annual review
2009/10
Bevan Foundation
I am proud to have been Chair of the Bevan Foundation's Board of Trustees in 2009/10. This financial year was our most successful yet in the campaign for social justice. Our income reached its highest level ever which enabled us to significantly increase our output: we published three issues of our magazine and several reports and we held a record number of first-class events. On top of this we moved to bigger premises with better facilities in Ebbw Vale, recruited four new staff and welcomed three new board members.

The Foundation's work is tackling the many injustices in society and the economy in Wales, and is shaping public policy and debate. We could not achieve this without the support of our core funders, members, grant-givers and commissioners, for which we are most grateful.

The coming financial year will bring many challenges, to ordinary people in Wales and to the Foundation. The Trustees will be working assiduously to ensure we can meet them.

Paul O’Shea
Chair, Board of Trustees
who are we?

The Bevan Foundation was established in 2001, taking our name from Aneurin Bevan because of his commitment to social justice in Wales, the UK and across the world. We are a registered charity, and are independent of any political party or line of thought.

The Bevan Foundation is committed to:

- an end to poverty and disadvantage
- equality and diversity
- empowerment and democracy.

We work to achieve social justice through:

- Research - finding out more about key issues facing Wales today;
- Events - sharing ideas through debate and discussion at conferences, seminars and lectures;
- Publications - spreading the word about the latest thinking in reports, articles, our magazine and on-line.

Through these activities we inform the public and decision-makers, and help to shape public policy and debate.

Inequality and disadvantage are still deep-seated in Wales today:

- a quarter of the population lives on a low income
- about a third of people of working age are either unemployed or ‘economically inactive’
- a quarter of the population do not have basic literacy skills and half do not have basic numeracy skills
- life expectancy in Wales’s most disadvantaged areas is around 10 years less than in England’s most prosperous areas.
finding out more - our research

In 2009/10 we completed five major research projects on key social justice issues, which shaped public policy and debate. We were pleased to be able to recruit two temporary researchers to take forward our work programme, and also benefited from the input of Dr Gideon Calder, of the University of Wales, Newport, through the Strategic Insight Programme.

Good to be Here

This project looked at evidence on the many good features of the Heads of the Valleys, as set out in statistics, inspection reports and independent reviews, to counteract the many negative stereotypes. The findings were covered by the Western Mail and were also presented to the Heads of the Valleys Business Club.

What is needed to end child poverty in Wales

This project, funded by Joseph Rowntree Foundation, looked at the evidence on tackling child poverty and developed proposals for action in Wales. The findings were launched in July 2009 with a cross-party discussion, and went on to make a significant input into the Welsh Assembly Government’s draft child poverty strategy as well as being widely debated in the media.

Launch of ‘What is needed to End Child Poverty in Wales’ with panellists Helen Mary Jones AM, Huw Lewis AM, Vivienne Sugar, Mark Isherwood AM and Eleanor Burnham AM
Digital Wales, Divided Wales

The real digital divide, this report argued, is not broadband ‘not-spots’ but the lack of access to computers and the internet experienced by older people and people on low incomes. Funded by BT, the conclusions contributed to the Welsh Assembly Government’s new digital inclusion strategy.

Paying the Price of Being Poor

All too often people on low incomes pay extra for essential goods and services such as fuel, financial services and education. This report presents the conclusions of three round-table discussions on what can be done to reduce the impact of this ‘poverty premium’. It was funded by the Welsh Assembly Government’s New Ideas Fund. The report’s comments about school uniforms received a double-page feature in the Western Mail and was the subject of a BBC Radio Wales phone-in.

Green Jobs and Justice

The impact of moving to a low carbon economy could be borne disproportionately by people working in particular economic sectors or living in particular places. This study argued that urgent steps must be taken to ensure the transition to low carbon is fair and just, and looked at the possible impact on job loss and job creation across Wales. Funded by Wales TUC, the conclusions have received widespread publicity, including extensive press coverage, and informed the Welsh Assembly Government’s new economic renewal strategy.
During 2009/10 we held many more events and published more articles, reports and pamphlets than before.

**Review**
Our flagship magazine, Review, has a great new look and is now published three times a year. Articles focussed on the recession in July 2009, democracy in October 2009 and public spending in March 2010, with a varied and distinguished range of contributors.

**On the web**
The Foundation continued to publicise its activities through its website. We also continued our monthly e-newsletter for members, and re-designed our blog as ‘thisismytruth.org’. Our Facebook pages and Twitter messages have helped to raise our profile and reach a wider audience.

