

Major Partners

The Trust has 10 years experience fostering partnerships between the public, private voluntary and community sectors; won 8 awards and completed over 90 successful projects. Our major partners include:

- 1066 Enterprise
- 1066 Housing Association
- Architectural Heritage Fund
- Astec
- BTCV Enterprises
- BTCV
- Campus Training
- Carea
- Charities Aid Foundation - 'Investors in Society'
- Chartered Institute of Marketing
- Community Service Volunteers
- CSV S.E.
- Development Trusts Association
- Think Office Products
- East Sussex Brighton & Hove Health Authority
- East Sussex County Council
- Education Business Partnership
- Employment Service
- English Heritage
- Fishermens Protection Society
- Gaby Hardwick Eaton Sagar
- GEMS (The Hastings & Rother LETS)
- Gibbons & Mannington
- Hastings & Rother Youth Justice
- Hastings & St. Leonards Credit Union
- Hastings & St. Leonards Local Agenda 21
- Hastings Borough Council
- Hastings College of Arts & Technology
- Hastings Regeneration Partnership
- Hastings Voluntary Actor:
Here and Now Magazine
- Home Office
- Isabel Blackman Foundation
- Marshall Tufflex
- National Lottery Charities Board
- New Economics Foundation
- NYA
- Old Hastings Preservation Society
- Pestolozzi Children's Village Trust
- Railtrack South
- Residents' Associations
- Sealife Centre
- South East England Development Agency
- Springboard Marketing
- Step-On Project
- Sussex Enterprise
- Sussex Police
- Sussex University Centre for Continuing Education
- Tomorrows People
- Trade Paints Ltd
- Transport 2000, East Sussex
- Tressell Training
- Workability Pact
- Youth Service
- Youth Clubs Sussex

Having fun and Community building with OASIS - Ore Advice Support Information Service.



