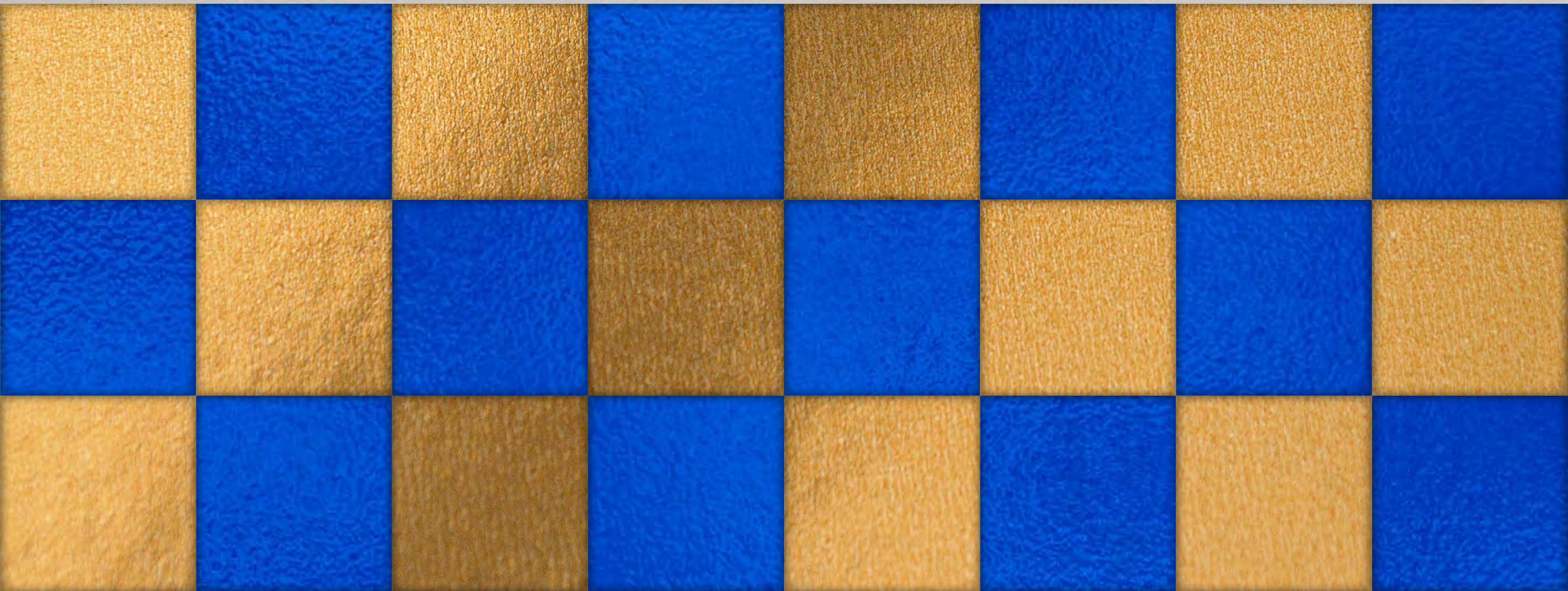




THE
MERCERS'
COMPANY

2022—2023 ANNUAL REVIEW
PHILANTHROPIC CONTRIBUTION
AND REFLECTION



Cover inspiration

Celebrating the 600th anniversary of one of the greatest Mercers – Sir Richard Whittington, the cover features blue and gold from his coat of arms and the inclusion of the Whittington 600 anniversary logo.

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PHILANTHROPY IS THE COMMON THREAD THAT LINKS OUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE.

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MASSTER

THE LAST 12 MONTHS HAVE BEEN AN EXTRAORDINARY PERIOD IN THE LIFE OF THE NATION. IT HAS BEEN A HUGE PRIVILEGE TO LEAD THE MERCERS' COMPANY DURING THIS HISTORIC YEAR.

On 8 September 2022, the Mercers' Company was deeply saddened to learn of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II after a long life of service and duty. I had the honour, along with other colleagues, of representing the Mercers' Company at the Proclamation of the Accession of His Majesty King Charles III at the Royal Exchange. It was a profoundly moving occasion which reaffirmed our historic ties with both the Crown and the City of London. It was also with considerable pride that just over a week later I attended Her Majesty's funeral at Westminster Abbey representing both the Company and the wider Livery.

More recently, this year, we were honoured, with the City Corporation and other Livery Companies, to contribute to the anointing screen that surrounded His Majesty The King during his Coronation on 6 May. Produced by the Royal College of Needlework, the screen reminded us of the Company's roots in the fabric trade as well as giving us a small but tangible part in this ancient ceremony. However, as much as I have been proud to represent the Company's role in these historic events, I have been equally proud to represent its ongoing philanthropic work.



Philanthropy is our guiding purpose. It informs our decisions and actions, shapes our culture, and drives our strategy.

“ It was also with considerable pride that just over a week later I attended Her Majesty's funeral at Westminster Abbey representing both the Company and the wider Livery.

”

As Master I have seen first-hand our work with our benefices in Northumberland, the vibrant communities in the almshouses we run, and the excellent education delivered by our Associated Schools & Colleges. These historic responsibilities inform and inspire our three people-focused philanthropy programmes – Young People & Education, Older People & Housing and Church & Communities which over the past five years have invested £42.7 million through 700 grants to 432 organisations.

This has been the period of the Company's first Philanthropy Framework (2018–2023), and this Annual Review celebrates the work it has done. In addition to the three main programmes, an additional £7 million of grants were made directly by the Company via the Members' Philanthropy programme and other projects.

We look forward to the next 5-Year Philanthropy Framework (2023–2028), as we strive to take a more purposeful approach to Social Investment, as well as continuing our three major grants programmes, Members' Philanthropy and introducing a fourth, modest people-focused programme, Heritage & Arts. Under the Framework we will continue to gather information on our grantmaking to measure effectiveness and reach, applying the findings to ensure more equitable, sustainable, and impactful grant making in the future.

Perhaps the greatest inspiration to Mercer philanthropy was the example of Richard Whittington who left his entire and considerable estate for charitable purposes. 2023 marks the 600th anniversary of Whittington's death and the Company is proud that six centuries later it remains trustee of the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington, formed from that bequest. To mark Whittington's great legacy, the Company conceived 'Whittington 600', a programme of events designed to bring together Members, academics, grantees, and guests in celebrating Whittington himself, how he inspired later generations of Mercers and the continuing positive impact his Charity has today.

These celebrations will continue until the end of the year but perhaps the greatest event so far has been the party held for the residents of Whittington College, the almshouse he entrusted his executors to build, and which continues to provide accommodation for the elderly today.

“ Perhaps the greatest inspiration to Mercer philanthropy was the example of Richard Whittington who left his entire and considerable estate for charitable purposes.

”

These celebrations have coincided with the development of a new office building, to be named the Whittington Building, and a new archive building, adjacent to Mercers' Hall in Frederick's Place. Due for completion next year, the new offices will support income generation for philanthropy whilst the new archive reaffirms our dedication to our history, the stewardship of our historic collections and our commitment to education and lifelong learning.

None of this could be achieved without our valued Members who help oversee the running of the Mercers' Company and the Charities for which the Company is corporate trustee or sole member of; or who serve as Governors at our Associated Schools & Colleges or as a Trustee on associated bodies. In this Review three of our Members explain how they contribute to the Company's philanthropic purpose and wider society. The Mercers' Company is enormously grateful to them and all its Members for their support.

ADAM FENWICK – MASTER



THE
MERCERS'
COMPANY

A LIVERY COMPANY FOCUSED ON BEING A PHILANTHROPIC FORCE FOR GOOD

THE MERCERS' COMPANY WAS FOUNDED AS
A TRADE GUILD AND IS ONE OF 111 LIVERY
COMPANIES OF THE CITY OF LONDON. WE HAVE
A RICH HISTORY DATING BACK OVER 700 YEARS
WITH PHILANTHROPY AS THE COMMON THREAD
BETWEEN OUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE.



WE ARE DRIVEN BY OUR PHILANTHROPIC PURPOSE SUPPORTED THROUGH STRONG GOVERNANCE.

PHILANTHROPY

Like our original benefactors, we believe in creating positive change so that everyone has the chance to lead a fulfilling life. Today, we coordinate our Philanthropy Framework, collaborating with the Charities of which we are a trustee, to help disadvantaged people to reach their potential.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR PHILANTHROPY ON [PAGE 14](#) AND THE CHARITIES OF WHICH THE MERCERS' COMPANY IS A TRUSTEE ON [PAGE 48](#)

MEMBERSHIP

Every year Mercers invest thousands of voluntary hours to help actively manage the heritage assets, commercial property and bequests entrusted to us.

We also run a Members' Philanthropy programme that advocates and supports Members' and our employees' philanthropic endeavours.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR MEMBERSHIP ON [PAGE 50](#)

STEWARDSHIP

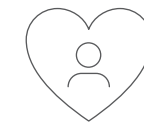
We manage, develop, and maintain a strong property investment portfolio, which generates most of our income to support our purpose-led philanthropic work.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR STEWARDSHIP ON [PAGE 68](#)

Playlist for Life



OUR PHILANTHROPIC PURPOSE



IMPROVE PEOPLE'S LIVES



STRENGTHEN ORGANISATIONS



CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETAL CHANGE

£10M

Is distributed each year to charitable causes, focused on relieving disadvantage in London, Norfolk and the Northeast of England.

PEOPLE-FOCUSED PROGRAMMES

We have three major funding programmes – Young People & Education, Older People & Housing and Church & Communities. These programmes are central to our work.

We expect to support 180 individual charities annually through them.

We also provide:

- High quality accommodation to over 200 residents in six almshouses;
- Work closely with our Associated Schools & Colleges which educate c.18,000 pupils;
- Appoint 88 charity trustees and school governors; and
- Support 8 Church of England benefices.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR PEOPLE FOCUSED PROGRAMMES ON [PAGES 22 – 45](#)



WizeUp



Philanthropy is at the heart of what the Company does and this review highlights much of the good work done by our philanthropic programmes. It also focuses on the activities which underpin that philanthropy – income generation, primarily through our property estates; and the ongoing support our Members give to running the Company and assisting the many external organisations the Company has a relationship with.

CLERK

I AM PLEASED TO REPORT ON THE COMPANY'S PROGRESS FOR THE YEAR AND THE STRONG PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN MEMBERS AND THE EXECUTIVE TEAM THAT CONTINUES TO SHAPE, BUILD, AND GROW OUR PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITIES.

The past year has, of course, seen continued uncertainty at local, national and international levels. The Company and our Members have responded generously to support humanitarian relief in Ukraine. Closer to home our funding programmes have been addressing the cost of living crisis which has challenged many of our grantees and increased the strain on their beneficiaries. I am delighted and so proud that the Company has been able to step up and go the extra mile.

The economy has also posed challenges for the Company itself. As you would expect from a 700-year-old organisation we are both cautious and prudent, but that does not mean we are stepping back from renewing, developing and improving what we do.



Our funding programmes have been addressing the cost of living crisis which has challenged many of our grantees and increased the strain on their beneficiaries. I am delighted and so proud that the Company has been able to step up and go the extra mile.



2023 has seen the Company conclude its first 5-Year Philanthropy Framework and embark on its second which will take us through to 2028. The first iteration proved to be a great success delivering our philanthropy in a much more joined up and purposeful way. Over the last five years we have also transformed how we conduct our philanthropy, adopting a funder plus model which delivers much more for our grantees than just pure grants. Our new framework confirms the excellent work that has been done since 2018. It also seeks to extend it via a new Heritage & Arts giving programme, looking at ways to develop our housing for the elderly and increasing resources for social investment.

Challenges have also been experienced locally at Covent Garden where the process of gaining planning consent for Diageo's major development in Mercers' property in and around Brewer's Yard has been far from straightforward. I am pleased, however, to report that these obstacles have been overcome and we can look forward not just to the opening of a Guinness micro-brewery, restaurant, bars and culture centre in late 2024, but also the increased income which will support our philanthropy.

