

wasps\_

16-17

a canvas for creativity

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DESIGNER T-SHIRT  
Rowney

Books

**Wasps mission is to provide space and support activities in which creators can prosper.**

Wasps vision is to be an inspirational home for creative practice. Through its activities and advocacy, Wasps will continue to deliver affordable spaces in which the broad artistic community can realise and share its talent and skills.





# chairs welcome

## Andrew Burrell



Welcome to our Annual Review. The 2016-17 period has been a time of reflection and of assessing what the organisation needs before transitioning into its 40th anniversary year. Wasps Board continues to benefit from a wide range of personal and professional experience, and is made up of members covering public, private and third sector fields. This contributes to a considerable collective knowledge of governance, business, arts enterprise and managerial requirements.





We welcomed some new board members to their first meeting in June 2016 including Alison Lefroy-Brooks with an accountancy background and Hilary Nicoll who has a background in arts education. This has allowed us to consolidate our knowledge base and really get to work on strategy and organisational development, whilst continuing to champion the work of the creative people that Wasps supports across Scotland. Sadly, Board member Stuart Macdonald passed away in June 2016 and we have missed his significant input and unique knowledge of our sector.

Sub-committees that have been set up to manage specific elements of running the organisation - finance, property projects, and arts enterprise, help us to harness key skills within the Board.

In the latter part of 2016, we surveyed all of our studio tenants to ensure that the service we provide for creative people across Scotland is still fit for purpose. The outcomes of the survey and this invaluable feedback from tenants informed key elements of an organisational development review, which was supported by Scottish Enterprise, who manage companies that demonstrate

growth potential. This process allowed us to look at the allocation of staff and budgetary resource. It has also helped us to focus on better customer service and a robust estates strategy.

The expansion of Wasps network into the Highlands and Islands has been a positive process, with the completion of Stromness Studios in Orkney and The Admiral's House in Skye. Stromness Studios was launched in November 2016 and around 200 people joined us to celebrate. The Admiral's House was completed at the end of the financial year, with a May 2017 launch.

Wasps Board continues to work together to make sure that Wasps provides a high quality service for the creative people that we support. By embarking on a journey of structural change over the review period, we want to ensure that Wasps studios will have relevance and appeal for the next 40 years.

I hope you enjoy reading our highlights.

# introduction

Audrey Carlin



I am delighted to share with you the many achievements that Wasps has enjoyed over the 2016-17 review period. We have just completed an intensive programme of studio meetings across Scotland to meet as many of our 800 studio tenants as we can and to feed back the outcomes of our impact survey to them. The tenants' survey that we carried out towards the end of 2016 was hugely insightful, allowing us to see the practice profile of many of our tenants, and assess the reach of the work that they create for audiences across Scotland and beyond.





Less encouraging however is that the income of Wasps artists remains the same, with 78% of tenants earning less than £10,000 per year from their practice. This has got us thinking about added value that our service can provide, such as more exhibiting or mentoring opportunities and ways to better connect the Wasps network across Scotland.

It has also been wonderful to hear tenants share their experience and career development stories - definitely a resource we would like to enhance via our own arts programming in future.

Alongside these meetings, I have thoroughly enjoyed attending exhibitions, sales, and performances that Wasps artists have hosted across Scotland.

Wasps 40th year of supporting artists across Scotland approaches. Although this has been a great opportunity to reflect on everything this unique organisation has achieved, I also believe it is important to look forward and think about what we need to allow Wasps to continue by building capacity and resilience for the future.

We have invested £168,400 into improving our studio spaces in 2016-17, and work has started on an Estates Strategy for long term maintenance and management of our estate. Addressing tenants' needs is key, as we look at enhancing our estate, whilst futureproofing the buildings that we currently operate as well as those we are developing.

Our latest projects in Skye and Orkney, expand the Wasps network further north, and will enable many artists to make work in these beautiful locations for some time to come. We now have five new studio artists in Stromness Studios and are looking forward to hosting residencies in Skye over the coming years.

Projects in Perth and Inverness are gaining lots of momentum. I have met many artists who wish to be involved in these new studio developments and their enthusiasm for our projects has been hugely encouraging and has assisted us in moving these key developments forward.

I hope you enjoy reading our annual review, and learning about the exciting progress that we are proud to have made over the last year.

# wasps in numbers 2016/17

760

artists supported with space



33

businesses supported with space\*



18

buildings



2

new projects completed in  
2016/17 (Skye and Orkney)



\* 26 organisations supported with space.  
7 Social Enterprises supported with space.



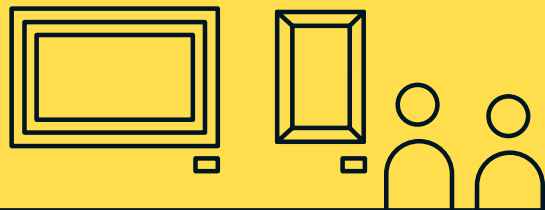
# 5

current live studio projects



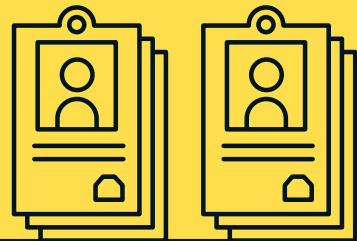
# 9

exhibition spaces



# 36

artists hosted in residency spaces\*



# 29,788

visitors across Scotland in 2016/17



\* The Booth hosted 10 artists and writers from the UK, Netherlands, Germany, Taiwan, Switzerland and Canada. The Steeple hosted 7 artists all from the UK. Hanson Street residency flat hosted 19 artists from the UK, USA, Malta, Germany, Switzerland and France.

# our service, the network and impact

## introduction

As our 40th anniversary approaches, we are very aware that, in the beginning, we were set up to provide affordable working space for visual artists. Since 1977, the creative landscape in Scotland has changed considerably, as have the practices and needs of creative people. We commissioned Social Value Lab, experts in conducting research and demonstrating impact, to undertake a survey of all our tenant groups - artists and makers, cultural organisations and creative businesses. The survey process took place over a three week period in October and November 2016. Our aim was to make sure that our offer is still fit for purpose, whilst allowing us to prepare for the future of creative space provision. The following is an overview of the creative community that we support.