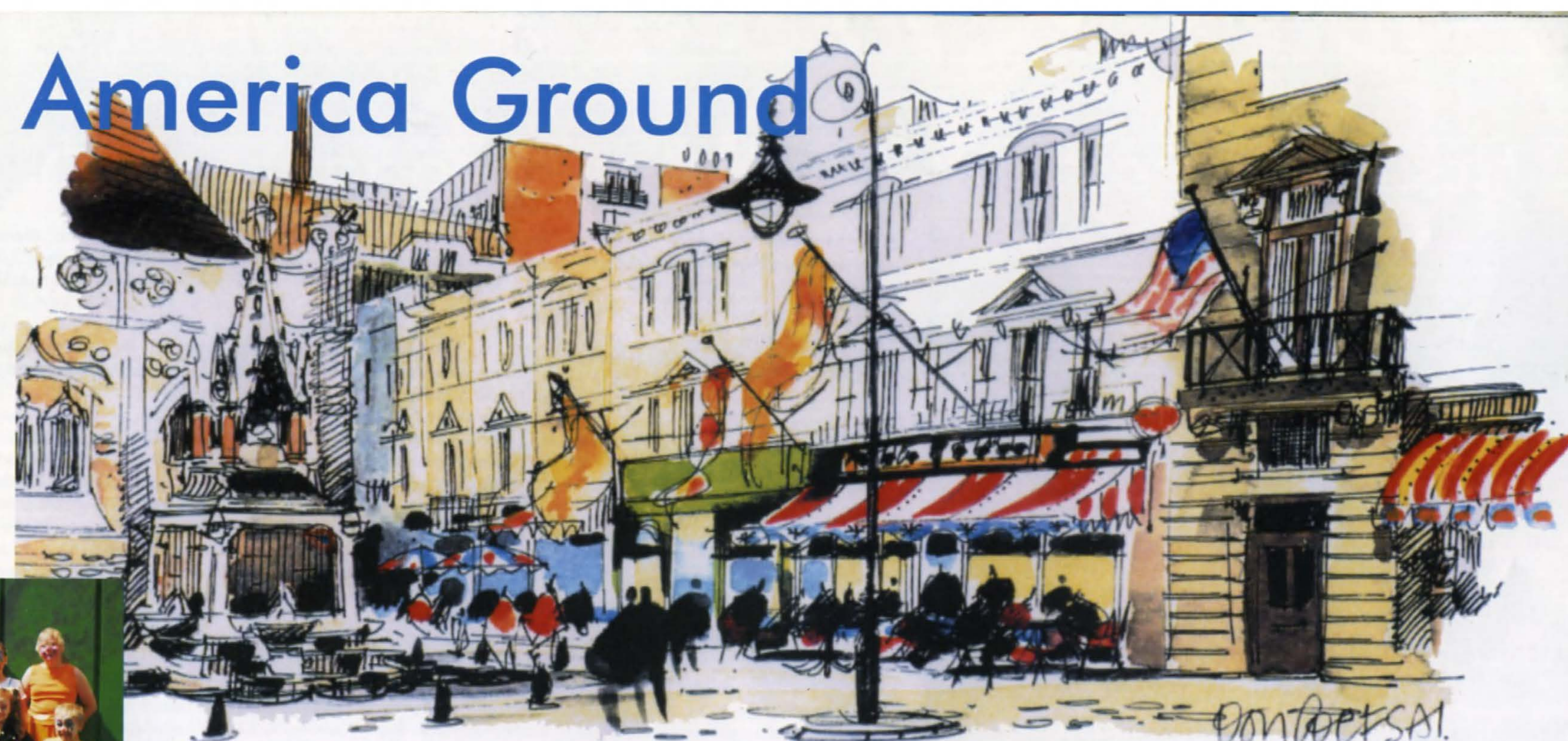
Oasis



Encouraging young people to Make a Difference in their Community.

Make a Difference

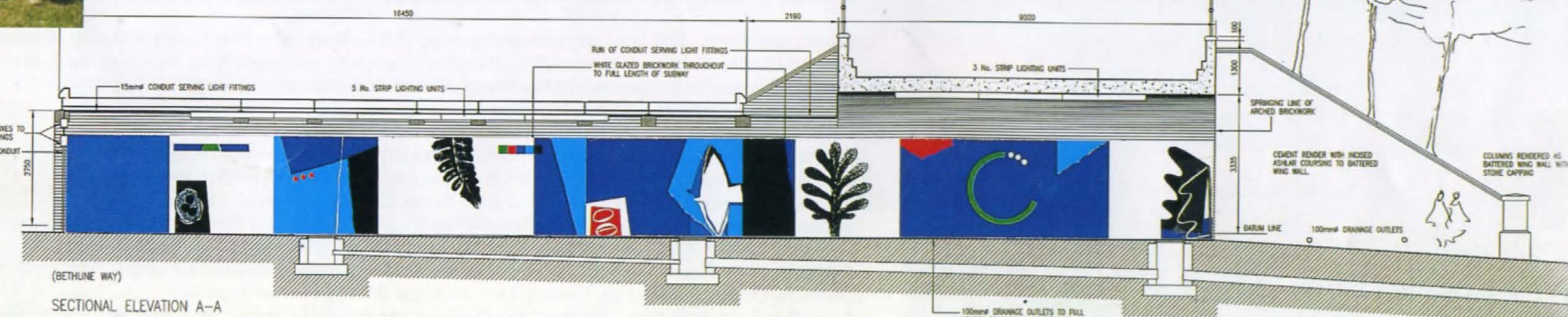
America Ground



Urban Regeneration: Robertson Street, Claremont & Trinity.

