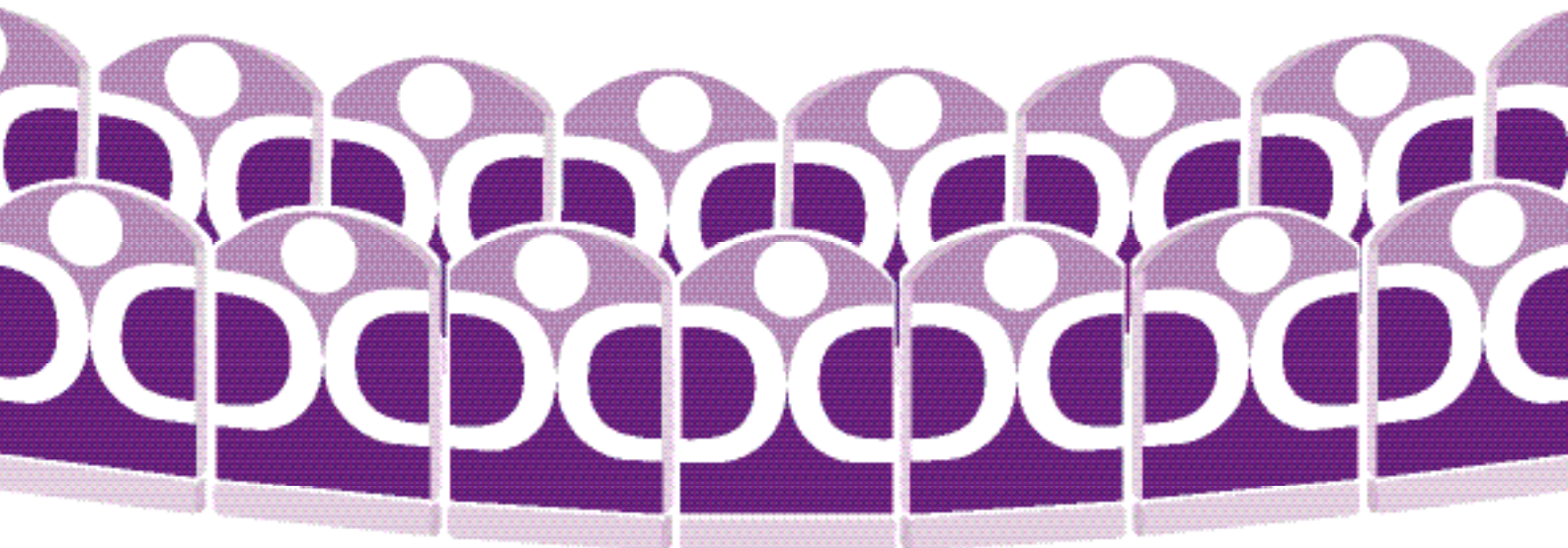