# our service, the network and impact

## artists: personal characteristics

Wasps studios bring together a diverse creative community of artists and makers.

### Gender

The majority of artists working in Wasps studios are female. Of those registering a response, the results indicate that 62% are women, 37% are men, and 1% of other gender identities.

### Age

The Wasps' community tends to be comprised of older and reasonably well established artists. The survey research shows that 70% are aged 45 and over, with 11% of retirement age. *See Fig. 1*

In addition, the research shows that one-third of tenants (33%) have come to their creative practice as a second career. This appears to occur in the later stages of individual's careers given the older profile of tenants.

Figure 1 Age of Artists

Under 25yrs	2%
25-34 yrs	13%
35-44 yrs	15%
45-54 yrs	31%
55-64 yrs	28%
65+ yrs	11%

*Based on 252 responses. Excludes respondents that preferred not to reveal their age.*

## Ethnicity

The artistic community in Wasps studios is ethnically diverse. In total, 14% of artists revealed an ethnic background or group other than White Scottish/British. This compares to 8% nationally based on the latest Census of Population data.

## Creative Medium

Tenants work across a range of disciplines and practices. The research shows that most define themselves by the broad mediums of drawing and painting, mixed media, sculpture, printmaking and installation. *See Fig. 2*

## Creative Profession

The survey research shows that most tenants describe themselves as visual artists (73%), and much less so as makers, designers or technicians/fabricators. *See Fig. 3*

Figure 2 Creative Medium

Drawing and Painting	65%
Mixed Media	31%
Sculpture	28%
Printmaking	28%
Installation	25%
Digital Media	17%
Photography	17%
Textiles	14%
Film	13%
Performance	9%
Ceramics	9%
Silversmithing and Jewellery	7%
Stained Glass	4%
Other	13%

Based on 254 responses.

Figure 3 Creative Profession

Visual Artist	73%
Maker	11%
Designer	6%
Technician/Fabricator	1%
Other	9%

Based on 254 responses.



# our service, the network and impact

## artists: creative recognition

Most of the artistic community at Wasps have gone on to enjoy some level of public and professional recognition.

### Exhibiting Work

The research indicated that 90% of tenants have made work for exhibition in the last two years. Exploring this further, the results show that 82% have exhibited locally (in their town or city) while one quarter have gone on to exhibit their work internationally. *See Fig. 4*

### Creative Success

The research offers a number of indications of the extent to which Wasps' tenants are pursuing creative success. The survey results show that 53% of tenants have received commissions in the last year, while many have also been featured in publications, press, ran arts programmes, been represented by a gallery, either been nominated for or won awards, sold work online, or taken part in an artists residency. *See Fig. 5*

Figure 4 Exhibited Work (last 2 years)

In your town/city	82%
In your Local Authority	23%
In the rest of Scotland	58%
In the rest of the UK	46%
In Europe	22%
Internationally	25%

*Based on 240 responses.*

Figure 5 Creative Success

Received public/private commissions	53%
Featured in publications/press	49%
Been involved with running arts workshops/outreach	39%
Been represented by a gallery	36%
Nominated for or won an award	31%
Sold work online	28%
Taken part in any residency	21%

*Based on 254 responses.*

# our service, the network and impact

## artists: income from creativity

The research suggests that artistic recognition and success among tenants, do not readily translate into financial success.

### Creative Earnings

For most, a career in the arts appears to offer only a modest income. The survey responses indicate that just over half of the artists (55%) currently earn less than £5,000 annually from their creative practice. Only 5% have reported an arts-related income of more than £25,000.

*See Fig. 6*

Given that 78% of our artists' incomes are under £10,000 per year, we understand that part of our support must extend to helping our studio tenants to find development opportunities for their practice. Studio tenants have expressed a strong interest in benefitting from more open studios events, tenant exhibitions and public engagement opportunities.

Figure 6 Creative Earnings

Less than £5,000	55%
£5,000 - £10,000	23%
£10,001 - £15,000	9%
£15,001 - £20,000	4%
£20,001 - £25,000	4%
£25,001 - £30,000	3%
£30,001 and above	2%

*Based on 237 responses.*

# our service, the network and impact

## cultural organisations and businesses

### Creative Fields

Wasps accommodates cultural organisations and businesses that provide services, develop content, deliver experiences and produce and sell original work. The survey findings show that most operate in the fields of design, theatre and visual arts. *See Fig. 7*

### Turnover

Most cultural organisations and businesses generate a relatively small turnover although there are a number of larger businesses located in South Block. Of those enterprises able to report on turnover, 88% reported an annual income of less than £500,000. *See Fig. 8*

Figure 8 Turnover

Less than £83,000	21%
£83,000 - £99,999	13%
£100,000 - £249,999	25%
£250,000 - £499,999	21%
£500,000 - £999,999	8%
£1m or more	12%

Based on 24 responses.

Figure 7 Creative Fields

Design	26%
Theatre	26%
Visual Arts	22%
Architecture	11%
Digital Development	11%
Music	11%
Crafts	7%
Dance	7%
Fashion	7%
Advertising	4%
Animation	4%
Film	4%
Games	4%
Photography	4%
Publishing	4%
Software and Apps	4%
Literature	0%
Radio	0%
TV	0%
Other	22%

Based on 27 responses.



## Length of Operation

Most of the enterprises that rent studio/ office space from Wasps are reasonably well established entities. The survey results show that just over three quarters (78%) have been operating for five or more years. *See Fig. 9*

## Employment

Most of the organisations (both commercial and not-for-profit) are small employers. The feedback indicates that most (82%) are micro enterprises with less than ten staff. *See Fig. 10*

## Area of Operation

This diverse group of cultural organisations and businesses operate across relatively wide geographic markets. In total, 48% of tenants report having sold goods, works or services (or licensed a product) overseas in the last 12 months. This compares to just 12% of small businesses in Scotland that have done the same.

