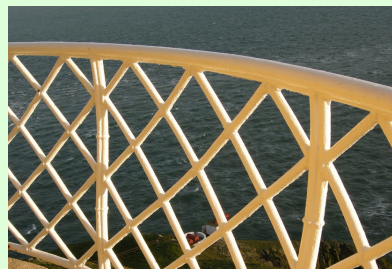


Solway HERITAGE



ANNUAL REPORT

2007-2008



FOREWORD BY THE CHAIRMAN OF SOLWAY HERITAGE

As ever, the Company carried out an excellent range of projects and, as ever, only a few can make it into the Annual Report. During the year, Solway Heritage directly worked on almost 40 projects and provided support to many more. Despite the impressive project output, the Company often makes very little income from much of the work. In one sense, the role of the Company is to deliver projects which have too tight a budget to be of interest to the private sector. Also, Solway Heritage frequently works on projects with a long lead-in time where its contribution is especially valuable to the project partners but such time is a cost rarely recoverable from the project implementation. As a consequence, in 2007-2008, the Company made a loss, creating a carry-forward deficit of £35,000. Whilst this represents less than 7% of turnover, the Board is determined that the figure will not grow and a plan of action will be implemented in 2008/09.

The May 2007 Council elections heralded a significant change in the composition of the Board. Several of our Directors took the opportunity to stand down and we will miss the experience of Andrew Campbell CBE, Dr Joan Mitchell and Robert Higgins. All had served for several years and the Board is grateful for their contribution. Richard Brodie, Jane Maitland and Andrew Wood have been appointed in their place.

On the staff side, the Company has been without a Built Heritage Officer for some time, so it is especially pleasing to record that the position has been filled and we welcome Moira Morrison to that role. Moira has worked as Architect on an impressive range of built heritage projects for an impressive set of employers and will be a great asset to the Company. On the debit side, the Company lost the services of Jean Atkin, who transferred her skills to the Dumfries and Galloway Arts Association. Jean was our Doors Open Days Co-ordinator and during her five years developed the event into a consistently improving programme to become one of the best in Scotland.

The Dumfries and Galloway Environmental Resources Centre is managed by Solway Heritage. In addition to the Manager, a support post is seen as essential but has to be created on a project basis. These are time-limited but provide the project staff with excellent experience early in their careers. Consequently, Lisa Gibson, our Neighbourhood Nature Watch Project Officer, left us to return to study for a higher degree and Fiona Moran joined us as the Woodland Guardians Project Officer. The Centre is also supported by volunteers and the Board thanks all those who contributed in this way during the year, especially, Douglas Brown, Katie Shellard, Marie Gaye, Kenneth Grubb, Michael Livingstone, Sue Hall and Yvonne McClune.

I also wish to acknowledge the support that the company receives from Dumfries and Galloway Council and Scottish Natural Heritage, both in financial terms and as valuable advice from staff members of both organisations.

Finally, I wish to thank and commend Solway Heritage staff for their enthusiasm and commitment (often beyond the call of duty!)

Colin M Mitchell
Chairman of Solway Heritage

Solway Heritage's main funders are:

Solway HERITAGE



THE COMPANY

Dumfries and Galloway Regional Council constituted the Company in 1988. Solway Heritage is a Company limited by Guarantee; is a Registered Charity; and is a registered Environmental Body under the Landfill Tax Regulations.

Solway Heritage works in partnership to deliver its objectives, securing funds from a wide range of sources. This enables the Charity to operate efficiently in assisting a large number of projects and community groups.

Members of the Board of Directors of Solway Heritage represent many historical and environmental interests in the Region. The Board of Directors met seven times during the year, including holding the AGM in September 2007.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SOLWAY HERITAGE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2008

The financial information reported here has been extracted from the report provided by the Auditors and approved by the Board of Directors of Solway Heritage for the financial year 2007-08.

A full set of Accounts is available, on request, from the Company's Registered Office (7 Church Crescent, Dumfries, DG1 1DF).

