



Annual Review 2017



THE ULYSSES TRUST

*"I am a part of all that I have met;
 Yet all experience is an arch where thro'
 Gleams that untravelled world, whose margin fades
 For ever and for ever when I move...
 To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."*
Ulysses by Alfred Lord Tennyson

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Expeditions 2017



Summary of where the 96 Expeditions of 2017 took place: 22 UK | 28 Western Europe | 9 South America | 5 Nepal | 6 Scandinavia | 26 Other parts of the World including; Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Antarctica, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Iceland, Canada and the USA. 64% deployed within the UK and Europe from Arctic Norway to the Canaries. 22% deployed to the Americas and 7% to Asia – from the Caucasus to the Himalayas and the jungles of Borneo.

Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to highlight that the Ulysses Trust has been supporting expeditions for 25 years and is without question a respected member of the Services' charity community. In terms of numbers, the Charity has granted over £2.8m to support more than 34,000 of the UK's Volunteer Reserve and Cadet Forces on some 2,650 expeditions. This would not have happened without some very generous benefactors and the involvement of a vast range of volunteers and staff. To all of you, please accept a very big thank you.

To underpin this important milestone, the Trust has launched a 25th Anniversary Appeal to increase significantly the level of support we can give to Cadet expeditions. We wish to ensure no Cadet is excluded from participating in expeditions on the grounds of cost. The Trust team was delighted that long term benefactor Ian Hannam launched the Appeal with a very generous donation at the 25th Reception - more to follow in the Annual Review 2018.

To launch the Appeal, one of the Trust's newly appointed Ambassadors, Tania Noakes, will embark on the classic Norge På Langs - skiing the length of Norway, some 2,500km in winter, solo. You can read all about her journey via our website www.ulysses-trust.co.uk. It is appropriate to highlight our other newly appointed Ambassador, Levison Wood. Most of you will be aware of Lev from his appearances on television – generally marching across vast swathes of inhospitable territory. He and Tania are Volunteer Reservists. A huge welcome to both Tania and Lev.

Our outcome measurement work is now producing solid results and these feature in this Review. Why is this important? Increasingly, there is a requirement to demonstrate to our benefactors what is being achieved by the Trust.



Sending lots of people away on expeditions is only a small part of the story. We need to understand what those individuals gained from the experience, did the units benefit and has there been any wider contribution to UK's society. We are now in a position to paint a picture of the outcomes achieved.

Once again, thank you to all those who have contributed to the Ulysses Trust over the last 25 years. I hope you enjoy reading about the Charity's activities over 2017 and I look forward to engaging with you in 2018.

Air Vice-Marshal N J E Kurth CBE FRGS
Chairman of Trustees

Introduction

On 9th June 1992 the Ulysses Trust was established to encourage and support challenging expeditions undertaken by the UK's Reserve Forces and Cadets. In this 25th milestone year, the Trust helped 96 expeditions involving 1,542 young people, with grants of nearly £198,000.

Our first quarter century has reinforced our belief in the learning and development that comes from such experiences – so succinctly conveyed in the extract (see page 2) from Tennyson's poem, Ulysses, immortalising the great warrior and adventurer of Greek mythology, and the inspiration for the Trust's work. It therefore provides support to expeditions with three objectives:

1. to help develop the character and potential of the individual participants – especially in respect of leadership, teamwork, initiative, confidence, self-discipline and judgement;
2. to enhance the morale, recruitment and retention of units that can flow from mounting these expeditions;
3. and, as a result, to contribute to the strength and cohesiveness of their local communities and society generally.

Recognising that all have to start somewhere, and that first steps are often the hardest, we provide grants to support the spectrum of ambition.



Thus, for example, in 2017:

- We provided a grant to Training Ship (TS) Stirling for 24 of their cadets to be introduced to skiing at the Tamworth Snow Dome in a programme run by the charity Snow Camp, as preparation for a ski expedition to the Alps in 2018. TS Stirling's catchment is the Sharp End ward of Birmingham, which is one of the 5% most deprived in the country. Twelve of the cadets were in receipt of Free School Meals. Snow Camp engages inner city youngsters through snow sports to provide them with life skills and nationally-recognised qualifications that enable them to gain employment in outdoor pursuits.



- At the other end of the spectrum, we were among the first to support, with a major 'pump-priming' grant, a team of six Army Reservists in their plan to undertake an unsupported traverse of Antarctica from coast-to-coast – SPEAR 17. They became the first British Services team to do so.

These examples also demonstrate two other guiding principles:

- We believe all in our 'constituency' should have the opportunity to partake in these opportunities, so bias our support towards areas of greatest need and where we can achieve the most impact. We therefore ask Cadet Unit applicants to identify the number of participants on Free School Meals; and we monitor this bias annually against Government Mean Indices of Deprivation.



- The early stage of mounting an expedition – turning a ‘good idea’ into a serious proposition - is often the most daunting and anxious, fraught with uncertainty: will permits and diplomatic clearance be forthcoming, is the objective achievable, can the risks be managed, team selection – is it up to the demands, selecting and sourcing equipment, costs - affordability? We understand it’s like walking in quicksand until some financial commitments are secured. So, we continue to place emphasis on and take pride in the quick, flexible and pragmatic review of applications received, and to making the process as simple as possible.

Our effectiveness here, we believe, is helped by three factors that distinguish the charity:

1. Our highly experienced team of grant assessors supported by on-going investment in our proven Minerva on-line grant management system.
2. The ability to aggregate funds from numerous sources towards specific expeditions, enabling units and expedition leaders to focus on the project rather than its funding.
3. The leverage achieved by directing grants for such opportunities through the Cadet and Volunteer Reserve Forces, themselves organisations with a proven track record in individual development and service to their communities.

