

Marsh Christian Trust,
4 Matthew Parker Street,
London,
SW1H 9NP

T: 020 7233 3112
E: mccarthy@bpmarsh.co.uk

Charity No: 284470

MARSH
Christian Trust



Celebrating 30 Years of Awards and Achievements

Recognising everyday contributions to
people, culture and the natural world

MARSH
Christian Trust



Award partners



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Celebrating
Showcasing
Promoting
Encouraging
Recognising
Commending

30 years

of people making a difference

From the presentation of the first Award in 1987 to the 80+ Awards presented today, the Marsh Awards have been celebrating the outstanding contributions of people who are committed to social, cultural and environmental causes for the past 30 years.

PEOPLE ARE AT THE HEART OF WHAT WE DO

The Awards recognise people who add value to society. They highlight the connections they make, the support they give and the skills they provide in conserving, learning and engaging with everyone and everything around them. The Awards recognise, celebrate and promote these people and 30 years on we have no shortage of inspiring, creative, emotional and surprising stories of unwavering dedication and commitment from our winners.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Partnerships have been key to the success of the Awards over the years. Working in partnership with local and national

charities has allowed the Trust to collaborate with others to create opportunities to recognise and promote the fantastic work being done. Over the years our partnerships have grown from 2 to over 40. Our partners make us stronger and the outside recognition provided by the Trust has added value by celebrating the work of our partners and that of the winners.

VOLUNTEERS

It would be impossible to look at 30 years of our Awards without a special mention to volunteers, who are recognised through 59 of our 80 Awards. Volunteers play a vital role in the charity sector and are an invaluable resource that many charities could not do without. While larger

organisations value the help volunteers give, many of the smaller organisations and community groups rely entirely on volunteers and therefore their relentless commitment, resourcefulness and creativity has, and will continue to be, celebrated by the Awards.

EVOLVING WITH THE SECTOR

As models of care, learning and recovery have changed in the sector, the Awards have evolved to reflect this. Some of our more recent Awards recognise peer support, where individuals and groups draw on lived experience or shared characteristics to provide support. The importance of recognising the actions of young people and those engaging the public in education, training and inclusiveness across different fields has also been a theme running through our Awards. We will always endeavour to develop our Awards, reflective of our partners and the sector, to continue to provide recognition to unsung heroes.

Celebrating

lifetime achievements

Many volunteers and professionals give years of service to particular causes and their longstanding commitment allows for effective and wide-reaching work across the charity sector. Without the ongoing dedication of these people the sector would miss out on vital knowledge and experience.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We work with the **British Ecological Society**, **Royal Botanic Gardens Kew** and **Butterfly Conservation** to recognise the lifetime achievements of professionals working to protect and make discoveries about the natural world.

We celebrate the selfless commitment of people who dedicate their time to improving the lives of others through our Awards with the **Carers Trust** and **Barnardo's**.

Our work with the **Rare Breeds Survival Trust** and the **Churches Conservation Trust** are some examples of the Awards we give which commend the longstanding contributions of volunteers working in their local community.

We highlight the important lifelong contributions that volunteers make to the continuation of heritage skills and learning through our Awards with the **Heritage Crafts Association** and the **Institute of Historic Building Conservation**.



A LIFETIME OF DEDICATION TO BOTANY

Margaret Bradshaw won the **Marsh Botany Award** in 2012.

Her botanical career spans six decades and began when she worked on the lady's-mantles in Teesdale in the 1950s, a group of flora which she is now considered an expert in and continues to raise the profile of.

In recognition of her involvement with the campaign for the preservation of large areas of sugar limestone during the construction of the Cow Green

Reservoir, Margaret was awarded an MBE for her services to conservation in 1977 and in 2010 she was made an honorary member of the Botanical Society of the British Isles.

Margaret's contribution to the understanding of the Teesdale flora, and the field of botany as a whole, has been outstanding and is only surpassed by her tireless effort and commitment to ensuring that it is conserved for generations to come.



MY REACTION UPON RECEIVING THE AWARD WAS ONE OF GREAT JOY AND SURPRISE, SURPRISE THAT WHAT I HAD BEEN DOING, HAD BEEN RECOGNISED.

