

## Social Audit report

Wordsmith Crafts CIC (WSC) was formed to combine the work of artist “Simon Lidwell, trading as Wordsmithcrafts” and the Voluntary group “Cluaran Heritage Interpretation Project” emerging from lockdown and the impact of Covid. The Company is not established or conducted for private gain and any surplus or assets are to be used principally for the benefit of the community. The objects of the Company (WSC) are to carry on activities which benefit the community and in particular (without limitation) to provide people with greater access to the full resources of their heritage, especially those who do not currently access them.

During the year January 2022/23 WSC has run activities which can be grouped under two general project headings, Cluaran and Quartz.

Cluaran – Living breathing heritage. – School visits, Heritage Events, Storytelling (Including online), Heritage Crafts, developing quality formal volunteering and business opportunities.

Quartz project – using visual arts to help people explore, understand, and express spirituality. Drawing on the Christian heritage of Scotland.

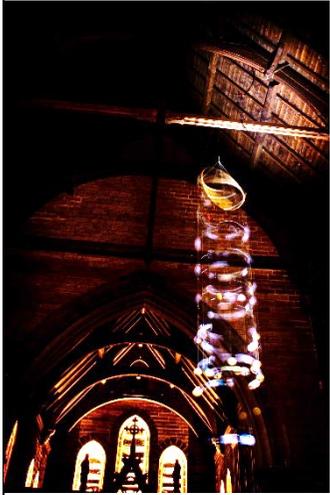
This report has been drawn up to describe how the activities of WSC have benefited the community, and provide more detail about which particular sections of the community have been involved.



<b>A selection of Wordsmith Crafts activities.</b>				
Similar activities have been grouped together, some are year long programmes and others one off or a series of events.				
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Client/funder</b>	<b>Stakeholders</b>	<b>Benefactors/Social Impact</b>	<b>Consultation/Evidence</b>
<b>Jan 2022</b> founded			<i>Specific groups identified in bold, other beneficiaries in text.</i>	
<b>April 2022</b> Started trading				
Online presence	CIC	WSC Associates  General	<b>Online heritage enthusiasts</b> We have a presence on the internet. This benefits the project by collecting a group of interested subscribers. The content posted includes heritage information and	<a href="http://www.wordsmithcrafts.co.uk">www.wordsmithcrafts.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.wordsmithcrafts.co.uk/Quartz">www.wordsmithcrafts.co.uk/Quartz</a> <a href="http://www.cluaranhaven.org.uk">www.cluaranhaven.org.uk</a>

		public	curiosities as well as news of events and publicity for them.  Having a presence online helps overcome geographical challenges to access and also adapts the presentation of information for the digital age.	As well as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts  This includes a blog for both Cluaran and Quartz projects providing free at point of access information about WSC activities.
Beltaine gathering. (others spaced throughout the year)  (Five seasonal mini festivals, free for the public to access)	Allanton Peace Sanctuary	Gen Public Allanton community Heritage Artists St Johns Church, Dumfries	<b>Public event free at point of access</b> Provided guidance on rooting the events in local history. Sourced historical camp equipment, heritage crafters, storytellers.	<i>"The weekend was a big success. Thank you so much for all your hard work. Please thank Kate and Kirsten too."</i>  <i>"Thank you so much for yesterday. The activity was a hit literally and the Story brill."</i> – e-mails, event organiser
Creative Caerlaverock – (Work with specific groups who do not currently access the castle, participation in consultation activities)	The Stove Network  HES	Stove Network HES Better lives partnership Dumfries	Working with research and develop access to Caerlaverock as a local resource This included people with additional support needs, refugees/new scots, young people from priority SIMD areas	Community engagement report (Phase 1) <a href="https://thestove.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Creative-Caerlaverock-Community-Engagement-Report-Phase-One.pdf">https://thestove.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Creative-Caerlaverock-Community-Engagement-Report-Phase-One.pdf</a> accessed 13.9.22
CanDo project Workshops	Leonard Cheshire CanDo project	Kirkcudbright Gallery	Sourced heritage crafters and storytellers to work with young people with additional support needs. To provide hands on heritage activities and engagement with the Galloway hoard. Also heritage artwork (weaving) based in Dumfries	
Kirkcudbright Gallery drop in arts day	Kirkcudbright Gallery	Kirkcudbright Gallery Heritage Artists	<b>Public event free at point of access</b> Drop-in craft workshop. Enhanced engagement with Galloway Hoard exhibition	Part of the Galloway Hoard interpretation activities which were a big focus for the CIC this year.
Coordinated Hoard leaving event for Kirkcudbright galleries	Kirkcudbright Gallery	Kirkcudbright Gallery  Heritage	<b>Public events free at point of access, created heritage business opportunities, Specific workshop attendees, including running workshops in the park to involve passers-by.</b>	

