Chair’s report

THE WORK OF THE TRUST progressed very positively during a year of change in our senior management team. The Board is confident that, with our new recruits, the roles continue to be occupied by people with the expertise and experience to further strengthen and develop our work.

The finances of the Trust are complex and raising general funds for on-going operations is always a challenge. In 2017 general fundraising was successful and we also raised large sums towards new projects. However, much of that money, including a very generous £1 million donation, is restricted to specific purposes and we continue to need the support of members and others to maintain core activity and plan for uncertainty.

We continued to work with others when making the case for the protection and management of wild land. The need to see deer numbers reduced to ecologically acceptable levels has been an issue for 30 years. We were therefore delighted when the Cabinet Secretary in the Scottish Government, now that changes will be made.

Peter Pearson
Chair
John Muir Trust

Chief Executive’s report

AS THE NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE it is a great privilege to report that the Trust continues to be an effective champion of wild places and for everyone’s right to be able to enjoy the experience of wilderness.

In a world where development pressures are universal we know that change is inevitable, but we continued to challenge inappropriate proposals that diminish the wild resources of the landscape. In 2017 we provided evidence to two local inquiries and prepared cases for two others. We launched the ‘Keep It Wild’ campaign to further raise awareness of our mission and will promote that message more and more in time.

Strategic partnerships remained key to our approach. The Heart of Scotland Forest Partnership at Schiehallion saw us working with partners to re-establish native woodland at a significant scale. In NW Scotland we employed an additional two staff as part of the Coastal Communities programme, working to ensure that conservation and community benefit go hand in hand. On Skye we continued with a major woodland restoration scheme and repaired footpaths. Timely and environmentally sensitive footpath work on Suilven, in partnership with the Assynt Coillte, was completed this year.

Andrew Bachell
Chief Executive
John Muir Trust

John Muir Trust milestones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Milestone Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Membership reaches 55</td>
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<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Green-up for the outdoors</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>£1 million donation</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Membership reaches 5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>John Muir Award launched</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>East Schiehallion</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>East Schiehallion</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Membership reaches 10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>100,000th John Muir Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>250,000th John Muir Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>The Trust’s Wild Space visitor centre opens in Pitlochry</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>100,000th Scottish Natural Heritage Wild Land Areas Map published in June</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>1500th Award Providers creating 36,000 recipients</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>Cover photo: Striding Edge, Helvellyn from Shutterstock</td>
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