Figure 9 Age of Organisation

Less than 2 years	4%
2-5 years	18%
5-10 years	35%
10-15 years	18%
15-20 years	11%
Over 20 years	14%

*Based on 28 responses.*

Figure 10 Number of Employees

None	7%
1-4 employees	50%
5-9 employees	25%
10-49 employees	18%
50-250 employees	0%
>250 employees	0%

*Based on 26 responses.*

# our service, the network and impact

## benefits for all tenants

### Added Value

Despite some variation in attendance and satisfaction, there appears to be broad support for the arts programme among tenants. *See Fig. 11*

Figure 11 Percieved Added Value

	Artists	Enterprises
It is important that project/gallery spaces within building remain in regular use	92%	100%
It helps to raise the profile and credibility of Wasps and its tenants within the wider arts sector	88%	100%
It offers good opportunities for Wasps’ tenants and other artists to share their works	80%	100%
It is important in attracting visitors and creates a lively, stimulating environment	85%	93%
It exposes Wasps’ tenants and the public to new ideas and developments within the creative sector	79%	96%

*Based on the response of 265 artists and 27 cultural organisations and businesses. Percentages relate to respondents reporting either ‘strongly agree’ or ‘somewhat agree’.*

The survey highlights the perceived added value of the arts programme in optimising the use of buildings, raising awareness of Wasps and its tenants, affording opportunities to local artists and attracting visitors to the studios.

Figure 12 Requirements

	Artists	Enterprises
Open studio events	70%	62%
Professional development	76%	77%
Artist materclasses	52%	46%
Public workshops	47%	50%
Training opportunities	52%	65%
Peer to peer mentoring	39%	50%
Opportunities to sell work online	48%	27%
Opportunities to sell work via sales events	61%	27%
Networking events across Scotland	44%	46%
Opportunities to work across sectors	47%	58%
Film clubs/screenings	34%	35%
Other	10%	8%

*Based on responses from 249 artists and 26 cultural organisations.*

## Requirements

The survey feedback indicates that professional development opportunities are the most sought after component of any future programme. Beyond this point, the interests of artists and enterprises varies somewhat:

For artists, there was a strong interest in opens studios events, opportunities to sell work, masterclasses and training opportunities.

For representatives from cultural organisations and businesses, there was also strong interest in training, open studios events and opportunities to work across sectors. *See Fig. 12*

**Fig 13 Benefits for Artists**

Has offered stability and security of tenure	95%
Helped increase the scale of my/our creative output	90%
Enabled me to devote more time to my creative practice/business	87%
Helped validate me/us as an artist(s) or creative(s)	85%
Enables me/us to produce innovative work that we wouldn't otherwise	83%
Made my/our business more secure	75%
Has pushed the boundaries of my/our practice	74%
Created opportunities to share materials/equipment	64%
Gets my/our work seen by a wider audience	62%
Increased turnover/income	60%

*Based on 257 responses from artists.*

## Change Benefits for Growth to Benefits of Being a Wasps Tenant

All tenants have reported widespread benefits as a result of being a Wasps' tenant, most importantly stability and security of tenure. For artists, the biggest benefit of being a Wasps' tenant is stability and security of tenure (95%), alongside helping to increase the scale of their creative output. *See Fig. 13*

The most widely cited benefits for cultural organisations and businesses have been to enable them to stay located in the area in which they are based as well as providing them with the space needed to expand. The results also show how Wasps' studio/office space has helped them to become better established, increase collaborations and grow output, jobs and income. *See Fig. 14*

**Fig 14 Benefits for Enterprises and Organisations**

Enabled me/us to stay located in the area	95%
Has offered security and stability of tenure	95%
Has given the space to expand my/our creative practice or business	90%
Helped increase the scale of my/our creative input	79%
We collaborate with other companies in the building	79%
Helped establish my/our creative practice/business	75%
Has enabled me/us to create jobs for others	73%
We have increased income	72%
Improved our credibility	71%

*Based on 28 responses from cultural organisations and businesses.*



# our property network

## introduction

Wasps was established around studio provision for artists and our property portfolio has evolved over a 40 year period. No two studio buildings are alike and we currently manage a total net internal area of 200,000 sq ft equating to 600 rentable spaces in total for the creative sector.

Given our geographic spread, we have a studio rep in each location to help us run the buildings, meet with new studio holders, maintenance contractors and undertake onsite assessments.

We do have a registration list for space and occupancy rarely drops below 99% despite significant turnover each month. This takes a lot of work from our property and finance teams to manage and keep occupancy high.

Wasps property team deals with, on average, 30-40 studio transitions per quarter which includes people moving in and out, studio shares and transfers, rentals within our residency facilities and termination of leases for a fixed period.



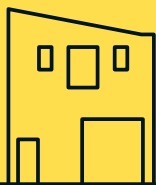
# our property network

## wasps buildings

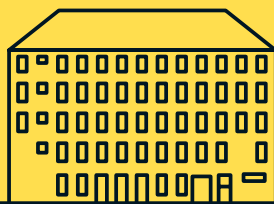
We manage the following 18 studio, creative office and residency locations across Scotland.



**Langstane Place**  
36-48 Langstane Place,  
Aberdeen, AB11 6FB



**Eagle House**  
15 Shore Lane,  
Aberdeen, AB11 5BF



**Meadow Mill**  
2nd, 3rd and 4th Floors,  
West Henderson's Wynd, Blackness,  
Dundee, DD1 5BY



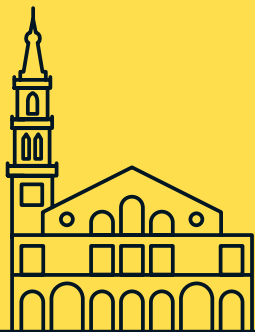
**Albion Road**  
78 Albion Road, Leith,  
Edinburgh, EH7 5QZ



**Patriothall**  
48A Hamilton Place, Stockbridge,  
Edinburgh, EH3 5AY



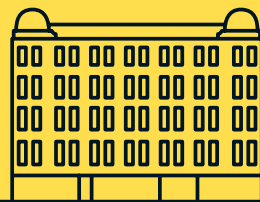
**West Park Place**  
2-3 West Park Place, Dalry,  
Edinburgh, EH11 2DJ