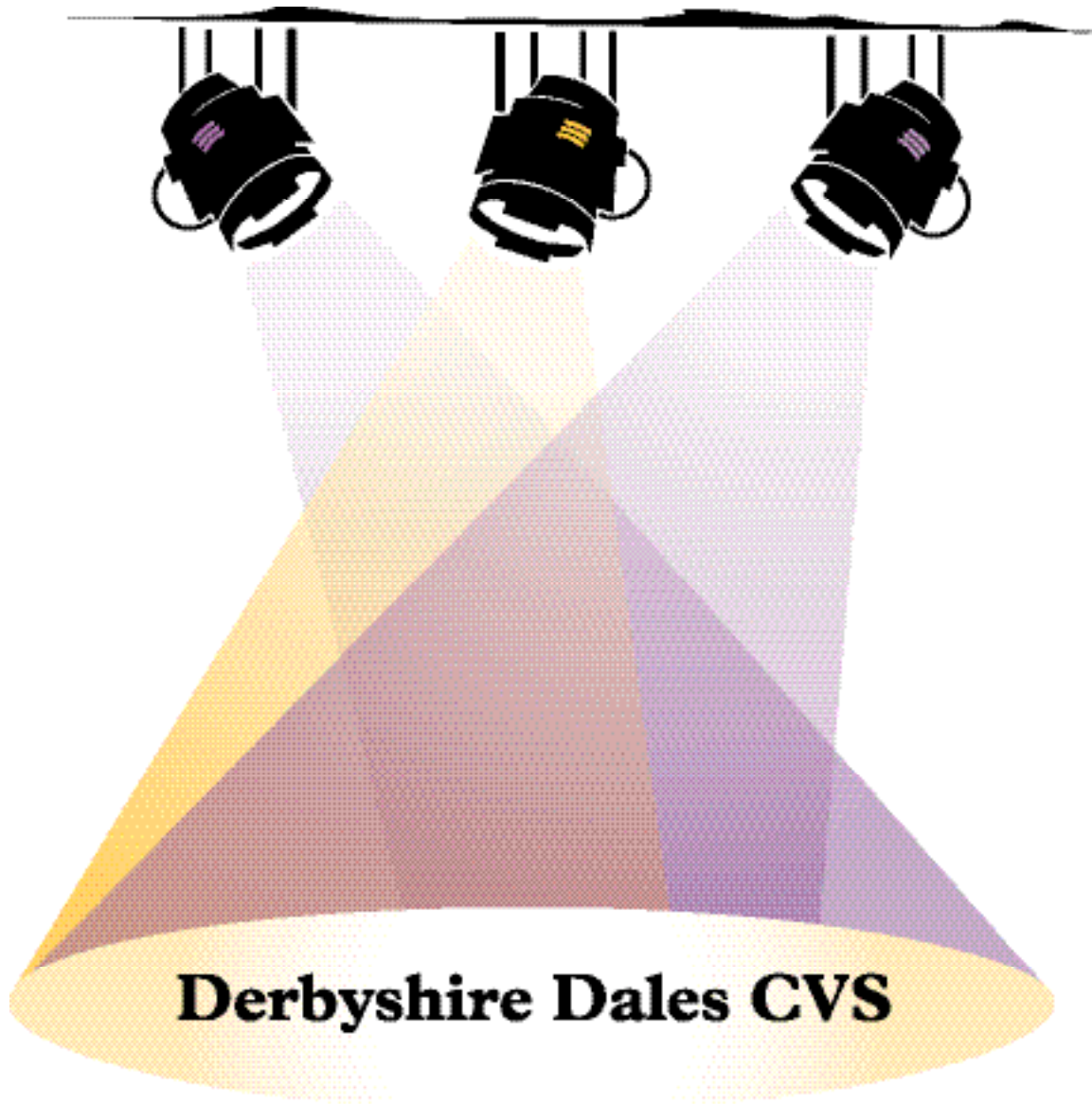


