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AWARD PARTNERS
**CHAIRMAN’S STATEMENT**

2021 marked the 40th Anniversary of the foundation of the Marsh Charitable Trust and this, coupled with the continuing challenges of the pandemic, made for a busy year for the Trust. One of the main developments for the Trust this year was the decision to change our public facing name from ‘Marsh Christian Trust’ to ‘Marsh Charitable Trust’. The Trust was founded on Christian principles, and we will maintain this ethos in all aspects of our work. The decision to change our public-facing name allows us to move forward into our next 40 years with a refreshed and more inclusive image, reflective of the inclusive policies for supporting organisations that we have always had.

**THE MARSH AWARDS**

The Marsh Awards celebrate the outstanding everyday contributions that individuals and groups make to people, culture and the natural world. Despite the continuing challenges of the pandemic, we were pleased to continue and develop our Awards Scheme. We have recognised the vital importance of grassroots volunteers in the community and were able to highlight their dedication by adapting some of our Awards to especially recognise volunteer responses to the Pandemic.

We were pleased to introduce a new Award partnership with the British Entomological and Natural History Society and restart our Awards for Excellence in Public Sculpture and Fountains in partnership with the Public Statues and Sculpture Association. More about these and other Award developments can be found later in this Review.

Once again, we would like to express our thanks to our Award Partners, experts in their chosen fields, for their support and hard work on our Awards, which we would not be able to run without them. We would also like to record our thanks to our Ambassadors who voluntarily give their time to present our Awards and help build and maintain our partnerships. Without their dedication and support, both virtually and in-person this year, the Awards programme would not be as successful as it is.

**LOOKING TO THE YEAR AHEAD**

In the coming year, we are looking forward to continuing to develop both our programmes of work. We will be increasing the number of new organisations supported through the Grants Programme, whilst also developing our existing relationships with our current Grantees.

As always, we welcome being approached regarding new possibilities for partnership through the Awards Scheme, both by new and existing Partners. We are looking forward to presenting more of our Awards in person in the coming year and meeting our winners face to face when it is safe to do so.

Overall, it has been a positive anniversary year for the Trust, and we are pleased to present the following Review and celebrate our Award winners and Grantees from the past year.

**BRIAN MARSH OBE, CHAIRMAN**

**GRANTS PROGRAMME**

We continued to prioritise supporting small and medium sized charities with long-term core funding through our grants programme. We made over 430 grants to these organisations this year, in recognition of the important work that they do and their increased need for funding in light of the challenges of the Pandemic. While we maintained our existing grant-making relationships, we also forged new relationships with organisations across the charity sector, predominately in the field of social welfare.
LONG-TERM SUPPORT

We begin all Grant and Award relationships on an ongoing basis. Some of these have now been running for 40 years, and we are pleased to have been able to provide much needed support to these organisations in that time.

PARTNERSHIPS

We believe in the strength of working together. Without our Award partners, experts in their chosen fields, we would not be able to run the Marsh Awards in such an effective way.

RECOGNITION

We raise awareness of the achievements of unsung heroes across the voluntary sector. We think it is important to recognise those who give their time freely to causes that they believe in.

CELEBRATION

We celebrate the contributions of individuals and groups across the charity sector, in the hope that others are inspired to do the same.
Richard was instrumental in getting activity going for the Arts Society online via Zoom and YouTube throughout the coronavirus lockdowns. He shared his knowledge widely, not just with his own society, and was always available via phone, email and Zoom to answer queries. Richard helped to train hundreds of societies to use Zoom and has helped to keep many of them running thanks to his dedication to training volunteers. He put on regular training sessions and supported lecturers to deliver talks remotely throughout the pandemic.

I was really delighted to receive the Marsh Award. I enjoyed all the time that I spent advising Societies and am very happy that I was able to help so many.”

Kate has been a Nightstop host for 3 years, supporting many homeless young people by providing them with a safe bed for the night and the chance to seek additional support. She has shown tremendous dedication and commitment to her role, especially throughout the pandemic. Out of 7 Nightstop hosts in her area, Kate was the only one who felt able to continue her role throughout the lockdowns and restrictions, supporting over 20 young people who would otherwise have found themselves on the streets. Kate makes herself available at short notice and adapts to the needs of each young person who comes into her care.

I first heard of Nightstop via a newspaper article and immediately it resonated with me as being something that I could do – I had been more and more disturbed by the extent of obvious rough sleeping both locally and in London.

I found the training interesting and thought provoking and have had such good support from the wonderful team at Barnardo’s Futures in Leeds. I do feel that I am part of a team which hopefully makes a difference to young people’s lives when things are at a difficult point. My favourite quote was from a young man who stayed with me for a weekend before Covid, and said when he left that he felt like he’d had a holiday! As far as volunteering during Covid is concerned, I thought about it, and felt that I could continue, because I was lucky enough to be in a position where I had only myself to consider and would not be putting anyone else at risk. I’m glad I was able to do so.”
Dauvit took up his teaching post at the Birmingham City University School of Jewellery in 2015, having previously taught medal-making at Glasgow Kelvin College. Medal-making had been sidelined a little from the curriculum at the school and keen to bring it back, he immediately set about organising a medal symposium as an introduction to medals and the BAMS Student Medal Project. He also gave up his own time to set up a Tuesday evening ‘Medal Club’ to get the students thinking further about medals and turning their ideas into reality. In 2017, Dauvit organised another symposium in Birmingham with an excellent exhibition of student medals and, at the Student Medal Project prize-giving ceremony later that year, Dauvit’s students were able to mix with some of the UK’s leading medal-makers. Dauvit continues his enthusiastic relationship with BAMS and his love of the art form and for teaching others about it continues to go from strength to strength.

“I knew about the Marsh Award as a few of my colleagues had been awarded it in previous years but it wasn’t until I won it myself and looked at the range of projects supported by the MCT that I realised how much it means to be honoured by an organisation which aligns so clearly with my own thinking and interests.”

Professor DeFries is the co-founding Dean at Columbia Climate School and Denning University and is a Professor of Sustainable Development at Columbia University, New York. Her areas of expertise include climate change, land use and tropical forests; conservation; social-ecological systems and sustainability science. Professor DeFries uses images from satellites and field surveys to examine how the world’s demands for food and other resources are changing land use throughout the tropics. Her research quantifies how these land use changes affect climate, biodiversity and other ecosystem services, as well as human development. She has also developed innovate education programmes in sustainable development and has published over 100 scientific papers and 2 books.

“It is an unexpected honour to receive this Award. It highlights how much ecologists have to offer to help the world navigate through this century’s imposing challenges with climate change, biodiversity, and other global repercussions of humanity’s vast impact on the planet.”
This is a team of 120 volunteers and 3 staff members working to restore the UK’s oldest Lido to reopen in summer 2022 for the enjoyment of all. The Interpretation Team was set up in early 2020 to decide how to share the history of the pools during restoration with as wide an audience as possible. The volunteers soon found themselves forced to work online, but have challenged the Trust to invest in co-creation and to recognise their ownership of the project. The volunteers have researched the history of the pools, planned display boards, worked with schools, developed films and online content, created a heritage walking trail and developed a new brand image for the pools which shares its heritage as well as its community focused future. The volunteers have also engaged a wide range of community groups, reaching out particularly to those who would have been otherwise isolated during the pandemic.

We are absolutely thrilled that our Interpretation Volunteer team has been recognised with this National Award by the Marsh Charitable Trust for their unwavering commitment to the Pools. It has been a challenging year but continuing to collaborate with volunteers has been essential to ensure our communities are represented and to create accessible, relevant, and engaging interpretation for this important heritage site. Volunteers remain at the heart of this organisation, and we are honoured to have built not just partnerships but friendships with some truly wonderful people. Thank you!”

Active Waterways is a project offering online and guided walking programmes along local canals and rivers for inactive or vulnerable residents. The volunteers adapted quickly to the challenges of the pandemic, supporting staff to deliver programmes online and then delivering the walks in person when restrictions eased. They share their enthusiasm for the canal and river networks and their knowledge of local history and nature, making participants feel comfortable and encouraging them to use the walks as a way to get out and socialise. They are a fantastic team and are advocates for the Canal and River Trust, who have helped over 100 people in the last year, bringing communities together and nurturing new friendships.

“Given the tremendous lengths and efforts our fellow volunteers have gone to across the Trust, it is an honour to receive this Award. We all give our time so that others may seek pleasure in the beauty the canals and waterways provide. It is truly pleasing to see, week on week, the smiles and joy our participants gain in the simple pleasure of walking and talking.”
Brian started his career in insurance broking and underwriting, in Lloyd’s and the London and overseas market, over 55 years ago. He has over 50 years’ experience in building, buying and selling financial services businesses particularly in the insurance sector.

In 1981 Brian set up the Marsh Charitable Trust with the sum of £75,000. Over the years he has been very involved as both Founder and Chairman and put a lot of time and effort into growing the Trust’s resources and activities. Brian has always been an advocate of supporting ‘day to day’ expenses and has therefore steered the Trust towards funding core costs and building long-term relationships with the organisations it supports. By introducing the Marsh Awards, he has also done much work in promoting and rewarding the unsung heroes of the sector.

For nearly 40 years Charles worked in the media industry as Editor and, subsequently, Publishing Director of a group of business-to-business magazines. Titles ranged widely from those focusing on the financial sector to others dealing with food production and perfumery.

Since retiring, he is able to devote more time to local interest groups as well as pursuing hobbies such as gardening and photography. Charles became a Trustee of the MCT in 2010 and has represented the Trust at a number of Award presentations, covering everything from archaeology to the arts to ornithology.

Alice became an Ambassador for the MCT in 2014, when the scheme began and has since then attended numerous events, charity visits and Award presentations. In 2019, Alice became a Trustee of the MCT and continues to be involved in the day-to-day running of the Trust and attends various Award presentations.

