

hastings trust

01/02 annual review





our vision

The Hastings Trust, a registered charity, has these aims:

- To help those who live, work or visit here to care for the environment
- To help the local economy to flourish in ways which won't spoil the place for those who come after us
- To spread the word to all concerned about how to regenerate the town and, at the same time, conserve all that's good in it

our strategy

To create active partnerships between the public, private, voluntary and community sectors and to enable them to work together for the economic, environmental and social regeneration of Hastings.

To promote and support local economic development we:

- Obtained funds for development of social enterprises and support systems
- Developed Social Enterprise Strategy
- Provide marketing and business advice
- Run job and training schemes
- Provide career and continuing personal development advice

To improve the local environment we:

- Improved and developed derelict land
- Regenerated and managed public open space
- Carried out a number of local improvement schemes
- Restored and developed buildings - including our own - and set standards for others to follow
- Promoted good practice in conservation

To improve local services and amenities we:

- Provide local community facilities and services
- Support and enable community development
- Promote local arts and heritage initiatives



director's report

A switchback year for the Trust with great highs and frustrating lows.

The highs: Achieving Investor in People; accreditation by Guidance Advice Bureau; purchase of Priory Neighbourhood Centre in partnership with Sure Start for the local community in the Ore Valley; new ICT equipment for disabled users; launch of the Neighbourhood Renewal Unit's Community Chest; adoption of the new business plan for 2002-7.

The lows: Waiting for Objective2 and Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) funds to be approved; clawback issues on community assets; funding paid quarterly in arrears; having an overdraft to support Central Government and European funded programmes.

The bureaucracy of government funding frustrates everyone but funding paid in arrears has an adverse effect on the ability of the voluntary sector to take part in regeneration programmes. Clawback in perpetuity means asset-based regeneration is under threat if communities cannot own their buildings freehold within a reasonable period of time.

Looking ahead to 2002-3 the Trust has an exciting programme of work: Launch of the new Community Regeneration Unit and intensive work in Central St. Leonards.

Launch of the Re-investment Trust in partnership with The Charity Bank to provide low-cost loans to social enterprises.

Launch of Priory Neighbourhood Centre.

Launch of Phoenix Incubator Start Up Units & Social Enterprise Hub.

Refurbishment of 34 Robertson Street.





chairman's report

I am extremely grateful to the commitment of the Board, Staff and Volunteers (People) in moving forward so positively on all areas of our Quality Assurance evaluation. In particular, the Board of Directors were assured of the quality of our financial management practices by the scrutiny of an external accountant: the result was a new Trust Financial Regulations document.

We aim to be open in all aspects of our operation. To ensure objectivity we will arrange for outside professionals to evaluate their subject areas as operated within the Trust. This will also maximise the efficiency of our procedures by drawing on a larger skills base. More importantly for us all, it will give us GOOD STREET CRED.

How many people in some way or other have assisted Hastings Trust in achieving its aims? How many in some way or other have benefited? Knowing that its most valuable resource is people, the Trust is very pleased to have achieved the recognition of Investors in People accreditation this year. The Trust's slogan reads 'working for the community, working with the community'. So please, come and assist us so that more people may benefit.



Stephen Hinton, Chairman.

board of directors

Cllr Pam Brown
Dennis Collins
Tony Haworth
Stephen Hinton

Dr Chris Joyce
Sue Musgrave
Canon Keith Pound
Alan Privett

Melanie Rycroft
Paul Smith
Cllr Joy Waite

the resource centre

The Hastings Trust successfully bid for UK Online Centre status. DfES awarded the Trust £20,000 TargIT funding to purchase ICT equipment and software to allow people with disabilities to gain easier or first time access to the internet and other ICT activities.

The fast ADSL internet access continued to attract large numbers.