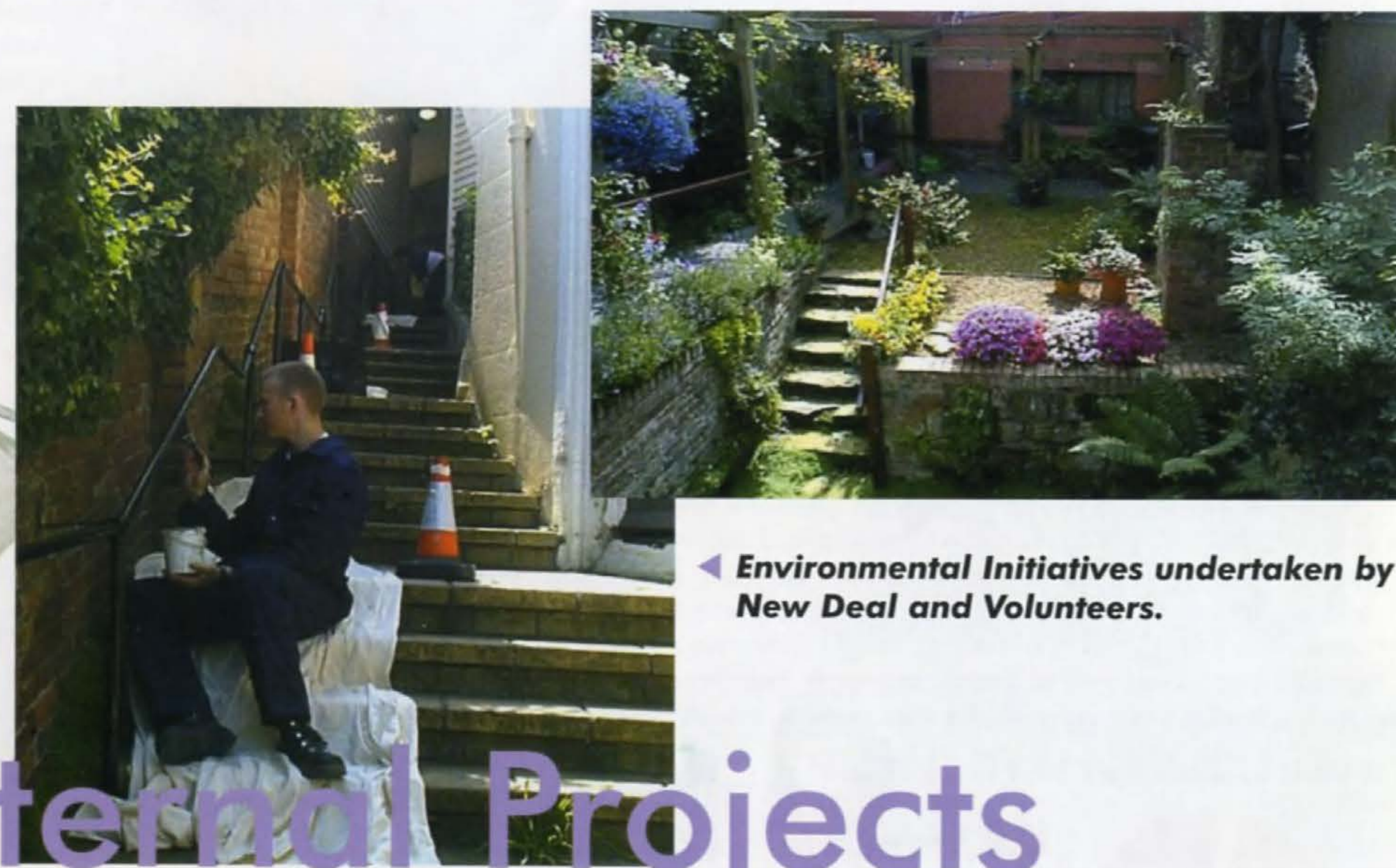
Greenway

Hazel Brook's underpass design for the Greenway cycle and pedestrian route linking green sites around Town Centre.



Beach Concert

Raising money for the Hastings Lifeboat.



Environmental Initiatives undertaken by New Deal and Volunteers.

Volunteers & External Projects



For further information please contact Hastings Trust 35 Robertson Street, The America Ground, Hastings, East Sussex TN34 1HT
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1999/2000 Annual Review

Mission Statement

The Trust is an enterprise with social objectives, actively engaged in the regeneration of Hastings & St Leonards and its environs. Its principles are:

The long term regeneration of the Borough in the widest sense – environmental, economic, social and cultural.

To be financially self sufficient and independent - not just relying on grants.

To create assets and wealth in the community and make a profit - not for private gain but to re-invest in the community.

To be open and accountable in our work and our practice.

To work with, create and sustain partnerships between the community, voluntary, private and public sectors.

To demonstrate that local people can shape the future of their communities in ways that are sustainable, innovative and entrepreneurial. In short the Trust endeavours to ensure that the process of regeneration works.

The Hastings Trust is a founder member of the Development Trusts Association.

Our Strategy

The Trust responds to local needs, so no two projects are alike. Supporting regeneration in communities means adopting a comprehensive approach which involves a wide range of activities.