Alice is Managing Director of B.P. Marsh and Partners PLC, a specialist venture capital / private equity investor.
Natalie has been a Trustee of the Marsh Charitable Trust since 1994 and is one of the longest serving Trustees.

Natalie has had a career in the world of media having previously worked for Jamie Oliver’s Fresh One Productions, Channel 4, ITV and Christian Dior. She is a dedicated and creative person who loves spending time with her family and travelling.

During his 50 year career as a Lloyd’s broker, which he enjoyed enormously, Nick specialised in Professional Liability insurance and spent some 20 years working with Brian Marsh.

He is a Liveryman of the Merchant Taylors’ Company and also of the Tylers’ & Bricklayers’ Company where he was Master in 1992/3. It was through these Livery Companies that his interest in charitable work developed and he was invited to become a Trustee of the MCT in 2014, where his interest in the charity sector has only grown stronger.

Antonia has been Trustee of the MCT since 2010 and has been involved in a number of the awards with arts organisations, particularly the Marsh Awards for Excellence in Gallery Education.

Antonia is a London-based curator who completed her MA in Curatorial Practice at California College of the Arts. In 2014, Antonia founded the exhibition project, publishing body, residency programme and all-female art collective Girls Only, that focuses on creating opportunities for artists globally.

NICK CARTER

NATALIE COLLINGS

ANTONIA MARSH
MEET OUR AMBASSADORS

PETER TITLEY

Peter was one of the first people to become an Ambassador for the MCT when the scheme was set up in 2014. Peter served as President of the Rare Breeds Survival Trust until 2014 and prior to this he was the Chair and Vice Chair. Peter is also the former Chairman of the North Ronaldsay Sheep Fellowship and at the start of 2015 helped to set up the Orkney Sheep Foundation which raises funds to protect the ancient Sheep Dyke of North Ronaldsay. Alongside these interests he has enjoyed a successful career of over 30 years working in the Criminal Justice System.

DAVID BOOKER

David is a former Director of Volunteering at Barnardo’s and worked closely with Brian Marsh and the MCT to start the Award scheme with Barnardo’s in 2000. David first joined Barnardo’s in 1983 as Assistant Director for the North-West, having initially trained as a social worker. David currently holds an advisory role with NHS commissary groups, working in his local area of York specifically. Along with Peter, David was one of the first people to become an Ambassador for the MCT in 2014.

ROD BUGG

Rod is the former Chairman of Engage and sat on the judging panel for the Marsh Awards for Excellence in Gallery Education until 2015. He is well respected throughout the arts industry as a sculptor, an artist, a curator and an arts education consultant and his work has been on display in many galleries. Rod was previously a Trustee of the Sidney Nolan Trust which works to encourage artistic endeavour at the highest possible standard. Rod has represented the MCT at several different Award presentations since becoming an Ambassador in 2015.

SARA OLDFIELD

Sara was the Secretary General of Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), with whom the MCT runs an Award partnership, from May 2005 until February 2015. Sara currently works as a Biodiversity Consultant with a particular interest in the conservation of rare and threatened plant species worldwide, and is Group Secretary and Chair of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Sara was previously Global Programmes Director with Fauna and Flora International, and has also worked with Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Sara became an Ambassador for the MCT in November 2015.
Having spent a career in investment management managing portfolios for private clients, family trusts and charities, Peter is now actively involved in the not-for-profit sector. He is Chairman of The Childwick Trust, a significant grant giving charitable trust which provides funding to assist the elderly and those with disabilities as well as supporting educational projects in South Africa. He is also Chairman of The Romney Marsh Historic Churches Trust. Peter has had a long-standing involvement with the MCT and became an Ambassador in 2018.

Mike was, until recently, the Executive Director of the Council for British Archaeology, where he established the Marsh Archaeology Awards in collaboration with the MCT. He is now a freelance archaeology & heritage consultant working on projects around the UK. He continues to be the Secretary to the All-Party Parliamentary Archaeology Group at Westminster and is involved with various other heritage groups and committees as a trustee, chair, and keen supporter. He was awarded an MBE for services to heritage in 2007 and became an Ambassador for the MCT in 2020.

John’s career focused on the voluntary and public sector, encompassing local, national and international bodies. He was Chief Executive of the Kent Wildlife Trust for twenty years and it was in this capacity that John became involved with the MCT, through an Award presented annually to recognise some of the organisation’s 1000 volunteers. John continues to draw on his experience of charity management as a Trustee in a social support charity and he continues to pursue his interests in environmental protection. He became an Ambassador for the MCT in 2018.

Emma worked for the Marsh family from 2010 to 2017 and during that period managed the Trust’s investments, as well as representing the Trust as an Ambassador at various Award presentations, events and charity visits. Emma now works as EA to the entire C-Suite at Specialist Risk Investments Ltd, an investment company who make acquisitions in the European SME broking sector. In 2019 Emma was invited to reprise her role as an Ambassador and was thrilled to accept.
**LORRAINE RYAN**

Lorraine was previously Administrator at the MCT from 1997 and was engaged in all aspects of the day to day running of the Trust, from grant making to attending meetings to maintain existing and set up new Awards. Lorraine became a Trustee of the MCT in March 2007 and thoroughly enjoyed her continued involvement with the Trust. She attended a number of Award presentations, including with Barnardo’s and the Churches Conservation Trust, enabling her to maintain the relationships she had helped to build. Due to family commitments, Lorraine resigned as a Trustee in 2017 but continued to attend Award presentations on behalf of the Trust. She was pleased to be offered the role of Ambassador in 2019 to continue her long association with the MCT.

**SINEAD O’HAIRE**

Sinead is an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators and Company Secretary at B.P. Marsh & Partners PLC, a specialist venture capital / private equity investor. She became an Ambassador for the MCT in 2016. Sinead has held a long interest in the Arts, in particular dance, and has followed and built relationships with several of the MCT’s grantee organisations within the Arts sector. Although her principal interest has been in the Arts, Sinead’s favourite part of being an Ambassador is that it offers a unique opportunity to gain a further understanding into a wide range of very different charities and valuable causes across the sector.

**OLIVER BOGUE**

Oliver is an Investment Director at B.P. Marsh, a specialist venture capital / private equity investor. Prior to this, he was the Assistant Company Secretary at B.P. Marsh, a position he had held since August 2011. Oliver has been an Ambassador for the MCT since 2014, when the scheme was started, and has represented the MCT via attending a number of charity events and presenting various Awards. Oliver very much appreciates being an Ambassador for the MCT. He has always been interested in the activities of the MCT, with a particular interest in Arts and Culture, Social Welfare and Conservation.
The Marsh Charitable Trust was founded (as the Marsh Christian Trust) by Brian Marsh, based on the Christian principles of reaching out, caring for the natural world and helping those in need. The Trust originally focused on providing core funding to organisations, to assist them with their running costs.

The MCT’s charitable expenditure grew substantially, both through the grants and Awards, to surpass £1 million in total in the first 16 years of operation. Since then, the Trust’s expenditure has grown year on year, allowing for the continuation of support for organisations across the charity sector.

The Ambassadors Scheme, formed of contacts of the Trust from the charitable sector, was established to support the growing Awards Scheme. It was an opportunity for the Trust to bring in new people and expertise and therefore ensure the continuity and sustainability of the Awards.

In the 30 years since the induction of the Marsh Awards Scheme, the number of Awards grew to around 80 Awards with 42 Partner organisations. As it stands in 2021, the Marsh Awards Scheme consists of almost 100 Awards with 40 Award Partners. The Scheme continues to grow year on year, and the Trust is always looking for ways to expand the reach of the Awards.

In the Trust’s 40th year, it was decided that the public facing name of the organisation would be changed from the ‘Marsh Christian Trust’ to the ‘Marsh Charitable Trust’. It is believed that this change reflects the inclusive policies that the Trust has always followed, while continuing to highlight the aims and values of the organisation.
Throughout the pandemic, FFWAP organised archaeological activities for people of all physical capabilities in a COVID-safe manner. These volunteers contributed to the community and individuals’ well-being throughout the pandemic, encouraging and developing skills such as drawing and 3D photography while also providing company for those who were isolated due to social distancing measures. The project helped to broaden the community’s knowledge of their local historic environment on top of the wellbeing benefits that it provided. The volunteers are enthusiastic and ambitious, and the site is professionally run and well organised, welcoming new members and creating an inviting space for the community.

FFWAP are thrilled to have received this Award. We continue with our field activities and are delighted to have been able to introduce new members into our group so they can discover the joy of archaeology. Whilst we are continuing with practical archaeology, we still refrain from indoor meetings due the risks associated with many of our aging attendees during this period of ongoing Pandemic. The Award has, however ensured the financial stability of FFWAP – for which we are truly grateful.”

THE 2021 MARSH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN GALLERY EDUCATION, RUN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ENGAGE, WAS PRESENTED TO LINDSEY FRYER.

Lindsey was Head of Learning at Tate Liverpool, the UK’s most popular modern and contemporary art gallery outside of London and has also served as the Vice Chair of Engage. Currently, Lindsey is an Independent Consultant in Arts Management, with a social practice focus. Her understanding and empathy with artistic practice, the needs of artists and their unique and valuable involvement in the cultural eco-system in the UK has been evident throughout her career. Lindsey has worked to improve the professional status of gallery educators across the UK and internationally, promoting curatorial status and equal pay, while also mentoring young artists. Lindsey believes that it is a democratic right to be able to have access to and be able to contribute to arts and culture.

Lindsey set up Tate Exchange, Liverpool with 28 Associates across all sectors featuring research and public debate on arts education - specifically for children and young people, homelessness, health and wellbeing, migration and refugee experience amongst many more topics.

