



2013–14  
ANNUAL REVIEW





## A message from Michael Maggs, Chair

In December 2013 I was privileged to be asked to take over as Chair of the Board of Trustees from Chris Keating, who steered the charity with his characteristic tact, drive and ability over the preceding 18 months. During his tenure, Chris put in hand the very necessary process of moving the charity towards a much higher standard of governance and professionalism, a process which I have been able to continue by welcoming to the board a number of trustees with extensive experience of corporate and charitable governance, law and compliance.

While such matters are not the primary interest of many of our volunteers, who naturally want to focus on our practical open knowledge work, they are crucial to the long-term impact that we as a charity can make. By delegating day-to-day

management and concentrating on providing strategic direction the board can, within an agreed overarching framework, better empower volunteers and staff simply to get on with the work we are all passionate about.

That overarching framework, our five year strategy, was finally completed and signed off in March 2014 as the culmination of a long period of community, board and staff discussions. Our new strategy brings us to the forefront of thinking within the Wikimedia movement of the long-term benefits of setting, working to, and publishing progress and 'distance travelled' against specific SMART targets. I am not aware of any other Wikimedia organisation that has publicly committed to such levels of openness and transparency under which we pledge to publish

**“Our new strategy brings us to the forefront of thinking within the Wikimedia movement.”**

hard numbers which will highlight any failures as regards our expected charitable outcomes as well as our successes. That is something we can be very proud of.

We look forward to 2014 with energy and with confidence that in 12 months' time we will have created with the resources available to us the best possible charitable impact from our vision: “Open Knowledge for All”.



## A message from Jon Davies, Chief Executive

Another very busy year in our development with some great achievements and a growing maturity. It is easy to forget what a significant role we play in the Wikimedia movement but the awarding of Wikimania 2014 to London reinforces the influence we have built through hard work.

We have continued a planned programme of growth and with it have come growing pains. We have had to re-assess much of what we do and to reflect hard on what works and what doesn't. As a movement we can no longer just continue to do the same as before; we need to measure the effects of our work and decide how successful we have been. Not all change has been easy, we have had to adjust the way we work in significant ways and learn from the two governance reviews but we have remained, at heart, remarkably optimistic and united.

You will read more in this report about our achievements but supporting our volunteers and underpinning everything are a dedicated staff team whom I am privileged to lead.

The management of the charity has continued to develop, with the board working hard to remove itself from day-to day concerns and concentrating instead on determining strategic direction. Our working environment has developed through this increasingly professional relationship with the board.

On one specific I am happy to report that ownership of QRpedia has at last been transferred to the charity. The board took the view that in accepting the donation of QRpedia from Roger Bamkin and Terence Eden, we should set up a dormant subsidiary, Cultural

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Outreach Ltd. to hold all the rights at arm's length from WMUK for reasons of legal prudence. Our thanks to them both.

As ever, our offices in London offer a warm welcome to anyone from our community or those wanting to learn more about us.



# WIKIMANIA

Welcome to Wikimania 2014! We're delighted that you've joined us here at The Barbican to enjoy Wikimania's first visit to the UK.

As you probably already know, Wikimania is the annual, global conference of the Wikimedia movement. It brings together thousands of people who are interested in the Wikimedia projects (such as Wikipedia), open knowledge, open content and technology. From seasoned contributors to those with a passing interest, all are welcome.

This year's conference, supported by the Wikimedia Foundation and Wikimedia UK, is the biggest ever. It features over 100 presentations and workshops (as well as plenty of festivities, too) as well as a community village where you can learn more about the Wikimedia chapters, such as Wikimedia UK, and other organisations interested in open knowledge as well as the Wikimedia

projects and the people who make them so wonderful.

There's a lot to cover, so the conference has been broken down into several themes.



*Jimmy Wales in support of Wikimania 2014 London*

## State of the Wiki

This is where we look at the Wikimedia projects, assess where they are and where they are going. Wikipedia Founder Jimmy Wales will deliver his traditional keynote presentation on the first day of the conference. New Wikimedia Foundation Executive Director, Lila Tretikov, will also be outlining her vision for the future of the Wikimedia movement in her first high profile presentation. What next for Wikipedia? What does the future hold?

