



# InspirAlba

A company limited by guarantee.  
Scottish Charity number: SCO40666

## Annual Review 2012

**InspirAlba was set up in 2009 with the aim of:**

Supporting economic growth that delivers social and environmental benefits for communities in Argyll and Bute.



We do this by providing services to community based non profit-distributing organisations, with a focus on emerging, developing and established social enterprises in Argyll and Bute.

**Over the past year we have supported 15 community enterprises, working with them to develop and grow their business activities providing support with:** business and growth planning; marketing strategies; project development and management support; financial planning and management support.

**“InspirAlba also delivers support to create employment and training opportunities in local communities.”**



## Support to social enterprise / community enterprise

### What is social enterprise and community enterprise?

A business which has social or environmental objectives as well as commercial ones. The profits from a social enterprise are reinvested in the business or community rather than being distributed to shareholders and/or owners.

### Snapshot overview

Social Enterprises make a significant contribution to their local communities and to the local economy in Argyll and Bute. **Over the past year Inspiralba has worked with 15 organisations with a combined turnover of just over £8 million, employing over 130 people.**

## Inspiralba – working with businesses in 2011/2012

### Fyne Futures

Employing 18 people. Turnover £458k. Providing ongoing support to the management team for the delivery of recycling, biodiesel, fresh produce and car hire services.

*"Inspiralba have been an asset to Fyne Futures, facilitating and enabling us to develop our strategy for the next 3 to 5 years and providing resources to enable us to develop and implement a funding strategy, understand our organisation, looking at why we do what we do and how they can add value to us."*

- Reeni, Fyne Futures Business Manager



### Kintyre Recycling

Employing 22 people, 11 people with special needs. Turnover £295k. Providing ongoing support for the delivery of Recycling, Amenity Site Operation, Security Shredding and Pat Testing Services.



*"In these difficult economic conditions and with all the challenges that we are facing I could not have managed to run Kintyre Recycling without the continued support of Inspiralba who have provided business help and advice. The development of our Growth Plan has definitely helped to strengthen and improve our relationship with Argyll and Bute Council and will allow us to play a part in the future plans of the Area Waste Strategy Plan" - Amanda, KRL Business Manager*

### Oban Phoenix Cinema

Employing 6 people. Projected turnover £209k. Inspiralba has provided Business and Operational Planning as well as assistance with Financial Projections to assist the cinema to open. The cinema opened in August 2012, following a successful purchase and refurbishment,



*"The Inspiralba team of Ailsa Clark and James Hilder played a crucial part in the successful reopening of the cinema. They brought additional knowledge and experience to the table and a fresh independent view to our board of Directors." - Campbell, Oban Phoenix Cinema Chairman*

**The Walking Theatre Company**  
Freelance team of 14 actors, 3 chefs, 2 directors and 1 creative writer. Providing support to develop a marketing plan. The Walking Theatre Company creates interactive innovative plays and theatre events in a 'hosted mobile' format,

*"Working with Inspiralba was a fantastic opportunity and really helped to create a good focus for the next stage of our company development."* - Sadie, Creative Director, TWTC



#### **Furnace Kool Kids**

Employing 3 part time staff. Turnover £14k. Providing business and financial planning. Furnace Kool Kids provide before and after school care services for children serving the villages of Furnace, Minard and Inveraray.

*"It's been a pleasure working with Inspiralba and Just Enterprise. They are a friendly, efficient and hard working bunch"* - Norma, Kool Kids Co-ordinator



#### **Tarbert Harbour Authority**

Employing 5 full time and 1 part time staff. Generating an annual gross income of over £400k. Inspiralba provides business and financial support to develop a marketing strategy and arrange graduate placement. Tarbert Harbour Authority delivers harbour and marine services and is recognised as a not-for-profit Social Enterprise.

*"Inspiralba's support has been invaluable in developing the Tarbert Harbour Authority Marketing Strategy and in gaining a Graduate Placement"* - Pauline, Tarbert Harbour Office Manager



#### **Argyll and Bute Social Enterprise Network**

Providing support for the Argyll and Bute Local Service Initiative (ABLSI), helping to identify critical factors for the effective delivery of public services by the community sector (social enterprise) in Argyll and Bute with the aim of maximising social, economic and environmental benefits for local communities from public sector spend.

*"Inspiralba has contributed insight, enthusiasm and in-depth knowledge about social enterprise's existing and potential contribution to rural service delivery since the outset of the ABLSI initiative. Inspiralba is a credit to Argyll!"*  
- Nick, Carnegie UK, Development Officer



## InspirAlba Team

### Ailsa Clark

Executive Director, and development manager. Ailsa has worked in the community sector for 20 years, working across Argyll and Bute, nationally with Community Learning Scotland as well as working in Australia and South Africa and brings experience in relation to securing contracts, managing staff, strategic planning, business and growth planning as well as income generating activities.

## Associates bring a range of experience and expertise

### Neil Donaldson

Neil is an experienced countryside and business consultant with 30 years experience in the public and private sector. The main emphasis of his work is to advise local communities in recreation, access, visitor management and related business activities.

### James Hilder

After 13 years as head of the Mull & Iona Community Trust, James is active in the social enterprise sector both as an Associate Tutor for the Social Enterprise Academy, and as a consultant for InspirAlba and An Roth Trading Ltd. James brings skills in governance, leadership and strategy, business and operational planning.

### Ann Bolton

Ann's experience is varied with several periods working abroad in the Far and Middle East and, before retirement, as northern fundraiser for Turning Point. Ann has worked as a professional fundraiser for over 15 years.

### Alison Younger

Brings experience from local government, third sector and agricultural businesses, bringing skills in including; business planning; governance; efficiency reviews; business process reengineering; marketing and funding applications.

### Jackie Fulton

Jackie provides support in relation to financial planning, payroll / PAYE and can deliver tailored support as an IT Tutor. Jackie brings experience from both public and third sectors, having worked in adult learning and community development, as well as co-ordinating pre 5, parenting and family support services with experience in health and wellbeing and confidence building work.

### Campbell Cameron

Brings experience from the cultural sector and from his role as a sales and marketing consultant. Campbell has a background in business, local government and tourism and has recently chaired the Oban Phoenix Cinema board through the buyout and refurbishment of the cinema.

**InspirAlba is a social enterprise providing development, management, funding and business support for the community sector.**

**Inspiralba operates as a social enterprise and has been able to reinvest in its charitable objectives over the past year through the provision of match funding for projects and in kind support, including:**

- Support to Argyll and Bute Social Enterprise Network, Sponsorship of ABSEN Dragons Den and Social Enterprise Volunteer of the year award.
- Match funding and in kind support for the delivery of Viewpoint Drama on Rural issues/aspirations.
- In kind support to identify community priorities with South Kintyre Development Trust.

### **Inspiralba is a delivery partner for Just Enterprise.**

A business support programme, financed by the Scottish Government, which aims to support growth in revenue and employment in the third sector in Scotland, and increase its profile in Scotland, the UK and internationally.



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