



THE
Sharpham
TRUST

Annual Report 2011-2012





The Sharpham Trust

Despite the fact that I had done the 8-week programme, I still feel I benefitted enormously from this (single) day (of Mindfulness).....having a whole day devoted to mindfulness was wonderful and really reinforced the practice for me.

Mindfulness Student

I just had to drop a line to express my gratitude for last night's entertainment in the Music Room. It was amazingly fantastic! I could hardly believe my ears, it was pure genius.

Friend of Sharpham

My child had an amazing time at your Summer Explorers event and I felt completely safe leaving them with Anna and Beth....I feel it is unusual to find people who seem to really focus on each child as an individual in these group settings. My child left with new wisdom for the world and sparkle in his eyes. He is still teaching us the things he learnt.

Parent

Thank you so much for hosting us at Sharpham for our Away Day - we both had a productive time and came away feeling like we'd been in Tuscany for the day! We will certainly spread the word about your lovely inspiring premises.

Plymouth College of Art Organiser

What a sublime experience! We, both, have a passion for the countryside but to spend a week in such isolation, in these surroundings - thank you!

Sharpham Bathing House Visitor

Just wanted to say a quick but massive thank you for helping me attend the Mindfulness workshop last week. I had the most amazing time and learnt so much and wanted you to know I really do appreciate it.

Sustaining Ourselves Bursary Student

What a wonderful treat for the soul. I hope to return with time to walk – and be beside the river.

Renowned primatologist, Dr Jane Goodall, DBE

Thanks once again to you and to all the staff behind the scenes at Sharpham who made our day amazingly perfect!

Sharpham House Bride

Thanks for having us in your incredible house.

Ishirini Choir

We are so so so relieved that you are doing this wonderful four hours on a Saturday - Tom and Erin's lives would be much poorer without it, they come home nourished, excited, happy and blooming.

Parent of Forest School pupil

I was happy about how today went. I also was just happy to get away from the trouble where I live.

Sharpham Outdoors Ecominds Student

I have to say that the event was an enormous success ... so much work, but it really made a massive impact in people's minds, including mine. I really enjoyed the way great names and artists mixed alike with community members and children. I'm sure Tagore would have loved it too. Well done.

Gitanjali Poetry Fair visitor (part of Tagore Festival)

I wanted to extend my thanks to you, Beth and staff unknown, for the opportunity to join my daughter Eve and the rest of the 'tribe' last Friday in the woods. Eve gained so much personally from just two days with you, she was beaming as we were driving home, both covered in mud and paint!

Parent

We seek to discover ways to live sustainably and meaningfully through enquiry, practical endeavour and engagement.



The Purpose

To provide opportunities and educational facilities that encourage:

- An understanding of the interconnection of life
- A deep respect for the natural world
- A belief in learning through experience, creative engagement and enquiry
- An acknowledgement of the value of stillness and awareness

The Trust's Objectives 2011-2015

1. To develop a range of innovative educational activities based on a sense of Sharpham as a special place
2. To demonstrate sustainable approaches to managing the land and buildings
3. To promote greater access to the Sharpham Estate
4. To operate a balanced budget with a secure income base



Above: Group camping at Point Field

Below: The Trust's second major renewable energy project, making electricity powered by the sun, started generating its first kilowatts on 2nd March 2012.



The Chair's introduction

Welcome to this 2011-2012 Annual Report. The year was a challenging and exciting one for the Trust. We are still running a small operational deficit, however, this continues to shrink with every year and as you can see in our objectives one of our four strategic goals is to have a balanced budget by 2014-2015, which we are on track to achieve.

Globally the economic conditions in 2011-12 continued to baffle economists and there was still a reluctance to appreciate that "*doing things the same way*" just won't work (Albert Einstein defined insanity as "*doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results*"). Locally – although it was a tough year for many – the Transition movement continued to flourish and activity around the area and on the Sharpham Estate continued to increase.