To promote and support local economic development we:

- Have initiated and facilitated discussions and researched into the development and management of managed workspaces for small and medium sized businesses.
- Have established and staffed a Resource Centre providing hot desking office work space and facilities
- Provide marketing and business advice
- Run job and training schemes
- Provide career and continuing personal development advice
- Encouraged inward / local investment opportunities and systems
- Run crime reduction project

To improve the local environment we:

- Have improved and developed derelict land
- Have regenerated and managed public open space
- Have carried out a number of local improvement schemes
- Have restored and developed buildings - including our own - and set standards for others to follow
- Have promoted good practice in conservation

To improve local services and amenities we:

- Have assisted in the development and management of young persons sport and recreational facilities
- Currently manage our own community resource centre
- Promote local heritage
- Provide local community offices and services
- Assist in the provision of play schemes and child care facilities
- Are a centre for the provision of information on low cost housing
- Support and facilitate community development

Board of Directors

George Adams, Cllr Michael Bigg, Dennis Collins, Fred Courtney Bennett, Cllr Godfrey Daniel, Stephen Hinton, Prof Michael Hunter, Dr Chris Joyce, Tim McDonald, Alan Privett, Paul Smith, John Turner, Caroline Lwin.

Director's Report

The year again saw high levels of activity throughout the Trust with new projects coming on line, the expansion of the Trust's asset base and the revival of the Trust's trading company: Trust Contracts Ltd. The Annual Away day concentrated on the quality assurance programme and setting an action plan to take it forward.



The Trust worked in Japan with Tokyo LA-NPO on strengthening the voluntary sector and working in partnership with central and local government.

The Trust's main work centred on the following areas: Community Development - The Resource Centre continued to provide open door access, with 5,658 visits recorded. Tools for Community Regeneration was chosen for the World Fair in Hanover and a new partnership, Venture 2000 was formed with Aztec Computing to provide bursaries for IT training for voluntary and community organisations. OASIS moved to new premises to meet increased demand in the Ore Valley.

Urban Regeneration - The refurbishment of Linton Road Viaduct to provide a Training Centre got underway. Regeneration works to the America Ground began.

Building Preservation - The Trust purchased 34 Robertson Street to expand its asset base and provide much needed accommodation for projects, thanks to a loan from Charities Aid Foundation's 'Investors in Society'

Young People - New Deal made headway this year with 7 young people gaining jobs and qualifications. Make a Difference, worked with 40 local sixth formers in various areas of volunteering. Office accommodation and support were provided for the new Step On Project.

Environmental Enhancement - 6 projects were undertaken with a team of volunteers, New Deal participants and College trainees, as well as the regular maintenance of existing sites.

Social Economy - The Trust succeeded in getting SRB funding for a Community Economic Development worker; continued its support for GEMS (Local LETS scheme) and undertook a joint research project with New Economics Foundation (funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation) into micro-enterprises in Hastings and Birmingham.

Arts & Culture - A new project with Artworks began, to provide an art facility for severely disabled young people. Exhibition of Laetitia Yhap's work for 'Ocean Currents'. Continuing support for the annual Beach Concert and local arts groups in successful funding applications.

Funding - The Trust's turnover this year was £368,885, a modest rise on last year. We continued to receive core funding from Hastings Borough Council; project funding came from SRB, ESBHHA, Isabel Blackman Foundation, Home Office, NLCB, Investor's in Society. Earned income amounted to £75,000 this year, with the first covenanted income from Trust Contracts Limited £3,508.

Outside Activities - Hastings Regeneration Partnership, America Ground Working Party, Town Centre Management, Stade Partnership, Stade Warden Scheme, Healthier Hastings Board, Sustainable Regeneration Strategy Working Group, Development Trusts Association and many others. SEEDA's voluntary sector advisory committee for the development of the Regional Economic Strategy.

Future Work - The Trust will strengthen its organisational structure to maximise the support it gives to staff, volunteers, trainees and the community it serves. It will Continue working on the quality assurance programme It will also look at ways of delivering the Government's Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy in conjunction with the Borough Council and other partners. Work will begin on the new Community Facility in Central St. Leonards and ADSL will be introduced into the Resource Centre for quicker Internet access.

Chairman's Statement

Hastings Trust continues to play its role in the regeneration of Hastings with our Executive Director, Christine Goldschmidt, chairing the Hastings Regeneration Partnership to which she brings a depth of experience. It was heartening to see yet another well researched and detailed SRB application being approved by Central Government for the Town.