“\nI am truly delighted and honoured to be recognised by the Marsh Charitable Trust and Engage friends and colleagues for my work in gallery education and social arts practice throughout my career. The Award has also enabled me to support the creativity of others through donating my prize to a young photographer Sam Batley, who in turn is running his own creative projects for men recovering from addiction through Open Eye Gallery. Thank you from all of us.”
When I heard that I had been nominated for an Award from Heritage Crafts, I was surprised. When I heard that I had been short-listed, I was amazed. When my name was called out as a winner I was surprised, amazed and delighted. Knowing that a violin-maker had won the Trainee Award I could hardly believe that another violin-maker would get the Volunteer Award.”

Migrants at Work tackles labour exploitation and work-place discrimination of migrant workers and is led by those with lived experience of these issues. One area they focus on highlights issues caused by the Home Office’s ‘Right to Work Check’ system and the conflict between migration and labour laws, through which migrant workers are regularly and mistakenly told they do not have a legal right to work, which then causes them to miss out on job opportunities. They are then more at risk of becoming victims of Modern Slavery, as they find themselves in a vulnerable economic position. Although this issue has been ongoing since 1996, it is not currently well understood by employers, frontline migrant support organisations, migrant workers, policy makers or Trade Unions, which makes the work of this organisation all the more important. Migrants at Work works in partnership with migrant communities, individual migrant workers, employers, Government departments, NGOs and EU Embassies to raise awareness and understanding, and to seek policy change and legal challenge around this dangerous issue.

This Award changes everything; it is a public statement that sends a strong message across the sector and beyond and advises the relevant actors to recognise us as the architects of social change. The message is this: We are social innovators who drive and lead positive change with our lived experience, lived expertise and shared experience. We are not victims who need to be rescued. While you think you may own the solutions, you don’t. We do. So, own the problems, and only then, together, through the implementation of our lived experience-based solutions, we will overcome human rights abuses. Our voices must be heard.”
OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We work with Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, The Wildlife Trusts and The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust to recognise people working on grassroots environmental conservation projects.

Our Awards with The Churches Conservation Trust, The Council for British Archaeology, The National Churches Trust and National Historic Ships celebrate those who are preserving local heritage sites and opening them up to communities.

We work in partnership with The Arts Society, The British Museum, Heritage Crafts, The Museum of London, Royal Museums Greenwich and The Royal Opera House to commend volunteers who share their passion for arts and heritage with the public.

Many volunteers support and act as advocates for marginalised members of the community. We work with Barnardo’s, The Prison Advice and Care Trust, Re-Engage and The Refugee Council to highlight their impact.

VOLUNTEERING CONTINUES TO BE AN INVALUABLE RESOURCE FOR ORGANISATIONS ACROSS THE CHARITY SECTOR AND THIS HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY EVIDENT THROUGHOUT THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS. WITHOUT PEOPLE DEDICATING THEIR TIME, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS, MANY CHARITIES WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO DO THE WORK THAT THEY DO. SINCE THE MARSH AWARDS BEGAN, WE HAVE DEVELOPED THE SCHEME TO RECOGNISE HUNDREDS OF VOLUNTEERS A YEAR WHO ARE WORKING DILIGENTLY ON A GRASSROOTS LEVEL.
Camilla is a volunteer with Family Services, the Helpline and Befriending Services at HMP Bristol. She is a valued member of the team, with her cool, calm and collected attitude which radiates positivity to service users in an already stressful environment. Her vast amount of knowledge and her ability to calmly communicate with stressed or upset people makes visitors to the prison feel at ease.

Camilla volunteers two times a week with the Family Services team and uses her leadership qualities to help support and develop other volunteers. She joined the Befriending team in August 2020 and has shown exceptional commitment and dedication to this role.

Camilla supports the running of prison visits, speaking to visitors on arrival and getting to the bottom of any problems that they might have. She is also involved with peer support groups and has supported Pact’s helpline to provide support to those with a loved one in prison.

Camilla lives in Devon and so travels over an hour to be able to volunteer at the Bristol services, which further demonstrates her commitment to providing this important service to visitors to the prison.

Camilla was also named as the Pact Trustees’ Volunteer of the Year at the presentation of the Awards in November 2021.

“

I was totally shocked but so very proud to have been considered for the Award, never mind winning! I absolutely love all the different aspects of my work at Pact. I’m learning all the time and it’s just so rewarding working with the Service Users and other Pact teams that I work with, who are all so supportive and brilliant. I’m now also one of the Caseworkers at HMP Bristol and involved with the Peer Support groups which are two new roles that I’m really enjoying too. My involvement with Pact is honestly one of the best things I’ve ever done.”

Camilla Albery won the 2021 Marsh Volunteering Award with the Prison Advice and Care Trust (Pact) for Wales, South and Cheshire.
INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS OFTEN USE THEIR OWN LIFE EXPERIENCES TO HELP OTHERS WHO ARE GOING THROUGH A SIMILAR SITUATION. AS OUR AWARDS HAVE DEVELOPED IN RECENT YEARS, WE HAVE SEEN THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS TYPE OF SUPPORT, AND ARE PLEASED TO SHOWCASE THESE CONTRIBUTIONS AND HIGHLIGHT THIS CRUCIAL AREA OF WORK, WHICH HAS PROVEN TO BE A LIFELINE FOR MANY PEOPLE.

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 vital work of mental health peer support groups.

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

Our partnership with *We Are With You* promotes the impact that people in recovery from drug, alcohol or mental health problems can make to helping others on their journey to recovery.

Our Awards with *The Refugee Council* often go to projects run by refugees and asylum seekers who are drawing on their own experiences to help those in the same situation they were in.
Lee was a volunteer at the Waterloo Emergency Hotel run by St Mungo’s during the pandemic, providing support in an incredibly busy environment by giving out meals and clothes to clients, sorting post, answering enquiries, manning reception and stocktaking. He volunteered over 600 hours of his time, all with good humour and energy which made clients and staff alike smile.

As a former client of St Mungo’s, Lee brought a different perspective to the role than other volunteers would have been able to. He was able to easily build a rapport with clients which made it easier for him to help solve their enquiries and alleviate their concerns. He always went above and beyond for clients and the wider team, offering to stay longer after his shift if additional support was needed.

Lee brought his incredible sense of humour to the role which helped to lighten the atmosphere of what could be a tense environment, dealing with challenging situations. He often says that he has a lot to thank the team at St Mungo’s for, especially helping him through his recovery, and they in turn have a lot to thank him for after his support throughout the pandemic.

“Volunteering has helped me keep sober. I’ve been volunteering for five years and April 2021 marked five years of me being clean from drink and drugs. It’s given me a purpose to get up in the morning and something to focus my mind on. I had heard of the Volunteer Awards, but winning came out of the blue and made me a bit emotional - I’ve never won anything like this before! It lifted my spirits, built my confidence and the money helped me get new clothes and pay some bills.”
OUR PARTNERSHIPS

Our Awards with the The British Trust for Ornithology, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, The Wildlife Trusts and The Zoological Society of London promote young people showing a passion for environmental conservation and science.

Our work with The British Museum and The Council for British Archaeology often celebrates young people striving to preserve our heritage and culture and inspire others to do the same.

Our partnership with Barnardo’s includes Awards for young volunteers helping to shape and run services for other young people, children and families, and also for those giving up their time to volunteer in Barnardo’s stores.

YOUNG PEOPLE ARE HEAVILY INVOLVED WITH THE CHARITY SECTOR AND ARE OFTEN AT THE HEART OF MOVES TO MAKE CHANGES IN ORGANISATIONS AND DEVELOP THEIR POLICIES. OUR AWARDS CONTINUE TO PROMOTE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO THE CHARITY SECTOR AND CELEBRATE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS, WHILE HOPEFULLY INSPIRING OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE TO GET INVOLVED IN THE SECTOR AND MAKE IMPORTANT CHANGES THROUGH CAUSES THEY BELIEVE IN.
Benedetta, studying at the University of Aberdeen, was awarded for her project *Changing perceptions in a changing environment: assessing local ecological knowledge and shifting baselines among fishing communities of the Italian northern Adriatic Sea.*

Benedetta used both ecological knowledge and social survey techniques to explore the concept of shifting baseline syndrome, whereby fishermen, by virtue of never having had the experience of seeing the biodiversity their grandfathers had, had a skewed perception of what a healthy marine environment is meant to look like.

The quality of the data collection and analysis by Benedetta is truly excellent, and her interpretation of the findings is highly relevant to current conservation needs. The project is of publishable quality in terms of academic standard, innovation and usefulness of the findings.

Benedetta’s project is a highly original and innovative work for an undergraduate dissertation and the quality and insight she has shown is to be commended.

Benedetta’s article was published in the *Ambio* journal in January 2021. *Ambio* is a journal of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and publishes research on the interrelationships between the environment and society.

Being the receiver of the Charles Darwin Award and Marsh Prize has fuelled in me the desire to continue striving for the long-term sustainability of the Adriatic Sea, one that starts by putting fishers’ knowledge and needs at the centre of the dialogue on marine biodiversity conservation.”

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**BENEDETTA VENERONI WON THE ZSL CHARLES DARWIN AWARD AND MARSH PRIZE IN 2021. THE AWARD IS PRESENTED TO THE BEST UNDERGRADUATE PROJECT SUBMITTED BY A UNIVERSITY IN THE UK.**
MANY PROFESSIONALS USE THEIR SKILLS, EXPERTISE AND PASSION THROUGHOUT THEIR WORKING LIVES TO IMPROVE THE WORLD WE LIVE IN. A NUMBER OF OUR AWARDS HIGHLIGHT THESE INDIVIDUALS WHO MAKE INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS ACROSS THE CHARITY SECTOR AND GO ABOVE AND BEYOND WHAT IS REQUIRED OF THEIR CAREER FOR CAUSES THAT THEY BELIEVE IN.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We celebrate academic contributions in the fields of environmental conservation and science with organisations such as The British Ecological Society, The British Entomological and Natural History Society, The British Trust for Ornithology, The Natural History Museum and The Zoological Society of London.