**In the news**
The Foundation’s Director is a regular contributor to Welsh media, speaking on BBC Wales ‘Good Morning Wales’ and ‘Good Evening Wales’ programmes, and commenting and writing features in the Western Mail.
We organised a total of 23 different events during 2009/10, ranging from major conferences, to seminars and round-table discussions as well as ‘question-time’ debates. We also organised major concert of music, poetry, speeches and drama. To support our events programme, the Foundation hosted a graduate placement which was part-funded by Go Wales, and we are delighted that we were able to offer a permanent post on its completion.

**Conferences**

The Foundation’s conferences were highly successful, attracting top speakers and large audiences, including:

- welfare reform, organised with the Alliance for Industrial Communities on 30th April 2009
- older people, independent living and social care, organised with Joseph Rowntree Foundation and Older People’s Commission on 8th May 2009
- ‘One Wales, Two Years’, organised with Positif Politics and Leigh Jeffes Associates on 6th July 2009
- patient access to medicines, organised with ABPI Cymru Wales on 1st October 2009
- ‘One Wales, One Year to Go’, organised with Positif Politics on 19th March 2010.

Equality was a key theme, working in partnership with the Equality and Human Rights Commission Wales with three conferences to explore equality in employment, education and health held in early 2010, followed by a keynote event to mark International Women’s Day in March 2010, funded by the Welsh Assembly Government.
Seminar

Smaller scale seminars and round-table discussions provided an opportunity to explore issues in greater depth, and included:

- A seminar on poverty and human rights, organised with Joseph Rowntree Foundation, on 7th May 2009
- A seminar on public perceptions of poverty, organised with Joseph Rowntree Foundation on 14th July 2009
- A round table discussion on ageing and economic activity, organised with Prime Cymru and held at the Prince of Wales’s residence, Llwynywermod, on 28th September 2009
- A seminar on ‘Is Mutualism the future of public services?’ supported by the Wales Cooperative Centre and held on 4th March 2010.

Our after-work open debates were also popular and ran from April to December 2009, covering subjects such as where next for post-16 education, vaccination, and public spending cuts. Our annual lecture was ‘When China Rules the World’, delivered by Martin Jacques on 28th October 2009, and was kindly hosted by Swansea University. It attracted more than 80 guests of all nationalities.
Music, poetry and performance

We also encouraged thinking about social justice through music, poetry and performance. Two of these events were relatively small, marking the 25th anniversary of the 1984/5 miners’ strike through a book reading on 7th March and an audience with Billy Bragg, Martyn Joseph and Beverley Humphreys held on 6th June. Our flagship event in the year was ‘Celebrating Democracy’, to mark 170 years since the Chartist uprising in Newport and ten years of devolution. More than 300 guests assembled for a varied programme which included:

- an exhibition about Paul Robeson’s life and a variety of information stands
- Young People’s Question Time, with local politicians and chaired by Betsan Powys, BBC Wales Political Editor
- lectures on suffragettes, Chartism and the black and minority ethnic community
- a concert with performances by the Hennessys, Malpas Primary School and Coleg Gwent, and poetry by Gillian Clarke.
looking ahead

We plan to continue our research, events and publications programmes in the coming year, including:

- research on play services for disabled children, funded by a consortium of children’s charities
- research on fuel poverty in Wales, funded by the Scottish Power Energy People Trust
- research on community safety and cohesion in Phillipstown, funded by the New Tredegar Communities First Partnership
- the activities for Wales in the European Year 2010 Combating poverty and social exclusion, including a major conference, publication of a book and creation of a website

The Trustees are undertaking a review in 2010/11 of the charity’s medium-term strategy in the light of changing financial circumstances affecting the public sector and charitable trusts, and the new challenges facing the people of Wales.
Income

Our total income in 2009/10 was £165,071 - an increase of 22% on 2008/09. In the last five years our income has more than doubled.

Our income comes from three main sources – about 40% comes from research grants and commissions whilst another 30% comes from events and publications.

Extremely important to us is the 30% of our income which comes from individual and organisational membership and donations and a modest amount of core funding received from Joseph Rowntree Foundation, and from Unison, GMB, Community and PCS unions.

Expenditure

Our expenditure in the year was £138,280, an increase of 17% on the previous year reflecting the employment of additional staff during the year.

Just over a third of our income was spent on research, nearly a third was spent on events and a further 11% was spent on publications. Nearly a fifth (19%) was spent on generating funding (e.g. producing the Review for members) and 6% was spent on governance costs.

