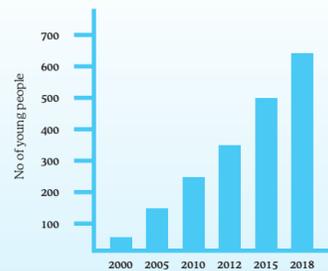


Celebrating  
20 years

# Machan Trust

## Annual Review 2018





## Our journey

When the Machan Trust was founded by a group of inspirational people from local churches in May 1998, the key concern was reducing anti-social behaviour by providing activities for older children. In the early years, the Trust employed a full time youth worker, part time student help and in 2000 was reaching 50 children at three activities.

Over the years, we have delivered a huge range of activities and events to meet the local need at the time- football and netball teams, healthy eating courses, anti-sectarianism projects, fire training, early intervention and breakfast clubs. We now deliver dozens of activities across a myriad of venues, reach over 600 children and employ 9 staff, sessional workers and have 146 volunteers.

In delivering all these activities, the same key principles remain:

- encouraging, enabling and empowering young people;
- building trusting relationships so young people are enabled to make positive choices;
- giving priority to areas of greatest need;
- actively developing the skills and leadership capabilities of staff and volunteers.

We define clear outcomes for all our work to ensure that we are providing for each and every child.

We could not have delivered this work without the fantastic support of a huge number of supporters and we thank them one-and-all!



### Growing demand for services – Together Everyone Achieves More

Listening to the young people it was clear there was great demand for existing services and even greater need for additional support. Thanks to new funding from Charitable Trusts including BBC Children in Need, Robertson Trust, Esmee Fairbairn, Church of Scotland and Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland the staff team grew to 3 and volunteers increased to 60 allowing for the launch of summer holiday programmes, evenings sports and drama groups and one residential trip to complement existing programmes. By now over 150 youngsters were benefiting from the Trust's range of activities.



### Building the Trust for the Future – Our Early Intervention Initiative

Evaluation and a large scale consultation exercise showed the need for services for children aged 5 – 9 years. Focusing on 3 key outcomes for our children and young people we launched our early years' initiative thanks to new funding from the Big Lottery Fund. A five year project began and within the first year saw the programme oversubscribed and supporting 285 children rather than the expected 150.

This programme has been very successful and resulted in the achievement of the following outcomes: children are more confident and successful learners; children are happier, healthier and have increased life skills; children have improved resilience to deal with everyday challenges.



I can't imagine not volunteering, I get so much enjoyment from it and I just love seeing the children grow and learn.



## Volunteer case study

Without our volunteers the Machan Trust could not survive let alone flourish. We are indebted to each and every volunteer who has helped in any way over the past 20 years. Every person plays a vital role however big or small, over a long term or for a short period, working in front line delivery or behind the scenes.

One person who has been a key volunteer since 1998 is Pamela. Her role has grown and changed yet her enthusiasm and compassion remain. From 1999 - 2005 she provided administration and staff supervision as well as volunteering at an after-school group. In 2004, she helped establish our Drama group, and has been instrumental in developing youth drama skills and directing performances. In 2010 she became our Volunteers' Representative ensuring our ever increasing team of volunteers has a strong voice and their needs are addressed.

Pam volunteers at breakfast groups, holiday programmes and special events developing a strong rapport with the children and families. She is insightful and observant in the way she interacts with the children and young people, knowing how to adapt her approach to suit different needs. She communicates well with co-volunteers regarding the positives and challenges recognises the progress that children are making as well as any causes for concern.

Pam is a well-liked and well-respected member of the community, and a strong ambassador of the Trust. She provides hands-on support at our fundraising and publicity events, for example running the home-baking stall at our annual Autumn Fayre and helping with publicity and volunteer recruitment at supermarket information stalls. Pam's warm personality and excellent organisational skills make her a pleasure to work with and an ideal ambassador for our children's and youth work.

In September 2015 she helped form our new Sustainability Committee, contributing key insights and ideas in discussion regarding our organisation's forward planning and future growth. Pam has given and continues to give tirelessly to the Machan Trust and makes such a difference to the children and young people she engages with.

1998

### Launch of the Machan Trust

- 1.5 full time staff
- 15 volunteers
- 50 young people
- 3 weekly activities
- Hareleeshill and Machanhill areas
- Operating costs £25k

"If you have the courage to begin you have the courage to succeed"

2008

### 10 Years on and still making a difference

- 3 full time equivalent staff
- 85 volunteers
- 300 young people
- Hareleeshill, Netherburn and Strutherhill
- Operating costs £100k

Training our young adults helped to increase capacity and encouraged, enabled and empowered over 30 teenagers to be positive role models through their volunteering.

2018

### Celebrating 20 years of making a difference

- 9 full time staff
- 146 volunteers
- 600+ children and young people
- Ashgill, Hareleeshill, Netherburn, Stonehouse and Strutherhill
- Operating costs £250k

To celebrate, a wonderful birthday party for children took place in June, trips are scheduled for teenagers, a staff lunch and a Big Breakfast for partners, stakeholders and funders is arranged for September. We are looking forward to what the future holds with gratitude and optimism.

Thank you to everyone who has helped along the journey so far.

2005

2015

Making a positive difference to the life chances of children and young people in Larkhall and surrounding areas

# Funders and Partners

We are indebted to each and every person, group or organisation, large or small, who financially supports the Machan Trust.

Over the years our partners have increased resulting in greater community spirit, fewer gaps in service provision, sharing of resources, time and talents.

We are grateful to all partners and will celebrate this partnership working in September 2018.





## The future

Key to our continued success will be remaining true to our principles and the needs of each individual child. We will continue our local focus, understanding the needs and concerns of individual people. Involvement of local people throughout our organisation- as staff, volunteers, members of youth and children committees, financial supporters as well as family and children participating in our activities - is vital to achieving this aim.

It is likely that there will be continued financial pressures on the charity sector in the coming years. We have been incredibly successful in gaining financial support, in many cases repeat funding over many years, which is a strong endorsement of our work and the results we achieve. Building strong relationships with funders to understand their needs is critical for their continued support. A great recent example is the ground-breaking initiative with South Lanarkshire Council for the delivery of summer programmes and breakfast clubs. Working with partner organisations is also vital to ensure we do not duplicate services and provide value for money across the local area.

The last 20 years have shown us that flexibility is key to meet the changing needs of the local community as they arise. We took up this challenge with our Early Intervention project and look forward to taking on new challenges in the next 20 years.



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