



# **TOOLS FOR SOLIDARITY**

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**ANNUAL REPORT 2014**



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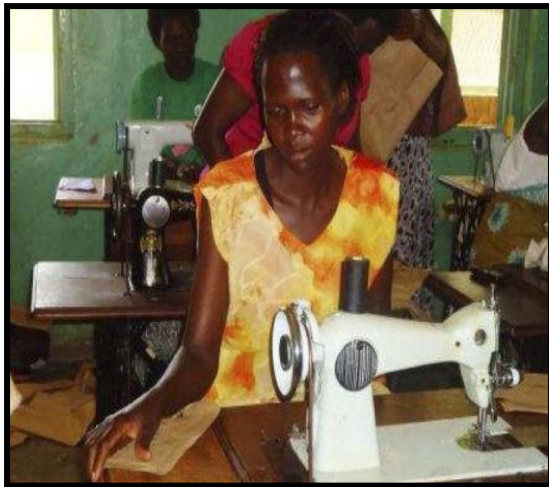
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# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

## Principles / Ethics

Underlying all the activities of Tools for Solidarity are the principles and values of self-help and empowerment, individual and global equality, environmental awareness, inclusiveness, voluntarism, and the right to challenge/oppose activities/actions that contradict these values.



## Mission Statement

TFS supports self-reliance by providing high quality refurbished tools to working people overseas, promoting international solidarity, and challenging global inequalities through critical examination of development issues, environmental sustainability, and ethical working practices.

## TFS Aims to:

Promote self-reliance by furnishing overseas projects with high quality recycled hand tools and sewing machines.

Involve individuals, organisations and the public in development and environmental issues. Utilise working methods that develop and support a sense of international solidarity and promote volunteering and ethical working practices. Tools For

Solidarity will have appropriate premises, personnel and funding to meet the agreed outputs and objectives of the organisation.







## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

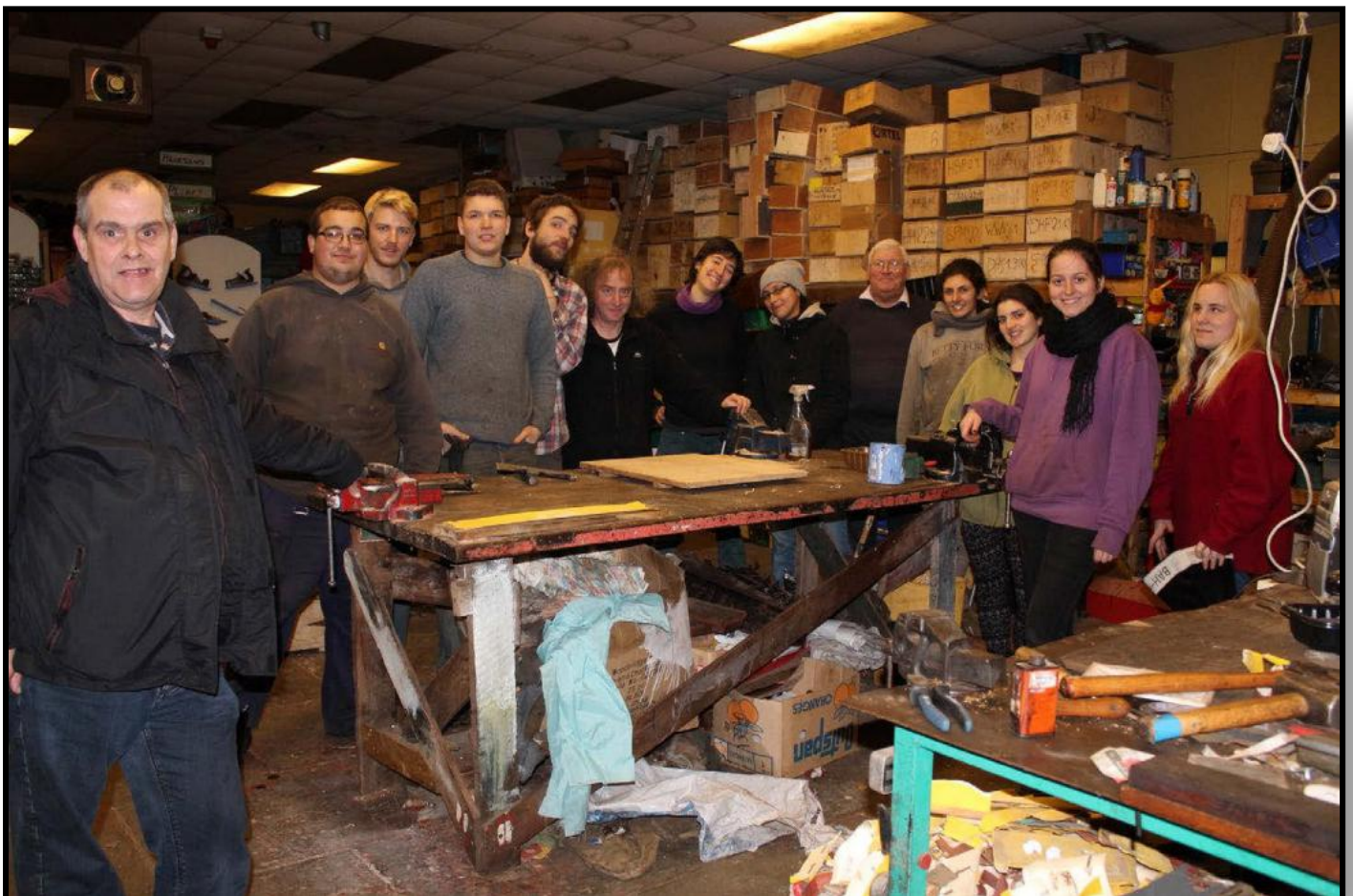
Practical solidarity is the heart of TFS's work. You can contribute in a very practical way by donating hand tools or sewing machines, by making a donation towards essential shipping and running costs, by providing materials or by volunteering.