Annual Report:

September 2004 - September 2005





Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Service is managed by a voluntary management committee. During the period under review the following have served on the management committee:

Chair:	Kate Smith
Vice-Chair:	Patricia Leake
Treasurer:	Richard Campen
Trustees:	Gill Geddes, Helena Stubbs, Patricia Leake, Denise Servante (until December 2004), David Fine, Pat Hall (from July 2005)

Derbyshire Dales CVS has employed the following staff during the period:

Chief Officer:	Neil Moulden
Assistant Chief Officer:	Pam Cohen
Development Officer:	Hester Messom
Community Development Service, Project Development Worker:	Marion Beloe (from June 2005)
Information Officer:	Sarah Paisley
Children's Information and Signposting Project Officer:	Beth Lawrence
Support Services Officer:	Janet Smith (until April 2005)
Finance and Administration Manager	Janet Smith (from April 2005)

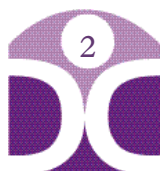
These 7 members of staff make up 5.9 full time equivalents.

Financial Support

In the period under review Derbyshire Dales CVS is grateful for financial support from: The Community Fund (now called the Big Lottery Fund), Comic Relief, High Peak and Dales Primary Care Trust, Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Derbyshire Community Foundation, Leader + in the Peaks, Dales and Moorlands, Children's Fund, Learning and Skills Council, Lloyds TSB Foundation, Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire Primary Care Trust and the College of the Peak.

Full accounts are available on request from DDCVS. A statement of our financial activities and our balance is included in this report.

Our accountants are West and Foster.





“Another year, another annual report – how time flies when you are having fun!”

This past year has been one of growth for DDCVS with new partnerships being formed with statutory, voluntary and community groups and established relationships with a variety of organisations growing and flourishing.

In the scale of things, DDCVS is a small organisation and herein lays its strength, taking on work that it feels can be done well and efficiently and is of benefit to the community in which it works. A key word in DDCVS is ‘relationship’ and the Trustees feel that they have a good relationship with each other and the staff, who in turn nurture and cultivate good relationships within the wider communities, working in the Derbyshire Dales and surrounding areas.

For any organisation to maintain its strengths, dedicated and hard working staff are essential. DDCVS is very fortunate to have staff with many skills and a great deal of knowledge. This time last year Neil Moulden had just taken over as

Chief Officer and had begun the task of streamlining the financial structure of the organisation and re-evaluation the work undertaken by staff. These proved to be much larger tasks than first anticipated, but the Trustees have been pleased to see how the staff have worked to achieve goals set a year ago. They have been so successful that we have been able to reduce the number of Trustees meetings per year by half and reliable financial information has also made it possible to establish a finance sub committee to improve financial reporting to funders, partners and trustee meetings.

My thanks to all the staff at DDCVS and all the trustees, some of whom have left us during the year to re-locate or change direction in their careers, who have been very supportive and helpful to me over the past year.

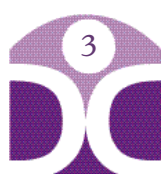
Kate Smith, Chairperson

Report from Neil Moulden, Chief Officer

It seems hard to believe that it is now a year since I accepted the job as Chief Officer of Derbyshire Dales CVS, and writing this piece for our Annual Report provides a welcome opportunity to reflect on the last twelve months. Although the last year has sometimes been very challenging, I believe that we have made real progress as an organisation, and we can now look to the future with confidence. The progress that we have made has largely been due to the unfailing hard work and dedication of the DDCVS staff team, and I would like to take this

opportunity to thank them for the considerable support that they have given to me over the last year.

Our role in supporting the local voluntary and community sector continues to grow, and we know that the services we offer through provision of information, advice, training and practical support is valued very much by local groups. It is clear to us that a healthy and vibrant infrastructure of small local organisations is extremely important to the welfare of everyone in





the community, and supporting the grassroots voluntary and community sector will always be our priority. Small voluntary organisations are facing a rapidly changing and challenging working environment, and it is important that we continue to develop our services to ensure that we meet their needs both now and in the future.

Another priority is working in partnership with other voluntary and statutory organisations to ensure that we have a coherent and co-ordinated approach to tackling local needs. This area of work has increased significantly over the last year, and has included work in developing a local Compact, being involved the Rural Pathfinder, the Local Strategic Partnership, the Rural Action Zone, the Leader + Local Action Group, and a number of health-related forums such as the Health Improvement sub-group and the Patient and Public Involvement group. We are particularly pleased with the good relationship that has developed with both High Peak and Derbyshire Dales PCT and Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire PCT through our 'In Sickness and in Health' project. We have also continued to be involved in other projects such as the College of the Peak and PDNPA Equalities Audit Group, and have staff on the Boards of Derbyshire Rural Community Council, Peak District Rural Deprivation Forum and the Derbyshire Learning and Development Consortium.

