

The Mikhulu Trust Registered Charity Number 1,158,733

Annual Report

1 December 2023 - 30 November 2024

Trustees:

Peter Cooper (Chair)

Lynne Murray

Cathy Creswell

Nova Robinson

(Nicholas Dowdell – resigned 27/09/2024)

Address:

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Review of Objectives for 2023-2024

i. CRESCITA

Continue to develop materials for CRESCITA. Develop the museum site, including the creation of a small cinema. Purchase a large TV screen and two computer stations and begin developing films and interactive materials for them respectively. Hold an official opening of the museum, inviting the mayor of the region. Begin hosting classes of school children in the museum. Put in applications to the EU for financial support for the further development of CRESCITA .

We have restored a space within a 15th-century building in Mignano's central square (carried out at Peter and Lynne's personal expense), using skilled local builders experienced in restoration work that respects the historical significance of the ancient structure. Two films (on sheep farming/cheese making, and on wild boar hunting) and several posters about local traditions are near completion. Notably, this work is being conducted with the full involvement of the local community. The museum will be ready to receive visits from school children early in 2025.

ii. International Research into DBS

Continue supporting research groups around the world – including the UK and Italy – in research into the delivery and impact of DBS. Assist colleagues in publishing their research findings and obtaining funding for their research.

Support continued over the period for dialogic book sharing (DBS) research in the UK, South Africa, Brazil, Turkey, Tanzania, and Italy. Some of this work is near completion and further support will be provided to international colleagues for the preparation of papers for publication.

iii. DBS Training in Italy:

Continue supporting Dr Belluardo in providing DBS training in Italy; and continue providing DBS training in the Pieve Santo Stefano region.

Dr Belluardo has continued to provide training for the group from the University of Brescia. DBS training has continued for parents and school teachers in Pieve Santo Stefano, Badia Tedalda, and Capresse Michealangelo.

Objectives for 2024-25

i. CRESCITA

Complete the construction of the museum. Produce more video and poster materials for the museum. Begin offering visits to the museum to classes of school children from Pieve Santo Stefano and the surrounding villages

ii. DBS Training

Continue to provide DBS training to parents and teachers, and to trainers of parents and teachers, in Italy. Recruit a colleague to assist us and Dr Belluardo in providing DBS training.

iii. DBS Research

Continue to provide support to colleagues in Italy and around the world.

Financial Report

1 December 2023 -	£21,794
30 November 2024 -	£ 20,623
Expenditure for 2023-24	£1,171

The expenditure (apart from bank fees) went entirely to Diego della Ragione, who has provided technical support in the making of video and photographic materials for CRESCITA.