Ensuring our property estate is fit for the future is a key concern, and you will read in the stewardship section about how we are ensuring our properties are environmentally efficient. This work is being bolstered by the formation of a new Environmental Working Group comprising Members of the Company who have expertise in this area. This will support the development of our Company wide environmental policies and oversee, inform and advise on the work needed to achieve the Company's environmental targets. It is a topic that attracts much attention and we will need to ensure that we plot our path carefully and not blow with the breeze.

Finally, the past year has seen the inception of our new Member Development operation. If Philanthropy is the purpose of the Company, then the Membership is its heart. It is the ongoing day-to-day involvement of our Members in the life of the Company, from strategic decision-making and policy development in our giving committees to helping govern our Associated Schools & Colleges, that gives the Company its strength, resilience and innovation. The Member Development team supports and develops Members of the Company by identifying Members' skills and experience and provides training to help enhance those skills to ensure the Company has the talents needed to support its activities.

Looking back over the past year there is much to celebrate and I hope you will enjoy reading about some of our successes in this review. Looking forward there remains much to do and the Company is well placed to deliver.

ROB ABERNETHY - CLERK



**RICHARD WHITTINGTON
1354-1423**

CELEBRATING A LEGACY

TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2023 MARKED THE 600TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF SIR RICHARD WHITTINGTON, FOUR TIMES LORD MAYOR OF LONDON AND THREE TIMES MASTER OF THE MERCERS' COMPANY.

One of the greatest Mercers, Richard Whittington, is remembered for his role as Lord Mayor of London, for his philanthropy and for leaving his entire estate to be used for charitable purposes.

Whittington was the youngest son of a minor landowner in Gloucestershire and came to London as an apprentice. He made his fortune in the Mercers' trade and through financing the Crown.

The largest part of his estate was used to found Whittington College, a collegiate church and an almshouse for men and women. His legacy continues today as The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington. His substantial bequest established the Mercers' Company as a manager of charities and set an example to future generations of Mercers to become benefactors.

LEARNING FOR ALL

Education was valued by merchants in the City of London. Whittington showed an interest in supporting education during his lifetime, funding the library at Greyfriars monastery. The executors of his will went on to found a library at Guildhall Chapel to honour his legacy.

600 YEARS OF PHILANTHROPY

600 years after his death, the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington continues his remarkable philanthropic legacy. The centrepiece of Whittington 600 is Whittington's Legacy, an exhibition which celebrates Whittington the merchant, Mercer and philanthropist, marking the anniversary of his death and the establishment of his charity. The exhibition also celebrates Whittington's influence on the philanthropy of subsequent Mercer benefactors, focusing on the many men and women who entrusted money or property to the management of the Mercers' Company for charitable purposes over the centuries. Purposes which remain central to the Mercers' Company's philanthropy today.

To celebrate the 600th anniversary of Whittington the Company has hosted a series of events, including:

- Educational opportunities, which honour the spirit of the charity led by Whittington
- A Whittington 600 lunch held at Whittington College where residents were joined by the Master and Wardens of the Mercers' Company as well as by Members and guests
- A 6-mile 'Whittington Walk'
- A one-day symposium held at Mercers' Hall, with the London Medieval Society, which featured a series of lectures given by academics

In addition, representatives from the charities which receive grants from the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington were invited to Mercers' Hall to explore the exhibition and take part in a day honouring the rich history that surrounds Whittington.

WHITTINGTON IN POPULAR CULTURE

Whittington's life has been embedded into popular culture by the tale of Dick Whittington and his cat, most memorably in pantomime. In this legend, Whittington is portrayed as a poor boy who came to London, grew rich and rose to serve as Lord Mayor. It is a tale of determination and a change in fortune.

Artefacts, including ballads and illustrations of the tale of Dick Whittington, are available to view in our Whittington's Legacy exhibition in Mercers' Hall.



PHILANTHROPY IS THE COMMON THREAD THAT LINKS OUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE. OVER THE CENTURIES, WE HAVE BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH SIGNIFICANT GIFTS AND BEQUESTS FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES. LIKE OUR ORIGINAL BENEFACTORS, WE BELIEVE IN CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE SO THAT EVERYONE HAS THE CHANCE TO LEAD A FULFILLING LIFE.

PHILANTHROPY

The Company, and the charities of which it is trustee, work together to provide three people-focused funding programmes:

- Young People & Education (YP&E)
- Older People & Housing (OP&H)
- Church & Communities (C&C)

These programmes focus on helping disadvantaged people (individuals, families, and communities) to reach their potential by inspiring a love of learning, strengthening self-belief and wellbeing, and creating opportunities to live a balanced, rewarding and varied life.

5-YEAR REVIEW 2018 TO 2023 PHILANTHROPY FRAMEWORK

OUR 2018 TO 2023 PHILANTHROPY FRAMEWORK HAS AWARDED 700 GRANTS TO 432 ORGANISATIONS TOTALLING £42.7 MILLION, WITH A FURTHER £7M GRANTS MADE DIRECTLY BY THE COMPANY.

It has been an active five years with the Company and its committed Members, employees, grantees, and strategic partners delivering on its philanthropic vision across its three people-focused funding programmes (YP&E, OP&H and C&C).

700 | 432

GRANTS AWARDED

ORGANISATIONS RECEIVED GRANTS

£42.7M

TOTAL OF GRANTS AWARDED

£7M

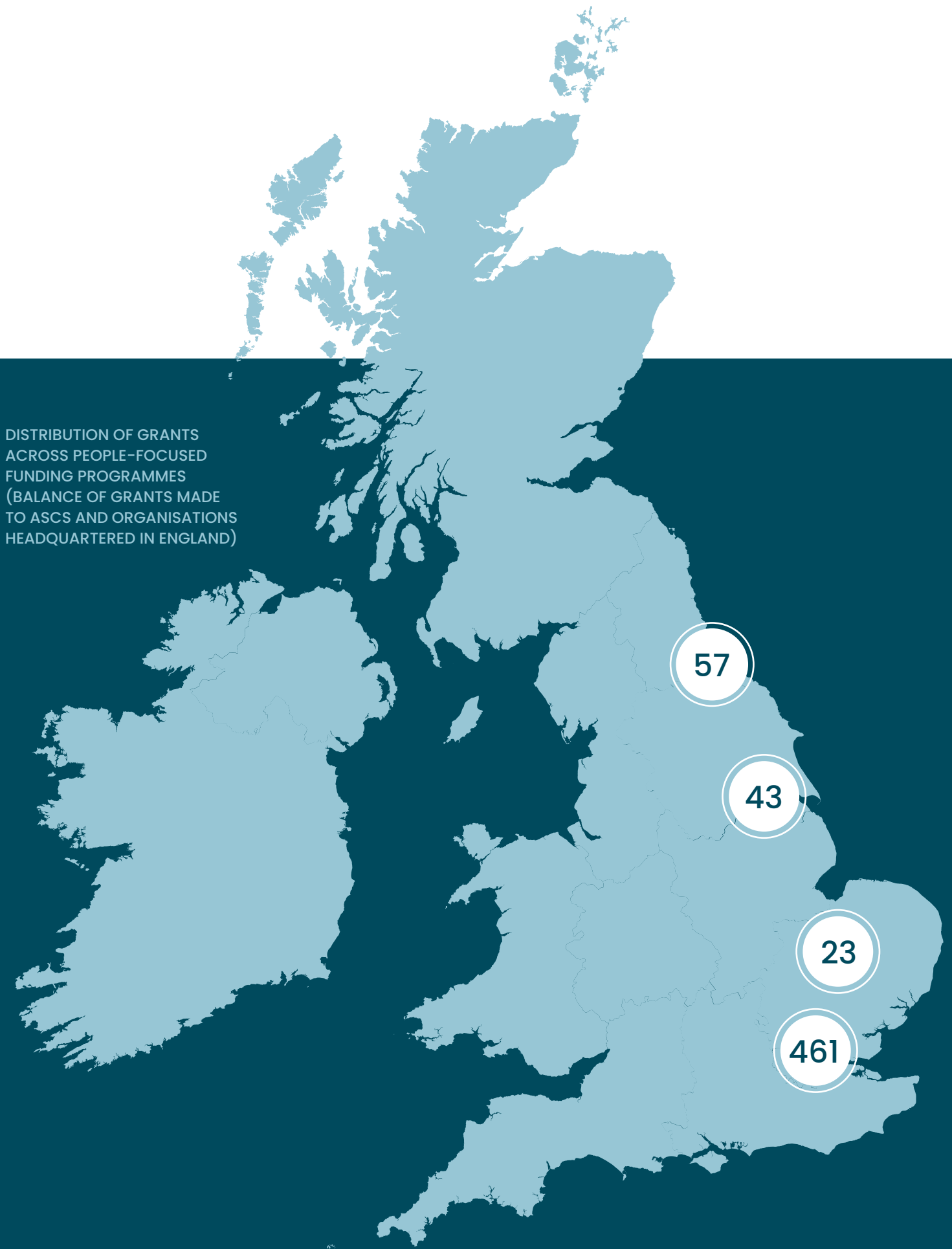
OF ADDITIONAL GRANTS AWARDED BY THE COMPANY

YP&E - 200 GRANTS AWARDED
TOTALLING £17.8M

OP&H - 182 GRANTS AWARDED
TOTALLING £11.1M

C&C - 216 GRANTS AWARDED
TOTALLING £12.4M

DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS
ACROSS PEOPLE-FOCUSED
FUNDING PROGRAMMES
(BALANCE OF GRANTS MADE
TO ASCS AND ORGANISATIONS
HEADQUARTERED IN ENGLAND)



5 YEAR PHILANTHROPY HIGHLIGHTS OVER THE PERIOD 2018 - 2023

FOUNDING PARTNER OF THE LIVERY LED NO GOING BACK PRISONER REHABILITATION PROJECT

ENGAGED WITH THE FOLLOWING INITIATIVES: TALENT 2027, IVAR'S OPEN AND TRUSTING FUNDERS, THE LONDON COMMUNITY RESPONSE - COVID 19 AND THE PROPEL FUND, BOTH FUNDING COLLABORATIONS POWERED BY LONDON FUNDERS

UTILISING 360 GIVING TO PUBLISH GRANT DATA TO IMPROVE TRANSPARENCY OF CHARITABLE GIVING

BECOMING A LIVING WAGE FUNDER (AS WELL AS A LIVING WAGE EMPLOYER)

INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS' PHILANTHROPY PROGRAMME TO SUPPORT MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES IN THEIR OWN PHILANTHROPIC ENDEAVOURS

As part of our commitment to continuous improvement, a Philanthropy Framework review is undertaken every five years, to evaluate the framework's progress against objectives and shape our philanthropic work in line with our guiding principles - to put our independence and longevity to proactive use and deliver measured outputs leading to clear outcomes.

Having set many of our funding priorities five years ago, as a funder we are really beginning to see the progress made and what is adding value in different sectors and communities across our programmes.

With this in mind, we have now developed consistent impact measures for all our programmes which aim to:



IMPROVE PEOPLE'S LIVES



STRENGTHEN ORGANISATIONS



CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETAL CHANGE

North Norfolk Community Transport



Our philanthropy could not happen without the dedicated commitment of our Members who make decisions about which organisations to support, and the dedicated professionalism of the philanthropy team who assess the applications. We are a funder that takes pride in the relationships we have with the organisations we support, and we aim to work alongside our grantees, supporting them to deliver positive change in their respective communities.

I look forward to the 2023-2028 Philanthropy Framework programme where we will continue to evolve and improve based on findings, and deliver against our objectives and impact measures.



SERENA HEDLEY-DENT,
DEPUTY CLERK, THE MERCERS' COMPANY

As part of the Philanthropy Framework Review the following strategic decisions were made for 2023-2028.