The over-riding factor to the difference we make, however, is the generous and regular support of many donors over many years. They, and those young expeditioners they benefit are the heroes of this Review.

Strategic Review of 2017

A survey of over 500 cadet units that we undertook in 2014 pointed to a gap between aspiration to undertake activities we supported and the resources needed to achieve them, especially for cadets from financially challenged backgrounds.

Government policy to double the number of Combined Cadet Force (CCF) contingents by expanding them into state schools (the Cadet Expansion Programme - CES) pointed to that gap progressively increasing.

Encouraged by many of our other stakeholders and financial benefactors, in 2015 trustees decided we needed to do more, especially for young cadets – where doing so could have the greatest social impact.

The resulting Business Plan’s principal aim is to double cadet activity and to ensure that none are excluded on grounds of cost by raising our average contribution to the cost of an expedition from the historic 10% to 33% by 2021.

However, with grants to expeditions exceeding £200,000, three key challenges were identified in the plan:

- In addition to showing where donations were spent, we needed to demonstrate more clearly the difference that the Trust was making.
- The fundraising effort required to sustain this growth was exceeding the capacity of a volunteer team.
- As the founder volunteers moved on, a core professional staff would be necessary to sustain the Trust for the future.

This is a Rubicon moment for growing small charities – to throttle back or go on? Following extensive review, we determined to go on and recruit a small permanent staff to enable us to grow.

(continues overleaf)

Introduction *(continued)*

2017 saw us cross our Rubicon. However, to pursue the appropriate military analogy, we have secured and are consolidating the beachhead, but have yet to exploit beyond. To that end:

- We have recruited two employed members of staff – Brenda Allanson as Development Director, and Paul Randall as Communications and Marketing Officer.
- We have strengthened our Volunteer Team with newcomers to our Grant Applications Committee, to a recently created network of Regional Representatives and, in view of our 25th, to Event Management. In addition to our two excellent ambassadors (see Foreword), therefore, a warm welcome to Nigel Carr, Chris Young, Richard Ayres, Cath Davies, James Dyer, Paula Willmot and Gary Rimate-Muryani.
- We have introduced a programme where we can start to measure outcomes of our work, as well as output.
- Thanks to two exceptional donations, we now have a small Capital Fund, which will provide the reassurance of partly under-writing our core running costs.
- We developed a 25th Anniversary Appeal to address the financial needs of our Plan. The Appeal will be launched at a reception at Lancaster House in February 2018.

There are a number of challenges to exploiting beyond this beachhead:

- We are doing significantly more with Sea Cadets and Air Cadets (Air Training Corps – ATC), but have seen little recent progress amongst the Army Cadet Force (ACF); and, following steady growth until 2014, a steep decline in CCF applications since, despite the Cadet Expansion Programme – although these units are in fairness still too new to be embarking on a programme of expeditions. Given that our own and other research points to Adventurous Outdoor Pursuits as a key attraction for joining Cadets, we are keen to address the impediments here.

- Awareness of and our reach generally into the Cadet organisations is uneven, and improving that is an important task for our Communications Officer and Regional Representatives.
- The Outcome Measurement programme has started to produce some excellent results of short-term impact. The value of such opportunities on the individual, however, often only fully manifest in the longer term. Capturing this is difficult, and we see a need to work in alliance with other stakeholders here.

Twenty-five years ago, the Ulysses Trust was born in adversity on the back of a Territorial Army expedition because the project was considered too risky for commercial sponsorship - when extra-mural adventure training was seen as inappropriate for Reserve Forces and largely confined to UK-based annual camps for Cadets at some cost to the individual.

Our progress since leaves us encouraged, and optimistic in respect of the challenges ahead, and in our ability to continue to make a unique contribution to our Reserve Forces, Cadets and the development of many young people from all walks of life.



Performance Review 2017

We monitor the Trust's performance quarterly, principally by means of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) (*opposite*). As can be seen, 2017 was a mixed year. There has been a drop by 372 in the number of expedition participants supported. This is mainly accounted for by the drop in activity by the ACF and CCF whose combined numbers fell from 757 in 2016 to 384. Army Reserves and University Cadet numbers also declined.

The decline in ACF activity is also a contributory factor in the lower proportion of grants reaching communities in the bottom quartile of the Indices of Mean Deprivation (IMD). Notwithstanding, the 94 cadets on free school meals is 13.3% of the total we supported, closely matching the 13.1% of secondary school pupils in receipt. Whilst not complacent, there are two positive aspects to these figures. First, the number is almost certainly more than 94, as many participants are reluctant to provide this information. Secondly, we believe that these cadets are less likely to sign-up to expeditions due to constrained household income. So take-up from this cohort will naturally be lower - suggesting our support is making a difference.

On a positive note, however, the number of Sea and Air Cadets supported grew by 178. Moreover, we have substantially raised the proportion of contribution to the overall cost of Cadet expeditions from 10.4% to over 14%, and this is mirrored by the drop of participant contributions as a proportion of total cost. This is a fundamental aspect of our strategy to increase our impact on Cadets. Financially, the KPIs point to a good year, largely as a result of an exceptional legacy of £250,000. However, even without that, other income increased by £40,000 (18%). As already outlined, the step change to engaging employed staff has increased the Trust's core running costs, and the 33% of total expenditure these represent is distinctly higher than we are comfortable with.

If we can reverse the decline in CCF and ACF activity, to match the rising trend of Sea and Air Cadets, and as the impact of these appointments gains traction, then this percentage should reduce to a targeted figure of 20% or below by 2021.

