

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is it called the Marsh Christian Trust?

If you asked the Chairman and Founder this question he would simply reply “My name is Marsh. I’m a Christian and it’s a Trust” i.e. it does what it says on the tin.

Is the Marsh Christian Trust a faith based organisation?

The Marsh Christian Trust was founded by Brian Marsh in 1981 based on the Christian principles of reaching out, caring for the natural world and helping those in need. These principles continue to remain a core part of the charity’s ethos and it provides support on this basis which is distinctly inclusive of all organisations, including those of other faiths or no faith.

Recipients of both our grant-making programme and Award scheme come from all walks of life and are respected for who they are and what they are doing, not what faith they follow.

Where does the money come from?

The Marsh Christian Trust was established by Brian Marsh OBE with the sum of £75,000. From these beginnings the Trust’s funds have developed and stand today at around £7,000,000. The Trust’s principle activity is financed by income derived from its investment portfolio, but whenever possible Mr Marsh will make further personal donations. The Trust does not accept any public donations.

What should we include in the application?

As stated in the guidelines, the application requirements are a cover letter and a copy of the most recent reports and accounts. We believe that the application requirements reflect the size of our grants and therefore there is no complicated application form to complete.

Other relevant information is also considered alongside the letter and accounts, but please do not send in a large number of extra documents as there is no need, it will cost you more and it will take longer to process. If more information is required, we will contact you.

What are the size of the grants? Should we ask for a specific sum in our application?

As mentioned in the application criteria, the size of the grants’ range from £250 to £4000.

Applicants are welcome to request a specific sum, but should take into consideration the grants available and remember that new applications will start at the lower end of the scale.

How long should the application be?

The application should be one to two sides of A4, plus the full reports and accounts.

When can we apply?

The simple answer is anytime. Applications are processed on an on-going basis and you will usually hear from us within 3 months. Sometimes due to the volume of applications we may take a little longer to respond, but it won’t be much longer than that.

“We support young people in County Durham / Wildlife conservation in Swansea / local museums in the South East. Would this be something that the Trust is interested in supporting?”

The Trust Deed gives the Trustees wide discretion to make donations for any charitable purpose. Therefore, as long as the organisation is a registered charity and has been operating for more than a year the Trustees will consider the application.

When can we re-apply if our application is unsuccessful?

Any unsuccessful applicant is welcome to re-apply at any time.