The Independent Auditors for Solway Heritage are:

ARMSTRONG WATSON
Chartered Accountants
and Registered Auditors
Fairview House
Victoria Place
CARLISLE
CA1 1HP

The Charity has four principal objectives embodied in its Articles of Association:

“to secure the sustainable use, management, and enjoyment of the natural and man-made heritage, in particular the heritage of Dumfries and Galloway

to conserve and enhance buildings or artefacts of architectural or historical interest, particularly in Dumfries and Galloway

to conserve and enhance landscape and wildlife resources, particularly in Dumfries and Galloway

to interpret and encourage informed public access to the built, natural and cultural heritage, particularly of Dumfries and Galloway”

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Solway Heritage was successful in retaining its 'Investor in People' status at a review in June 2006 and is working towards its next review in June 2009.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - 31ST MARCH 2008

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2008 £	Total Funds 2007 £
INCOMING				
Resources from generating funds:				
Activities for generating funds	155,197	-	155,197	140,117
Investment income	12,861	31,173	44,034	40,401
Incoming resources from charitable activities	56,776	314,371	371,147	729,006
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	224,834	345,544	570,378	909,524
EXPENDED				
Costs of generating funds:				
Trading costs	(18,072)	-	(18,072)	(11,822)
Charitable activities	(225,025)	(312,059)	(537,084)	(1,098,863)
Governance costs	(5,263)	-	(5,263)	(4,724)
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	(248,360)	(312,059)	(560,419)	(1,115,409)
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS	(23,526)	33,485	9,959	(205,885)
Transfer between funds	144	(144)	-	-
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES: OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES	(23,382)	33,341	9,959	(205,885)
Actuarial gains in respect of defined benefit pension schemes	115,000	-	115,000	79,000
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	91,618	33,341	124,959	(126,885)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	(73,350)	832,663	759,313	886,198
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	18,263	866,004	884,272	759,313



BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2007

	£	2008	£	2007	£	£
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets		20,989				21,408
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	<u>75,003</u>			<u>86,960</u>		
Cash at bank		765,459		807,145		
		840,462		894,105		
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year		<u>(31,179)</u>		<u>(87,200)</u>		
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>809,283</u>			<u>806,905</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>830,272</u>			<u>828,313</u>
NET ASSETS EXCL PENSION ASSET/(LIABILITY)			830,272			828,313
DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SCHEME ASSET/(LIABILITY)			<u>54,000</u>			<u>(69,000)</u>
NET ASSETS INCL PENSION ASSET/(LIABILITY)			<u><u>884,272</u></u>			<u><u>759,313</u></u>
FUNDS						
Restricted income funds			866,004			832,663
Unrestricted income funds excl. pension asset/(liability)	(35,732)			4,350		
Pension reserve	<u>54,000</u>			<u>(69,000)</u>		
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS			<u>18,268</u>			<u>(73,350)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			<u><u>884,272</u></u>			<u><u>759,313</u></u>

The above financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 12th December 2008 and are signed on their behalf by:

MR C M MITCHELL (CHAIRMAN)

The **Project Income** and **Expenditure** shown next is a simple statement of financial comings and goings with regard to project work. The **Project Income** is restricted in that it can only be applied to those projects for which it was supplied. Whether the total **Income** figure is higher than that for **Expenditure** varies from year to year.

For example, Solway Heritage is often asked to hold funds for projects in advance of implementation and this can give the appearance of a very positive cashflow. In other years, large projects may draw down substantial funds leading to a negative balance. Either way, the balance between **Project Income** and **Expenditure** does not directly reflect on the Company viability.