- Continue our three major grants programme as well as Members' Philanthropy
- Expand our grantmaking programme to include a modest Heritage & Arts programme
- Take a more purposeful approach to Social Investment
- Investigate the possibility of developing a cross-programme - place-based initiative in London
- Undertake a feasibility study for potential expansion of almshouse operations under the OP&H programme

Over the next five years we look forward to continuing to update our valued stakeholders on the impressive organisations with which we work, and outcomes achieved.



Huracan Foundation

2022-2023 PHILANTHROPY

96

GRANTS AWARDED

94

ORGANISATIONS RECEIVED GRANTS

£4.81M

TOTAL OF NEW GRANTS AWARDED

HIGHLIGHTS OVER THE LAST YEAR FOR OUR THREE PEOPLE-FOCUSED FUNDING PROGRAMMES INCLUDE:

YP&E

- 12 reports and resources published to evaluate performance and support knowledge sharing across the wider sector
- Mercers' Charitable Foundation (MCF) awarded Charity Partner of the Year at the Dallaglio Rugby Works Awards in recognition of our partnership approach

OP&H

- 98% of funds awarded to organisations combatting loneliness in London and Norfolk
- Combatting poverty added as a second grantmaking priority due to rise in pensioner poverty and cost of living crisis

C&C

- Funded disadvantaged communities, homelessness and families facing poverty
- Updated guidance to best support minoritised communities to apply for funding

CAPACITY BUILDING

A focus of our programme is to help strengthen the grantees we work with through organisational capacity building. This develops and improves the skills, resources and knowledge of these organisations.

The following have been key strategic partners across our three people-focused funding programmes:

- **YP&E**
Media Trust, Cranfield Trust, Education Policy Institute, Centre for Education & Youth, Open University, Anna Freud Centre and Windsor Leadership.
- **OP&H**
The Housing LIN, National Almshouse Association, Campaign to End Loneliness and Norfolk Community Foundation
- **C&C**
Housing Justice, Homeless Link, Keyfund, Cinnamon Network, Norfolk Community Foundation and Tyne & Wear Community Foundation

INSIGHTS AND LEARNING

As the funding programmes moved into the fifth and final year of the current Philanthropy Framework (2018-2023), we continued to evaluate performance across each of the programmes. We have received positive feedback on the evaluation and research work undertaken as it contributes to wider sector knowledge and helps grantees demonstrate their own delivery to help secure future funding. Evaluation also identifies funding gaps and helps shape future funding priorities.

BUILDING OUR NETWORK

We continue to build value added relationships through a high-engagement approach with our grantees during application and grant duration. We also continue to support our links with the Company's Associated Schools & Colleges, almshouse residents and church livings. Furthermore, as we become recognised as a funder across our people-focused funding programmes, we are becoming more engaged with our peers in those sectors.

FUNDER PLUS / AN APPROACH BASED ON BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

Our Philanthropy Framework goes beyond supporting our grantholders financially, we also support organisations to strengthen and improve their resilience by providing access to training and support from leading organisations from leading organisations. This approach is known as Funder Plus.

As well as being a living wage employer, paying employees the real living wage, we also made a commitment to see the charities of which the Mercers' Company is trustee of, become Living Wage Funders too.

In 2022, we also signed up to IVAR's (Institute of Voluntary Action Research) eight principles of open and trusting grantmaking. We are pleased to join a community of committed and flexible grantmakers. Our approach is set out on [IVAR's website](#).

Our relational approach is increasingly recognised as good practice and has been welcomed by grantees. Additionally, the grants made through our three people-focused funding programmes are published on [360 Giving](#), which aims to promote transparency in grantmaking.



YOUNG PEOPLE & EDUCATION

BRIGHTER FUTURES FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

We aim to help young people achieve a good start in life, have strong mental health and feel supported through challenging transitions.

Through our grant making programme, we work with selected charity partners across connected strands of work, including:

- Three Special Initiatives
Early Years, Literacy and Transitions
- Young People's Mental Health & Wellbeing
- Associated Schools & Colleges (ASCs)
16 supported by the Mercers' Company
- School Leadership



WHERE WE FUND

GREATER LONDON*

*16 ASCs in Greater London and across England



Speech and Language UK - Darcie's Story, DLD

2022-2023 HIGHLIGHTS

24

NEW GRANTS

22

ORGANISATIONS RECEIVED GRANTS

£1.5M

TOTAL OF NEW GRANTS AWARDED

Our team has continued working across all four strands of the YP&E grant programme, supporting brighter futures for the next generation.

In 2022-2023, 1.15 million was awarded to the Transitions Special Initiatives programme which helps guide young people, from disadvantaged communities, that are at risk of becoming NEET (not in employment, education or training), into a positive destination after school.



Power2



In2ScienceUK

Organisations within Cohort 3 of the Transitions Special Initiatives programme include [XLP](#), [Street League](#), [Blueprint for All](#), [In2ScienceUK](#), [Envision](#), [Making the Leap](#) and [Power2](#).

In addition, £149,616 was awarded for Mental Health & Wellbeing Community grants via the Propel Fund, £72,547 was awarded to the National Theatre for an oracy pilot under the Literacy Special Initiative and £55,443 was awarded to Gresham College to enable it to develop its outreach to schools.



Street League

As well as awarding direct financial grants, the team has facilitated access to capacity building services via the [Media Trust](#) and [Cranfield Trust](#) to help support grantees' organisational resilience and growth. We also continued to hold online and in-person events for grantees to showcase and strengthen relationships with the organisations we support.

12 reports and resources were published during the year. Key findings were shared with grantees, ASCs, strategic networks including funders, policy and advocacy groups and other Livery Companies.

2022-2023 MEASURED OUTCOMES

Our grantmaking programmes support work by organisations that:

- Improve people's lives;
- Strengthen organisations; and
- Contribute to societal change

Since January 2023, we have been collecting more data on outputs.



IMPROVE
PEOPLE'S LIVES

23

GRANTS ARE IMPROVING
YOUNG PEOPLE'S WELLBEING

9

GRANTS ARE HELPING
YOUNG PEOPLE FEEL
BETTER CONNECTED

5

GRANTS ARE HELPING
YOUNG PEOPLE FIND
EMPLOYMENT

24

GRANTS ARE HELPING
YOUNG PEOPLE
DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE INTO POSITIVE DESTINATIONS

In November 2022 a symposium was held at Mercers' Hall to showcase the work of Cohorts 1 and 2 of the Transitions Special Initiative. The organisations funded within the first two cohorts of the initiative, worked with 66,809 young people aged between 11 and 25, in 166 different educational settings and with 572 employers in the preceding year.

The Transitions Special Initiative is positively influencing young people's development of soft skills such as confidence and workplace skills (like timekeeping) with 75% of those engaged being very satisfied with the programmes they are on. They are also improving those young people's understanding of different academic and vocational pathways into education, training or employment.

Dallaglio Rugby Works



DALLAGLIO RUGBY WORKS

Dallaglio Rugby Works (DRW) supports teenagers that have been excluded from school to achieving long-term positive transitions beyond education. It provides young people with the confidence, communication and life skills, using rugby as a basis to educate, achieving qualifications such as the Sports Leaders' Awards and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

In 2020, a grant for £281,900 was made for three years from the Mercers' Charitable Foundation (MCF) to Dallaglio Rugby Works under the Transitions Special Initiative.

In June 2023, MCF were delighted to be awarded Charity Partner of the Year at the Dallaglio Rugby Works Awards. MCF was awarded for supporting the organisation over and above grantmaking. MCF's funding has helped DRW broker new relationships with the likes of the Dame Kelly Holmes Trust and Brentford FC Community Sports Trust. It also launched a film supported by capacity builder Media Trust.



SCAN TO WATCH A
3 MINUTE VIDEO
ABOUT DALLAGLIO
RUGBY WORKS



STRENGTHEN
ORGANISATIONS

We are committed to being a Living Wage Funder and are pleased to report all our grantmaking organisations we work with pay their staff the real living wage.

RAISING AWARENESS OF DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE DISORDER

Our grantee Speech and Language UK worked with capacity builder Media Trust to produce a short film raising the awareness of Developmental Language Disorder (DLD), a diagnosis given to children and young people who have life-long difficulties with talking and understanding words. Media Trust also provided training, mentoring and partnership opportunities.

The film 'Darcie's story' won an award from the 'Raising Awareness Developmental Language Disorder' International Committee, and was picked up by organisations worldwide, from the Disabled Children's Partnership UK to Language Disorder Australia. The video has received 8,100 YouTube views, 66,671 Twitter impressions and 239,682 Facebook and Instagram likes.

This project was funded by the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington and the Mercers' Charitable Foundation (MCF).



Working with Media Trust will not just give you a great experience – it will also give you the ability to use your talent to change the world.



SAMIR AFHIM,
DIRECTOR OF FUNDRAISING, MARKETING AND
COMMUNICATIONS, SPEECH AND LANGUAGE UK



SCAN TO WATCH A
2 MINUTE VIDEO
ABOUT DEVELOPMENTAL
LANGUAGE DISORDER

MEASURED OUTCOMES CONTINUED



Chartered College of Teaching



MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING COMMUNITY GRANTS

We worked with London Funders on the inaugural Propel Fund. Propel supports projects which address systemic issues to achieve longer-term sustainable change. Propel also aims to develop more equitable funding practices and encourage collaboration in London. We awarded three grants to charities exploring systemic issues for marginalised young people with mental health needs.

LEADING INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS

In December 2022, the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington funded the Chartered College of Teaching to launch the first module of its 'Leading Inclusive Schools' course. The Refugee Module, using expert videos and case studies to bring the latest research and evidence to life, supports school leaders to develop inclusive school policies for refugee and asylum-seeking children.

700

TEACHERS AND LEADERS HAVE VIEWED THE MODULE

78

HAVE FULLY ENROLLED IN THE MODULE

ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS & COLLEGES (ASCs)

WE CONTINUE TO BUILD VALUED RELATIONSHIPS WITH OUR 16 ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS & COLLEGES ACROSS ENGLAND, WORKING WITH THE HEADTEACHERS OF THE SCHOOLS AND CHAIRS OF GOVERNORS TO PROMOTE CLOSER LINKS.

OUR WORK INCLUDES:

- Facilitating collaborative learning between the ASCs
- Supporting Heads and Governors to be effective leaders
- Appointing and nominating Governors to ASCs
- Awarding grants to initiatives that align to the YP&E programme

2022-2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Our Heads' Working Group and the Chairs' Forum continue their work, supporting closer links, information and knowledge sharing on best practice.

Three conferences were held during the academic year for school leaders, pupils, and Governors. St Paul's School hosted the inaugural Mercers' School Leaders' Conference in February 2023, which was attended by heads and senior leaders and explored the theme of leading change.

St Paul's School



The Governors' Conference held at Mercers' Hall in April 2023 for Governors from all 16 ASCs focused on building trust. Sessions explored, 'the new art of headship'; leading inclusive schools and engaging the school community; and governance best practice.

In June 2023, the enrichment conference for gifted and talented Year 12 pupils from ASCs was held at Reading University. The conference theme was "Sustainable Futures" and the keynote speech was delivered by Professor Lord Robert Winston.



Southwark Playhouse

OLDER PEOPLE & HOUSING

COMBATting LONELINESS AND POVERTY

Older people deserve the right support and opportunities to lead a healthy and connected life. We believe that no older person should be chronically lonely or living in poverty.

Through our grantmaking programme, we support not-for-profit, community led organisations that combat:

- Loneliness in older people
- Poverty faced by older people



WHERE WE FUND

- NORFOLK
- GREATER LONDON

2022-2023 HIGHLIGHTS

33 NEW GRANTS | **33** ORGANISATIONS RECEIVED GRANTS

An independent evaluation, which reported at the end of 2022, found that our loneliness funding is helping charities to undertake “useful and valuable work”, “reach more people” and “get better at what they do”.

Pensioner poverty is on the rise, with 1 in 5 older people living in poverty, made more challenging due to the current cost of living crisis. Therefore, combatting poverty has been added as a second grantmaking priority.

