

THE
SUMMERFIELD
CHARITABLE TRUST

TRUSTEES:

Vanessa Arbuthnott

Antonia Shield

Kate Hicks Beach

Roger Mortlock

David Owen

GRANTS PAID

1st January to 31st December 2024



www.summerfield.org.uk

Registered charity number 802493

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Front cover: Severn Freewheelers

About the Trust

The Summerfield Charitable Trust (SCT) was established by Ronald Summerfield, a Cheltenham antique dealer, shortly before his death in 1989. The board of five Trustees has discretion as to which charitable uses to apply the funds. The Trust is administered by Mrs Lavinia Sidgwick.

In 2024 £381,529 was awarded in 44 grants. In addition, the Trustees pledged £2 million to The Big Cancer Space Appeal. A copy of the latest Trust accounts is available upon request.

What we fund and how to apply

We encourage a diverse range of applicants and we are keen to support projects, both large and small, that are imaginative and to which we can make a contribution.

See our funding criteria below, or view our [Grants Paid](#) pages for more information on current and past projects we have funded.

Geographical Area

Charities and organisations applying to the Trust must be based in the six district councils of Gloucestershire (i.e. Cheltenham, Gloucester, Stroud, Tewkesbury, Cotswolds or Forest of Dean); or they must be engaged in a project that is of specific benefit to residents within the county.

If you are applying from a charity based outside Gloucestershire, we will want to see evidence of strong engagement with people and organisations in the county.

Applications are considered in the following categories:

- The arts, museums and the built heritage (see **Buildings Improvement** section below);
- The environment and natural heritage;
- Community work;
- Education, sport and recreation;
- Vulnerable and disadvantaged sectors of society.

All applicants are asked to show they have considered:

- The impact of your project on the environment;
- Planning for long term self-sufficiency;
- The potential to work in partnership* with other statutory and non-statutory funders;
- Their active involvement with the people who will benefit;
- The outcomes of the project or service.

** Where charities can enter into collaborative arrangements/partnerships to work together, particularly when seeking funds for capital expenditure, we would suggest advice is taken on the potential to benefit from VAT relief on transactions between the collaborators.*

Buildings Improvement:

For 2024 we are unlikely to support applications for routine repairs or for new capital projects unless there is a very strong argument that the project needs to happen this year.

If you still want to apply for funds for a new building, or to make alterations to an existing building, you need to note that SCT is supportive of measures which reduce running costs, improve a building's performance, and improve facilities for users/staff. Your application would need to give a full explanation of what measures you have considered on

- Sustainability;
- Building design and management;
- Ease of use.

In addition it is essential that you explain the ownership of the building and the nature of the agreement between the owner and the charity/organisation raising funds for the improvements.

Environmental Impact

We believe we all have a responsibility to protect the environment for the future generations, and this includes the projects and communities we support. Through our grant programme we want to inspire community groups to make their own contribution to reduce their environmental impact, especially in reducing carbon emissions, the main driver of climate change.

We would like you to consider in your application what steps you have taken to consider your environmental impact. This could include reducing waste, saving energy, reducing the impact of events, or thinking differently about travel. We realise that for some projects this is harder than others, but we would like you to demonstrate that you have considered your environmental impact.

Organisations we will fund:

Registered charities.

- **Charitable Incorporated Organisations.**
- **Community Groups, Not-for-profit limited companies and Voluntary Groups:** applications will only be accepted supported by a letter of endorsement from a registered charity.
- **Community Interest Companies:** applications must include a letter of endorsement from a registered charity, and a copy of audited accounts including a breakdown of salary costs.

Donations are NOT given to:

- **Medical research;**
- **Private education;**
- **Animal welfare appeals;**

- **Fund trips abroad;**
- **Projects that have already taken place.**
- **Individuals:** applications from individuals are not accepted
- **Repeat Grants:** charities which have been in receipt of a grant should not re-apply for at least two years, unless they have specifically been asked to do so.

A note on staff costs

Your application may include staff costs where they are required to deliver your project, but applicants will need to demonstrate how staff and core costs will be maintained beyond the grant funding.

HOW TO APPLY

During 2025 the Trustees will meet in March; other dates to be announced - to consider all applications received prior to the deadline dates (*see website*), and **prefer to support projects that will take place, or start, within six months of receiving the grant.** It is therefore important when applying to be clear about time scales and confident they will fit in with the timing of the meetings.

WE HAVE A TWO-STAGE APPLICATION PROCESS. Before completing the online application we strongly advise that you view the [What We Fund](#) and [Grants Paid](#) pages on our website to ensure that your project is eligible and meets with our funding criteria.

www.summerfield.org.uk

Email: admin@summerfield.org.uk Tel: 01285 721 211

Introduction from the Chair

In these extraordinary times, the Trust continues to play a significant role in enhancing the quality of life in Gloucestershire. Amid ongoing challenges, our mission remains steadfast: to target support where it is most needed, make a tangible impact, and help our communities thrive.