	2016	2017
OUTPUTS		
Totals		
Applications received / rejected / cancelled	160/56/4	167/64/7
Expeds supported	100	96
Participant Nos.	1914	1542
Grant Made (Minerva)	£195,557	£197,910
Grant P/P	£102	£128
Grant/Cost Ratio	9.4%	12%
PContrib/Cost Ratio	38.3%	35.6%
Market Penetration (<i>End Year only</i>)	0.97%	0.80%
Cadets		
Applications received / rejected / cancelled	48/9/0	56/14/1
Expeds supported	39	41
Numbers on free school meals/income sp	Not Recorded	94
% grant funds to bottom quartile of IMD	31.1%	24.3%
Participant Nos.	1088	893
Grant Expenditure (Minerva)	£102,440	£104,445
Grant P/P	£94	£117
Grant/Cost Ratio	10.4%	14.1%
Participant Contrib/Cost Ratio	55.1%	50.3%
Market Penetration (<i>End Year only</i>)	0.69%	0.58%
FINANCIALS		
Income (1)	£217,500	£507,535
Grant expenditure (Accounts)	£194,458	£191,046
Running Costs	£59,540	£95,446
<i>Running Costs/Total Expenditure Ratio</i>	23%	33%
Net Movement of Funds (1)	-£35,315	£221,044
Total Assets	£376,982	£598,026
Cash Reserves (Cadet & Gen)	£127,826	£87,168
<i>Months of cash Reserves (on historic spend)</i>	6.0	3.7

The Trust has therefore made important progress in some areas, but been disappointed or frustrated in others. The KPIs show clearly where we have more to do, which can be uncomfortable, but keeps us focussed on our goals. But these are ambitious, and we knew the transition from a volunteer-run operation to one designed to ensure long-term impact would be challenging.

The decline in ACF and CCF activity is presently our most acute concern, which we are discussing with appropriate Service authorities. We expect much of those we support on expeditions, and strive to match that with our own efforts.

Operations

Grants 2017

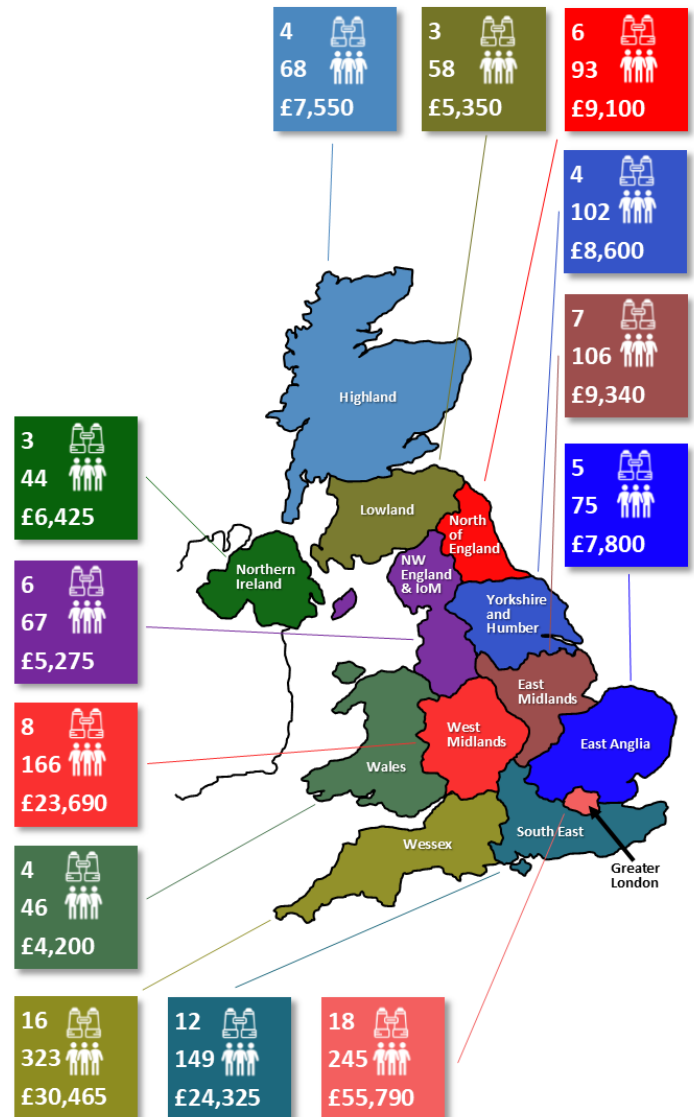
A more detailed breakdown of the impact of our grants measured by our Key Performance Indicators can be seen in the table in the Performance Review 2017 section on page 7.

Grants reached all parts of the UK as shown on the map (right), displaying expeditions mounted (🏔️), participant numbers (👤) and grants made, based on Reserve Forces' and Cadets' Association Regions.

103 grants were authorised but seven proposed expeditions were subsequently cancelled, leaving 96 expeditions actually provided with grants – 57% of total bids received. The bids rejected to a large respect were in respect of diving and skiing projects which more resembled holidays rather than expeditions.

The lower number of Cadet rejections reflects the more flexible criteria applied by the Grants Applications Committee to Cadet applications.

More detail of grants made is shown in the table below.



