



MARSH  
Charitable Trust

Annual Review 2022-2023



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# Award Partners



# Chairman's Statement

In light of the continuing challenges facing society and the world at large, the Marsh Charitable Trust were proud to have continued, even developed, our programmes throughout 2023. The importance of our grantmaking became even clearer and our ability to help organisations celebrate those who make the world a better place became even more relevant.



## The Marsh Awards

The Marsh Awards celebrate the outstanding contributions that individuals and groups make to people, culture and the natural world. We have been pleased to maintain Awards with our existing partners and develop the Awards Scheme further by forming new partnerships. Increasing the number and variety of Marsh Awards has enabled us to highlight even more people who give their time freely to helping others.

The majority of our Awards recognise the contributions made by volunteers in their local community, for example we have altered our partnership with Butterfly Conservation to increasingly recognise their volunteers.

Additionally, we have developed our celebration of outstanding achievements in conserving heritage through a new partnership with the Institute of Conservation.

We would like to express our thanks to our Award Partners, experts in their chosen fields, for their support and dedication to the Marsh Awards, which would simply not run without them. We would also like to thank our Ambassadors, who voluntarily give their time to present our Awards and help build and maintain our partnerships. The Trust would not be able to do this work without their assistance and dedication.

In this year's Annual Review, we have once again included case studies from each of our Award Partners from the last year, which we hope will be of interest.

## Grants Programme

We continue to support small and medium sized charities with unrestricted, long-term core funding through our Grants Programme. In the past year, we have made over 470

grants to charitable organisations, predominately in the field of social welfare, in response to the growing need for support across the charity sector, especially in the light of increasing economic pressures.

More information on the grants made throughout the year and some of the organisations who have received funding from us can be found further on in this year's Annual Review.

## The Year Ahead

In the coming year, we are looking forward to developing both our programmes of work further. We will be increasing the number and level of grants we provide, both to new organisations and those we have been supporting for many years.

We are pleased to have already confirmed some developments to our Award Scheme for the coming year, with both new and existing partner organisations. As ever, we welcome being approached with new possibilities for partnership through the Awards Scheme.

It has been a positive year for the Marsh Charitable Trust, and we are pleased to present the following Review of the year's activities, and celebrate our Award winners and Grantees from the past year.

**Brian Marsh OBE**  
Chairman

# Our Values

## Long-Term Support

We begin all Grant and Award relationships on an ongoing basis.

## Partnerships

We believe in the strength of working together.

## Recognition

We raise awareness of the achievements of unsung heroes across the voluntary sector.

## Celebration

We promote contributions across the voluntary sector, to say thank you and inspire others.

In 2023, the **Marsh Awards for Volunteering with the Arts Society** once again recognised a wide range of volunteer contributions across the UK and all areas of volunteering conducted by the Arts Society. One of this year's Awards was presented to David and Dilys Farrant, who had been heavily involved in Heritage Volunteering across the South West until their retirement in 2022.

Between them, David and Dilys acted as Area Representatives for Heritage Volunteering for 13 years and, in the early days of their role, ran the annual meeting for area representatives in their lounge. They eventually introduced the format of formal meetings, including a guest speaker and an outing. Both David and Dilys were involved in nationally important projects including the Port Elliot project which saw the library documented and digitised,

throwing up important information which was passed to the British Museum. They made sure to visit every project within the South West once a year, encouraging societies from all over to be involved. As a result of their enthusiasm, leadership, warmth and energy, in 2022 over 20 Heritage Volunteering reps from South West societies took part in a wealth and variety of over 23 projects, making a powerful contribution to societies across the area. Sadly,

Dilys passed away shortly after retiring as a volunteer, but hers and David's contributions will always be remembered for the impact that they made on societies in the South West.



Arts Society Heritage Volunteers have an enviable reputation for their skills, working on a large range of projects such as textile conservation, historic book and document conservation and recording, digitizing and recording important historic photographic collections. Many of these projects last for several years and the heritage volunteers will receive regular retraining to learn the latest techniques and refresh their skills ensuring that the results of the projects are preserved for future generations. Without the Heritage Volunteer Representatives and their volunteers none of this would take place. It is on their behalf that the Marsh Award was received.” - *David Farrant*

For the second time in 2023, we presented the **Marsh Awards with the Association of Science and Discovery Centres (ASDC)** to some incredible volunteers who are helping to engage the public with science. One of these was Polly Hutchison, a Learning Volunteer at the Natural History Museum.

Polly has been with the museum since 2008 and is an incredible ambassador for science. She actively participates in research of the collections to ensure that she is providing the best possible experience for visitors to the museum, sharing her passion enthusiastically with all who come through the doors, regardless of background or language barriers. Every visitor who crosses her path feels welcomed, valued and has the chance to learn something inspiring. Polly encourages the visitors she meets to think outside the box

and take in information about topics that they may not have originally been interested in. She has even encouraged visitors to apply to become Learning Volunteers alongside her, and then supported them through their training and induction. Polly has also taken part in the wellbeing programme at the museum, encouraging those who might feel socially isolated to become more involved in the museum. She is an asset to the museum and her legacy amongst the Learning Volunteers will continue for a long time.



It is really the Learning Volunteer Programme at the Natural History Museum which should be receiving this Award. I am just part of a wonderful team of volunteers who all, through their enthusiasm and our excellent training, manage to engage and inspire visitors to the museum. Science is always fascinating and endlessly stimulating. I feel incredibly lucky to be able to play a very small part in making it more accessible to the public.”

In 2023, we introduced a new Award to our long-standing partnership with Barnardo's which has helped us recognise an even wider spectrum of volunteers across all areas of the organisation. The inaugural winner of the **Marsh Award for Business Services Volunteer of the Year** was John Smee.

John has been a volunteer with Barnardo's for 12 years, taking on roles across a range of services, and was previously a member of staff. He is committed, enthusiastic and determined, and always puts the needs of children and young people first. He is approachable and adaptable, always willing to take the time to share his knowledge and experience with new volunteers. In 2021, John was appointed to the role of Regional Principal Volunteer, which led to him acting as Vice-Chair of the Volunteer Forum and

helping to give a voice to volunteers across the organisation.

He has also been involved in volunteer recruitment, branding discussions and in giving his time to support Barnardo's stores across the North East. He has shown considerable perseverance to maintaining his commitment to Barnardo's, giving time and thought to what roles he has time to commit to so that he ensures he is as reliable as possible. John is well liked by staff and his fellow volunteers and



his passion for the organisation is second to none.



I feel deeply touched, humbled and extremely grateful to have been nominated and to have received the Marsh Trust Excellence Award. Thank you!"

In 2023, Dr Santiago Madriñán was awarded the **Marsh Award for International Plant Conservation**, run in partnership with Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI).

Santiago's career as a botanist can be divided into two main stages, one as a professor at a leading Latin-American university where he led important research into biota in the paramo ecosystem and genetic identification through DNA barcoding. The other is as an advocate for the revival of education in science at the Cartagena Botanical Garden in Colombia, which suffered 20 years of negligence as an outsourced recreational park but has now been re-established as a research and education centre for the conservation of the biodiversity of the Colombian Caribbean. Santiago became Director of the garden and

took a sabbatical from his teaching to learn all he could about botanic garden management from his peers around the world. He now commutes between the university and the garden, which is now a thriving research base with professional science and administrative staff, as well as trained gardeners that maintain the living collections. Cartagena Botanical Garden is now a well-recognised centre for plant conservation and education, with the most important herbarium collection of the region, a seed bank of native species and a nursery where plants are nurtured to restore landscapes in the region. Under Santiago's leadership,

it has changed from a recreational park to a proper botanic garden which is open to the public with a focus on education and conservation.



Receiving the Marsh Award for International Plant Conservation is a great honour, which also helps visualize our work in the international community, promoting further collaborations."



2023 saw the introduction of a new Award with the British Art Medal Society (BAMS), the **Marsh International Visiting Lecturer Award**. This Award celebrates the work of an international medallist, inviting them to come to the UK to present a lecture on their work at the BAMS Annual Conference. The inaugural winner of this Award was José Teixeira.

José, aged 63, is one of the most important contemporary Portuguese medallists of today. He has exhibited all over the world at the International Art Medal Federation for many years. His medals are often innovative and always thoughtful, taking forms which are appropriate for their subject matter. He teaches students in Lisbon and also writes extensively about medals. His medals have been frequently nominated and shortlisted for Awards, including the BAMS

Struck Medal Award. José's medals can also be found in the British Museum, amongst other prestigious institutions.

“

I was very honored by the distinction and grateful for the opportunity to give a talk about my work in London. The Award, besides publicly marking three decades of dedication to the medal, is another incentive to continue my work.”



In 2023, the **Marsh Award for Climate Change Research**, run in partnership with the British Ecological Society (BES), was presented to Professor Simon Lewis FRS.

Simon is Professor of Global Change Science at both University College London and the University of Leeds. He is a plant ecologist by training with a central focus on the topics of global environmental change, including climate change. His main focus of research is on the impacts and interactions of multiple anthropogenic global change phenomena and tropical forests. Simon is interested in better understanding how humans are impacting on the 'Earth System', specifically the tropical forest biome. Simon's major contributions to science include findings that intact tropical forests have been absorbing globally significant quantities of carbon dioxide

over recent decades, slowing climate change. He later revealed that this uptake is now in decline. His team recently described and mapped a new ecosystem type to science, the central Congo peatlands, spanning 16.8 million hectares, which is now recognised as the world's largest tropical peatland. Subsequently, he uncovered its threshold behaviour, absorbing carbon when the climate is wetter and releasing it when drier – a new feedback in the global carbon cycle. As well as scientific activities, he also looks at prospects for indigenous peoples, rural poverty and the global trade systems for products from tropical lands. Simon is involved in

public engagement on climate change through newspaper commentary, public talks and his popular science book, *The Human Planet: How We Created the Anthropocene*.



“

It is of course very nice to win an Award, but it's important to remember science is a team sport. My thanks go to all the local people who host fieldwork in the tropics, all the dedicated students who collect most of the data – and try and understand what it means – and the scientists throughout the world I am lucky enough to work with. Its tough doing new things, but very rewarding to find out new and important things that can hopefully help get society onto a less destructive development path.”

Once again in 2023, the **Marsh Volunteers for Museum Learning Award**, was run in partnership with the British Museum and recognised the outstanding contributions of volunteers in museums all over the UK. The National Winners for this year, who also won the Regional Award for Yorkshire, were the Preservative Party from Leeds City Museum.

These are a group of young volunteers, aged 14-24, who over 18 months curated a major exhibition from conception to completion which explored 'overlooked' histories. The volunteers decided on themes, chose objects to display, researched stories, wrote interpretation text and worked with designers, archivists and community partners. They also painted the gallery, recorded oral histories, learnt British Sign Language, planned events, delivered outreach sessions and installed objects into displays. The volunteers

worked closely with the local community throughout to ensure that the exhibition reflected the stories of local people. They created as accessible an exhibition as possible, with every adjustment led by consultation with the community, which was extremely well received by those with additional needs. The exhibition is being viewed as a standard to be emulated in museums and the volunteers have been invited to speak at events to promote their practice. The Preservative Party succeeded in providing a platform for

the people of Leeds to tell their own histories, creating a space for honest conversations about representation in the heritage sector which will hopefully be replicated.



The trip to the Marsh Awards was a fantastic opportunity for our young volunteers. After countless hours of hard work put in by the volunteers and community partners, we were honoured to have received the regional Marsh Award and National Award for our work on Overlooked. We hope this recognition of the Preservative Party's effort to strive for inclusive practice will continue to inspire other groups to meaningfully engage with the future of our heritage organisations.”

In 2023, the **Marsh Award for Local Ornithology**, run in partnership with the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) was presented to the Royal Air Force Ornithological Society (RAFOS).

The RAFOS exists to bring together members of the RAF who are interested in ornithology to share experiences and knowledge. Since 1999, the RAFOS has journeyed annually to some of the wildest and remotest parts of northern Scotland in the depths of winter to carry out vital bird counts on behalf of the BTO. They do this in order to cover the most under-surveyed Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) sectors, in an expedition called 'Operation Winter Duck'. Around 15 RAFOS members,

from all across the UK, attend each year and cover 500 miles of coastline to complete the survey, funding their own travel and taking annual leave in order to do so. They visit areas of high importance for birds, but where few people live, so receiving their annual counts allows the BTO to continue to monitor these sites and see how the bird populations using them change over time. The dedication and commitment demonstrated by the RAFOS to journey to such remote locations,

often in challenging weather conditions, in order to assist the BTO is both invaluable and inspirational.



RAFOS are delighted that our long-standing contribution to the WeBS project has been recognised by this Award. As a Society we undertake a broad spectrum of activities, most of which input data to the BTO, but our Winter Duck expeditions have been the backbone of our citizen-science endeavours for many years. My thanks go out to all those who have led and participated in these expeditions, to the BTO WeBS team and of course to the selection committee for making this Award.”

Once again in 2023, we ran the **Marsh Awards for Volunteering with the Canal and River Trust (CRT)**, to celebrate the commitment and dedication of individual volunteers and volunteer teams to supporting the CRT and the nation's waterways. This year, the **Team Award for the North West** went to the **River Weaver Lock Keepers**.

This team of 15 volunteers are essential to the navigation on this waterway, and in total have logged almost 4,000 volunteering hours. The Weaver Locks are too large and complex to be operated by the general public, so must be constantly staffed. If not for the volunteers, CRT staff would have to take on this task, meaning critical maintenance and other work would fall by the wayside. The volunteers are not

only in charge of safely seeing boats through the Locks, they also look after the vegetation around the Locks and the conservation of the heritage structures. They offer guidance and assistance for boaters and towpath users, whether its pointing them in the direction of the nearest water point or explaining how the Locks work. They are an extremely knowledgeable group of volunteers, and are walking, talking

advertisements for the Canal and River Trust.



“

I do not do my volunteering for any reward but appreciate when Trust Staff recognise and congratulate us volunteers on what we have achieved. It was very good to hear that the River Weaver Lock Keeping team had been nominated for the 2023 Marsh Awards, and an even greater feeling when we heard we had been placed in the final three nominees and were invited to attend the North West Marsh Awards event at Anderton Boat Lift. It was very unexpected by the River Weaver Lock Keeping team to hear that we had won the Volunteer Team Award, but was a great feeling to receive it, and even better to hear the appreciation for our efforts from our Team Leaders.” – *Robert Fisher, Volunteer*

The 2023 winners of the **Marsh Award for Digital Initiative**, run in partnership with the **Churches Conservation Trust (CCT)**, were the **All Star Volunteers at All Saints' Church in Cambridge**, which is also known as the 'Painted Church'.