Trust Contracts Ltd., the trading arm of the Trust, opened again last year after laying dormant for seven years. Under the guidance of a separate Board of Directors and Robert Firth's management, it has, to date, proved very worthwhile. There is plenty of scope for us to set up a Training Centre at Linton Road Arches, where young people may learn some practical and theoretical building skills. We are intending that they reach a certified standard by the end of their training that will assist them in their future careers.

The Trust has also had a successful bid to the National Lottery Charities Board to fund two operational staff for three years, which will enable us to continue running the Resource Centre following the cessation of SRB funding.

The temptation is to venture further still into creating and enabling as in our mission statement. We must resist this, however, as there is a great need this year to put a strong emphasis on CONSOLIDATION. This is a priority for the Trust – every aspect of the Trust's work must be reviewed with the aim of making the Trust lean, strong, united and highly competent in serving its stakeholders and the community to the highest standards. Allowing the staff, through confidence and understanding to achieve our aims more efficiently. We have already put plans into action to assist us with this process. From the Board of Directors down through the Organisation, we must endeavour to carry it through with enthusiasm and energy. I am sure the Trust will benefit, but more importantly, ALL the staff who have worked so well for us deserve a better and more efficient working environment that will result from such a review.

Stephen Hinton, Chairman.

Resource Centre

The Resource Centre is a meeting place where people and ideas can come together stimulating self-help and mutual aid. It helps foster effective networks for change by informing and enabling community 'doers', businesses and voluntary groups. It increases mutual understanding and co-operation between sectors, especially between the voluntary and business.

The Centre has access and toilet facilities for the disabled, a seating area and boards to display information, posters, etc or for special displays by local organisations and individuals. An exhibition by a noted local artist Laetitia Yhap at the Centre led to a long term loan of a series of stunning large scale paintings of Hastings scenes that now decorate the Centre's walls. Special thanks to Laetitia Yhap for use of her paintings in the brochure.

Services

New services

Internet: Public demand for internet access led us to extend opening times by one hour and the number of computers to six. 2,226 internet sessions were recorded during the year. We now plan to upgrade our connection from fast ISDN to super fast ADSL.

In-depth counselling and advice for groups and individuals covering, marketing and business start-ups, community and voluntary sector project planning, development and promotion, funding and sponsorship, personal development, and career re-packaging.

A new database, Persons in Need, was bought in response to repeated requests for help in finding funds for individuals not just groups.

Existing services

Funder Finder, the database that helps find organisations funding for community projects, continued to be as popular as ever.

The Hastings Trust Contacts Database of over 2,000 records and the Reception database that monitors how people use the Centre were further developed and added to.

The second floor Meeting Room – with seating for up to 30 people, pull down screen, overhead projector, slide projector, flip chart, video, tea and coffee making facilities – maintained the constant demand of the previous year.

