

DRY STONE WALLING ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN



ANNUAL REPORT AND SUMMARY ACCOUNTS 2015- 2016



*Cross Fell Shelter, North Pennines
Certificate of Merit Award*



*The Hive, West Yorkshire
Pinnacle Award*



*Rhodesian African Rifles Memorial,
National Memorial Arboretum
Certificate of Merit*

DSWA, Lane Farm, Crooklands,
Milnthorpe, Cumbria, LA7 7NH
www.dswa.org.uk

Registered as a charitable organisation in England and Wales
Number 289678

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Front cover photo credits:

Cross Fell Shelter, L Lambeth

The Hive, L Noble

Rhodesian African Rifles Memorial, Cross Culture Images

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Office Bearers

<i>PATRON</i>	<p>HRH The Prince of Wales 2006 -</p> <p>Her Grace, The Dowager Duchess of Devonshire 1990 - 2005</p>
<i>PRESIDENT</i>	<p>The Lord Cavendish of Furness DL 2008 -</p> <p>Bryan Hough LCG 2005 - 2008</p> <p>Ken France 2002 - 2005</p> <p>Bryan Hough, LCG 1999 - 2002</p> <p>Terry Eggleshaw, MBE 1994 - 1999</p> <p>Ramsay Rainsford Hannay 1989 - 1994</p> <p>Mrs E Murray Usher of Cally, OBE 1968 - 1989 (part as convenor)</p>
<i>VICE PRESIDENTS</i>	<p>Tom Norris</p> <p>Richard Tufnell</p>
<i>CHAIRMAN</i>	<p>Ray Stockall, 2013 -</p> <p>Alan Devonport, 2010 - 2013</p> <p>Richard Love, 2004 - 2010</p> <p>Paul Webley, 1994 - 2004</p> <p>Terry Eggleshaw MBE 1983 - 1994</p> <p>Eric Boyes, 1982 - 1983</p> <p>Peter Wilson, Retired 1982</p>
<i>DEPUTY CHAIRMAN CRAFT SKILLS CO-ORDINATOR</i>	<p>Tracey Blackwell</p> <p>Andrew Loudon</p>
<i>HONORARY TREASURER</i>	<p>Mick Booth</p>

Current Honorary Life Members

J R Bown, I K Dewar,
E Ellwood, B Hough LCG,
J Riddick, F E Shields OBE, FRAgS,
Mrs J Simpkins, P Webley

DSWA Trustee Board Members (Sept 2015 - Aug 2016)

Tracey Blackwell	Carl Hardman
Mick Booth (Treasurer)	Richard Ingles
Andrew Brown-Jackson	Brian Jones
Nicholas Coombey	Andrew Loudon
Philip Dolphin	Richard Love
James Hanson	Ray Stockall (Chairman)

Four Trustee Board meetings are held during the period covered
by this report

Banks

HSBC Bank plc,
331 Lord Street, Southport, PR8 1NJ

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill
West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

Solicitors

Milne Moser, Solicitors,
Westmorland House, The Square,
Milnthorpe, Cumbria, LA7 7QJ

Insurers

NFU Mutual Insurance Society Limited,
Corney Square, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 7QG

Annual Report 1 September 2015 - 31 August 2016

Introduction

The Association has seen another busy and varied year in the period covered by this report. Grateful thanks are recorded to everyone who has given their time in whatever way to help raise awareness of our existence and the importance of dry stone walls and to promote the aims of the DSWA which are “to advance education in the craft and heritage of dry stone walling for the public benefit”.

The Association is pleased to report that our Patron, His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, has kindly agreed to extend the Patronage for a further five year period and our President, Lord Cavendish, will be continuing in his role within the DSWA.

The Members’ Weekend provides an opportunity to meet members from different parts of the country and it is always good to catch up with old friends and to make new ones, as well as having the chance to share walling tales in a social environment. Our thanks to colleagues in North Wales for organising the event in 2016 held in Caernarfon. Derbyshire will be the venue in 2017 so please consider coming along; you will be assured of a warm welcome.