## The future of education

Now that Wikipedia has done everyone's homework, what's left to teach? That's the question asked by David White of the Oxford Internet Institute in one of the key presentations on this theme. The immediate access to information that the internet offers has been disruptive to the education landscape.



*Fountain at the Barbican Centre, London*





This conference track will examine this effect and look at the role of the Wikimedia projects, and other technologies, in formal education.

## Open data

The amount of data that the world produces is vast. But how can we put it to good use? Rufus Pollock, co-founder of the Open Knowledge Foundation, will explore this idea in his keynote. Open data can help us address all kinds of challenges, from finding the quickest route to work to dealing with climate change. But data collection also has implications for our privacy and security. The items in this theme address the 1s and 0s of all things open data.



*Social Machines, Wikimania 2014*

## Democratic media

The internet has expelled the idea of media content, and platforms, as being something we consume, handed down by business and the elite. The ability to produce and share content and software online, particularly when linked with open licences, is breaking down the conventional barriers that once existed. It's given a voice to those who were voiceless and to an extent, the use of user generated content platforms means we are all now citizen journalists. But how does this impact local and global society?

## Open Scholarship

Academic research has the potential to benefit everyone. However, frequently it is available only to those within institutions or at a high cost. Open access to research means this is changing. There is a growing trend towards researchers and academics making their work publicly available under open licences. This is already leading to accelerated progress – who knows where open scholarship could take us? This theme will fully explore this potential.

## Social machines

Now more than ever before, technology facilitates our social interactions. Online communities play a large part in our lives, but we are still learning about their impact. Online communities break down barriers and borders, making all kinds of collaboration possible. In this theme, world-leading experts will be making sense of this complicated concept and the changes that we could be seeing as a result.

Of course, there's more to Wikimania than the themes – more important than any of the ideas are the people who put them into practice. Wikipedia is, more than anything else, a human collaboration on a global scale. There are plenty of opportunities for everyone to learn new skills – whether you want to learn how to make your first edit, or are interested in some of the more advanced technical developments, there is something for you.

And don't forget to visit the community village where Wikimedians from all over the world, and people from other organisations too, will be keen to show you more about their work and how you can get involved. Especially come and say hello to the staff and volunteers of Wikimedia UK – we're looking forward to meeting you!



*Ed Saperia giving an overview of Wikimania*

# STATISTICS





The Natural History Museum is making information available to users in their own language



A training session at the Royal Society

## WIKIMEDIANS IN RESIDENCE

A key area of work for Wikimedia UK over the course of the year was our Wikimedian in Residence programme. These are high level partnerships between Wikimedia UK and most typically galleries, libraries, archives and museums (GLAMs). Some 10% of the year's charitable spend went on this activity as part of our GLAM projects (see below).

The relationships are designed to maximise the impact of the work of Wikimedia UK and the partner organisation. The Wikimedian does this by educating staff and volunteers about the use of Wikimedia projects, explaining the benefits of open licenses and helping institutions to

make content openly available. They also play a role in helping institutions meet their public benefit remit.

We have continued to develop and support the Wikimedian in Residence programme and have now developed a contract framework that helps ensure good outcomes and best practice.

In 2013-14 we worked with many high profile institutions including the National Library of Scotland, the Natural History Museum and the Science Museum. This initiative also linked us with many other organisations including London Zoo, York Museums Trust, Office for National Statistics, Imperial College,

British Computing Society, Medical Research Council, Collections Trust, United Nations, Royal Society of Chemistry, Royal Society, Department for Culture Media and Sport, The Cabinet Office, Wellcome Collection and Royal Veterinary College.

The Wikimedian in Residence model is one that is proving to be successful and sustainable and has been adopted elsewhere by other Wikimedia chapters and GLAM institutions. The programme will continue to be a cornerstone of the chapter's work in 2014-15. In the coming year we will be developing the programme further following a review.



# ADVOCACY

This year saw the chapter takes its first steps towards becoming more active in the realm of advocacy and is an indicator of the charity's growing confidence and maturity. .

In November, Wikimedia UK became a founder member of the Free Knowledge Advocacy Group EU, an umbrella group of European Wikimedia chapters working together to promote change to copyright regulations that are helpful to Wikimedia projects.