Solway HERITAGE



PROJECT INCOME (RESTRICTED)

	Balance at 01/04/07 £	Incoming Resources £	Total £
Actions for Wood Pasture	124	16,700	16,824
Dumfries and Galloway Little Houses Improvement Scheme	84,673	2,909	87,582
Landfill Tax Phase 1	277,986	12,810	290,796
Landfill Tax Phase 2	308,196	58,613	366,809
Doors Open Days	(287)	20,590	20,303
Dumfries and Galloway Environmental Resources Centre	13,039	33,113	46,152
Neighbourhood Nature Watch	(4,594)	26,239	21,645
Scottish Coastal Forum	-	25,616	25,616
Other Restricted Funds	153,526	148,954	302,480
TOTAL	832,663	345,544	1,178,207

PROJECT EXPENDITURE (RESTRICTED)

	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	Balance at 31/03/08 £
Actions for Wood Pasture	(4,333)	-	12,491
Dumfries and Galloway Little Houses Improvement Scheme	-	(22,300)	65,282
Landfill Tax Phase 1	(4,210)	-	286,586
Landfill Tax Phase 2	(95,541)	-	271,268
Doors Open Days	(19,953)	-	350
Dumfries and Galloway Environmental Resources Centre	(37,919)	-	8,233
Neighbourhood Nature Watch	(19,899)	-	1,746
Scottish Coastal Forum	(16,052)	-	9,564
Other Restricted Funds	(114,152)	22,156	210,484
TOTAL	(312,059)	(144)	866,004

Solway HERITAGE



To secure the sustainable use, management and enjoyment of the natural and man-made heritage, in particular the heritage of Dumfries and Galloway

LANDFILL COMMUNITIES FUND

In 2007-08, Solway Heritage was able to use Landfill Tax Credits for the benefit of the region by working in partnership on projects with a range of locally based organisations.

The monies were allocated to ten projects over the year; including such diverse projects as the River Annan Catchment Water Vole project, Stranraer's Castle of St John, Rhonehouse Fair Green (a community biodiversity project) and the Mill on the Fleet at Gatehouse - in addition to many of the projects highlighted throughout the Annual Report.



WINDFARM DEVELOPMENTS

Windfarm developments are fast becoming operational across Dumfries and Galloway. Invariably, the Companies concerned look to provide some community benefit through payment to appropriate local organisations, normally via the Community Council. Dumfries and Galloway Council has developed a recommended way of doing this and most Companies tailor this to the particular local circumstances. Solway Heritage has been at the heart of the activity by acting as co-ordinator between Windfarm Companies and the many, many Community Councils involved.

The Community Benefit funds are for projects, of almost any description, which the Community Council wishes to support. The amount of money any Community Council has to distribute varies, but normally there will be an annual amount for 25 years.

shanks. waste solutions.

As an Environmental Body, Solway Heritage receives Landfill Tax Credits to spend on eligible projects. The Regulatory Body is ENTRUST, part of HM Revenue and Customs.

Shanks Waste Management Ltd now operates landfill sites on behalf of Dumfries and Galloway Council. During the year, £37,244 worth of Landfill Tax Credits was transferred by Shanks Waste Management Ltd and projects were also supported from the balance of credits previously received from Dumfries and Galloway Council. A further £7,000 was received from SWEAT, another Environmental Body, for joint support of a project.

So, if there's a windfarm in your area and you want support for a project of benefit to the community, contact your local Community Council. If in doubt, contact Solway Heritage.

The Company with whom Solway Heritage carried out most work during the year was Airtricity Ltd (now part of Scottish and Southern Energy) and their continued support and positive attitude deserves great credit.

In 2007-08, the work of Solway Heritage in this area was financially supported by the Regeneration and Europe Unit of Planning Environment and Housing Services, Dumfries and Galloway Council.

Solway HERITAGE



NATIONAL CYCLE ROUTE

SUSTRANS is the UK's leading sustainable transport charity, working on practical projects so people can choose to travel in ways that benefit their health and the environment. Solway Heritage was commissioned by SUSTRANS to produce design proposals for the realignment of a section of National Cycle Route 7 which is part of a cycle network involving 2,500 miles of Millennium Route in Britain. The realignment was required to avoid a sub-standard section of the route with steep gradients on an off-road section to the west of Creetown.

