



Annual Report

2023-2024

Supporting a diverse Campus
and innovative centre for
learning and enterprise

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The Right Honourable the Lord Tanlaw

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Ms Kirsty Wark

Trustees

Andrew Walls - Convenor

Dave Roberts – Vice Convenor

Gordon McKerrow – Honorary Treasurer

Mark Jardine

Carol Hill

Gavin Stevenson

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The following Committees and administration team are responsible for overseeing the routine operation of the Crichton Foundation. They are supported by independent advice on audit, investment and legal compliance:

Executive Committee

Andrew Walls (Chairman)
Gordon McKerrow
Dave Roberts

Company Secretary

Pamela Stokes

Awards Committee

Charlie Auld
Sue Irving
Fiona Neilson
Fraser Sanderson
Jenny Smith
Kate Thomson
In attendance
Andrew Walls

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FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Accounts

The results for the year to 31st March 2024 are set out in the statement of financial activities. These are available on the Crichton Foundation's website.

Incoming Resources

The operational costs of the Crichton Foundation are funded through the income received from our investment portfolio, which is managed on our behalf by Brewin Dolphin. Income from donations, subscriptions, fundraising and profile-raising activities is used to support the awards distributed throughout the year. The fundraising income received during the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 was £21,666, which is applied 100% to further the charitable aims of the Crichton Foundation.



CONVENOR'S REPORT



When Corona Virus Disease struck in early 2020 very few understood how radically our lives might be affected. During the active killing phase of the attack, and in the aftermath, we were forced to adopt new ways of doing business. Remote working and electronic communication became the norm. In the short term the new approach performed reasonably well, but people became hungry to meet face to face and enjoy each other's company once more.

Our experience at the Crichton Foundation was the same as everyone else's. We had to abandon events that attracted an audience, be it Lunches or Committee meetings. Those things that proper business practice demanded we do were conducted using Teams, and because it was possible, we continued to enjoy the Conversations electronically and usually glitch-free, albeit with much smaller audiences. Because students continued to study, and sometimes run into financial difficulties, our Awards Committee continued to work. Applications for assistance from the Foundation actually increased and, pleasingly, throughout the COVID years we were able to continue to support those in trouble as well as rewarding excellence.

Everyone hoped that, once the disease had come under better control and restrictions were lifted, life would return to normal. But it is a new normal that faces us, a normal that has been created by other major world events namely the war in Ukraine, the financial chaos that subsequently resulted, and the political upheavals that have beset our country and many others. There is less money about and just about every charity in the land has seen reductions in donations and support. In some ways the Crichton Foundation has been similarly affected. Numbers of attendees at major functions have been down and one major event had to be cancelled. But we know that we have a real and positive contribution to make to both academic life in the region and to the wider community.

Realising that, as we approach our 25th anniversary next year, we needed to reappraise our function and agree how to take the organisation forward, we held a one-day meeting in March. Twenty-five of us met in the Duncan rooms. Our President, the Trustees, several members of Committees and some others, discussed, in a facilitated format how we saw the way forward. There was general agreement that the Foundation exists to support the academic organisations of the Crichton Campus, in particular the students of those institutions. Prior to the meeting there had been talk of radical change. Close the office, outsource financial control, do nothing more than hand out block grants to each academic institution and let them decide who gets what were all suggested as the new way forward.

That none of these radical proposals surfaced in any serious way at the meeting pleased me. The Crichton Foundation is very much more than a cold cash machine sitting on the Campus distributing monies to students who have the right password. It has become part of the social fabric of the south west of Scotland. It draws like-minded people together, people who come from all sorts of backgrounds but who have a common interest in the improvement of young people's lives. There is no doubt that we need more folk to join our cause, so please my friends encourage your friends to be part of the organisation.

Next year it will be twenty-five years since the Foundation came into existence. Under the strong initial guidance of our founder Sir David Landale it has done well, distributed large sums of money and has become a well-respected pillar of the community. With the help and support of yourselves and our academic partners I believe that the next twenty-five could be even more productive.

Floreat Crichton

Andrew Walls FRCS
Convenor

EVENTS

Fundraising Event



The Women of Dumfries and Galloway was held on Friday 5th May 2023. One hundred and twenty-five guests assembled in Easterbrook Hall to enjoy a drinks reception and two-course meal. The guest speakers were Heather Currie MBE MB BS FRCOG DRCOG MRCGP and Rosemary Lenton. Heather is a gynaecologist with special interests in Menopause, PMS and Cervical screening. She was awarded an MBE June 2021 for services to healthcare. Rosemary became a wheelchair user in 2002 following post-surgical infection. She had to give up her employment in 2005 and took up



Bowls and Curling as social pastimes winning the Commonwealth Games gold medal in Para ladies' Lawn Bowls pairs in Birmingham in 2022. The event raised a net surplus of £5,094.