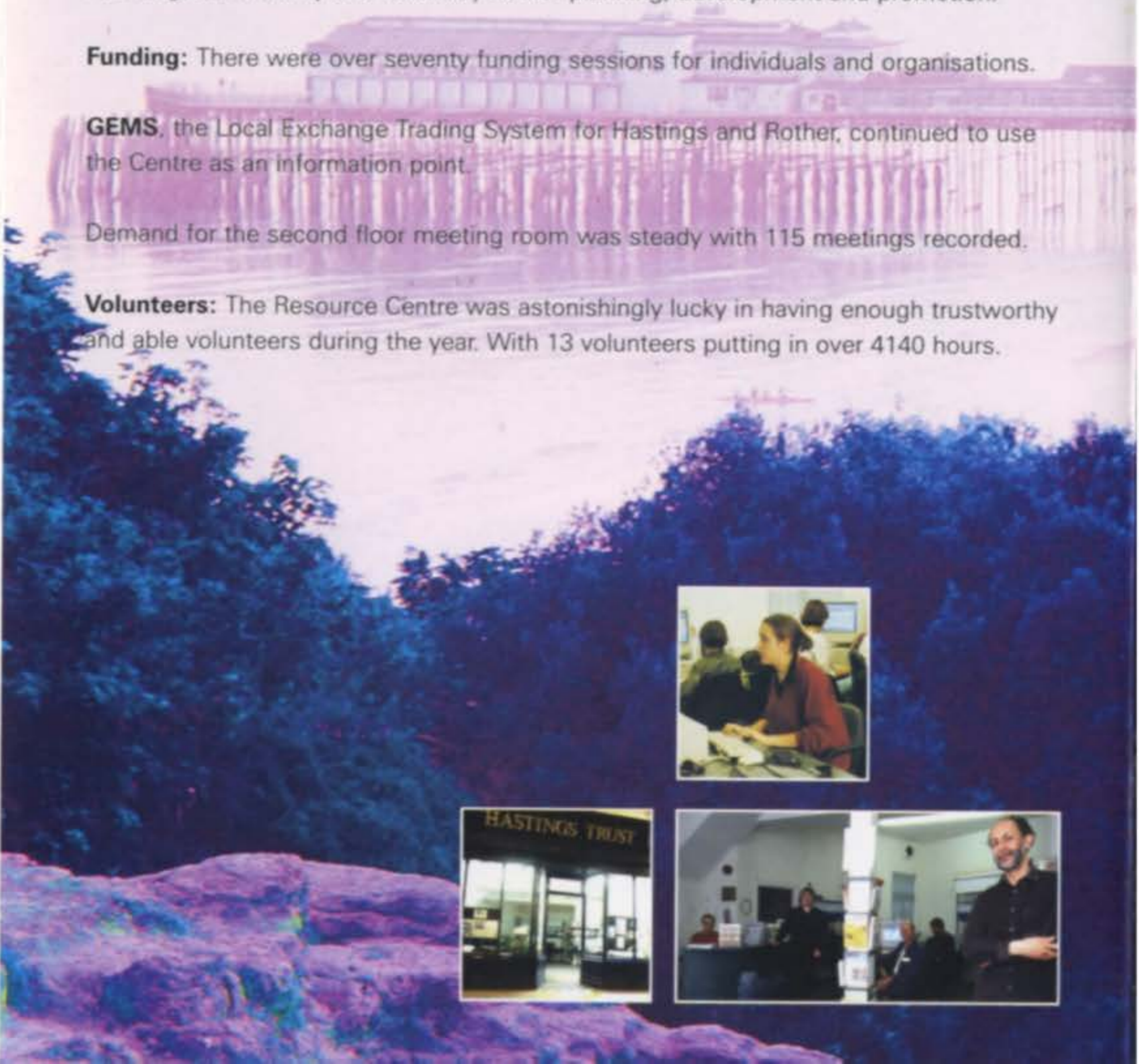
Other Services: Advice and guidance on Marketing and Business Start-Ups; Career Planning; Community and Voluntary Sector planning, development and promotion.

Funding: There were over seventy funding sessions for individuals and organisations.

GEMS, the Local Exchange Trading System for Hastings and Rother, continued to use the Centre as an information point.