£709K
TOTAL OF NEW GRANTS AWARDED



Just the Tonic

2022-2023 MEASURED OUTCOMES

COMBATTING LONELINESS THROUGH PERFORMANCE

In September 2022, we awarded £30,784 over two years to [Southwark Playhouse](#) in London to support the Elders Company's Weekly Drama Groups.

Workshops develop participants' confidence and aims to empower them through drama and storytelling.

Our grantmaking programmes support work by organisations that:

- Improve people's lives;
- Strengthen organisations; and
- Contribute to societal change

Since January 2023, we have been collecting more data on outputs.



Southwark Playhouse

IMPROVE PEOPLE'S LIVES

32
GRANTS IMPROVED OLDER PEOPLE'S WELLBEING

32
GRANTS ARE HELPING OLDER PEOPLE FEEL BETTER CONNECTED AND LESS ISOLATED

9
GRANTS ARE HELPING OLDER PEOPLE DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS

“ I had recently finished two years of (very successful) psychotherapy which left me reconciled to my previous problems but still wanting to practise new behaviours. This group has certainly done that! Previously, I was very quiet and passive, feeling I had nothing to contribute, but with the expert support of our facilitators, I am gradually finding my voice and contributing... I amaze myself at how spontaneous I can become. This experience is just what I needed and still need.



ELDERS COMPANY MEMBER

MEASURED OUTCOMES CONTINUED



STRENGTHEN ORGANISATIONS

Our Philanthropy Framework goes beyond supporting our grantees financially, we also support organisations to strengthen and improve their resilience.

COST OF LIVING CRISIS

In 2022 we committed to being a Living Wage Funder, helping organisations to pay their staff the real living wage.

In response to the ongoing cost of living crisis, the Older People & Housing Committee agreed to award a one-off unrestricted uplift of 8% to 49 existing grantees on commitments due for release in 23/24 and 24/25.



Thank you so much! You guys are great! Funnily enough I was just wrestling with cashflow projections. The next year is going to be difficult - heating, lighting and power costs have gone from around £4k to just over £12k. We have increased pay for staff so they aren't struggling, while funding hasn't increased (apart from you guys) and is truly getting more difficult to find.



DIRECTOR,
COVENT GARDEN DRAGON HALL TRUST

EMPOWERING BLACK AND MINORITISED COMMUNITIES

The Ubele Initiative has been awarded a grant of £125,000 from the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington. The Alagba project, which translates to "Elderly" in Yoruba, is geared towards enhancing the voice and capabilities of organisations that serve older Black and racialised communities in London. The project will also lobby policymakers to address the complex issues that afflict older Black individuals, such as chronic loneliness, by ensuring that services are tailored to their specific needs. Ubele's efforts will empower Black and racialised elderly individuals to age with dignity and foster inclusivity and support within their communities.



Ubele Initiative

JUST THE TONIC

Research shows that older LGBT+ people generally have worse health outcomes, are more likely to live alone, be single and less likely to have children and family support.

A £100,000 grant from the Mercers' Charitable Foundation (MCF) was awarded in 2020 to Tonic Housing Association, a non-for-profit, focused on creating vibrant and inclusive urban LGBT+ affirming retirement communities, where people can share common experiences, find mutual support and enjoy their later life. In 2021, supported by the grant from MCF, Tonic launched the first LGBT+ affirming retirement community in the UK. Tonic@Bankhouse was created through the acquisition of 19 apartments in an affordable retirement community located on Albert Embankment in Vauxhall, Lambeth in London.



CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETAL CHANGE

COMBATTING LONELINESS – A RESEARCH DRIVEN APPROACH

To better understand the difference our grants have made to combatting loneliness, we appointed leading independent evaluator Kate Jopling, who has a wealth of experience on loneliness in ageing communities.

Her report was published in 2022 with five recommendations for improving our approach.

The report also highlighted that OP&H funding is helping organisations to "reach more people", "get better at what they do" and help to create support volunteering roles "which will impact individual and community wellbeing". Our relational approach with grantees is also valued.



The Older People & Housing programme has contributed to building the evidence for interventions, supporting the development of practice and making the case for work on loneliness. These are critical roles, but ones which are not always well supported by other funders.



KATE JOPLING,
INDEPENDENT EVALUATOR



THE GOOD NEIGHBOUR'S Arts & Cultural Programme

55 years and over
Please see overleaf for our Tea Dance
Tuesday 15 November 2022
2.00pm - 4.30pm



Tel: 0207 923 3536 Email: info@hackneycaribbean.org.uk

Registered in England and Wales Registered Office: 39 Leswin Road, Stoke Newington, London, N16 7NX
Company Registration No. 3118456 H C E O's a Company Limited by Guarantee Charity Registration No. 1052700

[Hackney Caribbean Elderly Organisation](http://HackneyCaribbeanElderlyOrganisation)

In response to the report's recommendations, and in line with our new Philanthropy Framework we are:

- Supporting organisations to provide more consistent data around participant numbers and profiles
- Collecting new data about how our funding is helping organisations to develop and grow
- Building on the strong relationships between grantees and grant programme managers

ALMSHOUSES & HOUSING

WE MANAGE AND PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY ACCOMMODATION SUPPORTING INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR OVER 200 RESIDENTS IN NEED. THE FOUR ALMSHOUSES AND TWO SHELTERED HOUSING SCHEMES CONTINUE TO LIE AT THE HEART OF OUR OLDER PEOPLE & HOUSING PROGRAMME.

2022-2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Over the year we have continued to rebuild the housing communities post covid. Residents enjoyed friendship, socialising and celebrating events like The Queen's Jubilee and The King's Coronation.

We continue to work closely with the National Almshouses Association, erosh and local authorities to keep up to date with changing legislation, innovative ideas, good practice and managing and chairing networks in the sector. We were pleased to have received accreditation from erosh on the Code of Practice in 2022.

In line with the erosh review we have increased our consultation with the residents, seeking input from them on how best we can improve our service. We have held two residents' forums in the past 12 months and provide six monthly updates. Residents are enjoying the consultation and opportunity to be part of the wider picture discussions. The feedback has been positive and encouraging.

We have also set up a Housing Working Group looking at possible expansion of both Whittington College and Trinity Hospital, Shotesham.

We would also like to thank our Scheme Manager, Steve Brown and Assistant Manager, Sally Doyle-Burgess who both retired from Whittington College in Summer 2023, having completed 43 and 23 years of service respectively. We wish them every happiness in their retirement.



National Almshouses Association



Trinity Hospital, Greenwich - Platinum Jubilee celebration

CHURCH & COMMUNITIES

PEOPLE THRIVE WHEN COMMUNITIES THRIVE

We aim to support churches and other faith and community-based organisations that strengthen communities and families. The work seeks to build positive and inclusive relationships between people, increase a sense of belonging and reduce isolation.

Through our grantmaking programme, we fund organisations that:

- **Build stronger communities**
People coming together in the most disadvantaged communities to address what is important to them

Community responses to support people who are refugees or homeless

- **Deliver better outcomes for families and carers**
Families facing poverty or other challenges

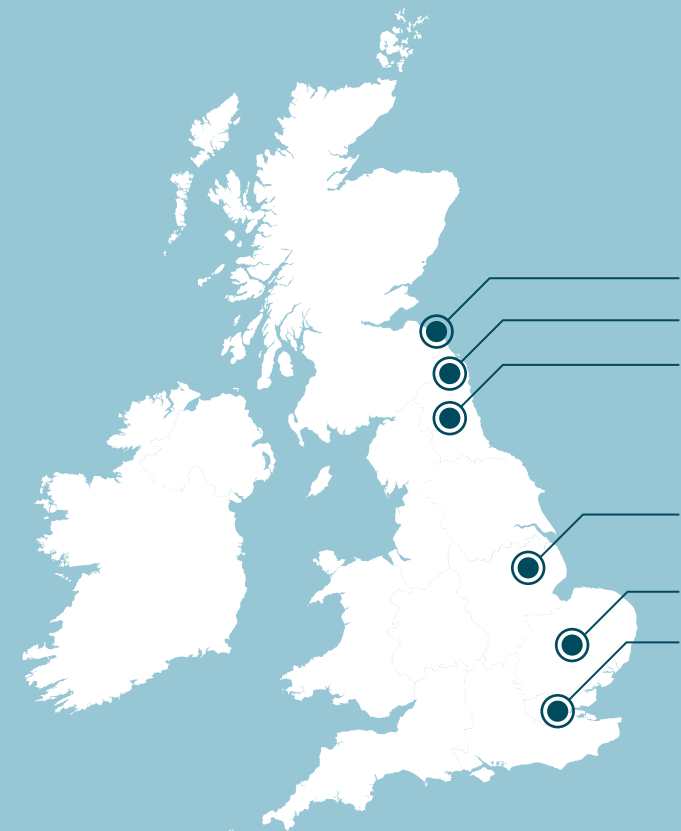
Unpaid carers and their families

WHERE WE FUND

NORTHUMBERLAND
TYNE AND WEAR
COUNTY DURHAM
TEES VALLEY

LINCOLNSHIRE

NORFOLK
GREATER LONDON



Hackney Playbus

2022-2023 HIGHLIGHTS

39 | **39**
 NEW GRANTS | ORGANISATIONS RECEIVED GRANTS

£2.6M
 TOTAL OF NEW GRANTS AWARDED

Our focus has been continuing to build relationships and knowledge in the areas we fund, following up on evaluation recommendations and providing value to grantholders.

In January 2023, the C&C programme guidance was updated, to make clearer that organisations for minoritised communities (including black, minoritised ethnic, LGBT+ and disabled communities, as well as communities of women) can apply for funding.



The Migrant Hub - Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network

2022-2023 MEASURED OUTCOMES

Our grantmaking programmes support work by organisations that:

- Improve people's lives;
- Strengthen organisations; and
- Contribute to societal change

Since January 2023, we have been collecting more data on outputs.



IMPROVE PEOPLE'S LIVES

37

GRANTS ARE IMPROVING PEOPLE'S WELLBEING

31

GRANTS ARE HELPING PEOPLE FEEL BETTER CONNECTED AND LESS ISOLATED

12

GRANTS ARE HELPING PEOPLE FIND EMPLOYMENT

24

GRANTS ARE HELPING PEOPLE DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS

SUPPORTING WOMEN

The Charity of Sir Richard Whittington made a £75,000 contribution for a three-year period to the [Baytree Centre](#) in Brixton, London, supporting women develop the skills and knowledge to break the cycle of poverty.

Being awarded funding for three years ensured the continuity of the Women's Service. Baytree worked with 732 women during 2022 to 2023, to improve their socio-economic outcomes, reduce poverty and isolation and develop life and work skills. Notably, 83% of women reported a reduction in isolation and 79% an improvement in literacy & numeracy and family stability.

Baytree's core values and approach have been critical to this success. All support is customised, with coaches using a relational, trauma informed approach to help women to identify and achieve their own life goals. The Centre has also established a new in-house 121 Information Advice & Guidance (IAG) service to help meet the increasing urgency and complexity of issues that women and their families are experiencing.



Baytree Centre

“

In addition to the funding itself, we have really appreciated the various touch points and opportunities to be involved with the Mercers' Company over the past three years. For example, the 2021 evaluation: the specific connections with other Mercers' Company funded charities brokered by our grants programme manager; and the trauma informed practice training arranged by Mercers have all been extremely helpful. They provide a useful reminder to all the team that the work we do is part of a greater initiative, the effects of which are far reaching.

”

ANNA IACUZZI,
 SERVICE DIRECTOR, BAYTREE CENTRE

MEASURED OUTCOMES CONTINUED



STRENGTHEN ORGANISATIONS

TRAUMA INFORMED TRAINING

47 team Members from 13 grantholders from the Church & Communities funding programme attended a CPD accredited training course on trauma-informed practice for family support workers. This was organised following conversations with grantholders on the recommendations made in the Better Outcomes for Families evaluation published in 2022.