Governance

There were no changes to the Trustee Board at the 2016 AGM; no new nominations were received and those due for re-election were willing to stand again. The Trustee Board meets in person four times a year in March, June, September and December, with email correspondence in-between times. It is important to ensure a wide range of skills and interests within the Trustee Board and we would like to encourage members to consider putting themselves forward for election, particularly if they are open members as the current Trustee Board comprises mainly of professional members. I would like to place on record my thanks to the members of the Trustee Board for their commitment and input during the year.

As a result of the decision taken last year not to alter the Association’s charitable status, amendments have been made to the DSWA Constitution and Rules and an updated Branch Procedures document produced, which replaces the old Branch Constitution. These documents together with the DSWA Financial Procedures now provide a suite of operational guidelines for the

Association, which satisfy current Charity Commission requirements and demonstrate a uniform approach to our governing administration.

The Association continues to receive and act upon regular free advice and guidance issued by the Charity Commission, including due regard to the guidance on public benefit.

Membership

Members are an important part of the Dry Stone Walling Association and provide the mainstay of our regular income through subscriptions. Whilst the current membership figure has fallen slightly since the same period last year, it is encouraging that new members are still coming along. However, as an organisation we do need to promote membership to as wide an audience as possible, including those who may not wish to be actively involved in actually building walls but would be happy to support our work. An open membership is an ideal way to encourage this kind of support. It is also heartening to see that membership within the overseas category continues to be maintained and we are grateful to those people who spread the walling word in America, Canada, Japan, Australia, Austria, France and Germany. During the period covered by this report we extend a warm welcome to two new Corporate Members, both of which are stone suppliers.



Members from across the country working together on a project in North Yorkshire.

More and more members are taking out the Direct Debit option to pay for membership, which is a convenient method for member and DSWA alike. Amounts are collected automatically and you do not need to remember to alter the amount if a change in subscription rates occurs. Any proposed changes to the amount are advised to all members well in advance and monies are not claimed without authority. A small increase in membership fees was implemented in January 2016 but there will be no change for 2017.

By gift aiding a subscription, members can also generate additional valuable income for the Association at no extra cost to themselves. For the tax year to April 2016 the Association received just over £5,700 through the scheme, which is a significant sum of money. If you are not already signed up to the Gift Aid Scheme please consider doing so; the only criteria is to ensure that you pay an amount of UK income tax at least equal to the amount to be reclaimed on your donation by the charity, currently 25p for each £1 donated.

Many members belong to one of our local branches, which cover different regions across the country and are vital in promoting the work of the Association and engaging with the public, whether through shows and demonstrations, provision of training courses or talks and walks. There is a wide range of activities on offer to members, not all of which require active wallers. Support and admin roles are just as important as well as the social aspect of the branches' programmes. We are very grateful to all branch officers and members for their time and support. The Branch of the Year competition recognises this work and the winners for 2015 were as follows:

Large Branch:

1st Cheshire, 2nd Central Scotland, joint 3rd Cumbria and Otley & Yorkshire Dales.

Small Branch:

1st Dorset, 2nd South East Scotland, joint 3rd South West Scotland and South Yorkshire.

Branch of the Year winners receiving the trophies . L-R Jack Taylor, Cheshire Branch, Ray Stockall, DSWA Chairman, Merrie Wilson & Sally Fielding, Dorset Branch



During the year we appointed an Honorary Editor for the Waller & Dyker magazine, which is sent to members three times a year. Shirley Addy is settling into the role well and has been encouraging members to submit articles of interest for future issues.

Training

Training covers a wide range of possibilities whether it is weekend beginner courses or taster days offered by DSWA branches, community projects, corporate days or mentoring; all of these activities fit within the aims of the Association.