Our Awards with The British Art Medal Society, Heritage Crafts and The Institute of Historic Building Conservation highlight the importance of the continuation of heritage skills and training.

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

Through our Awards with Engage, Fauna and Flora International and The Royal Horticultural Society we recognise researchers and professionals who have made a great impact at the early stages of their careers, and suggest that the Award can be used to further their professional development.

A new Award for us, introduced this year with The Wildlife Trusts, recognises members of staff at local Trusts who have gone above and beyond in their role to support and develop the work of the organisation.

We were pleased to be able to reintroduce our Awards for public sculpture, fountains and the conservation of these, in partnership with The Public Statues and Sculpture Association.
Professor Zimmerman is Emeritus Professor at the University of Indiana and a pioneer in the development of archaeological ethics and the treatment of the remains of the dead. He is a Professor of Anthropology and Museum Studies as well as a Public Scholar of Native American Representation.

Professor Zimmerman has authored, edited or co-edited 20 books and over 300 articles, book chapters and technical reports. He has also served as both Secretary and Vice President of the World Archaeological Congress.

Professor Zimmerman has been a consultant for a wide range of American Indian nations and organisations. His research interests include the archaeology of the United States Great Plains and Midwest, indigenous archaeology, ethics and issues related to cultural property.

"Receiving the Lucy Mair Medal and Marsh Prize was a complete surprise. I am grateful that the RAI and the Marsh Charitable Trust chose me for the Award, but in truth, it belongs to the many Indigenous people who have struggled so hard to have their ancestors returned. I feel honoured to have had some role in making that happen."

Professor Larry J. Zimmerman was named winner of the 2021 Lucy Mair Medal and Marsh Prize, run in partnership with the Royal Anthropological Institute.
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS

THE LONGSTANDING COMMITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS AND PROFESSIONALS ALLOWS THE ORGANISATIONS THAT THEY ARE AFFILIATED WITH TO CARRY OUT EFFECTIVE AND WIDE-REACHING WORK. WITHOUT THEIR YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AND ONGOING DEDICATION, THE SECTOR WOULD MISS OUT ON SOME INVALUABLE KNOWLEDGE WHICH ULTIMATELY IMPROVES THE SERVICE THEY ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE. OUR AWARDS GO SOME WAY TO RECOGNISING THIS, AND ALLOWING THESE CONTRIBUTIONS TO GET THE PLATFORM THAT THEY DESERVE.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We work with The British Entomological and Natural History Society and Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew 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 some of the most vulnerable people in society through our Awards with Barnardo’s and Re-Engage.

Our work with The Churches Conservation Trust and The Rare Breeds Survival Trust allows us to commend those who have given many years of their lives to grassroots volunteering roles.

We highlight the important lifelong contributions that volunteers and professionals make to the promotion of heritage and the arts through our Awards with The Arts Society, Engage, The Institute of Historic Building Conservation and The Natural History Museum.
Bob has volunteered at All Saints Church in Wordwell, Suffolk for over 20 years. The church was restored by the Victorians in the late 1800s and still contains stone carvings and a chancel arch from Norman times.

Bob is the only key-holder and volunteer at this church, so he undertakes its daily opening and regular cleaning by himself. During lockdown and the subsequent coronavirus restrictions, Bob’s support for the church did not waiver and he continued to open the church where possible, despite having to shield.

Not only does Bob help with the maintenance side of the church, he has also shown his determination to help with fundraising throughout the challenges of the pandemic. Bob organised the use of a neighbouring field for the church, so that a local theatre’s performance of ‘The Three Musketeers’ could be put on to raise funds for the church and the Churches Conservation Trust.

Bob has shown continued commitment to All Saints and the Churches Conservation Trust over many decades.

I was honoured to receive the Award for South East Volunteer of the Year 2021. I must mention my wife Maureen, and her help with the work in the church. I have been finding it difficult at times starting the mower so the prize money I received was spent on a new cordless mower, I think keeping the approach to the church tidy is important for first impressions!”
WE ARE CONTINUING TO GROW THE NUMBER OF OUR INTERNATIONAL AWARDS TO COMMEND THE IMPORTANT WORK HAPPENING IN THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR ACROSS BORDERS OR IN GRASSROOTS LOCATIONS AROUND THE WORLD. THROUGH OUR AWARDS AND THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS OF OUR PARTNER ORGANISATIONS, WE ARE ABLE TO RECOGNISE AND PROMOTE THE PEOPLE WHO ARE DRIVING THIS WORK FORWARD.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We run Awards for those working in areas of conflict, whether they are protecting the natural world or running services for survivors of conflict through our partnerships with The Marjan Centre and Wilton Park.


We run Awards with The Arts Society and Engage to commend and celebrate those encouraging public engagement with the arts and culture around the world.

Our work with partners such as The British Ecological Society, The British Trust for Ornithology and The Zoological Society of London recognises scientists and researchers working on environmental conservation across borders.
Professor Jenni has been at the forefront of European ornithology for all of his working life until his recent retirement. He has been Head of the Swiss Ringing Scheme and for the last 20 years, served as Director of the Swiss Ornithological Institute.

Among his 200 publications, Professor Jenni is best known as the lead author of *Moult and Ageing of European Passerines*, a book that revolutionised the approach of many ringers. In 2020, Professor Jenni led the publication of a second edition of this work that was completely re-written to include more species and more data. This book was accompanied by the book *The Biology of Moult in Birds* that brings together for the first time the dispersed knowledge about moult in birds, making them more accessible for ornithologists at all levels.

Professor Jenni has also supervised numerous students in his main research interests of ecology and bird migration, thus encouraging the next generation of ornithologists.

“I feel very honoured to receive this renowned Award and I am thankful to the Marsh Charitable Trust and the BTO for recognising my work in ornithology. Birds in their environment have fascinated me since my early youth and I was privileged to work with birds and disclose some of their marvels all my professional life.”

Professor Dr. Lukas Jenni was named winner of the Marsh Award for International Ornithology, run in partnership with the British Trust for Ornithology, in 2021.
ALL TIME INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

BRAZIL

André Lopes and Joana Brandão won the Marsh RAI Short Film Prize in 2021 for their work New York, Just Another City which follows a young Guarani Mbya audio-visual director, Patricia Ferreira as she was called on to present her work at one of the world’s largest ethnographic film festivals, the Margaret Mead Film Festival in New York.
2020-2021 INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNERS

SYRIA
Massa Almoussely, won the Marsh Award for Peacemaking and Peacekeeping in the World in 2021, run in partnership with Wilton Park, in recognition of her efforts to encourage local people to be involved with the reconstruction of their communities after years of conflict.

PRÍNCIPE ISLAND
Manuel da Graça Sacramento Gomes from Fundação Príncipe won the Marsh Award for Marine Conservation Leadership, run in partnership with Fauna and Flora International (FFI) in 2021, for his understanding of the challenges fishing communities on his island face and his encouragement of them to protect the marine environment in light of these challenges.

IRAQ
Ahmed Saleh Neema won the Marsh Marjan Award in 2021 in recognition of his conservation work to protect the Iraqi marshes which have been subjected to turmoil in the recent years of conflict in the area.
JOHN GERRARD WAS NAMED AS WINNER OF THE 2021 MARSH IHBC AWARD FOR COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION, WHICH RECOGNISES A RETIRED MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTE FOR HISTORIC BUILDING CONSERVATION FOR THEIR COMMITMENT TO CIVIC AND HERITAGE MATTERS.

John joined the Scottish Civic Trust (SCT) as Technical Director in 1968 after working in the local government architect’s department and retired in 2000 after an outstanding career. Since retirement, John continued to be a Trustee of the Scottish Historic Buildings Trust for many years; where he was involved in the restoration of over 30 buildings and the raising of over £25 million, the Scottish Churches Architectural Heritage Trust; where he helped to develop their website, and the Church Buildings Renewal Trust; where he contributed at the forefront of conserving Scotland’s heritage. John is also an assessor for the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland Conservation Accreditation Scheme. He has taken an active role in the Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland and is an active member of his local Community Council. John is currently a member of a number of other heritage bodies and, despite being retired for over 20 years, remains a key player in the maintenance and promotion of the historic buildings in Scotland.

I am immensely grateful to the Marsh Charitable Trust for this very generous Award. When I retired from full time work with the Scottish Civic Trust, I little thought that, twenty years on, I would still be engaged in the same cause but now focused right down to the square mile of my local neighbourhood. Retirement can take many forms and for those reaching the end of full employment in the fields of architecture and planning the urge to remain involved may not always be easy to sustain. So in addition to the stimulus provided by this Trust I also have to be grateful to the Scotland branch of the IHBC for its nomination and, not least, to my local Community Council for continuing to give me an encouraging amount of free rein over its territory.”

EACH YEAR, WE PRESENT A NUMBER OF AWARDS TO VOLUNTEERS AT KENT WILDLIFE TRUST TO COMMEND THEM FOR THEIR VARIED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ORGANISATION. ONE OF THE WINNERS OF THE 2021 MARSH VOLUNTEER AWARDS FOR NATURE CONSERVATION WAS SELWYN DENNIS.

