



ANNUAL REVIEW 2015-2016



ADMINISTRATION & CONSULTANCY

The Trustees receive approximately 1,250 appeals annually, of which 1000 are new. Grants have been made to an average of 400 charities annually, with every effort being made to remit a reply to each appeal received. The Trustees attempt to visit or meet with each long-term recipient charity in order to review recent work and developments, discuss future plans and renew acquaintance with those responsible for the charity concerned.

Total Grants Made Over Three-Year Periods Since Inception

As part of its objectives, the Trust aims to increase its charitable donations each year. This has not always been possible, but every endeavour is made to do so. As can be seen from this historical perspective, since inception, the Trust has been able to increase its charitable activities as its income has risen.



TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees and I are pleased to offer our Report on the affairs of the Trust for the financial year 6th April 2015 to 5th April 2016.

Over the past year we were able to allocate over £250,000 to our two areas of charitable activity, grant-making and the Marsh Awards Scheme. Throughout the year existing grantee partnerships were developed further, as is part of the trust's long-term core funding strategy and the trust supported over 40 new charities, predominantly in the field of social welfare, although charities working in conservation, heritage and education were also supported.

The Marsh Awards Scheme continues to grow successfully. Each year the Awards recognise groups and individuals of all ages who are making a positive difference to a cause that they believe in, be it through conservation, volunteering or education. This year over 150 people were recognised through regional and national Awards. Seven new Awards were presented over the course of the year and five new Award partnerships were initiated to recognise work in the areas of homelessness, addiction, refugee support, heritage skills, community projects, and ornithology.

As ever we are impressed by the range of projects and work undertaken by those who want to give something back and we feel privileged that we are able to recognise their efforts through these Awards.

We could not provide this recognition without the enormous support of our partners and we would like to thank them for all their efforts in enabling our Awards Scheme to run.

We once more anticipate increasing the levels of grant-making in the coming year, particularly in light of the continuing financial pressure the sector is under. We value our ongoing partnerships with those bodies with whom we have had long-standing relationships, some since the Trust's inception. Going forward the Trustees are determined to maintain and develop these relationships, as well as identify new areas and organisations which require support. Over the next year the Trustees intend to also develop some of the existing Award partnerships as well as initiate new ones.

Brian Marsh OBE

TRUSTEES

Brian P Marsh OBE (Chairman)
Natalie C S Collings
Antonia C Marsh
Lorraine Ryan
Camilla Kenyon
Charles Micklewright
Nicholas Carter

*"We are incredibly grateful to you for this award, which allows us to continue our vital support to vulnerable people, their families and communities."
2016 Grantee*



THE FOUNDATION

The Marsh Christian Trust was founded in 1981 by its current Chairman, Brian Marsh. The Trust provides modest financial support to charities in the form of annual grants. The Trust focuses particularly on providing funding which could help small organisations pay for various running costs, such as volunteer expenses, training days, equipment maintenance and other core outgoings. The funding strategy is to provide long-term core funding, as we understand that many of the organisations we support depend on unrestricted income in order to meet their operating needs.

Who we fund:

Small to medium sized registered charities based in the UK working in the following areas:

- Literature, arts and heritage
- Social welfare
- Environmental causes and animal welfare
- Education and training
- Healthcare

What we do not fund:

- Individuals or individual sponsorship proposals
- Building work or individual restoration projects
- Individual churches
- Hospices or hospitals

Once successful, applicants are supported on a recurring annual basis, subject to yearly re-submission and review. The Trustees take into account the organisation's financial position, performance against charitable aims and objectives, and the ratio of fundraising costs against voluntary income when

considering each appeal. The size of donations normally ranges from £250 to £4,000. Any application for a grant must be submitted in writing and accompanied by a copy of the most recent audited accounts of the charity concerned.

As a result of our work with numerous charities, we have seen first-hand how influential the volunteers and the people who work with charitable organisations can be. A consequence of this has been the creation of the Marsh Awards Scheme. The Awards are run in partnership with other charitable bodies to deliver recognition to those who selflessly invest their time, energy and skills in pursuit of a cause that they believe in.

Recipients of the Marsh Awards are a diverse group of people, ranging from scientists working in conservation biology and ecology, to authors and sculptors from the arts world, those working to conserve heritage, as well as those working with communities, young people and individuals affected by social inequalities and ill health.

The Marsh Awards Scheme now consists of over 75 different programmes across a wide variety of fields, full details of which can be found on our website - www.marshchristiantrust.org

"To receive such an important public acknowledgement is not only very rewarding, it also gives us confidence that our voice will be heard even more clearly..."

2016 Award Winner



ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

The Marsh Christian Trust was established in 1981 with the sum of £75,000. Over the intervening years further sums have been added to the Trust whenever the opportunity has arisen. From these beginnings the Trust's funds have developed to stand today at around £9.2 million. The Trust is financed by the returns from its investments in order to ensure the longevity of the Trust's activities and its ability to provide sustainable ongoing funding.

The Trustees allocated the Trust's available resources of approximately £250,000 during the period under review as shown in the diagram opposite, and some notes of explanation follow. The Trust Deed gives the Trustees wide discretion to make donations for any charitable purpose. The causes we support lie broadly within the following five areas of work:

Social Welfare

This area involves an endless demand for funds, and the Trust has endeavoured to answer this need within the proportion of its resources allocated to this area. The field is hugely varied, but in particular the Trust supports charities helping the young, older people, the homeless, prisoners and their families, those recovering from addiction and people living with physical disabilities and mental health problems.

Literature, Arts & Heritage

The Trust maintains strong links with a number of national organisations including the National Portrait Gallery and the British Museum, but also with a great variety of smaller, local organisations that aim to improve public appreciation and participation in literature, the arts and heritage.

Environmental Causes And Animal Welfare

Since its inception the Trust has been a supporter of various organisations devoted to nature conservation and wildlife, both within the UK and overseas.

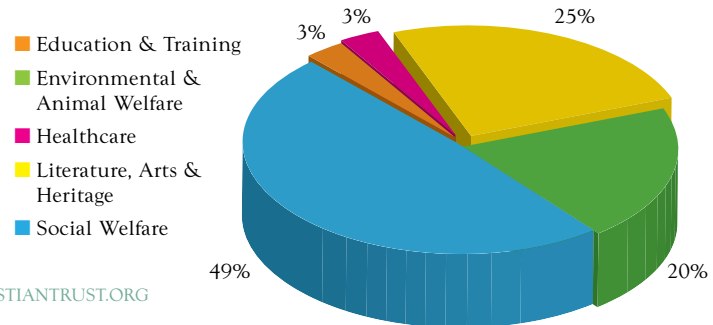
Healthcare & Medical Research

The Trustees avoid giving funds to individual hospitals or hospices due to the belief that it is the responsibility of the local and national community to maintain these and therefore the majority of grants made in this area are for medical research.

Education And Training

The Trustees generally avoid making donations to individual schools, colleges or universities, due to the belief that it is the responsibility of the local and national community to maintain these. However, the Trust regularly makes grants to a number of organisations such as the Reed's School Foundation and has been a supporter of the English-Speaking Union since inception.

ALLOCATION OF CHARITABLE RESOURCES 6TH APRIL 2015 - 5TH APRIL 2016





A Grant-Making Body

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