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**Please, contact us at:**

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**55A Sunnyside Street**  
**Belfast BT7 3EX**

**Telephone: +44 028 9543 5972**  
**Webpage: [toolsforsolidarity.com](http://toolsforsolidarity.com)**  
**Email: [tools.belfast@myphone.coop](mailto:tools.belfast@myphone.coop)**  
**Charitable company number: NI052306**



## CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

In the previous year the organisation has made 2 important decisions. Firstly we agreed to develop a project in Uganda with an organisation called WORI (Women's Rights Initiative). This new project is a major undertaking and has only been possible due to the great support from people from within N. Ireland, all over Europe and beyond. The second major event to occur over the year was the decision to purchase a building that would be owned by TFS. This has long been an ambition of the members of TFS to have a building with ground floor access and one in which we could develop to better suit work for supported volunteers and ultimately reduce our costs.

The task to move TFS from its present location to one on the other side of the city will require a big effort from everyone within TFS. The process to box and pack all our materials has taken several months. This coupled with the work needed to re-shelve and organise the new workshop means that the organisation will be stretched for at least 2 years.

Support for the tailoring project in Tanzania goes on, which is now in its 7 year of operation. The project has recovered well after the disastrous fire, from 2 years ago, which destroyed the building and stock of machines. Training levels are up and the projects finances are positive.

The old and new volunteers who have come through EVS, Eirene and other avenues have come in at a time of big change within TFS and they have rallied round to help the organisation with this transition.

Another big and positive move has been the re-establishment of TFS Development Education Programme. Renamed ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) a former EVS volunteer, Laura, has been instrumental in developing a programme which is working in several primary schools. The feedback from teachers and pupils has been extremely positive.

Another former volunteer, Francesca, has agreed to help TFS develop the new

project with WORl in Uganda. This is a big commitment which means that Francesca will be with TFS for the next 3 years and will be project co-ordinator for the project.

Other significant changes over the year were the addition of a volunteer from Belfast, Conor, who joined the core volunteers within the organisation and has contributed to the fund raising of the organisation. This has enabled the organisation to receive funding from Belfast city Council for a waste management programme aimed at reducing waste going into landfill. Conor who will run the programme will collect sewing machines from church's in the greater Belfast area.

Although the organisation's finances remain positive the new building along with the renovation to make it suitable for people with disabilities added to the finances needed to establish and develop the new project in Uganda mean that the funding group within TFS will be extremely busy in the next 6 months. All in all the last year was very successful. The following year will look to several big events the celebration of 30 years of TFS, the move into a new building and the start of a new project.

**JOHN WOOD**





# VOLUNTEER REPORT

The ethos of TFS is, at its core, about the development of people and TFS strives to support people in their personal and economic development in the spirit of solidarity.

Our volunteers usually gain an awareness of environmental issues, support for people who are marginalised or who have limited opportunities in their lives. In working for TFS as volunteers we develop empathy for people in need and learn renewed respect for them and the environment that we share. This helps to reinforce and improve our spirit of volunteering.