Selwyn is incredibly passionate about wildlife, people’s enjoyment of it and how it should be protected. Throughout lockdown, he provided weekly updates from his explorations of Queendown Warren Nature Reserve and Potters Wood while volunteers could not visit the reserve. He kept track of wildlife highlights and general goings on and helped to keep the volunteer team connected to both the reserve and each other. Aside from his contributions during the pandemic, Selwyn’s contribution of 6 years worth of transect data is invaluable to monitoring the health of butterfly populations across the reserve. His data also helps to provide yearly reports on wildlife highlights and trends on the reserve. Selwyn has and continues to inspire many of the team, both staff and volunteers, and the general public to engage in conservation and nature.

“I have been a volunteer working for the Kent Wildlife Trust for 24 years of which I have served 20 years as Honorary Warden of the Trust’s Queendown Warren Nature Reserve in mid Kent. For me it is a privilege to serve as Hon Warden which entails surveys, maintenance, engaging with visitors and generally keeping an eye on it. We are fortunate to have a committed group of volunteers who come out on task once a week. During Lockdown and other Covid restrictions that was not possible and I was anxious to retain them so came up with the idea of issuing them with a weekly photographic diary based on my visits to the reserve in the hope of keeping them connected and engaged. Luckily it seemed to work and they are back on weekly tasks. It was humbling and flattering to receive the Marsh Award and I have used the generous Award money to plant more trees on the reserve.”
Mental Health Swims aims to empower anybody living with mental health challenges to try out cold water swimming after the group’s founder, Rachel Ashe, found cold water to be really helpful for managing a lot of her symptoms. The group want to make it easier for people to make connections with other like-minded people in the community, and believe in celebrating differences and making safe welcoming spaces for people no matter who they are or how they’re feeling. The volunteers are trained in mental health awareness, cold-water safety, risk assessment and volunteer wellbeing, and all have lived experience of mental health challenges. During lockdown, although they could not swim, they held Zoom meet ups every Sunday morning which people would join from their bath wearing a swimsuit! By the end of the first lockdown there were already 30 groups set up, and ready to start cold water swimming when restrictions allowed.

Winning the Mind Marsh Award for innovative peer support was the highlight of 2021. It was so wonderful to end the year on such a high. It is incredibly validating of all the hard work we have put into building Mental Health Swims. We cannot thank Mind and the Marsh Charitable Trust enough.”

THE ‘LISTENING TO LONDON DOCKLANDS’ VOLUNTEERS WERE NAMED AS WINNERS OF THE MARSH VOLUNTEER AWARD FOR LASTING IMPACT, PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MUSEUM OF LONDON, IN 2021.

This team of volunteers have only been working together since January 2021, in preparation for a new exhibition at Museum of London Docklands which tells the story of the Docks through photos, documents and personal histories. All of the volunteers have a personal connection to the Docks, either through their own memories or family connections. Despite not being able to meet in person due to the pandemic, the volunteers worked well together online, meeting weekly on Zoom to share ideas and bring the research for the exhibition together. Collectively, they have listened to over 100 hours of oral history on the Docks which they have then used to create an accessible and thoughtful exhibition. Their research is available online for curators and the public alike, and is now featuring in the exhibition at Docklands entitled “London: Port City”. The volunteers have taken the time to promote the exhibition, encouraging visitors to engage with its content and take lessons from the stories that are shared.

“The project became a virtual one, which we all embraced, and the weekly Zoom meetings were something positive to do when we were faced with another lockdown. Listening to the memories and experiences of those who worked on or were associated with the Docks provided a direct door to the past - it really felt as if you had come to know the speakers. We are proud of what we achieved and how the exhibition is being received.”
NEW AWARDS IN 2021

The Marsh Awards programme is always expanding, and the MCT is always open to new partnerships to recognise even more unsung heroes across the charity sector. We have introduced four new Awards this year, some with new Award partners and some with existing Award partners.

BRITISH ENTOMOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY (BENHS)

We introduced the Marsh Entomology Award in 2021, after a previous Award partnership recognising this work came to an end. We were pleased to partner with the BENHS on this new Award to recognise individuals working with any invertebrate family that have made outstanding contributions to entomological science.

We recognised three winners this year: Ashleigh Whiffin, Assistant Curator of Entomology at National Museums Scotland, Stuart Ball and Roger Morris from the Hoverfly Record Scheme, and Tony Barber, who has been at the centre of national recording of centipedes since 1970 when the British Myriapod Survey was launched.

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS KEW

We have been working with Kew Gardens through the Marsh Awards for a number of years, recognising botanists, Kew Gardens volunteers and participants in the Kew Youth Explainers Programme.

In 2021, we expanded our work with them to introduce the Marsh Directors Choice Publication Award which recognises the best botanical science publication produced in the previous year. This year’s inaugural winner was Rodrigo Cámara-Leret for his piece, New Guinea has the world’s richest island flora, published in Nature in 2020.

PUBLIC STATUTES AND SCULPTURE ASSOCIATION (PSSA)

In 2021, we reintroduced the Marsh Award for Excellence in Public Sculpture, the Marsh Award for Excellence in Public Fountains and the Marsh Award for Excellence in the Conservation of a Public Sculpture or Fountain.

These Awards were previously run from 2006 to 2018, and we are pleased to have been able to work with the PSSA as a new Award Partner to bring them back into the Marsh Awards programme. The 2021 winners are: for sculpture, Our Emmeline by Hazel Reeves, for fountains, Writ in Water by Mark Wallinger, and for conservation, Silverdale Mining Tribute Monument by Plowden and Smith Ltd.

THE WILDLIFE TRUSTS

Since 2014, we have worked with The Wildlife Trusts to recognise volunteers working towards marine conservation across the UK. The scheme has expanded over the years to also include young volunteers championing the cause of marine conservation.

In 2021, we were pleased to expand our programme with The Wildlife Trusts to recognise members of staff who have shown exceptional leadership qualities, but who do not usually receive recognition for the work that they do. This year we recognised Lisa Lane, from Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust and Rachel Giles, from Cheshire Wildlife Trust.
AWARDS NOT PRESENTED IN 2021

Due to the ongoing restrictions surrounding the coronavirus, we were unable to present some of our Awards in 2021. We maintain good relationships with these Award partners and look forward to working with them again in the future to present the following Awards.

**BOTANIC GARDENS CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL**
- Marsh Award for Education in Botanic Gardens
- Marsh Award for International Plant Conservation

**NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM**
- Marsh Palaeontology Award
- Marsh Mineralogy Award
- Marsh Award for Earth Sciences Book of the Year

**BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION**
- Marsh Lepidoptera Award for Lifetime Achievement
- Marsh Award for the Promotion of Lepidoptera
- Marsh European Lepidoptera Award
- Marsh Award for Lepidoptera Book of the Year (New for 2022)

**ROYAL MUSEUMS GREENWICH**
- Marsh Volunteer Award with Royal Museums Greenwich

**NATIONAL CHURCHES TRUST**
- Marsh Award for Innovative Church Projects
- Marsh Church and Community Volunteer Awards

**ROYAL OPERA HOUSE**
- Marsh Award for Royal Opera House Volunteers
The Society’s engineering volunteers took on the very difficult and time consuming task of replacing all 80 screwed stay tubes in Kerne’s Steam boiler (originally built in 1936) without using modern welding repair methods. The route of using traditional methods is not usually taken because of its difficulty, but the volunteers took on this challenge in order to keep these traditional skills alive and maintain the authenticity of the vessel. Over 10,000 volunteer man hours over a three year period have been required to research, devise and complete the work to bring the riveted boiler back in good repair to enable Kerne to sail by steam again this year. The volunteers have been led by Chris Heyes, a founding member of the Preservation Society and the vessel’s Chief Engineer, who has been volunteering since 1971 and received an additional certificate in recognition of his contributions.

We were delighted to receive this Award on behalf of all our hard working volunteer engineering team. It was important that the repairs were done in the traditional way by screwing each stay tube into its bespoke position rather than using modern welding methods. This is both kinder to the structure and longevity of our riveted boiler and preserved and passed on the heritage skills needed to do the job to a younger generation. The Volunteer Award certificate is now proudly on display in the tug’s forward cabin”.

HELEN WRAY WAS NAMED WINNER OF THE 2021 MARSH AWARD FOR RBST SUPPORT GROUP VOLUNTEEER OF THE YEAR, AN AWARD RUN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE RARE BREEDS SURVIVAL TRUST.

A member of the Dales Support Group for a number of years, Helen was elected as its Chairman at the beginning of 2021. Helen farms at Gam Farm at Grassington, near Skipton in North Yorkshire. She is a dedicated champion for rare breeds, farming a wide range of livestock including 180 Whitefaced Woodland sheep and 50 Northern Dairy Shorthorn cattle, as well as Wensleydale sheep, Bagot goats and Tamworth and Middle White pigs. She is also involved in the Poultry Project, with breeding groups of Marsh Daisy chickens. Helen is a strong believer that commercial viability is essential for the survival of native breeds and, trading as Gam Farm Rare Breeds, she has a wealth of practical experience of finding the strongest opportunities for rare breeds in modern markets. This includes supplying high-end restaurants in Leeds and Halifax with her slow-grown, grass fed meat, and selling native breed wools through the Gam Farm Wool Shop. Helen also has first hand experience of how native breeds of livestock and equines can be used to support the natural environment, not only at Gam Farm but also in supplying primitive sheep for Conservation Grazing to promote biodiversity and natural land management on the Foxglove Covert Nature Reserve located on Catterick Garrison.

“What a surprise! It was such an honour to be recognised for doing what I just love doing. Rare breeds are my passion and in the Dales Group we have a great team - the honour goes to them too.”

OUR AWARDS WITH NATIONAL HISTORIC SHIPS UK, RECOGNISING VOLUNTEERS WORKING ON THE CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC VESSELS, HAVE BEEN RUNNING SINCE 2011. IN 2021, WE INTRODUCED THE MARSH AWARD FOR SHIPSHAPE PROJECT VOLUNTEERS, WHICH WAS WON BY THE STEAM TUG KERNE PRESERVATION SOCIETY.
Bev Owen, from Northwich, was named the 2020 National Winner of the Marsh Award for Volunteering in Support of Older People, which is run in partnership with Re-Engage. Overall, we recognised over 20 volunteers across the UK through these awards, all of whom provide essential care and support to elderly, isolated people.