Women of Dumfries and Galloway Lunch Committee

Miranda Leslie (Chairperson)
Barbara Kelly
Annabel West

Abby Butcher
Helen Steele
Kim Wilson

Corrina Duncan
Totty Rotheroe
Emily Sweets

Robyn Gladwin
Elizabeth Ann Hughes
Maria Yerburch

CRICHTON CONVERSATIONS

The 2023/2024 series of Crichton Conversations lectures were very successful and well attended. We were delighted to be able to welcome two hundred guests to join the debates and due to their generosity with sponsorship and donations (including Gift Aid where applicable) raised £1316 for the Crichton Foundation.



On the evening of Tuesday 7th November 2023 we were delighted to welcome **Professor Peter Grant OBE FREng FRSE FIEE FIEEE FHEA** to deliver the opening lecture ***Celebrating James Clerk Maxwell***

The lecture was sponsored by The Maxwell at Glenlair Trust

The Maxwell at

Glenlair Trust



The second Crichton Conversation of the series was delivered on Tuesday 12th December 2023 by **Professor James Miller FRSE** who delivered ***Six lessons from Leadership***.

This lecture was sponsored by the University of the West of Scotland



The first Crichton Conversation of 2024 was delivered by **Professor Paul Gray** on Tuesday 23rd January.

His lecture was titled ***Public discourse – better disagreement?***

The lecture was sponsored by the Open University in Scotland



Dr Matthew Agarwala was our next speaker on Tuesday 20th February 2024. He discussed ***Underpinning sustainable growth in Scotland***.

The lecture was sponsored by Scotland's Rural College



The numbers of students in 2023-2024 were as follows:

Institution	Course/Level of study		No. of students				Total	
SRUC	Postgraduate research students		2				2	
Open University	Undergraduate students		600				675	
	Postgraduate students		30					
	Access students		25					
University of Glasgow	Environmental Science and Sustainability		UG	45			388	
	Health and Social Sector Leadership		UG	17				
	Primary Education with Teaching Qualification		UG	143				
	Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Primary)		PG	15				
	Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Secondary STEM)		PG	1				
	End of Life Studies		PG	23				
	Enhanced Practice in Education		PG	19				
	Environment, Culture and Communication		PG	12				
	Environmental Risk Management		PG	11				
	Management and Sustainable Tourism		PG	18				
	Sustainable Tourism and Global Challenges		PG	13				
	Tourism, Development and Culture		PG	30				
Postgraduate Research		PG	41					
University of West of Scotland			Part time	Full time	Total		238	
	Childhood Practice		3	0	3			
	Childhood Studies		0	10	10			
	Computing Science		0	10	10			
	Pre-Reg Nursing BSc – Adult		0	143	143			
	Pre-Reg Nursing BSc – Mental Health		0	40	40			
	Social Work		0	30	30			
	PhD Nursing and Midwifery		1	0	1			
	PhD Social Work and Social Policy & Admin		1	0	1			
Dumfries and Galloway College			FE-PT	FE-FT	HE-PT	HE-FT	Total	5363
	Beauty Therapy		48	56	0	11	115	
	Business and Accounting		9	18	6	41	74	
	Computing		26	35	4	29	94	
	Construction		288	175	0	0	463	
	Creative Industries		26	44	2	54	126	
	Early Years		64	89	1	60	214	
	Engineering		148	110	18	26	302	
	English for Speakers of Other Languages		170	0	0	0	170	
	Hairdressing		1	71	0	0	72	
	Health & Social Care		56	52	1	35	144	
	Hospitality		58	70	0	0	128	
	Life Skills, Employability and Pathways		65	55	0	0	120	
	Open Learning		703	0	0	0	703	
	Renewable Transport		43	27	0	0	70	
	Short Courses (External Development)		1460	0	35	0	1495	
Sport and Fitness		38	31	2	66	137		
Work-based SVQs		786	0	150	0	936		
Total							6666	

AWARDS

The proceeds of the Foundation's fundraising activities throughout the year are used to support a range of awards made to individual students as well as contributing to the success of various projects carried out by Campus partners. The Awards Committee met in April, October and December 2023 and February 2024 and funds were disbursed under various categories as detailed below:

General Education Awards

These awards are open to any student studying at one of the Universities on the Crichton Campus. Awards are made from the general education fund to students who present a case that the Committee agree is worthy of support. Eighty-two individual student applications were received. Forty-nine students received awards totalling £16,100. The applications that were declined were mainly due to insufficient information or no academic reference received to support the applications.