The realignment, between Spittal Farm and the public road just south of Old Creetown Station, involved a route which ran along the disused railway line and then across the edge of a field. Solway Heritage was also commissioned to undertake a Badger Survey to ensure the proposals did not adversely affect these protected species. A successful planning application was submitted on behalf of SUSTRANS and it is hoped the works will be implemented in the near future.

NORTH WEST DUMFRIES GREENSPACE

North West Dumfries is undergoing transformation. Whilst this will improve the housing, much of the local quality of life can be enhanced through considerate development of the local environment, referred to as greenspace in an urban setting. The greenspace project in North West Dumfries aims to provide a strategic view which brings together planning, design, management and resources. Not all green spaces are of equal benefit to their local community and an audit is useful for understanding how different types of space contribute to the area. The information collated will help decisions to be made and assist the neighbourhood renewal process by developing guidance and an action plan for improving open space provision in North West Dumfries.

A total of 41 sites were identified, classified and surveyed in the North West Dumfries regeneration area. A series of key objectives were then proposed to guide the development of green spaces in North West Dumfries. Recommendations were made specifically for green spaces affected by North West Dumfries regeneration and an action plan proposed, which sets out a holistic approach rather than the piecemeal approach of the past, to make North West Dumfries a better place to live.

The project is funded by Dumfries and Galloway Council.

Solway HERITAGE



To conserve and enhance buildings or artefacts of architectural or historical interest, particularly in Dumfries and Galloway

ANNAN TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVE

The town centre of Annan is a Conservation Area on account of its many fine, red sandstone buildings. However, a significant number of the buildings have rather obviously seen better days and this detracts from the town's presentation. Yet, a thriving High Street is essential to the prosperity of Annan. As a key part of the regeneration process, a grant scheme is operating to help improve the external condition of properties in the High Street and environs. This is the Annan Townscape Heritage Initiative.

The Townscape Heritage Initiative is at a pivotal stage. Grants are now being awarded from the fund of £890,000 and major improvements to the public realm in front of the Town Hall have been agreed. Four top priority buildings were originally identified for restoration work and good progress on three has been achieved. The Townscape Heritage Initiative is now moving towards its final phase for there is a deadline by which applications for grant support must be received, currently March 2009. The Townscape Heritage Initiative is a long process and it is excellent to be able to report that a successful conclusion is in sight.

Funding for the project is provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Dumfries and Galloway Council and Scottish Enterprise, whilst Historic Scotland may grant aid individual properties within the Townscape Heritage Initiative.

MULL OF GALLOWAY

The 'Mull of Galloway Lighthouse Project' is led by the South Rhins Community Development Trust, which is working with the Northern Lighthouse Board to develop interpretation and access to the category A listed lighthouse complex. The complex includes a refurbished, disused engine room and associated stores. Solway Heritage has a long involvement with this site and was commissioned by South Rhins Community Development Trust to develop the project and provide the necessary supporting information for a Heritage Lottery Fund application.

When completed, this facility will complement the existing Mull of Galloway Visitor Centre and lighthouse tours managed by South Rhins Community Development Trust, by providing interpretation for people who wish to find out more about lighthouses, fog horns and the people who developed and cared for them.

Funding for the development work was provided by Dumfries and Galloway Council, through the South Rhins Community Development Trust.

Solway HERITAGE



HISTORIC CHURCHYARDS

Solway Heritage spent several years working as one of the leading partners in the development of the Sulwath Connections Landscape Project. Sulwath Connections is an umbrella for a number of very different environmental schemes. One of these is the Conservation of Historic Churchyards project, originally developed by Solway Heritage.

A survey of historic churchyards was carried out some years ago and was used to prioritise those that the project could tackle.

The number is four: Wigtown Old Parish (St Machutus), Minnigaff Old Church, Dalton and the Sark Tower Churchyard. It was especially pleasing for Solway Heritage to win the contract to manage the restoration work, which will be implemented from the autumn of 2008. Essentially, the project will seek to consolidate the ruins of ancient churches within the churchyards. The early work will be mostly vegetation removal in order to assess the requirements to stabilise the underlying walls.