Bev is incredibly caring and gives endless time to all of the guests that she supports. She joined Re-Engage as a volunteer in 2011, and launched her first group in 2017 due to a lack of volunteers in Northwich. Despite the challenges that this presented, Bev was not put off and successfully launched the group. She has since launched two new groups in the area and has even appeared on the radio to recruit new volunteers. Bev has even gone the extra mile to help guests, by visiting them when they were in hospital and also helping to get aids for them at home to make it easier for them to get around.

“I was delighted to win the Award from the Marsh Trust and it was made extra special knowing that the guests in my tea party group nominated me. They are like my extended family, and it gives me so much joy to do what I can to help them. I used the money that came with the Award to purchase a new mixer so that I can bake even more cakes for all my lovely guests.”

For over 10 years, we have worked with the Refugee Council to run the Marsh Refugee Volunteer Awards, celebrating the innovation of volunteers (some of whom are previous service users) to run groups and programmes which provide essential services for refugees and asylum seekers.

In 2021, we recognised 12 volunteer-led projects that did just that. One of these is run by an English Tutor volunteer who won the Award for their idea to organise and deliver three song writing workshops in collaboration with Opera North. These sessions, based at the Refugee Council offices in Leeds, involved 3 volunteers working with 8 clients to create a song about ‘home’. Over the course of three sessions, the song was written, and clients translated the words into their own language, then performed their parts as solos. The song was eventually recorded by Opera North, a national opera company based in Leeds. The clients really appreciated the opportunity to work together in a creative manner, and to share their stories in a new way, making friends and growing in confidence along the way.

“By getting the financial support to travel, pay for room hire and refreshments, this Award gave us the funds to travel to another city and partner with Opera North to take part in a song-writing workshop. The engagement from clients has forged a strong relationship with Refugee Council and has given clients the confidence and enthusiasm to be part of future activities.”
Sophie’s PhD project, *Towards year-round production of UK strawberries*, focuses on methods of extending the UK strawberry growing season with the ultimate goal of achieving year-round production in order to reduce the food miles and environmental impacts associated with strawberry production. She has investigated the different factors affecting strawberry plant growth through a series of experiments with the overall aim of finding the optimal conditions for growth, even in the winter months. Although this project focuses on strawberry produce, there is potential to use the findings for optimal growth on a wider scale of other fresh produce. Sophie will use her Award to fund her attendance at the International Horticultural Congress in France, as an opportunity to learn about the diversity of research supporting the horticultural industry and gain invaluable experience to see other research facilities and gain insight into the European commercial horticultural sector.

“I am very grateful for my PhD research achievements so far being recognised and rewarded with the Marsh Award in 2021. This provides me with a great opportunity to get my name into the horticulture sector and I will use the prize to help fund further experiences to develop my knowledge in the wider sector, specifically by attending the International Horticultural Congress in 2022.”

Gary has been a volunteer at HMP Hindley in Wigan, where he discussed his personal story to 15 inmates in a series of small group sessions. The prison had had recent outbreaks of spice use and was looking for a volunteer to talk about their personal experiences of drug use, and Gary was the perfect choice. Although the experience and setting was daunting, Gary was confident, calm and held the inmates’ attention well. He was also relatable, engaging and encouraging to the participants and it was clear that his words got through to them and made a difference to their current thought processes. The prison was so impressed with him that they have asked him to return and deliver more sessions.

“I was very surprised to hear that I won the Volunteer of the Year Award. All my appreciation and thanks go to the team at We Are With you. Yes, I did it myself to get clean and sober but if it wasn’t for them who knows what would of happened. I’ll appreciate every day that I am alive now. Thank you everybody who was involved in my recovery.”
Joshua has shown exceptional dedication to regularly undertaking local beach cleans and helping to spread positive messages about looking after the marine environment, despite the challenges of the coronavirus lockdowns. He was inspired to start his campaign after visiting Trimley Marshes and seeing the ongoing issues caused by plastic rubbish. Joshua has also shared important messages regarding the need to reduce ocean littering and the devastating environmental impacts that plastic can cause – especially the ongoing problem of plastic ‘nurdles’. He has collected thousands of these small ‘raw plastic’ spheres from Trimley Marshes, and reports all beach clean findings to the Marine Conservation Society for them to add to their national database.

It was something I never knew was even a thing and I was completely overwhelmed and speechless when I found out I had won the Award. I do litter picking because I really enjoy it and love to think I’m helping the wildlife and planet, so to be nominated and to win the Award was a shock, but really awesome. I’m looking forward to putting the money towards new litter picking equipment, including a very long litter picker which will enable me to get to hard to reach areas and rivers, and to clear much more litter.”

David has been a volunteer at the London Wetland Centre since 2004 and works largely with corporate volunteers, acting as an ambassador for WWT’s wider conservation work. He uses his platform to spread the word about how crucial wetlands are to both people and wildlife, and how individuals can make a difference to wetland conservation. David works both to maintain and improve the presentation of exhibits at the centre and carries out labour intensive work to improve habitats for wildlife on site. In 2019, David worked with around 900 corporate volunteers which brought in much needed revenue for WWT and helped spread the message of the importance of wetland conservation. David gives over 250 hours to his volunteering each year and receives positive feedback from everyone he comes into contact with.

“I feel very honoured to have received the Award and to represent the many hundreds of volunteers who value the work done by the Trust to conserve wetlands and wetland species.”
2020-2021 IN NUMBERS

437
Total grants given in the year

£350K
Allocated across the Grants and Awards programmes

147
New organisations supported

877
Appeals for funding received

200
Individuals and Groups recognised through the Awards

7
New Awards presented

35
Partner organisations that helped to deliver Marsh Awards
40 years ago, the Marsh Charitable Trust was founded with an original investment of £75,000. This capital base has now grown to circa £17.1 million, which continues to be invested to produce sustainable returns to fund the Trust’s work, balanced with achieving long-term capital growth of its assets. The Trust maintains reserves which represent a sufficient, but not excessive, income generating base that will ensure that the Trust is able to continue its charitable activities in years to come.

The total grants and Awards made by the Trust in the year to 5th April 2021 amounted to £353,711, which was up from £305,638 in 2020. Funds across our two programmes were allocated to the areas of social welfare, environmental & animal welfare, heritage & the arts, education & training and healthcare. As demonstrated in the pie chart below, the majority of funds was allocated in the area of social welfare, perhaps in reflection of where demands for funds were coming from in the last year.

As part of our objectives, the Trust aims to increase charitable donations each year and since the formation of the Trust 40 years ago, there has been a steady increase in charitable giving, demonstrated in the graph below. We plan to maintain and increase our current Grantee and Award partnerships and identify new opportunities for growth.
80% of organisations in the charity sector have an income of under £100,000 and are still facing increased strains on their funds due to the pandemic.¹ The Trust focuses its funding through the grants programme on smaller organisations, providing them with vital core funding to help cover their running costs. The funding from the Trust is unrestricted and can be used for costs such as volunteer expenses, updating vital equipment and other outgoings that need to be covered to ensure that charitable activities can be carried out effectively. With more than 50% of charities having an income of under £10,000, the Trust recognises the important role it plays in helping to fund smaller organisations so that they can continue their important grassroots work.²

Although the pandemic caused disruption, it was reported that one in five UK adults had volunteered their time for community activities since the start of the lockdown in March 2020.³ Many volunteering practices moved to online sessions which has allowed more service users, who were previously unable to attend sessions in person, to be reached and supported.

The majority of the Trust’s funding is provided to organisations working in social welfare, which is the largest subsector within the charity sector, containing over 31,000 charities.⁴ These organisations respond to community needs; working with young people, combating homelessness and addiction, and supporting people living with disabilities and those that care for them. The Trust also provides grants to organisations working to research treatment and cures for a range of healthcare issues, to protect and conserve the environment and to promote heritage and the arts.

We support organisations from across the whole of the charity sector, as demonstrated in the graph below:

Grants usually range from £400 to £2,000, and successful new applicants can expect to receive a grant at the lower end of this scale. Applications are considered based on the organisation’s financial position, performance against charitable aims and objectives, and the ratio of voluntary income against fundraising expenses. The majority of organisations the Trusts supports are based in and around London, however funding is provided to organisations across the UK, as demonstrated by the map on the following page.

We aim to establish long-term funding relationships with successful applicants as organisations have indicated that being able to rely on a modest grant from the Trust each year can provide them with vital support. This graph demonstrates the longevity of these partnerships in the last financial year, with some dating back to when the Trust was founded in 1981:

### 2020-2021 Grant Recipients

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<th>Years Supported</th>
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The case studies on the following pages are organisations that are some of the MCT’s longest standing relationships. They detail some organisations that we have supported through the grants programme in the last financial year and are examples of the important work which the Trust seeks to support across the charity sector.
MAP OF UK GRANTEES

NUMBER OF GRANTEES PER REGION

22
SCOTLAND

53
NORTH OF ENGLAND

56
MIDLANDS & EAST ANGLIA

99
SOUTH EAST

114
LONDON

54
SOUTH WEST

6
NORTHERN IRELAND

3
WALES

1
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND
THE BAT CONSERVATION TRUST
THE MCT HAS SUPPORTED THE BAT CONSERVATION TRUST SINCE 2001

The Bat Conservation Trust is the leading non-governmental organisation in the UK solely devoted to the conservation of bats and the landscapes on which they rely. The breadth and depth of their work is driven by their vision of a world rich in wildlife where bats and people thrive together. They ensure scientific evidence is in place to support bat conservation and work with a variety of partners to implement science-based conservation action. They aim to secure bat populations in an ever-changing world, and to win the level of support required to achieve this.