Beginner courses take place around the country and continue to prove very popular as an introduction to our craft. In 2015 over 600 people took part in such courses, some of whom will go on to practise their new found skills with a view to using them in a professional capacity, others who wanted to try something different. Sometimes the participants have been given the course as a birthday or Christmas gift and such events have even been arranged as part of a stag weekend! The feedback that is received from these courses is generally very positive and therefore a credit to those organising and running the events. Some of these participants may also go on to work towards one of the Craftsman Certification Scheme qualifications.



During the period covered by this report there were 19 test days held throughout the UK and a further 2 test days held in America. Our thanks go to the instructors and Examiners, without which the scheme could not operate. The number of candidates taking part during the period covered by this report is shown below:

Level 1	115 entered/107 passed	Level 2	57 entered/ 44 passed
Level 3	7 entered/ 6 passed	Masters	1 entered/ 0 passed

The DSWA has benefitted from two main sources of funding for training this year. The Training Voucher Scheme, made possible by a grant from The Prince's Countryside Fund (PCF) has now finished. During the life of the project 150 training vouchers towards the cost of a beginner training course and/or the Level 1 test fee were issued to young people working or studying in the rural sector. Participants from all over the UK have had the opportunity to learn the craft of dry stone walling, many of whom will be using these skills on a regular basis in the future. It is hoped that the Association may be able to secure PCF grants again in the future, depending on funding criteria.

The HLF Built Landscape Heritage Training and Education Programme has continued throughout the year and has demonstrated some very positive results. The project, based in the north west of England, has seen the five bursary trainees work through the first two levels of Craftsman Certification Scheme qualifications and, at the time of writing, four are about to try for the Advanced level test. As well as working on a regular basis with an experienced professional waller, the trainees have benefited from business management courses, first aid training and H & S manual handling guidance.



Other new training initiatives within the above programme have included a wall survey at Eycott Hill in north Cumbria, designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest due to the geology of the area, and a residential training course for people wishing to gain experience in more advanced walling techniques. Both events were successful and are likely to be repeated next year.

The Association organised an Instructor Training Course, which unfortunately had to be postponed from its original date in April but did take place at the end of September, and a further eleven members are now able to lead branch beginner training courses throughout the country.

Training events continue to be popular with our overseas members; the Stone Trust in Vermont has now been up and running for six years and offers a range of training courses and activities. Further training and test days have also been undertaken with the Sauguen First Nation in Canada and we were pleased to welcome back to Cumbria another group of Japanese wallers who were keen to take part in the Certification Scheme.

Publicity

During the year the Association has attended and exhibited at a variety of events across the country thanks to the branch programmes of activities. Shows including RHS Tatton Flower Show, Royal Welsh, Gardening Scotland and Chatsworth Country Fair provide an opportunity for visitors to watch

members build a piece of dry stone wall whilst at the same time sourcing advice and information on the craft. A return visit to Southport Flower Show took place and a further section of wall was added to the permanent structure in Victoria Park. The Association also attended the annual Open Day and Country Fair at Myerscough College where the bursary trainees were tasked with building a section of wall incorporating seating and a raised flower bed.



Display and demonstration at Myerscough College Open Day & Country Fair

This year the Association was invited to attend the inaugural Countryfile Live event held in the grounds of Blenheim Palace which provided a great opportunity to meet and speak to lots of people who may not have been aware of the DSWA. Requests for course details were high so hopefully some of the interest will translate into attendees for next year.

Another first was the Stone Festival in Caithness, organised by George Gunn, which saw wallers from far and wide descend on the north of Scotland for a weekend of practical walling, talks and tours, some of which were also available to the general public.