Unit type	Exped.	Adults	Cadets	Total Nos	Avg per Exped	Grants	Per person	Per Exped	Reject & Cancelled Bids	Total Bids	Grants/Bids
ACF	12	55	187	242	20	£30,040	£124	£2,503	6	18	67%
Sea	6	26	112	138	23	£15,040	£109	£2,507	0	6	100%
ATC	15	79	292	371	25	£41,165	£111	£2,744	6	21	71%
CCF	8	25	117	142	18	£18,200	£128	£2,275	3	11	73%
All Cadets	41	185	708	893	22	£104,445	£117	£2,547	15	56	73%
UOTC + DTUs	19	285	0	285	15	£21,305	£75	£1,121	14	33	58%
Army	31	319	0	319	10	£58,410	£183	£1,884	37	68	46%
RNR	1	14	0	14	14	£1,700	£121	£1,700	2	3	33%
RauxAF	4	31	0	31	8	£12,050	£389	£3,013	3	7	57%
RMR	0	0	0	0	0	£0	£0	£0	0	0	
All Reservists	36	364	0	364	10	£72,160	£198	£2,004	42	78	46%
Totals	96	834	708	1542	16	£197,910	£128	£2,062	71	167	57%



VR and University Cadets

Although the value of grants here was close to last year's, the exceptional grant of £20,000 to Ex ICE MAIDEN masks an underlying decline. Army Reserve expeditions reduced by 21% and the number of participants by 33%. The dramatic uplift experienced in 2015, following withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan, appears to have reversed, and is perhaps reverting to pre-withdrawal levels for reasons yet unknown. University Cadets showed a modest decline of 10% of expeditions and 12% participants. It must also be said that their aspirations appear modest compared to their past record – reflected in their historically low value of grants provided. The trend in these grants is shown below:

Cadets

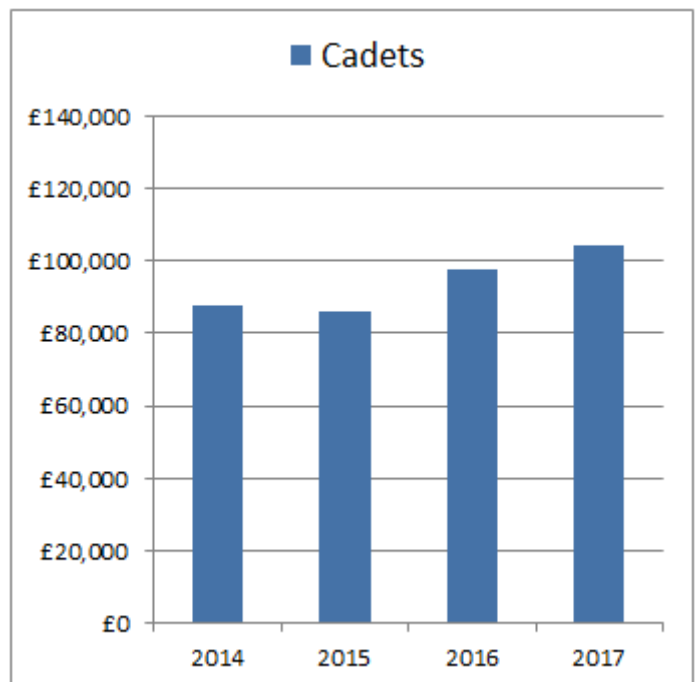
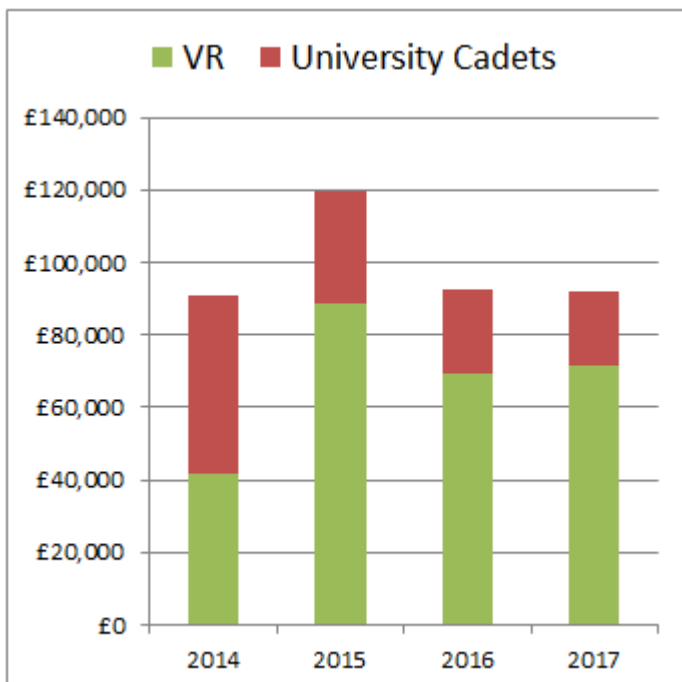
The value of grants made to Cadets hit a record and exceeded last year's by £2,000. This reflected:

- Increasing the average per capita grant by 24% to £117, in line with our Business Plan policy of more aggressive targeting inclusivity for Cadets. Our contribution to the overall cost of Cadet expeditions increased by almost 4% to 14.1%, with cadet's personal contributions reducing by 5% to 50% as a result.
- Sea cadet expedition grants increasing (from a low base) by 66% and participants by 360%.
- The ATC continuing to set the mark: from an already strong base, an increase of 27% in the number of expeditions receiving grants and an increase of 23% of participants.

However, the total numbers benefitting declined by almost 200, or 18%. This was because:

- CCF expeditions declined by 46% and the number of participants by 51%.
- A similar number of ACF expeditions received grants, but the number of participants has declined by 48%.

