

# MARSH

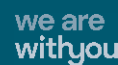
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Charitable Trust

Annual Review 2024-2025



# Award Partners



**Front Cover:** The image is of the *Tall Ship Glenlee*. The ship is moored outside the Riverside Museum on the River Clyde, in Glasgow. John Aiken was the winner of the **Marsh Volunteer Award for Historic Vessel Conservation**, that the MCT run in partnership National Historic Ships. John has volunteered aboard the *Tall Ship Glenlee* for over 3 years.

# Contents

Our Values	2
Chairman's Statement	3
Award Case Studies	5
Celebrating Grassroots Volunteering	10
Showcasing Peer Support	14
Encouraging Young People	18
Promoting Professional Contributions	22
Recognising Lifetime Achievements	26
Commending International Work	30
International Award Winners	34
Award Case Studies	36
2024-2025 in Numbers	44
Financial Review	45
Grant Making	46
Grantees by Region	48
Grantees	50

# 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 highlight the achievements of unsung heroes across the voluntary sector.

## Celebration

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

# Chairman's Statement

This year has once again underlined how vital it is to champion the people and organisations across the sector who are striving to make a meaningful difference. The Marsh Charitable Trust has continued to support these efforts throughout 2025 by celebrating outstanding contributions through the Marsh Awards and by providing essential core funding through our Grants Programme.



We continue to support small and medium sized charities with unrestricted, long-term core funding through the Grants Programme. Over the past year, we awarded more than 500 grants to organisations across the charity sector, primarily in social welfare, responding to a growing need for support driven by increasing economic pressures.

More information on the grants made through 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 Marsh Awards

The Marsh Awards celebrate the dedication 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.

This year, the MCT broadened the reach of our Awards by introducing a new partnership with Open Up Music. Open Up Music delivers a range of programmes that makes music accessible to young people with diverse disabilities, and our Awards shine a light on the contributions and achievements they have made throughout the year.

Additionally, to honour our long standing Awards partnership with

Barnardo's and celebrate the dedication of their volunteers, we introduced a volunteer led recognition Award, inviting Barnardo's volunteers to nominate and celebrate one another's contributions.

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

## 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 will also be developing our Awards Scheme in 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



*David Medcalf (Chair), Jennifer and Keith Cross (winners of the Marsh Volunteer Award with Church Recording Society) and David Frugtniet.*



*Vesta Vančugovienė, winner of the Marsh Award for Education in Botanic Gardens, receiving her Award at the International Congress on Education.*



*Martin Morley, a winner of the Marsh Volunteer Awards with We Are With You.*



*Participants in Scarborough Big Dig, a shortlisted project for the Marsh Community Archaeology Project Award (photo by John Oxley).*



*Marsh Young Volunteer Award for Marine Conservation winner, Oscar Basu.*

In 2025, our Awards run in partnership with the Arts Society once again recognised a wide range of volunteer contributions across the UK. Among the winners of the **Marsh Awards for Volunteering with the Arts Society** was Peter Crowfoot, recognised for his outstanding contributions to Arts Society Greysthott.

Peter has demonstrated exceptional commitment to his Society over the past decade. As Visits Secretary, he successfully organised several annual tours across the UK and Europe, as well as many day visits and social events. His influence extended beyond his own Society as he established a network for Visits Secretaries from other Hampshire societies, enabling them to share ideas and support one another. When the Chair had to step down

at the start of the pandemic, Peter stepped in and guided the Society as Chair through this challenging period. He introduced online lectures and virtual tours in collaboration with other local Societies, ensuring existing members remained engaged and many new members joined. Even after handing over to a new Chair, Peter continued to support the Committee by sharing his knowledge and experience.



“

I was surprised but delighted to receive a Marsh Award and am most grateful to the Marsh Charitable Trust and to my colleagues at my Arts Society for their support. I've always found my voluntary work for the Arts Society very rewarding, not least because members are so appreciative of what you can do for them. Many of our members are elderly and live on their own and it's good to be able to help enrich their lives. Tours and visits are a great way to meet others and make friends, as well as being educational, but the pandemic was a difficult time for everyone. So I especially enjoyed being able to create a variety of online events, help members get online themselves and give them opportunities to connect with each other and continue their interest in the arts world. We even increased our membership as a result.”

Our Awards with Barnardo's celebrate volunteers from across the organisation, including those who dedicate their time to stores throughout the UK. One of these Awards was presented to Barnardo's Wilson Street store in Glasgow, whose volunteers won the **Marsh Award for Retail Volunteer Team of the Year** in 2025.

Barnardo's Wilson Street store is an incredible team of volunteers aged 16 to 60, representing a wide range of nationalities and skills. They contribute to every aspect of the shop, from tills and sorting to cleaning and merchandising, always stepping in with enthusiasm. Many take on creative projects, including themed window displays and handmade items that raise additional funds. Volunteers actively participate in events, dress up for festivals, and

engage in fundraising challenges, all while fostering a fun and inclusive atmosphere. Their input helps to shape the shop's direction, keeping it aligned with customer interests and trends. The team is flexible, often adjusting shifts and staying longer when needed, and they've built strong friendships, even connecting outside of work. Their generosity, commitment, and selflessness are deeply valued, and the shop simply couldn't run without them.



“

Winning the Marsh Charitable Trust Volunteer Awards 2025 is something we are extremely proud of. The volunteers are the beating heart of Wilson St. It's a wonderful recognition of the team's collective effort and our shared commitment to achieving the best outcomes for Barnardo's. Thank you so much.”

*Gina Lawrence, Store Manager*

In 2025, the **Marsh International Lecture Award**, run in partnership with the British Art Medal Society (BAMS), was presented to Jennifer Hoes. This Award recognises eminent medal artists from around the world.

Jennifer is one of the leading medallists in the Netherlands, a country in which there is a high level of medallic activity and a long tradition of excellence in the field. Throughout her career, Jennifer has received a variety of commissions for her work from governmental organisations and private persons, including one from the Dutch Art

Medal Society for its annual medal. She has exhibited at the International Art Medal Federation exhibitions for many years, and some of her work is even represented in the British Museum. Jennifer's medals show great variety and inventiveness, and can be an inspiration to other medallists.



“

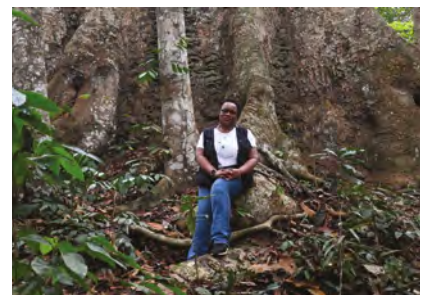
I feel humbled and grateful, the Marsh Trust gave me the opportunity to travel to the UK and speak about my work as a medallist. It was an important experience for me, especially getting to know UK medallists and their work in return.”

In 2025, we presented the **Marsh Award for Ecologists in Africa** to Etotépé Sogbohossou. This Award is presented in partnership with the British Ecological Society and highlights significant scientific achievements of African ecologists.

Etotépé is currently the Director of the Department of Environment and Director of the Doctoral School at Université Senghor, Alexandria. Etotépé has over 20 years of experience in biodiversity conservation, natural resources management and environmental governance. She leads core training programmes in environmental management, protected areas, and biodiversity conservation. Given the university's presence in over 10 African countries, she also delivers

training in multiple countries across Francophone Africa. Her academic background includes a PhD in Conservation Biology, an MSc in Natural Resources Management, and an Ingénieur Agronome degree (French engineering degree in the science of agriculture) in forestry and wildlife. She has mentored students, contributed to international events including COPs, workshops and conferences, and developed innovative online training tools. Etotépé is passionate about

driving sustainable environmental governance, community-based conservation initiatives and climate resilience in Africa and beyond.



“

This Award is an encouragement to do more and to be an inspiration for the younger generation of ecologists. Success is never a solo journey, and I owe a lot to those who supported, assisted and boosted me. My thanks to the British Ecological Society for creating opportunities for African ecologists.”

In 2025, one of the winners of the **Marsh Entomology Award**, run in partnership with the British Entomological and Natural History Society (BENHS), was David Brown.

David has made an outstanding contribution to entomological science over the past 50 years. He has been the Warwickshire County Moth Recorder for 54 years and more recently he authored *The Larger Moths of Warwickshire*. Since retiring from Primary School teaching in 1990, he has conducted 259 residential lepidoptera courses at Field Studies Council Centres throughout the British Isles. In addition, David

has been a lecturer at Birmingham and Warwick Universities Open Studies departments over the past 50 years and remains an active field entomologist. He has been a stalwart of the BENHS Annual Exhibition for many years and is a well-known and respected member of the society. Whilst remaining quietly spoken and understated, he has had a positive influence on many who have attended his field courses, often leading to their

greater interest in, and involvement with, field ecology and entomology.



“

I am highly honoured to receive this prestigious Award which I will greatly treasure and would like to thank the Marsh Trust and the British Entomological and Natural History Society.”

Our Awards with the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) recognise achievements and contributions to different aspects of ornithological study. The **Marsh Award for Ornithology** is awarded to an individual or group who has had or is likely to have a significant impact in science, policy, practice, innovation, communication or engagement in the field of ornithology. The winner of the 2025 Award was Dr Rob Thomas.

Rob has made an enormous contribution to ornithology through first-class academic research and inspirational teaching and mentorship. He has inspired generations of undergraduate and postgraduate students, including several who have gone on to become BTO staff members. He has conducted wide-ranging academic research on topics varying from the effects of climate change on seabirds and migratory land birds, to dietary wariness, and an investigation of how capture and handling can impact bird physiology and behaviour. He has recently published

the definitive monograph on storm petrels, one of his specialist subjects. He is a founder and co-director of Eco-explore, a not-for-profit company which aims to help conserve our birds by conducting vital research and encouraging community engagement with birds. Rob now manages the beautiful Coed Nant Bran and Coed Ty Llwyd nature reserves in the Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons), and in Cardiff, where wildlife, and research ideas, thrive. Since receiving the Marsh Award, Rob has been appointed as Principal Conservation Scientist with RSPB Cymru and is looking forward to

working with the RSPB within Wales and further afield, for the protection of birds, and the habitats and ecosystems that they depend on.



“

Receiving the Marsh Award was a wonderful honour and came as a big encouragement to me when I had just left my job at Cardiff University, after 23 years. The awards ceremony at the opening night of the Society of Wildlife Artists exhibition was a lovely event, and a chance to talk with several of my conservation heroes about what direction to take next. I have subsequently been offered (and accepted) the post of Principal Conservation Scientist with RSPB Cymru.”

Our Awards with Butterfly Conservation celebrate the contributions of volunteers of all ages to the promotion and protection of the UK's butterflies. One of the winners of the **Marsh Volunteer Awards with Butterfly Conservation in 2025** was the Butterfly Conservation Youth Panel.

This group of 10 young people have been instrumental in helping Butterfly Conservation to improve their youth inclusion work and have worked collectively and impactfully in light of a number of challenges and hurdles. They have made a huge impact in their year of being a part of the panel and have helped to engage a whole new generation of butterfly enthusiasts. They have garnered an impressive following on social media, delivered youth inclusion workshops and taken part in consultations at AGMs and

local meetings. They have also done outreach work and created an online magazine to engage even more young people in the sector, particularly those who would not usually have engaged with the subject of butterflies. The panel members even met with Butterfly Conservation's CEO to help influence the strategy of the organisation and ensure that young people's voices were heard and included in future plans for the charity. The panel work collaboratively at all times,

supporting and mentoring one another and spending time together socially to build even stronger relationships.



The Youth Panel has brought fresh energy and diverse perspectives to Butterfly Conservation, helping bridge the gap with younger generations. Through their creative zine 'Chattypillar', inspiring workshops, and passionate advocacy at events, these brilliant volunteers are making conservation more accessible and exciting for young people across the country, ensuring butterflies and moths have champions for years to come.” - Emma Dakin, Youth Engagement Officer

For 10 years, we have been working with the Churches Conservation Trust (CCT) to help recognise the contributions that their volunteers make to maintaining and opening the churches in their care. In 2025, one winner of the **Marsh Award for Fundraising Achievement of the Year** was the North Huish Community Group at St Mary's Church in Devon.

This group was set up in 2023 with the purpose of organising community events for the residents of North Huish and surrounding villages, using St Mary's Church as their base. Since then, they have been successfully organising and running community coffee mornings, cake sales, concerts and other extremely well-attended events. The group have worked miracles at this large rural church which has no lighting, toilets or water. Parking at the church

is also extremely limited and so the group have made excellent links with a local enterprise to use their land while events are in progress. As well as raising regular funds to support the maintenance of the church, the group has recently fundraised for and completed a successful Community Initiative Project to extend the electrics of the church. From initial enquiries about the project in September 2023, the group managed to raise the money needed and have the new

sockets installed by November 2024, just over a year later. The group are organised and professional, working well and efficiently together to achieve impressive results.



“We are delighted to receive this Award which is the result of a great team effort to get community events going at North Huish Church and to support the work of the CCT by our fundraising.” - Peter Stradling, on behalf of the North Huish Community Group

## In 2025, the Marsh Group Volunteer Award with the Church Recording Society was presented to the Hart Church Recording Group in Hampshire.

This group have been active in the field of church recording for almost 25 years and, in this time, have completed records of 12 churches. The group has varied in size and members in the years that they have been active, and many of the volunteers are recruited by friends and family who are existing members of the group. Many volunteers have worked on the majority of the records that the group have completed, helping to build on the group's knowledge base which can then be passed on to new members who

join the group. When completing a record, the group makes note of the furnishings in the church and details of internal structural items, such as arches and roofs, to provide a more complete picture of the inside of a church. The group also take colour photographs, particularly of windows, textiles and paintings, to make their record as accurate as possible. The group has proudly evolved over the years that they have been active, becoming more technically advanced with their recordings which has increased the amount of information

about items in various churches and made this information accessible to many people.



In 2024 the Hart Church Recording Group completed 25 years of Church Recording during which the Records of 12 Churches in the North East Hampshire area have been completed and added to the more than 2,000 records now held by the Church Recording Society, the Victoria and Albert Museum, and the Church House Library. Over 50 individuals have been involved in these projects, not all at once and, very sadly, quite a number have passed away in the meantime; but I know full well that all of us involved in Hart Church Recording over the years are or would have been delighted to know that our group has received the Marsh Group Volunteer Award with the Church Recording Society for 2025. This comes with our very grateful 'Harty' thanks for the Award which will be used towards a celebration/recruitment event later this year involving current, former and, hopefully, a good squad of new members.” - Sandy Gray, Group Leader

## In 2025, the Marsh Award for Community Archaeologist of the Year, run in partnership with the Council for British Archaeology, was presented to Simon Carroll.