Showcasing

peer support

Peer Support happens when people offer each other support based on their lived experience to improve mental and physical health and support hard-to-reach groups. It can take a variety of forms including support groups, befriending, informal phone calls and online forums. Our Awards are an opportunity to showcase this important area of work and celebrate the inspiring people who are using their own experiences to improve the lives of others.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

Our work with **Mind and partners of Peerfest**, an annual event bringing together a network of peers in mental health, aims to promote the fantastic work of mental health peer support groups.

Our Awards with **Carers Trust** are an opportunity to celebrate adult and young carers who befriend and provide support to other carers.

Our partnership with **Addaction** helps recognise the positive effects of

involving those in recovery from a drug, alcohol or mental health problem in services.

Our Awards with **St Mungo's** often go to volunteers with experience of homelessness, and promote the invaluable support that those with lived experience can offer to clients.

Our Awards with the **Refugee Council** often go to refugees and asylum seekers drawing upon their own experiences to run support projects for others.



INSPIRING PEER SUPPORT FROM 'EVOLVE'

Evolve is a mental health peer support group for 13-19 year olds based in Croydon. They won the 2016 **Marsh Award for Mental Health Peer Support**. The group is run by young people with experience of mental health issues and offers a safe place for people to meet and talk, as well as an online peer support group.

This group was established as the young people felt that there was a lack of local mental health services in Croydon and as a result felt isolated without a support network. Evolve has

now become a valuable resource for the local community, giving group members the opportunity to volunteer and deliver sessions, gaining skills and confidence along the way.

The group runs sessions on art, music, writing, exercise, coping strategies and recovery, which are devised through feedback from members. They have organised events and openly challenge the stigma of talking about mental health.

“

WE WERE SHOCKED TO WIN THE AWARD, BUT SO SO GRATEFUL. IT'S MEANT THAT WE WERE ABLE TO BUY RESOURCES FOR OUR SESSIONS. THE GROUP IS AMAZING, AND HAS CHANGED PEOPLE'S LIVES INCLUDING MINE, AND I'M SO GRATEFUL THE AWARD HELPS US TO KEEP GOING.

Promoting

young volunteers and early careers

Young volunteers and young people at the early stages of their careers play a vital role in shaping our cultural, social and environmental sectors. Our Awards have developed over the years to celebrate the achievements of young people and promote the importance of placing them at the centre of activities across the sector.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

Our work with the **Council for British Archaeology**, **Civic Voice** and **Churches Conservation Trust** celebrates young people demonstrating a passion to preserve their heritage through participation in community and national projects.

We collaborate with the **Zoological Society of London** and the **British Trust for Ornithology** to promote young people in schools and universities showing a passion for science and environmental conservation.

Our Awards with the **Royal Horticultural Society**, **Royal Entomological Society** and **Engage** recognise researchers and professionals who have made a great impact at the early stages of their careers, and can be used to further their professional development.

Our partnership with **Barnardo's** includes awards for young volunteers helping to run services for other young people, children and families and volunteering in Barnardo's stores.



BARNARDO'S YOUNG VOLUNTEERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Caitlin and Abby won the 2014 **Marsh Young Volunteer Award with Barnardo's** for developing a service which supports victims of sexual violence attending the courts as witnesses. They were both previously supported by Barnardo's through the criminal justice system but identified a gap in the service provision as they felt that it was important for young witnesses to be able to speak to someone their own age who had been through a similar experience.

Caitlin and Abby have given up hours of their free time to make home visits to clients and assist with sessions delivered by Barnardo's project workers. They have also taken part in a Barnardo's parliamentary inquiry in an effort to change and improve the law in cases of sexual violence, delivering a speech at the launch of the inquiry in Westminster that received the attention of MPs and organisational leads from across the UK. Their commitment and innovative approach to helping has been inspiring.



BARNARDO'S IS HUGELY PROUD TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE TO VOLUNTEER WITH US IN ALL AREAS OF THE ORGANISATION. WE SIMPLY CANNOT DELIVER OUR SERVICES WITHOUT THE PASSION AND ENTHUSIASM OF OUR YOUNG VOLUNTEERS. IT IS CRITICAL THAT AS A CHARITY WE RECOGNISE THE SERVICE THAT OUR YOUNG VOLUNTEERS GIVE US.