The developmental side of our work continues to be significant, and we have been actively involved in the development of a furniture recycling scheme for the Dales (Encore), and in setting up a Dales Homestart scheme. These are

both pieces of work that it is hoped will come to fruition in the next few months, and will have lasting benefits for the community. Also, our hosting of Children's Information and Signposting, and the Leader + Access Project has enabled us to support the community in a variety of ways.

The last year has seen many organisational changes at DDCVS, including major changes in our financial reporting and recording systems, and in our staffing structure. I believe that these changes have strengthened the organisation considerably, and I would like to thank the staff team for their support and forbearance whilst these changes were being put in place.

Having said above that we are looking to the future with confidence, it must be said that the future is likely to present us with challenges as well as opportunities. Change is definitely in the air, and we must think seriously about the way agencies like DDCVS are organised and funded. The Derbyshire Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Consortium, of which DDCVS is a member, is working to develop a strategic vision of how CVS type services will be delivered – and funded – in the future. We are also working closely with colleagues from other Peak District organisations (Peak Partners for Rural Action) to ensure that we are able to continue to deliver the services that we believe are vital to our community's welfare. Whatever changes take place, DDCVS' priority will remain the support of voluntary and community groups.

Neil Moulden, Chief Officer

Information, Training and Practical Services

In this section of the Annual Report we would like to explain our core work. We have spent much time this year assessing both our monitoring systems and contact management systems and this work will be progressing over the next year as we work towards a system that is user friendly, flexible and gives us the information we need to report to our funders. We started to look at our monitoring systems in early 2005 year and consequently do not have statistics to present in same way as we did in last year's annual report. As a result this section is wordy rather than image-laden but we hope it will still give you a feel for what we do.

During the period 1 August 2004 – 31 July 2005 we produced 167 sets of photocopying for 51 different groups. We hired out various pieces of equipment 23 times, loaned our display boards 3 times and hired out our meeting room 3 times. We have provided administration for 2 groups and included leaflets or flyers from other organisations in our mailings 13 times.

In April 2005 we set up email networks which have meant that we have a quick and cheap way of keeping in touch with groups. We now email news-in-brief (Nib) to 38 contacts rather than mailing it out. It hasn't saved our information officer much time in that Nib still has to be written but it has saved a great deal of administrative time from all staff, mainly our Finance and Administration manager, in terms of photocopying and labelling and stuffing envelopes. Each time we send a mailing it costs us over £100 in postage alone so you can see why we had to consider saving money in that area.

We have also set up a Development Workers Email Network where 29 development workers across the county, but mainly working in the Dales, can share good practice and ideas with each other via email. In the past we arranged meetings for the development workers but found that people were so busy that it wasn't necessarily a priority for them. The email network, by its very nature, doesn't take valuable time away from the office or travelling to a meeting.



We offer an email Funding Bulletin which currently has 36 subscribers and later this year we will be setting up the User Focus email network which will allow our users to talk to each other about their needs and experiences. As we manage this network it will help us identify any pockets of need or areas that people need training in and we can respond appropriately. Finally, we have set up a Toolbox for Managers email network to keep all the people who met over the six months that this training course was running, in touch with each other.

Our newsletter, Quart, still exists and again this is an area in which we have saved money this year by printing in house. We continue to mail the newsletter once a quarter.

We have continued to play a part in the Derbyshire Information Officers' Forum where we have been involved in several bids to the Infrastructure Consortium, namely those around Funding Advice, ICT provision and the role of the Information Worker in Derbyshire voluntary and community infrastructure organisations.

We have also been involved in Derbyshire Rural Community Council's exit strategy for the Village Agents programme and will still be working with some villages as they work towards fulfilling the aims of their village plans over the coming months or years.

We co-organised a Fundraising Conference with the Directory of Social Change in March this year which attracted over 80 delegates from across the East Midlands and we have been involved with the Harvest Moon Festival - an art, music and rural crafts festival taking place in Blackwell this September.