The volunteers work on different tasks for the TFS from collecting and sorting tools to checking sewing machines for shipment abroad. We also have the opportunity to work on publicity, fundraising and evaluating new projects of the future. We work with supported volunteers as well and will roll out a development education program to schools and colleges in the year ahead.

During the past year we had more than thirty international and local volunteers working with TFS for differing periods of time as well as volunteers with special support needs. The international volunteers have played an increasingly important role in our organization since the first international workcamp was organised 1984. Today our international volunteers mainly come to us from the European Voluntary Service (EVS), an EU program under Youth in action. Their placements last from one month to one year and this past year we have had volunteers from France, Hungary, Portugal, Italy, Spain, Russia, Germany and Uganda. We still host one volunteer each year from Eirene, a German organisation committed to international peace work. There are hundreds of people who give their time, energy and enthusiasm to help TFS achieve our objectives.

It is an inspirational experience as many visitors to our workshops will testify. We are also thankful those organisations and institutions that help us in finding and funding our volunteers especially the British Council for their role in the Youth in Action Programme and Volunteer Now for local volunteer recruitment.





# PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT

This year has been a very busy time for the workshop and for the supply of tools and sewing machines to our partners and project within East Africa. We continued our support of MSTC and the incredible work that the people in the centre continue to deliver. A container was sent by TFS to MSTC in October 2012, and the list of materials sent is presented in this table.

**Date: 24 October 2013**  
**Destination: Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania**

Description	Quantity	Description	Quantity
Industrial sewing machines	6	Metal filing cabinet	3
Hand sewing machines	198	Shoe Making Finishing Machine	1
Electric sewing machines	97	Sewing Machine attachments	1 box
Parts cleaner	1	Knit Wear	29 bags
Top treadles	35	Material	15 boxes
Leather working machine + treadle	1	Leather	5 bags
Tools board + tools	1	Sewing accessories	16 boxes
Wool	60 bags	Sewing machine spare parts	2 boxes
Beds + mattresses	7	Office equipment	1 box
Knitting machine + tables	10	Oil + WD40	3 bottles
Tools kits for mechanics	6	Material Shinyanga	15 boxes
Bikes	6	Sewing Machine cases	15
Belts, extension board, needles, races, metal plates.	1 bag	Safety equipment	5
Dress model	1	Table	1
Irons	4		
<b>Total number of items - 546</b>			

Another container was sent to group Zomba Manad with a carpentry kit

Description	Quantity	Description	Quantity
Chisels, range	8	Rebate plane	1
Jack plane	1	Spokeshave	1
Mortise chisels	2	Rip saws	1
Smoothing planes	2	Crosscut saws	2
Gouges	2	Tenon saws	2
Hand drill	1	Saw files	3
Drill bits	1 set	Saw set	1
Carpenters braces	2	Combination square	1
Brace bits, range	6	Engineering pliers	1
Screwdrivers, slotted	6	Sliding bevel	1
Screwdrivers, cross point	3	Try square	2
Bradawls	2	Mortice gauge	1
Lump hammer	1	Marking gauge	1
Claw hammers	2	Slip stone	1
Warrington hammer	1	Hinges	12
Ball pein hammer	1	Nails	3 boxes
Hatchet	1	Screws	6 boxes
Mill files	2	Coping saw + 10 blades	1
Oil stone	1	Hacksaw + 10 blades	2
Rasps	2		
Total number of tools - 92			



# FINANCES

## ANNUAL ACCOUNTS - 1ST APRIL 2013 – 31ST MARCH 2014

Company No: NI052306

Charity No: XR78009

### PROFIT & LOSS REPORT

2012-13	INCOME	2013-14
£ 4,474	Donations	£ 7,162
£ 22,667	Grants (Miscellaneous)	£ 24,346
£ 34,963	Grants (EVS)	£ 58,680
£ 808	Fund Raising	£ 429
£ 5,806	Other Income	£ 3,102
£ 11,839	Standard Earned Income	£ 14,770
<b>£ 80,556</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£ 108,489</b>
2012-13	EXPENDITURE	2013-14
	<i>Direct Expenses</i>	
£ 26,106	Workshop Operation, Materials & Transport	£ 7,164
£ 359	Cost of Fund Raising	£ 16
<u>£ 26,465</u>	<u>Total Direct Expenses</u>	<u>£ 7,180</u>
	<i>Overheads</i>	
£ 9,958	Rent and Rates	£ 12,708
£ 3,077	Heat, Light and Power	£ 3,835
£ 3,461	Travelling Expenses	£ 1,210
£ 875	Printing, Stationery Tel & Internet	£ 927
£ 580	Maintenance	£ 819
£ 5,208	General Expenses	£ 7,070
£ 8,366	Partnership - Mwanza/Uganda (Direct Transfer)	£ 90
£ 64	Bank Charges and Interest	£ 25
£ 27,001	Volunteer Remuneration & EVS Exp	£ 32,355
£ 7,313	Volunteer Accommodation	£ 5,605
£ 164	Professional Fees	£ 163
£ 427	Miscellaneous	
£ 14	Workshop & Office Equipment	£ 1,102
<u>£ 66,508</u>	<u>Total Overhead Expenses</u>	<u>£ 62,215</u>
<b>£ 92,973</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£ 69,395</b>
<b>-£ 12,416</b>	<b>Profit/Loss</b>	<b>£ 39,095</b>