This volunteering team launched their project to welcome more visitors to their church in Autumn 2021. They are a small team and did not have the resources to open the church every day, so instead decided to organise a programme of events that would appeal to the widest possible audience. When the project started, the group had no website, social media or mailing list and so they could only advertise the events through posters or word of mouth. They still managed to attract over fifty music lovers to

their first concert but the volunteers quickly realised that they could reach bigger audiences, and higher status performers, if they had a presence on social media. They quickly developed a website and set up accounts across social media. Since then, their audience numbers have grown substantially and they have attracted new visitors to the church thanks to the pull of some internationally acclaimed music artists. Since the launch of their project, the All Star Volunteers have welcomed thousands

of people to a range of events and activities, and have helped to raise thousands of pounds towards much needed improvements to the church, helping to put it on the map as a cultural venue in the city.



“

All Saints' Church is an overlooked Cambridge treasure, away from the city centre tourist trail. When the Heritage Volunteers from The Arts Society Cambridge joined forces with the CCT to attract more visitors in 2021, we started with organising a range of events and activities to put the church back on the map. Since then we have established All Saints' as a music venue in Cambridge with monthly recitals and October Fest. We have also organised guided tours and exhibitions to ensure many more visitors visit this much-loved church.”

# Celebrating Grassroots Volunteering

Charitable organisations across the sector rely on volunteers to support their work and help run additional activities which they otherwise would not be able to offer. The willingness of individuals and groups to dedicate their time, knowledge and skills to causes that they believe in is invaluable. The Marsh Awards were developed so the MCT could help our partner charities to celebrate hundreds of volunteers each year working diligently on a grassroots level.

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We celebrate volunteers who act as advocates for and support the most vulnerable or marginalised members of society through our Awards with **Barnardo's, Dogs for Good, Home-Start, Mind, the National Churches Trust, the Prison Advice and Care Trust, Re-Engage, the Refugee Council and We Are With You.**

We commend the contributions of volunteers who work to preserve sites of local heritage to be enjoyed by the community through our Awards with the **Canal and River Trust, the Church Recording Society, the Churches Conservation Trust, the Council for British Archaeology, the Institute for Historic Building Conservation and National Historic Ships.**

We recognise volunteers who dedicate their time to support projects which conserve their local environment and help protect it for the future through our Awards with **Butterfly Conservation, Kent Wildlife Trust, the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew and the Wildlife Trusts.**

We highlight the contributions of volunteers who share their passion for arts and heritage with the public through our Awards with the **Arts Society, the Association of Science and Discovery Centres, the British Museum, Engage, Heritage Crafts, the Institute of Conservation and the Museum of London.**



In 2023, the focus of our Awards with Butterfly Conservation shifted to recognise the contributions of outstanding volunteers working to support their activities across the UK. Awards were presented in 6 categories and the winner of the **Marsh Special Recognition Award** was Tam Stewart.



“

To have recognition of the efforts I have put in to map the distribution of butterflies in Lanarkshire is an unexpected delight, and to receive the Marsh Award is an honour that I'm very grateful to the Trust for.”

Tam joined Butterfly Conservation in 2011, after attending a moth trapping session run by volunteers, and as a result of a childhood fascination with nature. Tam is a long-serving committee member at the Glasgow and South-West branch, first as treasurer and now as conservation coordinator, also volunteering as a Butterfly Recorder to assist in bringing considerable benefit to local butterfly species.

Tam takes care of 11 butterfly transects across Lanarkshire and has put considerable time and effort into working with recorders in the area to build an accurate database of the species that can be found there. Tam also mentors other recorders and transect walkers by running public

events and specific training events where local people are encouraged to become recorders. Where there are species identified, Tam works with local councils, landowners and other stakeholders to ensure that they are protected through the creation of Local Biodiversity Action Plans.

Tam also assists a branch member who owns a local site that they would like to turn into a reserve for wildlife by gathering data on the many species that are on this land and working with Butterfly Conservation experts to help restore the site and protect the species.

Tam is one of the branch's most active committee members and is always ready to provide advice and

support to others in the protection of butterflies and moths. The data that Tam has collected has helped to build a picture of the effects of climate change on butterflies, which is invaluable to the research and protection of these species.

The **Marsh Volunteer Awards with the Church Recording Society** were presented for the second time in 2023. Once again, Awards were presented for both teams and individual volunteers. The Team Award was presented to the Kings Lynn Church Recorders.



“

As a group, we were thrilled to receive the Award and feel that our work was appreciated. The choice of the church to be recorded is democratically agreed after a church trail usually after the Christmas lunch. A barbecue is held in the summer for all recorders and their partners and we intend to celebrate the Award with a tea party next Summer.”

This group of dedicated church recorders has a fascination with the history, development and contents of churches which has been a driving force behind the work that they do. Their work is done with great enthusiasm and diligence and has now produced a total of 24 Church Records.

The group also conduct thorough research which yields excellent results. An example of their hard work is the discovery of a pair of stained-glass windows designed by Harry Stammers for Powells Stained Glass in the 1930s. These are the only known pre-war windows created by him in East Anglia and are rare examples of his earlier medieval style.

The contributions of the group are always appreciated by beneficiaries and the churches that they are involved with. They are well respected by the Norfolk Churches Trust and have contributed a great deal to the Ledgerstone Survey of England, which is aiming to record all of the ledgerstones left in churches across the country.

The members of the group are mostly retired from a variety of jobs and think that recording the contents of churches is ideal for retired people. It provides a new interest which can become quite absorbing while at the same time ensuring that the history of our churches is not forgotten. At the same time it is a social activity

as they meet weekly at the church, thus helping to reduce any feelings of isolation and providing a chance for them to meet with like-minded people.

# Showcasing Peer Support

Increasingly, charities are exploring the impact that can be had on their services when individuals use their own life experiences to help others who are going through a similar situation. Having someone who understands what they are going through can be a lifeline for many people seeking support, and we have developed a number of Awards now that showcase those who are willing to share their experiences so openly.

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We showcase the invaluable contributions that individuals who have accessed services in the past can provide to those now seeking help through our Awards with **Barnardo's** and **Home-Start**.

We recognise the importance of involving survivors in the conversations that shape the services that support them and the laws that protect them through our Awards with the **Human Trafficking Foundation**.

We highlight the contributions of individuals who reach out and form peer support groups to encourage those suffering from mental health to seek support through our Awards with **Mind**.

We recognise the impact that people in recovery from drug, alcohol or mental health struggles can have on encouraging others through their own recovery journey through our Awards with **We Are With You**.

We highlight the contributions of refugees and asylum seekers who draw on their own experiences to develop projects which help others in the same situation through our Awards with the **Refugee Council**.





In 2023, we presented the **Marsh Awards for Volunteering with Home-Start** for the second time. Once again, Awards were presented across six categories, with one volunteer being named as the overall Volunteer of the Year. This year, we had nominations from a number of Home-Start branches for volunteers who had lived experience of being supported by Home-Start services and now wanted to give something back to those who helped them.



Gemma Law from Home-Start Suffolk, winner of the Group Volunteer of the Year Award, is an example of this. She began volunteering around two years ago, having been inspired to volunteer following her positive experience with Home-Start as a supported mum.

Despite initially feeling anxious about becoming a volunteer, Gemma's confidence has grown significantly, and she has pushed herself to try a range of volunteering roles including home-visiting and leading group sessions. She took part in delivering an 8-week course to vulnerable new mothers and their babies and built a trusting bond

with the families she supported, sharing her own experiences to encourage them to open up and gain confidence in themselves.

Gemma is a huge asset to Home-Start in Suffolk and she receives extremely positive feedback from the families she works with. Her willingness to support as much as she is able is evident through her involvement in a number of groups and her appearance in promotional videos to raise awareness of the work of Home-Start.

“

It was so lovely to win the Award but I love volunteering and get as much from it as the families I try to help to support”.

The **Marsh Volunteer Awards with the Refugee Council** celebrate projects run by volunteers which support refugees to help them settle into their new communities and reduce their social isolation. Many of the winning volunteers arrived in the UK as refugees themselves and so are able to use their lived experience to support others in the same situation. In 2023, we recognised 15 projects, and three of those are highlighted below.



Najia Ghalib is a volunteer with the Refugee Council in Wakefield who has lived experience as a refugee. She set up a sewing group to encourage other women to engage in community activities, by offering them a safe space to share their culture and improve their wellbeing. The women met every week to develop new skills and also practice their conversational English while participating in a creative activity. The pieces that the women created will be on display at Wakefield Museum in 2024, as a celebration of their culture, and the group will continue to meet and socialise with one another.

Ahmedi Saidi Ahmedi was a volunteer with the Refugee Council in Hull, and was staying in an asylum seeker hotel when he organised his multicultural cooking event. The event was run by other volunteers currently going through the asylum system, and stemmed from their lack of access to cooking equipment at the hotel and a general lack of access to food from their own country. The chefs came from 5 different countries and cooked a range of cuisines which were enjoyed by 40 people, with leftovers to share with others at the hotel. The event has also been a platform for the volunteers to look into getting qualifications.



Louise Kinlen, a volunteer with the Women's Craft and Chat Group in Sheffield, devised a project called Creative Botanicals! This included a trip to Sheffield Botanical Gardens where the women were able to learn about the plants and gain inspiration for the project. Another volunteer Nora, pictured left, who has lived experience as a refugee, also played a key role in supporting the women to learn new skills and socialise whilst creating their individual designs. She is a talented artist and assisted the women at the group to create watercolour images based on flowers, trees and plants. These watercolour paintings then formed the basis for the creation of applied textile designs which were framed and displayed in a final exhibition and 'Certificate of Participation' ceremony at Refugee Council Offices in Sheffield.

# Encouraging Young People

Young people are the future of the charity sector, and are often at the heart of moves to make changes in organisations and improve their processes and policies. Our Awards help charities to encourage the contributions of young people in their work and to inspire more young people to get involved with the sector and make important changes through causes that they believe in.

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We work with **Barnardo's** to highlight the contributions of young people helping to shape and run services for other young people, children and families, and those giving up their time to volunteer in stores and raise funds for Barnardo's.

We promote the contributions of young people working to raise awareness of environmental conservation through our Awards with the **British Trust for Ornithology, Butterfly Conservation, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, the Royal Horticultural Society, the Wildlife Trusts** and the **Zoological Society of London**.

We encourage the involvement of young people in the fields of heritage and the arts through our Awards with the **Association of Science and Discovery Centres, the Council for British Archaeology** and the **Museum of London**, with the aim of inspiring young people to continue this important work in the future.



Since 2018, we have recognised the commitment and achievements of members of Kew Gardens' Youth Explainer Programme. These young volunteers are aged between 14 and 17 and come from a range of backgrounds and abilities, with many of them unlikely to have visited Kew before. In 2023, we presented the **Marsh Young Volunteer Awards with Kew Gardens** to six outstanding young people who volunteered in either the Princess of Wales Conservatory or the Temperate House.



“

Having the Marsh Trust Volunteer Awards as part of our programme ensures we give proper recognition to the young people's achievements. It is really an honour to be able to offer these to our incredible youth volunteers who offer so much to our organisation and are such an integral aspect of achieving Kew's mission.”

#### Kew Youth Programme Staff Member

**Manvir Palra** approached every stage of the programme with excitement, energy, and positivity and uplifted her team through challenging moments. During her time volunteering, Manvir was committed to engaging as many people as possible, not letting rejection phase her in the slightest.

**Vhaishali Kajendran** was quick to lend an encouraging word to her team during difficult times and was committed to taking everyone's ideas on board during group discussions. During her time volunteering, Vhaishali used her good humour to ensure that everyone in her team was feeling positive and motivated when things weren't going to plan.

**Max Webb** began the programme feeling hesitant to interact with the public but, over time, he became one of the most confident volunteers. Max was always on hand with an array of extra knowledge that he could use to enrich the public's experience and was always kind, friendly and personable in all of his interactions, with visitors of all ages.

**Leen Haidir** consistently dedicated herself to her volunteering, always honouring the commitments she made. She always threw herself into tasks, no matter how new or daunting they appeared, and applied a thoughtfulness to everything she does.

**Kameron Harman-Charles'** witty and charismatic personality always created a fun and joyful atmosphere within any group he was a part of. He used these characteristics to motivate others and to make everyone feel included.

**Seren Ashe** grew immensely in their confidence and communication skills throughout their time as a volunteer, even discovering a particular talent for leading games and activities with children.

Since 2018, we have worked with The Wildlife Trusts to celebrate the achievements of young people who are passionate about marine conservation. One winner of the 2023 **Marsh Young Volunteer Awards for Marine Conservation** was Arun Curson.

Arun is the youngest marine champion at the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust and has been volunteering with them since the age of 10. He originally volunteered on intertidal surveys, before becoming a marine champion for the ‘Secrets of the Solent’ project for 4 years. The project was supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and shone a spotlight on the vibrant marine environment of the Solent, which is often overlooked.

Despite this project finishing last year, Arun has continued to support the Trust’s marine work in a variety of ways. He takes his surveying seriously, researching the species of the shore and becoming one of the top identifiers at the Trust, helping those less experienced with their identifications.

Arun has also represented the Trust on a wider scale, including an appearance on BBC Countryfile to talk about ‘Secrets of the Solent’ and his passion for marine conservation with John Craven. He also chose to complete the volunteering element of his Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award with the Trust, further demonstrating his commitment to supporting their work.

Arun reviewed, and even wrote some of, the online training that the Trust produced alongside the ‘Secrets of the Solent’ project, ensuring that young people would understand the content and find it engaging enough to want to be involved. He takes every opportunity he can to get involved in marine conservation and is now a firm member of Generation Sea, a group of



like-minded young people across The Wildlife Trusts who are passionate about protecting and restoring the marine environment.

Arun was also awarded the Trust’s Young Changemaker Award at the Wilder Awards in September 2023. He is also now a marine champion for the Solent Seascape Project and on the Trust’s volunteer steering group, ensuring young people have a voice and an understanding of the importance of marine conservation.