30 years of the Marsh Awards

1987
1992

The Beginning

This period marks the first ever Marsh Award presentation in 1987 for the best Biography by a British Author and the first Marsh Conservation Biology Award in 1990 (pictured below), marking the beginning of a 27 year long partnership with the Zoological Society of London.



1992
1997

First developments

Awards in Conservation were developed through new partnerships with the British Ecological Society and the Rare Breed Survival Trust, while the Awards extended into the Heritage and Arts world with the Marsh Fountain of the Year Award.



1997
2002

Widening activity

2000 marked the first Award in the social welfare sector, recognising Barnardo's volunteers, as well as developments in Awards across Lepidoptera, Botany and Entomology.



2002
2007

Growing the model

During this period the Trust grew its work in the social welfare sector developing Awards with Contact the Elderly in 2003, recognising volunteers helping to combat loneliness, and with the Refugee Council in 2006 recognising volunteers supporting refugees and asylum seekers.



2007
2012

Internationalisation

The first international Awards were presented in 2009 for Conservation Leadership and European Lepidoptera. There are now 10 international Awards recognising people all over the world working across Conservation, Education, Peacebuilding, Marine and Research.



2012
2017

Evolving

As models of care, learning and recovery have changed in the sector, the Awards have evolved alongside, recognising those drawing on lived experience or shared characteristics in peer support models and those engaging the public in education and training across different fields. The Trust endeavors to develop its Awards to continue the recognition of the Sector's heroes.



Encouraging professional contributions

As well as volunteers, there are many individuals and organisations who work hard to improve the world we live in in a professional capacity. These people make invaluable contributions across the charity sector and go above and beyond what would normally be expected of them in their professional roles.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We recognise professionals, both in the UK and internationally, who work to enhance public engagement and education across the sector through our partnerships with **Engage**, **Botanic Gardens Conservation International** and the **Public Monuments and Sculpture Association**.

We highlight the importance of the continuation of heritage skills and training through our Awards with the **Heritage Crafts Association** and **Institute of Historic Building Conservation**.

We celebrate academic contributions in the field of environmental conservation with organisations such as **British Ecological Society**, the **Zoological Society of London** and the **British Trust for Ornithology**.

We promote those who develop our understanding of the issues and challenges facing society through our work with the **Royal Anthropological Institute** and the **Human Trafficking Foundation**.



PROFESSIONAL USE OF HERITAGE SKILLS

A stand out professional contribution came from Yvette Jelfs, who won the **Marsh 'Made in Britain' Award** in 2014, an award which celebrates individual craftspeople and businesses using traditional British crafts to produce quality British goods.

Couture Hats by Yvette Jelfs designs and produces hand-made couture hats by combining traditional craftsmanship with modern innovation, creating British made products from quality British sourced materials. The business grew in Hawick and reintroduced skills and work to those who had previously lost their jobs in the cashmere industry.

Hats are now made for a variety of individual couture clients, British companies, design houses and boutiques and have an international following, having recently launched in Asia.

The hats are hand blocked, meaning that each individual hat takes considerable time to make, while silk and other fabrics and flowers are produced in-house. Yvette is determined to pass on her passion for crafts to others and has therefore taken on students from the Prince's Youth Business Trust and Fashion Colleges around the UK to gain experience of working in her business.



AS THE UMBRELLA GROUP FOR ALL TRADITIONAL CRAFTS, AT THE HERITAGE CRAFTS ASSOCIATION WE RECOGNISE JUST HOW MANY OF THESE CRAFTS ARE IN JEOPARDY. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT IT IS SO IMPORTANT TO RECOGNISE AND CELEBRATE CRAFTSPEOPLE, WHO ARE CREATING CRAFTS USING BRITISH MATERIALS, RESOURCES AND BRITISH-MADE TOOLS, AND SUSTAINING A FUNDAMENTAL PART OF OUR LIVING HERITAGE.

Recognising

local volunteering

Volunteers, on both a national and local level, work tirelessly and regularly give a great deal of their time to improve the world we live in. We run 59 Awards with partners across the sector which recognise the selfless contributions that these individuals and groups make to their local community.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We work closely with **Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, The Wildlife Trusts** and **The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust** to recognise the voluntary work of local people to preserve, protect and develop the natural world in their local area.