## BALANCE SHEET

2012-13	ASSETS	2013-14
£ 135,000	FIXED ASSETS (PREMISES)	£ 256,000
£ 3,000	CURRENT ASSETS (VAN, EQUIPMENT, ETC.)	£ 3,000
£ 9,775	CURRENT ACCOUNT	£ 14,204
£ 78,000	BUILDING RESERVE	
£ 17,064	OTHER BUILDING SOCIETY	£ 6,761
£ 29	PETTY CASH	£ 33
£ 424	PAYPAL ACCOUNT	£ 933
£ 707	VAT ON VATABLE PURCHASES	£ 300
<b>£ 243,998</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>£ 281,231</b>

2012-13	LIABILITIES	2013-14
£ 0	Liabilities	£ 0
£ 0		
<b>£ 0</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>£ 0</b>

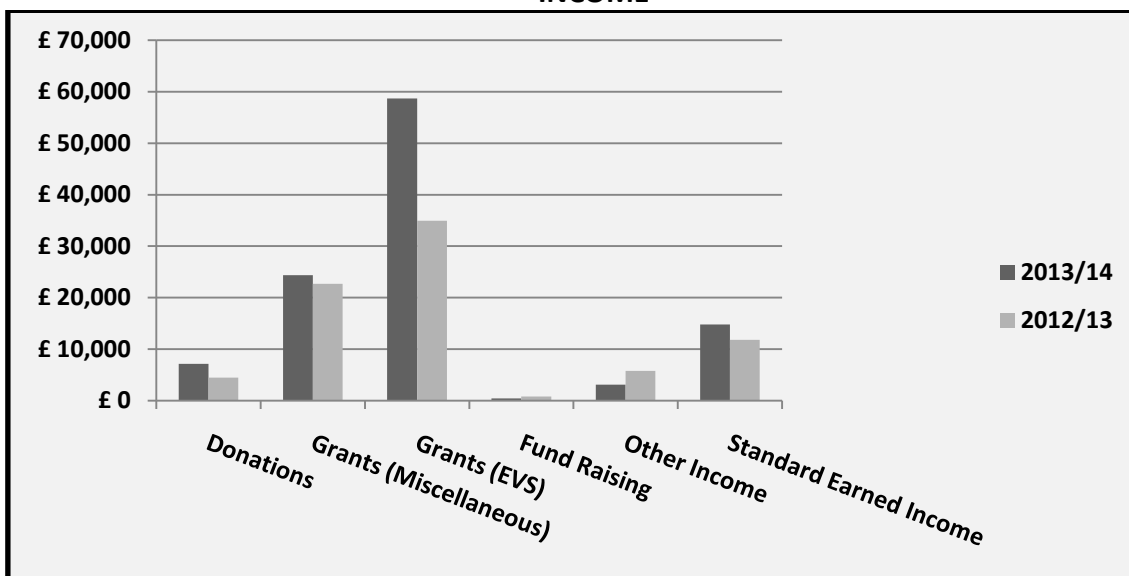
<b>£ 243,998</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES</b>	<b>£ 281,231</b>
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The financial period 2013-14 was another very busy and successful year for TFS. Yet again costs have been kept to a minimum, with the enormous workload being carried out by volunteers and the majority of the materials, tools, equipment and sewing machines being donated and collected from recycling centres.

Still, there are many unavoidable financial costs and TFS, with the vital support of all our donors and funders, has worked hard in this year to meet these costs. Expenditure for 2013-14 was £ 69,395 (down by 25% under the previous year) and income was £ 108,489 (up by 35%). Income was in excess of expenditure by £ 39,095.