Our activity so far has been focused on three key areas where reform would be helpful. These are the right to use orphan works, the harmonisation of freedom of panorama and public domain licensing of publicly funded works. In March we wrote to all 73 Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) making the case for changes in those three areas. Encouraging responses have been received from the Conservatives, Labour, the Liberal Democrats, the Green Party and the Scottish National Party.

Advocacy activity in this area is important because there are anomalies within European regulations that prevent some topics receiving appropriate coverage on Wikimedia projects. The European Parliament is a really useful example. Some Wikimedians were invited to the

parliament building in Strasbourg to take photos and voice recordings of MEPs. They also took some photos of the building itself, however, they are unable to use them due to an absence of freedom of panorama in France.

This work forms part of our international activities, which accounted for over 10% of the year's charitable spending <link to 2013-14 statutory accounts: SoFA – International Programme expenditure £61k>

It is also important that we work domestically in this area, too. We will be inviting UK MPs to Wikimania so that they can experience at first hand the energy of the Wikimedia projects and better understand the vital contributions to education and culture that the projects make.

Good working relationships with those in government are crucial and we are progressing well. We have a growing relationship with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the Department for Work and Pensions published a Wikimedia UK feature on the role Wikipedia plays in the context of social justice.

Work of this nature inevitably has a long lead time and change may be a while in coming. But we have made a good start and will build on this in the coming months and years.



*Members of the Free Knowledge Advocacy Group EU hard at work*

**Absence of Freedom of Panorama in France means that you can't use images of the European Parliament – something we are working to change**





GLAM-Wiki 2013 participants

# GLAM-WIKI 2013

GLAM-Wiki 2013, our flagship conference of the year, took place on 12-14 April 2013 at the Conference Centre of the British Library. From the start of the planning phase its aim was to bring Wikimedians and galleries, libraries, archives and museums (GLAMs) together to share their experiences, and to inspire any representatives of cultural institutions interested in a partnership with Wikimedia UK and other Wikimedia chapters. With this in mind, the working group (consisting of many volunteers and supported by staff) created developed an engaging conference programme.

The event looked at the work Wikimedia UK and other organisations have done in partnership

with cultural institutions, presenting case studies and discussing the benefits to both parties. There was also a focused on the more practical and technical side, looking at ways to work together and running workshops to share best practice. Valuable ideas and relationships were generated throughout the event.

Wikimedians and GLAMs are both looking for ways of spreading their information in the widest possible way. It sounds like a perfect match, and indeed over the three days of the conference, with over 150 people attending, Wikimedia UK has facilitated an impressive ideas exchange. It was clear from the start that the conference centre was buzzing with possible projects, case studies shared,

new approaches. Such a creative atmosphere would not be possible without bringing so many dedicated people together in a physical space.

The feedback from the conference was very positive - a recurring theme was that people felt GLAM-Wiki was a great opportunity to network and learn about what was going on in other institutions. This was a great opening to the 2013-14 activity programme, and throughout the year we were following up on many of the ideas generated, picking up new cultural projects and developing relationships.

We believe that successful GLAMs constantly look for new and imaginative ways to maximise the impact of their collections and knowledge. While online collections are a popular and exciting route to engage with their audience, they typically only have small numbers of visitors - working with the Wikimedia community can offer GLAMs a new window on a potential global audience of over half a billion people worldwide. The numbers support the compelling public benefit that results from engagement with the Wikimedia projects and we'll be exploring this more in the coming year. Nearly 25% of the year's charitable spending went on GLAMs and Wikimedians in Residence <link to 2013-14 statutory accounts: SoFA – GLAM expenditure £124k>



Michael Edson from the Smithsonian and Nick Poole from Collections Trust, two of the keynote speakers



# WIKI LOVES MONUMENTS

In September last year people using Wikimedia sites would have seen a banner asking them to take part in the world's largest photo competition. Based around the theme of historic buildings, Wiki Loves Monuments 2013 garnered more than 350,000 entries from 12,000 people globally.

It was the first time the UK took part in the contest, run by a group of volunteers with the support of staff. There's a lot that went on behind the scenes to make the competition work,

and it's difficult to overstate how important the group effort was.

