insurance	245		-	245	254
Equipment	0			0	41
Projects	1811		~	1811	1446
Governance (Note 2)	52		-	52	
Total resources expended	2182		-	2182	2030
Net incoming resources	-794		-		-1153
Total funds brought forward	. 17315		-		18511
Total funds carried forward	16521		-		17358

The statement of financial activities includes all recognised gains and losses in the years 2014 and 2013.

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2014

	2014	2013
	£	£
Current Assets		
Debtor - Gift Aid tax recoverable	60	60
Banks	16521	17315
	16581	17375
Creditors		
Amounts falling due within one year	0	18
Net Current Assets	16581	17357
Unrestricted funds	16581	17357
7		
Restricted funds	-	-
Total funds	16581	17357

For the year ended 31 December 2014 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the board of directors and trustees April 11th 2015 and signed on its behalf.

Abigail Page

Director and Trustee

The notes on page 8 form part of these accounts

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2014

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of preparation of accounts

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and include the results of the charity's operations which are described in the Directors' and Trustees' Report and all of which are continuing. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities, issued in March 2005.

b) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

c) Resources expended

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred. They include attributable VAT which cannot be recovered.

d) Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the charity without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

- e) Restricted funds are donations and grants receivable or generated for the objects of the charity, subjected to restrictions on their expenditure by the donor or through the terms of the appeal.
- 2. Trustee reimbursement of expenses

There was reimbursement of expenses during the financial period ending 31st December 2014 to one Trustee totaling £51.80:

Christina Minett Stevens £51.80.

3. Taxation

The company is a registered charity and is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that income and gains are applicable and applied to charitable purposes only.