Carson Reaching Potential Award

These awards are made to students who are local to Dumfries and Galloway and who have completed an HNC or HND at Dumfries and Galloway College. The funds are designed to help local young people reach their full potential. The awards are funded from monies generously donated for the purpose. The remaining balance of £692 in this restricted fund was distributed to two applicants that fulfilled the criteria for this award. The total disbursed was £700, with the balance of £8 being made from the General Education Fund. The Carson Fund is now exhausted.

Sir David Landale Prize



This prize is funded through a bequest from the late Sir David Landale, to be awarded to a University student who is nominated for making an outstanding contribution to the Crichton Campus in the Dumfries and Galloway region. The winner in 2023 was Rosie Chan.

Terry Prize

These prizes are funded through a bequest from the late Dr Anne Terry in memory of her husband the late Professor Roland Terry. The prize is awarded to a University of Glasgow first, second or third year undergraduate studying BSc Environmental Science and Sustainability. In 2023 the winners were Hannah Midghall and Fraser Darroch.



Evelyn Hastings Prize

This prize was established to recognise the work of Miss Evelyn Hastings OBE. Evelyn had a long career in nursing, culminating in becoming the chief nursing officer for Scotland. The Prize is awarded each year to a nursing student at the University of the West of Scotland in Dumfries who has demonstrated high standards in clinical practice placements and resilience in the face of adversity in the final year of their BSc in Nursing (adult or mental health). In 2023 the prize was awarded to Suzanne Watson.

Crichton Foundation Hardship Grant

In cases of crisis, where a request for support requires an urgent decision, applications are circulated via email to the Awards Committee. This enables students in Hardship to receive appropriate support without having to wait until the next Awards Committee meeting. Five applicants were awarded funding totalling £1750 as hardship grants during the year.

Awards to Partners



Dumfries and Galloway College received £12,000 which they distribute as a discretionary fund to students in need.

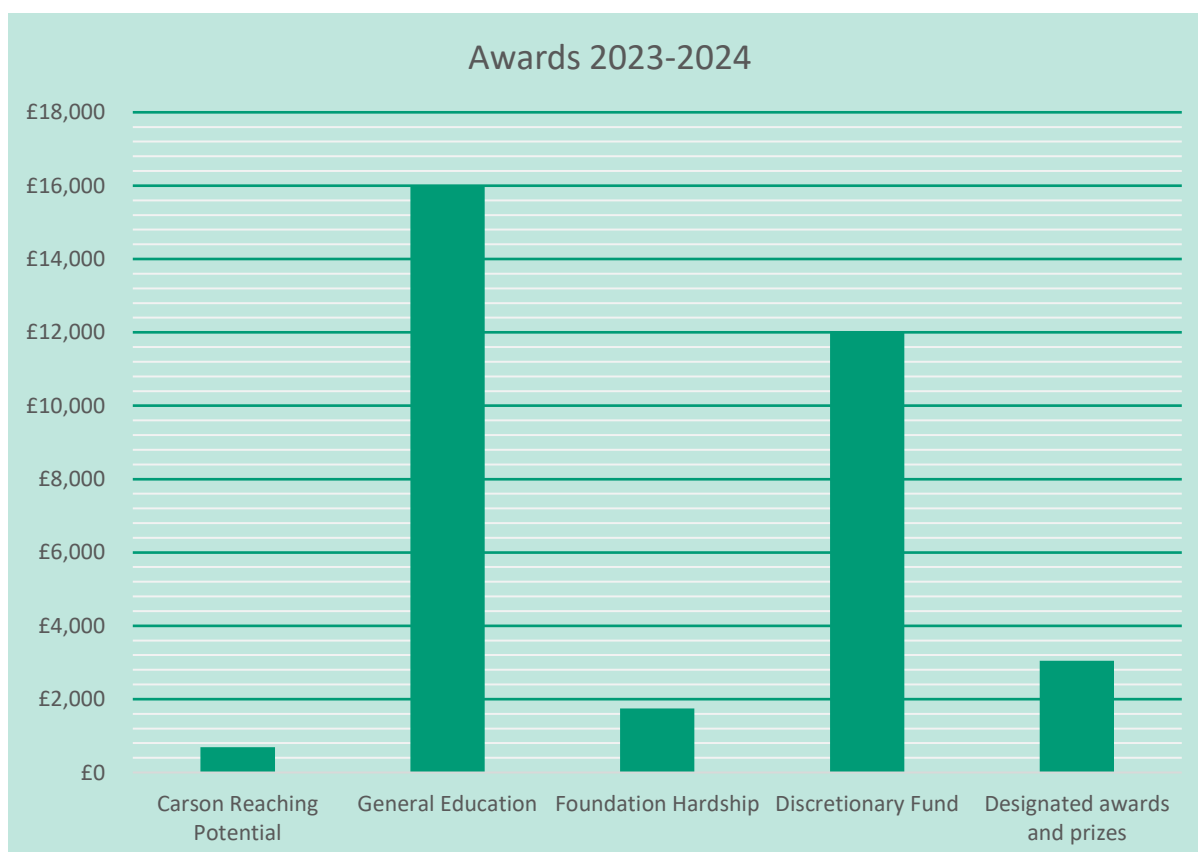
The University of the West of Scotland were awarded £5,000 to provide gym equipment for students and staff at the Crichton Campus.

