

BAVS MANAGEMENT & PERSONNEL

Who manages BAVS

BAVS is managed by a Board of Directors elected at the Annual General Meeting.

Members of the Board are nominated by member organisations or are individuals interested in the voluntary sector.

BAVS Board appoints staff to run the organisation on a day to day basis. In 2012 BAVS had 10 members of staff (all part time).

President:	Major A Trotter, Lord Lieutenant of Berwickshire		
Vice Presidents:	The Lord Palmer	Mr I Inglis	Mr G Megahy
Convenor:	Mr B Sweeney		
Board Members:	Mr J Bridger	Rev D Gaddes	Mr P Johnson
	Mr G Megahy	Mrs S Sherrard	Mr F D J Smout
	Mr B Sweeney		
Advisors:	Ms C Malster SBC	Cllr J Greenwell SBC	

BAVS STAFF

Executive Officer:	Mr T Fowler
Development Officer:	Mrs P Wetton
Wheels Development Officer:	Mr A Hart
Administrator:	Mrs S Ferguson
Finance Administrator:	Ms J Nelson
Coldstream Charity Shop:	Mrs M Bridger
Duns Charity Shop:	Mrs R Richardson
Eyemouth Charity Shop:	Mrs M Robertson
Eyemouth Charity Shop (PAT Tester)	Mrs J Jenner

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BERWICKSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE

A Company Limited by Guarantee

Company No: SC381152

VAT No: 123 806 923

**The Community Development Organisation in Berwickshire
Serving the Community since 1971**

**ANNUAL REPORT
To the Members of the Association
By the BAVS Board
For the 12 month period
1 April 2012 - 31 March 2013**

Scottish Charity No: SCO16309

INTRODUCTION

The Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Service is a Charitable Company Ltd by Guarantee. BAVS is an integral part of the Scottish Borders Third Sector Interface. Each local authority area in Scotland has for the past two and a half years had an Interface organisation or partnership combining where possible the functions of Councils for Voluntary Service, the Borders Volunteer Centre and the Social Enterprise Chamber. Within the partnership BAVS retains its independent status as a CVS.

BAVS is an independent voluntary organisation, established in 1971 and works in the Berwickshire District area of the Scottish Borders. BAVS is also a member of the Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) and Voluntary Action Scotland (VAS).

We support community and voluntary organisations by providing community development and practical help on a range of issues.

MEET THE BAVS STAFF



Tony Fowler
Executive Officer



Philippa Wetton
Development Officer



Allister Hart
Berwickshire Wheels
Development Officer



Sharon Ferguson
Administrator



Joyce Nelson
Finance Administrator



Charity Shop Managers:

May Robertson, Eyemouth, Mary Bridger, Coldstream, Rene Richardson, Duns

The Berwickshire Association for Voluntary Service Summary Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2013

	2013		2012	
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising activities:				
Donations			1,180	1,543
Charity shops - sale of donated goods		130,497		137,488
- expenses		(76,174)		(69,591)
- net contribution			54,323	67,897
Net Funding contribution			55,503	69,439
Berwickshire Wheels				
Scottish Borders Council - grant	10,450		10,450	
Bus operators grant	7,906		636	
Other income - hire charges	12,406		12,670	
- social car scheme subsidy	7,797		7,740	
Profit on disposal of Motor Vehicles	3,900		0	
Total Berwickshire Wheels income		42,459		31,496
Berwickshire Wheels expenses		(47,327)		(39,525)
Net Funding shortfall			(4,868)	(8,029)
Community Development grants				
Voluntary Action Scotland	49,300		51,488	
SCVO	532		2,136	
Blackhill Windfarm Community Trust	5,000		-	
Scottish Borders Council	426		-	
Other grants	3,392		5,200	
Total grant income		58,650		58,824
Other fees for services		5,414		3,533
Other income		4,720		4,453
		68,784		66,810
Central costs		(103,770)		(101,710)
Net Funding shortfall			(34,986)	(34,900)
Surplus funds for year			15,649	26,511
BAVS Assist - grants payable			(9,880)	(5,494)
Overall surplus for year		£ 5,769		£ 21,017

BAVS ASSIST

BAVS, through its grants scheme "BAVS Assist" made 15 grants throughout the year to a very diverse range of applicants as listed below:

Eyemouth and District Initiative Group	£1,186
Gordon Ground Improvement Group	£1,000
Reston Village Hall	£762
Eyemouth United Church	£220
Duns & District Twinning	£525
The Highway Day Nursery	£1,000
Duns Rugby Club	£1,000
Whitsome Enhancement Group	£900
Greenlaw War Memorial Hall	£927
Coldstream Gateway Association	£250
Borders Animal Welfare Association	£150
Eyemouth Scout Troop Camp	£500
Shakefest	£200
Duns Football Club	£1,000
Berwickshire Federation SWRI	£260

BAVS Assist will continue in the next financial year.