Our Awards with the **Canal and River Trust, Natural History Museum, and National Historic Ships UK** celebrate leading voices who are encouraging their local communities to be more involved with the heritage of their area and help preserve it for generations to come.

Many volunteers work to support and act as advocates for some of the most vulnerable and marginalised members of the community. We work with **Contact the Elderly, Amnesty International, Unchosen** and the **National Churches Trust** to highlight their invaluable work.

We work in partnership with the **British Museum, Royal Opera House, The Arts Society** and **The Museum of London** to commend volunteers who share their passions for arts and heritage with the public by encouraging them to engage with new information and spaces.



LOCAL VOLUNTEERS ENHANCING THE LIVES OF VULNERABLE COMMUNITY MEMBERS

The Hull Refugee Women's Group won the **Marsh Refugee Volunteer Award for Resettlement Services** in 2014.

The group is made up of women, some of whom are refugees, who come together to carry out activities designed to help refugees build up their skills and confidence so that they feel comfortable enough to integrate into their new local community. The group hosts a range of activities, including cooking, arts and crafts and learning English, and has become a space where women with similar

experiences can come together and create a strong community support network.

The group was started by, and continues to be run entirely by, volunteers and members of the group are encouraged to become volunteers when they feel ready to do so, therefore taking ownership of the group that has provided them with support. The skills and friendships that the women develop by attending the group enable them to integrate more into the local community and reduce their isolation.



THE REFUGEE COUNCIL IS EXTREMELY PROUD AND GRATEFUL FOR THE CONTRIBUTION THAT VOLUNTEERS MAKE TO OUR WORK WITH REFUGEES, AND MANY REFUGEES SUPPORT OUR WORK BY THEN VOLUNTEERING. WE WOULD NOT DO SO MUCH, OR HELP SO MANY, IF IT WASN'T FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION. THE MARSH AWARDS HELP US TO SUPPORT THEM AND THANK THEM FOR THEIR VALUABLE TIME AND ENERGY.

Commending

international work

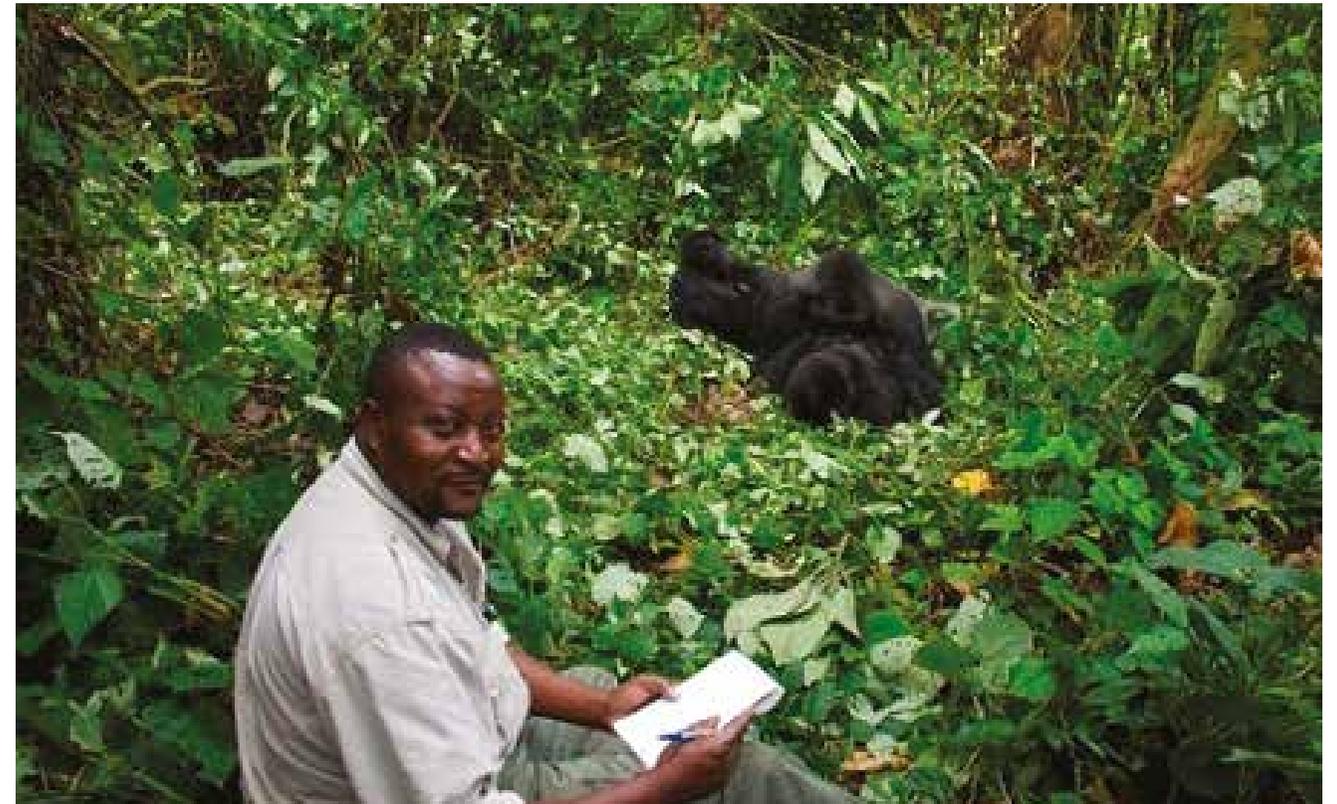
The important work happening in the voluntary sector in the UK, is mirrored by similar work happening across borders and in grassroots locations around the world. Within our growing number of international Awards we are glad to be able to commend and promote this work through the international networks of our partner organisations.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We run awards for those working in regions of conflict, whether this is by protecting the natural world, or by running services for survivors of conflict, through our Awards with **Wilton Park** and **The Marjan Centre**.

