

ROBERTSON OUTDOOR BURSARY (R.O.B)



ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Registered Charity Number 1156739

1. INTRODUCTION & WELCOME

The trustees present their second annual report for the charity for the year 1st January 2015 – 31st December 2015.

In our second year of operations R.O.B has continued to raise funds, grow partnerships and most importantly increase the amount of people we are supporting to gain educational qualifications in Tanzania.

Key this year has been receiving our first progress report on last year's awardees. This has confirmed the importance of our work and that we are realising R.O.B's vision to make a difference to peoples' lives in Tanzania by giving grants to enable them to gain qualifications in the outdoor industry and also by collecting technical kit for distribution.

We are delighted to report that we are standing by our pledge that every penny donated will be spent to support our awardees. We continue to collaborate with our corporate sponsors, partners and volunteers to minimise administration costs through ways of working that harness their expertise and resources as we develop and grow.

Since our foundation we have now already helped 27 people working in the outdoor industry in Tanzania gain qualifications that will help them improve their careers and through this the lives of themselves and their families.

Our journey, continues and we are learning and developing how we can maximize our operations to make appropriate use of every penny donated to us. We thank all those who are walking this journey with us.

Yvonne Robertson
Founding Trustee

'As long as there is a purpose there is no failure'
Swahili proverb

2. ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

This year we began our operations with a focus on fundraising and making our annual awards and strengthening our corporate relationships. We were delighted to see that many of our regular donors continued to support us.

2.1 Key Milestones

This period of operations was marked by the following key milestones:

- **January:**
First Independent kit drop by Ruth Sengale
- **February:**
Update from African Walking Company on last year's awardees' progress
- **March:**
Awards to 17 employees of the African Walking Company to fund their attendance on a Crisis Management course and also the funding of a further 4 employees for the Wilderness First Response Course
- **May:**
Chelsea and Westminster NHS Education Team Fundraising Coffee Morning
- **July:**
Presentation of cheque and kit collection from Brunel University
- **August:**
Kit collection and drop by Colorado Mountain Club Kilimanjaro Expedition Team
- **December 15:**
-Welcome of new corporate partner : the Office Bar in Argentiere France
-Santa Cham charity Ski Event

2.2 Kit Collections

This year we were delighted to be approached by Ruth Sengale and the Colorado Mountain Club to make our first independent kit drops.

2.3 Fund Raising

The 'Friends of R.O.B continue to support us with their regular donations and we have held three main fundraising events

- Chelsea and Westminster NHS Trust Education Team Coffee Morning 20th May
- Office Bar Argentiere France Pub Quiz 5th December
- Santa Cham Charity Ski Event 24 December 2015

3. AWARDS & AWARDEES

2014 Awardee Updates

With our annual award process underway we are happy to report the progress of last year's awardees:

- Abraham Kipokola sets an example of what an excellent Chief Guide should be. This season his team of six guides included the two female assistant guides in the 'man's world of Kilimanjaro' his team learn from Abraham's expertise in guiding.
- Justin Thomas has excelled over the past year and has just been promoted to the highest zone for guides payment to reflect this superb work.
- Ewald Minja and Raphael Bynite both performed well this year using their new skills and they remain fixed into a guide team and are important assistant guides for the company
- Peter Nandi has left the African Walking Company to seek other employment in the Outdoor Industry and we wish him all the success in his future.

2015 Awards

We asked the friends of ROB where we could best spend our donations in 2015. We decided on two education courses for a total of 21 people. We sponsored 17 people on the Crisis Management Course and 4 people on the Wilderness First Responder Course. This course is challenging giving in-depth training in remote areas, enhancing student's decision making and practical skills. The Crisis Management Course is ran for three days and educates the students around client handling and further develops their guiding skills.

4. CORPORATE PARTNERS

We have continued to build on the relationship with African Walking Company, negotiating the most appropriate ways to make use of our funds.

Of critical importance has been able to get feedback from our first awardees and from the company on how useful our support has been in developing guides and porters' knowledge and skills.

We have continued to maintain and build on our relationships established with our corporate partners:

- Swank Healthcare (USA)

- Cotswold Outdoor (UK)
- Exodus Travel (UK)
- 8th Day Adventure (UK)
- Namaste Sport (Argentiere France)
- You Inspire (UK)

This year we were delighted to welcome the following new partners :

- The Office Bar in Argentiere, Chamonix
- Colorado Mountain Club, United States of America

Continuing our work with our partners will be a priority for further development over the next year.

5. FINANCES

During the period we received total donations including gift aid of £2705. We are currently receiving regular donations of £1,810 per annum.

This year we awarded £1,823 in grants. Our total expenditure for the period was £2,011. Our operating excess of income stands at £6,259 (Appendix 1 financial report)

We pledge that all money donated to us will be spent on our educational awards and will not be spent on administrative expenses. Of our total costs, £1823 was spent on grants. We spent £57 on Virgin Money collection fees and £131 on other administrative costs.

6. LOOKING FORWARD

Being able to see the impact of our work on employees of African Walking Company was an excellent start to the year and kept our motivation high for fundraising. Our priority is to increase donations of kit and money so we can continue to support and impact on peoples' lives working in the outdoor industry in Tanzania and other developing countries.

In the year ahead our focus will be to:

- Increase the number of fundraising events and money raised.
- Grow our corporate sponsors and partners. .
- Identify and build new partnerships within Tanzania
- Continue to update our website, streamline our administrative processes as far as possible and grow our social networking presence.

We are looking forward to a successful third year of our charity.

www.robertsonoutdoorbursary.org

7. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2015

ROBERTSON OUTDOOR BURSARY

Income & Expenditure Account for the Period 1st January to 31st December 2015

| Incoming Resources | £ | £ |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| 2014 operating excess | | 5,563 |
| Other donations | | 1,810 |
| Gift Aid on these donations | | 235 |
| Fundraising | | 658 |
| Bank Interest | | 2 |
| Total Income Receivable | | <u>8,273</u> |
| Resources Expended | | |
| Grants made for charitable purposes | 1,823 | |
| Virgin Moneygiving collection fees | 57 | |
| Launch Party costs | 510 | |
| Other costs | <u>131</u> | |
| | | 2,011 |
| Net income for period | | <u>6,259</u> |

ROBERTSON OUTDOOR BURSARY
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2015

| Current Assets | £ |
|--|--------------|
| Cash at bank | 5,431 |
| Debtor - Virgin Moneygiving | 132 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total Assets | 5,563 |
| | <hr/> |
| Represented by: | |
| Accumulated Funds: Net income for period | 5,563 |
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The Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet were approved by the trustees on

Yvonne Robertson
Founding Trustee

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Steve Smith
Treasurer & Trustee

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Sally Batley
Trustee

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