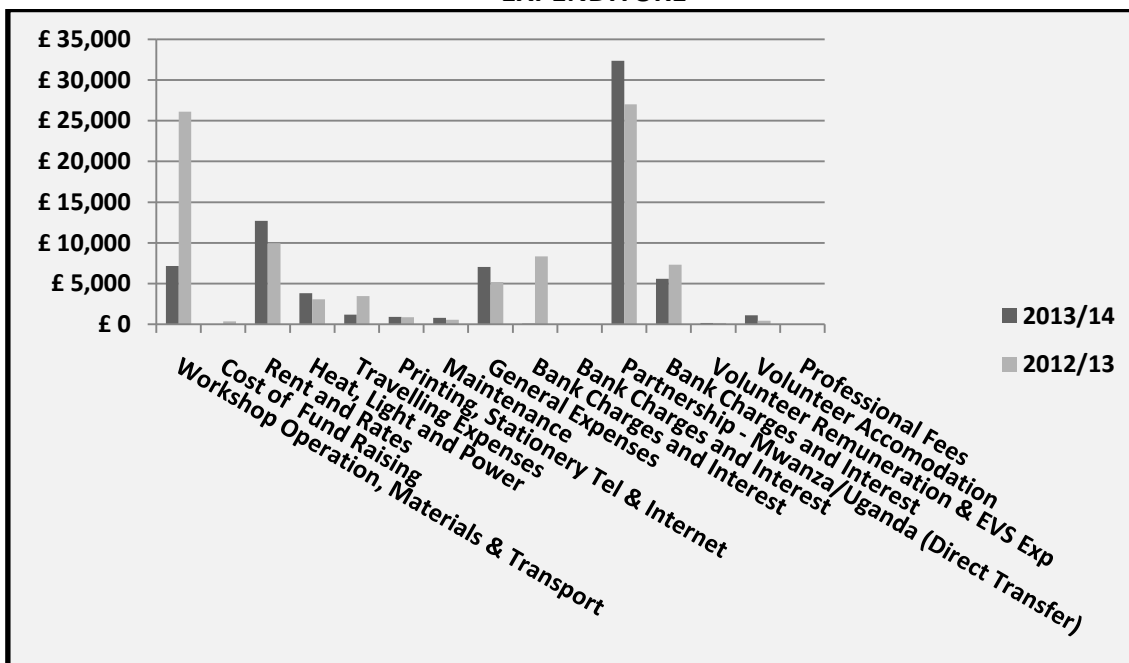
Overall income was up in 2013-14 relative to the previous year. This was largely due to higher EVS income as influenced by the number of EVS volunteers recruited and the timing of EVS projects. An important improvement was made in relation to donations, which were up by 60%. A big thank you is due to all the volunteers who assisted with maintaining the accounts, for retaining invoices and receipts, and ensuring meticulous record keeping.