After being forced to stop teaching due to a spinal injury, Simon joined (and then Chaired) the Friends of Berry Castle History Group, helping to remove the Devon site from 'at risk' status through maintenance and public engagement. He researched local sites and organised digs for the local community to be involved in, and also encouraged people from further afield to get involved as well. During the coronavirus lockdown, Simon encouraged people to go on local field walks and record and map any findings, which were shared

more widely when the world opened up again. He has given a number of presentations, focusing on building an understanding of different prehistoric eras and showing where examples of certain archaeological features can be found. Simon is keen to promote grassroots archaeology, keeping his language simple and encouraging questions from his audience without intimidating them. Following retirement, Simon built an Iron Age Roundhouse which schools could visit for a day of immersive prehistory and hands-on learning activities and he

also takes the activities to the schools himself so that all can participate. Despite his disability, Simon actively promotes community archaeology in any way he can.



I was a bit stunned when I found out that I had been awarded the Marsh Award for Community Archaeologist, but it's given me the confidence to keep pushing community archaeology to new audiences. The Marsh Award has raised my profile, and I've been able to make new contacts. This has enabled me to further extend projects, visits and education to a wider demographic, making community archaeology accessible for everyone. I'm so grateful to be chosen and I'll be continuing to build on this, with new projects for 2026.”

# Celebrating Grassroots Volunteering

Charitable organisations across the sector rely on volunteers to support their work and help run services and additional activities that would not otherwise be possible. The willingness of individuals and groups to dedicate their time, knowledge and skills to causes they believe in is invaluable, strengthening the reach and impact of charities at a grassroots level. The Marsh Awards were developed so the MCT could support our partner charities in celebrating the hundreds of volunteers who work diligently each year, recognising their commitment and the vital role they play in furthering the work of the sector.

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We celebrate volunteers who advocate for and support the most vulnerable or marginalised members of society through our Awards with **Barnardo's, Dogs for Good, FoodCycle, 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 to come 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 the environment and help protect it for the future through our Awards with **Butterfly Conservation, the 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 British Association of Friends of Museums, Engage, Heritage Crafts, the Institute of Conservation, London Museum and St Paul's Cathedral.**



*A group shot of the Marsh Volunteer Awards with the Canal and River Trust - North West Region. Pictured at Anderton Bo.*



*Beach Clean Volunteers with Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, winners of the Marsh Volunteer Award for Marine Conservation.*



*The Norfolk Wherry Trust Volunteers, winners of the Marsh Volunteer Team Award for Historic Vessel Conservation.*



*Emily McKenzie (COO), Patrick Rice (winner of the Marsh Volunteer Award with St Paul's Cathedral) and Peter Anwyl-Harris (MCT Ambassador).*

Our partnership with the British Association of Friends of Museums (BAFM) recognises groups of committed individuals who work together to promote and protect their local museums. One of the winners of the **Marsh Friends Group of the Year Award** in 2025 was the Friends Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery.

The Friends of Blackburn Museum and Art Gallery, Lancashire, were established in 1982 to promote and support the museum through fundraising, conservation, and the restoration of paintings and exhibits. Their work raises awareness of the museum and encourages public engagement with its collections. Over the past year, the Friends have welcomed around 200 visitors through tours and lectures, while also

publishing a blog and newsletter. By running talks and guided tours, they enhance visitor experiences and make activities possible that the museum could not otherwise offer. Their presence has helped attract new audiences, including a support group for refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants, who enjoyed a museum tour followed by a town tour led by the same volunteer. Alongside the museum's impressive art and history displays,

visitors can enjoy special exhibitions, family craft sessions, an annual Art Open Exhibition, and an Annual Public Lecture supported by the Friends.



“

During the past few months, our efforts have directly connected with perhaps two hundred visitors. While this might not seem very many, I have always believed that museum visitors should be evaluated not by how many of them there are, but how long they spend with the exhibits. Many thanks to BAFM and the Marsh Charitable Trust for this Award. The recognition is gratifying, and we hope and anticipate that as a result, the Museum and the Friends will be encouraged to maintain and increase their activities.” - *Mike Millward, Secretary*

In partnership with the National Churches Trust, we recognise volunteers from across the UK who bring innovative uses to church buildings, support their long term sustainability, and provide valued local support through them. The national winners of the 2025 **Marsh Church & Community Volunteer Awards** were the volunteers at St Peter & St Paul, Old Bolingbroke, Lincolnshire.

St Peter & St Paul Church has been transformed by a dedicated team of 30 volunteers from across the village. Their efforts span everything from mowing the churchyard and baking cakes to leading services, writing grant applications, and hosting concerts, exhibitions, and pop-up pubs. They have made the church a vibrant, inclusive space for all, not just regular churchgoers. The team works closely with the Parish Council, Village Hall Committee, and Friends of Bolingbroke Castle, ensuring the church is seen as a shared community asset. In their words, they have strived to make the building, ‘relevant’ again, to all. Their work has secured over £250,000 in funding, enabling vital repairs and improvements. The church now hosts

a wide range of events including history talks, music performances, and a memorable Brides of Bolingbroke weekend, celebrating the weddings and wedding dresses of the village community. Visitor numbers have soared, and the church is open every day. The churchyard is maintained both as a tidy space and a wildlife haven, with biodiversity increasing year on year. Volunteers have also created a short film and a published memories book. Their commitment has reconnected the community with the church, making it a welcoming, and celebrated part of village life. The church is now wind and watertight, well used, and deeply valued. All of this has been achieved through leadership, volunteer passion and teamwork.



“

It was a joy to get the recognition, we were delighted yet stunned to win. Thanks to all who had confidence in our efforts. I am moved. Shed a tear to be precise!” - *Steve Lumb*

The **Marsh Awards for Volunteering in Support of Older People**, delivered in partnership with Re-Engage, recognise volunteers contributing across the organisation in a variety of roles, from hosting tea parties to providing companionship through regular phone calls. In 2025, we recognised the following 12 winners.

**Amel Kathrada** goes above and beyond, balancing her role as a busy mum with organising and attending every tea party. Her encouragement and willingness to take on new groups ensure older people feel valued and connected.

**Irene Heron** has been a passionate advocate for Re-engage for over 16 years, tirelessly supporting guests and volunteers. She fundraises, recruits, and builds community partnerships, always bringing cheer and compassion to everything she does.

**Joan Wall** has hosted tea parties for over 20 years, creating a warm, welcoming atmosphere and memorable moments like baking a 92nd birthday cake. Her enthusiasm inspires others to volunteer and strengthens the group's sense of community.

**John Hooper** has volunteered for more than two decades, continuing as a driver at 88 with unwavering energy and humour. He goes beyond his duties by organising events and accompanying guests to musical gatherings, spreading joy everywhere.

**Nikola Sutherland** has hosted tea parties for 25 years, going the extra mile with festive dinners and gifts for every guest and volunteer. Her generosity and warmth have brought happiness to countless people, making her truly unforgettable.

**Patricia Lay** has volunteered for 12 years as a driver and host, always dependable and supportive even during personal challenges. Her kindness shines through in acts like delivering food parcels during the pandemic and checking in on guests.

**Shivam Patel** has led the Sutton Tea Party Group for over a decade, ensuring guests and volunteers feel valued and cared for. His dedication includes hosting, driving, and sharing homemade treats, creating joyful and memorable experiences.

**Stephanie Hutchings** has transformed her group into a close-knit community through tireless care and creativity. From Christmas lunches to practical support and social outings, her warmth and generosity make everyone feel like family.

**Susan Masters** has been a volunteer for 19 years and now coordinates two tea party groups, rebuilding them after Covid with tireless energy. Her creativity and passion for connection have secured vital funding and raised awareness, making her an inspiring leader.

**Vivian Raggett** has hosted and organised tea parties for over 20 years, continuing her work with grace and dedication despite living with MS. Her resilience and kindness create joyful gatherings that touch countless lives, supported by her loving family.

**Rohan Young** brings warmth and positivity to every call, lifting the spirits of older people and volunteers alike. His enthusiasm for sharing experiences and promoting Re-engage makes him a true ambassador for the charity.

**Jennifer Smith** leads the Saturn Impact Team with compassion and patience, always available to guide and support volunteers. Her commitment to helping others grow and serve older people better makes her a role model worth celebrating.

In 2025, for the second time, we presented the **Marsh Volunteer Awards**, run in partnership with St Paul's Cathedral. These Awards celebrate the outstanding contributions of volunteers across a variety of roles. Among our Team Award recipients were the Luxmuralis Volunteers.

The Luxmuralis Volunteers have played an extraordinary role in delivering a major after-hours visitor experience at St Paul's Cathedral. The event was an immersive sound and light show to tell the story of St Paul's. Their contributions went far beyond what was usual for them, demonstrating remarkable commitment, adaptability, and enthusiasm in support of a complex and high-profile event. The volunteers were instrumental in

ensuring the smooth running of the Luxmuralis event, which welcomed approximately 18,000 visitors over several nights. Many of them stepped up to work multiple consecutive evenings, often taking on roles beyond those they initially signed up for. Their flexibility and dedication allowed the event team to manage high visitor numbers in low-light conditions safely and efficiently, while still maintaining a welcoming and enjoyable atmosphere

throughout the Cathedral. Their calm professionalism and friendly engagement helped create a peaceful, community-focused environment that enhanced the magical atmosphere of the event.



“

The Luxmuralis was a wonderful event to host at the Cathedral, illuminating Wren's masterpiece whilst also demonstrating key points in the history of St Paul's. It was a pleasure to be involved and an honour to be awarded the Marsh Volunteer Award”

- Gail Deacon, Volunteer

# Showcasing Peer Support

Charities are increasingly recognising the powerful impact that can be made when individuals draw on their own life experiences to support others facing similar situations. Having someone who truly understands what they are going through can be a lifeline for many people seeking help, and those who share their experiences openly play an invaluable role in strengthening this support. To highlight the importance of these contributions and the positive influence they have on both organisations and the individuals they assist, we run a number of Awards that showcase and celebrate those willing to use their personal journeys to help others.

## 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 **Food-Cycle**.

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 important 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 recognise the contributions of refugees and asylum seekers who draw on their own experiences to develop projects which help others in similar situations through our Awards with the **Refugee Council**.



*Fran Wood, winner of the Marsh Let's Talk Award with Peter Anwyl-Harris (MCT Ambassador) at the House of Lords.*



*Marsh Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Fight against Modern Slavery Presentation, Speakers' House.*



*A project by Judith Smith, winner of the Marsh Volunteer Award with Refugee Council.*



*Pam Hill, winner of the Marsh Volunteer Awards with We Are With You.*



*Lynn Perry (CEO), Ed Large (Head of Volunteering), David Frugtniet (MCT Ambassador), Christine Clark (winner of the Marsh Volunteer Choice Award with Barnardo's) and Natasha Kaplinsky (President).*

FoodCycle is an organisation which tackles food poverty, loneliness and food waste by providing weekly community meals for vulnerable people, using surplus food. They rely on volunteers to run their projects, including those who have used the service before. In 2025, the **Marsh Volunteer Awards with FoodCycle** recognised 12 outstanding volunteers, one of which was Janet Backstrom.

Janet is the heart and soul of FoodCycle Dingle with a wealth of knowledge that she is willing to teach to new volunteers. She is a long-standing volunteer and now an exceptional team leader. Janet brings warmth, dedication, and a sense of community to every session. Janet is known for her incredible cooking and consistently transforms donated ingredients into meals that guests love. Her impact goes far beyond the kitchen and is universally respected by volunteers and adored by guests, who she knows by name and treats

with genuine care. She makes everyone feel welcome, valued, and part of a community. Whether leading the kitchen, hosting, or stepping in to cover both roles on the same night, Janet is always present, calm, and solution focused. She goes the extra mile by bringing birthday cards for guests, deep cleaning the pantry, and even redirecting surplus food to local charities when meals are cancelled. Her presence ensures the project runs smoothly, remains joyful, and continues to thrive. Janet is the glue that holds the team together.



“

I feel a little overwhelmed actually, so proud. I see it as an Award for all the Dingle FoodCycle volunteers. We all work as a team, we have such a loyal caring core group of regular volunteers. We all put our heart and soul into it.”

In 2025, the **Marsh Volunteer Awards with the Refugee Council** were once again presented to 15 volunteers planning to run projects to engage refugees and asylum seekers with services and opportunities to help them settle into their new communities. One of our winners was Haris Qayyum for his organisation of three projects.

Haris organised a trip to Southend beach to help clients feel more included and engaged with the local community. It also allowed the clients to improve their mental health as well as their confidence to travel. The Pedal Power Electricity Generation project brought together the Refugee Council, Red Cross, and participants to build a bike-powered charger that offered practical support and a positive, hands on learning experience. The group created a

working model now used at the London Destitution Centre, giving people a sense of pride, connection, and a useful way to charge their phones, and the opportunity to learn about sustainable power. Haris also collaborated with colleagues to deliver the Eat Out project supporting destitute asylum seekers living with the mental trauma of hidden hunger and hidden homelessness. Clients went to eat out with locals in London to

help them regain their dignity and confidence and encourage them to have a positive outlook.



“

The Marsh Award brought a fresh breath of honour and pride to myself and the clients I work at the Refugee Council Destitution services. The Award made me feel valuable after a long stretch of distress and neglect by society and the systems. I cannot explain the satisfaction and happiness I had when I saw vulnerable and destitute people feeling included and equal to the society during the eat outs and trip. The transformation I had from homelessness myself to helping people regain their dignity and leading the projects was unimaginable; I cannot thank Refugee Council and Marsh Charitable Trust enough. The confidence I gain from working on these projects is immense and has opened new windows of opportunities for me.”

Our partnership with the Prison Advice and Care Trust (Pact) acknowledges the invaluable contribution of volunteers across their services. Many of these volunteers draw on their own lived experience of the justice system, offering a perspective that helps them deeply understand and support the challenges faced by individuals in prison and their families. In 2025, the **Marsh Peer Power Award** was presented to one such volunteer, Colin Pritchard.

Colin was one of the first prisoners to join the Here2Help scheme as a peer mentor. In this role, he supported men entering the prison, delivering induction presentations and supporting them to access services that they may need while incarcerated. He used his own prison experience to help others, building a network of peer-led support across the prison which has been received well by both staff and other prisoners. Colin has actively participated in additional training sessions to improve his skills and

further enhance the support he could offer to the men he works with. He is incredibly well respected by staff and prisoners alike and became a reliable and trusted presence around the prison. Colin was able to spot the signs of a prisoner who might be struggling or at risk of becoming isolated and immediately gave up his time to listen and offer relatable advice to help them feel supported. When he moved to open conditions at HMP Kirkham, Colin continued to support his peers and the wider prison by playing a vital role in

the Safer Custody team. His work has demonstrated the vital role that prison peers can play in creating safer, more effective prisons and bridging the gap between staff and the prison population.