Volunteers were involved from the ground up: deciding what would be eligible; helping prepare the Wikimedia websites to deal with the competition; contacting photography and local history groups who might be interested in taking part; maintaining the website for the UK competition; running supporting events; and last but not least helping the judges narrow down the 12,000 entries from the UK.

A picture is worth a thousand words, or so the old saying goes. Wikimedia is about more than just text. Illustrations – especially of historic buildings – are incredibly important. The competition offered an excuse, as if one is ever needed, to go out and explore the UK's heritage. For Wikimedia UK the impact is plain: nearly 700 people uploaded pictures of the UK, with some really impressive results. They varied from national icons such as Edinburgh Castle or the Houses of Parliament, to history of the lesser known variety, such as tombstones in London.



*Bottom: Monument to the fallen soldier (first place in Wiki Loves Monuments UK). Left: C Station Pump House (second place). Right: the Tulip Stair (3rd place)*



3<sup>RD</sup>

1<sup>ST</sup>





As with all competitions, there had to be winners, and picking them was an incredibly tough task. An expert panel, including a representative from English Heritage and a professional photographer, finally managed to select the winners (one of which is on the front cover of this booklet!). You see a selection of the winning images on this page.

Preparations are in motion for September 2014, and one of the people who uploaded their first picture as part of Wiki Loves Monuments last year is now part of the organising team. We're looking forward to seeing another collection of fabulous photos.



Natural History Museum, UK

## HIGHLY COMMENDED



Salisbury Cathedral Columns



Albert Memorial in Kensington Gardens



Wrest Park Banqueting House



Fort Perch Rock Lighthouse



Stable Fountain Liverpool



Helm'sley Castle



Kenilworth Castle



# CASE STUDY

## JISC WIKIMEDIA AMBASSADOR

Jisc is the UK's national expert body on the use of digital technology in education and research. An educational charity, it works closely with the university, college, and cultural sectors. For ten months in 2013 and 2014, Jisc and Wikimedia UK jointly funded Martin Poulter, with office support from the University of Bristol, to bring the worlds of academia and Wikimedia closer together. This 'Wikimedia Jisc

Ambassador' project, similar to a Wikimedian in Residence, promised an immense potential to build influence for the movement in the UK university sector.

The project's events have included three public editathons, seven workshops for university staff, and other events to promote understanding of Wikimedia among academics and managers. We have also focused on writing documentation

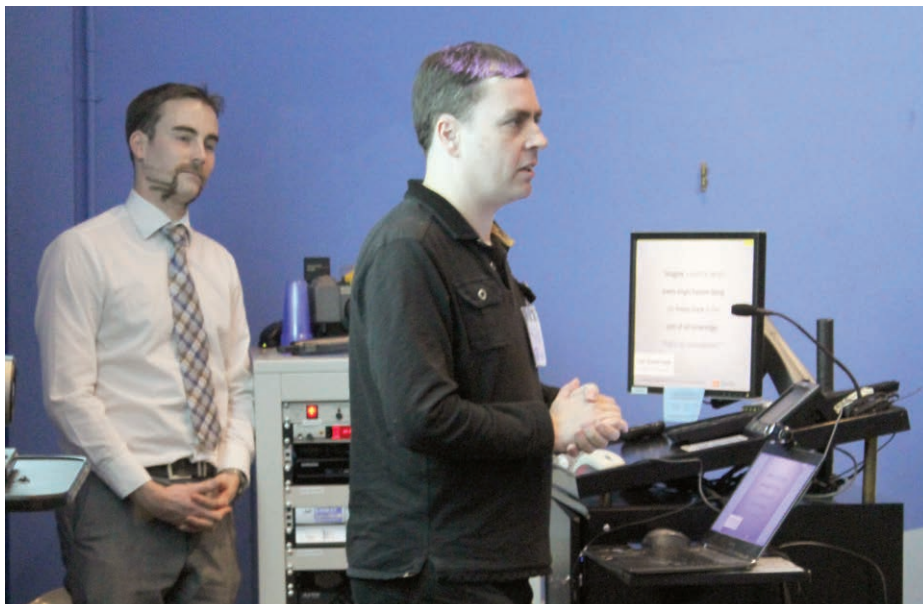
that could be used in the future outreach work. From individual case studies and reports to an online handbook on "the wiki way of working", Jisc's advice to its partners now shows how Wikimedia can publicise research, promote learning and share digital content.