We continue to offer Funding Advice and Information to many groups; at times it's a case of signposting an enquirer to a website or telephone number but in the main we work with groups on a one-to-one basis to look for funding, to prepare a project plan and budget, and to fill in the application form(s). To give you a sense of the wide variety of groups we work with these are just a few of the groups we have worked with in the last 12 months: a group wishing to log every plant planted at a newly refurbished botanical gardens, a young people's advice service, several health related voluntary and community groups, several youth clubs, pre school and after school clubs, a mental health support organisation for adults, and a village strengthening its links with a developing country.

On the training front, Hester Messom took over this role at DDCVS in January 2005. In February 2005 she started a new initiative; a specifically tailored training course developed to meet the needs of people working as managers or project managers in the voluntary sector. The training took place one day a month for six months and work books were provided so that additional study and reflection could take place between sessions. Twelve people completed the course and plan to continue to meet every quarter for further session as well as to provide friendship and mutual support. In addition to this intense course we hosted 7 different training sessions across the Dales with 31 attendees between April and July 2005.

Projects

In Sickness and In Health

It is just over 12 months since the last In Sickness and In Health conference. At that time

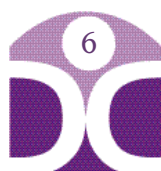
a number of working groups were established to take the recommendations forward. It quickly became clear that some of the work of these groups had begun to overlap. A decision was made to combine the groups that were dealing with Information, Communication and Referrals. As it happens, once the initial momentum wore off, the membership decreased and we were left with a small core group. The original plan had been to hold another conference this year, but we felt the time had come for action, not more talking. So we established a few small pilot projects to take forward some of the ideas from the previous ISIH events. The areas of work were: Input to the new staff induction day at Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire Primary Care Trust (PCT); visits to the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak CVS' from key management Personnel at High Peak and Derbyshire Dales PCT; visits to/contact with voluntary sector agencies by new PCT staff.

The aim of all of these initiatives was to increase understanding of each other's work, to improve communication channels and harness opportunities for joint approaches. So far the evaluation of these has been extremely positive. We are now in the process of writing up the experience and feeding back to the wider interest group.

South Derbyshire Dales Health development

A very significant proportion of the groups we work with are concerned with some aspect of 'health' issues, even though that might not be their main aim. For example, a luncheon club or a parent and toddler group, that stop people from becoming isolated or lonely, may in fact prevent ill health. In recognition of this Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire PCT have agreed to fund the CVS to provide, Information, Advice and Development support to groups across the Southern Dales. Marion Beloe was appointed in July as a Development worker and will have overall responsibility for this area of work.

In addition we have been given about £3,000 a



year to operate a small grant fund to support these groups. We have established a grants panel that will administer the grants and monitor the impact they have. The grants will be available to help new groups set up as well as support existing groups to develop their work. The panel will meet three times a year to look at the grant applications. We also hope that by administering the grant through the CVS we will be able to signpost these groups to the other services the CVS provide.

Signpost

In July 2005 Signpost received its 100th referral since its launch back in April 2004. This milestone marked an increasingly busy period since work began in the High Peak earlier this year. The High Peak was one of the last areas in Derbyshire to have a signposting service, and now (thanks to the Children's Fund and other funders such as social services) there are Children and Families' Signposting projects operating all over Derbyshire. Signpost is still based in Bakewell at DDCVS but Beth Lawrence spends time each week at Buxton and Glossop Social Services allowing her to work with social workers and pick up referrals.

The information side of Signpost continues to be crucial. A directory of services for families in the High Peak has been produced, for which High Peak CVS' directory proved an essential starting point. Both Signpost directories continue to be popular with workers- over 160 copies have now gone out to different workers and voluntary groups who continue to receive regular email updates. Over the Christmas period every entry in the Dales directory was checked for accuracy to produce as up to date an edition as possible.