Looking forward, we are keen to continue building links and strengthening the local community through participation in activities and programmes that encourage awareness and resilience. We are all about learning through doing, and this is true whether you are on retreat at the Barn or walking along the river's edge with a six-year-old looking for tracks of our resident otter.

During the year, we were really pleased to have: 170 come to us for Mindfulness activities, 421 people stay in the house during residential courses, 267 people come to a wedding at Sharpham, 116 who rented the Bathing House, as well as 680 who came for other activities in the House (for example the Tagore poetry festival). Of course there were hundreds of others who came to our Summer Open Weekend, Autumn Open day, stayed at the Barn Retreat centre or immersed themselves in numerous Sharpham Outdoors activities.

Some of my favourite times were planting trees, helping with Apple Day, camping in Point Field, and studying nettles. At Sharpham I've found a fun way to make my relationship with the land (and river) effortlessly deeper. Each activity was a tangible manifestation of people coming together to celebrate the miracle of life that is all around us. Each activity felt like a reaffirmation that a simple life can bring real fulfilment. Each activity reminded me that one of the best tools we have for facing the challenges and opportunities of the future, is creativity.

For those who have been part of the Sharpham journey in the past twelve months I thank you, and for those who are thinking of getting involved I invite you to join us.

With warm wishes,
William Lana
Chair, Sharpham Trust

Charitable activities

The Director's Report

A year that leads up to and incorporates the start of the Trust's 30th anniversary is a good time to reflect on the past, to celebrate our successes and to assess, with colleagues, partners and trustees what Sharpham can most usefully provide in the future.

With our small staff team we are developing new strategic partnerships with organisations that share our values and have the capacity to help us deliver our objectives. These include The Transition Trust, Vine Event Catering and The Green Burial Company. In addition, the services of Land and Property Management were employed to push forward improvements to the estate infrastructure.

Two of our long standing farming tenancies came to an end in October and March respectively. The Robert Owen Community at Lower Sharpham Barton entered into a three-way partnership with Ambios and the Trust, enabling them to continue their support of adults with learning disabilities whilst Ambios oversee management of the farm, wildlife and educational opportunities through an expanded Sharpham Outdoors Project. Change of use from agricultural to educational on that tenancy has greatly increased the scope for innovative educational activities and enabled our Sharpham Outdoors Project to be planted in truly fertile soil.

The Smith family retired from Upper Sharpham Barton in March 2012 after over 30 years - their presence on the farm is marked by the newly planted Richard's Wood. A new Barn erected there provides additional space and importantly a home for our PV 50 KWh array that began generating electricity in March 2012. New tenant, David Camp, continues to farm the land organically.

There is much to celebrate too in our charitable activities. Our Ecominds team have been repeatedly thanked for their part in aiding the recovery of numerous young people with a history of mental distress.

Four years of the V (volunteer) Project drew to a conclusion during 2011 with the majority of the volunteers progressing to employment as a result.

Our Mindfulness programme continued to develop, both through Mindfulness in Daily Life courses and through the recently extended Barn Retreat.

Sharpham would have been a poorer place without the contribution of poets and artists during the year. A highlight was the Poetry Fair – a wonderful collaboration between poets, artists, performers and musicians.

We hope that by the time you read this permission will have been granted for a Natural Burial site overlooking the river and moors; that our Artist in Residence Programme will have started; that our 30th anniversary celebrations will have touched you in some way and that all of us at Sharpham will remain open to responding to those charitable needs that this estate is best suited to serve.

Finally, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to our tireless staff team for their patience and enthusiasm and to everyone who participates in the life of this beautiful estate for the benefit of so many.

Chris Nicholls
Director, Sharpham Trust

Public Benefit

The Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and to their updated guidance on programme-related investment.

The following pages illustrate the Trust's activities and achievements during the year, which include making Sharpham House and Estate available for public benefit by offering a range of educational opportunities, running both residential and non-residential courses, and inviting the public to visit and participate on open days.