“Winning the Award encouraged me to keep doing my marine volunteering but also made me realise that I can also inspire and encourage others to do the same.”

# Promoting Professional Contributions

The skills that professionals acquire throughout their working lives can be an invaluable resource for charities in the promotion and continuation of their work. A number of our Awards promote the individuals that go above and beyond what is required of them in their career for causes that they believe in by openly sharing their expertise and passion to improve the world we live in.

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We promote the individuals who look after the most vulnerable in society and raise awareness of important societal issues through our Awards with the **Human Trafficking Foundation** and the **Royal Anthropological Institute**.

We highlight the achievements and contributions of individuals at the early stages of their careers through our Awards with **Engage, Fauna and Flora International**, the **Institute for Historic Building Conservation** and the **Royal Horticultural Society**.

We celebrate the professional contributions of those in the environmental field, both in the UK and internationally, through our Awards with **Botanic Gardens Conservation International**, the **British Ecological Society**, the **British Entomological and Natural History Society**, the **British Trust for Ornithology**, the **Environmental Investigation Agency**, the **Rare Breeds Survival Trust**, **Royal Botanic Gardens Kew**, the **Wildlife Trusts** and the **Zoological Society of London**.

We recognise the sharing of skills and expertise by professionals in the arts and heritage sector through our Awards with the **British Art Medal Society**, **Heritage Crafts**, the **Institute of Conservation** and the **Public Statues and Sculpture Association**.





The **Marsh Awards for Outstanding Contribution to the Fight Against Modern Slavery** are presented each year in partnership with the Human Trafficking Foundation, some to individuals working to combat modern slavery from within their professional careers. Harjeet Chakira, from the West Midlands Police, is one such individual and was recognised in 2023 in the Statutory Services category.



“

I am absolutely delighted to have won this year's Marsh Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Fight Against Modern Slavery; Statutory Services. This Award would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of colleagues working tirelessly across the Modern Slavery partnership here in the West Midlands. I am proud of the part I have played, on behalf of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner in establishing a Public Health Approach to tackling Modern Slavery. The importance of working together to reduce the threat, risk and harm of this heinous crime cannot be underestimated. I have spent most of my career working to affect change for victims, both strategically and previously on the front line. I am truly honoured to have been recognised in this way; a hugely humbling experience and one which I will always be proud of.”

Harjeet is the Victims Policy Manager within West Midlands Police, and has taken care of all the force's Modern Slavery cases since 2017. Her commitment to this post has been of great benefit to the survivors she works with, as there is consistency of support throughout their case proceedings. Also, Harjeet has developed invaluable knowledge in this field as her experiences have enabled her to speak from the perspective of survivors, alongside the perspective of the police force.

Despite the challenging and emotional nature of her work, Harjeet remains

focused and professional, enabling a structured response to modern slavery to be developed in the West Midlands. The department has a multi-agency strategy board, including local authorities, statutory services and the third sector, and Harjeet has been instrumental in building relationships between the different bodies in order for them to work together effectively.

While extremely victim focused in her work, Harjeet is also supportive of academic research projects, particularly those which can lead to the prevention of Modern Slavery. She has contributed to a number of

research projects, including some which tackle the public health approach to Modern Slavery, in a bid to further share her invaluable knowledge.

Harjeet is a passionate and committed advocate for the slavery and trafficking agenda, working to challenge the status quo and encourage a better response from statutory services all round.

In 2023, we introduced a new Awards partnership with the Institute of Conservation to celebrate individuals working in various areas of heritage conservation. Some of these Awards went to professionals working in this field and going above and beyond what was required of their role. One of these, the **Marsh Award for Research in Conservation**, was presented to Dr David Thickett.



“

I am honoured to be nominated and more so to receive the Award. It really is a joint effort with my colleagues, without whom the research could not have taken place.”

David has significantly advanced the understanding of showcases and their technical requirements when used in museum displays. His research has encompassed the materials used in showcase construction and their interiors, helping to ensure that the objects displayed in them are not damaged.

David has worked to develop practical methods to test Air Exchange Rates (AERs) in showcases, and these have now become standard practice at English Heritage. His research has included

assessing the effectiveness of showcase designs, testing showcases to determine their performance and investigating new designs and methods to improve their efficacy in protecting collections. He consistently monitors his research and the tests he has put in place, to ensure that they continue to achieve the best results.

In collaboration with showcase manufacturers, David's research has been used to develop a standard for the design of showcases, to ensure that institutions can purchase

the best quality cases possible. In particular, the results of his research on archaeological metals and what causes their deterioration has enabled them to be displayed safely in showcases in the historic buildings with which they are associated.

Eager to share his results with the wider conservation community, David has produced publications on his research and runs training sessions for conservators and institutions to help them achieve the best results with their showcases.

# Recognising Lifetime Achievements

Charities often rely on individuals with a lifetime of knowledge, skills and experience to assist with the running of their services. Without these individuals giving so freely of their time, organisations would not be able to operate as effectively. Our Awards in this area help organisations who have benefitted from longstanding commitment from their supporters to recognise these impressive achievements.

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

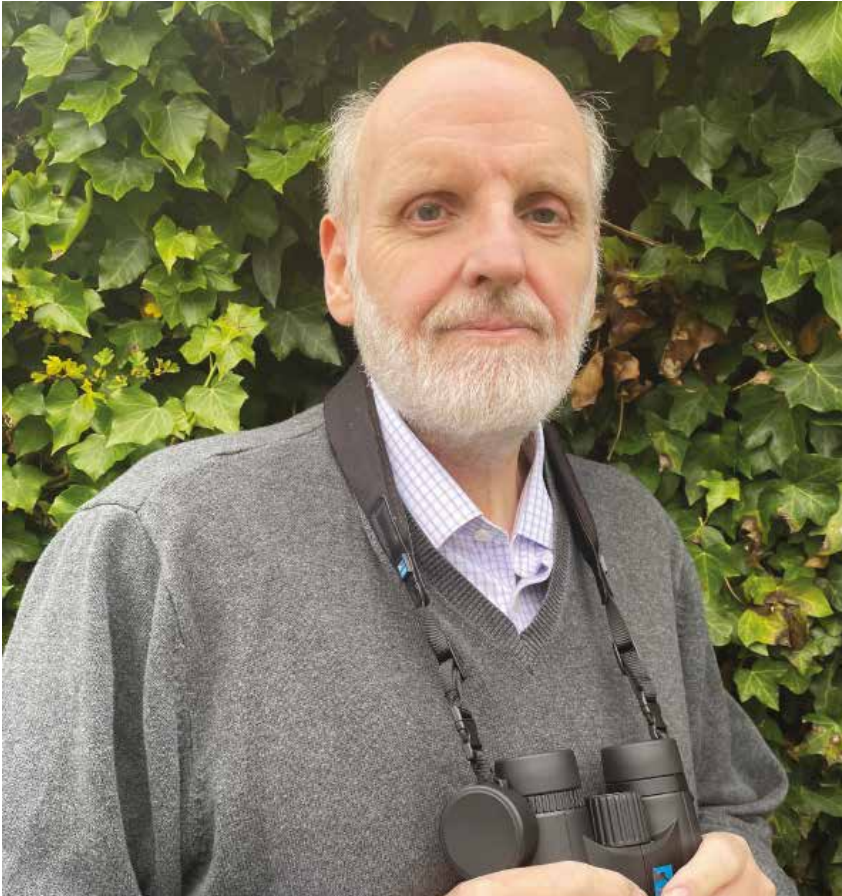
We celebrate the selfless commitment of those who have volunteered their time throughout their lives to help the most vulnerable in society through our Awards with **Barnardo's** and **Home-Start**.

We recognise the lifetime of skills and expertise that volunteers and professionals share to expand their organisation's work in the field of arts and heritage through our Awards with the **Arts Society, Engage, Heritage Crafts, the Institute for Historic Building Conservation** and **National Historic Ships**.

We highlight the lifetime achievements of volunteers and professionals working to protect and make discoveries about the natural world through our Awards with the **British Entomological and Natural History Society, Butterfly Conservation, the Kent Wildlife Trust, the Rare Breeds Survival Trust** and **Royal Botanic Gardens Kew**.



In 2023, the **Marsh Entomology Awards** were once again presented to three incredible entomologists, in partnership with the British Entomological and Natural History Society (BENHS). One of this year's winners was Stephen Lings.



“

The value of Awards such as the Marsh Award for Entomology in partnership with the British Entomological and Natural History Society and the generous monetary support provides a practical stepping stone to new endeavour.

The importance of such Awards is ultimately to honour the happy and joyous parts of life. The Marsh Awards showcase individuals, paying direct respect to them and their area of interest and expertise, and the recipient achieves a sense of accomplishment and acknowledgement of the various milestones and sustained effort that got them there.

I am very flattered, honoured and proud to be recognised and join the list of recipients of the Marsh Award for Entomology in 2023.”

Stephen is a passionate naturalist and conservationist, sharing his boundless enthusiasm and life-long knowledge of insects and the natural world for over 40 years. He is a Trustee and Council Member of two national entomological societies and holds additional key roles in these organisations as well.

Stephen has been involved in enquiries around housing

developments to ensure the protection of insects, and also supports young people who want to learn more about entomology. He schedules all BENHS meetings, liaising with speakers and securing venues to host the events.

Stephen was instrumental in organising one of the flagship events during BENHS' 150th Anniversary celebrations, a weekend-long

recording event in Berkshire which was attended by over 1,000 people and generated 11,000 records of almost 650 species.

Although his true passion is entomology, Stephen is a talented all-round naturalist with a broad skill set, including as a wildlife artist which has seen him illustrate numerous natural history publications.

In 2023, we introduced the **Marsh Heritage Crafts Award for Lifetime Achievement**, to our existing Awards Scheme in partnership with Heritage Crafts. The Award was introduced to celebrate the contributions of individuals who have given a lifetime of commitment to ensuring the protection of traditional crafts and the inaugural winner was Alfred Fisher.



“

Thank you for the great honour you have given me. I cannot tell you how much it all meant to me – so much appreciated.”

Alfred has been involved in stained glass for over 70 years and, while he is now retired, still shares his knowledge by giving talks and informally mentoring young artists in the craft. Throughout his career, he has designed beautiful and inspiring stained glass windows both in the UK and abroad.

In 1957, Alfred won a scholarship to study art in churches across Europe which helped him to develop his own distinctive style of window design. He is a member of many prestigious organisations related to his craft and, for 20 years, was the advisor on stained glass for the National Trust and reported on the

condition of stained glass in all of their properties.

One of Alfred's finest achievements is his work in restoring the craft of stained glass in India, where he was commissioned as a trainer following a visit in 1997. He trained craftspeople in Delhi and Mumbai to restore the huge legacy of British 19th Century stained glass in civic and ecclesiastical buildings and, thanks to his dedication, many of his trainees now run their own successful workshops to keep this craft alive across India.

In 2011, Alfred was awarded an MBE for teaching and encouraging students in stained glass design, as well as

for his own artistic achievements. While training, he was meticulous in learning all aspects of the making process for stained glass windows and has been a part of many changes to the practice, from working through the post-war 'boom' years to witnessing a steady decline in commissions and a demise in formal stained glass training.

Alfred strives to guide and encourage his fellow artists and craftworkers, hopefully inspiring a new generation to experience stained glass at a practical level to ensure the continuation of this traditional craft.

# Commending International Work

We commend the important work happening in the voluntary sector around the world by highlighting the individuals and organisations working with our Award Partners on a global scale. Through the international networks of our partners, we are able to recognise the achievements of those around the world working hard for causes that they believe in.

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We commend the contributions of individuals and organisations working to prevent wildlife crime across the world through our Awards with the **Environmental Investigation Agency**.

We celebrate those working to drive change in international communities at a grassroots level through our Awards with **Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Fauna and Flora International** and the **Royal Anthropological Institute**.

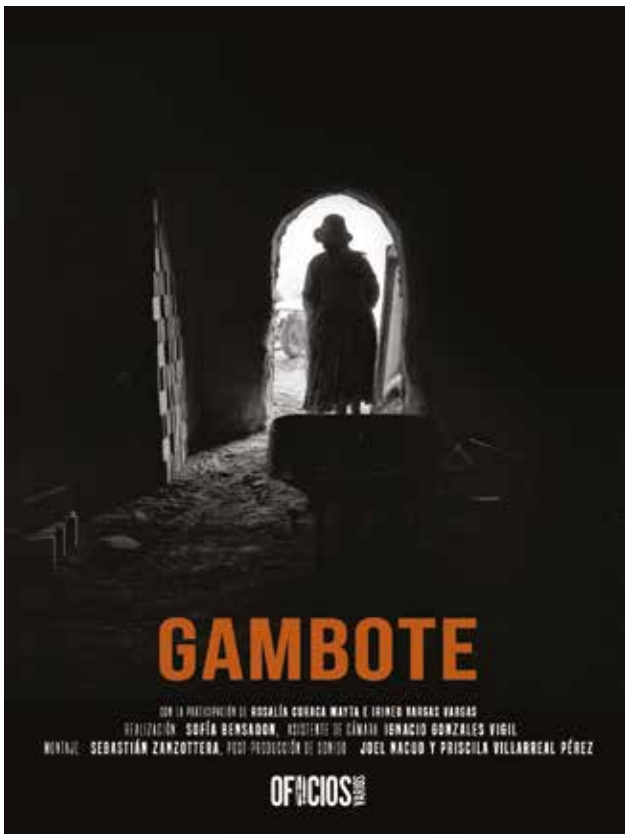
We highlight the contributions of individuals encouraging public engagement with the arts and heritage across the world through our Awards with the **British Art Medal Society** and **Engage**.

We recognise scientists and researchers working on environmental conservation across borders through our Awards with the **British Ecological Society** and the **Zoological Society of London**.





For the third time in 2023, we supported an Award at the Royal Anthropological Institute (RAI) Film Festival, a biennial event which showcases the best anthropological and ethnographical filmmaking around the world. The **Marsh RAI Short Film Prize** was awarded this year to Sofía Bensadon for her film ‘Gambote’.



The film is set in the clay mountains of the Chuquiago Valley on the outskirts of La Paz City in Bolivia. Every day, material from the mountains is transformed into brick and the film follows Irineo and Rosa, who work to grind the clay, mould, dry, and burn the bricks, in a never-ending cycle. While working, they reflect on their lives and routines. The film is in Spanish, but can have English subtitles.