The support side of Signpost has become better known and used in recent months. Approximately one third of the 100 referrals mentioned were for support, with the remainder being for a piece of information. A referral for support tends to mean a family is visited at home (or anywhere they feel comfortable.) Signpost listens to the problems and needs of a family and together they try to decide what services might be able to help. Signpost is about



empowering clients with information, but if they feel unable or too intimidated to ask for help then Signpost will refer them on, set up meetings and even go along with them as an advocate. Further visits and phone calls to the family follow to see how things are. However Signpost remains a short-term service as a first port of call for a family, contact usually ends once a family is receiving support from another service. This tends to be no longer than 3 months.

Many referrals have involved people who would like some financial support, around accessing benefits or grants. Signpost has accessed grants to enable families to go on holidays and helped people complete benefit forms. Another key source of referral is from parents of children with special needs. Signpost has put families in touch with some of the voluntary groups that exist to support them, such as Derbyshire Autism Services Group and Fairplay. However there is no such thing as a typical client and Signpost exists to offer information or support to anybody living in the High Peak or Derbyshire Dales who is under 18 or who has a child under 18.

Encore Reuse.

In September 2004 the first meeting took place of a fledgling group who were interested in starting a furniture recycling project in the Derbyshire Dales. The CVS agreed to support his initiative and have been closely involved ever since.

Encore Reuse will be run as a social enterprise, it is now a registered charity and company limited by guarantee; it has trustees, a wider steering group and great support from many





quarters including those interested in social issues, training and the environment. A business plan has been developed with a strong emphasis on training, work and volunteering opportunities for people disadvantaged in the workplace, particularly those with moderate learning difficulties. Funding has been sought and to date £17,000 has been committed and a large bid to the CRED programme has been assessed and the results are awaited. After much time has been spent trying to identify a suitable premises it has been decided to lease a premises in Ashbourne in order to start trading with the options of relocating in the future if a more suitable premises becomes available. It is very much hoped that Encore will be a working organisation before the end of the year.

Leader + Access

During this period Leader + Access has continued to support established projects and helped to develop and fund new ones. Earlier projects which are now self supporting or who have gained other sources of funding are the Youlgreave Cinema Project which is a community led group who have established a cinema which holds regular screenings in the village hall and the Riverside Club in Ashbourne. This is a monthly social club for young people with mobility and learning difficulties and Access has funded transport to enable the club to run a series of outings throughout the year.

Other ongoing projects include subsidised transport for After Schools Clubs and the STEER project. After a very successful pilot project Access has continued to support STEER which provides a moped, free basic training and safety equipment and mentoring and support for young people who would otherwise not be able

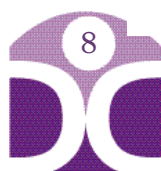
to access work or training. The young person makes a weekly contribution towards this service. The monitoring statistics show how valuable this project has been in enabling isolated youngsters to access employment and improve their social life.

New projects which have come on stream during the year include Leadership training for guided walks, a project run by the Girl Guides who are providing walk leader training to older members and to volunteers who will then be able to lead walks for guides and others. Response has been excellent with enjoyment and increase in confidence amongst participants. Several people have already passed a Level 1 qualification.

Funding has been provided for the Ashbourne Volunteer Bureau Car Scheme to enable them to extend their service to provide 'social therapeutic' journeys as well as to recruit more volunteers from rural villages in order to reduce the 'dead mileage' incurred in meeting the needs of rural women. Leader + Access funding will also provide training for the Community Sports Leadership Award. These courses have a requirement of 10 hours of voluntary coaching so that the skills gained will be further extended. There is agreement that some courses should target women and ideally one of these should be women with young families so that their new skills can be used with children.

Other new projects funded during this period are; Dukes Barn Outdoor Centre - a new wheelchair lift for the minibus to enable disabled youngsters participate in outdoor activities; Domestic Abuse Support Services; - a laptop computer so that presentations can be made in schools which will raise awareness of issues around domestic abuse, and Postnatal Illness Support and Help Association - publicity leaflets to raise awareness of this support group amongst families in the Leader + area.