During the year, two renewable energy projects were completed. A new biomass boiler was installed at the Barn Retreat with heat storage and solar thermal panels and increased insulation. At Upper Sharpham Barton, the need for a new agricultural building was combined with a photo voltaic installation. Both projects improve efficiency, reduce carbon dioxide emissions, and contribute financially to the well being of the charitable programmes.

Sharpham House

The Trust has a core responsibility to conserve Sharpham House (redesigned in 1770). It is surrounded by a 550-acre estate of sustainably farmed land that follows a three-mile stretch of the River Dart. The House and grounds are used for residential courses, celebrations and open events, and are hosting an increasing number of people.

The Sharpham Programme

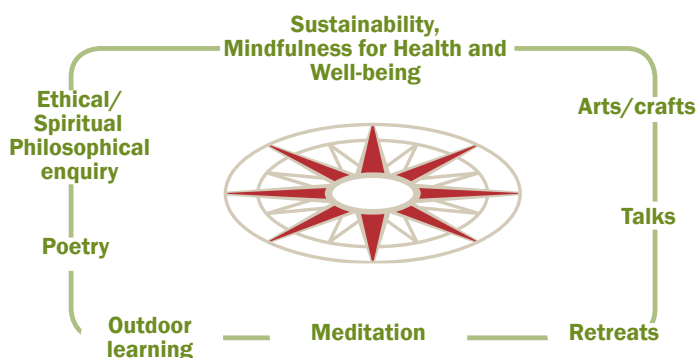
Bringing people into contact with nature is at the heart of our programme. We provide a range of courses activities and events with the aim of helping people of all ages to gain a deeper insight into themselves and the world around them.

There are three main strands to this work:

- Arts and Enquiry
- Mindfulness for Health and Well-Being
- Outdoor Learning

Most activities have threads of more than one strand running through them.

Below: The Sharpham Programme



Arts

Arts and enquiry form an important strand of our work. We encourage participants to join in and use the arts as a vehicle for enquiry, creativity and reflection.



Poetry Conversation

The monthly Poetry Conversations hosted by nationally acclaimed poet, Alice Oswald, have developed into a rich variety of stimulating ways to engage with poetry. Evenings attract between 12 and 35 participants. Themes included protest poetry, home coming, war, renga, and weather-related poems. A highlight was the Gitangali Poetry Fair – conceived and produced by Alice as part of Dartington Hall Trust's Tagore Festival in which national and local poets, artists and musicians combined to transform Sharpham House into a vibrant theatre of poetic activity.

Mindfulness for Health and Wellbeing

Mindfulness for Health and Well-being courses have been developed by professionals in the healthcare sector and are being trialled through evidence-based research programmes nationally. Mindfulness is now recommended in the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines for the treatment of people with clinical depression. It helps people to:

- Manage stress and anxiety more effectively
- Cope with depression
- Manage chronic pain
- Make positive choices in life and work

Over the past year we have delivered 15 separate Mindfulness courses to over 170 participants. Our courses vary in length and style to enable as many people to benefit as possible. The courses have continued to remain popular with good levels of attendance over this reporting period.

Courses this year have included:

- Sustaining Ourselves (a residential course aimed at those working in the voluntary and community sector)
- Introduction to Mindfulness in Daily Life
- 8-week Mindfulness for Health and Well Being Courses
- Mindfulness for Teachers in Schools and Education
- Mindfulness Practice drop in Sessions
- Mindfulness in Schools Project



Above: Sharpham Outdoors Staff cooking up delicious stew in the walled gardens for visitors to the Autumn Festival



Above: Designing an eco-camp during the Quince Future Leaders course.