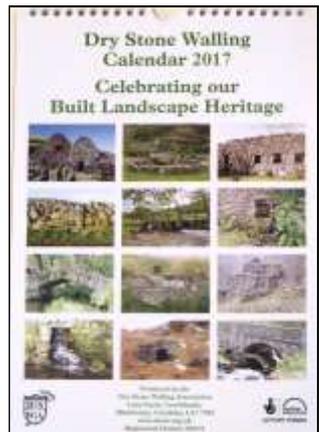
A number of events are carried out in partnership with other organisations to mutual benefit. Cheshire Branch took part in the “Dig the City” event organised by the National Trust in the centre of Manchester, where a stone seat was constructed and left in situ for the duration of the event. The Forage Festival in Arne, run by the RSPB, involved Dorset Branch taking along its

“mini wall” to encourage children to have a go at building a wall without fear of trapping small fingers. Several branches now have such walls, which prove very popular at events – even with adults! South Yorkshire Branch revisited Frickley Hall to continue the project of building jumps for the horse trials, whilst South East Scotland Branch has been building a seat in sight of the new Queensferry Crossing over the Firth of Forth as part of a community project.

Congratulations are extended to those members who have been involved in projects that have been acknowledged through the DSWA Pinnacle Award Scheme. The front cover of this report shows the Cross Fell Shelter in Cumbria, built by Laurie Lambeth with input from trainees Rob Brumfitt and Chris Goodier, which was awarded a Certificate of Merit in the Historical Restoration category; The Hive, designed and built by Lydia Noble and Adam Clarke, which received a full Pinnacle Award and the Rhodesian African Rifles Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum, built by Chris Ingles, Nick Sutton and Tim Righton, which received a Certificate of Merit in the Public Works category.

The Association has been invited to submit articles to a number of publications, including Countryside Jobs Service, Current Archaeology and the Building Conservation Directory, all of which help inform the wider public of the importance of dry stone walls.

The 2017 DSWA Calendar celebrates our Built Landscape Heritage, tying in with the HLF project currently underway and an A3 poster showcasing different dry stone structures has also been produced. Both are available from the office.



Finance

Work has continued throughout the year in terms of refining the financial reports submitted to the Trustee Board meetings in order to establish a clear and easy understanding of the Association's financial situation. It was with regret that we accepted the resignation of Mick Booth from the role of Honorary Treasurer at the end of August, due to family circumstances. We would like to record our thanks to Mr Booth for all the work he has done in moving the financial matters forward and our thoughts are with the family at this difficult time.

During the period covered by this report, the Association has been fortunate enough to receive a number of donations, some of which were for specific projects such as the reprinting of leaflets, whilst others were for general use in furthering our charitable objectives as appropriate. We would like to thank everyone who has donated funds, including the members who continue to make regular donations following the anniversary appeal in 2008.

This report covers activities funded via The Prince's Countryside Fund and the Heritage Lottery Fund and we are very grateful to these organisations for their financial assistance. The HLF grant will continue until the end of October 2017.

Once again the Association has run a Hundred Club, which has generated valuable income during the year. The more entries there are within the Hundred Club, the greater the income raised and the higher the prizes for the monthly draws. The Hundred Club is open to members and non-members and details are made available in November/December with the first draw being made at the Members' Weekend in March.

The Association is grateful for the continued support from Yorkshire Tea in respect of the bar codes from boxes/packets of tea. Each of these items is worth at least 25p to us so please encourage friends and family to collect them and send them to the office.

Conclusion

On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to another successful year and hope that I have the opportunity to meet some of you at the Members' Weekend in 2017.

Ray Stockall
DSWA Chairman

Treasurer's Report for Financial Year Ended 31 August 2016

The charity had total incoming resources of £240,760 for the year compared to £253,863 for the previous year, including branch activities. Resources expended totalled £231,383 for the year compared with £182,585 in the previous year. Overall the charity had a net surplus of £9,377 compared to £71,278 last year. However, if the restricted funds and branch monies are excluded the unrestricted activities actually had a deficit of £265 for the year. The charity's total funds at the year end were £312,162 of which £124,245 were held by the branches.

In accordance with Charity SORP guidelines, branch activities and monies held have been integrated into the full accounts. Branch bank accounts are held independently and are not available to the National Association.