Dumfries and Galloway College prize and Shield

A prize of £500 is awarded annually to a Dumfries and Galloway College student, selected by college staff. This year HNC Childhood Practice student Lisa Bell was the winner.



Award payments disbursed



Tanlaw Academy of Radio Astronomy (TARA)

In 2019 Crichton Foundation Patron, Lord Tanlaw, discussed his proposal to establish a virtual academy of radio astronomy at the Crichton Campus with Andrew Walls. The Crichton Foundation were delighted to be partnering with the Tanlaw Foundation and the Open University on this project.

Between September 2019 and April 2023, donations totalling £85,000 were made by Lord Tanlaw to the Crichton Foundation. These funds were held in a restricted fund for the TARA project.

Scientific and Technical Consultancy was provided by Alan Cayliss, consultancy on Academy Operations, Technical Operations and Education and Outreach were provided by Johanna Jarvis and further support for the project was provided by Kielder Observatory. The total costs associated with the project were £23,508.

The project enjoyed a degree of success with students enrolled on virtual courses however, the relocation of a radio telescope from Black Esk to the Crichton proved impossible. By September 2023 the project had ended and the remaining funds of £61,492 had been returned to the Tanlaw Foundation.

Obituaries

It is with great sadness we report the death of **Miss Evelyn Hastings RGN OBE**.

Evelyn was an important part of the Crichton Foundation since its inception in 2000. Initially representing the Board of Dumfries and Galloway College as a member of the Crichton Foundation Board, she remained a Trustee until her retirement in 2021, laterally as our Vice-Convenor. She was also chairperson of our Awards Committee, in which role she was always very direct when expressing her opinion on the standard of the applications submitted. She continued to be a supporter of the Crichton Foundation and took an interest in our work after her retirement.

Evelyn had an impressive career in nursing, beginning as a student nurse in Dumfries in 1961. She went on to hold posts in Glasgow Royal Maternity Hospital, the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow, as well as Newcastle Area Health Authority and Lanarkshire Health Board as the Chief Area Nursing Officer for Scotland. It was during her time as the Sister-in-Charge at the Southern General that the Ibrox disaster occurred. Evelyn was a force to be reckoned with and when the Lord Provost of Glasgow turned up in full regalia for a visit in the midst of things, he was told in no uncertain terms by Nurse Hastings to leave and return the next day.

Evelyn did not suffer fools gladly but was fiercely supportive of those who needed her help. She did not have a family of her own but she took a great interest in the lives of her cousins' children and was "Aunty" Lyn to many. She enjoyed the finer things in life and had collections of jewellery and porcelain. However, the true loves of her life were her miniature long-haired dachshunds Sacha, Max, Rosie, Bertie, Robbie, Charlie and Rudi.

Evelyn will be missed by all who knew her.

We were also saddened by the death of **Professor Paul Ignatieff FRSG**, an Honorary Patron of the Crichton Foundation.

Born in Canada, Paul came to love Scotland after spending a year farming with family friends. He returned to Canada to work in the private sector for ten years before beginning a 30-year career with UNICEF.

After retirement Paul became a Trustee for the Crichton Foundation. In addition, he was a Trustee for the Dumfries and Galloway NHS Primary Health Care Trust, Secretary for the Cairnhead Community Forest Trust, Chair of the Dumfries Royal Geographic Society and Chair of the Forestry Commission's South Scotland Regional Advisory Panel.