Assets

Our net assets at the end of 2009/10 were £78,319 of which £6,000 was tangible fixed assets and £72,319 net current assets. Of these £36,539 were restricted funds.
**Bevan Foundation Board of Trustees**

Trustees during 2009/10 were:

Sonia Behr, Solicitor
Alun Davies, Assembly Member
Dai Davies, Company Director
Hywel Francis, Member of Parliament
Taha Idris, Director, Swansea Bay Race Equality Council
Paul O’Shea, Regional Secretary UNISON
Bob Chapman, Consultant and formerly Acting Wales Director, Legal Services Commission - *appointed 10.12.09*
Daran Hill, Managing Director Positif Politics - *appointed 10.12.09*
R D ‘Sandy’ Blair, formerly Director, Welsh Local Government Association and Chief Executive of Newport City Council - *appointed 10.12.09*

Grateful thanks to the Trustees who stood down during the year:

Angela Elniff Larsen, Director Angles Consulting - *resigned 10.12.09*
Howard Marshall, Trades Union Officer - *resigned 1.5.09*
Professor Elan Clos Stephens, Professor of Theatre Studies - *resigned 10.12.09*

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**Nina Fishman**

The Foundation was deeply saddened at the death of Professor Nina Fishman, retired Professor of History, on 5th December 2009. Nina was a stalwart supporter of the Foundation, freely giving her advice, insight, time and dry humour. She is sorely missed.
Honorary Patron
The Most Reverend and Right Honorable Dr Rowan Williams

President
Lord Kinnock of Bedwellty

Vice Presidents
Michael Leahy, General Secretary, Community the Union
Paul Robeson Jr.

Bevan Foundation Staff
Victoria Winckler, Director
Daneka Norman, Events and Marketing Manager
June Evans, Office Manager (to April 2010)
James Radcliffe, Research Officer
(from February 2010)
Rachael Simmonds, Finance Officer
(from April 2010)
Lizzie Thomas, Research Assistant
(February – August 2010)

Company Secretary
Mick Antoniw

Auditors
Mitchell Meredith Limited
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
The Exchange
Fiveways
Temple Street
Llandrindod Wells
Powys LD1 5HG

Hywel Francis MP – Reflections on the miners’ strike event
thank you

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Joseph Rowntree Foundation
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UNISON

Research and Event Funders
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Asbah
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BT
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College of Occupational Therapists
Contact a Family Wales
Electoral Reform Society
Equality and Human Rights Commission
Joseph Rowntree Foundation
Learning Disability Wales
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Older People’s Commission for Wales
RNIB Cymru
RNID Cymru
Scottish Power Energy People Trust
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WCVA
Wales TUC
Waterloo Foundation

Support in Kind
David Mayer (for design)
Prime Cymru
University of Swansea
University of Wales, Newport
Peter Slater (for photography)

Plus the many speakers at our events and writers in our magazine who have given their time freely.

Thanks also to everyone else who has supported our work by:
• Joining
• Making a donation
• Signing a Gift Aid declaration
• Supporting our events
• Buying an exhibition stand
• Advertising in our magazine
• Following us on Twitter
• Being a fan on Facebook
• Volunteering.
Join us and be at the forefront of new thinking to shape the future of Wales. Members of the Bevan Foundation come from all walks of life and include businesses, community groups, local authorities, trades unions, politicians from all parties and individuals of all ages.

**Members have a say in what we do and also get:**
- access to the latest thinking about social justice through our magazine, Bevan Foundation Review, published three times a year;
- insight into new ideas through our thought-provoking reports and pamphlets;
- opportunities to shape policy through our round table discussions and seminars;
- learning and networking at conferences and lectures

**Membership rates for 2010-11:**
- individuals £25 (students and unwaged £15)
- voluntary organisations, community groups and trades union branches £100
- small businesses, small public sector bodies £200
- large businesses and public sector bodies £500 plus

I would like to join the Bevan Foundation.
Name ..........................................
Organisation ..................................
Address ...........................................
Post Code ........................................
Email: ...........................................
Tel: ...........................................
Fax: ...........................................

I wish to join as follows (please tick one)

- [ ] individuals
- [ ] small business / public body
- [ ] voluntary and trade union
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You can also support our work with a donation in addition to your subscription.

I wish to pay as follows (please tick one)

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Card No. ...........................................
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The Bevan Foundation is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No. 04175018 and as a charity in England and Wales No. 1104191.

The Annual Review 2009/10 covers the period 1st April 2009 to 31st March 2010. The Annual Report and Accounts of the Trustees for the same period are available on request from the Bevan Foundation or can be downloaded from the Charity Commission's website at http://www.charity-commission.gov.uk/Showcharity/RegisterOfCharities/CharityWithoutPartB.aspx?RegisteredCharityNumber=1104191&SubsidiaryNumber=0