Below(L to R): The Sharpham Trustees - Martin Wright, Carrie Morgan, Alice Astor, Claire Ash Wheeler, William Lana, Romy Fraser





Plymouth Mind and European Links

In a new partnership with Plymouth Mind, we delivered a pilot project involving a five-day Mindfulness residential course for professionals from across Europe, who work within mental health related settings. The course combined an introduction to mindfulness practice, as well as emphasising the positive benefits to mental health through connecting with nature, with activities delivered by the Sharpham Outdoors Project. The course was very successful and we are looking to develop this model further with the aim of positioning Sharpham as an international centre for Mindfulness teaching and practice.

Committed Dharma Practitioners Programme

The second year of a two-year programme took place exploring the relevance of ancient Buddhist teachings in contemporary Western life. It is run in collaboration with another local charity, Gaia House, and was fully booked with 32 students participating.

Enquiry

Enquiry is a theme that is woven throughout the programme in relevant ways.

A new initiative this year included piloting two residential weekends for young people in partnership with Quince - a group of educationalist and change agents working to support the next generation of young leaders. The aim was for young people and adults to work together using a process of co-enquiry to design, prototype and advocate sustainable solutions that can be replicated at their schools and in their own communities.

Seasonal Events

The seasonal events are intended to reach out to as broad an audience as possible. They aim to give a flavour of the diverse range of projects that take place across the wider estate. Approximately 2,000 visitors benefitted over this reporting period.

Open Estate Weekend

Over 700 people visited the estate each day during the Open Weekend to discover more about the work of the Trust. Taster sessions of many activities were on offer along with talks, walks, tours and opportunities to visit and learn about the house and its history as well as the estate's tenancies.

Great emphasis was placed on providing people with low-carbon ways to visit the Sharpham estate with visitors arriving by bio-fuelled rickshaws, a community bus and, at the restored North Quay, by water-taxi or canoe.

Apple Pressing Day and Autumn Festival

Sharpham Apple Pressing and Autumn Festival Day in October continues to grow from strength to strength. This year the Apple Day attracted over 500 people and included a host of crafts and skills such as willow weaving, pottery, campfire cooking, seed gathering, tree planting, nature art, rustic rakes and hands on composting. Participants also had the chance to discover the fascinating skill of wild beekeeping as well as take part in an 'apple fun run' to raise money for the Totnes Caring charity.

Gardens and Grounds

Our long time gardener, Ben Pike, left last year to move to Canada. We would like to thank Ben for the enormous amount of work he put into the gardens, particularly the lovely sunny border next to the main house, the rose garden and the woodland garden. Our new Head Gardener, Jane Pickard, joined us in September and has been focussing much of her energy on the walled garden and greenhouse. Her background is in permaculture and sustainable food production and she has great plans for the walled garden, orchards and possibly a new forest garden.

There is good news from the woodland garden – although there have been several surveys conducted, no incidences of Sudden Oak Death have been found, so we have re-opened the whole garden. Most of the remaining Rhododendron Ponticum and Cherry Laurel have been removed, which has opened up the woodland, allowed more light in and revealed the views. We are currently developing replanting plans for the open spaces.

The area below the lawns, where the massive rhododendrons used to be, has been sown as a wildflower meadow and the area of wildflowers has been extended upwards this spring.



Above: Clearing the Rhododendron has opened up the views below the House's terrace and the area has now been sown as a wildflower meadow.



Above: Garden volunteer, Jamie Perree, from the Exeter Deaf Academy, who among others has made a huge contribution towards the gardens this year.



We have a new horticultural apprentice, Jesse Hammond, who will be with us until December 2012 and is working towards his Level 2 certificate in horticulture at Bicton College. Jesse has been a wonderful help and is particularly keen on keeping the lawns looking beautiful and working in the woodland garden. Also making a huge contribution to the gardens this year have been Jamie Perree, from the Exeter Deaf Academy, and his communicator, Sue Mitchell, and our regular volunteers Sue and Ian Patterson and Roy Wilkinson. Many thanks to you all.

