



Heritage Crafts Association

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NEWS RELEASE

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Nine new grants awarded to help save endangered crafts from extinction

A chair seater, a concertina maker and a brick and tile maker are among the recipients of the latest round of grants awarded to help safeguard some of the UK's most endangered craft skills.

The Heritage Crafts Association (HCA), which is due to publish the third edition of its groundbreaking *HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts* in May, has awarded a further nine grants from its **Endangered Crafts Fund**, which was launched in 2019 to increase the likelihood of endangered crafts surviving into the next generation.



This round of the HCA Endangered Crafts Fund has been offered with support from the **Garfield Weston Foundation**, the **Dulverton Trust**, the **Sussex Heritage Trust**, **Allchurches Trust**, the **Radcliffe Trust** and the **Swire Charitable Trust**. The nine successful recipients are:

- **Duncan Berry**, from West Sussex, to buy tools to enable him to pass on his skills as a flint waller.
- **Ben Bosence**, from East Sussex, to develop and make bricks and tiles from waste clay that has been excavated locally.
- **Monica Cass**, from Norwich, to train a chair seat weaver in skined willow techniques, and document the process.

Supporting and promoting heritage crafts as a fundamental part of our living heritage

www.heritagecrafts.org.uk

The Heritage Crafts Association is registered with the Charity Commission as Charitable Incorporated Organisation number 1159208

- **Collette Davies**, from Monmouth, to help revive the craft of lipwork straw basketry.
- **Tom Frith-Powell**, from Cumbria, to develop a gelatine sized paper as part of his commercial handmade papermaking charity.
- **Bob Green**, from Brighton, to buy tools to enable him to develop and pass on his skills as a flint waller.
- **Jake Middleton-Metcalf**, from Buckinghamshire, to be trained in making the critical working components of the English system concertina.
- **Tony Millyard**, from Northamptonshire, to pass on flute making skills and to develop a new model of flute.
- **Dominic Parrette**, from East Sussex, to build shave horses to allow him to teach trainees how to make Sussex trug and Devon stave baskets.

These nine projects follow 18 awarded in previous rounds, covering endangered crafts such as scissor making, sail making, damask weaving, boot tree making, cockle basket making, folding knife making, neon bending, coracle making, fan making and swill basket making, coppersmithing, withy pot making, disappearing fore-edge painting, plane making and kishie basket making.



As usual the fund was oversubscribed, and the HCA hopes to work with many of the unsuccessful candidates to identify other funding and support opportunities.

HCA Endangered Crafts Officer Mary Lewis said:

"The impact of COVID-19 in the last twelve months has only compounded the pressures on those at-risk craft skills that were already on the verge of being lost, but have so much to offer a post-COVID future, as productive and fulfilling ways to rebuild a sustainable economy. These projects will realise some of that potential."

The Endangered Crafts Fund has been funded through generous donations from organisations including **Garfield Weston Foundation**, the **Dulverton**

Trust, the Sussex Heritage Trust, Allchurches Trust, the Radcliffe Trust, as well as individuals who have donated sums from £5 right up to several thousands of pounds. The forthcoming 2021 edition of the *HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts* is funded by the **Pilgrim Trust**.

The HCA continues to seek further donations to save even more of Britain's most endangered crafts from oblivion. Donations are welcome at any time – for more information visit www.heritagecrafts.org.uk/ecf.

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Contacts:

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- For information about the Endangered Crafts Fund, contact **Mary Lewis**, Endangered Crafts Officer – mary@heritagecrafts.org.uk.

Photo captions:

- Monica Cass weaving a 'tau tray' using skeined willow in Norfolk. Photo copyright Katherine Mager.
- A hand made Anglo-German Concertina by Jake Middleton-Metcalfe. Photo copyright Jake Middleton-Metcalfe.

About the Heritage Crafts Association

Founded in 2009, the Heritage Crafts Association (HCA) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), the advocacy body for traditional heritage crafts. Working in partnership with government and key agencies, it provides a focus for craftspeople, groups, societies and guilds, as well as individuals who care about the loss of traditional crafts skills, and works towards a healthy and sustainable framework for the future. Its aim is to support and promote heritage crafts as a fundamental part of our living heritage.

www.heritagecrafts.org.uk

About the HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts

The HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts, created by the Heritage Crafts Association, was the first to rank traditional crafts in the UK by the likelihood they would survive the next generation. The 2019 edition of the Red List assessed 213 crafts to identify those which are at greatest risk of

disappearing, of which four have been classified as extinct, 36 as critically endangered, 71 as endangered and 102 as currently viable.

The Red List shows that the craft knowledge, skills and practices that form an important part of our shared cultural heritage, are – for a number of reasons – at risk of being lost. The HCA believes that these cultural assets are as important as unique heritage buildings and ancient beautiful landscapes and could provide future generations with fantastic opportunities to enrich their lives and the lives of others.

<http://redlist.heritagecrafts.org.uk>

About the Garfield Weston Foundation

The Garfield Weston Foundation was established in 1958 by the Weston family as a charitable grant-making foundation, which supports a wide range of causes across the UK, donating over £1 billion in total.

www.garfieldweston.org

The Dulverton Trust

The Dulverton Trust is an independent grant-making charity. It supports UK charities tackling a range of social issues, protecting the natural world, and preserving heritage crafts.

www.dulverton.org

About the Sussex Heritage Trust

The Sussex Heritage Trust (SHT) is a registered charity established in 1977 to preserve, improve and encourage the appreciation of the architectural and natural landscape of Sussex.

www.sussexheritagetrust.org.uk

About Allchurches Trust

Allchurches Trust is one of the UK's largest grant-making charities and gave more than £17.8 million to churches and charities in 2019. Allchurches' funds come from its ownership of Ecclesiastical Insurance Group.

www.allchurches.co.uk

The Radcliffe Trust

The Radcliffe Trust supports the development of the skills, knowledge and experience that underpin the UK's cultural heritage and crafts sectors.

www.theradcliffetrust.org

About the Swire Charitable Trust

Since 1975 the Swire Charitable Trust has supported a wide range of charities that share its commitment to delivering positive and lasting change to UK society. It receives its funding from John Swire & Sons Ltd, the parent company of the Swire Group.

www.swirecharitabletrust.org.uk

About the Pilgrim Trust

The Pilgrim Trust aims to preserve and promote Britain's historical and intellectual assets and to provide assistance to vulnerable members of society.

www.thepilgrimtrust.org.uk