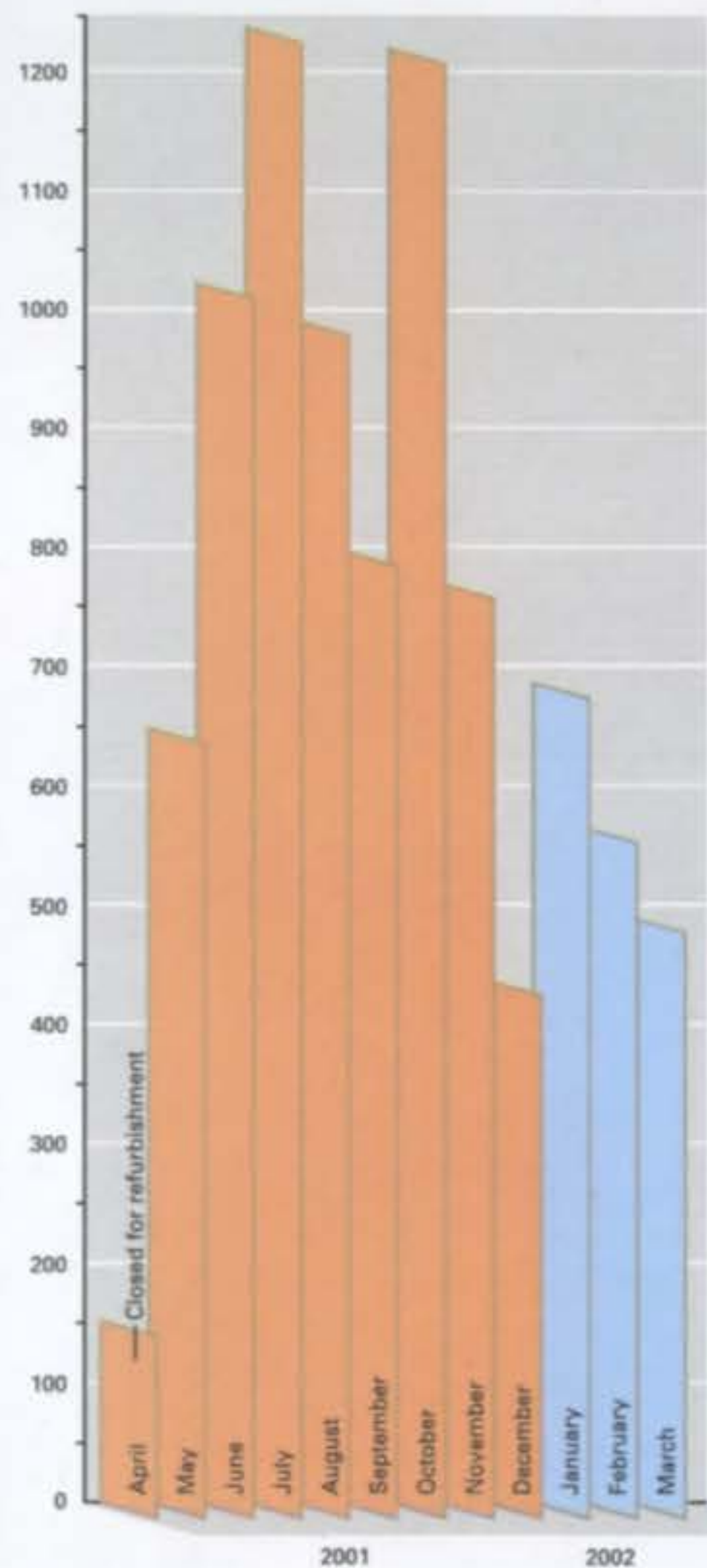
Demand for the second floor meeting room was steady with 115 meetings recorded.

Volunteers: The Resource Centre was astonishingly lucky in having enough trustworthy and able volunteers during the year. With 13 volunteers putting in over 4140 hours.