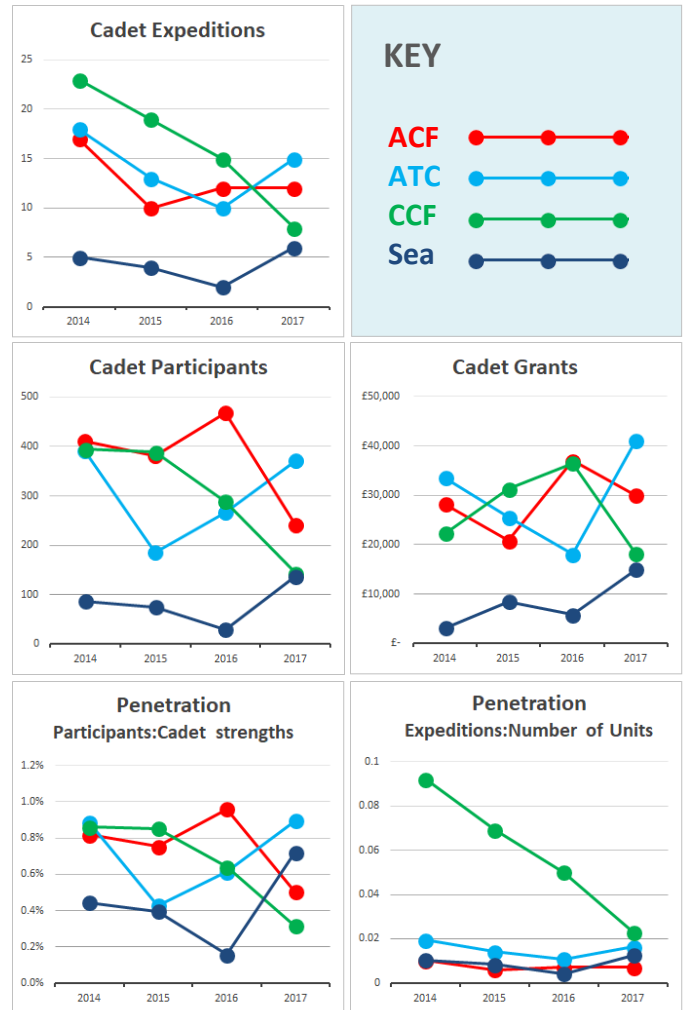
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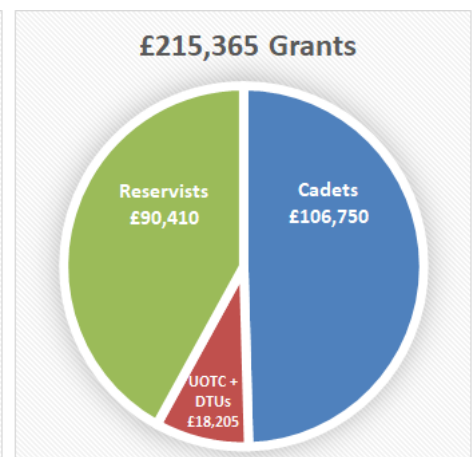
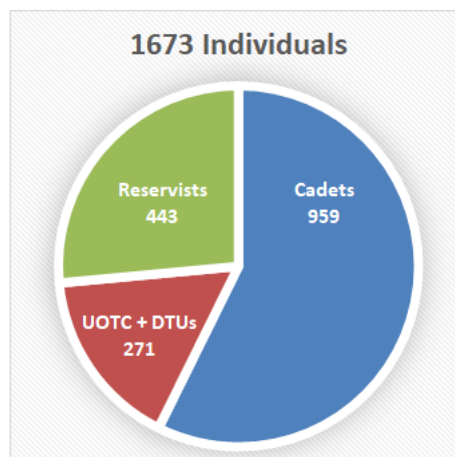
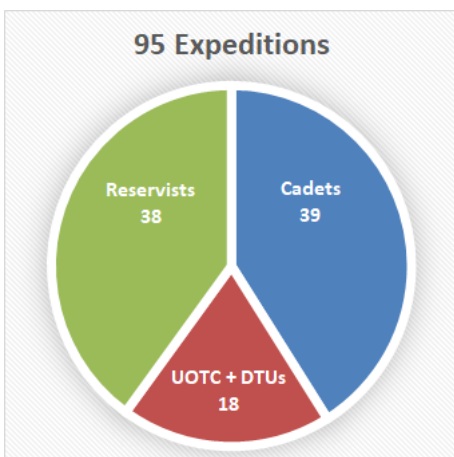
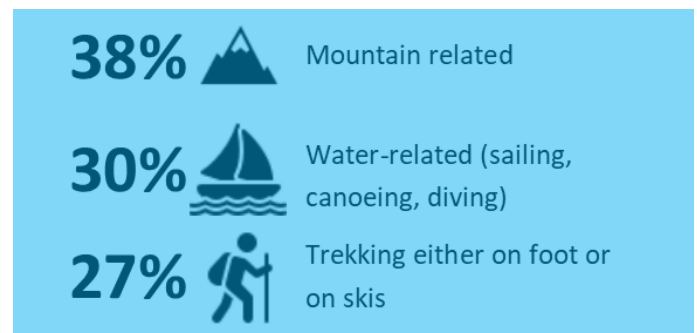
Operations (continued)

The possible reasons for this have been shared with respective Service authorities. The number of rejected bids is marginally lower than last year, so declines above reflect fewer bids rather than more rigorous criteria being applied. State School CCFs, newly established under the Government's Cadet Expansion Programme, are possibly at too early a stage to be mounting expeditions, but such opportunities are known to be a major factor in their recruitment and retention, so we view this trend with growing concern.