CHARITY MARKET

BAVS once again held their Annual Charity Market in the Volunteer Hall in Duns. It was held later in the year and appeared to be more popular, possibly due to the Christmas feel to it.

Father Christmas made an appearance and was kept busy throughout the morning.

The charities involved on the day raised around £3,000 for their own organisations.



CONVENOR'S REPORT

On behalf of the Directors of BAVS, I would like to thank the good folks of Berwickshire for their support over the last year.

Because of restricted funding from National and Local Government, the Third Sector is under increased pressure to deliver extra services to our local communities.

Our shops in Coldstream, Duns and Eyemouth provide income that allows BAVS to support and advise on providing improvements to local facilities within the district.

BAVS Assist has provided over £10,000 to small local projects, while at Berwickshire Wheels we have upgraded our buses to improve community transport throughout the region.

None of this would have been possible without the efforts of a small but dedicated staff and the support of a large team of volunteers who serve in our shops and drive our buses and cars.

We offer our grateful thanks to all those who gave so generously of their time, and also the local people who support all of our shops in Berwickshire.

Brian Sweeney

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

2012 - 13 has been another very busy, proactive and challenging year for BAVS.

BAVS continues to support and work with our Interface partners in the Scottish Borders Third Sector Interface whilst continuing to be an independent organisation working for the good of communities in Berwickshire.

Demand for our services increased while our core funding level remained static. Trying to balance a demand led service from communities experiencing cuts in statutory sector provision places huge demands on the capacity of small charitable organisations.

The return on investment for our core funding can be measured by the number of community groups we assist in making successful funding applications to provide much needed services in their local communities: and in our delivery of community learning and development activities that build capacity in local communities to address community needs. We also continue to develop and deliver standalone non CVS projects and services. Surpluses from this work cross subsidise our CVS core activities. All of which saves the statutory sector money and creates more sustainable and vibrant communities.

Thanks go to my hard working colleagues at BAVS and our volunteer Board of Directors. The contents of this Annual Report highlights the key successes and achievements we have made in 2012/13 and reminds us all of what is important and why we are here—to make a difference out there.

Tony Fowler

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER'S REPORT

As another busy year passes, my feet have hardly touched the ground once again! This financial year I have supported 44 different community groups (36% more enquiries than the previous year). These include groups focusing on sport, health and well-being, arts and theatrical performance, conservation and natural environment, community development, schools, nurseries and village halls. There has been a mix of new start groups through to well established organisations. The main focus this year has been support with governance and funding opportunities.

I have supported five groups in moving to SCIO* organisation status, with several more since expressing an interest. This legal status offers good personal liability protection for trustees without the need to become a company limited by guarantee with all the associated compliance regulations as stipulated by Companies House. It also automatically registers them as a charity which opens up many more funding streams for groups.

As with previous years, I have continued to provide support with project idea generation, community consultation methodology, business plan development, funding application support and Keystone Award Scheme mentoring.

Ayton Community Hall Association SCIO received their Keystone Award in May 2012, making them the 4th village hall in Berwickshire to receive this Award, demonstrating the degree of best practise within community halls in Berwickshire. Three more halls are currently undergoing the Quality Scheme which we hope to see awarded over the coming year.

Other success stories include Duns Swimming Pool being shortlisted for the Community Action Award at the Annual Charity Awards Ceremony in June as well as BIG Lottery Awards for All funding successes for Leitholm Village Hall, Berwickshire Girl Guiding and the Borders Beekeeping Association. To finish off the year on a high, we also heard that Chirnside Development Group and Cockburnspath Village Hall had been accepted through Stage 1 of the BIG Lottery Community Spaces Programme to develop and improve their facilities further for their communities. We hope to report Stage 2 successes for both in next year's Annual Report. [More detail can be found on all these successes later in the Annual Report.](#)

As part of BAVS European Framework for Quality Management (EFQM) "Committed to Excellence" we have continued to look at ways we can develop and improve our services and facilities. This year with the hard work of our Graduate Intern, Richard Dryburgh, we have been able to look at our organisation branding and as a result have not only adopted a new logo but also updated our website, marketing literature and merchandise. Through mailings over the year we have also managed to increase our membership by 36%. I have collaboratively organised various events over the year to include the; "BAVS Day Out" offering a chance for the public to gather information on locally available services and support as well as a fundraising opportunity for local community groups; "BAVS Charity Market" whereby local groups benefit from booking event fundraising stands; "Village Hall Information Day" providing an informal chance for hall committees to exchange ideas and experiences. A summary of this hugely successful village hall event can be found later in the Annual Report.