## INCOME



2013/14	£ 108,489
2012/13	£ 80,556

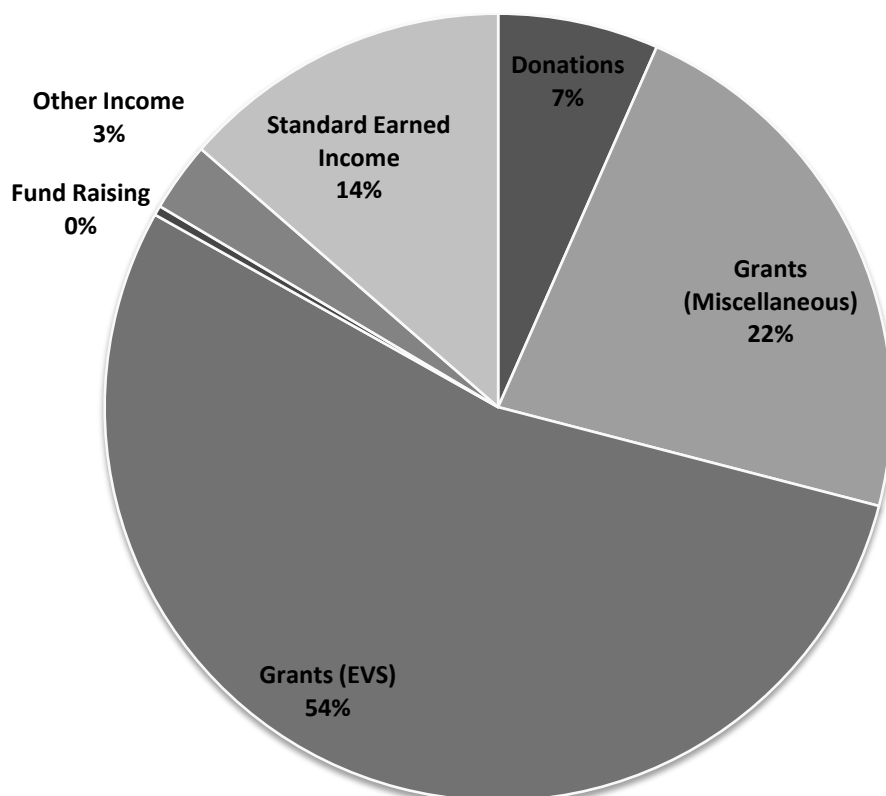
## EXPENDITURE



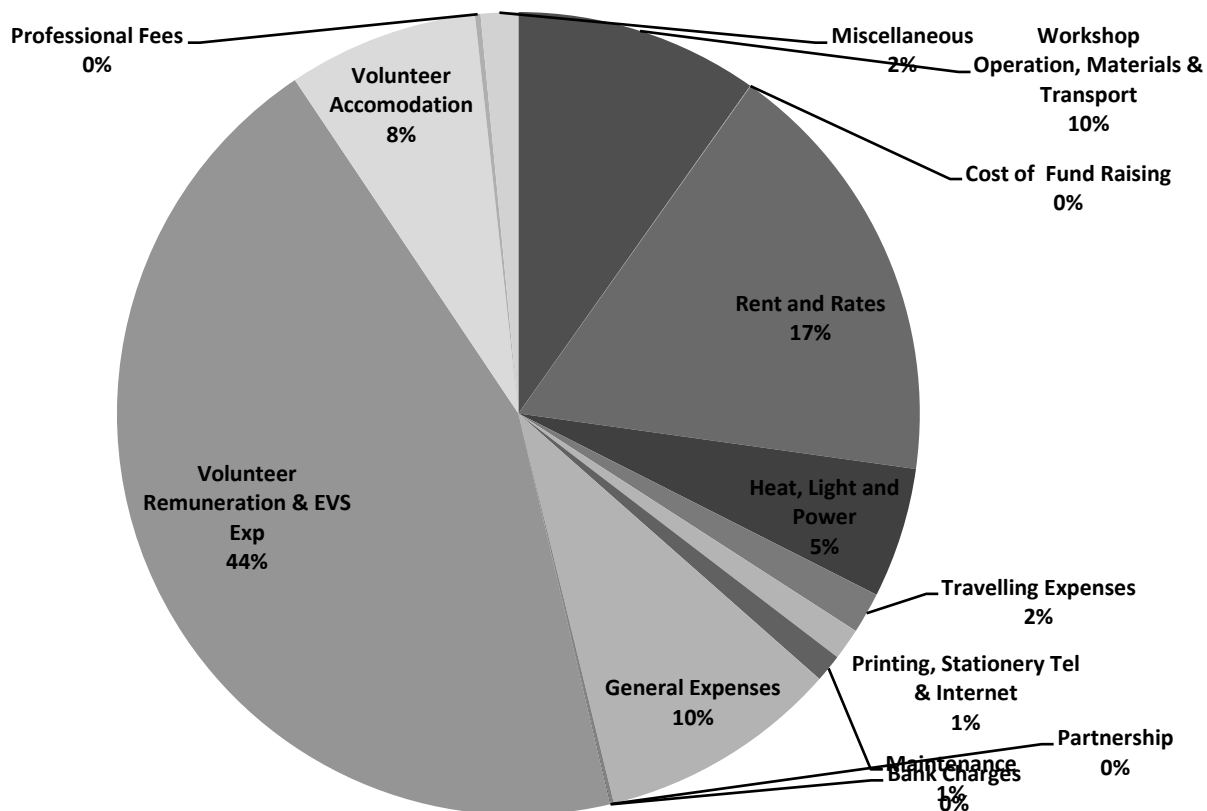
2013/14	£ 69,395
2012/13	£ 92,973

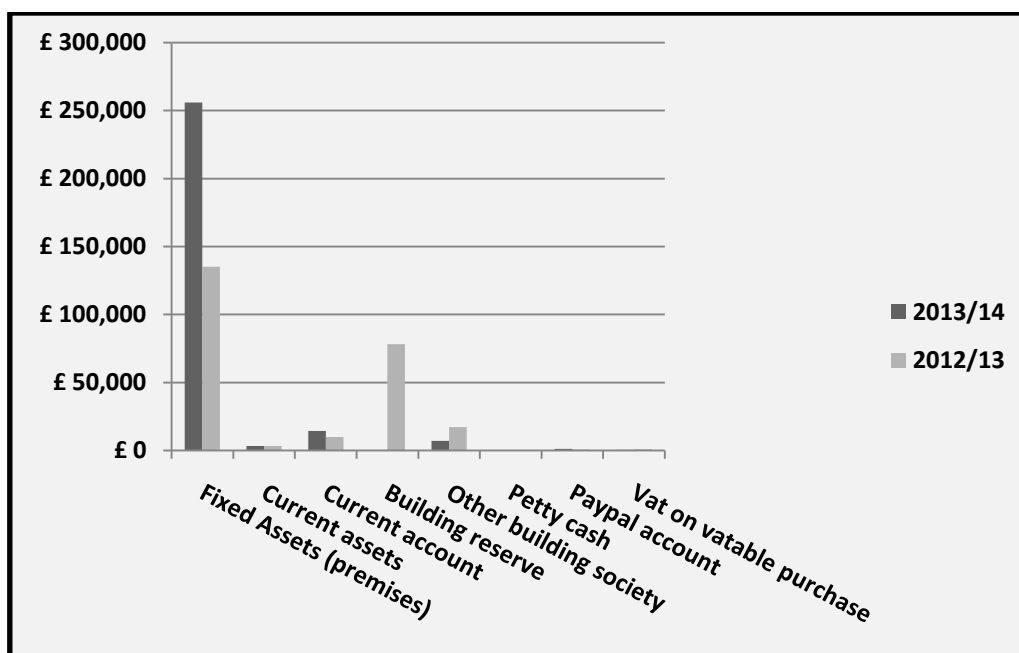


### INCOME



### EXPENDITURE





BRENDA BOSIO

FINANCIAL STATEMENT BY INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

**Independent Examiner**      Seamus McLernon  
M.B. McGrady & Co.  
85 University Street  
Belfast BT71HP

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2014 £	Total Funds 2013 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>				
Incoming resources from generated funds:				
Voluntary income	13,206	82,855	96,061	67,619
Activities for generating funds	15,199	-	15,199	11,839
Investment income	834	-	834	1,099
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	<b>29,239</b>	<b>82,855</b>	<b>112,094</b>	<b>80,557</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>				
Charitable activities				
Charitable activities	11,852	71,820	83,672	92,974
Governance costs	-	750	750	-
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	<b>11,852</b>	<b>72,570</b>	<b>74,422</b>	<b>92,974</b>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR</b>				
Transfer from unrestricted funds	-	-	-	-
Balances brought forward	243,998	-	243,998	256,415
Balance carried forward	261,385	10,285	271,670	243,998

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year  
All of the activities of the charity are classed as continuing



**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 MARCH 2014**

	<b>2014</b>		<b>2013</b>
	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Assets		<b>252,891</b>	138,000
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	<b>1,288</b>		706
Cash at bank and in hand	<b>18,562</b>		105,292
	<b>19,850</b>		105,998
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>(1,071)</b>		-
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>18,779</b>	105,998
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>271,670</b>	243,998
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Restricted income funds		<b>10,285</b>	-
Unrestricted funds:			