We remain of the view that bureaucratic hurdles in respect of authorisation and instructor qualifications are a significant impediment – with CCFs therefore choosing instead to undertake expeditions under School and DfE guidelines. By comparison, the ATC abandoned the Joint Service Adventurous Training Authorisation process a while back as being inappropriate for cadet expeditions, and the number, quality and aspiration of their bids are growing, despite the demographic decline in cadet numbers. The neighbouring graphs illustrate the varying trends between our constituent cadet beneficiaries:



Supported Expeditions Deployed 2017



Outcome Measurement

We introduced a new procedure partway through the year to measure the impact of each expedition we supported. We asked the Commanding Officer (CO) of each unit to complete our survey. Here is a summary of the results from the 43 units that responded:

100% POSITIVE IMPACT ON INDIVIDUALS

75% said it had a **major** positive impact on most of the quoted characteristics and 25% said it had a **positive** impact on the majority of the quoted characteristics of leadership, teamwork, confidence, initiative, self-discipline and judgement.

91% POSITIVE IMPACT ON UNIT

42% said it had a **major** positive impact on the quoted areas and 49% said it had a **positive** impact on the quoted areas of recruitment, retention and morale.

36% POSITIVE IMPACT TO SOCIETY

We asked about any potential impact of the expedition on other parts of society. For example teaching or construction projects or other activities stimulated by the expedition experience such as local voluntary activities.

97% SATISFIED WITH OUR SERVICE

We asked if Ulysses Trust staff provided encouragement, demonstrated flexibility and gave timely responses to questions. 83% said it was strong in all aspects and 14% said it was positive in most aspects.



“There were five reservists who deployed on this expedition. Four were enablers and were experienced in expeditions of this type. Only one was a novice and the impact on him was enormous. His exposure to the unfamiliar social and military hierarchical structures in an AT environment was a challenge for him, coupled with the effects of high altitude he was fully tested. Having seen him recently the experience has certainly had a positive effect on his self-esteem and personal development both in the military context and personally.”

Joint Helicopter Command

“This was the first expedition for the majority of the participants who were young and junior in rank. It was particularly unusual to manage to get away a number of chefs, drivers, postal and courier personnel, clerks, etc when they don't usually get the opportunity. All achieved the Summer Mountain Leader Qualification.”

Northern Ireland Garrison Support Unit



Fundraising



What we achieved

This Review mainly focuses on what we do to support Reservists and Cadets to undertake challenging adventurous activities – and rightly so. However, we are only able to provide that support thanks to the generosity of our funders, many of whom are listed opposite. We are, as ever, hugely grateful for the very generous support we continue to receive from the Nuffield Trust for the Forces of the Crown, whose funding enables us to support Reservist expeditions, and from the RAF Charitable Trust, whose funding helps us to support expeditions undertaken by Air Cadets. Together these two Trusts provided some 75% of our income from trusts in 2017.

We are also very grateful to our other long-standing funders whose loyal support is much appreciated: BAE Systems, the MacRobert Trust, Clive and Sylvia Richards Charity, the Sir John Knott Trust, the Worshipful Company of Dyers, the Worshipful Company of Armourers and Brasiers, the Army Sports Control Board Charity, the Lord Faringdon Charitable Trust, several Reserve and Cadet Force Associations (RFCAs), Paul Orchard-Lisle and Julian Radcliffe.

Donations were also received from a wide range of individuals and from our hardworking paper boy, Colonel David Benest. We were delighted that this year the Honorary Artillery Company joined our growing list of Trust funders.

What next?

We are currently in our twenty fifth year and our 25th Anniversary Appeal (see opposite), which will be formally launched at an event in February 2018 has a target to raise £1.5m by 2021. We want to provide more support for cadets and in order to do so, quite simply we need to raise more money. We are looking to bring on board new funders in all areas – trusts, livery companies, companies, RFCAs and individuals – and to demonstrate to our funders that their money is being well spent.

The trustees have addressed these challenges by bringing on board a Development Director, whose primary responsibility is fundraising, and a Marketing and Communications Officer, who will be supporting our fundraising efforts by making improvements in areas such as the website and our social media and ensuring that we gather meaningful reports and data from our grantees.

We have set ourselves challenging yet realistic targets for the next few years and provided we continue to attract donations from individual philanthropists and other funders, the signs are encouraging.



Supporters and Donors

The following is a list of supporters and donors who made grants and donations to the Ulysses Trust in 2017. We are enormously grateful to our supporters and value your commitment to our purpose. We continually strive to ensure that we optimise that commitment in making a difference.

Army Sports Control Board
BAE Systems
Colonel David Benest OBE
David Blanchard
Antonia Bournes
Col. Bernard M. de L. Cazenove TD
Charlton Baker Accountants
Ellen Clark
The Clive and Sylvia Richards Charity Limited
The Duke of Westminster
Greater London RFCA
Major Nicholas P Holder
Honourable Artillery Company
Leigh Lodge Centenary Fund
Lord Faringdon Charitable Trust
The MacRobert Trust
Philip Neame
Nuffield Trust for the Forces of the Crown
Brigadier Paul Orchard-Lisle CBE TD DL
Perivan
Pewsey Vale Heritage Centre
Probus
Colonel Julian G Y Radcliffe OBE QVRM TD
RAF Charitable Trust
RFCA for Greater London
Wessex RFCA
The Worshipful Company of Armourers and Braziers
The Worshipful Company of Dyers
E C and S A York

“To all of you, please accept a very big thank you.”



THE ULYSSES TRUST

25th Anniversary Appeal

As part of the celebrations of the 25th Anniversary of the Ulysses Trust, we are launching an Appeal to raise £1.5 Million by the end of 2021 in order to increase significantly the amount of support we can give cadet expeditions. These extra funds will help us to:

- Reduce each cadet's contribution
- Reach out more effectively to those from more disadvantaged backgrounds or environments, for whom these opportunities can be the most transformational
- Double the number of opportunities for cadets

With this financial boost we aim to make a difference to over 2,500 young people every year.