The film's director, Sofía Bensadon, is based in Argentina, where she got a degree in Social and Cultural

Anthropology. She has been widely recognised in her field already, receiving an array of Awards and training scholarships.

With an ecological approach, she investigates the gestures of work over time and the modes of the procurement of livelihood through craft and manual work, which is clearly evidenced in the story of Gambote. The film situates skilled practitioners in the context of an active engagement with the elements of their surroundings.

“

For me and the whole team, it was a great joy receiving this recognition. It drives us to continue working in the trade we love and in the film projects we have in hand. It encourages us to continue delving into the crossroads between anthropology and cinema so that our disciplines became more participatory and accessible to a broader public.”

In 2023, the **Marsh Award for Conservation Biology**, run in partnership with the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), was awarded to Professor John Gittleman from the University of Georgia, USA.

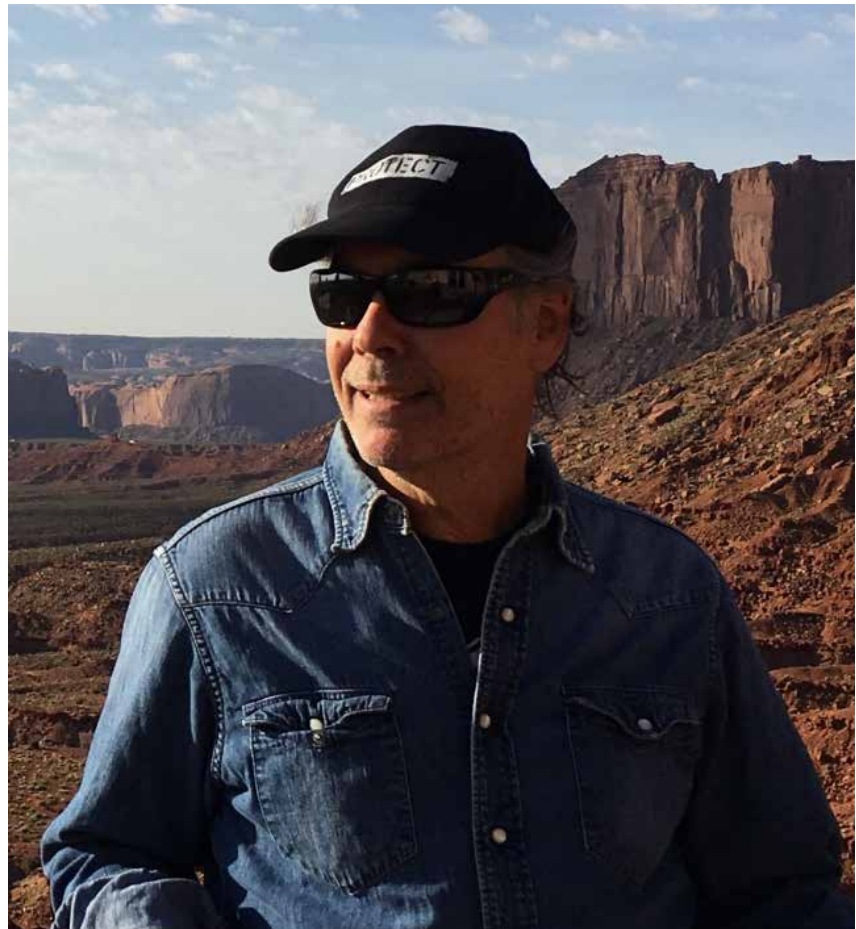
John is a highly influential ecologist and macroecologist, focusing on the study of broad scale ecological patterns and processes, and his work has improved understanding of the conservation of mammalian species.

His research projects identifying how a variety of factors, such as population density, social interactions, diet and habitat modification, contribute to whether an animal species will continue to thrive or become extinct, have been fundamental to ensuring the continuation of these animals in healthy, sustainable ecosystems.

His publications on carnivore ecology and conservation, including the two-volume series on Carnivore Behaviour, Ecology and Evolution, remain pillars in the field. John's more recent focus has been the study of the impact of infectious diseases on biodiversity conservation and the prevalence of zoonoses.

His work has made major contributions to the understanding of species loss but also provides a message of hope, showing how investment in conservation can help to stem the tide of biodiversity loss and support planetary One Health for animals, humans and environment.

John was co-founder of the prestigious ZSL journal, *Animal Conservation*, and editor of *Journal of Zoology*. He was an elected member of the Scientific Advisory



Board of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education.

John was also founding Dean of the Odum School of Ecology (2007-2021), University of Georgia, the first stand-alone college devoted to the science of ecology, and is presently UGA Foundation Professor of Ecology and Dean Emeritus, University of Georgia.

“

I am very touched and honoured by receiving the Marsh Award. My formative exposure to science was at ZSL Meetings. I learned from and about the best: introduction to zoos, conservation science and action, data availability using a great library, endless educational support. Simply put, any achievements in my professional life derive from ZSL- the Marsh Award is a recognition of this.”

# International Award Winners

## Mexico

Marsh Award for Education  
in Botanic Gardens (BGCI)  
Paulina Xóchitl  
Rendón Pujol

## Georgia, USA

Marsh Award for Conservation  
Biology (ZSL)  
Professor John Gittleman

## Nicaragua

Marsh Award for Marine  
Conservation Leadership (FFI)  
Heydi Yessenia  
Salazar Andino

## Colombia

Marsh Award for International  
Plant Conservation (BGCI)  
Dr Santiago Madriñán

## Chile

Thomas Henry Huxley Award  
and Marsh Prize (ZSL)  
Rodrigo Oyanedel





**Portugal**

Marsh Award for  
Excellence in Gallery  
Education (Engage)  
José Rodrigues

**Italy**

Marsh Award for International  
Lecture (BAMS)  
José Teixeira

**Cambodia**

Marsh Award for Early  
Career Conservationist (FFI)  
Morokot Long

**Kenya**

Marsh Award for Ecologists  
in Africa (BES)  
David Kimiti

**Bolivia**

Marsh RAI Short Film  
Award (RAI)  
Sofia Bensadon

**Indonesia**

Marsh Award for Terrestrial  
Conservation Leadership (FFI)  
Mohamad Rizki Riadhi

For 15 years, the MCT has worked with the Council for British Archaeology to recognise community archaeologists who work to encourage the practice at a grassroots level. In 2023, Arran Johnson won the **Marsh Community Archaeology Award**, in recognition of his individual contributions to this field.

Arran has been a guiding light in community archaeology since his first outing with York Archaeology's training excavation in 2011, a project that has been running for over two decades and offers hands-on experience of archaeology on complex urban sites. Many of those who attend the training excavations return many times, and Arran can be called responsible for giving many people their first step into an archaeological career, helping them develop from trainees into full-time employees. He has fought hard to keep the costs

of joining the training excavations low and has even created bursaries for lower income trainees. Arran has also been instrumental in the development and delivery of a groundbreaking programme, 'Archaeology on Prescription', which uses archaeology as a social prescribing tool for people experiencing poor mental health, and also those with additional learning and access needs which might usually prevent them from taking part in excavations. Arran helps trainees to develop new skills, create lasting friendships and improve their overall

well-being. Many of his participants have gone on to be actively involved with other community excavations, expressing that Arran gave them the confidence to try something new.



Receiving such wonderful recognition for this has absolutely filled me with pride and a renewed desire to make heritage ever more accessible, relevant and fun for as many people as I can. I'm chuffed to bits! I must also recognise the wonderful work of my colleagues, both past and present. Archaeology is, after all, a team effort and I've been extremely lucky in working alongside some wonderful people."

In 2023, the MCT started a new Award partnership with Dogs for Good. We presented Awards in a number of categories to 12 outstanding winners. One of those, in the **Community Impact Volunteer** category, was Katy Nayler.

Katy has been an active volunteer with Dogs for Good since 2017, holding a wide range of roles across the organisation. She has socialised puppies, boarded dogs and been an active fundraiser and speaker, always seeking out opportunities to raise funds and share the work of the charity. She leads a strong and active Supporter Group in Towcester and generally says yes to anything asked of her. Recently, Katy led a project to collate feedback from volunteers about their experience with Dogs for Good, which has enabled the charity to connect more effectively with volunteers and develop

the volunteering experience. She is not afraid to speak her mind and make suggestions for improvements to the charity, always with their best interests at heart. She works closely with staff and her fellow volunteers, delivering presentations, raising the profile of and strengthening the representation of volunteers across the charity. Katy has a fun and engaging personality and provides support to both her fellow volunteers and clients. She is kind and caring and there for people no matter what, particularly through the lockdowns when she made sure to keep people connected. Katy plays a

key role in driving forward all things volunteering at Dogs for Good, despite her hectic personal life, and is a unique and valued member of the team.



I was really humbled and overwhelmed to have received the Community Impact Volunteer of the Year Award. There are so many incredible volunteers throughout Dogs for Good, and we all rely so much on one another to make a difference. This Award is for us all and the impact we make collectively. Thank you so much it really did mean the world."

In 2023, the **Marsh Award for International Excellence in Visual Arts Engagement**, run in partnership with Engage, was presented to José Rodrigues.

José is the founder of Teatro Metaphora, a non-profit organisation on Madeira, a small Portuguese island which struggles with socio-economic problems, lack of participation and fewer opportunities. His dedication to community development has had a great impact on the island's residents. José has been a police officer for 20 years, but runs Teatro Metaphora alongside this, creating hundreds of educational projects and promoting artistic-environmental activities to provide opportunities

for local people, and strengthening a sense of inclusion and sustainable development on the island.

His most well-known project is GREEN STEPS, which promotes upcycling to create art and raises awareness about sustainable development and social inclusion through art. People around José are empowered by his work, he dreams big and encourages others to dream along with him, and work to turn their dreams into reality. He has

a unique talent for engaging with people through art and creativity.



“

This recognition is very important because it gives credibility to all the work we're doing. Often, at a local level, this work is not understood because they think that art and environmental sustainability are minor issues. However, in my opinion, they are vital and reflect a community's commitment to the future and the well-being of the next generations. This Award and recognition helps to raise the profile of these crucial issues, encouraging greater participation and support from the public and policy-makers.”

In 2023, the **Marsh Award for Terrestrial Conservation Leadership**, run in partnership with Fauna and Flora International, was presented to Mohamad Rizki Riadhi in recognition of his work to protect endangered species from poachers.

Mohamad was born and grew up in a small town in Indonesia, where he knew little of wildlife preservation or conservation until he took it upon himself to learn more through his further education. He is committed to fulfilling his obligations as Biodiversity Guardian for the Southwest Papua Province of Indonesia and his dedication to biodiversity is evidenced in his attempts and successes to rescue endangered and threatened species from illegal trafficking. In October

2023, he and his team were successful in thwarting an attempt to smuggle two Green Tree Pythons at Sorong Airport. In fact, in 2023 as a whole they have succeeded in thwarting over 1600 wildlife smuggling attempts. Mohamad works with numerous parties, including the armed forces and the police, to create teams that conduct patrols to monitor and collect data on the illegal circulation of wildlife, by both air and sea routes. His drive and achievements have encouraged other local stakeholders

to become more concerned about this issue, resulting in the stronger monitoring of illegal poaching and other threats to wildlife.



“

The condition that I always want to realize is “West Papua Zero Illegal Wildlife Trade”. This is our enthusiasm to continue working so that biodiversity in Papua remains sustainable.”

Since 2016, we have been working in partnership with the Institute for Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) to recognise individuals who are committed to preserving our nation's historic buildings. In 2023, one of the winners of the **Marsh IHBC Community Contribution Award**, which celebrates those who continue their commitment to this cause in retirement, was **Graham Arnold**.

Graham initially became involved with the restoration of Birkenhead Park in his professional life on behalf of Wirral Borough Council. The park was designed by Joseph Paxton, renowned gardener and architect, and opened in 1847 as the first publicly-funded civic park in the world and the fore-runner to Central Park in New York City. Since retirement, Graham has continued to be heavily involved in the conservation of the area in a voluntary capacity, taking on hands-on landscape maintenance as well as sharing his specialist knowledge.

He has acted as Secretary of the Friends Group and planning specialist, commenting on any local applications that might affect the park. Graham has attended every meeting of the Friends Group, and has even acted as Chair. He has been heavily involved in a number of important projects for Birkenhead Park, including installing a blue plaque to commemorate the founder of the park and assisting in their application to become a World Heritage Site. In 2022 alone, Graham spent over 500 hours working in a voluntary capacity

for the park. He has committed all of his professional life, and much of his retirement and personal time, to heritage conservation.

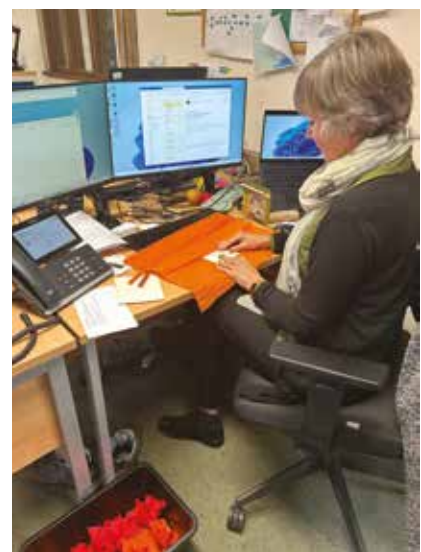


I have been greatly honoured to receive the Marsh Award. It has enabled the Friends of Birkenhead Park to put the £500 to good use in a crowdfunding appeal with 2:1 Wild Isles Community Fund matchfunding under the Aviva Community Fund. An initial target of £1,000 was easily exceeded and eventually reached nearly £15,000. This will enable the Friends to help improve the biodiversity and colour within the Park through wildflower planting and hopefully assist in obtaining World Heritage Site status in due course."

### One of the winners of the **Marsh Awards for Volunteering with the Kent Wildlife Trust (KWT)** in 2023 was **Julie Cordier**.