Of 140 lecturers, librarians and other staff who attended workshops, 60 have said they will do something new as a result. Many will try editing Wikipedia for themselves. Others will encourage their students to look behind the scenes and assess the site critically. Around fifty contacts in the education sector have registered their details and several have requested follow-up events so they, their colleagues and students can learn more. The project also highlighted the barriers that Wikipedia and Wikimedia can present to educators.

Martin has developed an online toolkit showing people how to engage with Wikimedia projects, which delivered much interest in the education circles. Benefiting from the fact that the project is run with a national body, the infoKit is now accessible to any Higher Education institution in the UK, and the institutions that get in touch with Jisc for advice are being informed on the benefits of working with Wikimedia projects.

This partnership is one of the signs that Wikimedia is no longer seen as outsiders to education and research, but as working innovatively on many of the same topics: promoting understanding of the digital world, remixing open content, and encouraging learners to create, not just absorb.

Some 5% of the year's spending went on this project within our Education Programme (see below).



*Dr Poulter presenting to the Royal Veterinary College*



*An editathon at the Wellcome Library arranged as part of the project*





Live translation at the EduWiki Conference

Gareth Morlais from the Welsh Government presenting at the conference in Cardiff (in Welsh)

## EDUCATION

Wikimedia UK has worked with, and is working with, some of the country's most respected and innovative institutions to explore how Wikimedia projects can benefit UK education. In partnership with universities and support bodies, we are gradually establishing Wikimedia UK as part of the landscape of UK education.

The charity now has a part-time employee focused on its education activities and bringing more impact into what we do. His main responsibility in 2013-14 was the organisation of our annual EduWiki conference, but he is also coordinating our university and education outreach, mainly through providing support for events at universities and assisting student societies, of which we currently have two: at Imperial College London and Cambridge University.

Furthermore, we have also been involved in Expert Outreach especially through a Jisc Wikimedia Ambassador,

as well as by attending conferences, such as OER'13 at the University of Nottingham in March and the SpotOn (Science Online) conference at the British Library in November 2013.

The EduWiki 2013 conference took place in Cardiff on 1-2 November 2013. 68 people attended this conference, including 23 delegates who work in UK educational institutions. Non-UK delegates travelled from 8 countries: Australia, France, Germany, Israel, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, USA. The conference brought together academics, students, librarians, and support staff as well as contributors to Wikipedia, Wikiversity and Wikinews for talks, presentations, workshops and keynotes.

Our Activity Plan for 2013 included four elements: (a) recruit a part-time staff member as Education Organiser, (b) provide outreach opportunities in the Education sector, (c) run another edition of the EduWiki conference,

and (d) arrange placement for a "Jisc Wikimedia Ambassador". Underlying all these elements, we were guided by more general principles of wanting to bring better awareness, especially among senior managers in the education sector, about the appropriate use of Wikipedia and other Wikimedia projects in education and work towards stronger engagement in higher education institutions with Wikipedia.

Our Education projects accounted for almost 15% of the year's charitable spending <link to 2013-14 statutory accounts: SoFA – Education expenditure £72k>

In 2014 we will be holding another EduWiki conference and using Wikimania 14 as a focus for building relationships with a broad range of the educational establishment in the UK. A number of education-related outreach events are also being organised or supported, throughout the year.





**Support for activities in Wales accounted for a quarter of the 25% of the year's charitable spending that went on general outreach projects**

## WALES

Living Paths! Llwybrau Byw! is a project that aims to empower local communities and community businesses with simple Wikipedia web-authoring skills in all coastal counties that border the Wales Coast Path.

Wikipedia and WikiVoyage articles based on the path have been developed by new and existing Wikipedians in many languages. The Welsh Government (through their Digital Tourism Business Fund grant) foresaw that articles written about towns, villages and other local information on Wikipedia could indirectly benefit and inform local people as well as visitors in those areas. And that was the paradox and the challenge for us: to increase this information in accordance with our non-commercial Wiki ethos.

This enriched content could then be used by third parties websites. Our job was to train local people on writing encyclopaedic articles on communities near the Welsh Coast Path and other relevant interests such as Sites of Special Scientific Interests, Listed Buildings etc.