You can find out more about the 25th Anniversary Appeal via our website at www.ulyssesrust.co.uk

Financial Report



Income & Expenditure 2017

A summary of the Ulysses Trust's financial status at end-2017 (based on as yet unaudited accounts) is summarised in the table opposite.

The Trust's income amounted to £507,535 in 2017. Of this, £250,000 was a single legacy to be deployed towards the long-term development of the Trust. Discounting this exceptional sum, £221,894 was received from other donations – an increase of £33,308 on the previous year, which together with additional Investment Income and Gift Aid, resulted in an increase of total income over comparable figures in 2016 of £40,035.

These are covered in more detail in the Fundraising Review, but it is encouraging to note the growing number of termed or repeat donations, improving our capacity for long-term planning and stability. Other income included dividend contribution and capital gain from the Army Cadet Fund, established in 2015. This, and the long-term development fund from the legacy are, or are in the process of being, invested in the Armed Forces Common Investment Fund (AFCIF) managed by Blackrock. The Trust expended £191,045 on charitable activities, with grants approved for 96 expeditions (after refunds and returns) in 2017. This small decline on 2016 was mainly due to the substantial drop in CCF grants, which outweighed the significant growth in those to the ATC and Sea Cadets.

Overheads of £95,446 increased by £35,000, reflecting the Trust's investment in a core paid staff.

Income was therefore £221,044 in excess of Expenditure, although, without the legacy, expenses exceeded operating income by £28,956.

Total net assets rose to £598,026, of which £510,858 are Fixed Assets invested in the capital funds designated to Army Cadets and long-term development, leaving £87,168 of operational reserves. This represents some 4 months of planned annual expenditure. This is below the 6-month policy, but is forecast to be restored by end Quarter 1 2018.

Finally, it should be noted that the Ulysses Trust registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 7th December 2016, and transferred the assets of the Registered Charity to the new CIO with effect 31 December 2016. The 2016 figures included for comparative purposes are those of the old Registered Charity.

Budget 2018

The Trust is budgeting £237,500 on charitable activities in 2018, an uplift of £46,500 over 2017, predicated on a stabilising of demand by CCFs.



Account Summary

ULYSSES TRUST - SUMMARY ACCOUNTS 2017 (Unaudited)

Income	2017	2016
Voluntary Income / Donations	£471,894	£188,586
Bank Interest and Dividends	£9,520	£9,937
Growth in Investments	£21,688	£19,028
Gift aid Tax Recovery	£4,433	£1,131
Total Income	£507,535	£218,683
Expenditure		
VR Grants (incl those on Cadet expeditions)	£87,214	£82,235
University Cadets	£16,336	£21,073
Cadets (excluding VR Instructors)	£87,495	£91,150
	£191,045	
Total Charitable Activities	5	£194,458
Cost of Grant Making	£7,163	£4,026
Cost of Generating funds	£84,224	£44,788
Governance and Administration	£4,059	£10,726
Total Running Costs	£95,446	£59,540
Total Expenditure	£286,491	£253,998
Excess of Income over Expenditure	£221,044	-£35,315
BALANCE SHEET - 1 Jan 2017		
Fixed Assets		
Investments (AFCIF)	£323,344	£249,156
Investments (Monies Hypothecated)	£187,500	
Total Investments	£510,844	
Current Assets		
Cash	£89,170	£147,006
Debtors	£36,351	£29,858
	£125,521	
Total Current Assets	1	£176,864
Total Assets		£426,020
Liabilities		
Creditors: falling due within one year	-£38,339	-£49,038
Net Current assets	£87,182	£127,826
Total Net Assets	£598,026	£376,982
Made Up of:		
Army Cadets Fund	£261,078	£249,156
Legacy (Future Development Fund)	£249,780	
	£510,858	
Capital Funds	8	
Cadet Reserve	£44,113	£53,223
General Reserve	£43,055	£74,603
Operational Reserves	£87,168	£127,826
	£598,026	£376,982

Prince of Wales's Expeditionary Awards

Each year the Ulysses Trust presents awards for the best expeditions in the following categories - Cadet Forces, Volunteer Reserve Forces and University Units - to highlight the very best in leadership, challenge, courage and planning. The expeditions for the Awards have been selected using the award guidelines, which include the key objectives of the Ulysses Trust, specifically that expeditions we support should:

- Enhance Unit and Force morale, recruitment, retention and public esteem.
- Help develop the characteristics of leadership, teamwork, confidence, initiative, self-discipline and judgment of their individual members.
- Contribute to Society at large.

Please note: we have announced details of both the 2016 and 2017 awards this year so that future awards are in sync with future Annual Reviews.

2016 Awards

CADET CATEGORY

YUKON ADVENTURE | Sussex Air Cadet Wing

A demanding expedition which saw eight cadets and four staff spend ten days canoeing 369km down the Yukon. This self-sufficient paddle was two years in the planning, trained for over a 12 month period. The themes of the expedition were both educational as well as physical, in an environment that allowed the members to develop their skills of communication, leadership, teamwork and self-confidence.



HM Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex, Peter Field, presents the award to two Cadets

RESERVIST CATEGORY

DRAGON SISIMIUT | 3 Royal Welsh

Reservists took on the challenge of each carrying 22kg of kit whilst trekking a total of 165km across the Arctic Circle Trail in Greenland. It called for considerable fitness, stamina, self-reliance and teamwork, demonstrating the enhanced skillset and capabilities of Reservists. This was a special opportunity for Reservists to undertake challenging adventurous training in a unique setting.