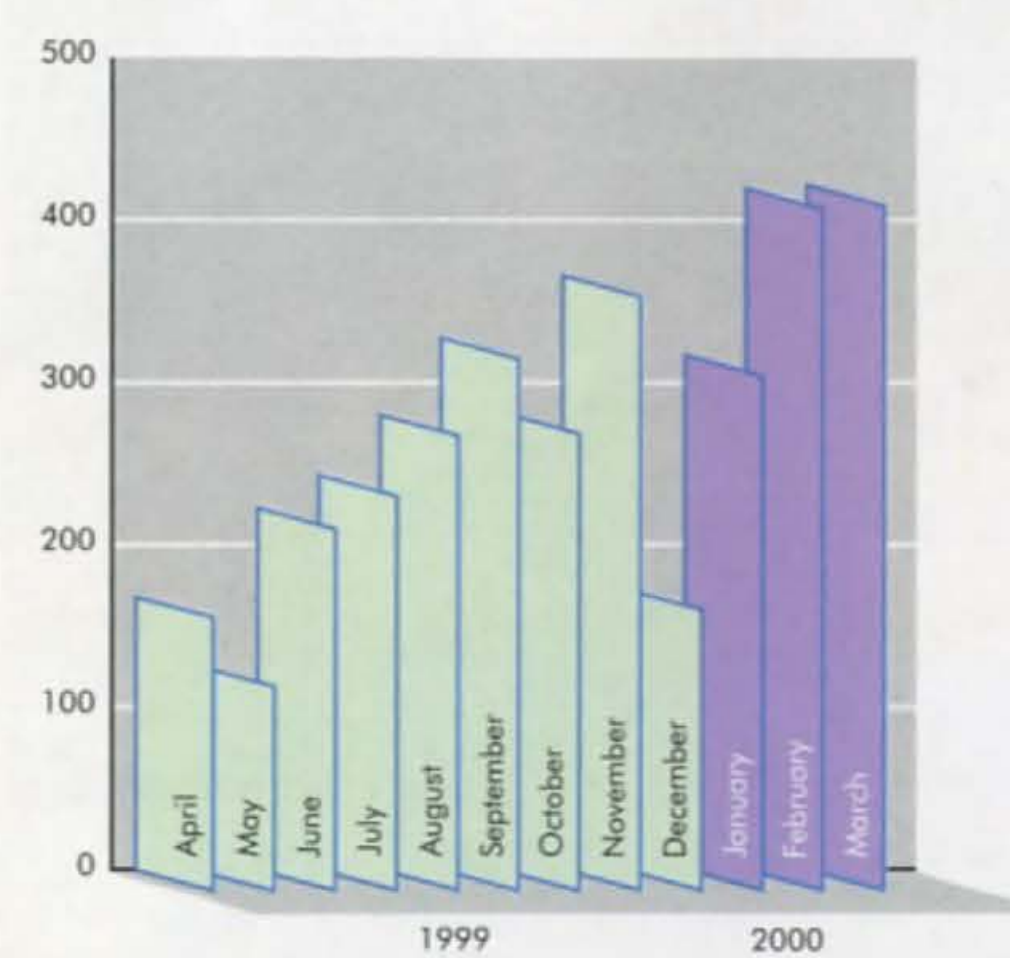
The Centre Library contains Local and County Council documents, local newsletters, journals on a wide range of subjects, funding information for community projects, information on voluntary matters, the natural and built environment, on setting up charities, co-ops etc. There is much material on Agenda 21, Local Agenda 21 and sustainable development complemented by a special Agenda 21 library and database. It has proved a highly valuable resource for researchers, including those working with or in association with the Trust. Plans are now afoot to move the bulk of library to a quieter location away from the busy Resource Centre, possibly into the same building as the Tools for Community Regeneration project.

GEMS

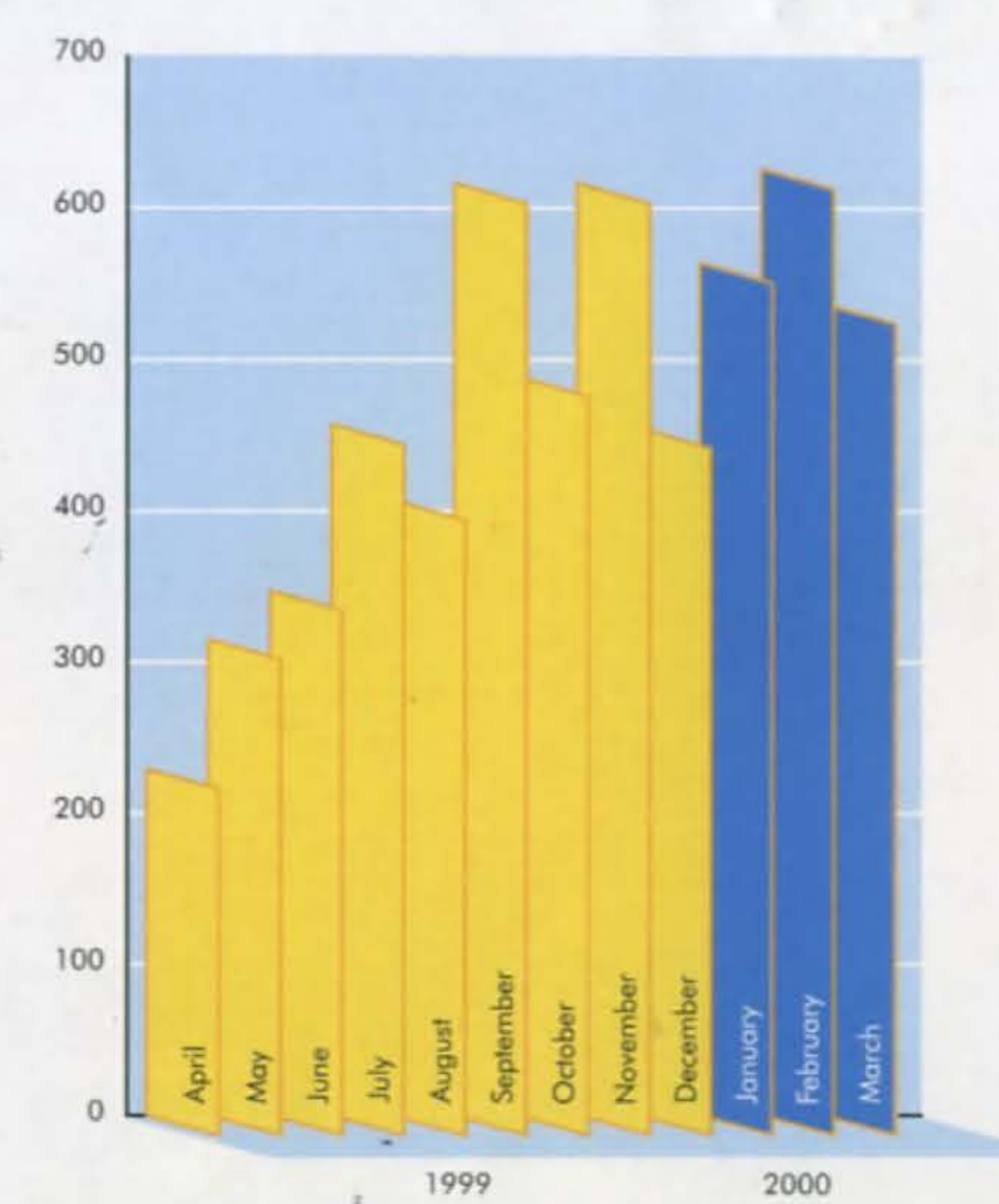
GEMS is the Local Exchange Trading System (LETS) for Hastings & Rother which allows people to exchange services and goods without money. The Trust became a member offering some of its services for GEMS – earning over 500 GEMS by the end of the period. The public can find out more about GEMS, join and leave their GEMS credits at the Centre.