Reserves policy

Under the requirements of charity law, the Trustees are obliged to define the charity's policy for holding reserves. The intention in establishing this Reserves Policy is to ensure the continuation of the charity's activities. The policy will enable the charity to meet its legal objectives, provide confidence to donors seeking to give financial support to a prudently controlled charity and to ensure that the reserves are at a level sufficient to discharge all the charity's obligations in the event that it should cease its operations. This is not considered to be likely in the foreseeable future, and therefore the reserves which the charity is required to maintain are those needed to fund ongoing monthly costs and future development. To this end, the Trustees have decided that the charity should seek to have reserves which are not invested in fixed assets of a sum equal to no more than 12 months general running costs and £60,000 has been designated for this purpose. A large proportion of the charity's reserves are held as bank accounts. It is recommended that all branches should apply a reserve equivalent to 12 months operating costs.

Risk management

The Trustees have reviewed the major risks which the charity faces and believe that maintaining reserves at current levels, combined with an annual review of the controls over key financial systems, will provide sufficient resources in the event of adverse conditions. The Trustees have also examined other operational and business risks faced by the charity and are continuing to establish systems to mitigate significant risk.

Ray Stockall
DSWA Chairman

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain
Statement of Financial Activities
for year ended 31 August 2016

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Branch funds £	Total 2016 £	Total 2015 £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	57,628	504	4,623	62,755	114,559
Charitable activities	28,103	83,644	44,470	156,217	117,683
Other trading activities	12,309	574	3,947	16,830	15,271
Investment income	148	-	101	249	720
Other income	1,170	4,356	(817)	4,709	5,630
Total Income	99,358	89,078	52,324	240,760	253,863
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	(99,623)	(89,578)	(42,182)	(231,383)	(182,585)
Total Expenditure	(99,623)	(89,578)	(42,182)	(231,383)	(182,585)
Net movement in funds	(265)	(500)	10,142	9,377	71,278
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	137,982	50,700	114,103	302,785	231,507
Total funds carried forward	137,717	50,200	124,245	312,162	302,785

All of the Charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above period.

The above figures are taken from the full Charity Commission accounts.
Please contact the DSWA Office if you would like a copy.

Dry Stone Walling Association of Great Britain
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2016

	2016 £	2015 £
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	3,021	3,552
Current assets		
Stocks	11,990	11,572
Debtors	19,048	12,806
Cash at bank and in hand **	282,579	279,525
	313,617	303,903
Creditors:		
Amounts falling due within one year	(4,476)	(4,670)
Net current assets	309,141	299,233
Net assets	312,162	302,785
Funds of the Charity:		
Branch funds	124,245	114,103
Restricted income funds	50,200	50,700
Unrestricted income funds	137,717	137,982
Total funds	312,162	302,785

** Includes money held in branch bank accounts which are held independently by the branches and cannot be accessed by Head Office.

The above figures are taken from the full Charity Commission accounts.
Please contact the DSWA Office if you would like a copy.

Summary of Branch Annual Returns to DSWA For Year 2014 - 2015

The information provided below is intended as a brief synopsis of the returns made by branches to DSWA. If the annual return has not been submitted, the financial figures have been extracted from the branch accounts, which are submitted separately.

BRANCH	M/ship 01/01/15	M/ship 31/12/15	New Recruits	Opening bank bal £ 1/09/14	Closing bank bal £ 31/08/15
Central Scotland (SCO25282)	60	70	8	5145	4501
Cheshire	47	47	6	10,408	9,037
Cotswold #				3,755	3,655
Cumbria	76	83	18	10,963	11,182
Derbyshire	73	106	33	15,929	19,537
Dorset	24	32	13	8,137	8,448
Isle of Skye # (SC025508)					
Lancashire #				5,449	5,381
Mid-Lancs #				6,137	447
North Wales #				1,968	2,748
Northumbria	32	30	1	4,015	3,542
Otley & Yorkshire Dales	153	141	13	12,274	13,833
Pennine	17	18	1	3,384	2,678
South East Scotland (SCO39438)	20	23	3	2,537	2,671
South Wales #				1,986	1,808
South West England (1101605)	53	58	5	7,331	6,059
South West Scotland (SCO25830)	15	22	0	5,369	3,381
South Yorkshire	45	39	3	2,433	2,528
West Yorkshire #				7,828	6,694

Indicates no branch annual return submitted.