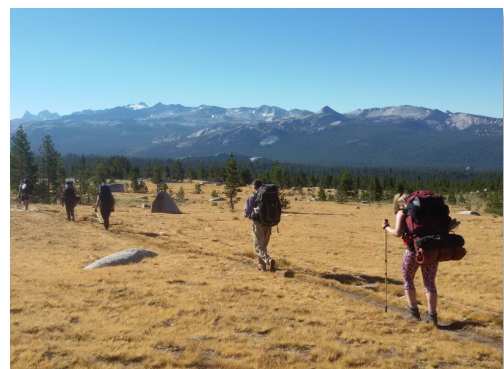


Captain Pete Andrews receiving an award from Lieutenant General Sir Simon Mayall KBE CB

UNIVERSITY CATEGORY

NORTHERN BEAR 16 | Northumbrian UOTC

A nine-day summer mountaineering expedition to the Sierra Nevada Mountains in Yosemite National Park, California, USA. A group of Officer Cadets undertook the trek, with 11 of the participants gaining the Summer Mountaineering Foundation qualification. The Cadets planned their own routes, covering between 6 and 14 miles a day, at times at an elevation of over 3,000m.



Cadets from Northumbrian University Officers' Training Corps (UOTC) in Yosemite

'I found the whole expedition incredibly demanding and for me this has been an impressive achievement of which I am extremely proud. It has given me a much more positive outlook and has made me more appreciative of my very privileged life. I now feel a much stronger moral duty to improve the life of others.'

2017 Awards

CADET CATEGORY

STIRLING VENTURER 17 | TS Stirling Sea Cadets

Six Sea Cadets from TS Stirling and five from Birmingham's Tile Cross Academy's Combined Cadet Force attended a five-day Junior Cadet Leadership Challenge (JCLC) alongside 300 fellow international cadets at Fort Devens, USA. The Cadet attendance at the exercise was deemed a success, and a positive recruiting tool.



Cadets from 'Forward Division' of TS Stirling Sea Cadets

RESERVIST CATEGORY

SPEAR 17 | British Army Reserves

This expedition saw a team of six Reservists succeed in a 1,100 mile crossing of the Antarctic Ice Cap. This is rarely attempted, due to the physical endurance required to enable self-sustainment by man-hauling heavy equipment in this extreme climate. An extremely impressive achievement, highlighted by the fact that it was a first for a British Army Team expedition.



SPEAR 17 | British Army Reserves

UNIVERSITY CATEGORY

ARCTIC EXPRESS 2017 | London UOTC

16 cadets undertook a two-week sailing adventure from NW Scotland to Iceland, facing North Atlantic storms on board Yacht 'Adventure'. The crew travelled 650 nautical miles sailing from Oban on the West Coast of Scotland to Reykjavik, Iceland. Often sailing in challenging weather and sea conditions, there was extremely positive feedback from the unit, with expedition members developing sailing skills, team work and leadership.



Cadets from London UOTC on board Yacht 'Adventure' in the North Atlantic

Closing Comments



The first quarter century of the Ulysses Trust has seen much change – not just within itself, but especially in the Services and wider social environments. Experiencing virtual adventures through a ubiquitous digital gadget in your hand was inconceivable in 1992, as were instant communications for all to the furthest parts of the world. But the virtual world can be isolating, Facebook friends not always what they seem, and social media does not necessarily bring social cohesion. Greater diversity within the Services also brings challenges. Meeting the demands of continuous operations together is undoubtedly an environment for engendering mutual respect between diverse people. With these having largely drawn to a close, arguably facing the rigours of expeditions together can substitute – a great way to break down barriers and generate cohesion.

Ironically, therefore, we believe there is a greater need now for the real experiences that the Trust encourages. Unexpected and close friendships form when facing danger, overcoming fear and managing risk with others. Awareness, self-respect, responsibility and selflessness become pre-requisites if the group is to pull through. As we get better at measuring the outcomes of the expeditions we support, in addition to learning about what they did, these benefits are increasingly confirmed.

Certain themes run through them all:

- *“I never thought I could do that / having done that, I can do anything I turn my mind to.”*
- *“I have made some life-long friends.”*
- *“I learnt so much from helping others...”*

Cadets, especially, can gain so much not just from the immediate experiences, but in how they approach the rest of their lives. Those that are denied such opportunities miss out on so much. This is why we are determined to extend our reach to all, regardless of means and backgrounds. It is also why we are so concerned at, and continue to worry away at stakeholders over, the decline in CCF and ACF applications. And, it is why we chose to take the difficult steps to ensure that the Trust will be in a position to continue to help enable such opportunities for the next 25 years, and beyond. Distinct from most Service charities, our focus is not so much helping mend, as to help build for the future.

To do otherwise is to let our young people down. We hope, therefore, this Review provides a greater understanding of what we are trying to do, why, where we are succeeding, where struggling. And, we hope it encourages those of you who support us to continue to do so, and for others to join the Ulysses Trust on its Odyssey.

*To strive, to seek, to find,
and not to yield*



Feedback from Units

“Fantastic, helpful, great communication and extremely generous in your donation which made a massive difference to the most junior members of the expedition. Many thanks.”

“Without organisations such as this Trust, youngsters would not be able to achieve such positive life / career enhancing activities which will ultimately make the individual and the country much better all round.”

“Public funding for AT is currently being squeezed and such projects would just not be viable without the continued and generous support of non-public donors, the most evergreen and reliable of which is the Ulysses Trust.”

“Without the support of the Ulysses Trust the personal contribution payment from expedition members would have been much higher meaning that it might not have been possible for junior members of the exercise to afford to participate.”



“The Trust has been absolutely brilliant, and the support provided was excellent. We could not have made the project happen without the much-appreciated support.”



Thank you

A big thank you to **Perivan** for kindly printing this Annual Review free of charge as a gift to the Ulysses Trust. It is very much appreciated!

Want to find out more?

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