“

As a Pact Peer Mentor, I personally have gained so much insight into who I am as a person and what I want to concentrate on for the rest of my life – working with prisoners, ex-offenders and anybody who's been released from the prison system.”

The **Marsh Volunteer Awards with St Mungo's** celebrate the contributions of volunteers who make an invaluable impact to their services. In 2025, we recognised a number of volunteers with lived experience of homelessness.

One of our winners with lived experience was Zen Sekabanja, who is a Housing First Peer Volunteer with St Mungo's. Zen has fully embraced her role as a peer volunteer, making a significant contribution across a wide range of activities. She has attended joint meetings with clients, supported wellbeing and welfare checks, helped build furniture, contacted other services on behalf of clients, and actively participated in client day events, including a trip to Brighton and the Christmas meal. During joint meetings, Zen is always happy to engage with

clients while their worker manages calls or logistics, helping to ensure clients feel supported throughout. She brings a warm, open and inquisitive manner, which clients respond to positively, and she consistently asks thoughtful, open-ended questions to deepen her understanding of their experiences. Zen has built strong, trusting relationships with Housing First clients and has made an excellent contribution to key working sessions. Without prompting, she asks important and insightful questions, and her approachable demeanour helps clients feel comfortable being open and honest,

even when discussing difficult or sensitive subjects.



“

Winning the Marsh Award in June 2025 was completely unexpected; however, it was deeply appreciated, as I felt that the effort and work I put into volunteering did not go unnoticed. It was also great because it gave me encouragement to carry on my volunteering with St Mungo's, and I am very fortunate to get the opportunity. Volunteering as a Housing First volunteer has been a great way to gain experience within the social care sector. This role has given me the skills to work within the sector and apply for similar roles with confidence, experience and knowledge.”

# Encouraging Young People

Charities across the sector are increasingly involving young people in their work, recognising that they are the future of the charity sector and often play a vital role in driving meaningful change. Young people are frequently at the heart of efforts to improve processes, influence policies and champion causes they believe in. Our Awards celebrate these contributions, helping charities to encourage and elevate the involvement of young people, while inspiring even more of them to engage with the sector and make a lasting impact.

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

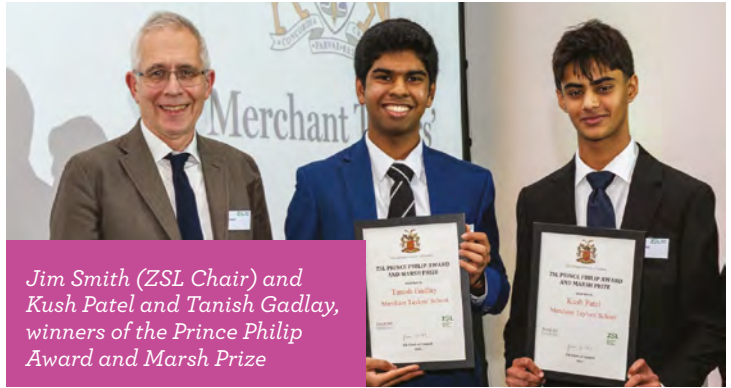
We work with **Barnardo's** to highlight the contributions of young people helping to shape and run services for other young people, children and families, and those giving up their time to volunteer in stores and raise funds for Barnardo's.

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 **Council for British Archaeology**, the **Institute of Historic Building Conservation**, **London Museum**, and **Open Up Music** with the aim of inspiring young people to continue this important work in the future.



*Ramandeep Nijjar, winner of the Marsh Young Ornithologist of the Year.*



*Jim Smith (ZSL Chair) and Kush Patel and Tanish Gadlay, winners of the Prince Philip Award and Marsh Prize*



*Anna Williams, winner of the Marsh Young Volunteer Award for Marine Conservation.*



*Holly Doherty, runner up of the Marsh Young Volunteer Award with Butterfly Conservation.*

In 2025, the MCT expanded our support for the Canal & River Trust to further recognise a wider range of their volunteers. The new category highlights the national volunteering programme, where volunteers contribute to teams such as fundraising, IT and marketing, all who deserve recognition. One of the winners in our National Teams category was Peter Brookwater, who received the **Marsh Young Volunteer Award**.

Peter was nominated for this Award for his work supporting the Canal & River Trust's People Team over the last year. He has proved invaluable in supporting new recruits to the Trust with their onboarding and inductions process, ensuring they have induction plans in place. He has also provided support with essential data cleansing and the

organisation of staff training records. This will lay the groundwork for effective training needs analysis, skills sharing and cost-effective training budget management.



“

For me volunteering is about positive impact. Whether that's a constructive conversation with a new colleague, gathering feedback or helping to relieve pressure on staff. I wanted a way to continue to have a positive impact while at university, use my different skills and even learn new ones! My favourite part of my role in the People Team is being able to see the smile from new colleagues after a Teams call where I've taken the time to see how they're getting on and listen to their feedback.”

In 2025, we launched the inaugural **Marsh NOYO Community Awards** in partnership with Open Up Music. The Awards recognise members of the National Open Youth Orchestra (NOYO), who have made significant contributions and achievements throughout the year. Open Up Music delivers a range of activities that make music accessible to young people with disabilities. They partner with schools across the country, supporting them to establish and run their own orchestras.

**Bethan** has been a member of the Cardiff NOYO Ensemble since it began in 2023 and a member of the National Ensemble for the last 2 years. Bethan plays flute, piccolo, and harp. Bethan welcomed new musicians at the start of the year, participating in warm-ups by leading them and supporting other woodwind musicians by sharing techniques.

**Leo** plays the oboe and has been a member of the NOYO Birmingham Ensemble since 2022. Leo is great at talking to everybody, gauging people's interest and building a group bond.

**Cass** has been a member of the Bournemouth NOYO Ensemble since 2023 as well as a National Ensemble performer for the last 2 years. Cass plays the violin and viola and did an amazing job when he was interviewed on the radio, helped make a video for concerts, and was a fantastic ambassador and mentor for NOYO over the past year.

**Leo** plays the clarinet and has been a member of the Bristol NOYO Ensemble since 2019, making him one of the longest-serving NOYO Musicians. Leo is well-organised, social and is committed to NOYO through and through. He recently helped the new

clarinet player in Bristol and has helped Music Leaders in rehearsals throughout the whole year.

**Jonah** plays the trombone in the London NOYO Ensemble, where he has been a member since 2022. Jonah is a member of the Social Media Team and has been a consistent ambassador for NOYO.



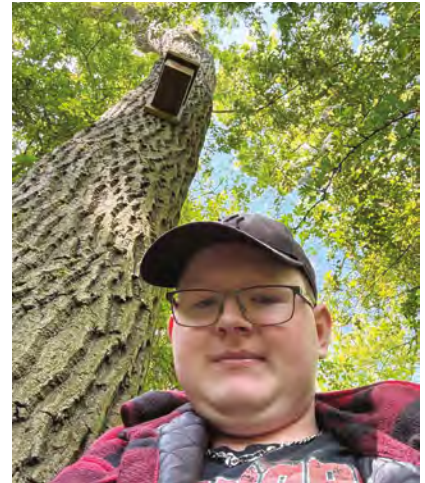
“

We are deeply grateful to the Marsh Charitable Trust for their generous support of NOYO musicians. Their commitment recognises and champions young disabled musicians in the NOYO community, enabling them to collaborate, support one another, and make music together on truly equal terms. At Open Up Music, we see every day how being part of this community transforms lives, nurtures talent, and helps ensure that music is for everyone.” - *Barry Farrimond-Chuong MBE, CEO, Open Up Music*

In 2025, one winner of the **Marsh Grow Wild Youth Grants Outstanding Volunteer Award** was Shaun Reader. These Awards with Royal Botanic Gardens Kew reaches out to local communities and encourages them to invest in nature, and support young people to design projects which raises awareness of UK plant species.

Shaun's journey over the past year has been truly inspiring. He has found his voice gaining confidence, self-awareness, and a strong sense of leadership. He has stepped up to support others, helping his team resolve challenges with empathy and respect, and showing real growth in his ability to set boundaries and guide

his peers. From mastering practical tasks like mushroom inoculation to advocating for his ideas and contributing to new projects, Shaun has proven his dedication, kindness, and courage. His confidence continues to grow, and he is now inspiring others by leading with compassion and positivity.



“

This experience has really boosted my confidence, leadership and gardening skills. I've even delivered presentations to the group and am now exploring further study in horticulture and landscaping. I'm excited to see the Readers' Retreat flourish in spring and continue growing into a peaceful, creative space.”

In 2025, we continued to recognise volunteers that dedicate their time to London Museum. Many young people volunteer with the Museum, contributing their time, skills and interests to helping to share London's great history with the public. **The Marsh Young Volunteer Award** was presented to Dorothy Pang.

Dorothy joined the library on a student placement from UCL in May 2024. After her two-week experience, she expressed interest in continuing as a volunteer. This offered her the chance to further develop her skills in a library setting and to complete the project she had begun during her placement, creating records for previously uncatalogued 18th- and 19th-century folded maps. Dorothy has been volunteering for over a year, attending weekly and assisting with a variety of tasks, including barcoding books, editing data in the library catalogue, and preparing historical

maps for improved storage. She has been consistently reliable and eager to learn, taking every opportunity to develop her skills. She has significantly improved her cataloguing abilities and shown a strong interest in the international standards used in English-speaking libraries. Dorothy has also become highly proficient with the library's management system, enabling her to carry out tasks with confidence. She has established excellent working relationships across the museum, both with fellow library volunteers and departmental colleagues.



“

I am grateful to the Marsh Charitable Trust for this recognition. Volunteering in the library has been a valuable learning experience, allowing me to develop practical skills while contributing to the work of the library. Thank you to everyone for their guidance and support throughout this period.”

# Promoting Professional Contributions

The skills that professionals acquire throughout their working lives can be an invaluable resource for charities, helping to promote and sustain their vital work. Many of our Awards recognise individuals who go above and beyond what is required of them in their careers, contributing their expertise, passion and commitment to causes they believe in. By openly sharing their knowledge to improve the world we live in, these professionals make a meaningful and lasting impact on the charity sector.

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We promote the individuals who look after the most vulnerable in society and raise awareness of important 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**, **Campaign for National Parks**, the **Environmental Investigation Agency**, **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**, the **Palaeontographical Society**, the **Public Statues and Sculpture Association** and the **Society of Sculptors**.



Rodrigo de Sousa, winner of the Marsh Award for International Plant Conservation, and members of his team.



Mark Gurney, winner of the Marsh Award for Entomology, with Nick Carter (MCT Ambassador).



Tin Zar Ni Win, winner of the Marsh Award for Marine Conservation Leadership.



Jennifer Hoes, winner of the Marsh International Lecture Award, giving a talk at the Award presentation.



Jim Smith (ZSL Chair) and Tim Blackburn, winner of the Marsh Award for Conservation Biology.

In 2025, the **Marsh Award for the Encouragement of Medallic Art**, run in partnership with the British Art Medal Society (BAMS) was presented to Linda Crook.

Linda is one of the UK's most experienced and understated medallists and has made a number of commissions for anniversaries, events and Awards, including medals for the Founders' Company and the Royal Society of Literature. She has produced three medals for BAMS and many experimental medals for exhibitions, where she probes the possibilities of the medium. These experimental medals are not commissioned works, but devised by Linda to explore ideas

based on a range of subjects from Greek myth to modern poetry. Linda's work is full of surprises, her medals are subtle and thought-provoking, with an edge that cleverly links two sides unexpectedly, there is often wit and humour but always an underlying meaningfulness. Linda has always been willing to share her with students, and she has acted as mentor to two former BAMS New Medallists. She has been a contributor to BAMS workshops and a loyal BAMS member for many

years. After more than thirty years of medal-making, she continues to engage enthusiastically with the medium and continues to exhibit her work.



“

When I received the email about the Marsh Award, I thought it was news about somebody else. Then it dawned on me that it was me – after reading it three times. I was so surprised and delighted to be given this Award and it makes me feel like a “grown up”! I would like to thank the members of the British Art Medal Society – many of whom I count as friends – for their support. In particular I want to thank Philip Attwood for introducing me to the world of medals – now forty years ago – and for all his encouragement. I want to thank Janet Larkin for the tremendous amount of work that she puts into the Society with so much enthusiasm. I am indebted to my own mentors from whom I still learn so much – Danuta Solowiej, Irene Gunston and very much missed Jane McAdam Freud. Thank you to the Marsh Charitable Trust for choosing me for this prestigious Award which means such a great deal to me, and thank you for your generosity.”

Each year, the Royal Society of Sculptors puts on a Summer Exhibition to showcase the high-quality work of their members in the field of sculpture. We have partnered with them to run the **Marsh Award for Best in Show** to help celebrate these artists even further. In 2025, the winner of the Award was Gabriele Risso for his piece *Still Life*.

Gabriele is an Italian sculptor based in London. He studied Sculpture at the Ligustica Academy of Fine Arts in Genoa and the Academy of Fine Arts in Brera, Milan, before continuing his training in Paris and London. These diverse experiences have profoundly shaped his approach to sculpture, and it was during his studies in Genoa, under the guidance of his sculpture professor, Massimo Chiappetta that he fully committed to the practice of sculpture. In 2020, he was commissioned by

the Salesian community to create a permanent, site-specific installation for the Museo Casa Don Bosco in Turin. Since then, he has exhibited his work across the UK, including at venues such as the Saatchi Gallery and the Royal Scottish Academy. Gabriele became a member of the Royal Society of Sculptors in 2024 and was selected as a finalist for the First Plinth Award 2025. His piece *Still Life* is 64 assembled jesmonite pieces, sized 23.5 x 29

x 22.5 cm, which can be moved into different positions to obtain different perspectives.



“

Winning this Award has been an important moment of recognition and encouragement in my practice. It has given me time and trust to experiment, and I am thankful to the Royal Society of Sculptors for fostering such an open and generous environment.”

Our Awards with the Wildlife Trusts recognise their outstanding staff members across a number of categories. In 2025, we recognised Rupert Mansfield, from Suffolk Wildlife Trust, winner of the **Marsh Staff Award for Outstanding Teamwork**.