Funds and support for the project are from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland and Solway Heritage through the Landfill Communities Fund.

BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method)

BREEAM is a series of building regulation standards with components which relate to the curtilage of a building. In short, the more environmental considerations taken into account when carrying out building work, the higher the standard that will be recognised. Dumfries and Galloway Council is carrying out a major refurbishment/re-building programme for schools across the region. Solway Heritage was invited to assess the ecological value for three school grounds and then propose mitigation measures to be adopted during the process. Management advice for the post-construction period formed part of the work. The schools were Cargenbridge, Troqueer and Lincluden. For each school, this was a participative exercise in which the pupils were greatly involved as there was opportunity to decide on what should be included within the grounds and then to design many of these elements.

The work was carried out on behalf of Dumfries and Galloway Council Combined Services (Architectural and Engineering Design Services).

Solway HERITAGE



To conserve and enhance landscape and wildlife resources, particularly in Dumfries and Galloway

TARFF FOOTPATH

Solway Heritage worked with Tongland Community Council to deliver a project that records information on the natural and physical environment of the Tarff Valley. The project included a series of workshops exploring the wildlife resource and how land use, habitats and landscape characteristics of the Tarff Valley have changed over the last 250 years.

One of the outcomes of the project was to identify the reed beds at the confluence of the Tarff Water and River Dee as a special location where the river is tidal resulting in both changing water levels and fluctuating salinity. Wildlife has adapted to these changing conditions and the resulting habitats provide a haven for birds that many walkers enjoyed observing.

NITH INVASIVES

Non-native plants from around the world have historically been brought into Scotland for botanical garden collections and accidentally imported with other goods. Although many introduced plants do not cope well with the Scottish climate there are a few, namely Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam and Giant Hogweed, which have aggressively colonised many areas of Dumfries and Galloway. Due to their ecology, these species often spread along watercourses, roadsides and hedgerows and have proved very difficult to control. The River Nith Catchment Management Plan has highlighted non-native invasives as an issue in the Nith Catchment and a Plan has been developed to address the problem.

The main aim of this scheme is not to 'eradicate' invasive species but rather to instigate a sustainable land management project to control them in the future, with the biggest contribution and commitment being from the community/landowners themselves.

Tongland Community Council also recognised that the construction of a remote footpath would greatly improve the experience of pedestrians using the road (A762) running north from Tongland Bridge to Cumstoun Bridge (Low Bridge Of Tarff) who had to share the carriageway with fast moving traffic including the vehicles from Tongland Quarry.

Solway Heritage assisted with the development of the project, advised on funding applications and produced drawings for the proposed footpath. Two panels were erected on the new path to raise awareness of the natural and built heritage in the area with Solway Heritage undertaking the research and writing as well as managing the graphic design and manufacture.

The interpretative panels were funded by the Scottish Executive, Dumfries and Galloway Council and Awards for All (Heritage Lottery Fund).

This is to be achieved in two phases by:

- Raising the profile of invasive species generally with landowners and to encourage them to want to 'sign up' to long-term sustainable land management of invasives
- Promoting the benefits of 'landscape scale' land management with involvement by all relevant parties
- Encouraging a partnership approach to catchment work, utilising the Nith District Salmon Fishery Board's good will to get landowners on-board.

Solway Heritage carried out the majority of the organisation and production of interpretive materials.

Support for Phase 1 was provided by Scottish Natural Heritage, Catchment Planning Programme and Nith District Salmon Fisheries Board.

Solway HERITAGE



DG1

Dumfries has a new leisure complex serving the region – DG1. Outside the building is an area of public art, which sits within the external public area designed by Solway Heritage. The centrepiece is a dynamic sculpture entitled 'Spring'. This is the work of the Walter Jack Studio.