Julie has been described as an exceptional volunteer and an invaluable member of the education team at KWT. Her tireless dedication to her work and unwavering commitment to the wider team keeps the cogs turning and ensures success in all of their programmes. She selflessly contributes her time and energy towards a range of activities that make school visits successful, including printing materials to be used in sessions, preparing resources and keeping all data accurate and up to date. Largely thanks to Julie's continuing efforts, KWT are able to put on birthday parties which

help raise additional income and encourage a younger generation to be inspired by nature. Julie's dedication and contributions help to ensure that the education team are able to deliver high quality sessions and family events, thus helping to build the strong reputation of KWT across the county, as well as a respect and understanding of the importance of wildlife and nature. She really demonstrates the value of collaboration between staff and volunteers, and is always willing to support and lend a hand where it is needed, often asking if there is more she can do to help.



Winning the Award was totally unexpected, but will always mean a great deal to me and something I'm very proud of. I thoroughly enjoy volunteering at KWT and knowing I'm a help to such a great bunch of people is rewarding enough, so it was both a privilege and honour even to be nominated."



In 2023, the **Marsh Awards for Mental Health Peer Support** were run once again in partnership with Mind and Peerfest. The Awards recognised peer support groups in five categories and one of the winners for the Connections category was Mentell.

Mentell was created in 2017 by a group of 7 men from Stockport after they found there to be a lack of local support services available when they reached out for assistance with their mental health. The group continues to be run by volunteers with lived experience of mental health and so far they have supported over 3,500 men across the UK. Mentell provide safe spaces for men to open up and talk about their struggles and feelings, with no pressure to speak at group sessions until they feel comfortable to. The groups run on a weekly basis and are supported by trained facilitators to ensure that

safeguarding measures are met, although there is no hierarchy in the group and all the men who attend are made to feel equal. Groups are run both in person and online, making them widely accessible and helping to remove any potential stigma that could come with seeking support. Mentell has enabled men to form connections with one another and build trusting relationships so that they are able to speak freely about the issues that are affecting them. More information on Mentell can be found at their website: [www.mentell.org.uk](http://www.mentell.org.uk).



Mentell were really honoured and proud to be recognised and receive the Marsh Award for In Connection at the recent Peerfest event. We believe winning the Award will strengthen our relationships with current care and charity partners and open doors to new connections, to introduce the service that Mentell provides to the men in our communities, through in-person and online peer to peer groups that take place up and down the country. We have a mountain to climb in terms of men's mental health and male suicide and Mentell are proud to be part of the solution.” - **Andy Walker, CEO**

In 2023, Charlie Jenkins won the **Marsh Young Volunteer of the Year Award**, run in partnership with the Museum of London.

Charlie has been a Library Volunteer at the Museum of London for over a year, attending the site on a weekly basis. His work demonstrates an important attention to detail which is key to the tasks he is working on. His assistance has been important to the ongoing progress of auditing and re-cataloguing the library collections, with more than 7,000 records upgraded so far. Charlie is enthusiastic and engaging, working well with other colleagues in the library and demonstrating great interpersonal skills. He assisted with

a ‘Show and Tell’ visit at the Library during Volunteers Week in 2023, preparing volumes to be viewed during the tour and delivering a talk on the projects he has helped with. Charlie is extremely flexible and makes himself available whenever he is needed, getting involved with any task presented to him – even those which can seem monotonous. Through his volunteering, Charlie has developed a deeper understanding of how the library works, offering exceptional support to staff. His volunteering experience and

responsibilities have encouraged him to consider a career in the field of Libraries and Archives.



It was a fantastic surprise to be awarded the Museum of London Young Volunteer of the Year Award, for my work in the Museum Library over the past year and a half. Volunteering at the Museum has provided me with a welcoming & friendly community of wonderful individuals to work alongside, and the skills & drive to pursue a future career in Records Management. I cannot wait to continue being involved in future projects at the Museum of London!”

Once again in 2023, we partnered with National Churches Trust to run the **Marsh Church and Community Volunteer Awards**, recognising volunteers in churches across the country who are opening up their buildings to be used by the community. The National Winner this year was the volunteer team at St Hilda's in Redcar, Yorkshire.

After being rebuilt following structural issues which saw the original building be torn down, the church of St Hilda's has once again become the centre point for the community in Redcar. The small core group of volunteers at the church demonstrate great community spirit and, without them, the church would not be at the heart of so much activity in the community. The team of 7 volunteers range in age from 40 to 76 and are also trustees of the church charity, and there are a range of additional volunteers to assist with activities when needed.

The volunteers run a weekly church charity shop and community café, where donated items are sold on to the community or given free of charge to those in need. They also run a bereavement drop-in service and a wellbeing support group, activities for young people including a homework club, access to a range of support services and allow access to the building for a wide range of local activities. St Hilda's has a warm, welcoming atmosphere and the volunteers are well-organised and well looked after, ensuring that people can get the most out of



giving their time to the church and that the volunteers' skills are being used in the best possible way.



This Award is testimony to the dedication and hard work of the team at St Hilda's. It shines a well-deserved light on the selfless work our volunteers do and the difference they can make, and shows how churches can still be relevant to their community and with their community. Many thanks to National Churches Trust and Marsh Charitable Trust for the opportunity for us to show them off!"

In 2023 the winner of the **Marsh Volunteer Award for Historic Vessel Conservation**, run in partnership with National Historic Ships UK, was Colin Barton.

Colin has been volunteering on *Excelsior* for two years, beginning his time on board by helping the team with a range of useful maintenance jobs. During the summer, he took part in his first sailing trips, quickly gaining a reputation as a core deckhand to be relied upon and an excellent person to have aboard, particularly when taking school groups out to sea. Colin's experience sailing gave him an insight into the ship's difficult and challenging electrical system, and he took it upon himself to create the ship's biggest ever electronics overhaul project. He stripped out 30 years

of redundant wiring and checked every core system on the boat, whilst also tidying the organisation of the navigation system to make it more manageable for the crew. Colin replaced many pieces of electrical equipment to enhance the safety of the ship and has brought the whole system more up to date, which will in turn allow for a new and ambitious sailing programme for *Excelsior*. He took on this project with joy and enthusiasm, and also took the time to train some of the less experienced crew and volunteers along the way. Colin has now rejoined the crew as a deckhand, monitoring his new



installations to ensure they are up to scratch and fully taking part in life aboard *Excelsior*.



I am just one person in a great team at the *Excelsior Trust*, a 102 year old boat demands a lot of respect! I am delighted to receive this Award and it was unexpected but very nice to receive."

In 2023, we once again presented the **Marsh Volunteer Awards with the Prison Advice and Care Trust (Pact)**. The Awards recognised volunteers from 6 regions across the country and, for the first time this year, we introduced a team Award. The winners of this Award were the Court Volunteers at the Old Bailey in London.

This is an exceptional group of volunteers, whose communication, dedication and passion shines through. Together, they usually complete over 70 hours of volunteering each month, helping countless families and friends through the most stressful times of their loved one facing trial. The volunteers are now well known by court staff, and are often sought out to assist someone who needs additional support. They deal with high stress situations calmly and tactfully, putting those involved at

ease and offering much needed guidance and support. The volunteers keep one another updated on the cases that they have supported, so that there is consistency for the families even if the volunteer supporting them changes. The successes that the volunteers have had at the Old Bailey, and their willingness to share their knowledge with other prospective volunteers, has meant that this vital project will be rolled out in other courts across London. Their contributions have helped



to raise the profile of Pact, and also ensure that people are supported through their most stressful times.

“

It's such an honour for the volunteers at the Old Bailey to have received this Award. Where they work in such a tough environment, and mostly independently, the recognition of their hard work from MCT is not only incredibly warming but gives them a huge sense of achievement. They consistently work to such a standard that I am always amazed at the support they provide, so for this to have been acknowledged and recognised by MCT is absolutely brilliant.”

**Hannah Thompson, Courts and Prisons Volunteer Manager**

In 2023, the **Marsh Award for Excellence in Public Sculpture**, run in partnership with the Public Statues and Sculpture Association (PSSA), was presented to Kenny Hunter for his memorial ‘Your Next Breath’.

Kenny's sculpture was commissioned by the Royal College of Surgeons to commemorate the dedication and resilience of NHS workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. The memorial consists of four life-size bronze sculptures depicting four healthcare workers in scrubs as they experience a moment of reflection at the end of a shift on a Covid ward. The memorial was initially modelled in clay and then cast into resin, where it was previewed by King Charles III in June 2022, before being cast in bronze and

installed in the grounds of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in October 2022. The sculpture was conceptualised after Kenny spent time speaking with three surgeons who had been redeployed to work on Covid wards in the early stages of the pandemic. During these conversations, he captured the mix of strong emotions that healthcare workers were experiencing during this challenging, exhausting and scary time. The sculpture is also an acknowledgement of those who were lost in the line



of duty and has created a physical space for people to pay their respects and ensure that these sacrifices are remembered.

“

I consider it an honour to receive the Marsh Award for Excellence in Public Sculpture, especially as the short list contained works of such great quality, sensitivity and insight. I also commend the PSSA and the Marsh Charitable Trust in all their efforts to raise awareness around Public Art and in particular for their support for sculptors.”

The 2023 winner of the **Marsh Support Group Volunteer of the Year Award**, run in partnership with the Rare Breeds Survival Trust (RBST) was Aaron Kirkpatrick.

Aaron was recognised for his instrumental work to re-establish the Northern Ireland Support Group over the last seven years, which has seen him engage with members and work to establish new networks and partnerships. Aaron has worked with the Support Group to establish links with Government, the National Trust, the Nature Friendly Farming Network and others, whilst also engaging with RBST to deliver high quality conservation projects which ensure that native breeds are successful in Northern Ireland. Despite growing up in the countryside, Aaron had no

experience of farming or livestock before the purchase of a new home necessitated the acquisition of some sheep to keep the grass down. He has now progressed to small-scale meat production and livestock sales with a flock averaging up to 40 animals. On Aaron's suggestion, the two Support Groups in Northern Ireland combined, pooling their resources and having a stronger presence at shows. Membership has started to increase and Aaron is keen to continue developing the Group so that RBST in Northern Ireland can be restored to its former glory.



I was pleasantly surprised and grateful to receive the Award for Support Group Volunteer of the Year. This Award is testament to the incredible work of the RBST Support Groups in Northern Ireland over the past 30 years, and recent efforts from the whole RBST community to restore their presence in Northern Ireland and to bolster the influence that we have on local agriculture decisions.”

2023 marked the 20th anniversary of the start of the **Marsh Awards for Volunteering in Support of Older People**, in partnership with Re-Engage. In recognition of this occasion, and due to the high quality of nominations received, we chose to celebrate 12 winners on a national level. This year's winners were:

**Lorraine Colman** – for overseeing 8 tea parties in her local area, helping to reduce the isolation of those most vulnerable.

**Trish John** – for the additional effort she makes for her guests such as Christmas presents, helping them to feel special.

**Annie Revens** – for her efforts to organise themed tea parties, so that her guests are able to feel part of special events and holidays.

**Pat Churchill** – for her dedication over 20 years to organising tea parties in her local area, while caring for her husband.

**Julie Stein Hodgins** – for promoting Re-Engage to partner agencies, helping to widen the reach of their support.

**Emma McGregor** – for her work with Re-Engage's digital skills project, helping older people navigate the increasingly online world.

**Alison Knott** – for her work to collect data from those supported by Re-Engage to help them improve their services.

**Jean Malcolm** – for her commitment to 12 local groups and a range of other activities for older people over the last 17 years.

**Jane Galloway** – for helping to re-invigorate her local group and support more vulnerable people.

**Dorothy Anderson** – for her support to the telephone befriending service, using her previous experience to assist those who need additional support.

**Barbara Burns** – for her support in Chester as a volunteer driver over the past 16 years, ensuring older people can access their monthly tea parties.

**Alison Ainslie** – for her efforts to amalgamate two local groups and maintain them as a vital support network for older people in the area.

In 2023, the **Lucy Mair Medal and Marsh Prize**, run in partnership with the Royal Anthropological Institute, was presented to Dr Sushrut Jadhav, a Professor of Culture Psychiatry at University College London, a Consultant Psychiatrist for the Homeless at Camden & Islington NHS, and also Founding Editor and Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Anthropology and Medicine*.

Dr Jadhav has worked for many years to address the mental well-being of homeless communities in the UK and India, Black and ethnic minority patients in the UK and of Dalit groups in India. He has also pioneered the Bloomsbury Cultural Formulation Interview, which adopts an innovative approach to engage with acutely unwell patients in mental health and other cultural contexts. The Interview involves a cultural dialogue between

professionals, patients, institutions and communities. In his work more generally, Dr Jadhav has directed and co-directed ethnographic research on mental health and marginality in the UK and India. He has taught extensively on medical anthropology and cultural psychiatry programmes at several national and international Universities. He was also an advisor to the DSM 5 Task Force on Cultural Formulation, the defining manual on

the classification of mental disorders worldwide, which is published by the American Psychiatric Association.



“

I am honoured to accept the gong on behalf of comrades who continue to fight social injustice amongst the homeless-ed in the UK and for Caste-oppressed people in India, many of whom have benefitted enormously from innovative therapies aimed at generating and awakening political and psychological consciousness. The Marsh Award will further motivate us, in India and in the UK, to pioneer radical clinical ruptures that may help transform and reconfigure existing ecologies of suffering to ecologies of healing.”

In 2023, the **Marsh Botany Award**, run in partnership with Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, was presented to Sarah Whild.

Sarah has had a long and illustrious career as a botanist, formerly in post as a senior lecturer in plant ecology and as director of biological recording programmes at Manchester Metropolitan University and previously at The University of Birmingham where she was also the herbarium curator. She has been instrumental in training the next generation of field botanists. She was one of the developers of the Field Identification Skills Certificates (FISCs) scheme, run through the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland (BSBI), of which she was also a trustee. Sarah's passion for and expertise in the assessment and quantification of field skills has been fundamental in making

this scheme the success that it is and allowing for the training of hundreds, if not thousands, of botanists over the years. Sarah is also a previous chair of the BSBI Training and Education Committee, and was the lead author of the BSBI *Training the Botanical Trainers Handbook* (2017), and so her influence in the field reaches yet another level. She has also been a trustee and vice-president of the Linnean Society, helping to inspire, involve and inform people about nature and its significance through their collections, events and publications, and she also served as a trustee for the Field Studies Council for many years. Now during retirement she continues

to develop FISCs with the BSBI, and also chairs the National Forum for Biological Recording.