We partner with organisations such as **Fauna and Flora International**, **Botanic Gardens Conservation International**, the **Royal Anthropological Institute** and **Engage** to support those working to bring about positive change through grassroots public engagement.

We also work with partners such **The Zoological Society of London**, **The British Ecological Society**, **British Trust for Ornithology** and **Butterfly Conservation** to recognise scientists and researchers working on environmental conservation across borders.



SUSTAINABLE CONSERVATION FROM THE POLE POLE FOUNDATION

John Kahekwa won the inaugural **Marsh Marjan Award** in 2012, run in partnership with the Marjan Centre for the Study of War and the Non-Human Sphere at King's College. The Award commends conservation work which is carried out in places of conflict.

John Kahekwa is the founder of the Pole Pole Foundation. Located in Bukavu, in east Democratic Republic of Congo, this NGO works with local communities to protect gorillas at the Kahuzi-Biega National Park.

“Pole Pole” in Kiswahili means “slowly.” The Pole Pole Foundation aims to carry out conservation through sustainable community development and gradual, long-lasting change. Former poachers in the region have been recruited and trained as wood carvers and tailors to make a living, while members of the community are encouraged to take part in environmental projects.



IT GAVE US HONOUR AND PRIDE FOR A LOCAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION OF CONSERVATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO TO BE APPRECIATED WITH THIS AWARD.

Our international winners

Since 2009 over 60 individuals, from all over the world, have been recognised through the Awards.

Conservation

Kunle Olasupo's work in helping to protect and restore the forests in Nigeria led him to winning our conservation award with Botanic Gardens Conservation International in 2017.



Marine

Alex Gaos won our marine conservation award with Fauna and Flora International in 2011 for his work in protecting the hawksbill turtle in the eastern Pacific Ocean.



Peace building

Rouba Mhaisen founded and runs Sawa for Development and Aid, a grassroots NGO supporting Syrian refugees in Lebanon. Her work was recognised through our award for peace making and peace keeping with Wilton Park in 2016.



Education

Litza Juhasz carries out innovative work around public engagement in the arts at the Museum of Fine Arts in Budapest, for which she won our award run in partnership with Engage in 2017.



2016/2017 in numbers*

55

new organisations were supported through our grants programme.

194

individuals and groups were recognised through our Awards programme.

80

Awards are now presented across a variety of fields.

340

grants were made during the financial year.

£275k

was allocated across the grants and Awards programmes, which is a 9% increase on the previous year.