Rupert has a long record of collaborative advocacy for nature, working across organisations to strengthen joint influence, most notably on major infrastructure projects along the Suffolk coast. His leadership on advocacy around the English Devolution Bill and the Planning & Infrastructure Bill has been outstanding. Rupert is a great support to the central team and a real asset to cross-trust working. Rupert's

work on local government devolution has identified new opportunities for Trusts across England and improved national advocacy for nature. He proactively connects colleagues, shares insights from on-the-ground experience, and responds swiftly to requests for help. His collaboration with Norfolk Wildlife Trust produced a joint ministerial letter securing nature's place in the devolution agenda. Thanks to his leadership,

1,000 Suffolk members also took action on the Planning and Infrastructure Bill.



“

It gave me very great pleasure indeed to receive this year's Marsh Staff Award for Outstanding Teamwork. Everyone in the Wildlife Trusts family is part of a collective effort to create a future that is richer in, and because of, wildlife. I've always found my most rewarding experiences in nature conservation have been when working as part of a team – whether that's with Wildlife Trust colleagues, Trust members and supporters, NGO partners, councils, MPs, businesses, or community groups. It has also been when I've felt we have the greatest impact for nature, which everyone has a stake in looking after.”

Our Award with the Public Statues and Sculpture Association (PSSA) recognises the best sculpture or monument installed within the last year in a public space, enabling people to engage with this art form. The 2025 **Marsh Award for Excellence in Public Sculpture** was awarded to Will Maclean and Marian Leven for the sculpture *na Dorsan*.

*na Dorsan* is a monument that commemorates a century of transformation and celebrates the unity of a resilient community. It stands as a testament to the strength of the people of the Galson township on the Isle of Lewis, and their enduring commitment to reclaiming their home. This lives on in the present day through the work of the community owned by Galson Estate Trust who commissioned

the monument. The monument's design, a circular structure on the moorland, symbolises unity, offering a sense of safety and belonging. The three doorways facing north, south, and east invite locals and visitors from all directions. Stone from old dwellings, once the homes of those who came before, was repurposed to form *na Dorsan*. This fusion of past and present gives the monument a living quality, reminding visitors that

the stories of the past live on in the community today.



“

We are honoured and delighted to have received the Marsh Award for *na Dorsan* on the Isle of Lewis. The Marsh Award is an amazing celebration of the visual culture of the UK and we thank the Chairman and committee for its commitment to excellence in Public Sculpture. In 2016, we were shortlisted for *An Suileachan*, also on the Isle of Lewis and also honouring the land struggle and celebrating community ownership. On both occasions, we were part of a team of talented, practical and enthusiastic people from the communities of Uig and Galson. We responded to the narratives that we were given and to the physical nature of the proposed sites. Without the skills of the stonemasons, the projects would not have been such a success. We are grateful to the people of Galson for giving us the opportunity to be part of their story and we hope that present and future generations will find in it a place of memory and reflection.”

# Recognising Lifetime Achievements

Charities often rely on individuals with a lifetime of knowledge, skills and experience to support the running of their services and help them operate effectively. Without the generosity of those who give so freely of their time, many organisations would not be able to function as successfully as they do. Our Awards in this area enable charities to recognise the impressive achievements of long standing supporters whose enduring commitment has made a meaningful difference to their work.

## 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**.

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, London Museum 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**.



*South West Maritime Archaeology Group, winners of the Marsh Award for Community Archaeology Project of the Year.*



*David Brown, winner of the Marsh Award for Entomology, and Nick Carter (MCT Ambassador).*



*Robin Bailey, winner of the Marsh Award for Volunteering with The Arts Society.*



*Sylvia Brookbanks, winner of the Marsh Dog Volunteer of the Year Award, pictured with Ruth Goddard Dogs for Good Co-Chair of Trustees.*



*Friends of St Peter's, St Peter's Church, Wolfhampcote, winners of the Marsh Award for Digital Volunteer of the Year.*

The lifetime of skills and knowledge that come from a dedicated career in a certain field are invaluable, and many individuals decide to continue sharing their knowledge throughout their retirement. The **Marsh IHBC Community Contribution Award**, run in partnership with the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC), celebrates such individuals. The winner of this Award in 2025 was Carole Ryan.

Carole has significant and extensive knowledge about vernacular buildings and their construction, especially with regard to rural buildings, including historic farmsteads and their evolution. Her knowledge has helped to inform the Shropshire Historic Environment Record, which she continues to contribute to in her retirement. She has published *Traditional Construction for a Sustainable Future* in 2011, which explores how traditional building techniques could be used in modern day construction. She also published *Farm and Rural Building Conversions - A Guide to*

*Conservation, Sustainability and Economy* in 2013. Carole started the West Midlands Branch of the now IHBC in 1977, when it was the Association of Conservation Officers. She is passionate about passing on her knowledge to the next generation and ensuring that traditional building techniques are known about in the future. Carole still runs her own consultancy in retirement and provides advice on planning applications on a voluntary basis, attending meetings and Agricultural Shows to promote the importance of traditional construction techniques. Since April 2025, Carole has been

helping the business community in Gwynedd to save a much-loved listed hotel in the centre of town which had fallen into a state of disrepair and was set to be demolished. Carole has compiled detailed technical reports to formulate an objection to the listed building consent application submitted by Gwynedd Council to demolish the hotel.



“

The IHBC is like a family, it gives a sense of belonging when one is no longer in full time employment, and with it a sense of direction.”

In 2025, the **Marsh Botany Award**, run in partnership with Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, was presented to Brenda Harold in recognition of her lifetime of contributions to the field of botany and to teaching the next generation of botanists.

Brenda has shown dedication to teaching and training many cohorts of botanists, ecologists and land managers following her retirement from Brunel University. After stepping down as Deputy Head of Biological Sciences at Brunel in 1997, Brenda joined the Hertfordshire Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) survey team as a volunteer, using her valuable botanical expertise to teach identification skills to volunteer surveyors with widely differing levels of knowledge. She identified that a lack of foundation in the principles of plant biology and identification was a major barrier to increasing proficiency in amateur

botanists. Brenda's response was to create a complete course in plant identification, Identiplant, which has since provided a crucial stepping stone for over 1,000 people to becoming competent botanists and recorders. Brenda undertook management of the course in its first decade and more recently has given it to the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland to ensure its continuation in the future. She has also continued to teach throughout this time, giving community talks and courses through the Workers Educational Association. Closer to home, Brenda has contributed to natural history as a volunteer warden

at a local woodland reserve and has co-led the Wildlife Volunteers for her Parish Council, arranging and leading fortnightly work parties and providing advice for the management of woodland in the parish.



“

I nearly fell off my chair when I read the email about the Award. Why me? All I did was write a plant identification course! But education about plants has been neglected for decades and now, facing climate change, it's badly needed. I knew volunteers who wanted training and that there are many more like them, so the 'Identiplant' course has prospered and is leading on to other things. I'm so grateful to the Trust for recognising and supporting it.”

The **Marsh Heritage Crafts Lifetime Achievement Award** is run in partnership with Heritage Crafts. This Award honours a heritage craftsperson whose 25-plus years of exceptional dedication to a traditional skill have elevated them to the highest level of practice and significantly strengthened the esteem in which their craft is held and was awarded to James McCormack in 2025.

James began his shoemaking career at H. Clogg LTD before joining the prestigious John Lobb (St James) in 1974, where he worked as an in-house maker until 1979. Since then, he has crafted shoes from his home for renowned bespoke houses including Foster & Sons, Gaziano & Girling, and continues to work with Lobb. Known for his exceptional craftsmanship and adaptability to house styles and client needs, James has created shoes

for royalty, including the King, and celebrities. Widely respected by peers, he is affectionately called “The Legend of Mayfair.” A passionate educator, James has trained many shoemakers through one-on-one workshops, preserving endangered techniques like the French Pump. His teaching philosophy emphasises giving back to the craft and nurturing future generations. As he gradually reduces his working hours and stops accepting

new students, his legacy as a master shoemaker and mentor remains vital to the survival of traditional West End shoemaking.



“

I was honoured to receive this Award, and I give great respect to my fellow nominees and other craftspeople who pursue their chosen craft. I have always strived to produce the best work possible staying true to the values of the craft of shoemaking. In recent years I became aware of the need to pass on the “secrets” of the trade to the next generation of craftspeople and have managed to teach a good number of people and many of them are active in the craft today. I am very grateful to the Marsh Charitable Trust for their involvement in the craft movement and their association with Heritage Crafts, long may it continue.”

Our partnership with the Rare Breeds Survival Trust (RBST) recognises both professionals and volunteers working to ensure the future of the UK’s native breeds. In 2025, the **Marsh Lifetime Achievement Award** was presented to Graham Lennox.

Graham ran the RBST-approved Conservation Farm Park, Doonies Rare Breeds Farm, from 1994 until 2010 while it was managed by Aberdeen City Council. Following discussions around the potential closure of the farm, Graham and his family took on the tenancy in 2010 and continued running the business until 2024. Under Graham’s stewardship, Doonies continued as an RBST-approved farm park and remained a much-loved destination for generations of families from Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire, as well as visitors from further afield. The farm has welcomed not only families but also school groups,

college students and university classes keen to learn about agriculture and the UK’s native and rare livestock breeds. Known affectionately as “Farmer Graham”, he frequently appeared on social media to explain the importance of rare and native livestock breeds and to share insights into agricultural practices. For over 30 years, he played an important role in breeding and maintaining valuable genetic bloodlines across numerous native and rare breeds. Graham managed one of the largest herds of pedigree English Longhorn cattle in Scotland. Alongside considerable success in the show ring, he also contributed to the breeding and conservation of other

rare native livestock, including the Eriskay pony. He is widely known for his friendly and cheerful nature and his willingness to speak with visitors about his animals and the importance of preserving them. Through his work at Doonies, Graham has helped ensure that the message about the value of native breeds was heard clearly. The importance of Graham’s work in maintaining and promoting rare livestock breeds cannot be overstated.



“

In accepting this Award, recognition and thanks must go to family and friends for all their help and support throughout our time at Doonies Farm.”

# Commending International Work

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

## OUR PARTNERSHIPS

We commend the contributions of individuals 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 Award 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**.



*Jennifer Hoes, winner of the Marsh International Lecture Award, giving a talk at the Award presentation.*



*Eva Ayaro Johnson, winner of the Marsh Award for Early Career Conservation.*



*Helen Sijssling, the Arts Society Nerja, the winners of the Marsh Award for International Arts Society Committee of the Year.*



*Vesta Vančugovienė, winner of the Marsh Award for Education in Botanic Gardens, speaking at the International Congress on Education in Botanic Gardens 2025.*



*Marsh Awards winners at the British Ecological Society Annual Meeting.*

In 2025, the **Marsh Award for Terrestrial Conservation Leadership**, run in partnership with Fauna and Flora International (FFI), was presented to Regina Lapon. This Award recognises an individual or organisation that is making a significant contribution to sustainable biodiversity at a local level.

Regina is an indigenous woman of the Maya Tribe, Indonesia, and her conservation journey began when she worked in a nickel mining company and witnessed firsthand the environmental damage caused by extractive industries. Her experiences shaped her resolve to return to her ancestral land and build a future rooted in sustainability and local empowerment, which inspired the building of her homestay which gives tourists the opportunity to stay in a

mangrove forest. She worked hard to develop her biodiversity field skills without any formal conservation education and encouraged the surrounding community to get involved with the project. Regina has spoken out against wildlife poaching and trafficking, and encourages her community to view conservation as a path of dignity and legacy. She leads an integrated model of community-based conservation, ecotourism and female empowerment.



“

If one day my grandchildren can still walk beneath this forest canopy and witness the Waigeo Maleo and the Bird-of-paradise in their living glory, then every drop of my labour will have found its meaning.”

In 2025, Caroline Sturdy Colls was presented with the **Lucy Mair Medal and Marsh Prize**. This Award honours excellence in the application of anthropology to the relief of poverty and distress, and to the active recognition of human dignity.

Caroline is Professor of Holocaust Archaeology and Genocide Investigation and Director of the Centre of Archaeology at the University of Huddersfield. She holds a PhD from the University of Birmingham, where her research focused on archaeological approaches to Holocaust landscapes. Her work applies interdisciplinary methods to investigate sites of Nazi genocide and persecution. She has led the first archaeological surveys of several significant locations, including the former extermination and labour camps at Treblinka in Poland, slave

labour sites on Alderney in the Channel Islands, the former Semlin Judenlager and Anhaltlager in Serbia, and multiple killing sites in Poland and Ukraine. She has also collaborated with the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation to map the terrain of Bergen-Belsen and served on its Education Advisory Group from 2015 to 2018. In 2015, she curated the permanent “Finding Treblinka” exhibition in Poland. Currently, she is Principal Investigator for three major conflict and genocide investigation projects. Her work has received international media attention, and

she has held notable fellowships and advisory roles, including with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Kamp Westerbork and the Polish-German Reconciliation Foundation. She is also the winner of the 2025 Dan David Prize, the world’s largest history prize.



“

I was delighted to hear that I had been awarded the Lucy Mair Medal and Marsh Prize in recognition of my research. I remain dedicated to the investigation of the physical evidence that the Holocaust left behind in order to reveal new information about the experiences of the victims and actions of the perpetrators. The prize will support my ongoing work to study Trawniki, a complex of camps in Nazi-occupied Poland where more than 6,000 Jews and an unknown number of Soviet POWs were murdered.”

In 2025, the **Marsh Award for International Plant Conservation** was presented to Rodrigo De Sousa who has dedicated over two decades to advancing plant conservation and ecosystem restoration across Venezuela and Costa Rica.

With expertise in agronomy, agricultural economics and environmental development, Rodrigo's work has focused on reforestation, soil stabilisation, and fostering connectivity between fragmented forests. A cornerstone of his work is his leadership in the 'Ridge to Reef Restoration Network', an ambitious initiative by Osa Conservation in Southern Costa Rica, aimed at reconnecting biodiversity corridors between the Osa Peninsula, Golfo Dulce and the Talamanca Range in Costa Rica. His work integrates ecological restoration with community engagement, fostering collaboration with local

farmers, institutions and landowners, including stakeholders who are often overlooked in such work. Rodrigo has led his team in planting 396,511 trees across 400 acres, 20,000 of which were threatened species, and working directly with over 350 farmers. This work not only enhances biodiversity and ecosystem services but also contributes to climate resilience and strengthens local livelihoods, showcasing Rodrigo's holistic and innovative approach to conservation. Rodrigo has consistently demonstrated motivation, dedication and innovation beyond his formal responsibilities in plant conservation, actively seeking creative solutions

to long-standing environmental challenges and ensuring that his conservation efforts extend beyond ecological restoration to benefit local communities.



“

For me this Award is not only for me, the visible face of the Project, but for all our team members and our partners in the region, since without them our tree conservation efforts would not have the great impact they are having.”