Funds represented by tangible fixed assets		<b>252,981</b>	138,000
Free reserves		<b>8,404</b>	105,998
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<b>271,670</b>	243,998

# EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) is a learning programme which started in September 2012 and aims to raise awareness throughout Northern Ireland (NI) about issues of Sustainable Development.

This programme consists of visiting the schools for three weekly sessions of 60 minutes in which we explore the following aspects of sustainable development:

1. *Poverty and Inequality*
2. *Exploitation of Natural Resources*
3. *Critical thinking and the impact of our lifestyle on a global scale*

The methodology inside the classroom is dynamic and participatory in order to help students build critical learning step by step. The sessions start with general knowledge of sustainable development and build up to a more concrete understanding of our actions and their impact on the world.

In particular we focus our work in the areas “The world around us” and “Personal Development and Mutual Understanding” in the Key Stage 2 age range from 9 to 11 years old thus matching some of the general objectives of the second stages of the primary curriculum.

The ESD group has put emphasis on communication with the community and in May 2013 the Youth Council for Northern Ireland invited the ESD to give a presentation to the youth club leaders in Belfast to make people aware of the programme and invite them to take part in it. During that meeting the representatives of the John Paul II Youth Club showed their interest in taking part in the programme. In June 2013 the ESD group delivered the programme to 8 teenagers from this association.

During 3 sessions different activities were conducted allowing the group to be involved in a process of critical thinking and identification of their real needs and the needs of others. The group was very interested, particularly in the role that TS plays and different lifestyles across the world and TFS consider that this non-formal illustration of concepts constituted a very good introduction to sustainable and global development.