The Trust runs a diverse range of projects to conserve bat populations. They engage in policy and advocacy and are the lead partner for five of the bat species on the UK’s list of Priority Species. Bats are now protected by law in Europe, and in the UK some species have already been seen to be benefitting from the positive effects of conservation. The Trust works locally, nationally and internationally to meet their objectives, supported by a network of members, volunteers, academics and professionals.

For more information visit: www.bats.org.uk

“" We need to secure the resources and support to continue to learn more about bats so that we can be effective in their conservation. We know our work makes a real difference but is only possible thanks to our members, donors, funders, supporters, volunteers, and project partners.”

KIT STONER, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

“" We are very grateful to the Marsh Charitable Trust for your continuing support over the last decades. Your donations have contributed to the success of many of our projects including the National Bat Helpline and our fight against Wildlife Crime. Thank-you again for your generosity and help in supporting these widely misunderstood animals.”

NICOLA QUINN, FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
The British Hen Welfare Trust (BHWT) was the first UK charity to begin saving hens from slaughter and rehome them as loving family pets in 2005. Since then, they have saved more than 856,000 hens from slaughter and rehomed around 60,000 every year through regular adoption events across the country.

As well as finding ex-commercial hens good retirement homes where they can flourish, the BHWT runs online educational workshops for schools and community groups and is also working towards a ‘hens as therapy’ programme.

The BHWT improves veterinary and scientific knowledge about poultry through funding research grants for students and vet nurses, running a Hen Helpline for people caring for sick chickens, and supporting researchers studying hen keeping and backyard husbandry.

Through collaborative and positive campaigning, the BHWT is helping to improve hen welfare in commercial settings and to make real changes in the egg industry too. For example, by persuading Hellmann’s to produce a free-range only mayonnaise resulting in tens of thousands of hens now enjoying an improved lifestyle.

The BHWT has also begun spreading its wings to support other charities in Taiwan and last year set up an associate charity in France to help even more hens across the world.

For more information visit: bhwt.org.uk

I founded the BHWT because hens are the underdog of the farming world and need our support – wherever there is a hen in need, we’ll be there for her.

Thousands of hens need our help every year and with the wonderful backing of our volunteers and supporters, and the continued support of the Marsh Charitable Trust, we can keep working hard to give these beautiful, undervalued creatures the happy and healthy lives they deserve.”

JANE HOWORTH MBE, BHWT FOUNDER
STAMMA supports anyone who stammers in the UK and aims to tackle the stigma and discrimination that people who stammer face so that they can live their lives in full. A key element of their plan is to tackle the underlying stereotypes and misunderstandings held by the public about stammering.

STAMMA values collaboration and works with other organisations to give the greatest voice, best insights, and most effective campaigns whilst creating spaces for people to come together to support, learn, and campaign for change. The charity listens to personal stories and provides a platform for sharing experiences. The Association supports local groups and networks and is educating the public and raising awareness to get the best support provided for those who need it.

For more information visit: www.stamma.org

“From a professional perspective I have been very impressed with the level of support offered to volunteers. It has been a privilege to be part of the helpline team and I feel that listening to callers and encouraging them to look at options and giving information has helped me to feel that my experience of stammering might be of use to younger people and parents.”

ANN THOMPSON, HELPLINE VOLUNTEER
THE CHILDREN’S BOOKSHOW
THE MCT HAS SUPPORTED URBAN SAINTS SINCE 1998

The Children’s Bookshow is a charity that inspires school children with a love of reading through an annual programme of in-theatre and digital performances and in-school workshops with the very best authors and illustrators from around the world. The Children’s Bookshow came about as a way of celebrating Simply the Best Books for Children, published in 2003 by the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education.

The artists selected are chosen from a wide variety of countries and cultures to give young people access to the very best stories, poems and illustrations from all over the world. They help teachers to provide their students with a rich and exciting experience of literature.

Children need the joy and comfort that books can bring more than ever before. The Children’s Bookshow finds the best books currently available from publishers of award-winning illustrators and writers from all around the world and shares them with young people, in the hope they will be encouraged to engage with books.

For more information visit: www.thechildrensbookshow.com

“Just a quick thank you for, yet again, an utterly amazing and inspiring Bookshow this year. Jan Blake was mesmerising and the children thoroughly enjoyed her performance. In the afternoon, her workshop very much inspired our pupils and many have been trying their hand at storytelling since.”

HOLY TRINITY AND ST JOHN’S PRIMARY, MARGATE THEATRE ROYAL PERFORMANCE WITH JAN BLAKE

“My son who is 7 came to hear you talk in Crewe this week. Ever since he came back he has been drawing all manner of creatures and monsters and adding little stories about them. I just wanted to say that you really inspired him, and I’m sure many others.”

PARENT, ALEXIS DEACON PERFORMANCE IN CREWE

“The children were so excited on the way home - I had to stop one of them reading their book because we were trying to cross the main road!”

HAWTHORNE PRIMARY, NEWCASTLE THEATRE ROYAL PERFORMANCE WITH KWAME ALEXANDER
In Kind Direct believe everyone deserves access to life’s essentials and that no useable product should go to waste. They exist to enable more communities to thrive.

Powered by a passionate team of people, they provide essential products to their network of charitable organisations to help their resources and funds go further. In Kind Direct listen to their network’s needs and use this insight to inform and educate corporate partners on what products to donate to these organisations to achieve the greatest impact.

In Kind Direct work with registered charities, community groups, foodbanks, and schools. Together, they provide support to nearly 250,000 people each week including people experiencing financial hardship, hygiene poverty, domestic violence, unemployment, homelessness, or mental health issues. These powerful partnerships enable more communities to thrive.

Since being founded in 1996 by HRH The Prince of Wales, collectively In Kind Direct have distributed over £287m worth of essential products to people in need. They have diverted 31,800 tonnes of usable products from going to waste and have worked with and supported over 11,400 charitable organisations.

For more information visit: www.inkinddirect.org

One mum told us she had to choose between buying cereal or shower gel, as she didn’t have enough money to afford both.”

FAMILY MATTERS, CHARITY PARTNER

“Accessing items from In Kind Direct has meant we’re able to support families and their children within Bridgend Borough. These families are suffering because of the impact that COVID-19 has had on them financially, emotionally, causing a massive decrease in their mental health and well-being.”

SPLICE CHILD AND FAMILY PROJECT, CHARITY PARTNER
The Irish Peatland Conservation Council (IPCC) has a mission to protect and conserve a representative sample of the peatlands of Ireland for people to enjoy now and in the future. IPCC runs campaigns and projects to take successful action for bogs and wildlife which aim to enhance peatland habitat and biodiversity. Their work is guided by Conservation Action Plans.

Since 1982, they have published seven Plans, with their latest being Peatlands and Climate Change Action Plan 2030. The council advocates for the wise use and management of natural peatland resources and promotes understanding, awareness and enjoyment for peatlands and wildlife.

IPCC maintain a database of 1150 peatland sites of conservation importance in Ireland and also provides resources and training for education purposes whilst encouraging awareness and positive attitudes towards peatlands and the environment. As well as focusing on the protection of natural peatlands, the IPCC also has advice for composting, wildlife gardening and peatland management DIY.

For more information visit: www.ipcc.ie

The conservation of a representative sample of Irish peatlands through the Save the Bogs Campaign has seen many positives through the years including the designation of peatland habitat and the introduction of laws that makes turf cutting illegal on these protected peatland sites. However, in 2021 our work is not done peatland habitat and biodiversity are still under threat, some turf cutting on peatland sites designated for conservation continues and peat is harvested for use in the horticulture industry. As Ireland works towards a net zero economy by 2050 and to halt the loss of peatland biodiversity the work of the Council continues, this work is made possible with support from Friends of the Bog and organisations including the Marsh Charitable Trust.”

NUALA MADIGAN,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The work of the Irish Peatland Conservation Council is guided by peatland conservation action plans. In 2021 the Council published the 7th action plan entitled ‘Peatlands and Climate Change Action Plan 2030’. This plan identified 12 actions that will guide the Save the Bogs campaign over the next decade. One of these actions calls for a new story line in education regarding peatlands and climate change to be developed and implemented across all curricula, back-to-back with a strong public awareness campaign. Working together we give peatlands a voice.”

TRISTRAM WHYTE,
FUNDRAISING AND POLICY OFFICER
LEPROSY MISSION
THE MCT HAS SUPPORTED LEPROSY MISSION SINCE 1991

Today, leprosy continues to devastate the lives of people living in poverty across Africa and Asia. One person is diagnosed every two minutes and there are millions more who are disabled and outcast because of the disease.

For nearly 150 years, The Leprosy Mission has led the way in the treatment of leprosy. They work in ten countries across Africa and Asia, partnering with marginalised communities living in poverty. Their work doesn’t stop with curing leprosy and medical care - from education to clean water, pioneering research to employment opportunities, everything they do rebuilds lives.

For more information visit: www.leprosymission.org.uk

“The Leprosy Mission is incredibly grateful for the special relationship with The Marsh Charitable Trust over the last 30 years. Your wonderful support has transformed the lives of people affected by leprosy across India and Africa. Thank you so much!”

PETER WADDUP,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

“I’ve had the privilege of visiting many of the communities helped by The Marsh Charitable Trust since 1991. It’s been humbling to see the difference your grants have made, from hospital care and surgical equipment, to ensuring children in Mozambique and India go to school. You really are changing lives!”