		<p>artists</p> <p>Galloway Longfhada Vikings</p>	<p><b>Craft Workshops:</b> We adopted a 'hands on' engagement methodology encouraging people to use crafts and respond to intangible heritage through making things. We ran all age drop in sessions and a weeklong programme of kids craft sessions. These were very well attended with approx. 95 participants in total Metalworking drop in: Approx 45 active participants over three days accompanied by their friends and families.</p> <p><b>Encampment:</b> A steady flow of visitors with attendance at programmed events as estimated below. Over 20 re-enactors took part over the weekend. In addition the Wordsmith Crafts CIC area included a boat based interactive story, "have a go" crafts and two artist/makers with high quality heritage inspired artwork.</p> <p><b>Entertainment:</b> The weekend included Interactive stories, multiple traditional live storytelling and musical entertainment. Audiences ranged from 30 to 60 as detailed below.</p> <p><b>Handover ceremony:</b> Approximately 200 participants in the parade itself. This included around 30 children and their families from the workshops. Support for the parade was strong with an estimated 300+ spectators. Some of these joined the parade. The speech from the bandstand and boat burning attracted an estimated audience of over 500.</p> <p><i>(Extract from post event report)</i></p>	
<p>Kirkcudbright arts and crafts trail</p>	<p>CIC</p>	<p>Arts Trail</p> <p>Public in Kirkcudbright</p> <p>Heritage Artists</p> <p>St Johns</p>	<p><b>Public event free at point of access</b> <b>Created Business opportunity.</b> The CIC booked space at the Kirkcudbright Arts and Crafts trail. This was filled with activities and information about WSC projects. In the Quartz Tent people were invited to make Haiku #SensingSpirituality led by Quartz Volunteers. Heritage artists run drop in craft workshops. We also run a "Sale or Return" shop for them to exhibit and sell their work during an arts festival which attracts visitors from throughout the UK.</p>	<p>A discussion of the event is accessible on the Quartz Website. For example: <a href="https://www.wordsmithcrafts.co.uk/Quartz/fr-ish-expressions/wordsketching/">https://www.wordsmithcrafts.co.uk/Quartz/fr-ish-expressions/wordsketching/</a></p>
<p>Nithraid – boat installation</p>	<p>The Stove Network</p>	<p>The Stove Network</p>	<p><b>Public event free at point of access</b> One of the key ways in which we work to provide access</p>	<p>People we encountered discussed the river and rethought their relationship with it. The</p>