Jane is working on increasing the amount of food produced in the walled kitchen garden and incorporating some permaculture elements to the design and gardening style. We will be rebuilding some of the old cold frames and developing a plan to replace the greenhouse. It is now 25 years old and showing its age, so in the next few years it will need to be completely rebuilt. All sales of excess fruit and vegetables and plants will be put towards the new greenhouse.

Partnerships

The Trust is committed to working collaboratively with likeminded organisations, which at present include: Ambios Ltd, The Robert Owen Community (ROC), British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV), Connexions, Gaia House, Cancer Lifeline, Schumacher College, Torbay Youth Service (TYS), Transition Town Totnes, Exeter School for the Deaf, Bicton College and Trees for Health.

Sharpham Outdoors

The reporting year has seen the relationship between Sharpham Trust and Ambios flourish, take on new responsibilities and build new partnerships, specifically at Lower Sharpham Barton with the Robert Owen Community.

Mental Health: Spring to Life

The Ecominds youth mental health project *Spring to Life* enters its second year seeing over 80 young people engaging for up to ten days and ten volunteer mentors pass through the programme, each achieving an NVQ in environmental conservation. Many of the participants remain involved with activities at Sharpham, either through accredited courses or volunteering, continuing their recovery and assisting with their progress along the road to work and improved wellbeing.

The project has had the support of a large number of volunteer mentors, without which the project would not be possible. The current cohort have made a huge impact on the lives of some of the participants, by passing on their wisdom and experiences of mental health to the younger participants.

Jackie Christmas has moved into a greater support role with another young training programme *Boots and Roots* and Stuart Murdoch remains involved with the project as both *Spring to Life* mentor and as a woodland apprentice helping with the estate's woodland management activity (Larch removal). As a thanks for his efforts the Sharpham Outdoors

team entered him for a national craft award run by the Heritage Craft Association and to our delight his work was recognised. The *Spring to Life* team joined him for the award ceremony at the Victoria and Albert Museum in late March.



Above left: Stuart Murdoch, Ecominds Volunteer Mentor receiving his runner up certificate for the national Marsh Award.

Spring to Life

Seb came to Spring to Life with severe anxiety, lacking the confidence to interact with the group and shying away from conversations. Seb used the initial experience to simply be in the environment, acknowledging the mindful approach instilled throughout the sessions in a way that was unique to him. This mindful approach, referred to as 'Take a Moment', uses the sense of place offered by Sharpham and draws on the mindfulness concept that runs through all programmes; for Seb it translated in being in the present moment while learning about nature conservation and carrying out practical habitat improvements. This allowed him to be at ease with himself and his surroundings and in time he started to relax. Seb used the ten-week placement to face his anxiety and explore his interests in the outdoors flexibly, contributing to the activities that he was most interested in. These turned out to be in woodlands, exploring the properties of trees, coppicing wood and making crafts from the produce. Seb carried on his involvement with Sharpham via the volunteering days, and is currently embarking on a woodland management apprenticeship. He has achieved his NPTC cross cutting qualification and is working in woodlands on the estate gaining experience. He has become more independent and returns to Spring to Life to support some of the activities we run in woodlands and with green wood.



Volunteering, Training and Youth Work

The *Spring to Life* activity allows us to work with some very troubled individuals dealing with personal trauma. They engage for up to ten weeks and often start on the road to recovery, with Sharpham playing a major part. We endeavour to keep them involved with Sharpham and continue to support them in their lives through offering training and/or volunteering opportunities. Over the reporting period we ran two qualification centred programmes for 20 ex-*Spring to Life* participants offering them the opportunity to work towards units of the environmental conservation NVQ and secured funding to continue this delivery model through 2012.



Above: The young Sharpham Explorers group on an outdoor learning event, part of the public programme.