During 2024, the Trustees maintained a sharp focus on granting funds to areas with the most acute need. Whether it is alleviating deprivation in Gloucestershire's most disadvantaged communities, improving our natural environment, fostering community cohesion, or supporting the arts, we remain dedicated to making a difference where it matters most.

This year, we took a momentous step forward by approving our largest grant ever as a Trust—a £2 million commitment to the Big Space Cancer Appeal. This landmark project, with a total value of £16 million, will create state-of-the-art, patient-centred oncology facilities at Cheltenham General Hospital, benefiting patients and families across the region. Cancer touches the lives of so many in Gloucestershire, and we are proud to support an initiative that will transform care and offer vital support during life's most challenging moments.

We have also begun to implement our new strategy for the Trust, which marks an exciting shift in our approach. Our focus now is on co-design and co-production, working in collaboration with communities across Gloucestershire to align with the Trust's aims and ambitions. This innovative strategy, developed in partnership with the Gloucestershire Voluntary and Community Sector Alliance, is already showing promising progress, and we are excited to continue building on this foundation.

Meanwhile, the Trustees have sharpened our grant-giving priorities for 2025 in light of the post-pandemic environment and the ongoing cost-of-living challenges. Our activities will focus on two critical areas:

1. Supporting the recovery of our most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities as they continue to feel the impacts of the pandemic.
2. Backing projects that improve our environment and address the pressing issues of the climate emergency.

Our work is only possible thanks to the dedication of our incredible team. I want to extend my deepest gratitude to my fellow Trustees—Kate, Nessa, Roger, and Antonia—whose insight, commitment, and good humour are invaluable in ensuring we make thoughtful, impactful grant decisions. We are also immensely fortunate to have the support of a talented team of advisers and professionals, and I would like to offer special thanks to Lavinia and Wendy. Their tireless efforts in guiding applicants, ensuring funding bids are as strong as possible, and distributing grants swiftly and effectively make a real difference to the success of our mission.

Together, we continue to ensure the Trust is a force for positive change across Gloucestershire, providing vital support to those who need it most and helping to build a brighter, more sustainable future for all.

David Owen

Chair of the Trustees

ADVISERS: Brendan Conboy; Julia Hurrell; Wendy James; Sue Kinder ; Nicky Lawson; Barbara McNaught; Frank McDermot; Sally Mackie; Kate Macduff ; Karen Randall; Katharine Tetley; Alistair Watson, Mayrick Brentnall.

About the Trustees

The board of six Trustees has discretion as to which charitable uses to apply the funds.

VANESSA ARBUTHNOTT

Vanessa Arbuthnott is from Cumbria, having gained a degree in nursing and SRN she became an intensive care nurse. Having married she retrained with a PGCE to become a primary school teacher in London. After having children, she attended art school to study surface print, which led to her starting her own fabric mail order company in 2000. In 2012 she created an artist residency in her house; she and her students take art classes out to vulnerable groups in the community. This work has given her an insight into needs in Gloucestershire.

KATE HICKS BEACH

Katrina Hicks Beach lives near Cirencester. She went to Northleach Grammar School and gained a degree in Sanskrit and Religion at Edinburgh University, before going to the Royal Scottish Academy of Music to study singing. For twenty-five years she has worked as a professional singer, teacher and choir leader. Kate was on the board of the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust and was a Trustee of Home-Start Cotswolds. She works for the Gloucestershire based charity Mindsong, as Director of Volunteer-led Services, and runs a programme of singing groups, recruiting, training and supporting volunteers to sing regularly with care home residents living with mid to late stage dementia. She runs a 70 strong community choir in Coln St. Aldwyns.

ROGER MORTLOCK

Roger Mortlock joined Summerfield's board of Trustees in May 2019. Roger is CEO at CPRE, the countryside charity, campaigning for a thriving and beautiful countryside for everyone. He joined CPRE in May 2023 after over 15 years in leadership roles for environmental charities, most recently at Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, the county's largest environmental charity where he was CEO for 10 years. Prior to that he was Deputy Director at the Soil Association where he was also Chair of the Food for Life Partnership and the Soil Association Land Trust which holds productive land in trust for future generations.

DAVID OWEN - Chair of the Trustees

David Owen was born and brought up in Gloucestershire before moving to university in Liverpool to study Business & Economics. He spent ten years in the North West working across the education sector and as MD of a start-up, high-growth, training business. For the last twenty years he has worked in Gloucestershire, first as Director of Enterprise and Innovation at the University of Gloucestershire and now as Chief Executive of GFirst Local Enterprise Partnership and Director of Economy & Environment for Gloucestershire County

Council. He lives north of Cheltenham with his wife, Laura, their four daughters and their dog.

ANTONIA SHIELD

Antonia Shield joined The Summerfield Trust board of Trustees in November 2020. Antonia has recently retired as Managing Partner of BPE Solicitors in Cheltenham having previously spent 10 years heading up the firm's large property team. Antonia has undertaken a wide range of commercial property work throughout her career including development and regeneration projects, and is refocussing her day to day back to commercial property work in order to have more time to dedicate to her family. Antonia did her first degree in Architectural History and she remains passionate about the built environment both historic and contemporary, enjoys art, antiques and gardening.