We continue to offer secretariat facilities for the Federation of Village Halls and have widely distributed throughout the Borders the "Hallway" brochure, promoting the facilities within our 24 Federation halls. We hope that 2013/2014 will start to demonstrate the benefit of this through increased bookings at halls from some of the organisations we targeted.

This year BAVS has also hosted 2 very successful workshops offering community groups a greater insight into the right funding for their projects, as well as more information on development trusts and community ownership of assets. I would like to thank our colleagues at Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations and Development Trust Association Scotland for facilitating these productive sessions.

I have also represented BAVS on the East Berwickshire Fisheries Local Action Group evaluating and awarding 3 European Fisheries Funding Axis 4 applications. With many more applications being submitted, I look forward to helping secure more funding for these worthwhile community projects.

Borders Beekeeping Association (£4,995 Awards for All funding secured in March 2013 towards a £5,465 project)

Putting Buzz back into the Borders Project - to fund IT equipment, educational and presentation materials, beekeeping equipment and to assist with expenses for members carrying out mentoring visits to existing budding beekeepers.

Chirnside Development Group (Successfully through Stage 1 of BIG Lottery Community Spaces Programme March 2013 - Stage 2 submission date: December 2013 to hear final £250,000 application result for the £350,000 project)

Redevelopment of the Chirnside Community Centre Project - to achieve a "fit for purpose" Community Centre, by almost doubling the usable capacity to be able to support larger functions/events ranging from small gatherings to celebratory parties, wedding receptions, cinema, theatre and music festivals. Upgrade to the centre will also include improvements to the current heating, lighting and acoustics.

44 Groups Supported 2012 - 2013

A Heart For Duns	Abbey St Bathans Village Hall	Ayton Community Hall Association
Berwickshire Girl Guiding Group	Berwickshire Travelling Market	Berwickshire Well Being Group
Borders Beekeeping Association	Borders Talking Newspaper	Burnmouth Village Hall
Cerebral Palsy Group	Chirnside Chasers Running Club	Chirnside Community Sports Group
Chirnside Development Group	Cockburnspath Village Hall	Coldingham Gala
Coldingham Priory	Coldstream Community Trust	Coldstream Football Club
Duns Football Club	Duns Primary School	Duns Rugby Club
Duns Swimming Pool	Duns Working Mens Institute	Eccles Village Hall
Eyemouth Arts	Eyemouth Initiative Group	Eyemouth Museum Trust
Eyemouth United FC	Friends of BHS Learning Dept	Friends of the Knoll
GrantsHouse Community Facility	Gunsgreen House	GYP Borders
Heads United	Leitholm Village Hall	Shakefest Foundation
Southfield Com Centre House Committee		St Abbs Community Development Trust
St Abbs Sea Cadet Project	Sustain Our Beautiful Berwickshire	The Consequential Singers
Vine Trust	Whitcheater Glass House Project	Whiteadder Reservoir

2013 Groups interested in Keystone:

- Coldstream
- Eccles
- Gavinton

5 group are being supported in becoming SCIO registered, they are:

- Ayton
- Coldstream FC
- Eyemouth Community Trust
- Greenlaw War Memorial Hall
- St Abbs

* Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisations (SCIOs)

SUCCESS STORIES FOR 2012-2013

Ayton Community Hall Association SCIO - Keystone Award (May 2012)



Below is a summary of the successful groups supported by Philippa Wetton with funding applications:

Leitholm Village Hall (8,703.46 Awards for All funding secured in August 2012)

Village Hall Upgrade Project - Insulation and lighting improvements to the main hall area, thick thermal lined curtains, insulated acoustic panels, a more effective lapel microphone to replace an ineffective and dated hand held one as well as installation of specialist fans near the ceiling encouraging better circulation of warm air throughout.