Spring to Life

Bradley came from Chances, an offshoot of Devon Youth Service providing full time education for secondary age pupils who exhibit a range of behaviours that has led to them facing the prospect of permanent exclusion from mainstream schools. In Bradley's case he came with a host of unresolved issues relating to his home and personal life, and had severe self confidence issues resulting from his physical disability, multiple sclerosis. He had previously attempted suicide. The supportive environment offered through the team of volunteers allowed him personal support tailored to his needs, and an ear from someone who had been in a similar situation to his. The engagement with environmental activities with peers built his self confidence and he is now continuing to engage with Sharpham through a national diploma accredited scheme filling the void left by his exclusion from mainstream school. In the words of Chances and relating to young people like Bradley; 'the experiences that they gain by attending Spring to Life are excellent. They develop enormously by being in a positive outdoor environment. They learn new skills via the opportunity of trying hands on experiences ... The calm and stress free environment can be extremely therapeutic for these youngsters. When they come back to Chances they all talk very positively about the opportunities that they have been given and how well they get on with the staff and volunteer group'.

Many of the ex-participants remain involved with us through flexible weekly volunteer days where we tackle many different estate jobs including work in the quarry and campsite, lining the pond, and fencing work. This volunteer effort is proving a very successful means of bridging the relationship between the participants of The Robert Owen Community and the Sharpham Outdoors Project team.

Volunteers staying in the yurts over the summer assisted with estate work, supported satellite projects in local communities, helped with open days, assisted with the Sharpham Outdoors educational programme and gave the project structure and life.

Core Sharpham Outdoors offer

The reporting period 2011-12 saw over 300 adult learners engage with the heritage and natural history adult learning programme and over 35 groups with over 400 individuals accessing the estate to learn about either food, farming, conservation or curriculum studies. We ran the ever popular summer and spring Explorers programmes for children, three cohorts of seven week Saturday forest school activities and a week long Quest event along with five other outdoor education providers in the local area.

Other activities

During 2012 Ambios/Sharpham Trust collaborated with the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty organisation to review and update the Dart Estuary Environmental Management Plan. This process, headed by Bill Ryley ensured Sharpham and Ambios are recognised as a driving force behind the stewardship and environmental management of the estuary.

August saw the arrival of the first cohort of four trainees from Hungary on 15-week placements. Part of the Nature Train programme in collaboration with the Hungarian Barn Owl Foundation, the trainees come to learn about the complex and varied UK approach to conservation management. One ex-participant moved straight back to a role with a Hungarian National Park, citing his experience at Sharpham as a key to his application success. The programme will run through 2012 with two cohorts engaged through the reporting period.

Lower Sharpham Barton Farm

The key development of Sharpham Outdoors is its relocation and evolution at Lower Sharpham Barton Farm, forming a collaboration between Ambios, Sharpham Trust and The Robert Owen Community. The Sharpham Outdoors Project aims to build a centre at the farm and manage the land in a way that is sensitive to the environment while offering exciting and inspiring engagement and educational activities for the many different participants of the project. In the longer term, the intention is to build a residential centre where national and international trainees and volunteers can come to learn about conservation and rural skills. Different backgrounds and abilities will be able to share ideas and space and stigmas can be broken down in a safe environment.



The Barn Retreat

The Barn Retreat's key purpose is to teach and support the development of mindfulness practice in everyday life, supported by Buddhist meditation methods. It is also a place where people re-connect with themselves and nature in a tranquil, supportive environment.

Substantial investment by the Sharpham Trust and generous individual donations from many retreatants made it possible to extensively upgrade facilities this year. We have refurbished four bedrooms and created two new bathrooms, a larger dining and seating area and a new library. A new log biomass furnace, solar thermal panels and insulation for energy and efficiency have reduced our fuel use by 60%.

Ten retreatants stay at the Barn each week, supported by three residential volunteer coordinators and a non-residential part-time manager. We continue to keep the basic fees low to enable as many people as possible to benefit from our retreats. We also offer a 25% reduction supported rate for those undergoing financial difficulties. This can be reduced by a further 50% through our bursary fund.