LOUISE TIMMINS,
HEAD OF FUNDRAISING
LEUKAEMIA UK
THE MCT HAS SUPPORTED LEUKAEMIA UK SINCE 1992

Leukaemia UK is the UK’s dedicated research charity which works to save and improve the lives of those affected by a leukaemia diagnosis, through funding world class research and ground-breaking care, up and down the UK that pushes boundaries to develop kinder and more effective treatments for leukaemia.

Leukaemia UK have helped pioneer important advances in treatment and care for those affected by leukaemia and other blood cancers. They invest in the best clinicians, researchers and scientists through their grants programmes, helping to develop the scientific leaders of tomorrow. These include their John Goldman Fellowships for early career researchers, and project grants to fund experienced researchers advancing the fundamental understanding of leukaemia, its diagnosis and treatment. Leukaemia UK is a key funding partner in the IMPACT stem cell transplant clinical trials in hospitals across the UK, and also funds the Mind & Body programme at King’s College London, a pilot programme developing new holistic approaches to treatment.

As well as this, they understand that an unexpected illness can knock life plans off course, with significant financial repercussions. Leukaemia UK offers one-off grants via their Helping Hand Fund to ease families or individuals impacted by a leukaemia diagnosis through a difficult period.

For more information visit: www.leukaemiauk.org.uk

“Leukaemia UK is hugely grateful for the long-standing support we have received from the Marsh Charitable Trust, helping to support life-saving research into kinder and more effective treatments for leukaemia. Your generous support and engagement over many years has enabled us to continue to progress the research that matters most to the tens of thousands of lives impacted by a leukaemia diagnosis. On behalf of all the Leukaemia UK team, thank you!”

FIONA HAZELL,
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
The Marine Conservation Society is the UK’s leading marine charity, working to protect its seas, shores and wildlife. They’ve been the voice for UK seas for almost 30 years, fighting for better protection for marine wildlife, more sustainable fisheries and clean seas and beaches.

When MCT first started supporting the Marine Conservation Society in 2000 only 1% of the UK seas were protected, now their work has influenced significant growth in protected areas, which now cover 36% of the seas - equivalent to an area 15 times the size of Wales.

Litter on beaches was rising year on year, and the government wouldn’t commit to banning or charging for single use plastic. Now, not only have charges for bags come in across the UK, but also bans on single-use items. The Marine Conservation Society’s beach clean volunteers have tracked the impact of these changes on the beach, with a 70% reduction in bags found since the whole of the UK introduced a charge in 2015, and finally this year the overall trend being downwards for litter levels on UK beaches.

In 2000, the Good Fish Guide was just an idea, but since its launch in 2002, businesses using Good Fish Guide ratings to inform their sourcing supplied over 20% of the UK’s seafood. That’s around 760 million seafood meals!

Together with communities, businesses and governments, the Marine Conservation Society are making a difference through social, political and cultural change to achieve a shared vision of seas full of life, where nature flourishes and people thrive.

For more information visit: www.mcsuk.org

“MCS is extremely grateful for the long-term unrestricted funding we have received from the Marsh Charitable Trust over the past 20 years. With your ongoing support, we’ve been able to achieve so much in the fight for a cleaner, better protected, healthier ocean that we can all enjoy. Thank you”.

SANDY LUK, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
The Orthopaedic Institute Ltd founded in 1971, is a registered national charity which through voluntary contributions, helps to support research and education for patient benefit in the specialist research centres and departments within the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry, Shropshire.

The research investigates conditions that affect the Musculo-skeletal system and the advancement of care for conditions including arthritis and rheumatism, orthopaedic conditions of childhood including cerebral palsy and muscular dystrophy, joint replacement and cellular techniques for repair and healing.

They also support the funding of educational facilities and organise specialist training courses for orthopaedic trainees and allied health professionals.

For more information visit: www.orthopaedic-institute.org

"Our research teams study all areas of the Musculo-skeletal system, publishing their findings internationally. With the help of the Marsh Charitable Trust, we have been able to purchase and maintain essential laboratory equipment enabling them to keep up to date with the latest and most effective technology meaning they are able to achieve the best results possible in the advancement of care for patients now and into the future."

DEBRA ALEXANDER, FUNDRAISER
PRISONERS’ EDUCATION TRUST
THE MCT HAS SUPPORTED PRISONERS’ EDUCATION TRUST SINCE 1992

Prisoners’ Education Trust (PET) was founded in 1989 and has given people in prison the tools to transform their lives through learning. PET works with 121 prisons across England and Wales and supports around 1,500 people each year to take distance learning courses.

Through the courses provided, the advice given, and the examples shared, PET encourages learners to reach their potential and achieve goals. PET funds courses in levels and subjects that are otherwise unavailable and supports people to choose courses, build connections and progress with their learning. These courses reduce the chance of someone returning to prison and increase their chance of finding employment.

As well as focusing on the learning of individuals, PET advocates for system-wide improvements in prison education. They inform the public, parliament and the media about the positive impact of education on rehabilitation and make a case for change. Their priority is to ensure that prison education is well-resourced and effective and they advocate for access to digital technology and opening up universities to people with convictions.

For more information visit: www.prisonerseducation.org.uk

“I started to read more, go to the library, write poetry. I found writing opened my mind, felt the pages lead me to a different idea of life and what life means to me. I told my mum I was going to do education, starting with Maths, I.T. and English.”

DALTON, 
STUDIED ARTS AND LANGUAGES THROUGH PET

“Education and learning should be at the heart of the prison system.”

JON COLLINS, 
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

“I would love more people in prison to have the opportunity to experience the positive difference education can make to their lives.”

CLARE LLOYD, 
HEAD OF SERVICE DELIVERY
Seven Stories is the National Centre for Children’s Books and is the only place in Britain dedicated to celebrating, sharing and protecting our rich literary heritage for children. Their Collection includes work by over 250 authors and illustrators and their team also provides extensive online, schools and community programming. They have been originating and touring children’s literature exhibitions since 1996, sharing inspirational artwork, manuscripts and other material from the Seven Stories’ Collection with a wide national audience. Most exhibitions are co-curated with local children and young people.

Seven Stories have lots to offer schools including visits to exhibitions, an extensive live and digital author events programme and workshops for pupils and for teachers. Situated in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, right on the doorstep of Byker, one of the most deprived areas in England, their community programme uses children’s book inspired activities to improve the lives of children and young people. Working closely with neighbouring schools and community organisations, this project is designed to address the inequality caused by deprivation including issues such as school readiness, holiday hunger and the need for out of school activities.

The strength of these partnerships meant that Seven Stories was able to respond to the disruption caused by Covid-19 and quickly find new ways of working to meet the needs of families at home in lockdown.

For more information visit: www.sevenstories.org.uk

After such uncertain times, now more than ever, we feel it is our responsibility to reach even more children and young people through stories; to help them to understand themselves, their feelings and the world around them - and the regular support from the Marsh Charitable Trust is critical in helping us to do this. Throughout the pandemic we kept our school and community programmes running digitally thanks to this support, providing sessions which helped children build communication and social skills, as well as literacy skills, during this challenging, isolating time. We are very grateful to everyone who plays a part in what we do and the regular support of the Marsh Charitable Trust is especially appreciated.”

AIMEE PHILIPSON, INTERIM HEAD OF COMMS AND MARKETING
Spitalfields Crypt (SCT) is an East London charity helping members of the local community to recover from homelessness, addictions, and other complex needs. Founded in 1965, SCT addresses the growing problems caused by poverty, unemployment, mental illness, and the criminal justice system.

The charity supports people’s needs holistically - working on long-term improvements to housing, employability, health, and social connections. They believe many aspects of people’s lives need careful attention in order to achieve lasting recovery, which means they offer a wide variety of support services, including a residential recovery hostel, several supported housing projects, a training and development centre, drop-in facilities for homeless people, two social enterprises offering a supportive training ground for those who want to take the next step, and eight charity shops, all in East London.

SCT was born over 50 years ago, when the then vicar of Christ Church, Spitalfields opened up the doors of the crypt to local men in the area who were homeless and struggling with alcohol addiction. This legacy of practical compassion lives on. Today, they help over 600 people every year to break lethal cycles of homelessness and addiction.

For more information visit: www.sct.org.uk

“We'd like to say a huge thank you to the Marsh Charitable Trust for supporting us over so many years. With your help, we've been able to support hundreds of people each year along their recovery journey.”

SCT STAFF
Teen Action’s mission is to give underprivileged young women the same opportunities as their peers regardless of their abilities, socio-economic circumstances or individual needs; and to ease the transition to adulthood, employment and independent living. Teen Action aims to promote and advance the education of children and young people and to develop their capacity and skills by the provision of training courses. They also support young people to develop the skills for employment and guide them along the route to securing a job. As well as formal education, they provide a wealth of vocational crafts which help to develop creativity, fine hand skills, confidence and alternative avenues to employment. The organisation provides facilities for recreation for children and young people who are in need, which is an ideal way to support their emotional and social well-being.

“The Marsh Charitable Trust has been supporting Teen Action since 2015. The annual support, ease of communication and accessibility is unparalleled, and the unrestricted nature of the grants allow us to cover development and core costs – something which is often hard to come by yet critical to the sustainability of the charity.”

MS ELLIE PHIRER, DIRECTOR

“Despite all the challenges you’ve faced during the pandemic it’s clear that Teen Action has really stepped up and remained a great source of support and guidance to the young women you work with.”

NICKI LAPPIN, TUDOR TRUST GRANT MANAGER
All the volunteers are amazing. My son has grown in confidence, has a new campfire song involving a moose and juice. He knows the value of a soft bed. He was very keen to tell us that being a Christian is not about the RULES, but friendship with Jesus.’

PARENT

I have seen a lot of new material online for series including more lockdown-friendly resources to do with my church children’s group. I’m delighted our church subscribes to the Energize resource it’s a lifeline.’

CHILDREN’S’ GROUP LEADER