“

I was totally gobsmacked to receive the email saying I'd been awarded the Marsh Botany Award. What an extraordinary honour - working and volunteering in botany has been amazing fun, and although I'm not quite so active as I was, my trusty hand lens still goes everywhere with me. Thank you so much to the awards committee and the Marsh Charitable Trust for recognising the joy and importance of plants and botanical training.”

One of the winners of the 2023 **Marsh Volunteer Awards with Kew Gardens** was Martin Cornish, a Horticultural Volunteer at Kew's Wakehurst site.

Martin has been a volunteer for 2 years, following his retirement from being a Wakehurst Ranger for 15 years. Since becoming a volunteer, he has donated over 1,620 hours of his time to the gardens, an incredible commitment in a short space of time. Martin makes a huge contribution and difference to Kew through a range of roles including the upkeep of the Coronation Meadow and the Millennium Seed Bank meadows and orchard. His support has made a tangible visual difference to the areas and has improved the visitor

experience, as well as improving biodiversity and taking the pressure off the horticulture teams, allowing them to focus on other areas of the site. Martin volunteers predominantly on his own out in the gardens, with mowing and hedge cutting being largely solitary tasks, but he can always be found at break times in the staff room laughing and sharing stories with the rest of the horticulture team. He is eager to volunteer come rain or shine and he is much admired and appreciated by his fellow volunteers and colleagues.



I was delighted even to be nominated for a Marsh Award, especially after such a brief time as a volunteer. To win is wonderful and something that I'm incredibly proud of. It wouldn't have been possible however without the support and encouragement of Iain Parkinson, Head of Landscape & Horticulture, back in September 2021 when I suggested I might retire and start volunteering, or Cathy Cordery, Volunteer and Engagement Manager who looks after our small army of volunteers. Thanks to them and everyone else in the horticultural team who has made me feel so welcome.”

In 2023, one of the winners of the **Marsh Horticultural Science Award**, run in partnership with the Royal Horticultural Society, was Jenny Berger, for her project entitled *The impact of indoor plants on indoor air quality and the wellbeing of building occupants*.

Jenny's project used experiments in controlled chambers, real-world offices and a photo-questionnaire to measure people's psychological responses and investigate the interactions between plants, the indoor air quality and the building's occupants. Since people now spend up to 90% of their time indoors, where air quality can routinely be worse than outdoors, it is important to find sustainable ways of improving this air quality and plants can be a useful way to do this. It is also increasingly important to ensure that the wellbeing of people who spend most of their time

indoors is as positive as possible and, again, plants can be a way to improve this. Jenny's research threw up some interesting results, including that it was the plants which participants found both 'attractive' and 'interesting' which had the most positive effect on their wellbeing. The findings of her study can now be used to assist designers, architects, building managers and homeowners in choosing plants which have maximum benefit for both the indoor air quality and occupants' wellbeing. Jenny plans to use the Award to help fund a trip to glasshouses



around the country, such as the Eden Project, where she would be able to gain further knowledge about different tropical plant species that could be used in further studies.



I am absolutely delighted to receive the Marsh Award for Horticultural Science. I would like to thank the Royal Horticultural Society and the University of Reading, for their support during this fascinating research project. Adding indoor plants is an easy way to help us connect with nature and the findings of this research will assist people in choosing plants to give the biggest boost to both their wellbeing and the indoor air quality.”

In 2023, we once again presented the **Marsh Awards with We Are With You (WAWY)**, to celebrate the achievements and commitment of Volunteers and Peer Mentors who support people in recovery from addiction. This year, we aligned the Awards with the guiding principles of WAWY and, in the Inspiring category, our Peer Mentor winner was Cathy Doyle.

Cathy was using heroin from the age of 15, and spent 27 years using methadone as part of her recovery journey. She supports a range of peer support groups at her local Liverpool service and strongly believes that non-judgmental, compassionate support is the best way to help people through recovery from addiction. Cathy helps to raise awareness of the work of WAWY both in the local area and on the national stage, through taking

part in broadcast interviews where she shares her inspiring personal journey. She has been integral to educating people on the benefits of Naloxone in countering the effects of opioids, working particularly with those who are homeless and helping to signpost them to services which can provide them with additional support. Even when facing personal challenges, Cathy consistently supports the Liverpool service and is a positive advocate



and role model for recovery. She is an integral member of the team and a credit to herself and staff at the service.



I was so happy to hear I had won the Peer Mentor Award, it helped me give myself recognition! After years of not believing in myself! I look into the mirror, and I am able to say “I am proud of you”. Recovery for me, is a beautiful journey, which leads you back Home. The Marsh Award, was absolutely amazing, the feeling of love and recognition, and I am proud to have been nominated, and then to find out I had won, was a moment I will never forget.”

In 2023, the **Marsh Award for Leadership and Innovation in Nature Restoration**, run in partnership with the Wildlife Trusts to help recognise outstanding members of staff, was presented to Luke Neal, from Shropshire Wildlife Trust.

Luke has worked for the Trust for 10 years and has been the driving force behind a series of major habitat restoration projects, in both community engagement and technical management roles. Recently, he created a new alliance of landowners and secured £1 million in funding for habitat restoration on the banks of the River Worfe. He is also instrumental in developing the Trust’s land management advice services, helping to persuade more and more land managers that the expertise of the Trust can help them move toward profitable and more

sustainable ways of farming. Luke led on Shropshire Wildlife Trust’s participation in the ‘Shropshire Slow the Flow’ project, which created over 400 woody dams and other flood attenuation features to help reduce the flood peak on the River Corve and provide valuable evidence for peer-reviewed studies into the efficacy of natural flood management. His work has helped to demonstrate that the restoration of habitat on third party land is feasible and fundable at scales, which has in turn increased the Wildlife Trust’s standing and influence with major



land managers. Luke is dedicated, energetic, articulate, a fearless advocate for nature’s recovery and a clear-sighted and diplomatic ambassador for the Wildlife Trusts as a whole.



I would like to dedicate this Award to everyone in the federation, the administrators who process my invoices, the development teams who raise funds, the Policy people who lobby for better regulations and strategies, project officers who get things done, educators who inspire, volunteers that support us, members that fund us, contractors that work with us, landowners and farmers who put up with my crazy ideas and anyone who wants to see a richer more vibrant natural world. I’m proud to be a part of this Parliament of Owls, this mustering of Storks, this Whisper of Snipe – this fabulous Romp of Otters!”







# 2022-23 in Numbers



## 473

Total grants given in the year



## £440,839

Finances allocated across the Grants and Awards programmes



## 108

New organisations supported



## 648

Appeals for funding received



## 247

Individuals and Groups recognised through the Awards



## 9

New Awards presented



## 38

Partner organisations that helped to deliver Marsh Awards

# Financial Review

The Marsh Charitable Trust was founded in 1981 with an original investment of £75,000. This has now grown into a capital base of circa £18,000,000 which continues to be invested to produce sustainable returns to fund the Trust’s work.

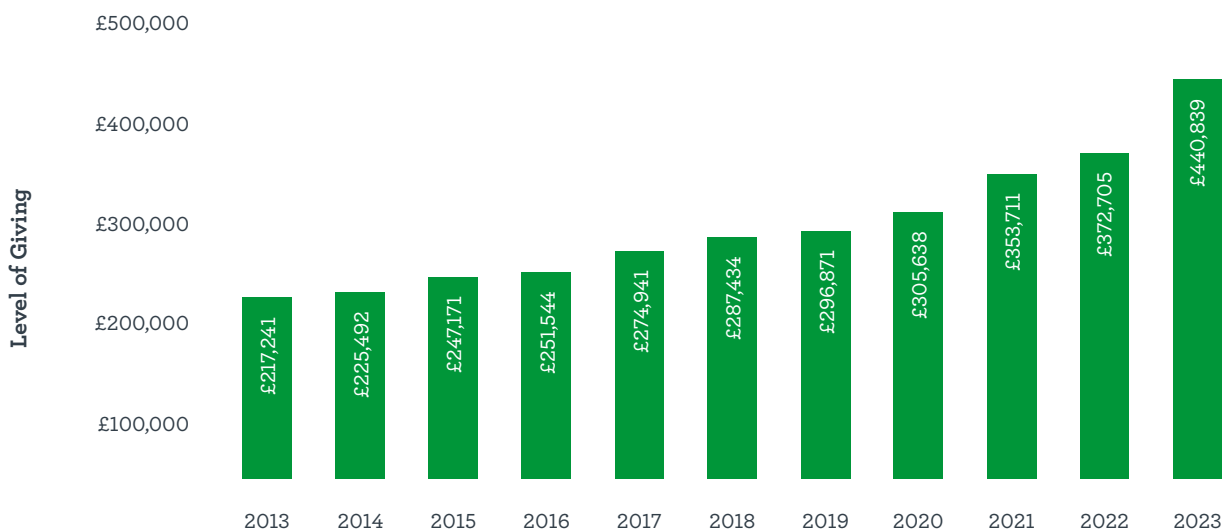
Each year, the Trust endeavours to increase its charitable giving in response to the needs of the sector, and the most recent financial year is no different. The total grants and Awards made by the Trust in the year to 5<sup>th</sup> April 2023 amounted to £440,839, which was an increase from £372,705 in 2022. Funds across both programmes were allocated to areas across the charitable sector, as demonstrated in the pie chart below. As in previous years, the majority of funds were allocated in the area of social welfare, perhaps as a reflection of where the highest demands for support were coming from.

## Allocation of Resources



The Trust aims to increase charitable donations each year, as part of its objectives. As seen in the bar graph below, there has been a steady increase in charitable giving over the past 10 years, and the hope is that this will continue in years to come. The Trust plans to do this by maintaining and increasing current Grantee and Award partnerships, while also identifying new opportunities for growth.

## Charitable Giving Over the Past 10 Years



# Impact Review

The Marsh Awards Scheme has been running for over 35 years, and over the years we have worked in partnership with a number of charitable organisations to celebrate individuals and groups who give of their own time to make the world a better place.

This year, we decided to look into the impact that the Marsh Awards Scheme can have, both on our partner organisations and our Award winners, to determine why some of our partners have kept their schemes going for so many years and why new partners are keen to work with us.

## Sharing ideas

The announcement of Marsh Awards winners often comes with an indication of the contributions they have made to their organisation, which led to their nomination. The sharing of these ideas can help to inspire other volunteers in the organisation, or in similar organisations across the sector.

*“The Awards give colleagues in Learning and National Partnerships an opportunity to learn about best practice and innovative volunteering elsewhere.”*

### Stuart Frost

Head of Interpretation and Volunteers,  
British Museum

## External recognition

By partnering with organisations who are experts in their field, the MCT is able to act as an external and unbiased supporter for the Awards. Our involvement in the whole process of the Awards, from judging to funding, allows our partners to run the Awards in an objective way and provides more kudos than if the Award were to be run internally.

*“Having a partner support the Awards adds real value to this message, as its not just Butterfly Conservation saying the work of volunteers is vital, but its recognised externally too.”*

### Kate Dent

Director of Engagement  
and Volunteering, Butterfly  
Conservation

## Acknowledgement

The Marsh Awards help our partners to thank their volunteers for the contributions they make to their charity and the impact these contributions have. Through the process of nominating for the Awards, staff at our partner organisations have the opportunity to thank the volunteers they have worked closely with.

*“This yearly focus on recognising, rewarding and celebrating the efforts and achievements of our volunteers at Barnardo’s is always such an encouragement, and many of my colleagues say its one of the highlights of their job.”*

### Laurie Gray

Barnardo’s Volunteering  
Programme Manager

## Awards for Professionals

Some of the Marsh Awards are presented to professionals, at various stages of their careers. Our partners for these Awards have said that the recognition can provide a boost to the individual’s career, leading to them securing additional funding and further recognition of their work.

*“The Awards have provided both a welcome boost to their careers and wider recognition of the impact of their work through media attention. Receipt of the Marsh Award is not only a matter of pride for individuals and their institutions but often leads to additional funding being secured for future work.”*

### Professor Stephen Blackmore

Chair, Botanic Gardens  
Conservation International

## Building a picture

Gathering the nominations for the Awards and sharing the stories of the individuals who win helps our partner organisations to build a picture of the activities that are taking place across their organisation and the wider sector. Having volunteers as the driving force of these activities helps to highlight their importance and role in creating change in their organisation.

*“There’s no doubt that the Marsh Award has raised both the recognition of value and the visibility of volunteering across our sector.”*

### Shaaron Leverment

Chief Executive, Association of Science and Discovery Centres

## Wider public interest

The Marsh Awards often gain media interest, which can be of benefit to both the winners and the organisations they are associated with. Some of our Awards recognise people in lesser known areas of the charitable sector, and so the coverage that the Awards receive can help to raise awareness of these fields and garner them additional support.

*“Through national and local press coverage, social media and word of mouth, the impact spreads way beyond those who actually receive an Award. With the good news stories associated with an Award we can reach new audiences.”*

### Sarah Crossland

Engagement Manager,  
National Churches Trust

## Highlighting best practice

With 35 years of Marsh Award winners behind us, we have been able to, with our partners, create a roster of role models across the years. The Awards enable us to highlight best practice in the charity sector and bring important issues to the forefront of people’s minds by promoting the winners in these fields.

*“The Awards recognise the work of lesser known voices in the sector and champion the incredible work of survivor leaders, whose expertise must guide the support provision services offer to victims of modern slavery.”*

### Jasmine Selby

Former Communications Lead,  
Human Trafficking Foundation

## Celebration Event

The Marsh Awards are presented at an annual event which has a celebratory feel to it, ensuring that the winners feel special and can be recognised in front of their peers. Gathering like-minded people together allows for networking and the sharing of ideas, hopefully inspired by the examples of the Award winners.

*“Recipients of the Awards tell us that it is very special to be recognised for their contributions on a special evening where they are surrounded by their peers, supported by family or friends, and given the opportunity to thank people who have helped them along the way.”*

### Ieuan Evans

Director of Engagement,  
British Trust for Ornithology

## Motivation for winners

The financial prize that accompanies the Marsh Award is provided directly to the winner for them to use as they see fit, however it is not rare for them to put the money straight back into their organisation. Sometimes the Awards are used for professional development, and we hope that provides motivation to the winners to continue their work.

*“The Awards enable volunteers to organise projects and activities that otherwise wouldn’t have taken place. [They] bring staff, volunteers, clients and local communities together during often very special events using food, arts, sports, education or nature, sharing skills, boosting confidence and health and creating connections.”*

### Frowynke Siegers

Volunteer Development Manager,  
Refugee Council

## Reward

The Marsh Awards provide an opportunity to give praise to those who would not usually receive public recognition. We are pleased to be able to provide a financial prize for the Awards, which allows our partners to provide a level of reward that they might not previously have been able to.