I really enjoyed the training last week it was productive and great to meet new people. Look forward to the second training.



OASIS HUB WATERLOO
FAMILY WORKER MANAGER



999 Club – co-produced gardening group

SUPPORT FOR GRANTEEES

Six grantholders received support from [Homeless Link](#), a Membership charity for organisations supporting the homeless, to use In-Form, an online database system that helps them track and support clients, as well as measure the difference they are making. This work was developed from recommendations made in the Homelessness report carried out by independent evaluators Frost, Swain & Weir.



New recording and measurement procedures for The Bridge Café will enable us to record and track the actions and progress of each person visiting the café. Secondly, we have been able to create a draft user survey. This will enable us to monitor the beneficiaries' opinions, needs and wishes in a timely fashion, which in turn will allow us to act on them as quickly and efficiently as possible.



TOM NUEMARK,
CEO OF [999 CLUB](#)

COST OF LIVING CRISIS

In response to the ongoing cost of living crisis, the Church & Communities Committee agreed to award a one-off unrestricted uplift of 8% to 44 existing grantees on commitments due for release in 2023/24 and 2024/25.



This is lovely news! It has been quite a difficult year for us financially, however thanks to your flexibility over grant release dates we have managed to navigate our way through.



[HACKNEY PLAYBUS](#)

FRONTLINE SERVICE FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS AND MIGRANTS

We awarded £86,240 to the [Lewisham Refugee & Migrant Network \(LRMN\)](#), from the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington for a three-year period, to support the frontline service which improves the lives of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in south London.

In 2022, the first year of the funding, LRMN was able to strengthen its organisational health: securing further project funding; increasing employee and volunteer numbers; continuing its campaign and advocacy work; and ultimately increasing the number of people LRMN could support.



Sometimes life can be unpredictable. Cecile came to the UK to look after her ill daughter and her four grandchildren. But within a few months, her daughter sadly passed away. Quickly, Cecile applied for further leave to remain, and was given status, but with no access to public funds to look after four children. Soon she fell into rent arrears and was unable to afford basic amenities or Home Office fees to extend her visa further.

That is when we met Cecile. We helped her put in an urgent change of conditions application, so that she could access public funds and support her family. This was quickly granted, along with a fee waiver, so she could submit her application for Further Leave to Remain. Without our help, Cecile and her family would have been evicted, and she would have been undocumented. Cecile can now access the funds she needs to support her grandchildren without the worry of an expiring immigration status.



CASE STUDY PROVIDED BY LRMN

1,738

PEOPLE CAME TO LRMN FOR ADVICE

541

APPLICATIONS MADE TO REGULARISE IMMIGRATION STATUS

1,000+

FOOD VOUCHERS AND PARCELS GIVEN

188

PEOPLE SUPPORTED BY THE WOMEN'S PROJECT

623

PEOPLE RECEIVED HOUSING AND WELFARE BENEFITS ADVICE

132

PEOPLE'S WELLBEING IMPROVED



Lewisham Refugee & Migrant Network

MEASURED OUTCOMES CONTINUED



CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETAL CHANGE

EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Independent evaluators, Frost, Swain & Weir carried out an in-depth evaluation of the 37 projects currently supported by the Better Outcomes for Families and Carers priority. 11 opportunities and recommendations were made for improving practice.

These included providing accredited trauma-informed proactive training for grantees, building community hubs and skills development for young carers, refugees, and asylum seekers and those effected by homelessness and families with extra needs.

DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIPS – EAST MARSH, GRIMSBY

As well as funding, the C&C programme places a heavy emphasis on developing relationships with and between charities. This, alongside the longer-term approach of the programme, means that it is starting to bring real social change in specific geographic locations.

East Marsh in Grimsby is within the 1% most disadvantaged wards in the country. Since 2019, three charities based in the area, [CARE](#), [Foresight](#) and [East Marsh United](#), have been supported through the C&C programme, with five large grants and two smaller grants, totalling over £400,000 from the Mercers' Charitable Foundation (MCF), the Earl of Northampton's Charity, and the Charity of Sir Richard Whittington.

This funding has supported hundreds of local people in the East Marsh area.



It is very useful to have our work externally evaluated and recognised and praised. Reports of this kind (funders supporting external evaluations) are a great support for us as an organisation with limited resources. They strengthen our ability to continue to fundraise for our projects supporting families.



GRANTEE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE BETTER OUTCOMES FOR FAMILIES & CARERS EVALUATION



CARE - East Marsh, Grimsby



Support from the Mercers' Company has been invaluable in the growth of Foresight as a charity, and it has ensured we can provide high class facilities and an excellent quality of service to the local community. The Mercers' Company has been integral in bringing together local East Marsh organisations providing a vehicle for joint working to improve opportunities for one of the most deprived areas in the country.



PAUL SILVESTER,
CEO, FORESIGHT

CHURCH LIVINGS AND ASSOCIATED CHURCHES

WE ARE PROUD TO SHARE PATRONAGE OF EIGHT BENEFICES OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Grants and support continue to be provided to the Company's church livings, parish church, St Paul's Cathedral and three associated churches.

As national trends continue to impact on churches we are increasingly seeing Dioceses having to reimagine their mission, not least due to the need to cut the number of stipendiary vicars. The Company is engaged with Dioceses on these issues, particularly where they impact on our church livings.

2022-2023 HIGHLIGHTS

On 8 June 2023, we held our annual Clergy Day at Mercers' Hall, which provides an opportunity to celebrate the work of the clergy associated with the Company.

This year there was a service followed by a lecture with Dr Chloë Reddaway of King's College London. Lunch, and a visit to the National Gallery were appreciated by all, as were the end of day refreshments at The Travellers Club.



I thought it was one of the best Clergy Days yet: a lovely Service with the Bishop, fascinating art talks and tours, beautiful food, and the extra treat of going to The Travellers Club topped off a much appreciated time out. I have also brought back something really useful in terms of the [Visual Commentary on Scripture](#) website (having already used it with the SPGS CU and recommended it to other Chaplains).

REVEREND MATTHEW KNOX



St Peter's Church, Scremeston, Northumbria



Thank you again for a very enjoyable Clergy Day. I know how hard it can be to get everything in place for an event of this kind. It was perfect!



REVEREND DAVID IVORSON



Thank you all for the hospitality yesterday. You planned everything perfectly and it was really nice to see how much the Company appreciates their clergy. It was a pleasure to spend the day with the group and I'm very glad that they enjoyed it. They were responsive and rewarding, and it was a privilege to meet them.



DR CHLOË REDDAWAY

HERITAGE & ARTS

ENRICHING LIVES

As part of our Philanthropy Framework for 2023 – 2028, a new Heritage & Arts programme has been introduced to complement our other people-focused funding programmes.

The Company appreciates the richness that heritage and the arts brings to our lives and how they can tell the stories of who we are, the architecture of our history and build a sense of belonging, ownership, and opportunity.

Our new programme aims to:

- **Enrich people's lives through access to Heritage & Arts**
With a particular focus on access for disadvantaged groups
- **Assist people at the start of their careers in Heritage & Arts**
Supporting apprenticeships in the arts, performing arts or crafts with a particular focus on textiles

The programme is a research-based initiative through which the team identify organisations that meet the aims and invites them to put forward proposals for funding. For all grants awarded, funding will be significant, in the context of the project or organisation supported.

WHERE WE FUND

LONDON AND THE SOUTHEAST



SUPPORTING CAREERS

One grant has already been made under the new guidelines to [Historic England Foundation](#) for its Early Careers programme. The programme aims to provide career entry points for young and under-represented people to begin careers in the heritage sector. The grant will fund 10 work placements.

THE MERCER ARTS AWARDS PROGRAMME

The Mercer Arts Awards programme is being reinstated to run from September 2024. The last iteration of the awards ran from 2016 – 2021 and through it 30 individual students at Trinity Laban, Royal College of Art and University of the Arts London were directly supported to pursue their chosen career.

The next iteration of the awards will be similarly structured for graduating MA students from at least three prestigious organisations, training people in Music, Textiles & Conservation or Visual Arts. The programme will be launched Autumn 2023.



We are delighted to be able to reinstate the Mercer Arts Awards for 2024 onwards and look forward to supporting young people as they embark on a career in the Arts.



MARK ASPINALL,
CHAIRMAN H&A, THE MERCERS' COMPANY

THE CHARITIES

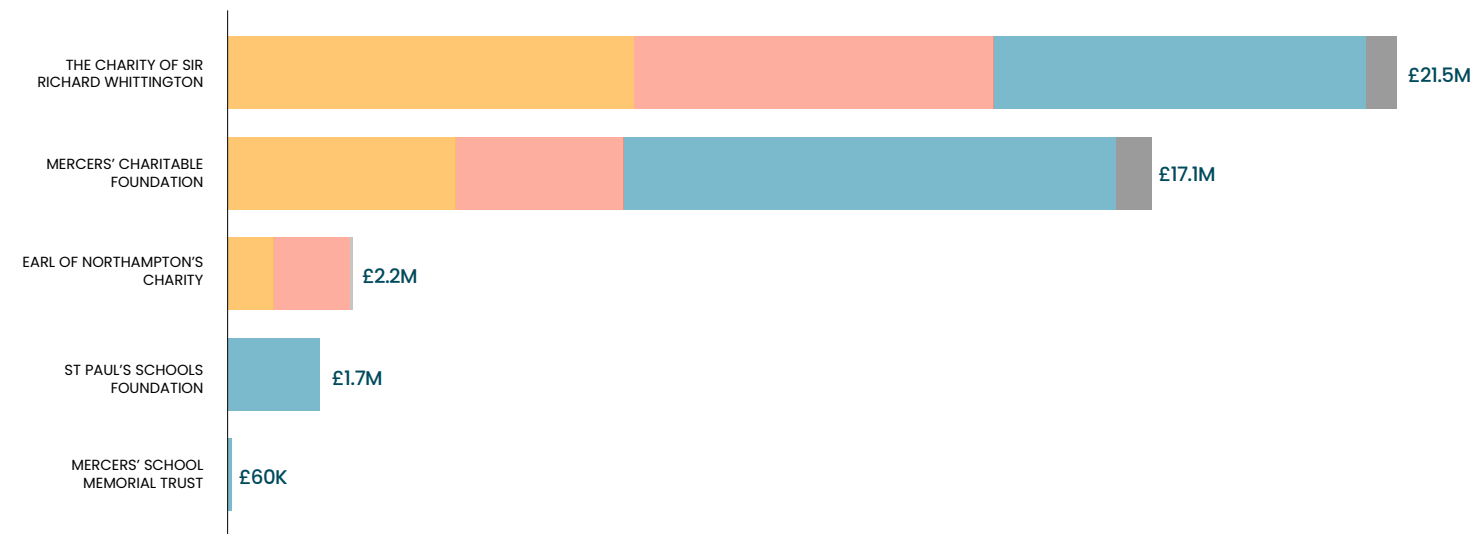
Over the centuries, The Mercers' Company has been entrusted with significant charitable gifts and bequests for charitable purposes from Members and other benefactors.

The Company is corporate trustee to eight charities. Five of these eight charities support our grantmaking programmes.