BRANCH	No of events held	No of Courses held	No of Course Particip'ts	No of Branch Competition Particip'ts	No of Demos held
Central Scotland	16	6	39	N/A	4
Cheshire	36	2	34	N/A	7
Cotswold #					
Cumbria	28	4	48	20	6
Derbyshire	22	9	132	N/A	8
Dorset	24	7	75	n/a	2
Isle of Skye #					
Lancashire #					
Mid-Lancs #					0
North Wales #					
Northumbria	15	6	11	n/a	6
Otley & Yorkshire Dales	144	6	84	12	11
Pennine	0	0	0	n/a	0
South East Scotland	14	3	18	n/a	1
South Wales #					
South West England	3	7	45	n/a	3
South West Scotland	4	3	18	n/a	1
South Yorkshire	19	5	25	n/a	4
West Yorkshire #					

DSWA Branch Honorary Officers 2015-2016

Branch	Chairman	Hon Secretary	Hon Treasurer
Central Scotland	Kate Armstrong	Stewart Hutt	Kate Armstrong
Cheshire	Jack Taylor	Jack Taylor	Barry Leary
Cotswold	Katherine Wright	Chris Ingles	Richard Ingles
Cumbria	Patrick Adair	Chris Bratt	Joe Bowman
Derbyshire	Carl Hardman	Jon Earnshaw	Alan Malia
Dorset	Merrie Wilson	Sally Fielding	Iain Pullen
Isle of Skye	Marcus Ridsdill-Smith	Gerry MacLeod	Seumas Campbell
Lancashire	Carl Watson	Paul Clayton	Gill Bolshaw
Mid-Lancs	Philip Whittaker	Neil Kerr	Brenda Hayman
North East Scotland	Branch currently not active		
North Wales	Sean Adcock	Sean Adcock	Colin Brown
Northumbria	Peter Moorhead	Melanie Parnell	Neil Weddell
Otley & Yorkshire Dales	Nick Ferguson	Colin Alexander	John Hulbert
Pennine	Eric Fort	Peter Walker	Pamela Smithies
South East Scotland	Richard Love	Dave Taylor	Donald McInnes
South Wales	John Pasztor	Brian Lock	Nigel Spiers
South West England	Jon Weaver	Allison Campbell	James Orme
South West Scotland	Nicholas Coombey	Linda Wilson	John Riddick
South Yorkshire	Gary Helliwell	David Longden	David Brookes
West Yorkshire	Trevor Womack	Roger Depledge	Chris Hanwell

DSWA Membership Records - Overall View

Calendar Year	Total All Members	<i>New Members included in totals</i>	Total Open	Total Prof	Total Junior	Total Corporate	Other
1968	55						
1993	946	253	688	226	7	14	10
1994	973	244	707	227	10	15	14
1995	1109	345	836	223	12	23	15
1996	1175	277	892	236	16	26	5
1997	1143	239	861	233	13	25	9
1998	1164	239	879	235	8	23	19
1999	1239	279	956	238	7	24	14
2000	1326	335	1039	237	7	28	6
2001	1122	144	845	233	12	21	11
2002	1233	331	945	248	12	20	8
2003	1317	335	1004	267	7	25	14
2004	1468	422	1151	267	11	23	16
2005	1470	407	1177	234	22	24	13
2006	1484	408	1179	248	17	28	12
2007	1456	426	1156	256	12	25	7
2008	1416	387	1117	263	12	24	7
2009	1301	309	1000	256	18	21	6
2010	1204	215	909	242	12	20	6
2011	1194	163	894	261	10	23	6
2012	1209	147	903	269	12	25	6
2013	1100	164	780	282	8	24	6
2014	1054	141	774	249	7	18	6
2015	1084	124	808	240	12	18	6
2016**	979	154	725	225	7	16	6

** Current year figures are to end of August only.