**The Briggait**  
141 Bridgegate,  
Glasgow, G1 5HZ



**Hanson Street**  
77 Hanson Street,  
Glasgow, G31 2HF



**South Block**  
60-65 Osborne Street,  
Glasgow, G1 5DT





**Dovehill Studios**  
15 East Campbell Street,  
Glasgow, G1 5DT



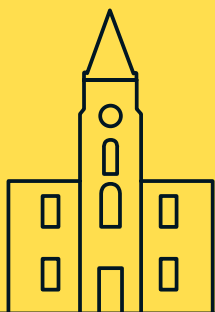
**Courtyard Studios**  
128 Harbour Street,  
Irvine, KA12 8PZ



**Cannonwalls and Claverhouse**  
117 High Street,  
Kirkcudbright, DG6 4JG



**Links Studios**  
Grant Street, Fishertown,  
Nairn, IV12 4NN



**The Steeple**  
67 High Street, Newburgh,  
Fife, KY14 6AH



**Stromness Studios**  
Hellihole Road, Stromness,  
Orkney, KW16 3DE



**St Mary's Mill**  
Unit 1, St Mary's Mill,  
Selkirk, TD7 5EW



**The Booth**  
New Street, Scalloway,  
Shetland, ZE1 0TQ



**The Admirals House**  
4 Lower Ollach, Braes,  
Skye, IV51 9LJ

# our property network

## wasps estates strategy

Over 2016-17, we spent £168,400 on repairs and maintenance across all studio locations. Major works to studio buildings include:

New gable wall render and front door at Dovehill Studios
New boiler and large scale roofing and repointing works at Patriothall
Roof repairs, heating system pressure vessel replacement and new fire alarm and detector heads to The Briggait
Significant roofing works, boiler repair, and downpipe clearance at Hanson Street
New fire alarm panel and detector heads at Langstane Place
Boiler repairs at South Block
Improvements to Wi-Fi provision across the estate

Our new customer relationship management system has allowed all members of staff to report studio repairs and update on progress in a more efficient and agile way.

We also have a contract with Human Resource and Health and Safety support specialist Ellis Whittam, who provide fire risk assessments and health and safety e-learning for all Wasps staff, studio reps and cleaners.

Six detailed visits have also been carried out by Ellis Whittam as part of their review of our property, health and safety and current operational procedures and we are now acting on their advice.

### Tenant Survey Outcomes

Our tenant survey highlighted to us that there was a high level of satisfaction with the accessibility, size and layout of our spaces. Other factors such as affordability , quality of Wi-Fi, state of repair and provision of other amenities within our buildings remain a strong concern for all tenants.

This led to a series of team meetings at our studio buildings across Scotland to discuss key issues with as many of our tenants face to face. This has informed our Estates Strategy moving forward. As the key source of income for all Wasps activity comes from rental income, it is essential that the property portfolio is managed and maintained appropriately and that we meet demand in the locations where demand exists.

Investing in our property portfolio will therefore remain the key focus of Wasps activity over the next five year period.

# our property network

## energy efficiency

The review period has seen us make significant progress to improve energy efficiency across our property estate.

We received an interest free loan from Resource Efficient Scotland to install PIR lighting in the Briggait, ensuring lights only come on when necessary. They also supported us with an interest free loan to purchase a new boiler for Patriothall Studios.

Over the next year, we should see a reduction in the energy consumption at all of these studio buildings and this exercise will also provide us with some good data to demonstrate how beneficial it would be to upgrade our systems at other locations.

The Briggait Green Team came into being in January 2017 and was set up in partnership with Creative Carbon Scotland and the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce. A group of building tenants meet regularly to discuss how we can best deal with waste, recycling and sharing information about green travel to work.

In partnership with Resource Efficient Scotland and Zero Waste Scotland, we have worked to identify what appropriate energy efficiency measures could be implemented within some of our buildings. Full costed reports have been prepared and we are looking forward to rolling some of these initiatives out subject to funding.



# live projects introduction



Over the review period we completed two projects and moved forward three major capital projects. These projects help us to provide new studios in Scottish towns and cities where demand has been identified. Most of the capital projects we deliver are funded externally and not from rental income, and we try to establish partnerships with as many local agencies as possible to make projects happen.



# live project

## orkney

With support from Creative Scotland, Orkney Islands Council and Highlands and Islands Enterprise, we officially opened Stromness Studios in Orkney in November 2016.

This beautiful studio project is housed in the former Stromness Library building and the local community are delighted that the building, one of the larger buildings in Stromness, has been brought back into use.

Stromness Studios provide a permanent home for Soullisquoy Printmakers, who have an established record in providing residency opportunities and initiating printmaking projects, whilst organising classes, workshops and regular exhibitions of members work.

There are also four studio spaces - three are let on a permanent basis to artists based in Orkney and a fourth larger studio provides shared space for creative collectives, graduates or individual artists working in similar materials.

The launch was hosted on the same night as all the festive gallery openings across Stromness. Since the launch, the artists at Stromness Studios have really embedded themselves in the local community.

Cost: £65,000

Supporters/Project Partners:  
Creative Scotland,  
Orkney Islands Council,  
Highlands and Islands Enterprise



# live project

## skye

With a launch date of May 2017, The Admiral's House is now complete, ready for bookings and is a beautiful addition to Wasps' residency facilities.

Situated in Lower Ollach, in Skye, the house sits in a stunning location, overlooking the Island of Raasay and provides:

- 3 creative studios in the grounds of the house
- A communal living/kitchen space which is large enough to accommodate talks and gatherings
- 3 bedrooms for visiting creative artists and organisations (1 ensuite)
- Wood burning stove
- Wi-Fi and smart TV

The location - and both the house and the grounds themselves - provoke a sense of peace and isolation, a feeling of retreat and of contemplation and space.

The project itself will allow artists the time and space to develop their own practice whilst engaging with the local community and getting the chance to meet other creative people that are using the facility.

The Admiral's House was very kindly donated to Wasps by the family of Vice Admiral Sir Roderick Macdonald KBE.

Admiral Roddy, as he is more commonly known, had a distinguished naval career including, working for NATO, a secondment to the US Navy, acting as Aide to the Queen, as well as more than his fair share of maritime adventures during wartime and throughout the Cold War.

Despite a lifelong career in the Navy he was delighted to retire to Skye in 1979 saying "One good book to close, and another to open". It enabled him to devote more time to his art and other interests as a trustee of the Clan Donald Lands Trust and President of the Skye Piping Society.