As well as on-site training of local groups, we have also produced Step-

by-Step Guides and training videos on Wikipedia editing and creating Wikipedia articles, in both Welsh and English. We have also published, thanks to the backing of Wikimedia UK three leaflets and brochures in Welsh and a WiR at Coleg (the Welsh federal university).

The project also looked into releasing open content and both the National Library of Wales and the Welsh Book Council have released images, which so far have resulted in more than 3000 of their images being used on Wikipedia articles and around a total of around 14,000 images will have been released and uploaded onto Wikipedia Commons by the end of the project.

We have advertised in the Welsh National press and have directly informed 6,000 groups of training workshops, resulting in over 100 representatives of local communities having been trained by ourselves as well as others through Software Alliance Wales. In June 2014 Keep Wales Tidy have also teamed up with us and have invited all secondary schools in Wales to join the wiki-training workgroups as part of their Ecoschools project. 180 local KWT

groups were also invited. At the end of this project it is imperative that there is a continuum of this work.

Above all, the project has given Wikimedia UK a Welsh voice, a Welsh front and thus a sense of ownership of Wikimedia projects by the Welsh community.



Left to R: Robin Owain (Wales Manager), Marc Haynes (WiR at Coleg) and Aled Powell (Wales Training Coordinator)



Caption



# STRATEGY AND IMPACT



One of the key achievements of Wikimedia UK over the course of the year was the development of our new five year strategy. This outlines the charity's goals and plans for the next five years and takes a deeper look at how we can deliver charitable impact.

The strategy sets out not only our mission ('to help people and organisations create and preserve Open Knowledge, and to help provide easy access for all') but also the way in which we aim to achieve that in practice.

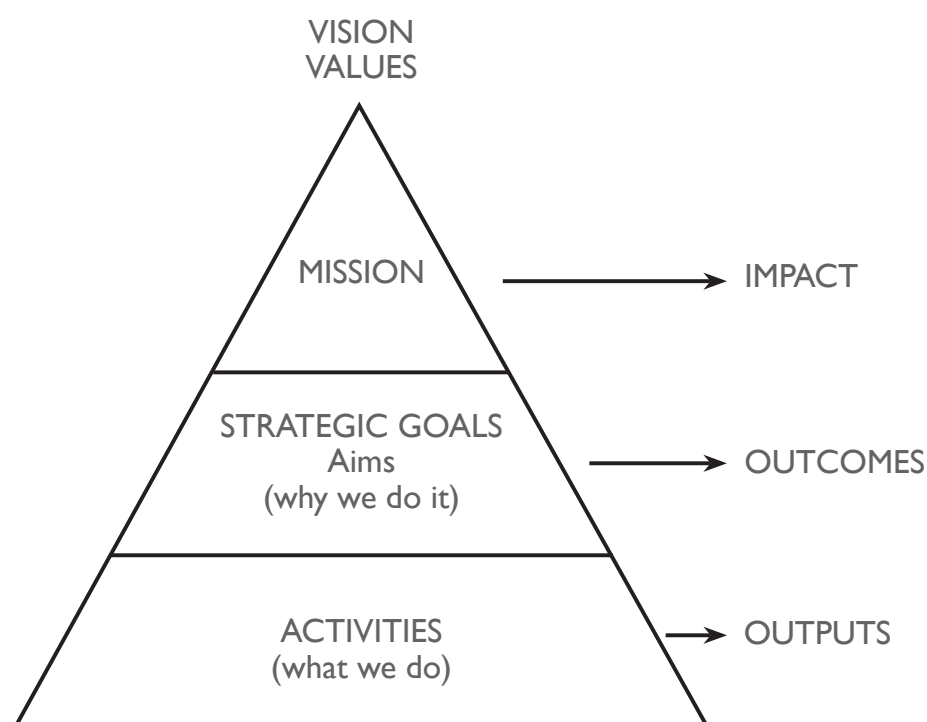
To ensure that our day-to-day activities are closely focussed on attainment of our mission, we have committed to record and publish a wide range of measured outcomes which will indicate, on an ongoing basis, how we are performing against a range of strategic goals. These measured outcomes will build up over time into a comprehensive picture of the practical impact the charity has been able to make.