Our first approach to schools in February 2012 was not successful due to the fact that the schools had already fixed their curricular programme for the year. But with the onset of the new academic year there was a new opportunity for the ESD learning programme.

The first group to take part of the school calendar 2013-2014 was the Loughshore Educational Resource Center. It was a big challenge for us because we worked with six teenagers with behavioural disorders. Nevertheless it was very rewarding that students were able to reflect on aspects of life such as living without electricity, the distribution of the wealth in the world, or the impact of our actions on a global scale.

Another group with special attention that we worked with was:

- *Ardmore House Special School in Downpatrick*
- *Rutledge Recruitment and Training, Belfast*

The first Primary school that took part in the programme it was the Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain Irish Primary School. We worked with a very motivated and participative group of 18 children aged between 10 and 11. Other Primary schools that took part in the programme was:

- *Park Lodge Primary School, Belfast*
- *Drumlins Integrated Primary School, Ballynahinch*
- *Cliftonville Integrated Primary School, Belfast*

In general the children were really enthusiastic and happy to learn and we have been very welcomed by the head and staff at the schools, who gave us absolute freedom to plan and develop the activities. Even more, a new challenge was presented to us by the teacher of Cliftonville School who asked us for a specific activity based on Fair Trade.

We considered it the perfect opportunity to develop a new pilot session for the programme: The Fair Trade Cocoa Game. The debut of the new activity took part on February 3rd at Cliftonville Integrated Primary School with the P6 class and the general objective of the game was to experience the injustice of the current market system and recognise the benefits of buying fair trade products.

Some feedback from the schools is as follows:

*"We enjoyed the programme and pupils had an excellent insight into tools, poverty and exploitation of natural resources."*

*(Ardmore house special school. Downpatrick)*

*"It was really active and practical and the children worked well with the educators, they thoroughly enjoyed and certainly have improved their knowledge of all the issues covered. We found this programme very interesting and will definitely use it in the future if available."*

*(Bunscoil primary school, Belfast)*

*"I love the games the children played such as the division of the world to put into perspective. I would definitely recommend the programme to other schools."*

*(Drumlins I.P.S. Ballynahinch)*

*"Great project and activities. Thank you for coming to our school, the children enjoyed the sessions"*

*(Cliftonville primary school, Belfast)*

To conclude, the ESD group is very proud of the ongoing activities and at this time we are thinking about the possibility of adding a whole new session to the programme. We are also looking for funding to support and expand the project.

**LAURA RÍO**





# SPECIAL THANKS

Tools For Solidarity takes this opportunity to gratefully acknowledge the contribution of different individuals and organizations to this undertaking:

Action Mental Health	North Belfast Quakes
All-Route Shipping	Northern Ireland Public Service Alliance (NIPSA)
Autism Initiatives	NICRAS
Ardmore House Special School, Downpatrick	NICVA
Ashfield Boys' High School	Our Lady of Lourdes, Park Lodge, Primary School
Belfast City Council recycling centres	Pam and Tara, Patchwork Goose
Belfast City Council Central Grants Unit	Pat and Heather, Kilkeel
British Council	Patricia Stevenson
Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain Irish Primary School	South Belfast Quakers
Cedar Foundation	Ralf Zeigler and Eirene
Cliftonville Integrated Primary School	Rutledge Recruitment and Training Centre
Combined Services Third World Fund	Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO)
Damian Ch'anga, Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) Regional Manager, Mwanza	St Malachy's College Old Boys Association
Department for Social Development	The Co-operative Society
Drumlins Integrated Primary School	The Orchardville Society
Erasmus + UK National Agency	Tools for Self Reliance (TFSR), Garvald Edinburgh
Friends of Mourne Grange	Tony and Brid Weeks
Geoff and Tina Claxton	Ulster Garden Villages
John Alibankoha, Rural People in Action for Development	Unicorn Food Co-operative
John Moores Foundation for Northern Ireland Headway	Volunteer Now
Lindsay Alexander, Youth in Action, British Council	Women's Rights Initiative (WORI) Uganda
Lloyds TSB Foundation for Northern Ireland	Youth in Action
Mary Hegarty, Bryson Charitable Group	Youth Council NI
Mourne Grange Camphill Community	

To all the Tools For Solidarity volunteers at Belfast, Downpatrick and the Isle of Man, and to all those who have collected / donated tools, money or time over the last 12 months, thank you very much.

**CONOR CLELAND**