● C&C ● OP&H ● YP&E ● OTHER

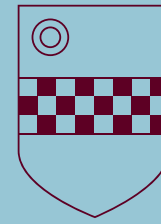
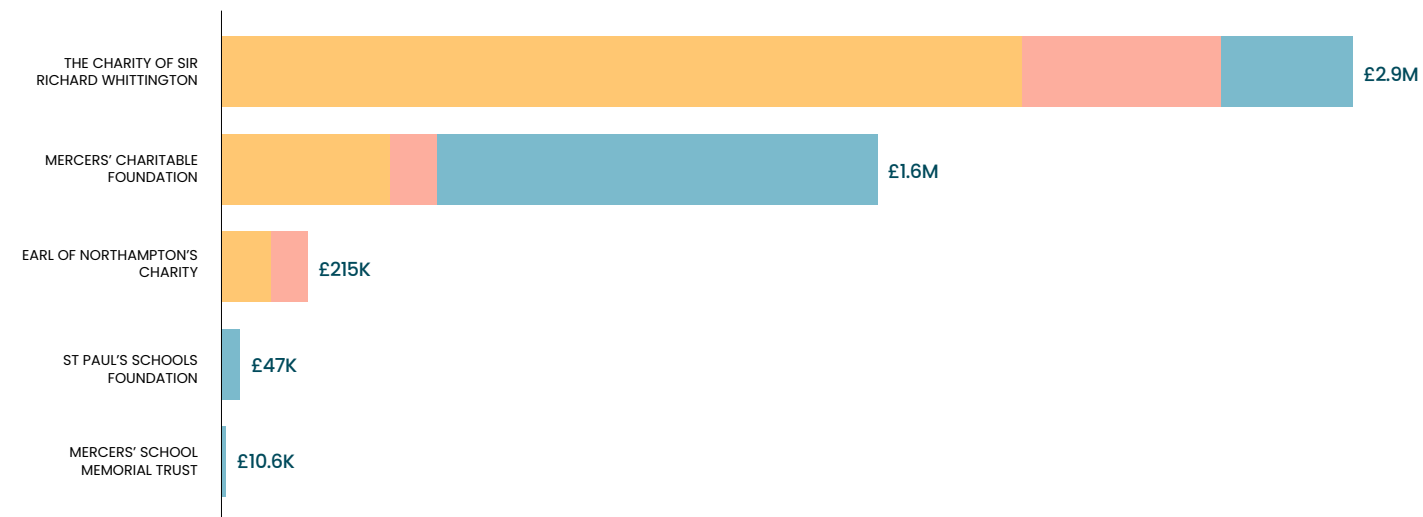
5-YEAR CHARITY SUPPORT

Under our 5-year Philanthropy Framework (between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2023) we awarded **£42.7 million**



2022-2023 CHARITY SUPPORT

From 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023, we awarded new grants of **£4.81 million**



THE CHARITY OF SIR RICHARD WHITTINGTON

Established 1424, under the will of Richard Whittington (1354-1423) who was Lord Mayor of London four times and Master of the Mercers' Company three times. The Mercers' Company was entrusted with the care of the charity in 1424 and remains the sole Trustee.

- To provide almshouses for the elderly and support people in need through grants.



MERCERS' CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Established 1983, the Mercers' Company is the Trustee.

- General charitable purposes and makes a number of grants to a wide range of organisations through the Philanthropy Framework.



THE EARL OF NORTHAMPTON CHARITY

Established 1614, the Mercers' Company is the Trustee.

- Provide sheltered accommodation and support for beneficiaries in its almshouses in Greenwich, London and Shotesham, Norfolk and support for people in need, hardship, or distress.



ST PAUL'S SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

Established 1509, the Mercers' Company is the Trustee.

- The Foundation is an educational charity. It is best known for its support of St Paul's School and St Paul's Girls' School but it also makes grants to London-based educational organisations through the Young People & Education programme.



THE MERCERS' COMPANY HOUSING ASSOCIATION

Established 1983, the Mercers' Company is the Trustee.

- Provide sheltered accommodation for elderly people at Mercers' House, Islington and Priory House, Clerkenwell, London.

OUR MEMBERS VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME AND WITHOUT THEIR DEEP COMMITMENT OUR PHILANTHROPIC WORK WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE.

MEMBERSHIP

Today, 136 volunteering positions are held by Members across 21 Philanthropy, Stewardship and Fellowship Committees that oversee the running of the Company and the Charities for which it is corporate trustee or sole member. We also have 43 Mercers serving as Governors at our Associated Schools & Colleges or as a Trustee on associated bodies.*

We are committed to our Members' growth. We run an active Membership Development function to identify our Members' ambitions and provide support (through training, mentoring and networking opportunities) to enhance their skillsets. The knowledge and experience gained not only enables Members to better contribute to the Company's core activities but also to volunteer in their local communities.

*An additional 28 non-Mercers are appointed by the Company (on a skills basis) as Governors and Trustees across the 16 ASCs.

”

We are committed to harnessing the breadth of professions, skills and experience across the Membership to ensure that we maximise our philanthropic impact and fulfil our purpose of creating real and positive change.

”

ROB ABERNETHY,
CLERK, THE MERCERS' COMPANY

136

VOLUNTEERING POSITIONS ARE HELD BY MEMBERS

43

MERCERS SERVING AS GOVERNORS AND TRUSTEES OF ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS AND BODIES*

The first Mercers' Company seal

 IN

THREE OF OUR MEMBERS OUTLINE WHAT IT MEANS TO THEM TO BE A MERCER AND THE VALUE THEY CREATE AND GAIN FROM THE VOLUNTEERING WORK THEY UNDERTAKE ON BEHALF OF THE COMPANY.

 FOCUS



Your role as Governor at Holy Trinity and St Silas – what do you do?

As a governing body we provide oversight and support to the school, especially to the Headteacher. This includes overseeing the overarching academic performance and fiscal management of the school. I am on the Resources Committee, and amongst other things we look at the school budget, oversee large capital projects, revise policies and authorise staff pay increases.

We also get the chance to spend time at the school as Lead Governors for subject areas. I am the Lead Governor for Art, so I spend time with the Art Subject Leader and report back to the Governing Body on any progress or updates from that department.

What do you find most inspiring at Holy Trinity and St Silas?

Holy Trinity and St Silas is an amazing Church of England state school in Camden. It specialises in providing an Arts based curriculum. This means that whenever possible there is a strong emphasis on art, music, and drama to stimulate learning.

The highlight of the year is the Shakespeare Term. All subjects focus on the theme of a set play and each class builds up towards a performance at the end of the term. For the younger years this is through dance but Years 5 and 6 perform the play, remaining loyal to the original Shakespearean text. These performances are among the best Shakespeare performances that I have seen!

HANNAH PALMER

MEMBER SINCE APRIL 2008

GOVERNOR AT HOLY TRINITY AND ST SILAS C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Holy Trinity and St Silas is a one form entry Church of England Primary School for children 4–11 years old, in the heart of Camden, London. Its rich and broad curriculum has a strong emphasis on art, music and drama to stimulate and inspire learning.

What do you enjoy most about your role?

Holy Trinity and St Silas is a wonderful school run by very dedicated staff. Being a small part of the team that helps maintain that standard of education for the pupils is very satisfying and is one of the ways in which volunteering on behalf of the Mercers' Company continues the mission of supporting the education of young people.

Advice for other Mercers thinking about taking on a volunteering role?

Don't hesitate! You will learn so much and really enjoy the experience.

// Being a small part of the team that helps maintain that standard of education for the pupils is very satisfying.

//

What does it mean to you to be a Mercer?

Being a Mercer is a great privilege and not one that many people can take advantage of so I have always tried to make the most of it and get involved when I can. At the moment I am just a Governor but, in some ways, this has been my favourite position and an amazing opportunity that might never have been available to me if I hadn't been a Mercer.



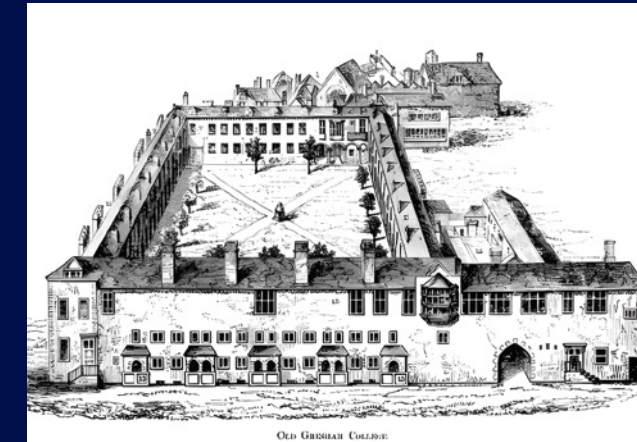
Holy Trinity and St Silas School – Shakespeare project

GEOFFREY MATTHEWS

MEMBER SINCE NOVEMBER 2012
TRUSTEE OF GRESHAM COLLEGE, LONDON

Gresham College has been providing free public lectures since 1597 when Sir Thomas Gresham's vision of bringing the 'new learning' to Londoners in English rather than Latin, was realised. It was the first Institute of Higher Education in London. Today, it carries on Sir Thomas's vision, by bringing some of the world's most brilliant minds to speak in fields ranging across the arts and sciences.

Old Gresham College c.1740



Your role as Trustee at Gresham College – what do you do?

Like any trustee, I attend regular board meetings where we hear reports from the Executive about the progress made at the College. As part of this role, I also sit on the Finance Committee, which meets shortly before each Council meeting. These meetings delve into considerable detail about the College's finances.

As a committee we then report back to the Council, which oversees the College's finances as well as the College's strategy and overall direction. Naturally, detailed formulation of strategy and the implementation of it is delegated to the executive team.

In addition to that formal role, as a trustee, one becomes part of the wider institutional family. I try to maintain close personal relationships with the staff and the professors. And being connected with the College also provides an opportunity to engage with its wonderful lecture programme.

Gresham College – what makes the institution so unique?

Gresham is a remarkable institution which has its roots in the very enlightened and far-sighted philanthropic instincts of somebody many hundreds of years ago. That person was Thomas Gresham, who was Queen Elizabeth I's financier, and one of the richest men in England in the late sixteenth century.

In his will, Gresham left a considerable estate to be shared equally between the Mercers' Company and the City of London Corporation. He asked those two beneficiaries to discharge certain charitable duties, one of which was to endow and support seven professorships. The Gresham professors were to live in Gresham's own house and to give free public lectures. The number of professors has grown to ten over the last 400 years with Gresham's house being succeeded by Barnard's Inn in Holborn.

The vision that Gresham had when he founded the College is still being fulfilled. 400 years later, the Mercers' Company and the City continue to support Gresham College as a philanthropic duty, and the College continues to provide a remarkable programme of free public lectures. Lifelong learning is as hot a topic now as it was for Thomas Gresham 400 years ago.

What do you enjoy most about your role at Gresham College?

The relationship with fellow Council Members, the staff and the professors. This human aspect of the role is both highly enjoyable and motivating. I am also passionate about the College's work.



Gresham College venue – Barnard's Inn Hall

// Gresham is a remarkable institution which has its roots in the very enlightened and far-sighted philanthropic instincts of somebody many hundreds of years ago.



Advice for other Mercers thinking about taking on a volunteering role, be it Governor or Trustee?

Go for it! You need to be sure that you can commit enough time – which is always more than you are told at the start! But if you can, it is very satisfying to be able to do one's bit to help the Company discharge the various duties of care that have been laid on it, and which it has assumed, over the centuries.

What does it mean to you to be a Mercer?

The Company itself is like an extended family that I feel lucky to have been invited to join. The Company's philanthropic work is significant, and something of which we all feel immensely proud. It is a privilege to be able to help.

What do you do outside of being a Governor/Trustee?

My day job is as Secretary and Chief Executive of the Chelsea Arts Club. Alongside this, my role at Gresham is complimented by roles on six other not-for-profit boards and committees. This includes being a Governor of St. Paul's Girls' School and a Member of both the Mercers' Heritage & Arts Committee and the Mercers' Charitable Foundation Governance Committee.



Gresham College venue – The Old Library, Guildhall



RUPERT TATE

MEMBER SINCE JUNE 1995
GOVERNOR OF ST PAUL'S SCHOOL, LONDON

St Paul's is an independent school for boys aged 7 to 18 years. Its founder, John Colet, opened the doors in 1509 to educate boys "from all nations and countries indifferently". As such, financial support is given for free and subsidised places at all entry points. Its vision is to nurture a generation of Paulines that will make a positive contribution to the world.

What do you do outside of being a Mercer and Governor?