Our Award with the Environmental Investigation Agency recognises organisations around the world who are working on a grassroots level to tackle wildlife crime and encourage community participation in conservation. In 2025, one of the winners of the **Marsh Award for Wildlife Conservation** was the PAMS Foundation, Tanzania.

The PAMS Foundation, established in 2009, has become a leading force in wildlife conservation, particularly in tackling elephant poaching and fostering human-wildlife coexistence. Founded to address urgent threats in Tanzania including poaching, habitat loss, and weak enforcement. The organisation empowers communities to protect wildlife and ecosystems while promoting the value of nature. Believing that lasting conservation requires enforcement,

education, and empowerment, PAMS has developed sustainable, community-driven, intelligence-led solutions that extend beyond traditional models. While rooted in Tanzania, they support projects across Africa and collaborate internationally to combat illegal trade and organised criminal networks. In recent years, they have adapted to challenges such as the pandemic and expanded their impact through innovative partnerships, including the

National Taskforce Anti-Poaching and the Tanzania Police Detection Dogs Unit. PAMS plays a pivotal role in safeguarding biodiversity and enabling peaceful coexistence.



“

We are truly grateful to the Marsh Charitable Trust for their generous support. This funding strengthens our efforts to tackle wildlife trafficking in Tanzania, helping us disrupt criminal networks, secure convictions, and protect East Africa's most threatened species.” - *Krissie Clark, Executive Director, PAMS Foundation*

# International Award Winners

## Spain

Marsh International Volunteer Award  
with the Arts Society (Arts Society)  
Helen Sijssling, Arts Society Nerja

## USA (California)

Marsh Ecology Book  
of the Year Award (BES)  
Professor Christopher Wills  
*Why Ecosystems Matter:  
Preserving the Key to Our  
Survival*

## Costa Rica

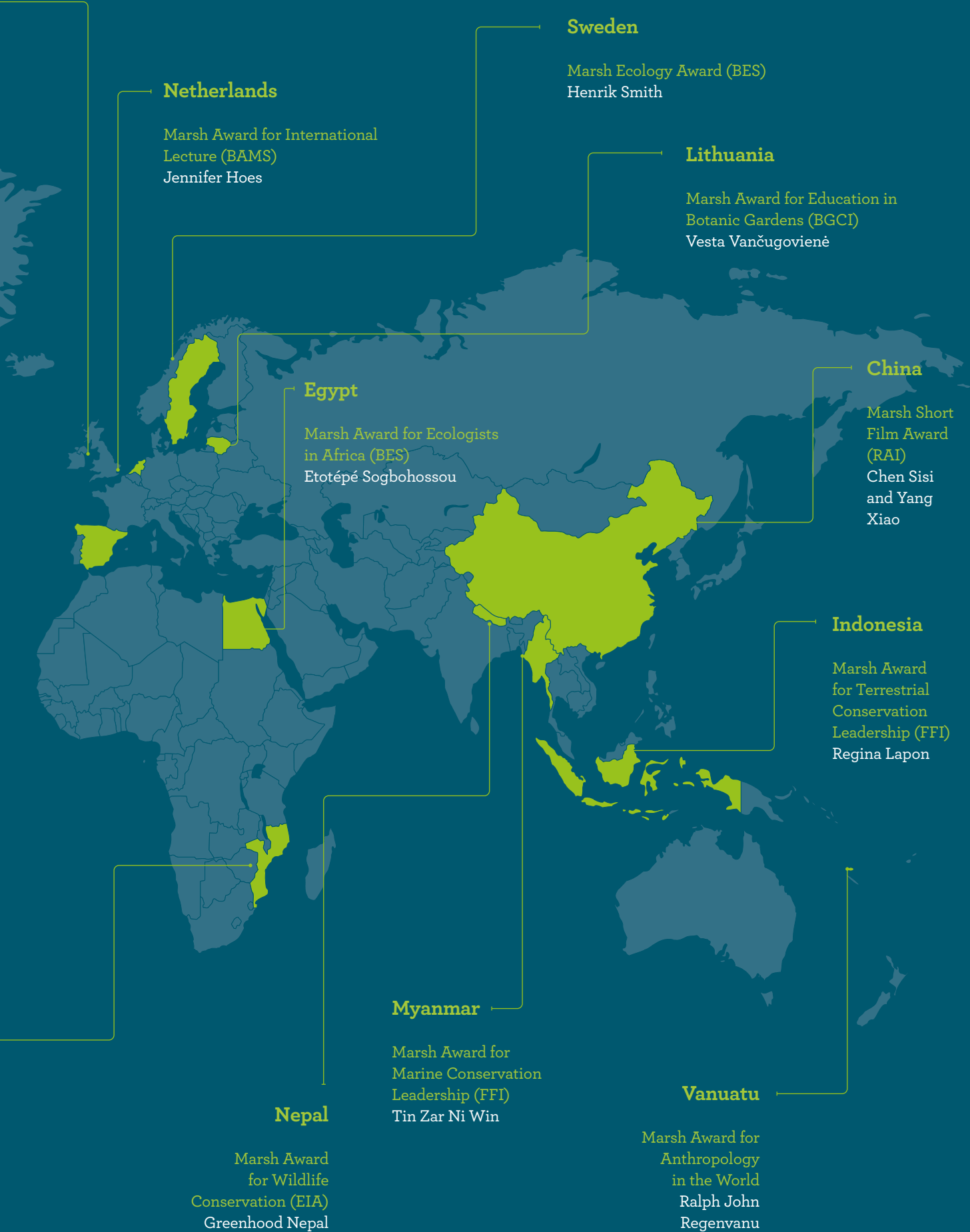
Marsh Award for International  
Plant Conservation (BGCI)  
Rodrigo De Sousa

## Tanzania

Marsh Award for Wildlife  
Conservation (EIA)  
PAMS Foundation

Marsh Award for Early Career  
Conservationist (FFI)  
Eva Ayaro Johnson





The **Marsh Volunteer Awards**, run in partnership with Dogs for Good, celebrate volunteers from across the organisation's services – from those who raise assistance dogs from when they are puppies to those who speak publicly and raise funds for the charity. One of the winning volunteers in 2025 was Yasmin Smyth, who was recognised for her longstanding dedication to and fundraising for the charity.

Yasmin has run the Milton Keynes supporter group for nearly 20 years, alongside volunteering as a puppy socialiser and temporary boarder. She stopped socialising about 3 years ago as she had to start working full time but still gives lots of talks and helps with weekend fundraising events.

Yasmin has been involved with the Dreams and Wishes panto for 15 years, helping to raise funds at every show. Each year, they run around 15 shows which has raised over £50,000 which is over 50 puppies sponsored to date.



“

One of the questions we always get asked is how can we give the pups up after a year. My answer has always been when you see the difference they make to the clients it makes it all worth it, you are so proud when you see your puppy with their client. The charity is one big family.”

In 2025, we presented the **Marsh Award for Heritage Conservation in Action** that is run in partnership with the Institute of Conservation (ICON). This year's Award recognised Durham University's 'Shakespeare Recovered project'.

Durham's copy of the First Folio has a unique history. It was stolen while on display in the University's Cosin's Library, on Palace Green in Durham City, in 1998 and reappeared ten years later at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington D.C., USA, badly damaged, and with its cover and some pages missing. Durham's First Folio was returned home in 2010 and has continued to inspire learning and debate, including about whether it should be rebound. In 2024, the Shakespeare Recovered project addressed the conservation challenges of the Durham First Folio. Following an inclusive decision making process, the team chose light stabilisation rather than full rebinding, prioritising

the book's materiality and visible historical evidence over complete readability. Extensive consultation with stakeholders informed the treatment, ensuring traces of theft and vandalism were preserved rather than erased. As a result, the stabilised Folio can now be safely used for teaching and research and displayed publicly as an artefact that openly communicates its complex history. The accompanying exhibition foregrounded debates around conservation and heritage science, including a 360° display of detached leaves and an interactive iPad game that invited visitors to explore competing conservation perspectives. Additional outreach included funding a miniature historical printing press, a science

festival stand that engaged around 2,000 children aged 7–11 in early printing practices, a symposium on ethics, student workshops, and digital resources. Together, these activities established a replicable, community centred model for ethical conservation with lasting impact.



“

We're absolutely delighted that this Award recognises the outstanding team effort of Durham University's Library and Collections Department. We have taken pride in having early career conservators working alongside accredited colleagues to bring the conservation story of Durham's Shakespeare First Folio to life. Receiving the Conservation in Action Award shines a spotlight on the vital, often unseen work of our conservators - work that not only protects our heritage but also opens up compelling new ways to engage with collections and reach new audiences. ICON's Annual Awards, made possible by the support of the Marsh Trust, are an important celebration of the vital work of conservators in persevering cultural heritage, and we are thrilled that Durham University's contribution has been recognised in this way.”

The **Marsh Awards for Outstanding Contribution to the Fight Against Modern Slavery** are presented to those who highlight the achievements of groups or individuals who fight the existence and consequences of modern slavery. These Awards are run in partnership with the Human Trafficking Foundation (HTF), and in 2025 one of our winners was Charlotte Jamieson, recognised in the Statutory Services category.

Charlotte has transformed local authority responses to modern slavery through compassion, strategy, and relentless advocacy. As Modern Slavery and Exploitation Operational Group Coordinator for Westminster and Kensington & Chelsea, she has embedded a coordinated, trauma-informed, survivor-led approach across housing, safeguarding, and enforcement. Her work has improved access to safe accommodation, advanced data-led prevention, and strengthened crosssector collaboration. She has championed major awareness campaigns, including a targeted initiative reaching 54,000 Romanian nationals, and helped

shape the HTF Trusted Assessor Pilot to reduce survivor re-traumatisation. Charlotte goes beyond her remit, meeting survivors for National Referral Mechanism support, advocating for sex workers' safety, and training new police officers in respectful engagement. Her leadership of the Sex Industry MARAC's (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) has contributed to trafficking convictions and increased survivor protection. She also mentors other councils, builds trust with frontline charities, and ensures survivor voices guide practice. Her empathetic, precise coordination sets a national benchmark for statutory services.



“

Winning the Statutory Services Award was an unexpected honour, especially knowing the incredible work being delivered by statutory organisations across the UK to tackle modern slavery and exploitation. In my job, I enjoy coordinating a local modern slavery partnership, with support from health, charities, police and other organisations. We work together to prevent exploitation, identify and support victims, and bring exploiters to justice. Experiencing modern slavery is life-changing, and its effects can be long-lasting, I'm proud to coordinate a partnership that has demonstrated a long-term commitment to addressing this complex issue.”

Our partnership with Engage recognises those working to promote engagement in the visual arts. One of the winners of the **Marsh Awards for Excellence in Visual Arts Engagement in 2025** was the MK Gallery's Inclusion Team, Sophie Bennett and Rosie May.

Over the past four years, Sophie and Rosie have transformed the gallery's Inclusive Practice in the Arts (IPA) programme, expanding its reach and impact for disabled and neurodivergent children, young people, and adults. They have opened a dedicated onsite studio for disabled and neurodivergent young artists on the Our Studio programme,

provided weekly bespoke one-to-one creative workshops for 30 families each month, and embedded co-design across MK Gallery's exhibitions, their Sensory Tours, and national partnership projects. Their innovative, collaborative approach has broadened access, fostered artist development, and earned national recognition and multiple awards for its lasting impact.



“

We are delighted to have received a Marsh Award for Excellence in Visual Arts Engagement this year. It feels wonderful to be recognised for our work on the IPA programme, and to be sharing in the Award together feels perfectly reflective of the collaborative nature of our practice.”

Our Awards with National Historic Ships recognise volunteers who work to maintain, conserve and promote historic vessels. In 2025, the **Marsh Award for ShipShape Volunteer Project** was presented to Shirley Cochrane, from the Donaghadee Heritage Preservation Company.

Shirley is at the heart of the preservation and interpretation of the Sir Samuel Kelly lifeboat. Since the founding of the Donaghadee Heritage Preservation Company, Shirley has been instrumental in every aspect of the project's development and day-to-day delivery. Over the past two years alone, Shirley has led the coordination of volunteer staffing, ensuring reliable coverage during public openings and special events. She has undertaken formal tour guide training and now leads many of the guided visits herself, providing a warm and informed welcome to hundreds of visitors each year. Shirley has personally

archived hundreds of photographs, documents, and oral histories, building a robust and valuable historical collection that continues to grow under her care. Shirley also leads the charity's outreach and promotional activity. Shirley's ability to blend logistical planning, public engagement, archival work, and volunteer coordination makes her truly exceptional. Her impact is felt not only in the visitor experience but also in the continued sustainability and relevance of the Sir Samuel Kelly project. Without her, much of what the public sees, and much of what is preserved behind the scenes, simply wouldn't exist.



“

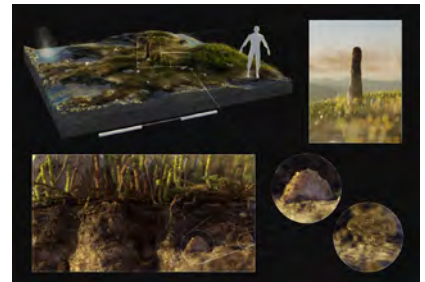
I'm very thankful for the recognition, though the work we do is never about Awards. It's a shared effort, often carried forward quietly by those closest to the boat. We do it for the memory - to honour the people, the boat and the stories - and to make sure they're there for future generations.”

In 2025, the winner of the **Marsh PalaeoArt Award**, run in partnership with the Palaeontographical Society, was Matt Humpage for his piece *The Rhynie Chert – a palaeoenvironment reconstruction*.

Matt is an accomplished palaeoartist, specialising in illustration, visualisation, reconstruction and teaching for the scientific community. He has co-authored multiple publications, and his work is on display in museums around the world. When creating a commission, Matt immerses himself in the research of the publication, ensuring it's depicted in the best way possible. He creates photorealistic images of

palaeoenvironments using a digital platform, which allows him to capture incredible detail. He also creates 3D printed skeletons for museums. Matt's winning work was praised for its high resolution and attention to detail, particularly since he has been able to capture an unusual fossil and add the correct flora to the foreground. His work is scientifically accurate, while also being artistic and pleasing to the eye. Matt created the work for a research paper, but it could

also be used in other palaeontology books or even as a mural to help educate others.



“

I'm incredibly grateful to the Marsh Charitable Trust and the Palaeontographical Society for the Award. There are so few competitions that recognise palaeoart, and I feel privileged for my work to be chosen.”