From the end of March 2005 it has not been possible to develop any new projects as Leader + Access has had a shortfall in funding. After much hard work it is hoped that matched funding will be in place by September 2005 to enable the project to continue to its completion in December 2006.



Report of the Independent auditors to the members

We have audited the financial statements of Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Services Limited for the year ended 31st March 2005 on pages 6 to 11 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 8.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors

As described on page 3 of the full accounts the charity's trustees who are also the directors of Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Services Limited for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Report of the Trustees is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charity has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding trustees' remuneration and transactions with the charity is not disclosed.

We read the Report of the Trustees and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.



Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of significant estimates and judgements made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st March 2005 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, in the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

West and Foster
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
21st July 2005

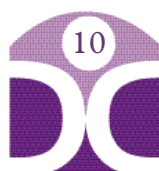
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st March 2005.

Total	Total Notes 2004	Restricted	Unrestricted		£
		Funds	Funds	2005	
		£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Grants received	2	235,140	20,000	255,140	147,984
Charges for services		-	17,922	17,922	1,484
Management fees		-	9,222	9,222	-
Membership fees		-	195	195	100
Bank interest received		-	1,248	1,248	1,395
Donations		-	56	56	100
Total income		235,140	48,643	283,783	151,063
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Direct Charitable Expenditure	3	195,067	41,647	236,714	167,403
Management and Administration	4	13,314	2,004	15,318	1,702
		208,381	43,651	252,032	169,105
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR					
	5	26,759	4,992	31,751	(18,042)
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS					
		440	(440)	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS BOUGHT FORWARD					
		12,253	24,439	36,692	54,734
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD					
	9	£39,452	£28,991	£68,443	£36,692

There were no recognised gains or losses in the above 2 financial years other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The notes on pages 8 to 11 of the full accounts form part of these financial statements.

If you would like a copy of the full accounts please ask DDCVS.



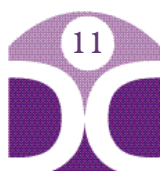
Balance Sheet

31st March 2005

		2005		2004	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets			-		-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	23,141		1,171	
Cash at bank and in hand		51,433		63,595	
		<u>74,574</u>		<u>64,766</u>	
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(6,131)		(28,074)	
		<u>68,443</u>		<u>36,692</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
			<u>£68,443</u>		<u>£36,692</u>
NET ASSETS					
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	9	28,991		24,439	
Restricted funds	10	39,452		12,253	
		<u>£68,443</u>		<u>£36,692</u>	

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

Approved by the board of directors and trustees on 21st July 2005 and signed on their behalf.





And what next?

Earlier in the annual report we talked about the rapidly changing environment that organisations like DDCVS are working in, and the challenges and opportunities that this presents. However, whatever changes take place we will always be focused on providing the best possible services to the voluntary and community sector in the Dales. In the next year we will be looking to expand the range of training and learning opportunities that we provide to local groups, and review our information, advice and support work to ensure that we are offering a service

that meets the needs of the community. Our successful Signpost project will be expanded to provide more support for children and families in the area, and we will continue to develop projects that strengthen and diversify the voluntary community sector in the Dales, and support disadvantaged and marginalised people. We are particularly keen to see the development of volunteer bureau services in the north Dales, and will be working with partner organisations to achieve this.

If you would like to know more about Derbyshire Dales CVS, subscribe to our regular email updates or quarterly newsletter, or support us by becoming a member please contact any member of staff on 01629 812154. Email enquiries@ddcvs.org.uk

We will be talking about our work at our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 29 September 10.00 – 12.00 at Ashbourne Bowls Club. All are welcome. If you would like us to come out and talk to your group to explain a bit more about what we do please do get in touch on 01629 812154.