'Spring' is a series of metal coils of various sizes rolled in ten different sections making twenty-five loops. Of course, the intention goes beyond aesthetic visual impact as the sculpture seeks to link DG1 with the town centre. More immediately, the sculpture offers play opportunities for children (adults too) and an alternative route to the leisure complex. 'Spring' is the first large scale contemporary sculpture owned by the town.

DG1 is a Dumfries and Galloway Council project. Solway Heritage contributed money through the Landfill Communities Fund. 'Spring' was project managed by Gingko Projects for Dumfries and Galloway Arts Association.

WOODLAND GUARDIANS

Woodland Guardians is a project which aims to encourage individuals, community and school groups in Dumfries and Galloway to learn about, record and celebrate the natural heritage of woodlands in their local area. Participants will find out how to identify and record woodland wildlife and in doing so will learn more about their local woodlands.

The project will

- Help communities engage with and appreciate their local natural heritage
- Encourage people to learn and develop new skills
- Enable people to share their knowledge and experiences with others
- Gather and share valuable information about plants and wildlife, and
- Support implementation of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan

Participants will be encouraged to record a range of wildlife on their chosen local woodland and will receive a comprehensive wildlife recording pack, local informal training courses on wildlife identification and recording skills, organised 'Recording days' for participants, regular newsletters feeding back results from the project, plus two conferences, local meetings and talks to report on the project results, encourage networking with other participants and highlight other opportunities to help with local wildlife recording.

A full-time Project Officer, Fiona Moran, has been employed to oversee the project, produce project materials, organise events, publicise the project and provide feedback to participants.

Woodland Guardians is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Scottish Natural Heritage, Catchment Planning Programme and the Forestry Commission Scotland.

Solway HERITAGE



Objective: to interpret and encourage informed public access to the built, natural and cultural heritage, particularly of Dumfries and Galloway

WILDLIFE FESTIVAL

The fifth Dumfries and Galloway Wildlife Festival was held in March/April 2008. This is a programme of events, some 44 this year, aimed at introducing people to the fantastic wildlife of the region – from Red Kites to the beasties in the compost bin. This created a whole range of family activities over the Easter period and an unrivalled opportunity for those who had never seen a Red Squirrel, Red Kite, Peregrine Falcon, Red Deer or Badger. There was plenty for the more experienced wildlife watchers too.

The Wildlife Festival has developed on the back of its success. 2008 saw an increase in visitor numbers of 11%, despite a programme structure which had fewer large scale events and the weather being less favourable than in 2007.

SOLWAY COAST HERITAGE TRAIL BOOKLET

The Solway Coast is a very special place and much of it has been given protection by law to conserve the landscapes, habitats and species now and for generations to come. There are 29 designated sites, ranging from three National Scenic Areas to a plethora of Sites of Special Scientific Interest. This information is linked together by the Solway Coast Heritage Trail. The Heritage Trail is a route between Annan and Stranraer, which enables visitors to enjoy the wonderful coastline and all its associated features and wildlife.

For the first time, Solway Heritage was invited to become directly involved in the organisation of the Festival. This was mainly to liaise with partners, collate the events, liaise with designers about leaflet design, organise adverts and press releases, update the website, distribute leaflets and collate feedback from events.

The Wildlife Festival is led by Dumfries and Galloway Council, with funding support from Scottish Natural Heritage and the Dumfries and Galloway Biodiversity Partnership.

In terms of major habitats alone, there are sand dunes, mudflats, merse, cliffs, shingle and sandy beaches. There are woodlands en route too for the landlubbers. Written by Solway Heritage, the Trail Booklet is rewarding for anyone who wants to discover more about the natural wonders and find out where to get privileged views of the wildlife.

The booklet was funded by Scottish Natural Heritage and the European Union through Dumfries and Galloway Leader+.