<p>and signposts</p>			<p>to heritage for those who do not currently participate is to take it where people don't expect. At Nithraid we set the boat up in the park to participate in a festival which involve arts and a river race. We "crewed" the boat with characters past present and future who talked about their relationship to the Nith. We also had a signpost referring people to ways they could take their interest further, and groups they could get involved with.</p>	<p>interest attracted in 2022 was built on in 2023 with a larger crew.</p>
<p>School visits</p> 	<p>D&amp;G Council (Various departments)</p> <p>Various schools</p>	<p>D&amp;G Council (Various departments)</p> <p>Various schools</p>	<p>Schools, School Pupils, Visitors to St Johns Church, Dumfries. The CIC arranges school visits provided by a combination of voluntary Re-enactors and professional artists. We have visited Primary schools in Stranraer to help increase engagement with the Rhins coastal path project. We have taken Gallovidian history into Ayrshire and Edinburgh where primary school pupils meet the inhabitants of the Viking era for "The Best Day Ever". Through the Quartz partnership we help Dumfries High School meet its "Time for Reflection" Curriculum for Excellence requirements as part of the chaplaincy team. We also participate in RMPS lessons using the arts to help pupils engage with the Christian heritage of Scotland. This year we worked with them to think about the theme of how they bring light into their relationships. This allowed them to contribute "nuggets of Joy" to a public art installation in St Johns Church.</p> <p><a href="https://www.wordsmithcrafts.co.uk/Quartz/creative-worship/christmas-light-review/">https://www.wordsmithcrafts.co.uk/Quartz/creative-worship/christmas-light-review/</a></p>	<p>Did you enjoy the project? (27 responses)</p> <p>yes 78%</p> <p>not sure 22%</p> <p>no 0%</p> <p>Pupil Evaluation summary Belmont School Nov2022</p> <div data-bbox="1599 699 1906 1331" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>"The whole afternoon was a great success, finished off with an epic story told by Calbad."</b></p> <p><b>"The pupils really enjoyed the day and commented on how hard life was in the Iron Age, when people had to make everything themselves - from bread to boats."</b></p> <p><b>Peter Ross, Chair of the Rhins of Galloway Coast Path Steering Group said "There is lots of evidence of Iron Age forts along the Rhins Coast and it was a great opportunity for the pupils to meet the 'time travellers' who used to live here.</b></p> <p><b>The school project was undertaken as part of the Rhins of Galloway Coast Path project funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Coastal Communities and Dumfries and Galloway Council.</b></p> </div> <p><i>Newspaper article describing the success of the Iron Age School visits in Stranraer Galloway Gazette Nov 18 2022</i></p>

<b>Barrhill Community Woodland</b>	Barrhill Woodland Trust		This was a free to access drop in public event in woodland near Kirkcudbright. We provided an area of family activities and storytelling. This was a formal volunteering opportunity supported by paid staff.	
<b>Whithorn Crafts and Stories</b>	The Whithorn Trust	Whithorn ReBuild Douglas Ewart Artists	We have been working with the Whithorn trust to contribute to their ongoing community programme. We have provided artists to run storytelling and craft events. These range from public “drop in” activities to ongoing work with the ReBuild employees and Secondary school pupils.	These activities work with harder to reach and/or those at risk of long term unemployment. We bring skills and experiences to meet practical tasks, but also contribute to community development through networking and informal discussions.
<b>Tales at the Tap</b>	WSC	Riverside tap	<b>Public event free at point of access</b> This is an experiment introducing storytelling for adults into a pub setting. The aim is to test demand and develop an audience for family and adult rather than simply children’s storytelling. We tell a range of mostly ancient myths and legends. This is a development of the online “tales from the longhouse” carried out by Cluaran during lockdown.	This is a new free at point of access activity launched in December, building on the CIC success in 2022 to reach new audiences with heritage tales.

Simon Lidwell, September 2023

Director

Wordsmith Crafts CIC



## Appendix 1

A List of 2022 events and clients. This excludes ongoing activities that the CIC facilitates such the Christian living Community (CLC) meeting every second week informal, and informal contacts or support through community networking.