786

appeals for support were received.

16.5%

increase in number of Awards given.

5%

increase in number of grants made.

Trustees' report

6 April 2016 – 5 April 2017



For the past 36 years the MCT has witnessed the growth and resilience of the charity sector. Through both the Awards and Grants programmes the Trust has set out to identify and support the excellent work which is being undertaken by various organisations and individuals across the sector. It is the impact of these activities which drives the Trust's aim to support and celebrate the thousands of charities, groups and individuals making a difference.

The Trustees continue to do this by focusing the Trust's resources on two main areas of charitable activity: Grant-making, providing long-term core funding to small charities and the Marsh Awards, recognising individuals and groups committed to social, cultural and environmental causes.

During the financial year ending 5th April 2017, the Trust supported 55 new charities, predominantly in the field of social welfare, although new grants to charities working in conservation, heritage and education were also

made. Existing grantee partnerships were maintained and developed further, as is part of the Trust's long-term core funding strategy, making the total number of grants made during the year circa 340.

In addition to the Trust's grant-making activities, over 170 groups and individuals were recognised through regional and national Awards. Two new Awards were presented over the course of the year. The Lucy Mair Medal and Marsh Prize which recognises the application of anthropology to the relief of poverty and distress, and to the active recognition of human dignity and the Marsh Mineralogy Award, which celebrates those who have made a significant contribution to the field of mineralogy. Both these new Awards were developed with existing Award partners. The Trust is always open to developing the Awards programme both through developing existing partnerships and by creating new ones.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF AWARDS

2017 marked the 30th Anniversary of the Marsh Awards and it gives myself and the rest of the Trustees great pleasure to reflect on the past 30 years and see how the recognition of the outstanding contributions of people who are committed to social, cultural and environmental causes has grown and developed. The Awards have provided a platform from which to showcase these impressive stories, some of which are laid out in the previous pages and with the full range of Awards and winners found on our website.

It would be impossible to run these Awards without the commitment and input of our Partner charities and we would like to send our thanks to them for their work and support in making these Awards happen.

BRAND AND WEBSITE REFRESH

The Trust took the opportunity of the 30th Anniversary of the Awards to further reflect on its own values and the way in which it presents its work. These values have always been part of the Trust's activities, but it has helped to better define them, clarifying the drive and thinking behind the full range of the Trust's activities.

This exercise in turn led to the Trust refreshing its branding to better connect with its wider audience. The project also formed part of the redevelopment of the Trust's website, to provide clearer information and to be able to better showcase the organisation's Award winners and partnerships. This has been a successful project and provides the Trust with a way in which to present its work to all stakeholders, but more importantly to promote the Award winners and their work.

AMBASSADORS

The MCT's work would not be able to continue to grow without the invaluable contributions of the Trust's Ambassadors. At the end of 2014 the MCT launched an Ambassador programme in order to engage with an interested group of people who believed in the ethos behind the Award scheme and include them in the Trust's activities. Our Ambassadors, who provide their time on a voluntary basis, represent the Trust at various events and Award presentations, increasing the recognition provided and building stronger relationships with our partners.

Without their help the Trust would not be able to continue or grow its activities and we are extremely grateful for their time and efforts.

BRIAN MARSH OBE
CHAIRMAN

Grant making

97% of charities have an income of under £1 million, but receive just **20%** of the sector's funding.¹

The vast majority of the charity sector is made up of small organisations having to compete for limited funds. The Trust recognises that many smaller organisations would prefer core funding to help with running their current activities rather than new project costs.

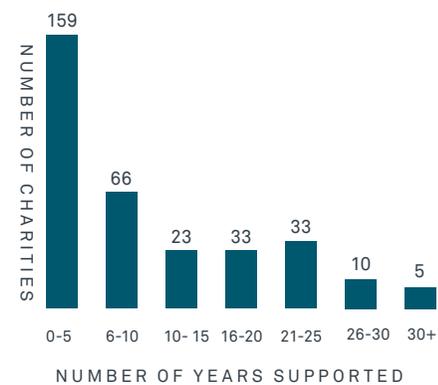
Applications are considered on the basis of the organisation's financial position, performance against charitable aims and objectives and the ratio of voluntary income against fundraising expenses. A response is made to every appeal whether it is successful or not.