In preparing the strategy we consulted widely with the Wikimedia UK community, the Wikimedia community at large, other chapters, the Wikimedia Foundation, and interested individuals. The draft strategy documents were open for public consultation during the month of February, and feedback

received was taken into account along with staff and board contributions.

We are confident that as the end result of this process we have a robust strategy that will serve us well in the years to come. It will enable us to maintain and track challenging but achievable targets while retaining operational flexibility to focus our day-to-day efforts on whichever individual activities and initiatives will best help us achieve practical impact.

The strategy reflects a significant leap for the charity and will ensure that we are focused on delivering the greatest possible public benefit from the various Wikimedia projects now under way, that we provide the value for money that our donors rightly demand and that we effectively support the charitable aspirations of the many active volunteers who remain at the heart of our movement.



# CASE STUDY

## NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

The Wikimedian in Residence position at the National Library of Scotland was the first partnership of its kind that Wikimedia UK had with a Scottish institution.

The residency was designed with two primary intentions. The Library wanted to work with Wikimedia UK to help open up access to the millions of items in their collection. For Wikimedia UK, the opportunity to help enhance the sharing of knowledge and resources, while bringing together the Scottish Wikimedia community was too good to miss.

The project has seen considerable progress, to the point that the project has in fact been extended beyond its original duration.

A trial release of some 3,000 images from the Library's digital collections, under relevant open licences, is currently taking place. Their team is also working on an Open Access Digital Content policy which would see a couple of thousand more files released to Wikimedia Commons by the end of 2014.

The programme has also had an immense effect on the presence of Wikimedia in Scotland since July 2013: the revival of ScotWiki meet ups in

Glasgow and Edinburgh has brought together new and old Wikimedians in Scotland, while collaborations with the Glasgow School of Art, the University of Dundee, the University of Stirling, Glasgow Women's Library, the University of the Highlands and Islands, and the Scottish Poetry Library have seen a major upsurge in the number of Wikimedia events and contributors in Scotland.

ScotWiki volunteers have expanded the Wikimedia community by working with local open knowledge networks like the Open Knowledge Foundation Scotland and the Digital Humanities Network Scotland. The collaboration has captured both national and global attention; events and editathons are growing in their size and reach, something that was particularly evident with January's Anybody But Burns Editathon, which was declared



Editing at Anybody But Burns

one of the UK's best Burns' Night events by The Telegraph. As a result of this interest, the Wikimedian in Residence at the National Library of Scotland has been invited to speak to other GLAM and Information Professional organisations at events like the 2014 EDGE Conference in Edinburgh and the Swiss National Library's 2014 Library Science Talks, and by organising workshops with Special Libraries Association Europe and JISC Scotland among others.



Phoebe Anna Traquair's illuminated copy of Elizabeth Barrett Browning's 'Sonnets from the Portuguese' Sonnet 30







*Bekka Khan talking about the Open Coalition at the Free Culture Weekend, Wikimania Fringe, Barbican*

## OPEN COALITION

At the end of 2013 Wikimedia UK, along with partners from the Open Knowledge Foundation and Creative Commons, delivered a workshop session at MozFest in London. The session was designed to explore how the many, varied groups that work in the open space could work together more effectively. Inspired by the idea, Wikimedia UK funded a short project to develop the idea further and the Open Coalition was born.

The Open Coalition is a voluntary affiliation of open organisations and individuals, which exists to further the aims and objectives of open practices and knowledge sharing across the Web.

In the short time that has passed since we decided to fund the project, progress is coming quickly. There is already a mailing list which has a

membership representing several organisations and an online presence.

One of the key objectives for this list is to recruit community members beyond the partner organisations, and involve organisations and individuals who are involved in different areas of open work and the open movement, from those who work to open up data to museums, publishers and organisations campaigning for transparency in the oil industry.

The Coalition has secured programme space at three high-profile events in the open calendar - the Open Knowledge Foundation's OKFest, Wikimania and Mozilla's MozFest. The Coalition has also been involved in work to crowdsource an evidential submission to the Speaker's Commission on Digital Democracy

which is being run in conjunction with Wikimedia UK and DEMOS.

Work on a project to map the Open Space is ongoing, and the Coalition will continue to develop this project over the next few months, working with the Open Knowledge Foundation on collecting and visualising this data in a method that allows for collaboration from all partners.