Future activities and programming will be developed in partnership with Atlas Arts to support all visual artists. However, bookings will also be welcome from creative individuals who wish to embrace the solitude that The Admiral's House provides.

Artist and maker Martin Campbell was the first artist to take up residency at the Admiral's House and he said:

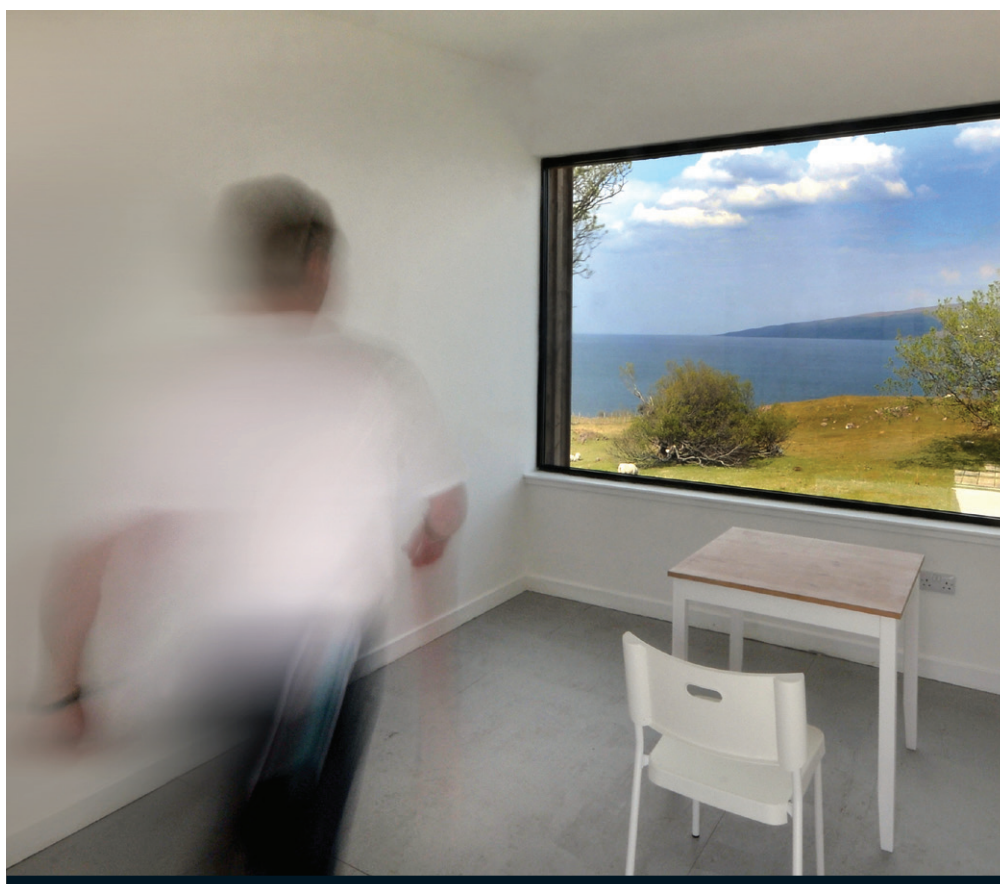
*"The residency at the Admiral's House gave me an opportunity to reassess my current practice free from any commercial pressures or time constraints. It offered me the physical and mental space to be playful and rediscover the simple joy of making things."*

We would like to thank John Macdonald, the Admiral's son, for donating this building to Wasps from his late father's estate, with additional support from Creative Scotland. Lochalsh and Skye Housing Association are assisting with maintenance support.

Cost: £400,000

Project Supporters/Partners:

The Macdonald Family, Creative Scotland



# live project

## inverness creative academy



The Inverness Creative Academy project will produce the first major creative hub in the Scottish Highlands.

This project will achieve the transformation of two beautiful B-listed buildings of the former Inverness Royal Academy into a creative hub providing:

- 39 studios for artists and makers
- 54 workspaces for creative industries and cultural social enterprises
- A public café within the restored assembly hall
- Public exhibition, events and workshop spaces

Both buildings currently provide 3,200 sq m. in floor area and therefore have the capacity to make a considerable contribution to local heritage regeneration and to the growth of the wider creative economy in the Highlands.

It will bring these benefits:

- The conservation and retention of two significant listed buildings in Inverness
- Provision of the largest creative hub in the Highlands
- Economic activity to the city centre
- Support for and retention of creative talent in the Highlands
- Opportunities for collaborative working, skills sharing and networking
- Public access to historic buildings
- Community based creative activity programmes

The first phase of redevelopment will commence in early 2018 and we anticipate that the first tenants will move in to the building in Autumn 2018.

Fundraising and design development is underway for Phase 2, with the aim of getting onsite in Autumn 2018.

Total Cost: £5.1m (Phases 1 and 2)  
Phase 1 Project Supporters/Partners:  
Scottish Government,  
Highlands and Islands Enterprise,  
Highland Council,  
Creative Scotland,  
Inverness City Heritage Trust,  
McCarthy and Stone Retirement  
Lifestyles Limited



# live projects

## perth creative exchange



Perth has a significant cultural offer and we have been looking for an opportunity to have a base in the city for some time.

We are now working closely with Perth and Kinross Council to transform the former St John's Primary School on Stormont Street into a £4.6 million creative exchange. The Council will lead on the redevelopment of the site and Wasps will manage the lettings and operation of the building itself once it is up and running. Perth and Kinross Council are also leading on the development of the Famous Grouse Ideas Centre, a space within the Perth Creative Exchange building which will be a hub for innovation.

Perth Creative Exchange, which is scheduled to open in Summer 2019, will become a home to artists and creative industries, offering up:

- 26 studio spaces
- 13 creative office spaces
- Public café
- Exhibition and workshop space for the local community

The development will see 1,600 m2 of floor space being brought back into use and will create employment and training opportunities in Perth City Centre.

In particular, Perth Creative Exchange will retain talent in the city and will provide new opportunities for the 650 students at University of the Highlands and Islands and Perth College who undertake creative courses each year, helping them to establish their careers in the city.

This project will develop Perth's cultural offer and support community access to the arts and cultural learning.