The Trust focuses on providing funding which could help small organisations pay for various running costs, such as volunteer expenses, an annual prize, general equipment and other core outgoings. Examples of these can be observed through the various stories of organisations the Trust supports (p. 26-29).

Our funding strategy is to provide long-term core funding for such costs, as we understand that many of the organisations we support depend on unrestricted income in order to meet their operating needs, and modest help on an ongoing basis can go a long way. The graph on the right shows the longevity of partnerships with grant recipients supported in the financial year.

Grants are unrestricted and range from £300-£4,000, with new applicants' grants starting at the lower end of this scale.

2016-17 GRANT RECIPIENTS



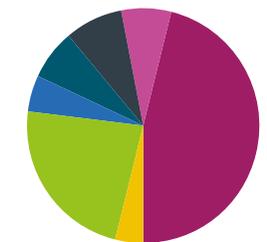
Awards

As part of the brand review and reflection on 30 years of Awards, the Trust took the time to examine how it categorised its Award's portfolio. Traditionally this had been done in a similar way to the grants, breaking the Awards into 4 different categories Social Welfare, Conservation, Heritage and Arts and Culture.

However, it was felt that it would be more representational of the Awards portfolio to look at the Awards in more detail and group them under categories of the recognition provided. The graph on the right shows how the Awards are distributed under the new analysis, showcasing the areas of recognition the Awards have expanded into over the years.

Looking at the Awards in this way has allowed the Trust to examine areas which it would like to develop and to expand the Trust's work. Areas such as recognition of young people, peer support and education are high on the Trust's agenda for future activity as well as expanding the Awards in the international domain.

AWARD DISTRIBUTION



- VOLUNTEER
- ACADEMIC
- INTERNATIONAL
- PEER SUPPORT
- YOUNG
- PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT
- EDUCATION AND TRAINING

¹ 2017 NCVO Almanac; <https://data.ncvo.org.uk/a/almanac17/size-and-scope-2/>

Organisations supported this year

CAMPAIGN FOR NATIONAL PARKS

Campaign for National Parks is a national charity dedicated to campaigning to protect and promote the National Parks of England and Wales.

The charity campaigns for parks to be more accessible, helps ensure that parks are protected through planning policy and encourages greater biodiversity and conservation of wildlife in parks.

The Trust has supported Campaign for National Parks with funding since 1994 which goes towards the charity's ongoing work. Over the years the funding has been put towards campaigns for new legislation to better protect National Parks, helped with the development of the membership scheme, and more recently supported a programme which recognises best practice in the protection of parks.



DONATIONS LIKE YOURS MAKE SUCH A BIG DIFFERENCE TO THE WORK OF A SMALL CHARITY LIKE OURS.

THE MANNA DAY CENTRE

The Manna Day Centre is situated in the London Bridge area and has, since 1982, opened its doors to London's homeless and vulnerably housed individuals from 8.30am to 1.30pm, seven days a week, 51 weeks a year.

The centre provides a number of vital services: breakfast and lunch;

showers; clothing; housing and welfare advice; medical care and access to computers. The Trust has been supporting the Manna Day Centre since 2008, offering core unrestricted funding on an annual basis which is put towards the running costs of the centre.

This ongoing support from a number of different trusts and foundations such as the MCT enables the charity to continue running services for some of those most in need in London.



YOUR DONATION AND ONGOING SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED AND ESSENTIAL TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE SERVICES WE OFFER HERE TO SOME OF THE MOST DISADVANTAGED PEOPLE IN OUR SOCIETY.

Organisations supported this year

REMAP

Remap is a national charity that helps disabled people to achieve independence and a better quality of life by designing and making equipment for their individual needs.

Remap works with local skilled volunteers to create bespoke equipment which is provided free of charge.

Remap is a charity which operates through donations and the invaluable work of its 900 volunteers. The MCT supports Remap with annual core funding which is put towards the running costs of the organisation.



YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR SMALL CHARITIES LIKE OURS AND ESPECIALLY FOR OUR CORE SUPPORT IS IMPRESSIVE.

ASYLUM WELCOME

Asylum Welcome tackles suffering and isolation among asylum seekers, refugees and detainees who have fled persecution and danger in their own countries and seek refuge in Oxford and Oxfordshire.