I run Bear Grylls Ventures, a company focussed on encouraging others to get out there and find their own adventure through the lens of Bear himself. This aims to give the next generation the confidence to believe that hard work, resilience, and a formidable team mindset are critical for development and life. We work every day to grow the brand and increase the messaging across all our channels.

What made you want to be a Governor?

As a Mercer I am extremely privileged to have access to opportunities that provide the chance to do something worthwhile. When first approached to volunteer as a Governor, I was nervous about the time needed to be a valuable member of a governing board while in the midst of an extremely busy working and family life. It certainly adds pressure at times, as being a Governor is a considerable personal responsibility. But it remains a privilege and an opportunity to contribute to an institution which is centuries old and which is still striving to educate better each year.

What do you enjoy most about your role as Governor?

I enjoy being at the school, talking to the boys and learning about the institution as well as striving to have a positive impact throughout my term as a Governor.

Your role as Governor at St Paul's – what do you do?

I reinforce the ongoing relationship between the Mercers' Company and St Paul's School. As a Governor I am a charity trustee and sit on the school's governing body. I am also part of both the Education Committee and Enterprises Committee.

The governing body ensures that the academic rigour of the school remains in place, while also keeping an eye on always enabling the boys to reach their potential, both in and out of the classroom. The Enterprises Committee aims to bring in consistent alternative sources of revenue, traditionally from the magnificent 43-acre estate surrounding the school, but these days also looking to exploit the school's intellectual property and the opportunities for online learning.

What makes St Paul's so special?

It has a long and varied history and remains extremely relevant in the modern world. Colet's vision of accessible education has continued, with 153 pupils being offered bursaries today. The academic expectations are high and it remains hard to gain a place. The school offers a wide range of drama, music, sport and other clubs and societies for the boys, and with Sally-Anne Huang as the first female High Master, alongside a strong top leadership team, the school is in good health.

The Mercers' Company's influence is palpable, with a long-term view taken on every facet of the school. However, the pupils always remain the focus, and how to encourage and allow the boys to become their best selves and move into society when

they leave.

Advice for other Mercers thinking about taking on a governor role?

Do not underestimate the commitment, but know that if you take it on, you have the chance to have a deeply positive impact on some young people.



Being a Governor is a considerable personal responsibility. But it remains a privilege and an opportunity to contribute to an institution which is centuries old and which is still striving to educate better each year.



What does it mean to you to be a Mercer?

It is a privilege to be a Mercer and stepping into Mercers' Hall is a wonderfully calming experience. There is a keen sense that we are the fortunate guardians of something more enduring than any single person or lifespan. As Mercers I believe we should consider that the continuation of the Company and all it protects and supports will take hard work, the ability and willingness to adapt to an ever-changing world, and teamwork.



St Paul's School

MEMBERS' PHILANTHROPY

OUR MEMBERS' PHILANTHROPY PROGRAMME ADVOCATES AND SUPPORTS MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES IN THEIR OWN PHILANTHROPIC ENDEAVOURS WITH A FOCUS ON IMPROVING PEOPLE'S LIVES.

Funding helps a wide range of charities across the UK and worldwide, particularly small, grassroots organisations where a comparatively small grant can make a big difference.

MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES PHILANTHROPIC COMMITMENT – HOW OUR FUNDING PROGRAMME WORKS



UP TO **2.5K**

MATCHED FUNDS FROM PERSONAL DONATIONS OR FUNDRAISING



UP TO **£2.5K**

MATCHED FUNDS FOR REGULAR VOLUNTEERING



UP TO **10K**

GRANTS AWARDED TO ORGANISATIONS NOMINATED BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES

Members' Philanthropy can award up to £400k per year. Members and employees can choose unlimited organisations to support through personal donations/ fundraising, regular volunteering, and nominating organisations for grants.



WAC Arts

2022 HIGHLIGHTS

In 2022, the Members' Philanthropy programme continued to support causes nominated by Members and employees with over 10% going towards humanitarian relief in Ukraine.

From 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022, we are pleased to have awarded:

176

DONATIONS AND GRANTS

153

ORGANISATIONS RECEIVED DONATIONS AND GRANTS

£362,000

TOTAL OF MATCHED FUNDING AND GRANTS AWARDED

103

MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES PARTICIPATING

Donations and grants totalling **£36,658** were awarded in 2022 for the Ukraine crisis, **£16,809** donated to older people, **£102,142** to young people, **£89,915** to medical/disabilities, **£56,552** to communities, and **£59,976** to other charitable work across the United Kingdom and overseas.

Of the **103** individuals who kindly donated, volunteered their time or nominated an organisation for a grant – **18** were Members of the Court of Assistants, **44** were Liverymen, **23** were Freeman and **18** were employees.

WE'VE SELECTED A FEW EXAMPLES TO HIGHLIGHT WHAT OUR MEMBERS' PHILANTHROPY PROGRAMME HAS SUPPORTED THIS YEAR.



WAC Arts



MATCHED FUNDS FROM PERSONAL DONATIONS OR FUNDRAISING

Charles Vermont made a donation to [WAC Arts](#), an inclusive North London arts charity that provides creative opportunities for young people with social, physical, or economic barriers. He has been an advocate for the charity for over three years, including regular visits.

Nick Smith completed the Mallorca 312 Cycle Challenge to raise funds for the [Anthony Nolan Trust](#), a charity that makes lifesaving connections between patients and strangers ready to donate their stem cells.

£98,393

MATCHED FUNDING AWARDED BY THE COMPANY TO 105 ORGANISATIONS FOR DONATIONS

£20,556

MATCHED FUNDING AWARDED BY THE COMPANY TO 14 ORGANISATIONS FOR FUNDRAISING BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES



MATCHED FUNDS FOR REGULAR VOLUNTEERING

Elisabeth Bryant volunteers for [Depaul UK](#), a leading charity for young people, including refugees and asylum seekers, experiencing homelessness. Elisabeth is a host, providing accommodation in her home.

Isabella Nielsen is a listening volunteer at the [Listening Place](#), which supports people suffering from suicidal ideation.

Clare Fuchs runs gardening lessons, on a voluntary basis, at Ark Conway Primary Academy. She also co-ordinated the refurbishment of the reception class playground at the school.

£26,250

AWARDED TO 13 ORGANISATIONS MATCHING TIME VOLUNTEERED BY MEMBERS' AND EMPLOYEES'

The Together Space



GRANTS AWARDED TO ORGANISATIONS NOMINATED BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES

WAC ARTS 'WAC NITES' PROGRAMME

In addition to the matched funding referred to on p63, Charles Vermont also sponsored a £5k grant application. This was awarded to provide high-quality classes for young people with learning disabilities to explore creative, performing, and digital artforms. The programme aims to improve wellbeing and empower creative decision making.

UIG COMMUNITY CENTRE ASSOCIATION

A £5k grant was awarded for the opening of the community centre café three days a week, as a warm hub during the winter. This helps a remote community with fuel poverty and isolation in the Isle of Lewis, Scotland. The application was sponsored by Megan Watney.

THE TOGETHER SPACE CIC

A grant of 5k was made towards an award-winning pop-up café, soft play, sensory den, art workshops and range of classes for disabled and non-disabled children to socialise, learn and play together. The application was sponsored by Anna Robinson.

£216,853

TOTAL OF GRANTS AWARDED

44

ORGANISATIONS RECEIVED GRANTS

ORGANISATIONS RECENTLY SUPPORTED THROUGH MEMBERS' PHILANTHROPY INCLUDE:



CHARTER 600

COMPLEMENTING OUR MEMBERS' PHILANTHROPY PROGRAMME, THE CHARTER 600 CHARITY (CHARTER 600) PROVIDES LARGER ANNUAL GRANTS FOR SMALL CHARITIES.



WizeUp

Established in 1995, Charter 600 was founded to commemorate the 600th anniversaries of both The Mercers' Company's first Royal Charter and the first Mastership of Richard Whittington in 1395.

Charter 600's aim is simple. To be a modern-day benefaction for our Members, which welcomes participation and donation from Members, to support charitable causes selected by the Membership. Each year three new charities are selected for inclusion.

FROM 1 JANUARY TO
31 DECEMBER 2022

£45K

OF GRANTS WERE MADE BY CHARTER 600 TO
THE FOLLOWING THREE CHARITIES:

1. FREE TO BE KIDS

Free to be Kids believe that all children deserve to experience joy and adventure within their childhood, whatever other difficulties they face.

The £15k grant was made towards its Easter 2023 Gateway Projects, which involved running three separate five-day nature focused residentials to provide respite and therapeutic support for 60 vulnerable children in London.

2. HURACAN FOUNDATION

The Huracan Foundation aims to change worlds through the power of football. The £15k grant supported educators around the world to use football in transforming educational outcomes for children and tackling social issues specific to the local community, such as gang culture, youth alcoholism, racial and gender-based violence.

I was looking to get involved in small grassroots organisations that were making a real impact. Once I became a Trustee, I realised the impact winning a Charter 600 award could have. The application process was really simple, and it didn't distract Huracan from continuing its important work. Once granted the award, Huracan received the funds quickly, which has enabled the Foundation to fully fund a number of projects for 2023.

FRANCIS WATHEN,
THE MERCERS' COMPANY MEMBER

3. WIZEUP FINANCIAL EDUCATION

The charity delivers financial education and employability workshops in secondary schools around England. The £15k grant funded 20 workshops in London schools to help students' financial literacy.



I have been supporting WizeUp for three years by helping the charity find new funding opportunities. The Charter 600 Award has allowed WizeUp to run financial education sessions in 22 schools, working with c.3,800 students, delivering approximately 9,500 student hours of workshops and seminars. The charity is making a huge difference to young people by teaching them about financial and employability topics, giving students the vital knowledge they will need, ready for when they leave school.



FAY RICHARDS,
THE MERCERS' COMPANY EMPLOYEE



Huracan Foundation

WE THANK OUR MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES FOR THEIR CONTINUED VOLUNTEERING IN LINE WITH OUR PURPOSE – CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE SO THAT EVERYONE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO LEAD A FULFILLING LIFE.

STEWARDSHIP

WE MANAGE, DEVELOP, AND MAINTAIN A STRONG PROPERTY INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO, WHICH GENERATES MOST OF OUR INCOME.

The Company's estate extends to over five acres in Covent Garden and two acres in the City and comprises a mixed retail, restaurant, office, and residential portfolio.

Revenues from our Covent Garden and City property portfolio that support the Company's operations, are reinvested in the estate and, most importantly, help deliver our purpose-led philanthropic work - creating positive change so that everyone has the potential to lead a fulfilling life.



Guinness at Old Brewer's Yard - Artist's impression

THE CITY

FREDERICK'S PLACE



REGENERATING HISTORIC PROPERTY FOR MODERN BUSINESS

Our City portfolio is mainly located in the block bounded by Ironmonger Lane, Old Jewry and Cheapside. The main developments in 2022–2023 have been in Frederick's Place.