Statistics

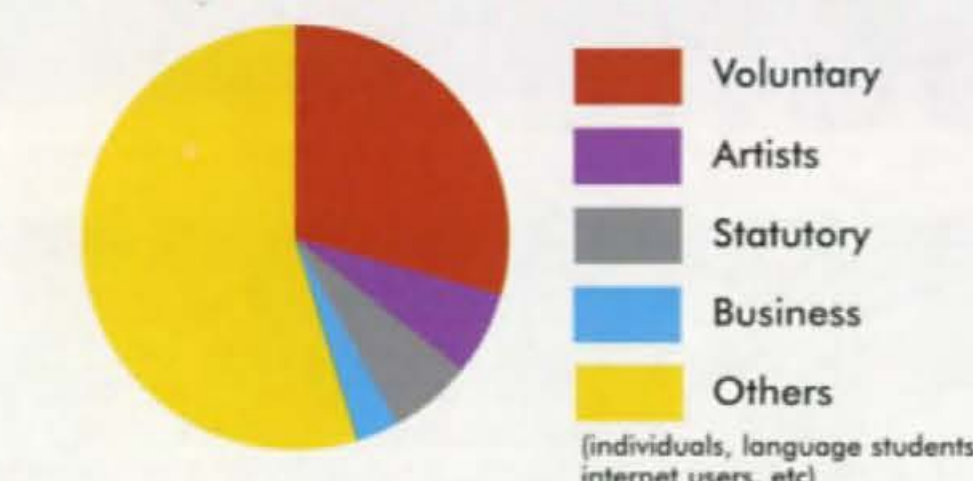
Volunteer hours April 1999 to March 2000 by month



Visits April 1999 to March 2000 by month



Visits by sector April 1999 to March 2000



Target for SRB outputs April 1997 to April 2000	Actual outputs November 1997 to April 2000
Jobs created	2 13
Training weeks	460 589 (approx)
Young people benefiting	48 189
Businesses advised	44 42
Voluntary organisations supported	36 71
Individuals in voluntary work	60 42 Centre volunteers plus hundreds more in support voluntary organisations
Community Enterprise start-ups	2 8