Cost: £4.6m

Project Supporters:

Perth and Kinross Council,  
Scottish Government,  
Creative Scotland,  
The Gannochy Trust,  
The Edrington Group

# live projects

## the briggait creation centre



Much time and resource has been spent investigating the feasibility of the next phase of development in the Briggait story.

Many Glaswegians are familiar with the Category A listed Briggait 1873 hall but are unaware that there is a whole secondary space on the Clyde Street elevation which is currently in a semi-derelict state.

For the past few years we have been working alongside a range of project partners currently based within the Briggait, to explore the transformation of this space into the Briggait Creation Centre, Scotland's first dedicated public space for dance, circus, street theatre, flying trapeze and other aerial skills.

These partners included:

- YDance
- Dance House Glasgow
- Surge
- Aerial Edge and Indepen-dance

We strive to breathe new life into these, as yet untouched, market halls in this beautiful building and will continue to work towards a viable, sustainable and creative use for the whole Briggait complex.

# our arts programme

## introduction



From April 2016 – March 2017, we hosted and curated some brilliant projects in our nine exhibition spaces across Scotland. Our exhibition and project spaces allow us to showcase artistic practices to our studio tenants whilst inviting the wider public into our spaces. Collaborating with artists from within our studio spaces and across the UK, we have endeavoured to bring our project spaces and buildings alive, and annually attract around 29,000 visitors per year to our buildings all over Scotland. The following is a selection of exhibitions which we actively programmed in our project spaces in 2016-17.

# our arts programme

## exhibitions

### Hanson Street, Glasgow

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#### **Glasgow International 2016 : Laws of Motion in a Cartoon Landscape**

**Andy Holden : 8th - 25th April 2016**

This new one-hour animated film was the culmination of five years of idiosyncratic research and public lectures exploring the possibility of using the Laws of Motion as they appear in cartoons. It explains the world as it appears to us now, and how an artist might operate in a landscape in which everything has been done, everything is equally possible, yet certain things endlessly reoccur.

#### **The Last Bound Sheaf**

**Anna FC Smith : 10th September - 7th October 2016**

The Last Bound Sheaf was a site-responsive exhibition at Hanson Street Gallery, which was built as a factory for Imperial Tobacco. As 2016 marked the ten year anniversary of the Smoking, Health and Social Care (Scotland) Act banning smoking in enclosed public spaces, Smith used this occasion to explore the complicated relationship the people of Glasgow had and have with the tobacco plant.

#### **Parade Artists Winter Sale**

**26th November - 4th December 2016**

A popular annual sale of works created in the studios for sale to the general public, including visual arts and crafts.





# our arts programme

## exhibitions

### **The Briggait, Glasgow**

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#### **Glasgow International 2016 : Who Are You And What Do You Want?**

**Jock Mooney : 8th - 25th April**

Mooney constructs worlds populated by grotesque characters, strange animals, food, lurid flowers and morphed effigies of historical, mythical and religious figures. He likes to observe the various ways in which different cultures celebrate, memorialise and represent death. In this show, he explored themes and symbolism pertaining to fertility, regeneration, economy, peace, health and prosperity.

#### **Glasgow International 2016 : Materialia**

**Simon Harlow and Heather Lander : 8th - 25th April**

Heather Lander and Simon Harlow have worked collaboratively throughout the past 13 years whilst both maintaining individual creative practices. Materialia was an ambitious video installation and sculptural eruption presented in the interior of the Briggait's vast 1873 Hall. Once darkness begins to descend the structure wakes up and comes alive. Materialia drew audiences into a beautiful and magical experience creating a sense of disorientation and a detachment from the world outside.

#### **55 Years**

**John Taylor : 3rd - 28th October 2016**

This exhibition celebrated artist John Taylor's 80th year and his artistic journey from his first solo show at the 57 Gallery, George Street, Edinburgh in 1961 to the solo exhibition of current paintings at the Glasgow Print Studio, August-September 2016. John Taylor has a professional career which spans 65 years where the work has changed and developed, sometimes in quite a radical way.

#### **O-Pin Collab**

**13th - 24th February 2017**

This project transformed one of the Briggait project spaces into a temporary jewellery studio that had guest designers working in it over the period of the exhibition. The other project space was used to display jewellery that had been made by Scottish based designers from a range of materials and culminated in a silent auction.

# our arts programme

## exhibitions

### South Block, Glasgow

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#### **Beyond Words**

**The Poster Project : 20th May - 8th July 2016**

Beyond Words was the first exhibition by Poster Project, a collective consisting of nine members within Glasgow-based design agency Front Page. Each poster represented the interpretation of a single word, chosen randomly from the studio dictionary, as an A2 poster. With the archive approaching 300 posters, this was the first time these posters were seen 'live'.

#### **The Poundshop**

**30th July - 7th August 2016**

To mark the 10th anniversary of Glasgow's twinning with Marseilles, we invited The Poundshop, a curatorial duo specialising in design to set up a shop during Merchant City Festival 2016. The shop stocked the work of designers working in Glasgow and Marseilles. Products were sold within affordable price bands of £1, £5 and £10.

#### **Risotto: Riso Room**

**10th November - 4th December 2016**

This project celebrated the wonders of risograph printing via workshops, shops and an exhibition displaying work by artists and designers well known in the Riso world.

#### **Unit 60 Christmas Show**

**8th - 18th December 2016**

Unit 60 was a temporary shop, set up in advance of Christmas to showcase a curated selection of designer gifts and local products.

#### **Maquettes**

**Hoskins Architects : 20th January – 20th February 2017**

From numerous iterations of study models used to test ideas to presentation models communicating our vision to others, models play an integral part of our design process. The exhibition explored the role of the model as a design tool throughout the various stages of an architectural project.

# our arts programme

## exhibitions

### Meadow Mill, Dundee

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#### Unpainting

**Louise Richie : 14th - 25th May 2016**

This exhibition was an exploration and visual collation of the relationship between individual artworks, the shifting studio environment and the overall process of painterly production. Working with paint, print, drawing and fibres, the paintings are released from the conventional two dimensional substrates.

#### L'Heure Bleue

**Val Norris : 16th – 26th June 2016**

Works in this exhibition evolved from found domestic and everyday objects, and material appropriated from old fashion magazines, books, knitting patterns and fragrance packaging. All of these elements are intuitively selected, combined and arranged to form a complex accumulation of associations and rhythms.