This year 428 people stayed at the Barn, some for extended periods. Eighty-three people paid the supported rate. A further twelve people used the bursary fund. Ten people stayed for two weeks as volunteer work retreatants.

Below: A Barn retreatant working in the Barn gardens



A retreatant's view

In 1996, I was on the verge of a major life change. Stressed and anxious, I knew I needed to re-connect with meditation in an environment where I could feel safe and be with other people who were looking for some peace.

I was lucky: I found the Barn. My stay gave me the inner resources to go on my way with renewed heart and some much-needed peace of mind. I returned in 2011 after some new life challenges had presented themselves. Once again, the Barn worked its magic. I have since stayed several times.

Whether gardening in the fresh air, helping to cook the communal lunch, cleaning the house or feeding the chickens, you are asked to try to remember to be mindful as much as possible and try to stay "in the moment" rather than dwelling on the past or imagining what the future will bring.

It doesn't matter whether you are new to Buddhist meditation or have been practising for a while, you can always improve, and there is help on hand from visiting teachers. The manager and the co-ordinators are also helpful and knowledgeable. In your free time you can have a shiatsu treatment, join a yoga session or spend time in the library which is well stocked with Buddhist and other spiritual literature, and CDs of talks by leading teachers. The local countryside is lovely and there are lots of good paths for walking or cycling.

The food is great and all organic – Barn grown vegetables and salad, Barn made bread and freshly laid eggs from chickens you can go and have a chat with. I like the fact that you have your own room and there's space to be alone but you can also spend time with other retreatants during working periods and in your free time if you want good company with like minded people.

Every retreat is different but in my experience, everyone comes with a will to help themselves and each other to get the best out of the experience. It's a caring and supportive environment in a beautiful landscape- a very special place that I will never forget.



Sharpham Tenancies

Tenancies

The charity has a good working relationship with its farming tenants. Four private dwellings are also tenanted on the estate.

The Robert Owen Community

(approx 80 acres)

Lower Sharpham Barton Farm is leased to the Robert Owen Community (ROC), a charity providing working opportunities for adults with learning disabilities. It is also run on biodynamic principles.

ROC aims to equip each person with the skills, knowledge and attitudes that will enable them to lead a full, purposeful and satisfying life, and to contribute to the quality of life of others.

People with a learning disability are encouraged to learn skills and confidence through engagement and challenge. ROC offers individualised programmes of learning as the basis for achieving certificated vocational skills and supporting independence.

Upper Sharpham Barton

(approx 100 acres)

Upper Sharpham Barton Farm has been leased to Judy Smith and her family for over 30 years. They farm according to the principles of Rudolf Steiner's biodynamic system. An annual week-long family camp is run on this farm by the tenants.

Below: Robert Owen Community students working in the gardens at Lower Sharpham Barton Farm.

Sharpham Wine and Cheese

(approx 200 acres)

The Sharpham Partnership's vineyard and cheese dairy have been producing wines and unpasteurised cheeses for over 30 years to local and national acclaim. By producing its own milk on the farm from its closed herd of 65 Jersey cows, about 70 tonnes of cheese a year are handmade in the purpose-built cheese dairy.

The 10-acre vineyard lies between 12m and 25m above sea-level on south-facing, well drained slopes – perfect for growing a range of carefully selected cool-climate grape varieties, from which 70,000 bottles of wine are made each year. New World and traditional winemaking techniques are used.

Both the wine and cheese is made from start to finish at Sharpham, giving a flavour that reflects its unique position in the South Hams area of Devon. In the Regional and National competitions, Sharpham Wines have won trophies every year since 1992 and also never failed to win an international award every time the wines have been entered. At the 2010 International Wine Challenge - the world's most prestigious and influential independent wine competition, Sharpham's Estate Selection won the UK's best still wine.



