HERITAGE CRAFTS

RED LIST OF ENDANGERED CRAFTS

NEWS RELEASE

Tuesday 29 March 2022

Six new grants awarded to help save endangered crafts from extinction

A kiltmaker, a clockmaker and a typefounder are among the recipients of the latest round of grants awarded to help safeguard some of the UK's most endangered craft skills.

Heritage Crafts, which published the third edition of its groundbreaking ***Red List of Endangered Crafts*** last year, has awarded a further six 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 Endangered Crafts Fund has been offered with support from the **Pilgrim Trust**, the **Dulverton Trust**, the **Sussex Heritage Trust** and the **Swire Charitable Trust**. The six successful recipients are:

- **Katie Beard**, from Gloucestershire, to apprentice to type founder Stanley Lane, to safeguard the history and craft of metal type manufacture and letterpress book printing.
- **Hugh Dunford-Wood**, from Dorset, to create short films to support the teaching of the craft of hand-blocked wallpaper making throughout the UK and beyond.
- **Scott Jeffrey**, from Hampshire, to fund the setup of wheel and pinion cutting in his clockmaking workshop, and offer wheels and pinions to the trade.
- **Anna Rennie**, from Cornwall, to apprentice to master maille maker Nick Checksfield, to learn how to restore and preserve original maille, and to become the first female professional maille maker.

- **Karl Schmidt**, from the United States, to reintroduce the critically endangered craft of tinsmithing to the UK through a specialist tinsmithing masterclass.
- **Zoë Watson**, from Perthshire, to train as a professional kiltmaker at the Kiltmakery in Edinburgh, after doing an introductory course as a 16-year-old student.

These six projects follow 35 awarded in previous rounds, covering endangered crafts such as scissor making, sail making, damask weaving, boot tree making, neon bending, and concertina making, amongst others.

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

HCA Endangered Crafts Manager **Mary Lewis** said:
"The survival of endangered craft skills relies on the people who make a positive choice to learn, make and teach these crafts. These projects will provide future generations with opportunities that they might not otherwise have, to become productive and healthy members of our shared craft community and to safeguard this important part of our national heritage."

Since 2019, the Endangered Crafts Fund has been funded through generous donations from organisations including the **Pilgrim Trust**, the **Dulverton Trust**, the **Sussex Heritage Trust**, the **Swire Charitable Trust**, the **Garfield Weston Foundation**, the **Benefact Trust**, and the **Prince of Wales's Charitable Fund**, as well as individuals who have donated sums from £5 right up to several thousands of pounds.

Heritage Crafts 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 Manager – mary@heritagecrafts.org.uk.

Photo captions:

- Zoë Watson, trainee kiltmaker. Photo by Nikki Laird.
- Hugh Dunford-Wood, wallpaper maker. Photo by Derek Reay.

About Heritage Crafts

Founded in 2009, the Heritage Crafts is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered as the 'Heritage Crafts Association', 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 *Red List of Endangered Crafts*

The 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 2021 edition of the Red List, funded by the Pilgrim Trust, assessed 244 crafts to identify those which are at greatest risk of disappearing, of which four have been classified as extinct, 56 as critically endangered, 74 as endangered and 110 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. Heritage Crafts 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 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

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 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