In 2025, we recognised a number of volunteers that dedicate their time to Kew Gardens. One of the **Marsh Awards for Volunteering with Royal Botanic Gardens Kew** was presented to the Knitting Nature Volunteers.

Kew's Community Learning Programme offers activities that make its science, history, and horticulture accessible to people who may face physical, psychological, or social barriers to visiting the Gardens. The Knitting Nature Volunteers are an essential part of this work. They give their time and knowledge with passion and care, supporting hundreds of participants throughout the year. By sharing their skills, they ensure that vulnerable participants feel welcome,

included, and encouraged to engage with Kew and its creative programme. Their expertise is wide-ranging and enriched by personal experience. They have helped the team create a safe and inclusive space and played a key role in welcoming British Sign Language participants. They support staff, welcome new volunteers, and care deeply for participants. Their kindness and determination help remove barriers to learning and bring a sense of home to all who attend. The

team feels profoundly grateful for their contribution and the meaningful programme they help deliver.



We are so pleased to see the recognition of the need for British Sign Language for those who use it in the deaf community, and for that to be specifically acknowledged by the prize is another step towards true equality of access. We do it because we love giving something back to the community through Kew and none of it could be possible without our lovely leader and nominee Valentina!”

In 2025, we once again celebrated the contributions of young people to the work of Kew Gardens through the **Marsh Youth Explainer Awards with Kew Gardens**. The Awards celebrate young people who have gone through the Youth Explainer programme at Kew, which gives them the opportunity to learn more about the Gardens and interact with the public. This year, we recognised six young people from across the programme at Kew.

**Zuhal Ahmadi** quickly transformed her initial nervousness into confidence, becoming a motivated and self-determined leader who could work effectively wherever needed.

**Kartik Kamal Kumar** is a charismatic and caring young volunteer who confidently engaged the public with his educational board game while uplifting and supporting his peers with enthusiasm and a welcoming spirit.

**Mira Hizal** consistently encouraged and supported her team with positivity, adaptability, and resilience, embracing everyone's ideas during game design and excelling at engaging diverse audiences.

**Sophie Houlihan** has consistently supported her group with patience and empathy, helping others grow in confidence while developing her own skills and emerging as a strong, considerate leader.

**Hajrah Khan** grew from feeling hesitant about public interaction to becoming one of the most approachable and engaging explainers, consistently enriching visitors' experiences with her kindness and friendliness

**Adrian Cano** approached the programme with curiosity, enthusiasm, and dedication, showing unwavering motivation to engage the public with his game and consistently connecting with visitors in a professional, inclusive way that reflects Kew's values.

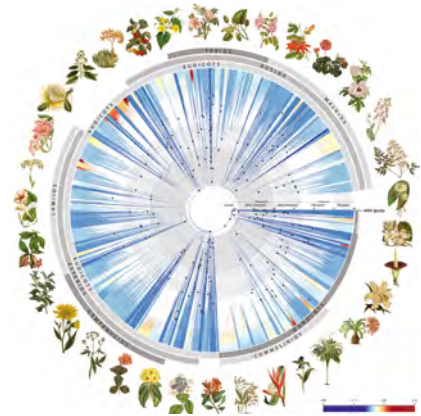


It is always such a pleasure to see the young people step up on stage to proudly claim their Marsh Trust Volunteer Awards. These young volunteers have worked incredibly hard to increase the public's awareness of threatened plants around the world and these Awards are a wonderful way to meaningfully celebrate the passion and dedication they've shown throughout their time at Kew.” - Dan Pollock, Youth Programme Officer

In 2025, the **Marsh Director's Choice Publication Award**, run in partnership with Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, was presented to Professor William Baker for his leadership in two major publications.

*Phylogenomics and the rise of the angiosperms* was published in *Nature* in May 2024 and represents an unparalleled collaboration which involved nearly 300 scientists from across the world, who joined forces in a multi-year effort to sample, sequence and analyse the partial nuclear genomes of 7,923 flowering plant genera represented by 9,506 species. The global tree of life produced from this collaboration has greatly enhanced understanding of plant relationships and evolution and immediately

became a key reference for the field. In contrast, *Palms of New Guinea* is the culmination of work spanning 26 years of Professor Baker's career and documents the vast diversity of New Guinean palms for both professional and lay audiences. It is an exquisite field book as well as an authoritative scientific reference text, showcasing how solid taxonomic work with international and local partners is a prerequisite to informing conservation action as well as enabling wider evolutionary studies.



“

It was such a wonderful surprise to receive this Award. A career in science often means investing in very focused research over long periods of time – it was so rewarding to receive this affirmation that our efforts were valued. It has spurred me on to find the next big project, though perhaps I'll not take 26 years over it next time!”

The **Marsh Horticultural Science Award**, run in partnership with the Royal Horticultural Society, is presented to a horticultural science PhD student who has made exceptional progress in their studies. In 2025, one of the winners of this award was Luke Barnes.

Luke is a student at the University of Reading and was recognised for his project *The impact of peat-free compost on the physical, nutritional and sensory quality of Brassica oleracea*. Peat has historically been used as a growing medium in UK and Irish vegetable horticulture, however there are growing concerns about the impact on the climate of peat extraction, as it releases carbon dioxide and can destroy ecosystems, which has led to legislative efforts to ban the use of peat by 2030. The search for peat-free alternatives is therefore underway, but their impact on the productivity, nutritional quality and flavour of vegetables such as

kale is not yet understood. Luke's project aimed to address this gap in knowledge and investigate the potential public health implications associated with the drive to improve horticultural sustainability. He partnered with growers and liaised with producers to ensure that the project has real-world applicability. The project garnered a mixture of results, some showing that peat-free alternatives are just as effective for kale production and some which show some problems with peat-free alternatives. As a result, Luke and his team are developing a tool for determining the optimal peat-free compost formulations for maximising

the productivity and nutritional status of kale, with the aim of supporting more sustainable growing methods in the future.



“

I am proud and privileged to receive the Marsh Award at the Royal Horticultural Society PhD Symposium. I'm passionate about making science accessible and engaging, and the Royal Horticultural Society plays an important role in supporting that. The experience gave me the confidence and drive to keep improving how I communicate my research.”

In 2025, we recognised a number of outstanding volunteers who make exceptional contributions to supporting those in recovery from addiction through the **Marsh Volunteer Awards with We Are With You (WAWY)**. One of these volunteers was Pamela Hill.

Pam is a real asset at WAWY's women-only prehab in Wigan, having decided to volunteer after positively experiencing the impact that volunteers can have during her own recovery journey. The feedback from staff and clients at the prehab is always positive about Pam and she is always keen, optimistic and so helpful. Pam always jumps at the chance to support both clients and staff, and is always willing to learn new things.

Staff have fed back that she has a desire to help others and never wants anything in return. During a recent service meeting, Pam confidently supported a presentation to the whole of the Wigan and Leigh staff team that outlined the recovery options available to clients, the groups, programmes and courses available, and the benefits of these projects for clients. Pam is hard working and always put the needs of others first.



“

To be nominated for and receive an Award for doing something that I really enjoy and get so much from personally is an added bonus. My volunteering experience so far has opened up a wide new range of opportunities for me as I embark on a new chapter in my life, and it has introduced me to some fantastic people and new friends - all through the wonderful world of volunteering.”

The **Marsh Young Volunteer Award for Marine Conservation** is run in partnership with the Wildlife Trusts and recognises a young volunteer who has made an outstanding contribution to marine conservation and helped to further the work of the Wildlife Trusts in this field. In 2025, the Award celebrated two exceptional young people from the North Wales Wildlife Trust, Oscar Basu and Anna Williams.

Oscar has volunteered over 100 hours for the Trust in the past year and mentors younger peers on the Ocean Rescue Champions programme. He supports the smooth running of activities and represents the Trust brilliantly at public events. Over the past year, he has grown in maturity and confidence, becoming an exceptional role model who helps foster a friendly, inclusive volunteer community. His enthusiasm for marine life is infectious, and he is always happy to share his knowledge with the public.

Despite her busy studies, Anna has consistently made time to support the Trust's seagrass conservation work. A long standing participant in the Ocean Rescue Champions programme, she now volunteers as a reliable mentor to younger members. Anna actively promotes the importance of seagrass - running an information stall at a local festival, speaking with politicians, and writing for the Trust's upcoming magazine. Her

confidence has grown, and she now shares her expertise in seagrass seed collection and planting with wider audiences.



“

It was a great honour to be nominated and to win the Marsh Volunteer Youth Award. I must say a huge thank you particularly to Charlotte but also to everyone at the North Wales Wildlife Trust, because without them I would have never achieved such a prestigious Award.” – Oscar Basu

“

I've volunteered with the Wildlife Trust for almost 5 years now, and I've loved every single minute of it. It's been an amazing opportunity to develop skills, meet new people, and experience hands on marine conservation. To have been recognised with this Award means a lot, as it shows that the volunteering we do is being recognised, and it gives us motivation to keep doing what we're doing.” – Anna Williams

In 2025, we presented our Awards with the Zoological Society of London. The **Thomas Henry Huxley Award and Marsh Prize** was awarded to Charles Emogor for his thesis *'Pangolin Exploitation and Wild Meat Hunting in Nigeria'*, a study situating pangolin exploitation within the global dynamics of wild meat harvesting.

Charles has succeeded in building one of the largest datasets on wildmeat harvesting ever assembled for a tropical site. He has used this dataset to answer a series of far-reaching questions about the magnitude and drivers of the harvesting of pangolins and other species in one of the largest remaining forest blocks in West Africa. His first paper was the most detailed analysis to date of Nigeria's role as an entrepot for illegal pangolin shipments to China and Vietnam. Through unique access to customs data and staff, Charles revealed the vast scale of Africa's illegal pangolin

trade, its shipping routes, and the ineffectiveness of international interventions. Charles' data suggests, quite remarkably, that pangolin hunting in this part of Africa remains motivated largely by domestic meat demand. While long-distance demand for scales is important, it appears to be only a secondary motivation. This striking and unexpected insight has potentially profound implications for how best to curb unsustainable offtake of one of the most heavily exploited mammals on Earth.



I am incredibly humbled to receive the Thomas Henry Huxley Award and Marsh Prize, and pleased that pangolins continue to receive the much-needed and deserved publicity. I acknowledge the support, mentorship, and collaboration of the many colleagues and communities who made this possible."

In 2025 we presented the **Marsh Volunteer Awards with the Kent Wildlife Trust** which celebrated the contributions of 6 outstanding individuals and volunteer groups who have shown dedication to the work of the Trust. One of this year's winners was the **Dover Castle Livestock Checker Team**.

The Dover Castle Livestock Checker Team demonstrated incredible grit, dedication, and teamwork throughout the challenging summer grazing season. Faced with steep wooded banks, dense scrub, hidden ditches and 40 elusive sheep the team showed unwavering commitment to safeguarding the animals' welfare every single day. The group's collaboration with staff ensured timely checks, quick responses, and essential

support at a site where welfare work could take hours. Thanks to their perseverance, the site has seen dramatic improvements, with grazing opening up valuable chalk grassland and helping preserve the historic landscape. Their tireless efforts saved countless hours and resources, strengthened grazing operations county-wide, and showcased true team spirit in the toughest of conditions.



I am so happy that me and my team got recognised for the hard work we all put into checking our sheep. Having this role is amazing, being able to go out in the sun (and sometimes the cold) really is enjoyable. This role is so important, and I am honoured to be a part of the Kent Wildlife Trust team, through warm weather to negative temperatures we all work very hard to make sure the job is done properly (even if it does mean shouting for sheep while shaking like a leaf)." - *Mina Hawthorne, Livestock Checker*



*The Norfolk Wherry Trust Volunteers, winners of the Marsh Volunteer Team Award for Historic Vessel Conservation.*



*Angela Leaman, winner of the Marsh Community Engagement Award with Butterfly Conservation.*



*Beach Clean Volunteers with Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, winners of the Marsh Volunteer Award for Marine Conservation.*



*Marsh Volunteer Awards with Canal and River Trust - Wales and South West Region.*



*Rodrigo de Sousa, winner of the Marsh Award for International Plant Conservation, and members of his team.*



*John Aiken, winner of the Marsh Volunteer Award for Historic Vessel Conservation.*



*Chelsea McKibbin, winner of the Marsh Award for Innovation in Conservation.*

# 2024-25 In Numbers



## 516

Total grants made in the year



## £545,317

Finances allocated across the Grants and Awards programmes



## 71

New Organisations supported through the grants



## 1242

Appeals for funding received



## 315

Individuals and Groups recognised



## 2

New Awards presented



## 41

Partners 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 £22,000,000 which continues to be invested to produce sustainable returns to fund the Trust’s work.