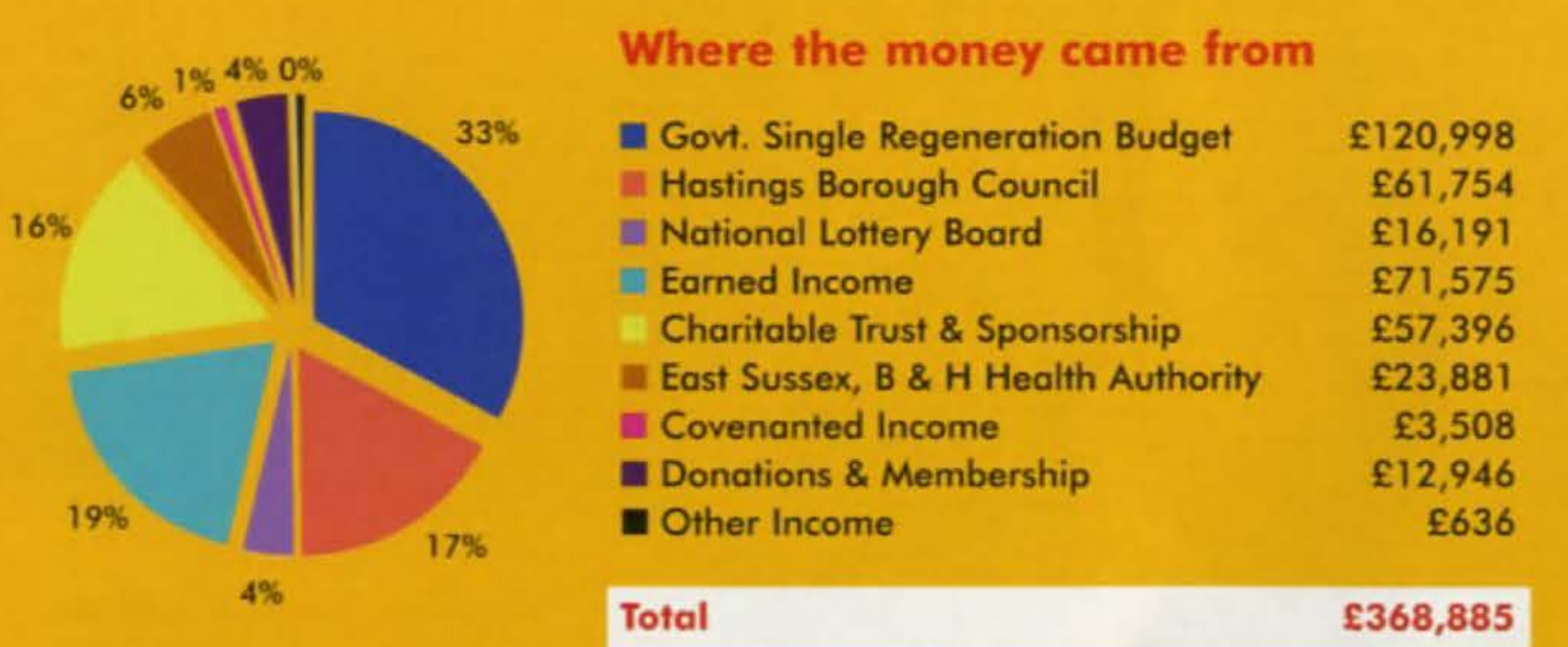
Financial Report

The Board has overseen continuing growth in the Trust's activities and asset building. 34 Robertson Street was purchased to provide further offices and income for the Trust. New initiatives included the Environmental Enhancement Team and Community Support projects. The Board also oversaw the re-instatement of Trust Contracts Ltd., its trading arm, to provide outside services and covenanted income.

The Board held its annual Strategic Review and agreed to undertake a quality assurance programme. It also operated the new SORP with regard to depreciation of buildings.

The net asset base still equates to 10 months of annual core spend, but is largely restricted until 31.3.2001.

Paul R Smith, Treasurer.



Where the money went



Balance sheet

Fixed assets	£167,498
Net current liabilities	£-8,699
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	£-84,375
Net assets	£74,424
Restricted Fund	£65,645
Unrestricted Fund	£8,779
Capital & Reserves	£74,424

People at the Trust



Volunteers

The Trust and its Resource Centre are managed and operated through a partnership of employed and volunteer staff. Without this loyal and highly motivated team it would have been impossible to undertake such an ambitious enterprise - over 3,348 volunteer hours alone were recorded between April 1999 and March 2000 for the Resource Centre, with additional hours for projects. The 'in-kind' value of such support amounted to over £149,000 during the year.