



Heritage Crafts Association

# Heritage Crafts Association

President: HRH The Prince of Wales

*PATRONS: Emma Bridgewater CBE, Professor May Cassar, Lord Cormack KBE, Kaffe Fassett, Sir Christopher Frayling, Mark Henderson, Dr Alex Langlands, Paul Martin*

## NEWS RELEASE

Monday 1 March 2021

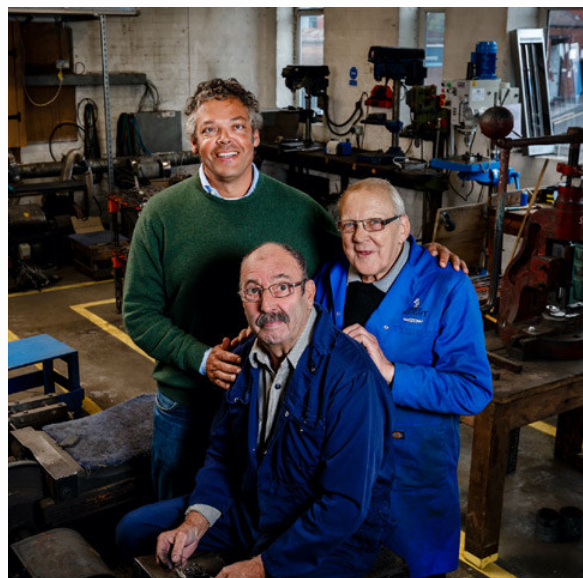
### Launch of the 2021 President's Award for Endangered Crafts supported by HRH The Prince of Wales

The Heritage Crafts Association (HCA) has launched its 2021 President's Award for Endangered Crafts, established last year by HCA President HRH The Prince of Wales. Each year the Award provides £3,000 to a heritage craftsperson who will use the funding to ensure that craft skills are passed on to the future.

The  
PRESIDENT'S  
Award

The Heritage Crafts Association (HCA) published the latest edition of its groundbreaking *HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts* in 2019, which revealed that there are 107 endangered crafts in the UK. Crafts deemed critically endangered range from millwrighting and horse collar making to watchmaking and tinsmithing. Other endangered crafts include a number of musical instrument making crafts, including brass, woodwind and percussion instruments, harps and Northumbrian pipes.

The inaugural award was won last year by **Ernest Wright** scissor makers. Following a tragedy in 2018, the company went into receivership and the critically endangered craft of scissor making was on the verge of disappearing from Sheffield. Paul Jacobs and Jan Bart Fanoy took action and bought the company, re-hired the remaining master putter-togetherers, Cliff Denton and Eric Stones, and took on several 'putters' in training. The factory is now back in action with 12 scissor patterns currently in



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

[www.heritagecrafts.org.uk](http://www.heritagecrafts.org.uk)

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

production. They used the prize to repair machinery so that putters-in-training have more productive time learning the craft from Cliff and Eric.

Applicants for the President's Award are invited to submit proposals to help secure the survival of their craft, which must be listed as 'endangered' or 'critically endangered' on the 2019 edition of the HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts.

The President's Award will be presented at a special reception at Dumfries House, home of The Prince's Foundation, as well as at a prestigious winners' reception at the Houses of Parliament.

The Award judges are renowned advocates of craft skills:

- **Jay Blades**, BBC *The Repair Shop*, Jay & Co;
- **Kate Hobhouse**, Chair of Fortnum and Mason;
- **Paul Jacobs**, Co-Owner of 2020 winner Ernest Wight scissor makers;
- **Patricia Lovett** MBE, Chair of the Heritage Crafts Association; and
- **Simon Sadinsky**, Deputy Director of The Prince's Foundation.



HCA Operations Director Daniel Carpenter said:

*"The UK is known around the world for its manufacturing ingenuity and its craft skill, and there is no better example than Sheffield, the historic home of the global cutlery trade and of last year's Presidents' Award winners Ernest Wright. British craftsmanship is facing unprecedented challenges, only exacerbated these past twelve months by the COVID pandemic. We are keen to ensure that everyone, including the policymakers who have it within their power to help, understands that not only are craft skills an important part of our national cultural heritage, but also a potentially vital part of our shared future."*

The HCA has also launched four other awards in association with the **Marsh Christian Trust**, including Maker of the Year, Trainer of the Year, Trainee of the Year and Volunteer of the Year, each with a prize of £1,000. Members of the public can nominate their favourite craftspeople at <http://awards.heritagecrafts.org.uk> by 30 April 2021.

Applications are invited via [www.heritagecrafts.org.uk/presidentsaward](http://www.heritagecrafts.org.uk/presidentsaward) from those practising a craft listed as 'endangered' or 'critically endangered' on the 2019 edition of the *HCA Red List of Endangered Crafts* ([www.heritagecrafts.org.uk/redlist](http://www.heritagecrafts.org.uk/redlist)). Applicants must explain how they will use the £3,000 award to help secure the survival of their craft. The closing date for applications is Friday 30 April 2021 at 5pm. For more information about the awards, email HCA Operations Director Daniel Carpenter at [daniel@heritagecrafts.org.uk](mailto:daniel@heritagecrafts.org.uk).

ENDS

## Photo caption

### *Main photo:*

- Paul Jacobs with master putter-togetherers Cliff Denton and Eric Stones of Ernest Wright scissor makers. Photo by Carl Whitham.

### *Judges:*

- Jay Blades, BBC *The Repair Shop*, Jay & Co.
- Kate Hobhouse, Chair of Fortnum and Mason.
- Paul Jacobs, Co-Owner of 2020 winner Ernest Wight scissor makers.
- Patricia Lovett MBE, Chair of the Heritage Crafts Association.
- Simon Sadinsky, Deputy Director of The Prince's Foundation.

## Contact

For more information about The President's Award, for additional photographs and for information about the Heritage Crafts Association contact Daniel Carpenter, HCA Operations Director - [daniel@heritagecrafts.org.uk](mailto:daniel@heritagecrafts.org.uk)

## 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](http://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>