The Whittington Building – new pedestrian link



35,000

SQ FT

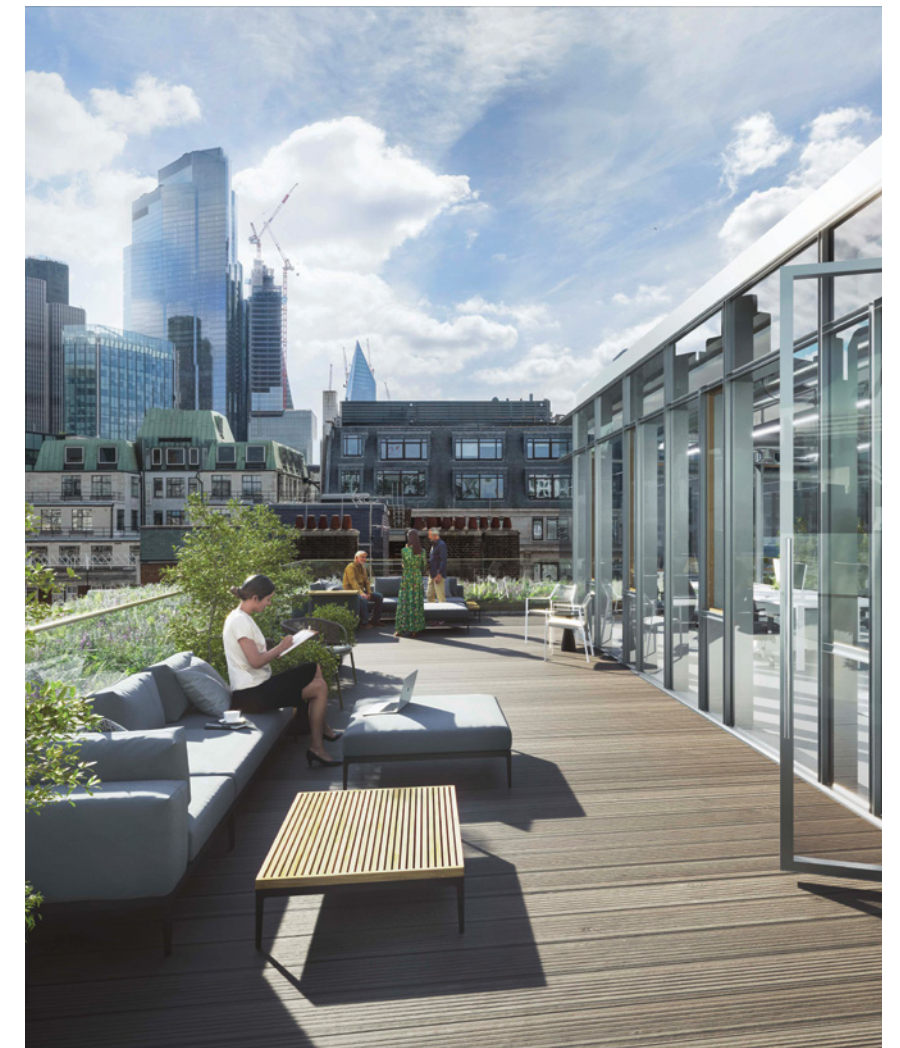
OF GRADE A OFFICE SPACE

Sustainability has been at the heart of this £40 million project, which has been carefully designed to be environmentally efficient through its consideration of space, heating, and cooling, as well as facilities for occupiers.

NO.'S 4 & 5 FREDERICK'S PLACE

Following completion of the £20 million refurbishment, and letting, of the 30,000 sq ft No. 1 and 7 Frederick's Place, the Company's focus during 2022/23 has been the continuing development of the former Company offices at No. 4/4a, and a new archive facility at No 5.

The Whittington Building, named in recognition of the 600th anniversary of Richard Whittington's death, will be completed in 2024. This ambitious project will provide a Grade A office building across five floors, with 35,000 sq ft of lettable space in total. This will see an uplift of over 120% on the previous building footprint. The design provides external terraces on the upper floors, ground floor retail space and a feature reception including a glass art installation procured through collaboration with the Glaziers' Company. There will also be a new pedestrian link from Frederick's Place to Ironmonger Lane.



The Whittington Building – external terrace

ARCHIVE

The new £5 million state of the art archive building will provide the Company with a considered space for its historical documents and artefacts, allowing for a considerable expansion of the collection. The new archive building has been carefully designed to protect each artefact, with the removal of natural light and creation of environmentally stable storage.

The archive reaffirms the Company's commitment to education with the addition of a reading room and a dedicated education suite to support teaching and learning. The archive collection contains artefacts spanning many centuries each of which enriches our understanding of the history that surrounds us. We are privileged to hold a collection that includes a variety of items, from 13th century land records to the late 15th century statue of the Dead Christ rediscovered after the Second World War. We are also pleased to have developed relationships with The National Archives, the Victoria & Albert Museum, Chequers and private individuals who have all lent artefacts to the Whittington's Legacy exhibition.



New archive facility at No. 5 Frederick's Place

£5M

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW ARCHIVE FACILITY



The redevelopment of 4/5 Frederick's Place represents the culmination of a 20-year ambition to complete the upgrading of the Company home estate, adding value to the urban environment with new and refurbished environmentally focussed buildings, providing additional income for our philanthropic endeavours. We are confident the appointment of our design team, led by Stanton Williams Architects and Development Managers Hanover Cube, combined with Knight Harwood as lead contractor, will ensure we fulfil this ambition in 2024.



SIMON TAYLOR
PROPERTY DIRECTOR, THE MERCERS' COMPANY



Becket House

BECKET HOUSE

The start of this year signalled the completion of the refurbishment of Becket House, with around 42,200 sq. ft of office space at 36 Old Jewry, a prime location in the City. The refurbishment of Becket House delivers exceptional amenities and facilities to tenants, including private terraces on three office floors.

42,200 SQ FT
OF OFFICE SPACE

COVENT GARDEN

THE YARDS



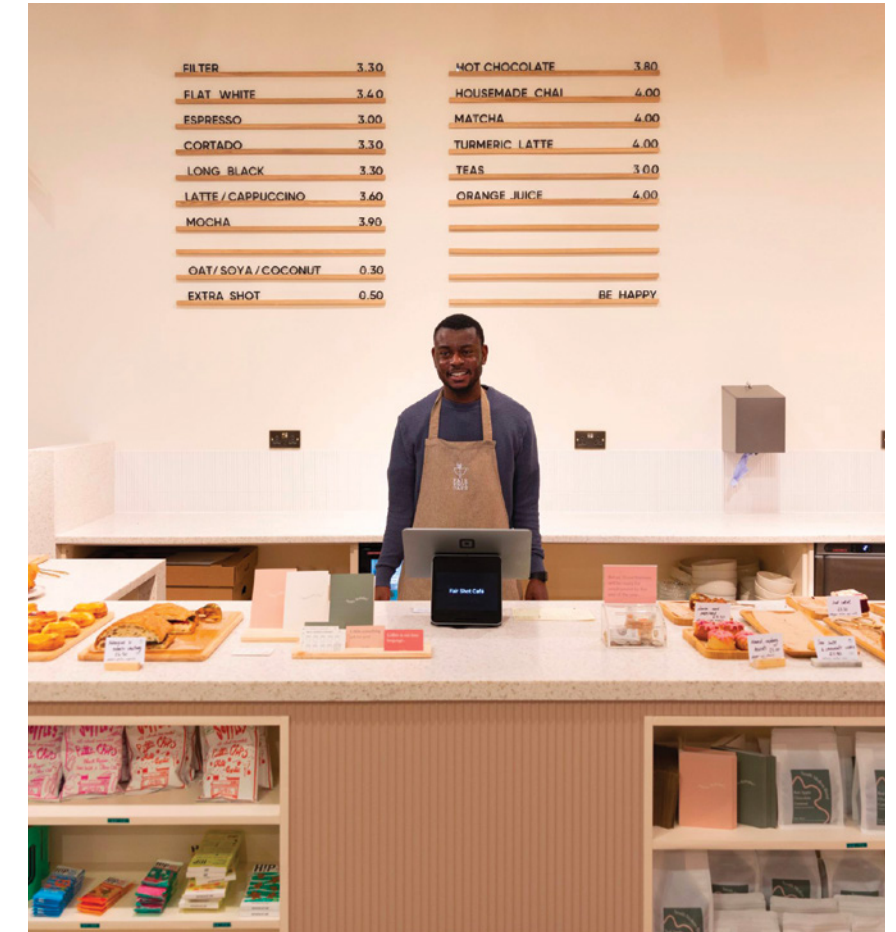
IT HAS LONG BEEN OUR AMBITION TO CREATE A UNIQUE AND INCLUSIVE EXPERIENCE WITHIN OUR COVENT GARDEN PORTFOLIO, WITH A CURATION OF ATTRACTIVE DESTINATIONS AT THE HEART OF THE WEST END.

The Yards has seen three interconnected courtyards created – St Martin’s Courtyard, Mercer Walk, and now Old Brewer’s Yard.

This year, we have seen several key lettings, which have continued to contribute to the wide interest across the area.

Fair Shot

Not-for-profit operator and social enterprise, [Fair Shot Café](#), opened within The Yards at 3 Slingsby Place. The café focuses on improving inclusivity and equality for adults with learning disabilities by providing young adults with hospitality training and supporting them with career opportunities. Offering fresh and seasonal dining options, Fair Shot Café continues the mission of The Yards to create a destination that celebrates difference and authenticity.



SPACE NK

The expansion of [Space NK](#), worldwide retailer for luxury cosmetics, into a new location on the Company estate at 3 Neal Street, with a two-storey space offering a curated selection of brands, highlights the area as a thriving shopping destination in Europe.



**GURĀ
GURĀ**

Gura Gura is a brand-new Pan-Asian concept, launched its debut restaurant at 19 Slingsby Place.



Olea Social

Olea Social, the modern Mediterranean restaurant, opened within The Yards at 10 Upper St Martin's Lane. Offering a reboot of traditional Mediterranean cuisine with a considered and refreshed menu, Olea Social strengthens The Yard's reputation as an attractive destination within the heart of the West End.

TOWNHOUSE

Townhouse is the UK's leading nail care brand, opened at 6 Slingsby Place. The company boasts renowned and award-winning treatments using industry-leading technology within a contemporary space.





GUINNESS

DIAGEO'S GUINNESS EXPERIENCE, MICROBREWERY AND CULTURE HUB.

Creating a global visitor destination by enriching the experience at Covent Garden with history and culture.

Last year we announced a partnership with [Diageo](#), maker of Guinness – a £73 million plan to invest in 'Guinness at Old Brewer's Yard', a new microbrewery and culture hub in Covent Garden.

£73M

INVESTMENT WITH DIAGEO

Old Brewer's Yard first brewed beer back in 1722 and with the new Guinness microbrewery located on this historic brewing site, it will be brought to life 300 years later. The destination, set to open late 2024, is expected to create 150 jobs, and provide a space for events and community initiatives.

The site, aiming to be carbon neutral by 2030, will also be home to Diageo's award-winning Learning for Life Bartending and Hospitality Programme, striving to improve employability and livelihoods across the UK.



Artist's impression



The significant level of investment is a boost to London's economy and will provide a one-of-a-kind immersive experience, shining the spotlight on Covent Garden as a global visitor destination. Old Brewer's Yard will provide a wonderful platform for the Mercers' Company to continue its philanthropic work.



ROB ABERNETHY,
CLERK, THE MERCERS' COMPANY

14 Upper St Martins' Lane



11,610 SQ FT
PREMIUM WORKSPACE

INVESTING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF OFFICE SPACE WITHIN THE WEST END

In a joint venture between the Mercers' Company and Shaftesbury Capital plc, Longmartin Properties Ltd has invested £4.5 million into over 18,000 sq. ft of office space across two locations at the heart of The Yards, now fully let.

The 11,610 sq. ft development on 14 Upper St Martin's Lane now boasts a premium workspace, designed by renowned architects, Hale Brown. The space has been carefully designed in harmony with the natural colour palate of the outdoor courtyard.

Likewise, 10 Slingsby Place has been newly transformed into a 6,960 sq. ft office space that provides a stylish workspace with a focus on maximising natural light through tall ceilings.

Designing buildings with sustainability at the forefront was a priority in both projects. Environmentally conscious timber has been used throughout the buildings, featuring retained and adapted elements such as doors, staircases, balustrades, and flooring.

10 Slingsby Place



6,960 SQ FT
STYLISH WORKSPACE

Frederick's Place



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR MEMBERS,
EMPLOYEES, GRANTEES AND STRATEGIC
PARTNERS WHO WORK TIRELESSLY
IN THE PURSUIT OF DELIVERING OUR
PHILANTHROPIC GOALS.

IN MEMORIAM 2022-2023

Lord Baden-Powell, 4th Baron of Gilwell
Sir Richard Ernest Butler Lloyd Bt
Mr Guy David Neely
Mr Michael Laurence Ounsted
Mrs Coral Cynthia Samuel CBE

The Mercers' Company

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