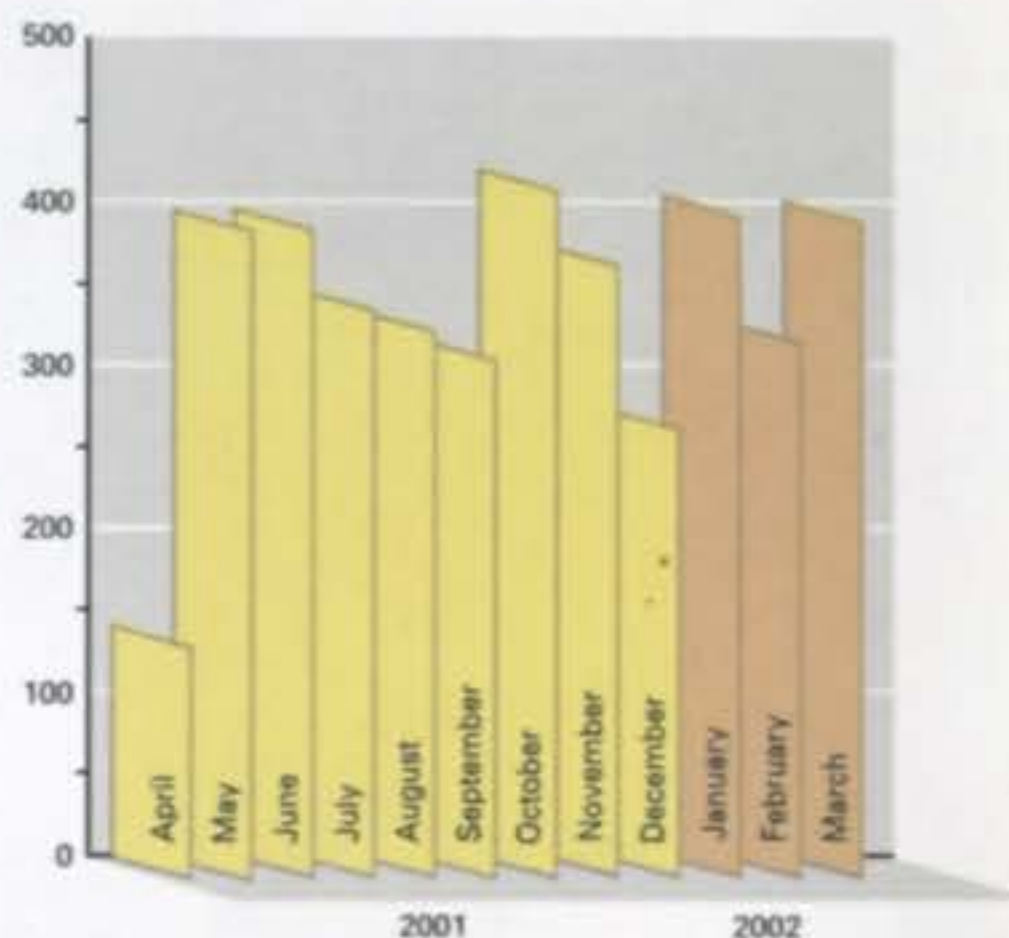


resource centre statistics

Visits April 2001 to March 2002 by month



Volunteer hours April 2001 to March 2002 by month



Visits by sector April 2001 to March 2002



Business advice sessions	42
Careers advice sessions	43
Marketing advice sessions	49
Individuals in voluntary work	13
Resource centre meetings	115

financial report

The Summarised Accounts are a summary of the information which appears in the full accounts which have been audited and given an unqualified opinion. The full accounts were approved by the Policy & Finance Committee on 9th August, 2002 and copies submitted to the Charity Commission and the Registrar of Companies. However, these Summarised Accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of the Charity. Copies of the full accounts can be obtained from the Hastings Trust, 35 Robertson Street, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 1HT.

Auditors Statement to the Trustees of the Hastings Trust:

We have examined the summarised financial statements set out here:

Respective responsibility of trustees and auditors:

You are responsible, as trustees for the preparation of the summary financial statements. We have agreed to report to you on our opinion on the summarised statements' consistency with full financial statements, on which we reported to you on 9th August 2002.

Basis of opinion: We have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to ascertain whether the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements from which they have been prepared.

Opinion: In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2001.

Gibbons & Mannington, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
19 August 2002

Hastings Trust Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st March 2002

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2002 Total £
Incoming Resources			
Grants & sponsorship	404,329	58,940	463,269
Rent receivable	25,318	0	25,318
Donations	68,504	279	68,783
Membership fees	0	672	672
Other income	10,106	54,706	64,812
Interest received	0	53	53
Total income	508,257	114,650	622,907
Resources expended			
Fundraising & publicity	11,120	0	11,120
Net incoming resources available for charitable application	497,137	114,650	611,787
Other expenditure			
Direct charitable expenditure	190,625	0	190,625
Support costs	55,659	89,831	145,490
Management & administration	44,499	6,891	51,390
	290,783	96,722	387,505
Net incoming resources	206,354	17,928	224,282
Net movement in funds for the year			
Total funds brought forward	141,635	43,702	185,337
Total funds carried forward	347,989	61,630	409,619

major partners

The Trust has 12 years experience fostering partnerships between the public, private, voluntary and community sectors; won 8 awards and completed over 120 successful projects. Our major partners include:

1066 enterprise	Hastings Sustainability Network
1066 Housing Association	Hastings Voluntary Action
Association of Preservation Trusts	Here and Now Magazine
Astec	Isabel Blackman Foundation
BTCV	KC Computers
BTCV Enterprises	Marshall Tufflex
Chartered Institute of Marketing	New Economic Foundation
Community Service Volunteers	Old Hastings Preservation Society
Consignia – Stepping Stones	Ore Valley Forum
Development Trusts Association	Phoenix Fund
DfES	Residents Associations
East Sussex County Council	Small Business Service
Education Business Partnership	South East England Development Agency
Employment Service	Southwater Renewal Area
Fishermen's Co-operative	Step-On Project
Fishermen's Protection Society	Sure Start, Ore Valley
Gaby Hardwicke Eaton Sagar	Sussex Careers
GEMS	Sussex Enterprise
Gibbons & Mannington	Sussex Police
Government Office of the South East	Sussex University CCE
Hastings & Leonards Local Agenda 21	The Charity Bank
Hastings & Rother Primary Care Trust	Think Office Products
Hastings & Rother Youth Justice	Trade Paints Ltd
Hastings & Rother Youth Service	Transport 2000 East Sussex
Hastings & St. Leonards Credit Union	Underwater World
Hastings Borough Council	Workability Pact
Hastings Regeneration Community Group	Youth Clubs Sussex
Hastings Regeneration Partnership	