They are a volunteer-led organisation that provides a number of services including a youth service, advocacy, community projects and support with education, training and employment.

The MCT supports the charity with annual core funding.



AS A VOLUNTEER WHO HAS BEEN INVOLVED WITH ASYLUM WELCOME FOR MANY YEARS, I KNOW THE IMPORTANCE TO THE ORGANISATION OF DONORS WHO ARE PREPARED TO FUND US ON AN ANNUAL BASIS.

Impact and future activity

IMPACT

The MCT is conscious of the importance of looking at the impact of its activities and has started to develop its general processes to informally consider and record impact. This has been done through collecting feedback from both longstanding and new grantees as to the usefulness of the grant and the Trust's strategy of providing long-term core funding. The Trust also makes use of broader research undertaken across the sector which has focused on what grantees want from a funder as well as general data on funding in the sector in order to consider its funding strategies in a wider context. The feedback from grantees has been positive with regards to the type of funding the Trust provides and with a scarcity of unrestricted funding in the sector the Trust will continue its current funding model.

The Trust holds annual meetings with each of its Award partners to review and discuss the progress and impact of the Awards. At these meetings

impact is discussed from both the individual and organisational perspective and any changes or alterations needed to make improvements to the impact of the Awards are made.

This informal feedback is being collated so that the Trustees can further consider the impact of the Trust's principal activities going forward and look at how processes might become more formalised so that outcomes can be shared with partners and other stakeholders.

FUTURE ACTIVITY

It is the Trust's mission to continue to support and promote the work of charities and the people behind them. The Grants programme is developed each year and focuses on building on the longstanding grantee relationships and building new ones. Each month circa 5 new organisations are supported and this will continue over the next year.

Award partnerships are also being developed and the coming year will see an increase in Awards recognising young people with Barnardo's, Civic Voice and the Wildlife Trusts. There will be two new international Awards recognising professional and academic achievements with the Royal Entomological Society and the British Ecological Society.

We are expanding our recognition of Peer Support through increasing our number of Awards with Mind and will look into further support of this area. The Trust has also added to its Awards for Education and Training through new Awards with the Heritage Craft Association and Nationals Historic Ships.

It looks to be a good year for development in the Trust and as always we remain open to ideas for new Awards with existing and new partners.

Our values

LONG TERM SUPPORT

All grant and Award relationships are begun on an ongoing basis.

PARTNERSHIPS

The strength of working together.

RECOGNITION

Recognising what is being achieved across the sector.

CELEBRATION

Celebrating those achievements.

Financial review

Award donations up **16.5%**
Grants increased by **5%**

The Trustees endeavour to increase the Trust's charitable giving each year in response to the sector's needs. Total grants and Awards amounted to £274,941 (2016 - £251,544). The Trustees allocated these resources as per the above.

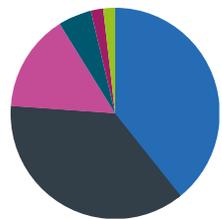
The Trustees regularly review the investment portfolio and level of reserves held by the Trust. From an original investment of £75,000 in 1981, the Trustees have succeeded in generating a capital base of circa £11.6 million, which is invested to produce

suitable returns to fund its work, balanced with achieving long-term capital growth of its assets. In the opinion of the Trustees, the reserves held represent a sufficient, but not excessive, income generating base that will ensure that the Marsh Christian Trust is able to continue to fulfil its charitable objectives for many years.

As part of its objectives, the Trust aims to increase its charitable donations each year. This has not always been possible, but every endeavour is made

to do so. As can be seen from this historical perspective, since inception, the Trust has been able to increase its charitable activities as its income has risen. The Trustees are confident that they will be able to raise charitable giving once more in the coming financial year and are determined to maintain and develop their grant-making and Award partnerships with those organisations which they have supported over many years, as well as identifying new areas and organisations which require support.

ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES



EDUCATION & TRAINING
HEALTHCARE
ENVIRONMENTAL & ANIMAL WELFARE
LITERATURE, ARTS & HERITAGE
SOCIAL WELFARE
AWARDS

CHARITABLE GIVING SINCE THE TRUST'S INCEPTION