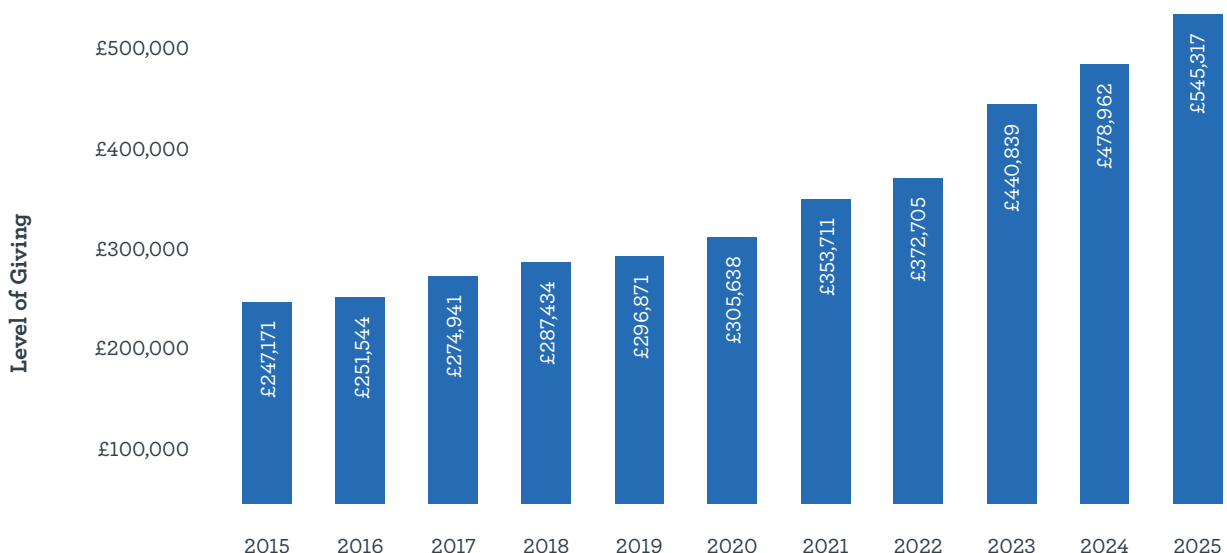
Each year, the Trust endeavours to increase its charitable giving in response to the needs of the sector, and the most recent financial year is no different. The total grants and Awards made by the Trust in the year to 5th April 2025 amounted to £545,317, which was an increase from £478,962 in 2024. 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 the 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

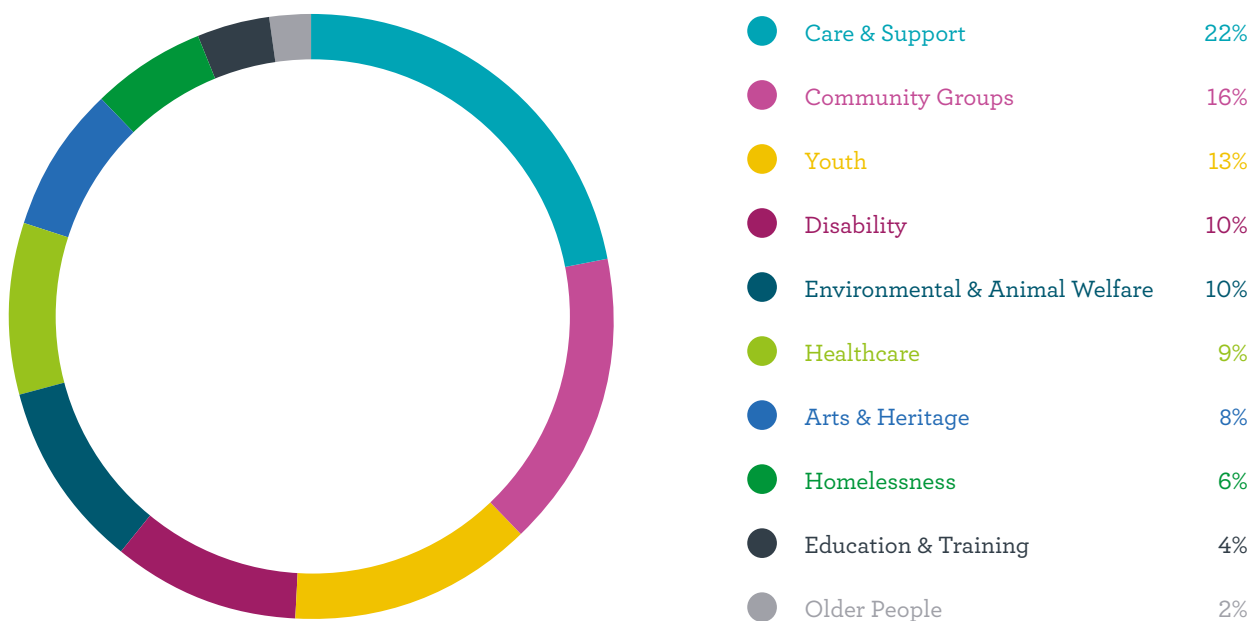


# Grant Making

Across the UK, there are over 170,000 voluntary organisations, many of which continue to face significant challenges in securing income due to ongoing economic pressures and reductions in government support. The Trust supports these organisations through its Grants Programme, providing essential core funding to help cover operational costs. This flexible funding can be used for a range of purposes, including volunteer expenses, updating key equipment, and other necessary costs to ensure charities can deliver their work effectively.

With around 80% of charities reporting an annual income of less than £100,000, the Trust recognises the important role it plays in sustaining smaller organisations during financially difficult times, enabling them to continue supporting the most vulnerable in society.<sup>1</sup> In an environment where the demand for charitable services continues to rise, the Trust's grant giving has become increasingly vital. Most of its funding is directed towards charities operating in social services and welfare, the largest subsector in the UK charity sector, with over 31,000 organisations, accounting for around 20% of the sector.<sup>2</sup> These organisations provide support to those experiencing homelessness, addiction, or disability, assist carers, and work with young people to improve their opportunities. The Trust also funds organisations carrying out research in areas such as health, environmental conservation, and the arts, recognising the importance of these sectors to society.

## Allocation of Resources



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ncvo.org.uk/news-and-insights/news-index/the-road-ahead-2025/challenges/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/voluntary-and-community-sector-contribution-to-society/#:-:text=Voluntary%20organisations%20are%20involved%20in,summary%2C%2012%20October%202023>

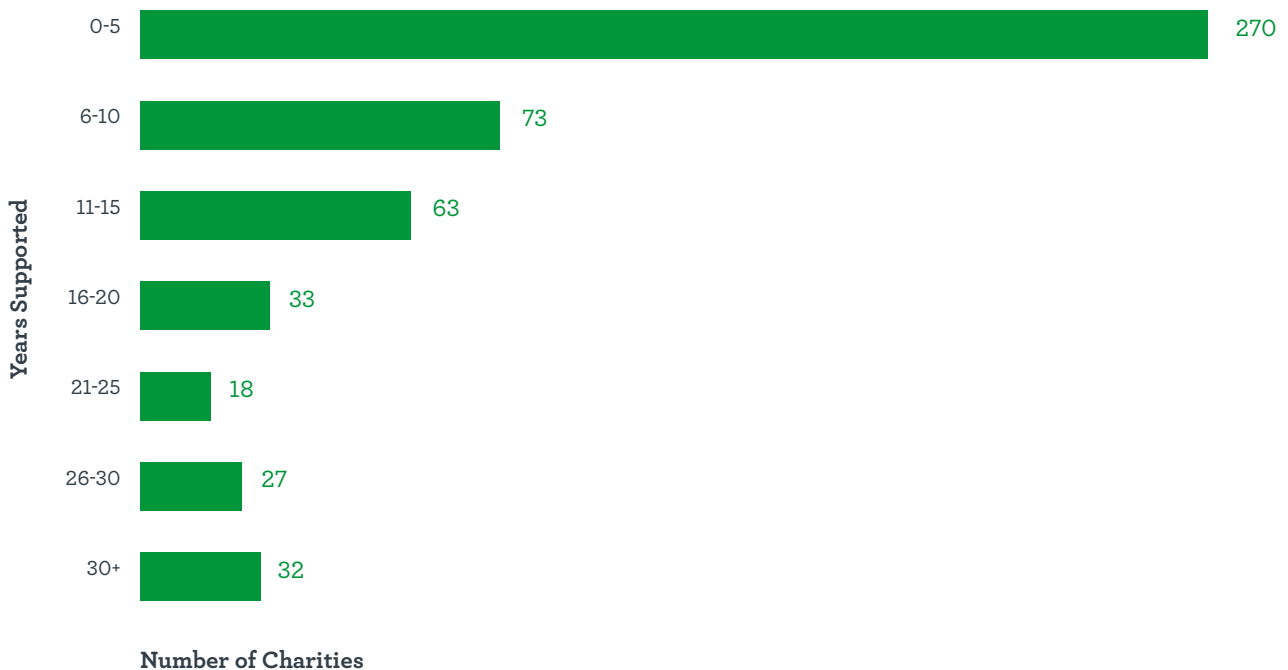
<sup>3</sup> <https://www.charitylink.net/blog/cost-of-living-crisis-impact-uk-charities>

Grants generally range from £500 to £2,400, with longer-term partners often receiving support towards the upper end of this range. Applications are reviewed based on the organisation's financial position, effectiveness in meeting its charitable aims, and the balance between voluntary income and fundraising costs. While many grantees are in and around London, the Trust also funds organisations across the UK and, in some cases, internationally.

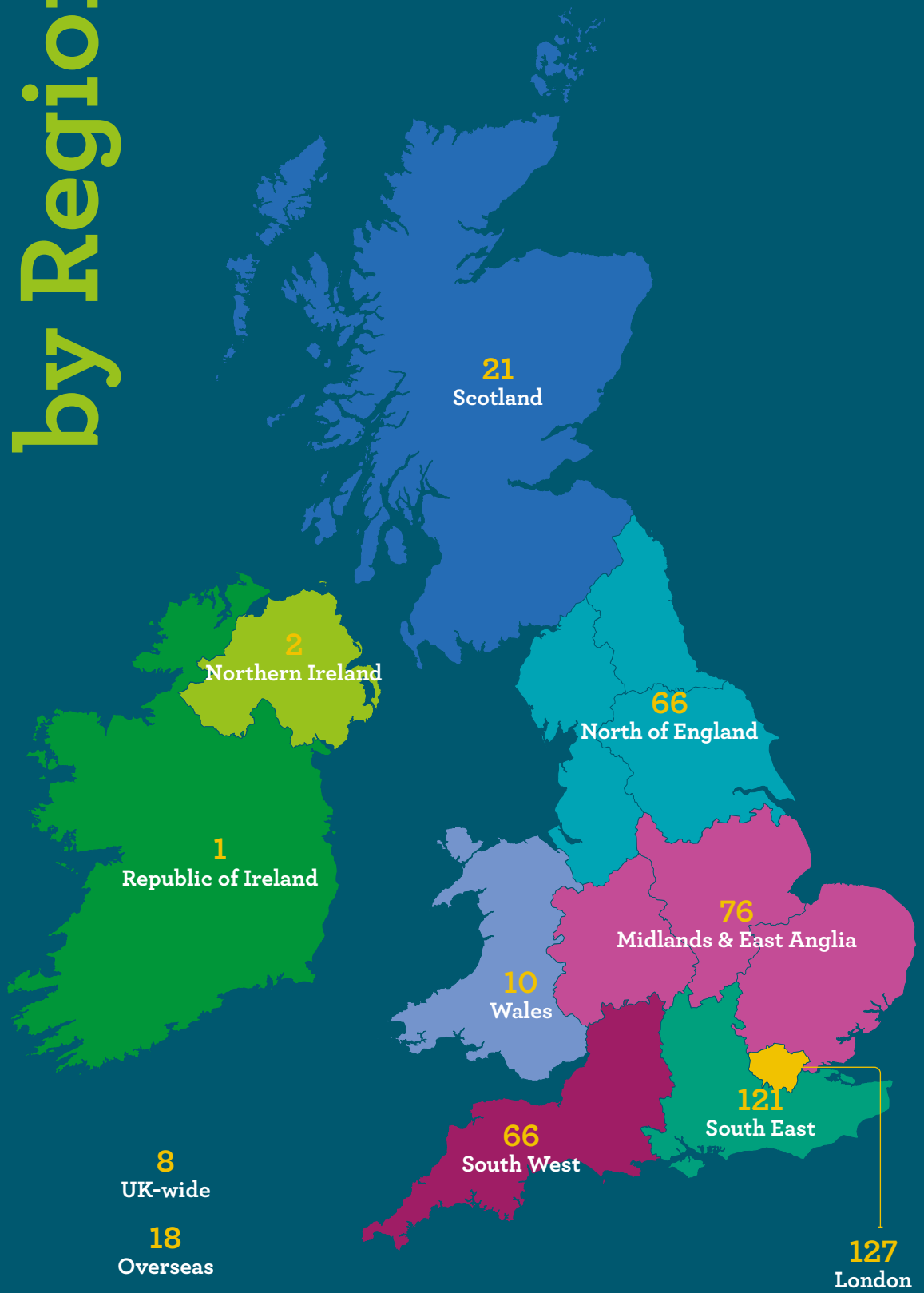
The current cost of living crisis has also affected charitable giving, with the Charities Link reporting that 86% of charities are concerned about rising costs, nearly 60% are worried about donors' capacity to give, and 35% believe their organisation will struggle to survive altogether.<sup>3</sup> The Trust is committed to building long term relationships with successful applicants, providing modest but reliable grants that can deliver vital support year after year. Some of these partnerships extend back more than 40 years, highlighting the enduring impact of the Trust since its establishment in 1981.

The case studies included in this review highlight the breadth of organisations supported through the Grants Programme in the past year. They illustrate the positive impact of the Trust's funding and provide insight into the important work carried out by our grantees. Visits to several organisations have further reinforced the difference these grants make in practice.

## Grant Recipients



# Grantees by Region



Durham University's 'Shakespeare Recovered project', winner of the Marsh Award for Heritage Conservation in Action (credit: Durham University).



Louise Kinlen, winner of the Marsh Volunteer Award with Refugee Council.



Julie Tipper, winner of the Marsh Volunteer Award with Kent Wildlife Trust (credit Alla Stratienko).



Jim Smith (ZSL Chair) and Flynn Bizzell, winner of the ZSL Charles Darwin Award and Marsh Prize.



Professor Christopher Mills, winner of the Marsh Ecology Book of the Year Award.



Rachel Hutchison, winner of the Marsh Award for Excellence in Visual Arts Engagement.



Emily McKenzie (COO), Patrick Rice (winner of the Marsh Volunteer Award with St Paul's Cathedral) and Peter Anwyl-Harris (MCT Ambassador).



Marsh Award for Volunteering with Prison Advice and Care Trust (Pact) Presentation.



Angela Varley, winner of the Marsh Lead Volunteer of the Year Award with Canal and River Trust.

# Leukaemia Care

YOUR Blood Cancer Charity

## Leukaemia Care

Supported since 2020

Leukaemia Care is a UK national charity providing support to anyone affected by leukaemia or a related blood cancer, including patients, families and friends to carers. For over 50 years, Leukaemia Care have been dedicated to ensuring that everyone affected receives the best possible diagnosis, information, advice, treatment and support. They operate a freephone helpline staffed by nurses and patient services, a WhatsApp service, one-to-one “buddy” schemes, peer support groups and a network of regional hubs. They also offer discretionary financial grants to help with travel, utilities, and essential costs in times of need. Leukaemia Care campaigns to raise awareness of blood cancers and influence improvements in standards of care across the UK.

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



“

It's not just medical advice; she's given me emotional support that has made a huge difference to my mental well-being. I'm so grateful for this service.”

- *Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia (CLL) patient who used helpline*

“

Thank you all so much at Leukaemia Care. Your patience and kindness at such a difficult time in our lives has made all the difference. It's good to know that you're there – either at the end of the phone or via email to offer support.”

- *A card sent in from an Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) patient's wife*

“

She has helped me with so many questions and queries and reassured anxieties. It feels amazing to talk to someone who truly gets my experience and how it feels to have my cancer. She is so knowledgeable and empathetic.”

- *Buddy Scheme member*

“

I just called to thank you so much for telling us and helping with my attendance allowance claim. It was a real surprise to be awarded, and we wouldn't have known about it without you telling us about it. We really appreciate the information you sent us and support with this. The extra money will make such a difference to us, especially with increased travel costs for blood transfusions.”