Financials

A full set of accounts is available on request.
The Trustees would like to acknowledge and thank all those who have donated and granted monies during this reporting year including:

Donations and Grants

Donor	Purpose	Date	Amount
Howe Green Trust	Garden Apprentice	May 2011	£10,000
Anonymous	Tagore Poetry Festival	May 2011	£1,000
Anonymous	<i>Sustaining Ourselves</i>	Nov 2011	£10,000
Howe Green Trust	Bird Hide	Nov 2011	£3,000

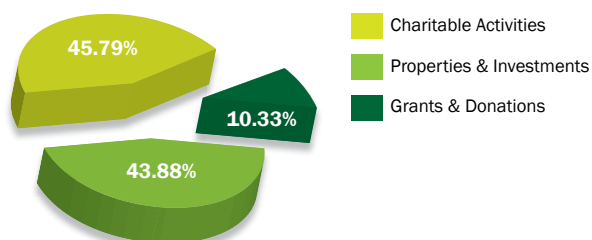
and continuing grants and support for Sharpham Outdoors activities, for example for Ecominds from the Big Lottery Fund through MIND and the *Spring to Life* Project. The Barn Retreat benefited from many donors' generosity through specific gifts into its bursary, refurbishment and furnace funds.

The Trustees would also like to acknowledge and thank all those who have contributed in excess of 13,248 volunteer hours to the charitable organisation during this reporting period.

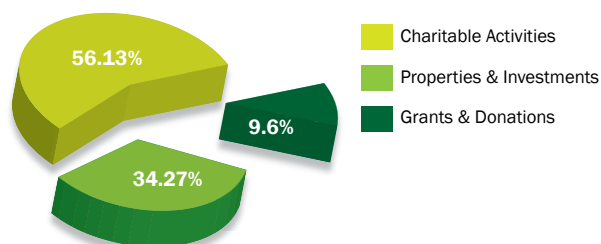
Headline Figures:

EOY period	March 2011	March 2012
Total Income	0.428m	0.585m
Total Expenditure	0.530m	0.681m
Total Funds	5.878m	5.872m
Voluntary Income	0.044m	0.056m
Investment Income	0.177m	0.200m
Charity Activity Income	0.196m	0.328m
Other Incoming resources	0.010m	0.000m
Investment Management Costs	0.022m	0.018m
Cost of Charitable Activities	0.481m	0.646m
Governance	0.026m	0.017m
Governance as % of Total expenditure	4.97%	2.5%

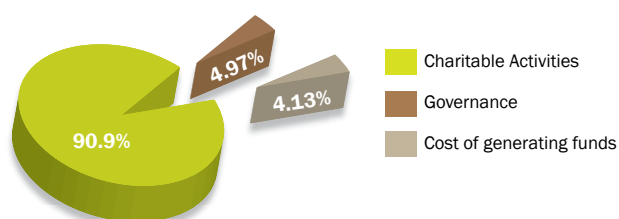
Incoming Resources 2010/11



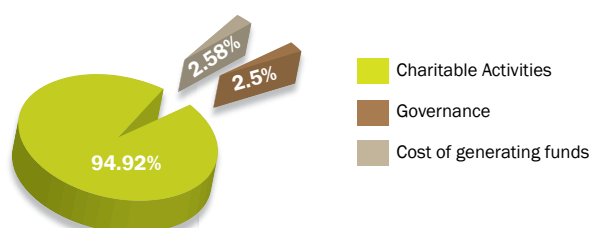
Incoming Resources 2011/12



Expended Resources 2010/11



Expended Resources 2011/12





Trustees

Claire Ash Wheeler
Alice Astor (resigned March 2012)
Julian Carnell
Romy Fraser
Lynette Gribble (resigned Sept 2011)
Stephen Jones (resigned July 2011)
William Lana (Chair)
Carrie Morgan
Martin Wright

Chief Executive Officer

Chris Nicholls

Company Secretary

Chris Nicholls to Nov 2011; Martin Wright from Dec 2011

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