*“Being able to present an Award that is externally judged, funded and received in response to a nomination gives it an extra special status.”*

### Justine Parker

Volunteer Officer,  
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

# Grant making

There are over 168,000 voluntary organisations across the charity sector in the UK,<sup>1</sup> the majority of which are still facing increasing strains on their funds following the coronavirus outbreak and current economic issues. The Trust focuses its funding through the grants programme on organisations that have a lower income, 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 their charitable aims can be carried out effectively.

With 80% of charities having an income of under £100,000<sup>2</sup>, the Trust recognises the important role it plays in helping to fund smaller organisations during the current financial crisis so that they can continue to help those most in need. Grant giving is becoming ever more important in today's society as the need for charitable services increases and organisations struggle with the growing public demand for access to their services. 75% of charity leaders stated that demand for their organisation's services increased

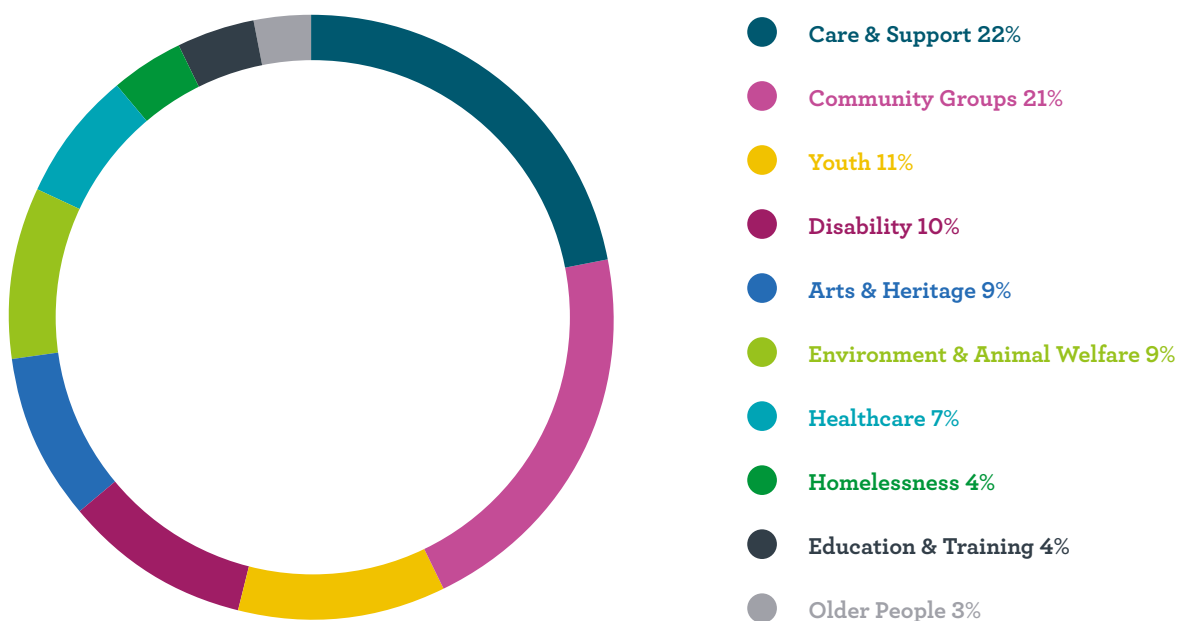
over the first year of the pandemic and 86% believed demand will continue to increase in the current economic climate.<sup>3</sup>

The majority of the Trust's funding is provided to organisations working in social services and welfare, which is the largest subsector within the charity sector, containing over 31,000 organisations and representing 20% of the sector.<sup>4</sup> These organisations respond to the needs of the community and the Trust supports charities that

aim to combat homelessness and addiction, support people living with disabilities and those that care for them, and work with young people. 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:

## Allocation of Resources



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charity-commission-annual-report-and-accounts-2022-to-2023/charity-commission-annual-report-and-accounts-2022-to-2023>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ncvo.org.uk/news-and-insights/news-index/uk-civil-society-almanac-2023/profile/how-many-voluntary-organisations-are-there>

<sup>3</sup> <https://charitydigital.org.uk/topics/topics/facts-about-charities-in-2023>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ncvo.org.uk/news-and-insights/news-index/uk-civil-society-almanac-2023>

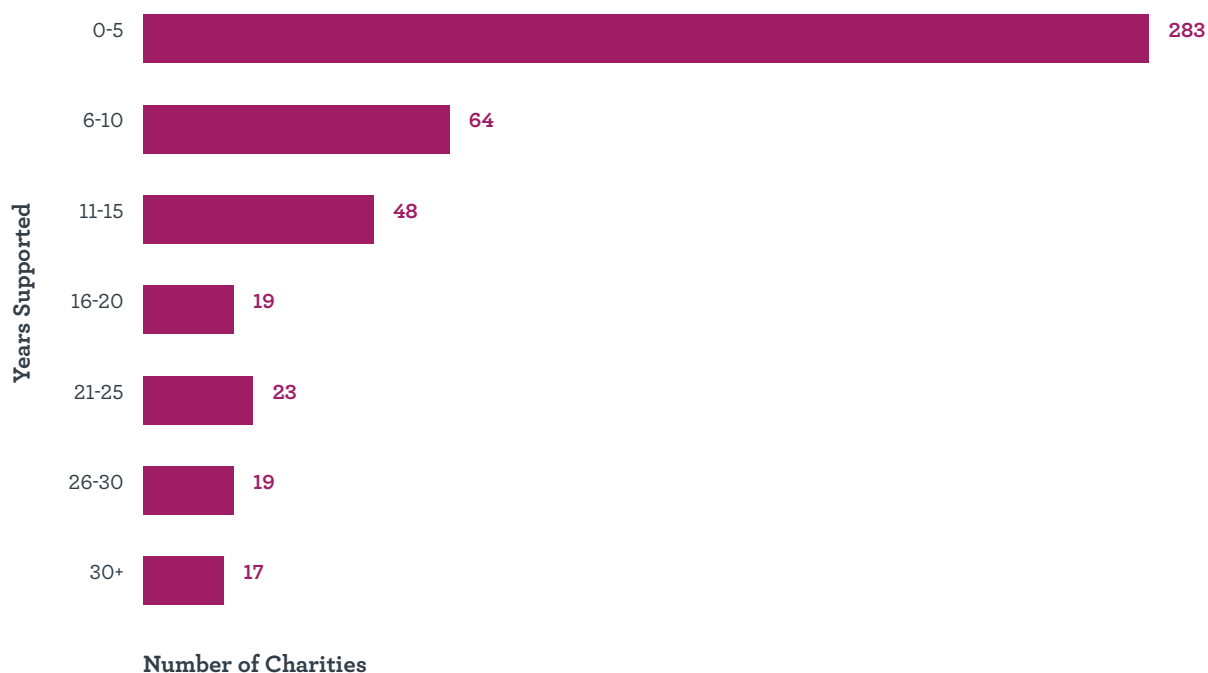
Grants usually range from £500 to £2,400, with our longer standing grantees receiving grants towards the higher end of this scale. Applications are considered based on the organisation’s financial position, performance against charitable aims and objectives, and the ratio of voluntary income against fundraising expenses. The majority of organisations the Trust supports are based in and around London, however funding is provided to organisations across the UK and occasionally overseas,

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 core support. The graph below demonstrates the longevity of these partnerships in the last financial year, with some dating back over 40 years to when the Trust was founded in 1981.

The following case studies are some examples of the MCT’s relationships across the sector. They detail some organisations that the Trust has 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. We have been fortunate to visit some of our support grantees to find out more about the work that the organisations do, and how our grants help the charity.

## 2022-2023 Grant Recipients



# Grantees by Region









## Campaign for Better Transport

### Supported since 2011

Campaign for Better Transport works with transport providers, passenger groups, local and national governments, charitable organisations, and other NGOs, to push for better, greener transport. Their vision is for everyone to have access to affordable, sustainable transport that meets their needs and protects the environment. In their 50 years, Campaign for Better Transport has had fantastic successes, helping to reopen railway lines, save multiple bus routes, and press government to develop better transport policies. The organisation was instrumental to the introduction and extension of the £2 bus fare cap, and most recently led a campaign that helped save the London day travelcard.

Affordable, reliable and convenient public transport is about more than simply getting around. Good transport means being able to connect with others, to feel part of the community, and to reduce the impact on the environment. It also enables fairer access to wellbeing facilities such as libraries, leisure centres, parks, and open spaces. More than a fifth (22%) of UK households do not have access to a car and are reliant on public transport. Further to this, a significant number of people currently spend disproportionately on a car as they have no alternative transport options.

As well as benefitting people and communities, better sustainable transport has huge potential to dramatically reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Transport contributes a quarter of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions. More buses, trains, and trams, priced affordably, combined with better active travel networks would give people real choice.

For more information visit:  
[www.bettertransport.org.uk](http://www.bettertransport.org.uk)

“

As part of our 50th anniversary this year, we were delighted to deliver the inaugural Better Transport Week, which featured events and activities across the country, with a different theme each day. We produced three publications over the summer, including *Better Transport for Better Health*, *Better Transport for Better Business*, and *Plane Speaking*, a guide to moving journeys from air to rail. Most recently, we produced *A Fare Future for Rail: a blueprint for fares and ticketing reform*. We also launched an online webinar offer to supporters, providing information on a range of transport topics from our team of experts.”

“

We've had a busy year, and we're proud of our successes to date, but we know there remains a long journey ahead of us. We are now focused on upscaling our work, on building partnerships with more local authorities and businesses, and increasing awareness across the wider population. We have some exciting plans in the pipeline, and we are delighted to have the kind support of Marsh Charitable Trust.”

#### Campaign for Better Transport





## Healthcare Workers' Foundation

Supported since 2023

The Healthcare Workers' Foundation was founded by a group of doctors (who are now the Trustees) as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic where there was an obvious need for immediate support for those working in healthcare settings. The organisation began with a focus on providing support such as additional Personal Protective Equipment and well-being gifts and packages sent from organisations including retailers.

The Healthcare Workers' Foundation has evolved over the past 3 years to expand the support they can provide to people working across the healthcare sector, as they realised there was also a high need for long-term support. In response, they formed a range of new support services that cover the physical, mental and day-to-day needs of all healthcare workers. The need for these services was clear from research they obtained from people in healthcare working in the NHS, as well as community carers. These services include Financial Support, Counselling, Family Support and Rest and Wellbeing Spaces.

For more information visit:  
[www.healthcareworkersfoundation.org](http://www.healthcareworkersfoundation.org)



“Counselling really saved me. I cannot even think of where I would be now if it had not been for my counselling.”

**Emily**  
A&E receptionist



“I'd like to thank the Trustees of the Marsh Charitable Trust for their support this year. The charity, of which I'm honoured to be CEO, has proven to be an essential resource for thousands of healthcare workers since its inception in March 2020. From provision of PPE at a time when Covid was at its height through to provision of financial grants, wellbeing services and counselling, the charity has demonstrated that by supporting this essential resource, we are not only making a significant difference to the lives of those working in the sector, but we are also improving patient care.”

**Julie Child**  
CEO

“As a single mum of four young children, finances have been really difficult recently and I've struggled to make ends meet, despite working full time. We've had to rely on food banks and family handouts just to get by. This grant really means the world to me.”

**Rainy Day Grant recipient**



## Inter Care Supported since 2017

Inter Care’s mission is to alleviate the suffering of several thousands of people living in extreme poverty, and have a positive impact on rural health units in sub-Saharan Africa.

After identifying the urgent need in Africa 50 years ago, Inter Care now collects high-quality pharmaceutical surplus, medicines and healthcare goods from the UK, that would otherwise be wasted, such as dressings, instruments, and devices, and donates them to up to 90 rural health units including hospitals, health centres, dispensaries and centres for orphaned children in Ghana, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Malawi.

The health units Inter Care supports serve a total population of 11 million, the vast majority of whom do not have affordable access to basic healthcare. They rely on 40 volunteers, many of whom are medically trained and have received the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service in recognition of their work with volunteers.

Inter Care responded to the challenges of the pandemic by setting up in-country purchasing projects, whereby all their partner health units in Tanzania and Malawi were effectively and continuously supported by in-country projects, rather than by consignments sent from the UK.

For more information visit: [www.intercare.org.uk](http://www.intercare.org.uk)



It has been a great pleasure to give what we reasonably could, and in some small measure be a part of Inter Care’s mission, ... the fact that we have ‘stayed with you’ for some while says it all in terms of how impressed we are with all that what you are doing, often of necessity so imaginatively.”

**UK Donor (A small family Trust)**



I am one of the lucky patients to receive treatment from Inter Care. The medications have worked wonders to relieve my pain...I have battled against all hope. Thank you.”

**Patient receiving palliative care with Inter Care donated medicines, Malawi**



Despite their health challenges, the children are growing well; with help from Inter Care medical drugs and since they have incurable diseases, they will continue receiving medical care for free.”

**Clinical Officer, Mzambazi Community Hospital, Malawi**





## Lifelites

### Supported since 2022

Lifelites is an organisation that harnesses innovative technology to help children with life-limiting conditions engage and interact with their families and friends. They work with every children's hospice and a number of other children's palliative care providers in the UK, with 57 projects in total. Each of these partnerships provides the latest assistive technology and a comprehensive package of training, maintenance and support to ensure that the equipment helps create unique and cherished memories for children and their families.

Last year, over 12,000 children had access to Lifelites technologies, ranging from everyday technology, such as iPads, to more high-tech equipment that is used by children with little to no physical movement.

Some of Lifelites technologies include: 'Eyegaze', which is a special sensor that tracks children's eye movement to allow them to play games, create art or communicate with their families and carers. Their 'Virtual Reality Headset' allows children to experience new locations that they may never be able visit in person. Their 'Mobile Magic Carpet' projects touch-sensitive moving images onto any flat surface area for children to interact with, giving them control over their environment.

Lifelites' partnerships with children's palliative care providers enable them to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for children and families, whether that is increasing independence or improving emotional wellbeing, reducing social isolation or improving family resilience.