#### In Our Own Time: Exhibition by DCA Staff

**16th – 26th June 2016**

The staff at DCA Print Studio are kept busy, while on duty, helping everyone access the facilities and make great work. However they also work hard to maintain their own practice and keep their skills up to date. This exhibition focussed on some of their recent personal work.

#### Edges of Transition

**Paola McClure : Sat 4th - Sun 12 March 2017**

'Edges of Transition' is an exhibition of new sculpture by Paola McClure, accompanied by digital images created as a collaboration with photographer Alan Richardson.

# our arts programme

## artist led programming

### **Patriothall Gallery, Edinburgh**

Patriothall Gallery is run and managed by a committee made up of artists based at Patriothall Studios. They run the space in order to provide affordable artist-led exhibiting opportunities in central Edinburgh for emerging and established visual artists and other creative people. They also aim to support artists who might otherwise have difficulties in obtaining exhibition space in the commercial marketplace, for example students and recent graduates. The committee charge a nominal fee to artists and allocate shows in two week long slots throughout the year, hosting around 20 exhibitions annually.

### **East Campbell Street, Glasgow**

Artists based at Dovehill Studios, East Campbell Street, Glasgow have collectively refurbished open spaces on each floor of the building to create beautiful exhibition spaces which showcase the work of studio artists. The first exhibition titled '100 paintings, 30 years' opened in July 2016 and their exhibition programme has gained momentum since with monthly shows.





# our arts programme

## events

In partnership with events and duty management company InHouse, we have managed to establish the Briggait as a popular event space in Glasgow city centre. Over the past year the Briggait has hosted a wide range of events including:

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Judy's Affordable Vintage Fair

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The Vintage Kilo Sale

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Glasgow Gin Festival

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Glasgow Real Ale Festival

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Etsy Made Local Craft Fair

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Design Pop Up

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Merchant City Festival

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Glasgow Doors Open Day

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# our arts programme

## artist residencies

### The Anna Lobner Glasgow/Dusseldorf Exchange

Managed in partnership with the Kulturstadt Der Landeshauptstadt, The Anna Lobner Exchange affords artists from Glasgow and Dusseldorf the opportunity to live and work in a new city with a stipend, studio and apartment over a two month period. In October and November 2016, artist Klara Paterok came to Glasgow and lived and worked in our Hanson Studios, where she made a number of drawings, photographs and ceramics in Glasgow Ceramics Studio. In return video artist and film maker Sarah Forrest went to Dusseldorf where she used the time to develop new works for Tramway and Glasgow Women's Library. She also exhibited in city run space Atelier Am Eck.

### The John Strachan Residency

In its inaugural year, the John Strachan Residency provided artist Roos Dijkhuizen with a live/work space in The Steeple, Newburgh. Roos was selected by the Steeple Arts Committee and this was her first residency. She focussed on activities and events where the local community could be welcomed into the Steeple building. Many local people attended creative workshops, artists talks and a Pecha Kucha and pot luck dinner event. Roos felt really welcomed by the local community and helped to reconnect them with the Steeple.



# our arts programme

## open studios

In 2016, Open Studios went ahead in some of our smaller studio locations and the following buildings took part:

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Courtyard Studios, Irvine

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Cannonwalls & Claverhouse, Kirkcudbright

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Links Studios, Nairn

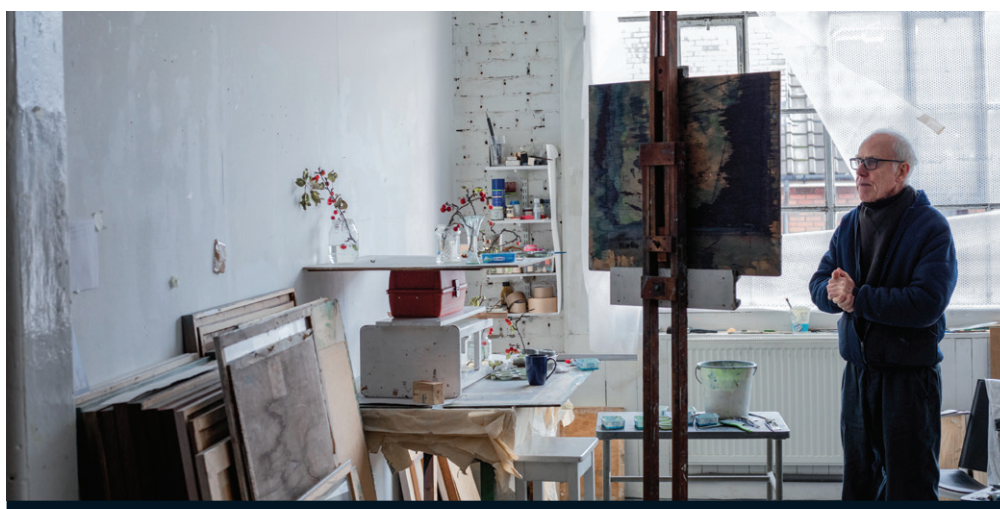
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St Mary's Mill, Selkirk

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Wasps Open Studios is a brilliant way for artists to engage directly with the public, and for the public to see inside an artists' working space. It also helps communities to access their local artists and learn more about workshops and exhibitions that they can attend, as well as purchasing work directly from the maker.

The Open Studios model is now a familiar one and in future we hope to create even more opportunities for our tenants to generate income via exhibiting, teaching workshops and make further in-roads into helping the Scottish public engage with visual arts and crafts on a regular and meaningful basis.