Event date	Event name	Project	Client organisation	Other Stakeholders	Benefactors	Paid		Voluntary (with role requirements)		
						employee	freelance	Prof Skills	Trained	Voluntary
17/4/22	April Forest Church	Quartz	St Johns		St Johns Community	1				
27/4/22	CanDoArc	Cluaran	CanDo		YP higher support needs		1			
28/4/22	Catstrand Arts	Cluaran	Catstrand	Artists	Youth		2			
29/4/22	Creative Caer Cold	Cluaran	The Stove Network	Artists, HES	YP higher support needs		1			
3/5/22	Allanton Beltaine	Quartz	Allanton	St Johns	Public, Allanton Community, St Johns Community		2		1	
18/5/22	Creative Caer Hot	Cluaran	The Stove Network	Artists, HES	YP higher support needs		1			
19/5/22	May Forest Church	Quartz	St Johns		St Johns Community	1				
30/5/22	CanDoWeaving1	Cluaran	CanDo		YP higher support needs		1			
17/6/22	George Watson (Edinburgh)	Cluaran	George Watson	Artists	Primary school Pupil		5		1	
29/6/22	BBS Good Neighbours	Cluaran	BBS	Artists	General public		2			
2/7/22	Creative Caer Jousting	Cluaran	The Stove Network	Artists	YP higher support needs		2			
2/7/22	Galloway Hoard Taster Pop Up	Cluaran	Kirkcudbright Gallery	Artists	General public		1			



4/7/22	Galloway Hoard Crafts workshops	Cluaran	Kirkcudbright Gallery	Artists	General public, families		1			
7/7/22	St Johns Teddy Bear Fest	Quartz	St Johns		General public	1			2	
8/7/22	CanDoWeaving2	Cluaran	Can Do	Artists	YP higher support needs		1			
9/7/22	Galloway hoard Leaving Weekend	Cluaran	Kirkcudbright Gallery	Artists, Galloway Longfhada, Kirkcudbright Gallery, NMS	General public Galloway Longfhada		5	1		
22/7/22	Burns Theatre Stories	Cluaran	Dumfries Museum	Artists	General public		1			
29/7/22	Kirkcudbright Arts and crafts Trail	Cluaran, Quartz	Self	Artists, St Johns	General public		2		3	
7/8/22	Lughnassa Allanton	Quartz	Allanton		Public, Allanton Community, St Johns Community	1				
13/8/22	Nithraid	Cluaran	The Stove Network		General public	1			3	2
20/8/22	Whithorn Storytelling and crafts RH	Cluaran	Whithorn Trust	Artists	General public		2			
4/9/22	Scottish Archaeology fair	Cluaran	Archaeology Scotland	Artists, Galloway Longfhada	General public, Galloway Longfhada		3			
10/9/22	Barhill Woodland Fest	Cluaran	Barrhill Wodland Trust	Artists	General public		2		4	
14/9/22	Fresher Fair	Quartz	St Johns	CUCSA	Students					
18/9/22	Mabon Allanton	Quartz	Allanton	St Johns	Public, Allanton Community, St Johns Community					
10/10/22	Braehead Primary (Ayr)	Cluaran	Braehead Primary	Rhins Paths Project	Primary school pupils	1				1
12/10/22	DHs Assembly	Quartz	St Johns	Dumfries High School (DHS)	Secondary School Pupils	1				



13/10/22	Cargilfield School	Cluaran	Cargilfield	Artists	Primary school Pupil		2			
30/10/22	Harvest Lantern	Quartz	St Johns	Artists, DHS	General public, Secondary School Pupils	1			1	
1/11/22	Belmont School	Cluaran	Belmont	Artists	Primary school pupils		2			
16/11/22	Barcaple Evening	Quartz	St Johns	Barcaple	Barcaple community	1				
22/11/22	MND Fundraiser	Cluaran	Self		MND, General public			2		
25/11/22	Whithorn Armbands	Cluaran	Whithorn Trust	Douglas Ewart High School	Secondary School Pupils		1			
12/12/22	Christmas Light classes (DHS)	Quartz	St Johns	DHS	Secondary School Pupils	1				
17/12/22	Christmas light installation	Cluaran	St Johns	DHS	Secondary School Pupils	1				1
19/12/22	DHS Assembly	Cluaran	St Johns	DHS	Secondary School Pupils	1				
						12	40	3	15	4