Solway HERITAGE



ENVIRONMENT FAIR

Held in March, in Dumfries, Environment Fair (previously Environment Day) was again a huge success with 1,650 visitors recorded. Whilst numbers were slightly down (13% on 2007), there were plenty of significant reasons (bad weather, an important local football match, warnings of traffic chaos in Dumfries and an event at the Whitesands). All in all, attendance was highly satisfactory and it is unlikely that the Fair can accommodate many more people anyway within its current format. In 2009, the Fair will be held at DG1, giving the opportunity to attract a larger audience.

The success of the free event is largely due to the 150+ people needed to run more than 50 stalls. It is their enthusiasm and commitment which makes the Day such a success.

Environment Day was organised by Morag Walker on behalf of Solway Heritage and funded by Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Dumfries and Galloway Council (Waste Management, Infrastructure and Transportation), Dumfries and Galloway Council (Planning, Environment and Housing, Regeneration and Europe) and Solway Heritage.

DOORS OPEN DAYS

Doors Open Days 2007 was themed "Workers", and continued the very successful development of the event as a celebration of the region and its communities. The number of visits recorded for the 2007 event was around 8,700. Total visitor spend was £147,900, of which £103,600 was additional economic activity for the region (i.e. spend by visitors from outwith Dumfries and Galloway, whose numbers were 30% of the total).

Funding for 2007 was provided by Dumfries and Galloway Council (Planning, Environment and Housing, Regeneration and Europe), the Bank of Scotland and Gaelforce. In kind support was provided by Criffel Coaches, the Dumfries and Galloway Arts Association, VisitScotland Dumfries and Galloway and staff from Dumfries and Galloway Council's Museums and Libraries sections.

Organised and promoted by Solway Heritage in Dumfries and Galloway, Doors Open Days takes place across Scotland during September as part of European Heritage Days. The theme for 2008 is "Water".

Solway HERITAGE



THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPOINTED TO REPRESENT THE COMPANY DURING 2007-08 WAS:

Mr Colin M Mitchell (Chairman)
Scottish Wildlife Trust
Mr William B Knox (Vice Chairman)
Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group
Mr Eric C Archibald
Independent
Lady Hilary B Weir OBE
Independent
Mr Ivor A Hyslop
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Mr David J McKie
Dumfries and Galloway Council

Appointments – 28/09/07:
Mr Richard J Brodie
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Mrs Jane S Maitland
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Mr Andrew S Wood
Dumfries and Galloway Council

Company Secretary
Mrs Sheila Adams

Resignations:
Dr Joan Mitchell (18/05/07)
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Mr Andrew R Campbell CBE (18/05/07)
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Mr Gordon L Mann OBE (18/05/07)
Scottish Natural Heritage
Mr Robert J Higgins (28/09/07)
Dumfries and Galloway Council

All of the Directors also serve as Trustees for the Charity.

Membership of the Company in the financial year ended March 2008 was:

Dumfries and Galloway Council
Scottish Natural Heritage
Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group
Scottish Wildlife Trust
Scottish Civic Trust
Mr Eric C Archibald
Lady Hilary B Weir OBE

During 2007-08 the staffing of Solway Heritage was:

Mr George MacQuarrie
Project Manager

Mrs Sheila Adams
Operations Manager

Mr Nic Coombey
Landscape Architect

Ms Clair McFarlan
Ecologist

Ms Jean Atkin (until 24/05/07)
Doors Open Days Co-ordinator (p/t)

Miss Catriona Fitzsimon
*Administrative Assistant /
Doors Open Days Co-ordinator*

Mr Michael Leybourne
Annan THI Project Officer (p/t)

Miss Sarah Louise Turnbull
Eco Schools Co-ordinator

Mr Mark Pollitt
DGERC Manager

Miss Lisa Gibson (until 12/10/07)
Neighbourhood Nature Watch Project Officer

Mrs Frances Surphlis (until 15/06/07)
Administrative Assistant (p/t)

Miss Eykolina de Zwart (from 05/11/07)
Wood Pasture Project Officer

Miss Fiona Moran (from 01/04/08)
Woodland Guardians Project Officer

Solway HERITAGE



How to contact us:

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