# financial review

## Wasps Artists' Studios

31 Mar 16

31 Mar 17

### Income

Rental income	1,298,567	1,412,172
Arts Programme: income	61,446	59,796
Public Grants	23,742	64,619
Interest receivable / Other income	30,485	17,506
Grant receivable from Wasps Trust	475,000	500,000
Donations from Wasps Creative Industries CIC	130,824	125,000
Gain on investments	1,527	(42)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,021,591</b>	<b>2,179,051</b>

### Expenses

Rental payable	771,225	805,628
Artists' studio expenditures (excl. rent payable)	570,740	641,629
Arts Programme: expenditure	67,972	63,285
Staffing costs	452,427	481,424
Overheads	95,084	134,575
Interest and bank charges	21,408	4,612
Donations	110,232	-
Depreciation	56,530	65,001
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,145,618</b>	<b>2,196,154</b>

Net surplus/(deficit) on operations

(124,027)

(17,103)

## Wasps Creative Industries CIC

### Income

Rental income and service charges	332,576	357,599
Café sales	73,755	75,361
Interest receivable / Other income	4,265	2,630
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>410,596</b>	<b>435,590</b>



# financial review

## Wasps Creative Industries CIC

31 Mar 16

31 Mar 17

### Expenses

Rental payable	97,986	113,898
Tenant services costs (CIC commercial tenants)	99,977	113,267
Café expenditure	62,933	68,569
Overheads	10,078	4,263
Interest and bank charges	1,280	4,643
Depreciation	5,991	5,992
Interim donation to Wasps Limited	130,824	125,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>409,069</b>	<b>435,632</b>

Net surplus on operations

1,527

(42)

## Wasps Trust

### Income

Rental income	709,051	743,453
Interest receivable / Other income	188	235
Grant income & donations	244,887	520,464
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>954,126</b>	<b>1,264,152</b>

### Expenses

Staffing costs	-	-
Overheads	64,536	65,376
Interest and bank charges	31,787	41,987
Reorganistaion costs	-	-
Other expenses	-	-
Grant to Wasps Limited	475,000	500,000
Loss on revaluation	-	33,325
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>571,323</b>	<b>640,688</b>

Net surplus on operations

382,803

623,464

Total surplus on a operations

260,303

606,319

## The Wasps Team and Supporters

Audrey Carlin: Chief Executive Officer
Stuart McCue-Dick: Executive Director of Corporate Services
Alan Simpson: Head of Property
Alexis Smith: Finance Assistant
Helen Moore: Communications Officer
David Cameron: Property Maintenance Officer
Lois Green: Studios Administrator
Dan Schirn: Administration and Marketing Assistant (from September 2016)
Emily Furneaux: Gallery Coordinator - Hanson Street (Until March 2017)
James Lee: Gallery Coordinator - Meadow Mill (Until March 2017)
Alison Fullerton: Head of Development (Until May 2017)
Chris Biddlecombe: Studio Projects Manager (Until May 2017)
Michelle Emery Barker: Curator (Until May 2017)
Ian Fordyce: Management Accountant (Until August 2017)
Catharine Kidd: Project Manager - Inverness Development (Until September 2017)
Lorraine Lamond: Cleaner (The Briggait)
Alison Lynch: Cleaner (South Block)
Lorraine McCandlish: Cleaner (South Block)

## The following team members worked for the organisation over the review period

Sarah Potter: Fundraising Manager (Until May 2016)
Mishka Hussain: Summer Intern (May - July 2016)
Lilias Camp: Receptionist (until August 2016)
Mary Beaton: Project Manager (Skye and Orkney Development June - September 2016)

## South Block Reception team

Andy Edwards	Clementine Drake
Ursula Cox (Until August 2016)	Marcus Jack (from August 2016)

# the wasps team

## All that is Coffee Team

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Fiona Danskin (Manager)

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Warrick Beyers

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Carolina De Matos Varanda

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Chris Duncan

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## Wasps Board of Directors

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Andrew Burrell (AA) Dip Arch, Dip UD+RP, FRIAS, AOU: Development Director, Places For People Scotland Ltd (Chair)

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Peter McCaughey: Artist and director of Wave Particle Ltd (Vice Chair)

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David Bankier LLB: Solicitor

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Audrey Carlin BSc(Hons) MRTPI: Chief Executive Officer, Wasps Studios

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Alison Lefroy Brooks BA (Hons) ACA MCT: Chartered Accountant

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David Logue: Partner, Gardiner and Theobald LLP, Property and Construction Consultants

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Calum Macaulay: Chief Executive Officer, Albyn Housing Society Ltd

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Eleanor McAllister OBE FRIAS FRSA: Consultant at Eleanor McAllister Ltd

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Stuart McCue-Dick BAcc CA: Executive Director of Corporate Services, Wasps Studios (Secretary of Wasps Trust)

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Prof Stuart Macdonald OBE DA PhD FNSEAD Hon FRSA: Emeritus Professor, Gray's School of Art (until June 2016)

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Hilary Nicoll: Visual Arts Consultant

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Leslie Robb FFA: Ex-partner, Baillie Gifford and Co, Global Investment Company

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Karyn Watt: Partner, Anderson Strathearn Asset Management Ltd

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Mary Wilson BEd DPE: Director, AMW Property Ltd

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## Wasps Patrons

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Prof Ian Wall FRSE FRICS CSc HonFRIAS

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Tom Laurie OBE: Economic consultant and partner in the Laurie Consultancy

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The registered office for our 3 entities is:  
Wasps, The Briggait, 141 Bridgegate, Glasgow, G1 5HZ

0141 553 5890  
info@waspsstudios.org.uk  
waspsstudios.org.uk

The Wasps Trust is a charity registered in Scotland (SC022115).  
Workshop & Artists Studio Provision (Scotland) Limited is a  
charity registered in Scotland (SC001351). It is also a company  
limited by guarantee registered in Scotland (SC062117).  
Wasps Creative Industries C.I.C. is a community interest  
company registered in Scotland (SC383609).

## Supporters

Creative Scotland
Heritage Lottery Fund
The National Lottery (through Creative Scotland)
Historic Environment Scotland
Garfield Weston Foundation
The Highland Council
Glasgow City Council
Perth and Kinross Council
Aberdeen City Council
Orkney Islands Council
Glasgow City Heritage Trust
Social Investment Scotland
Glasgow Life
European Regional Development Fund
The Robertson Trust
The Foyle Foundation
Triodos Bank
Scottish Enterprise
Alterledger
The Wolfson Foundation
The Hugh Fraser Foundation
The Scottish Government
The Mickel Fund
Aberbrothock Skea Trust
Leng Charitable Trust
The Tay Charitable Trust
The Family of Vice-Admiral Sir Roderick Macdonald
Scottish Government
Inverness City Heritage Trust
Highlands and Islands Enterprise
Steeple Arts
Glasgow International