For further information please contact

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Email: post@htgate.demon.co.uk



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

silchester mews

Trust Contracts Limited (TCL) entirely renovated, refurbished and redesigned a former factory to create the new Community Resource Centre in Silchester Mews, Silchester Road, St Leonards. TCL is the Trust's trading subsidiary which covenants its profits to the Trust.

The Centre has two large meeting rooms and a separate crèche available for rent to community groups. It offered courses on First Aid, Basic Food Hygiene, Creative Writing, IT, Arabic lessons (for children and adults) and English as a second language.

The Tuesday Club (over 60's) has blossomed with computer tasters, craft, cooking, quizzes and talks.

Other service providers have bases here too.



oasis

Improvements to the Ore Valley have multiplied this year, with the successful bid to the lottery for a new Community Centre at Broomgrove, the purchase of the Priory Neighbourhood Centre and the refurbishment of the 147 community flat. Residents all over the valley will now have access to wider variety of activities.

The Over 50's group saw rising numbers. Children's groups have also been a focus with the Broomgrove After school Club being re-established and the Playscheme being full to capacity.

Other new groups included the Credit Union, Smoking Cessation, Health & Hygiene and First Aid.

The Ore Valley website www.oasis.htgate.demon.co.uk has been 'live' since the beginning of January.



volunteers & external projects



Our efforts continued at Wallinger's Graveyard with a training programme to repair and re-point the boundary walls a priority. Ten people, including five Army Sea Cadets, received qualifications in re-pointing and stone wall repair using lime mortar as a traditional alternative to cement. Once the ghastly floods had subsided we undertook some soft landscaping. The introduction of shrubs and perennials to key sites has created a garden for all seasons and encouraged a wider diversity of flora and fauna. The historic vicinity received a succession of improvements: new perimeter railings to the embankment at Stonefield Road, highway and footpath refurbishment to Wallinger's Walk giving better access for all, especially wheelchair users. Most immediately gratifying was the sight of the entire length of Milward Road and Milward Crescent graced with summer flowering hanging baskets.



In St. Leonards we focused on further improving the popular footpath linking Kings Road to London Road. A vast expanse of drab and dreary stucco was painted providing light to the lower section of steps and the galvanised guardrails were replaced with a traditional design.

Heartfelt appreciation to the year's project team - indefatigable and zealous and too modest to recognise the praise they deserve.

Number of people trained obtaining qualifications -	10
Number of training weeks -	26 or 780 hours of voluntary labour
Number of trained people obtaining jobs -	2 both formerly unemployed
Number of trainees involved in collaborative projects -	7
Number of environmental improvement schemes -	3
Numbers of individuals employed in voluntary work -	25

training & development

Direxions: Introduction in September enabled the Trust to deliver enhanced quality assured information and advice service on personal development, learning, work and career development opportunities to adults. By end of March, 108 individuals had received help.

Volunteers and Trainees:

A total of 50 plus volunteers (including Board Members) are actively involved in all areas of the Trust's operations; research & development, delivery, monitoring and evaluation and management. Referral sources include Hastings College, Employment Services, Millennium Volunteers, Sussex Army Cadets, Workability PACT, VSO, HVA Volunteer Bureau, St Mary Star of the Sea Church. Also self referrals.

Silchester Mews: volunteers compared experiences with refugees and asylum seekers during Drop-In sessions.

OASIS: Volunteers instrumental in introduction of internet, website development, fundraising, newsletter delivery, over 50's pop-in and admin assistance. Experienced volunteers moved into managerial positions.

Resource Centre: see under Resource Centre.

Environmental Enhancement: see under Volunteers & External Projects.

Stade Beach Concert: Volunteer hotdesked at the Trust to make it happen again. All money raised went to the RNLI.

Board of Management: Oversaw restructuring and expansion and actively involved in development of total quality management systems.

Volunteer hours 01/02

- Silchester Mews = 200 hours
- OASIS = 642 hours
- Resource Centre = 4140 hours
- Environmental Enhancement = 636 hours
- Stade Beach Concert = 100 hours
- Board of Management = 500 hours

Total Hours 6,218 x £4.10 national minimum wage = £25,493.80 in kind.