Berwickshire Girl Guiding Association (£3,450 Awards for All funding secured in March 2013 towards a £3,870 project)

Developing Leadership Project - Costs involved in sending 25 Leaders on a Leadership Training Weekend at the Girl Guiding Scotland Training and Activities Centre at Netherurd, Peebleshire, and to purchase a laptop and digital projector for use by the Berwickshire groups.

BERWICKSHIRE WHEELS

The financial year 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 saw changes for Berwickshire Wheels. Derek Bates, the long serving Project Development Officer retired and was replaced by Allister Hart. At the beginning of the year a Renault Master mini bus was purchased to replace one of the original Mercedes vehicles that had completed sterling service since 2003. An increase in multiple passenger business required the purchase of an additional vehicle and a second hand long wheelbase Citroen mini bus was purchased. The sister bus also became available and the BAVS Board approved the purchase of this vehicle to replace the second ten year old Mercedes. Berwickshire Wheels now has a fleet of six vehicles.

The Royal Voluntary Service has developed much needed social centres at Chirnside, Coldingham and Eyemouth, Berwickshire Wheels works in partnership by providing the transport to enable elderly residents to attend these social centres conveying up to nine passengers on three days each week. The new vehicles have the advantage of enabling passengers with considerable mobility difficulties to access the vehicle by using the electric ramp to raise them to the cabin level. In addition the long wheelbase vehicles allow the transportation of two wheelchairs in comfort and safety.

The Berwickshire Wheels fleet travelled 42,246 miles in the year, maintenance of the vehicles amounted to £5,570 and fuel costs were £9,167. From 1 November statistics were recorded revealing that volunteers provided 780 hours of their own time driving the vehicles on 2,300 passenger journeys. Without those volunteers the service would not exist, their contribution is acknowledged in this report with a huge vote of thanks from the BAVS Board and their passengers.

PHOTOS



Berwickshire Wheels taking part in the Fancy Dress Parade in Coldstream



Berwickshire Wheels clients on an outing to Butterfly World

BAVS CHARITY SHOPS

The charity shops in Duns, Coldstream and Eyemouth continue to work extremely well and are seen as a very important part of the Berwickshire Community. Donations of clothes and bric-a-brac continue to increase and the quality of clothes and other items on display including PAT tested electrical goods, tested by our own trained employee Julie Jenner, are remarkably good.

Sales in the shops this year reached an outstanding level of £130,497 and in line with the charity sector generally there is year on year growth in sales. Our shops have helped support our community transport project. Our customers seem to recognise the excellent value they can find in the shops in these difficult economic times. In addition, the shop always ensures that any waste is kept to an absolute minimum and a good deal of the income derived from unsold goods being sold on to Nathans recycling for onward use.

The charity shops have a superb and loyal group of volunteers who work very positively and whom we are greatly indebted. The hours they put in are just first class and we could not operate so successfully without their loyal support. The charity shops have a real community feel to them and this is a reflection of our fantastic team in all three shops. Our sincere thanks must go to our volunteers for everything they continue to achieve.



BERWICKSHIRE FEDERATION OF VILLAGE HALLS

BAVS continues to support the Berwickshire Federation of Village Halls. BAVS and the Federation work towards keeping village halls, already a significant part of rural life, sustainable and fit for purpose.

“Asset transfer” is currently undergoing a political revival, but many of our rural halls were transferred to community ownership in the 70’s and 80’s and were managed by locally elected committees long before that. Others were built by the community as a result of local fundraising. Most of the halls have carried out significant improvement projects to maintain the fabric of their buildings and keep them up to date. We have been able to assist a number of halls with fundraising for projects that will make their halls more energy efficient.

This year thanks to the work of our graduate intern Kenneth McLean we have updated our village halls handbook, Hallway - a comprehensive guide to all aspects of promoting your hall. Four of our halls have gained KEYSTONE, a quality management qualification promoted by SCVO and managed locally by Philippa Wetton, BAVS Development Officer. Several halls are in the process of entering the scheme. KEYSTONE is designed to give information and support, provide encouragement to help make sense of regulations and legislation, put systems in place to keep things running smoothly and concentrate on providing the best facilities. You can trust a KEYSTONE hall as one which holds a quality mark for high standards, organisation and facilities.

Again thanks to the work of our graduate intern the Federation of Village Halls has a website - www.berwickshirehalls.org.uk

The Federation held its second training day for hall members at St Abbs Ebba Centre in September .