For more information visit: [www.lifelites.org](http://www.lifelites.org)

“

We love the idea of easily transporting our children to another world. Through doing this we can engage with the parents at greater ease to determine the appropriate level of support for the family.”

**Reuben's Retreat,**  
Derbyshire

“

This will make a real difference to the children and young people in our care. As a music therapist I work with many non-verbal children and am always searching for ways to interact with them and help them make choices and encourage independence.”

**Christopher's**  
Shooting Star Children's Hospices, Surrey





# Lymphoedema Support Network

## Supported since 2019

The Lymphoedema Support Network (LSN) provides expert advice to people living with, or affected by, lymphoedema. It is the largest information resource for patients in the UK and provides reliable and accredited information to anyone who needs it. The team have a unique understanding of the patient experience and work at a national and local level to improve access to care and information.

One of the LSN's core activities is providing an information and support service which is open Monday to Friday for anyone to call and speak to the team for advice. Calls to the helpline have seen a year-on-year increase, with over 100 calls received each month. People reach out seeking expert information on where to access lymphoedema clinics, ask questions about their treatment or how to handle their condition, as well as call for much needed emotional support.

As patients report longer wait times for appointments and less time with specialists to discuss their treatment and concerns, the helpline remains a vital resource to members. The LSN will continue providing this much demanded service as well as maintaining their online information and growing social media advice forums.

For more information, visit: [www.lymphoedema.org](http://www.lymphoedema.org)



“Whenever I have called you have always been so very kind and helpful.”

“I do go to the website and read the information but sometimes you just need to talk through a situation with a real person.”

“I can't believe I ended up laughing when I called in tears.”

### LSN Service Users





## National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain

### Supported since 2016

National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain (NCO) supports exceptional young musicians aged 8-14 to develop their musical skills through transformative orchestral experiences and performances. They inspire them to be the best musicians they can be, by unlocking their creative potential and supporting their wellbeing.

Each year, NCO delivers activities in 9 locations across the UK, underpinned by a rich, online programme to support children musically and socially in advance of meeting them in person. Children receive exceptional orchestral coaching from NCO's skilled team of freelancers who guide them to connect as an orchestra and experience the collective joy and accomplishment of playing together. NCO enables children to explore their innate sense of creativity with workshops, guided by their Creative Leads, that offer opportunities to curate and perform their own works in smaller ensembles.

NCO believes that all children deserve to explore their musical potential and have access to incredible opportunities that help them thrive and lead happy lives.

For more information visit: [www.nco.org.uk](http://www.nco.org.uk)



“

The biggest joy for me is witnessing how much the children develop, both musically and personally at NCO. They always exceed our expectations, learning about their potential, tenacity, dedication and resilience along the way.”

**Catherine Arlidge**

NCO Artistic and Educational Director

“

The emphasis on physical, mental, social and emotional wellbeing is more thorough and impactful than any other environment I work in. The high level these children are at means that it is essential to embed these messages from an early age, which is exactly what NCO are doing.”

**NCO Music Tutor**

“

Thank you for making my daughter so very, very happy. Allowing her to be herself, allowing the space for her to learn and grow, and allowing me to feel she was in the very best hands.”

**NCO Parent**





## NAYBA

### Supported since 2023

NAYBA helps local churches around the world better love their neighbours and transform their neighbourhoods. The word 'nayba' derives from the Belize Kriol language of Central America, and is the word used in the Bible when Jesus said, "love your 'nayba' as yourself" (Matthew 19:19).

NAYBA addresses the needs of local churches which can be perceived as 'lacking relevance' by people experiencing vulnerability, desperation and isolation. NAYBA provides local churches with a toolkit of resources to help them better meet the needs of their community whilst also becoming more relevant in society.

Some of the resources that NAYBA provide include helping local churches discern what Jesus wants them to do in the community and offering them a menu of tried-and-tested



community projects to be replicated. NAYBA helps churches engage with their local government to measure their collective impact and use those insights to drive transformational civic engagement. NAYBA encourages churches to work with people in the community who have an idea for a small business or social enterprise which can be used as a lasting answer to poverty.

NAYBA partners with nations around the world to help local churches better love their neighbour and transform their neighbourhoods.

For more information visit: [www.nayba.org](http://www.nayba.org)



Five years ago, one of the NAYBA team spoke at our local church about Jesus-centred community engagement. As a direct result our church has now replicated 5 of the NAYBA Recognised Projects including working with new mums who feel isolated, school children who are hungry in the holidays and people who are overcome with debt."

**Community Activist/Volunteer**



They put tools in our hands to turn our conversations into action through the NAYBA Impact Audit, and their concept of the Civic Prayer Breakfast has opened doors of influence that were previously closed. They have also championed us every step of the way on the journey of developing church unity."

**City Network Leader**



NAYBA is supporting our church to start an Enterprise Hub for people in our community who are marginalised and want to start a business. We could never have done this without NAYBA's help!"

**Church Leader**



**PARKINSON'S<sup>UK</sup>**  
CHANGE ATTITUDES.  
FIND A CURE.  
JOIN US.

## Parkinson's UK

### Supported since 2005

Parkinson's is a progressive neurological condition characterised by more than 40 symptoms, ranging from a tremor or stiffness, to sleep problems and mental health issues. Everyone diagnosed with Parkinson's has a different experience.

Parkinson's UK exists to improve the quality of life for everyone affected by Parkinson's and ultimately find a cure for the condition. As the UK's largest patient-led charity, Parkinson's UK connects a network of staff, volunteers, researchers and healthcare professionals. Together, they are committed to providing the highest level of support and to making a significant impact on the lives of those affected by the condition.

So far this year, Parkinson's UK's helpline and local adviser service has provided trusted information and advice to over 35,000 people. These vital services give people somewhere to turn to for reassurance and a listening ear as they navigate their Parkinson's journey.

Parkinson's UK has branches across the UK, creating a community for people to come together and raising awareness of the condition through local events, campaigning and fundraising. In addition, Parkinson's UK is the second biggest global Parkinson's research funder, investing in pioneering research leading to promising discoveries and steps closer to finding a cure.

For more information visit: [www.parkinsons.org.uk](http://www.parkinsons.org.uk)



We are incredibly grateful to the Marsh Charitable Trust for their generous support of our helpline service which gives people a place to turn for reassurance and practical advice."

**Jen Taylor**

Services Manager, Parkinson's UK



I felt scared and unsure of the future, so that's why I rang the Parkinson's UK helpline. I spoke to a nurse named Linda who quelled any of the worries that I had and greatly helped with her advice. I think I was on the phone with her for a good half an hour and it was really what I needed at that time. I am pleased I did it and reached out to you guys and I am in a much better place now."

**Scott**

*Diagnosed with Parkinson's, aged 34*



## StandOut

### Supported since 2023

StandOut is an award-winning charity that empowers people to make positive changes, realise their potential, and rebuild their lives after prison. The organisation began its work in HMP Wandsworth in 2017, before expanding to HMP Pentonville in 2019. In October 2022, they expanded further through a partnership with HMP Wormwood Scrubs.

The unique StandOut programme begins in prison, with coaching and practical support, and continues after release. The programme starts with an intensive 12-day course in prison that combines group work with individual sessions. During the course, participants develop a relationship with StandOut, which forms the foundation of the organisation's work with participants after prison.

During the programme, participants take part in sessions to create positive mindsets and develop communication and teamwork skills. They are also offered practical support through volunteer-led CV workshops and mock interviews, to help prepare them for a life outside prison.

The solution is not as simple as finding participants a job. The key to lasting change is long-term individual support that gives people the tools to transform their lives, by recognising their strengths and helping them to realise their potential. Each journey is individual, and StandOut provides one-to-one coaching and support, for as long as is needed.

For more information visit: [www.standout.org.uk](http://www.standout.org.uk)

“

When I left prison, I thought I would get a job in IT and tech really quickly - but it took almost three years. It takes time to assimilate back into society. You may not be exactly where you want to be, but look how far you've come. It's progress, and that's what you should aim for - progress”.

**Ahmed**

StandOut Participant

“

The building of confidence, going out there and applying for jobs, getting support with CVs and computer skills. In my opinion it's been a life saver.”

**Carl**

StandOut Participant





## Tigers4Ever

Supported since 2023

Tigers4Ever focuses on saving wild tigers in India by supporting conservation projects at a ground level. In 2015, Tigers4Ever established a Buffer Zone Poaching Patrol, the first of its kind, to prevent the poaching and poisoning of tigers in the areas surrounding the Bandhavgarh National Park. Since then, Tigers4Ever has helped to reduce wild tiger deaths due to poaching or poisoning by 98%.

Tigers4Ever has provided educational opportunities for over 3,300 children living in over 32 villages around Bandhavgarh. They have created employment in the local communities and also support local businesses by engaging local suppliers and workers for their projects.

Tigers4Ever is run by unpaid volunteers who are passionate about tigers and have formed strong bonds with the tiger conservation community and the tigers of Bandhavgarh.

Tigers4Ever is giving wild tigers a wild future!

To find out more please visit: [www.tigers4ever.org](http://www.tigers4ever.org)



“

I've been to India and seen the beauty of these animals in their natural habitat and want to help protect them. I follow Tigers4Ever on Twitter and enjoy the interaction with them and love that they are a small charity with real passion for protecting tigers.”

**Pauline (UK)**

Tigers4Ever Donor

“

The introduction of waterholes helps not just the tigers but other animals and local people too. What's brilliant about Tigers4Ever is their balanced view of the issues facing the tigers (and other wildlife) and the communities living with them.”

**Tigers4Ever UK Charity Partner**

“

“The cost-of-living crisis is providing new challenges for everyone, and charities are becoming increasingly dependent on other sources of funding to meet demand. Tigers4Ever is grateful for the help given by the Marsh Charitable Trust which enabled quadruple patrolling to be maintained during the monsoon peak poaching season.”

**Dr. Corinne Taylor-Smith**

Chair, Tigers4Ever





## Woman's Trust

### Supported since 2016

Woman's Trust was formed in 1996 by a group of female counsellors and female survivors of domestic abuse to help women across London rebuild their lives from the impact of domestic abuse. The Trust was formed to address the lack of specialist mental health and counselling services that are available to female survivors of domestic abuse.

Woman's Trust ensures that their free services provide a safe space for women and are as accessible as possible. They offer one-to-one counselling and therapeutic support groups, face-to-face or remotely depending on each woman's preference. They have locations in central, west and east London in community venues so that they are as local as possible and women aren't deterred or disadvantaged from accessing support by travel time.

Woman's Trust provides hardship support to clients who need it, including travel and childcare costs to access the service in person and tablets/phones/SIMs to access the services remotely. Their experienced group workers also deliver multiple workshops to help with self-development, covering a range of topics from rebuilding self-esteem to understanding the impacts of trauma.

This year, the MCT had the opportunity to visit Woman's Trust to learn more about the work they do towards helping women across London and to hear about the future plans for the Trust to further their work and reach more women in need.

For more information visit: [www.womanstrust.org.uk](http://www.womanstrust.org.uk)



“

I think the service is amazing. It has taken me from being confused; out of control, chaotic, doubting myself, to seeing life now where there is a future, feeling more in control and not helpless. I feel more hopeful and able to make my own choices and decisions.”

**Client**

“

Last year we provided over 6,200 sessions for clients: 616 initial assessments, 5,591 counselling sessions, 272 support group sessions and 86 workshops. In total we supported 716 women during the year. Our work is not possible without the Awards we receive from organisations such as Marsh Charitable Trust. We would like to thank them for their continued support in making a difference to the lives of women who have experienced the trauma of domestic abuse.”

**Heidi Riedel**  
CEO





## Your Place

### Supported since 2016

Your Place exists to end homelessness, one person at a time. They are dedicated to providing a safe place to call home for people in East London, and helping them to regain their self-belief and build on their strengths and skills.

Your Place's holistic approach and support tailored to each person is key. Each resident is supported by a keyworker throughout their stay, and can also access varied support and activities. Your Place offer opportunities to develop life skills, including budgeting and cooking, and courses to support residents to live independently once they move on from the service.

Your Place consists of 155 private bedrooms and bathrooms, as well as communal facilities. There is access to 'moving in' and 'moving out' packs, which include essentials, as well as a well-stocked food bank which residents can use to prepare their meals.

The MCT had the opportunity to visit Your Place and was able to see 'Hope Street', their impressive and innovative accommodation project which opened in 2022, built in response to the increasing demand on their services and designed to help people to feel safe and secure, while empowering them towards their future.

Your Place has recently developed new services for women experiencing homelessness, addressing the gap of gender-informed support within the sector. They continue to support residents after they move on into their own homes, to ensure that they are able to leave homelessness behind for good.

For more information visit: [www.your-place.org.uk](http://www.your-place.org.uk)

“

Roseann, my keyworker, is extremely supportive and easy to talk to, and doesn't make me feel conscious about the person I am or what I have experienced. She helps me with the things I struggle with, like paperwork and budgeting, and she has helped with my mental health too.”

**Maria**

“

Since I moved into my own place, I've been really focusing on my self-care and self-development. I am a better version of myself than before. Your Place has taught me that my past doesn't have to affect my future and anything I put my mind to I can achieve.”

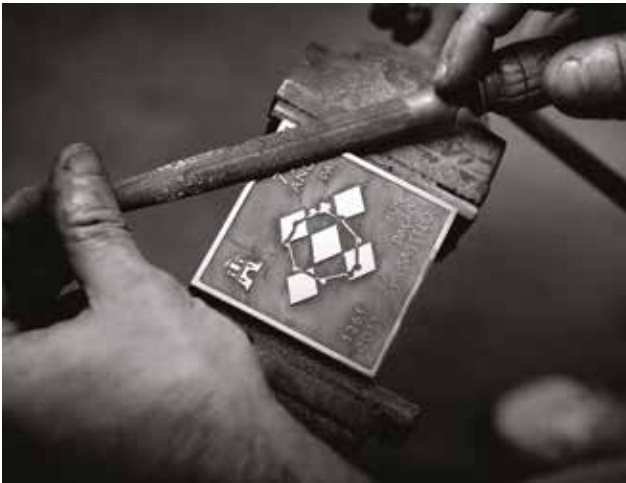
**Danley**

“

Your Place is more than just a roof over my head; it's a community that has given me hope, support, and a chance to start a new chapter in my life.”

**Halima**









# MARSH

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## Charitable Trust

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