So far, the process of establishing the Open Coalition has been refreshingly straightforward and simple and there has been great support from across the sector. It is hoped that some of the partner organisations or other funders will be forthcoming to enable the project to last beyond the initially funded six months. The fundraising process has begun, and will hopefully bear fruit soon.

# HIGHLIGHTS

There are always more highlights and achievements in a year than can possibly be squeezed into an annual review like this one. However, there are some points that linger long in the memory for being interesting or different. Some of these are captured here.

Led by volunteer Andy Mabbett, the Wikipedia voices intro project – WikiVIP – sought to encourage people with Wikipedia biographies to record short samples of their voices to be used on Wikipedia. This proved to be popular, with many prominent people, including Stephen Fry, meeting the challenge. Even the BBC got

involved, opening up some of their archives for use in the project.

2013 also saw the charity implementing almost all of the recommendations of the previous year's governance review. We now have a larger, more diverse and thus stronger board that is well on the way to becoming an exemplar of charity best practice.

On a similar note, we've continued to establish volunteer-led committees that can research and advise the Chief Executive and Board on specific areas of the charity's work. These include GLAM, technology, education and

grants. We welcome new enquiries from members of our community with the necessary expertise to serve on any of these committees, so if you're interested please get in touch!

The Picturing Canada project, on which we worked with the British Library, brought a substantial number of out-of-copyright images onto Wikimedia Commons, documenting an interesting period of Canadian history. One of our favourite images from the collection is featured here, the "globe kittens".

In terms of technical projects, our support for the mass upload tool, which allows non-programmers to upload large numbers of files to Wikimedia Commons, is showing great potential. Currently in testing, this innovative tool will make it quicker and more practical to share large collections under an open licence.

Finally, we combined the annual community social event with the Wiki Loves Monuments prize-giving this year. With lots of volunteers, along with trustees and staff, we celebrated the competition and the many photographers who made the contest a success. Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales was on hand to join the festivities.



*Globe Kittens*



# THE YEAR AHEAD



2014-15 promises to be a very big year for Wikimedia UK. We have a full and diverse programme, a growing community and many excellent opportunities. Here are some of the many things we are looking forward to.



Wikimania, the annual global conference of the Wikimedia movement is being held in London for the first time. Taking place at The Barbican in August, the conference will attract speakers and attendees with an interest in the Wikimedia projects from all over the world. The delegates will help to shape the next year of activity and direction for the Wikimedia projects and new collaborations will begin.

## EDUWIKI 2014

The next edition of our EduWiki conference will be moving to Scotland in October 2014. Hosting a large

event north of the border will be a first for Wikimedia UK and something we are proud of. This event is a sign of our commitment to Scotland and our willingness to engage the Wikimedia community across the whole of the UK.

Another large education project will be receiving more attention in 2014-15. Behind the scenes Wikimedia UK has been developing an online educational tool called a virtual learning environment. At the time of writing, this is being tested within the Wikimedia community and will be rolled out for global use this year.



Our vision of "open knowledge for all" encompasses a wider world than simply the Wikimedia projects. There are a great many groups and communities working in areas which

**Do visit our website, drop us an email, give us a call or pop in to one of our events. A warm welcome is guaranteed!**

overlap with Wikimedia UK. That's why we've invested in a project called the Open Coalition. This project will work to bring together groups working in all areas of Open, including open access, open education, open knowledge and so on, to encourage more collaboration and knowledge sharing.

Finally, the most important thing we can do is to encourage more people to volunteer, both on the Wikimedia projects and in offline environments. If you've ever considered editing Wikimedia projects, or if you're interested in other things, such as events organising, communications or education (to name just some possibilities), or if you just wish to make a small donation to help achieve our mission, we'd love to hear from you. Do visit our website, drop us an email, give us a call or pop in to one of our events. A warm welcome is guaranteed!



The image on the front cover shows the nave of Salisbury Cathedral. The photo won a "highly commended" award during the 2013 Wiki Loves Monuments competition and was taken by Rafa Esteve (CC-BY-SA 3.0)

Review created by the volunteers and staff of Wikimedia UK.

Designed by Jayne Martin-Kaye ([www.maytreecreative.com](http://www.maytreecreative.com))

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