FRIENDS SCHEME

The Foundation encourages local people, businesses and organisations to take an active interest in the Crichton. The Friends Scheme enables people to demonstrate their support for the Foundation by donating an annual subscription to help us achieve our charitable aims. During the year to 31st March 2024 the scheme generated a total of £5,470 in subscriptions. Gift Aid is added where applicable.

We are grateful to all our Friends who continue to support our activities, those who are listed here and many more who wish to remain anonymous: (Individual, Joint, Associate and Life Friends)

Professor Anne Anderson	Mr David Henderson	Mr Gordon McKerrow
Barfil Charitable Trust	Mrs Frances Henderson	Mrs Maureen McKerrow
Dr Godfrey Bedford	Mr Arthur Jardine	Lord Norrie
Mrs Susan Bedford	Mrs Maureen Johnstone	Lady Norrie
Mr Christopher Craig	Dame Barbara Kelly	Mrs Morag Ogilvie
Mrs Mimi Craig	Dr Jeffrey Kerr	Mrs Sheila Pollock
Dr Maureen Crowley	Lady Landale	Mrs Margaret Rhind
Mrs Margaret Dobie	Mr James Leggat	Dr Eileen Robertson
Dodd Murray Ltd	Mrs Susan Leggat	Mrs Fiona Robertson
Mr Colin Endacott	Miss Gerry Lynch	Mr Richard Starkey
Mrs Anna Findlay	Mr Graeme Macfarlane	Mrs Yvonne Stirling
Mr Charles Grieve	Mrs Pamela Maitland	Lady Strathmore
Professor David Hannay	Ms Elisabeth Manson	Mr Andrew Walls
Miss M E Harkness	Mrs Eileen McCall	Mr Anthony Watts
Miss Evelyn Hastings	Sir Neil McIntosh	The Right Hon Viscount Weir

MEMBERS OF THE COMPANY

Crichton Foundation is a Scottish Charitable Company Limited by Guarantee. Members of the Company have influence over management as they are eligible to nominate prospective members of the Board of Trustees and are entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting. Members of the Crichton Foundation at 31st March 2024

Mr Tom Aitken	Mr John Henderson	Madam May McKerrell of Hillhouse
Mrs Alexandrina Anderson	Mrs Susan Howes	Mr Gordon McKerrow
Mrs Shirley Bell	Mr Arthur Jardine	Reverend Gerald Moule
Mrs Marion Bone	Mrs Maureen Johnstone	Lord Norrie
Dr Janet Brennan	Mrs Nan Kellar	Lady Norrie
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Mrs Margaret Carruthers	Mr Nicholas Kemp	Professor David Roberts
Mrs Maureen Corrie	Mr Trevor Knowles	Dr Eileen Robertson
Mr Christopher Craig	Mr Robert Lee	Mrs Fiona Robertson
Mrs Mimi Craig	Mr James Leggat	Mr Fraser Sanderson
Mr Roger Crofts	Mrs Susan Leggat	Reverend Dr Ann Shukman
Dr Maureen Crowley	Mrs Veronica Love	Dr Mary – Ann Smyth
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Mr Charles Grieve	Ms Elisabeth Manson	Mrs Lynda Vaughan
Mrs Hilary Grieve OBE	Mr Stuart Martin	Mrs Ann Walker
Professor David Hannay	Mrs Eileen McCall	Mr Andrew Walls FRCS
Mrs Jill Hardy MBE	Miss Valerie McElroy	Mrs Jeannie Wilson
Mr David Henderson	Dr Patricia McFadden	
Mrs Frances Henderson	Sir Neil McIntosh	

SPONSORS, SUPPORTERS AND DONORS

The Foundation is grateful for the generosity of companies and individual donors who have continued to support our activities throughout the year:

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Dame Frances Cairncross	Maria Yerburch
Dave Roberts	Mark Jardine
Dianne Endacott	Miranda Leslie
Dr Matthew Agarwala	Mr and Mrs Andrew Walls
Dumfries and Galloway College	Pearls by Appointment
Dumfries and Galloway Council	Professor James Miller
Dumfries and Galloway Life Magazine	Professor Paul Gray
Dumfries Courier	Professor Peter Grant
Dumfries Standard	Robyn Gladwin
Easterbrook Hall	Scotland's Rural College
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Emily Sweerts	Solway Print
Evelyn Hastings OBE	Sue Irving
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Gretna Green Ltd	The Right Honourable the Lord Tanlaw
Hamish McRae	Totty Rotheroe
Heather Barrington	University of Glasgow
Heathhall Garden Centre	University of the West of Scotland
Helen Steele	Victoria Jardine-Paterson



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