- *Welfare Advice Service user*



## Back On Track

Supported since 2025

Back On Track Stroke Rehab Service is a charity based in Wiltshire, established to support stroke survivors and their carers, especially younger people. They offer support tailored to survivors who may not otherwise have access to private rehabilitation. Back On Track provides one-to-one home visits, peer support groups, and practical and emotional help to assist recovery and adaptation after a stroke. Their services focus on long term rehabilitation, helping survivors regain confidence, mobility, and independence.



“

We are very appreciative of the grant funding that we have received from the Marsh Charitable Trust. It has enabled us to provide additional therapies and counselling to those stroke survivors who would not have otherwise accessed this support.”

- *Managing Director*

“

Without the support of Back On Track Stroke Rehab Service, I wouldn't have coped with what has happened to me.”

- *A. C, Stroke Survivor*

“

I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for Back On Track - they gave me the help and support I desperately needed - they saved me from the brink of despair.”

- *M.S, Stroke Survivor*

“

Back On Track has made a huge difference to my recovery, they've enabled me to move forward in my life.”

- *A.W, Stroke Survivor*





## Prickles and Paws Hedgehog Rescue

Supported since 2025

Prickles and Paws Hedgehog Rescue is a Cornwall-based charity dedicated to rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing native British hedgehogs from Cornwall and the Southwest. They care for large numbers each year with 1,428 hedgehogs admitted in 2024 and aim to never turn a hedgehog away. Their mission also includes providing educational workshops, online engagement, and working with universities to further research into wildlife care. Aiming to inspire learning and conservation through improving the knowledge and understanding of hedgehogs, they are currently constructing a purpose-built hedgehog hospital or “Hogspital”, due to be completed in 2026, to expand capacity and improve care infrastructure. The charity is run by a very small staff team and depends heavily on volunteers and community donations.

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

“

Here at Prickles and Paws we were delighted to receive a grant from the Marsh Charitable Trust. It is so refreshing to discover a donor that positively assists charities with their day to day running costs. Our charity is wholly dependent on donations from our community of supporters, trusts and businesses, and your grant will ensure that we are able to care for more hedgehogs in the coming year.”

- John Lewis, CEO

“

During my 10 years with the RSPCA, I have always recommended hedgehogs go to Prickles and Paws to receive the best chance of recovery and being released. The new facility will prevent unnecessary travel through Newquay to get the hedgehog to the rescue centre sooner. I highly recommend Prickles and Paws and support any plans that they have.”

- Animal Rescue Officer, RSPCA





**FUTURE TREES**  
TRUST

## Future Trees Trust

Supported since 2012

Future Trees Trust is the only UK charity solely focused on improving broadleaf tree species. Their work centres on research, tree breeding, developing resilience to pests, diseases and climate change and supporting sustainable forestry. They have seed orchards for multiple species, conducted more than 30 research trials across the UK and are producing genetically diverse populations for use in forestry. As of 2024, the Trust is based at the National Trust's Buscot and Coleshill Estate in Oxfordshire, where they launched a National Centre for education, research and public engagement. Their objectives include increasing their impact, maintaining sound governance and helping the UK to meet environmental and climate targets via healthy, homegrown broadleaf planting and improved timber supply.

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



We're incredibly grateful to the Marsh Charitable Trust for their continued support of Future Trees Trust. Their funding has helped us address some of the most complex challenges in British forestry, including improving the resilience and timber quality of native broadleaved species such as oak and wild cherry. These trees have significant potential to contribute to a more sustainable, homegrown timber supply—especially important given the UK's heavy reliance on imported broadleaved timber. The Trust's backing has enabled us to make meaningful progress in research, conservation, and seed orchard development. Their support is helping us secure the future of broadleaved trees in the UK."

- John McLaughlin, CEO, Future Trees Trust





## National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain

Supported since 2013

National Children's Orchestras of Great Britain (NCO) is a UK charity that offers orchestral training and musical development to young musicians aged 8 to 14. Each year nearly 2,000 children participate in residential orchestral weeks, weekends, workshops and concerts under experienced tutors and conductors. Based in Bristol, the NCO operates nationwide and offers both auditioned orchestras and inclusive, non-auditioned opportunities such as its Horizons programme, helping to widen access to music education. Alongside developing technical and musical skills, the organisation aims to build confidence, teamwork, and resilience. Their mission is to nurture musical ability, confidence and teamwork, as well as to give children meaningful performance opportunities while fostering lifelong engagement with music.

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

“

We are immensely proud to have reached 2,240 children through our activities this year, with a 37% increase in those experiencing our free, non-auditioned opportunities. Their energy and curiosity filled rehearsal rooms, concert and school halls across the UK, from first-time ensemble players to young musicians shaping ambitious orchestral performances.”

– *Sophie Lewis, Chief Executive*

“

My son feels very lucky and proud to be part of NCO, with lots of happy memories of making wonderful orchestral music together! It was a great sense of achievement performing after months of preparation and dedication!”

– *Parent of an Orchestral Weeks member*



“

I truly look forward to it every year. Everything is very well organised and prepared so that we can get through the music in detail and efficiently, and I feel very well supported both by tutors and support team and management.”

– *Conductor*



## Romney Marsh Historic Churches Trust

Supported since 2022

The Romney Marsh Historic Churches Trust is a volunteer led charity focused on preserving and maintaining the historic fabric of 14 medieval churches and 4 ruins located across the Romney Marsh in Kent, and one in Sussex. The Trust awards grants and supports local parishes with structural repairs, safeguarding architectural features and enabling heritage projects. One of its notable interventions is saving and maintaining the redundant St Augustine's Church at Snave, Ashford, preserving it from secular conversion. The Trust also engages the public through open days, virtual tours and community projects, such as mosaics, connecting the 14 churches to raise awareness of the Marsh's unique ecclesiastical heritage.

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



In 2024, the 145 year old tomb of former Curate Reverend Richard Andrew Hancock was restored with funding from the Trust. The grave was in danger of being lost in the undergrowth. Rusted iron railings had partially collapsed and presented a potential hazard. The salty sea air on Romney Marsh speeds up the corrosion of untreated ironwork - an ongoing challenge for the historic marsh churches. The Trust supported St. George's at Ivychurch with approximately £7,000 to enable this work to be completed. Vegetation was cleared and railings were restored with the help of contractor Eastwell Ironworks from New Romney.'

*- Ivychurch, St. George's - Restoring the Hancock Tomb*





## Girls' Friendly Society

Supported since 2024

The Girls' Friendly Society (GFS) is a charitable youth organisation operating in England and Wales with a history dating back to 1875. Its mission is to support girls and young women through weekly volunteer led groups, helping them to build confidence, resilience, character and a voice in life. GFS offers a safe, non-competitive, nurturing environment for girls from around age six upward to explore new interests, express themselves and grow socially and emotionally. Over time, the organisation has refreshed its branding to remain relevant to today's youth, while retaining its foundational purpose of creating supportive communities for girls and young women.

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



It's a place where we have been able to make real friends, who don't judge us and who like us for who we are. Here, everyone is kind and welcoming. GFS has shown us that we don't have to listen to the mean things people say about us. We don't have to change who we are to fit in."

- Tiellah, age 9, South Manchester



Aria struggled to stick with an activity; however, she really enjoys GFS and has continued to thrive and grow further friendships outside of her school year."

- Parent, Atherstone, Reception - Year 2



She has sensory autism and struggles to maintain friendships. GFS is a safe space for her to learn to socialise appropriately."

- Parent, Smethwick





## RAW Workshop

Supported since 2025

RAW Workshop is a charity operating across Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire, providing training, employment and personal development opportunities for young people facing significant barriers, including exclusion from education and mental health challenges. Their work spans alternatives to mainstream education, outreach support, life-skills training, furniture production (indoor and outdoor), refurbishment, and wider circular economy services, including the supply of furniture and fixtures. RAW Workshop has supported over 300 young people across the three counties, generating more than 50,000 hours of social impact through skills development, training, employment opportunities and reduced social isolation. They also deliver youth support services embedded within mental health and other professional networks, enabling tailored outreach, coordinated care and holistic support for young people and their families.

For more information visit:  
[www.raw-workshop.co.uk](http://www.raw-workshop.co.uk)



“

I just wanted to let you know what an absolute joy it has been to work with Matt. He is so incredibly child-led and reflective and has created such a safe space. Matt is a huge part of the reason that the young person was able to leave school with 6 GCSE's and start his A-levels. And he has got him back on a basketball court, which was the ultimate goal. There has been lots of anxiety around him, and I felt so grateful to be working alongside Matt - he manages to be containing in a very positive but totally realistic way. Will miss working with him. Thanks!”

- Outreach Youth Worker Feedback

“

RAW has changed that boy's life! His mood is better he is now excited to go to a place for education! All he speaks about is RAW and he is excited to get up and go in the mornings. I wish you could give him more days and keep him forever! I cannot express how much RAW has changed his life.”

- Feedback from Parent/Carer

“

It's truly heartwarming to see how much he has grown and how engaged he's been throughout the year. We deeply appreciate all the support, guidance, and encouragement you've given him. It means a lot to know he's had such a positive and nurturing experience.”

- Feedback from Parent





## Support After Murder and Manslaughter

Supported since 2022

Support After Murder and Manslaughter (SAMM) is a peer support charity for those bereaved by murder or manslaughter. Their services are available regardless of how long ago the bereavement happened and they support close relatives, extended family and even friends deeply affected. SAMM offers peer support, group sessions and ongoing accompaniment to reduce isolation and foster resilience. They serve people across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, with no time limit on membership. Their core purpose is to help people navigate the emotional trauma, grief and lasting impact of homicide loss.

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



“

This has been a life changing event. I feel like I have begun my healing journey. I feel cared for, nurtured and have been shown that everything I am feeling and thinking is okay. I just wanted to go to sleep and not wake up. I feel rested now. Thank you so much.’

- *SAMM Client*

“

It was informative, sharing experiences with friends, and gaining a little more knowledge on photography. It reminded me to take time. I will try and take a photo each day and think before I click next time. I received some good hints and tips. Thank you SAMM for giving us this time to make for ourselves.”

- *Photography Workshop Client*

“

I really value the time spent in the group and find it invaluable. I also feel reassured knowing that a couple of ladies who have attended the groups have communicated that they are going on the November Retreat, which I have put my name down for. This has helped me feel less anxious, as I will already know them.”

- *Online Support Group Client*





Registered charity in England and Wales (1020439)  
and in Scotland (SC047439)

## Missing People

Supported since 2005

Missing People is the UK's only charity supporting children, young people and adults who are missing, or facing the heartbreak of a missing loved one. Their free and confidential helpline is available every day, via 116000, providing emotional support, guidance and advocacy to anyone away from home, thinking of leaving, or dealing with the trauma of a missing loved one. Through the helpline, Missing People also reaches out to thousands of at-risk adults and children every year, via the innovative TextSafe® service, their partnership with UK police forces that allows people reported missing to receive a text connecting them with the charity's Helpline. In addition, Missing People reunites families via its Lost Contact service, conducts research to improve policy, campaigns to raise awareness, and delivers training to professionals in order to improve responses to the issue of missing.

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

“

No one listens. They talk over me and tell me how it's going to be and I have no say. You really listened to me.”

- *A young caller to the Helpline*

“

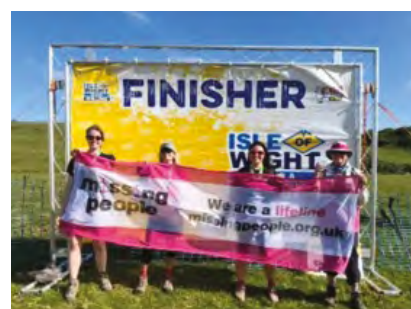
My world came tumbling down last year when my loved one went missing. I had to appeal for the man I loved. Missing People were so amazing. They have no closing date on support. I can pick up the phone to call them anytime.”

- *Partner of a missing person*

“

Thankfully, my uncle has been found. A mental health crisis led to his disappearance. I have no words to express how grateful my family are to Missing People for all the help you provided.”

- *Family member of a missing person*





## Mission Aviation Fellowship

Supported since 2000

Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) is the world's largest humanitarian air service, flying to more than 1,000 remote destinations - more than the top three commercial airlines combined. MAF operates in more than 25 low-income countries, delivering aid, medicine, and relief, transporting personnel and responding to natural disasters in areas widely inaccessible by road. Founded by a handful of RAF veterans in 1945, MAF's earliest vision was to help isolated people in the aftermath of WWII, using aircraft as a force for peace rather than conflict. By 1947, a small team raised enough money to buy MAF's first aircraft - a Miles Gemini. In January 1948, a pioneering survey flight across Africa identified huge areas of vulnerability. Today, MAF partners with roughly 1,400 aid, development, and mission organisations; enabling them to reach isolated communities in the safest and quickest way possible - not just in Africa but across the globe.

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



“

MAF flights take about two hours, but going by car, even 4x4, takes three to four days when it is dry season, and four to six days during rainy season. There is one other way to get in Tambohorano which is to go by boat, but it takes at least three days. We can save time using MAF flights, so we are thankful to them.”

- Mezasoa, Community Member Interview,  
Beroroha MMS 2024

“

Lova is 18 months old. He was barely able to crawl normally and was unable to stand. He was brought by his mother to see the doctors who had been flown by MAF to their hometown, Belo sur Tsiribihina, Madagascar. The team from the HoverAid medical 'safari' examined him and found that he had spina bifida, a condition he had lived with since birth. Lova and his mother boarded an MAF plane bound for Antananarivo, Madagascar, with the flight offered free of charge. Stories like Lova's remind us why we do this work. It is not easy work, but it gives people in remote areas a chance of a healthy future.”

- HoverAid's Medical Project Manager, Maholy





*A view of Scarborough Big Dig, a shortlisted project for the Marsh Community Archaeology Project Award (photo by John Oxley).*



*Annie Bedford, winner of the Marsh Award for Excellence in Visual Arts Engagement.*



*Marsh Volunteer Awards with London Museum winners - Tharah Rahman, Maggie Wood (Thursday Team), and Dorothy Pang.*



*Simon Fox, winner of the Marsh Volunteer Award with Canal and River Trust.*



*British Association for Friends of Museums Volunteers.*

**Marsh Charitable Trust**

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✕ @MarshAwards

🦋 @marshawards.bsky.social

**in** Marsh Charitable Trust

**[www.marshcharitabletrust.org](http://www.marshcharitabletrust.org)**

*Marsh Charitable Trust is the operating name of  
Marsh Christian Trust (Charity Number: 284470)*



# MARSH

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## Charitable Trust

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**in** Marsh Charitable Trust

Marsh Charitable Trust  
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[www.marshcharitabletrust.org](http://www.marshcharitabletrust.org)