The Summerfield Charitable Trust Grants Paid Grouped by Scheme

The Arts, Museums and the Built Heritage

Applicant Project	Amount
BARN THEATRE PROJECT	£3,000
Project Orpheus - providing arts and heritage activities for disadvantaged groups in Cirencester and across the Cotswolds	
COURT BARN, Chipping Campden	£3,500
Grant to help fund the creation of multi-sensory handling boxes that can be used to engage elderly members of the community with the local history of craft and design.	
GLOUCESTERSHIRE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	£2,000
Gloucestershire Young Musician of the Year award	
HAPPY DAYS CHILDREN'S CHARITY	£750
Grant to enable 120 children with special needs from Cheltenham visit the theatre.	
LANSDOWN HALL AND GALLERY	£4,500
Sound and Light: Enhancing Lansdown Hall's Stage Experience in Stroud	
SLING PLAYING FIELDS	£4,000
To provide MUGA	
STRIKE A LIGHT (GLOUCESTER)	£10,000
Gloucester Presents was their new programme of extraordinary theatre for Gloucester, supporting local communities, artists and freelancers	
WINCHCOMBE ARTS & COMMUNITY HUB	£5,000
Isbourne Arts - to provide an arts, youth and community venue for Winchcombe and the surrounding area	
WINCHCOMBE TOWN TRUST	£1,082
Restart the Town Clock	
Total Awarded for the Arts, Museums and the Built Heritage	£33,832

Community

Applicant Project	Amount
COTSWOLD FRIENDS	£8,000
Cotswolds Community Activities Programme (CAP)	
GLOUCESTERSHIRE BREASTFEEDING SUPPORTERS NETWORK	£5,000
Providing breastfeeding support across Gloucestershire	
MEN IN SHEDS CHELTENHAM & GLOUCESTER	£7,500
To open a second Shed facility in Cheltenham	
TETBURY RAIL LANDS TRUST (TRADING AS TETBURY GOODS SHED ARTS CENTRE)	£5,000
Kids @ The Shed: a creative arts programme for local children	
THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION, CHELTENHAM	£8,500
Major refurbishment work to Hindu Community Centre	
VALE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL LEAGUE OF FRIENDS, THE VALE STROKE REHABILITATION UNIT	£5,000
Provision of specialist stroke rehabilitation equipment	
Total Award for Community	£39,000

Education, Sport & Recreation

Applicant Project	Amount
ALLSORTS GLOUCESTERSHIRE	£1,430
Setting up a trampolining club for disabled and autistic children living in Stroud	
CHALFORD BAND (BRASS BAND)	£1,800
To provide replacement uniforms and instruments	
DRYBROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL (FOREST OF DEAN TRUST)	£5,000
Grant towards the creation of a sensory room as a therapeutic setting, especially for children with autism and other special educational needs.	
KINGSWOOD VILLAGE CRICKET CLUB	£4,000
KVCC Cricket Pitch Restoration and Expansion	
PATERNOSTER SCHOOL, CHELTENHAM	£15,000
Donation to help create Paternoster School's Early Years Playground: for children with acute special needs.	
PRISONERS' EDUCATION TRUST	£2,620
Transforming Lives and Reducing Reoffending through Learning; grant to provide vital educational opportunities to eight people who are held in prisons across England and Wales, who are from Gloucestershire.	
SLADEWOOD ACADEMY (SANDMAT)	£4,000
Grant to ensure the school's playground is accessible to children who have mobility issues such as hypermobility, Downs Syndrome, cerebral palsy or visual impairments.	
ST ROSE'S SPECIAL SCHOOL	£150,000
Project Connect Phase 1: Extend teaching area & build new sensory pathway from the car park to the new college entrance.	
Total Awarded for Education, Sport and Recreation	£183,850

The Environment and Natural Heritage

Applicant Project	Amount
CHARLTON ROVERS AFC	£2,000
Charlton Rovers Football Club's Sustainable Power Project	
COTSWOLD CANALS TRUST	£5,000
Installation of bird hides and creation and restoration of built habitats for canal wildlife	
STROUD VALLEYS PROJECT	£8,000
Grant to fund the boardwalk and footpath improvements along the canal and the river Frome and some of the surveying and monitoring costs which includes Earthwatch equipment and materials.	
Total Award for The Environment and Natural Heritage	£15,000

Vulnerable or Disadvantaged Sectors of Society

Applicant Project	Amount
BRITISH WIRELESS FOR THE BLIND FUND	£3,000
Grant to enable the charity to provide free of charge, user-friendly audio equipment to those who are blind and in financial need, in Gloucestershire.	
CHILDREN ACHIEVING LIFELONG MOVEMENT (CALM)	£3,600
CALM is a small charity based in Bourton on the Water that provides free physical movement therapy sessions to children affected by long-term movement disorders caused by many conditions including :childhood stroke; cerebral palsy; brain trauma and Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis.	
CRUSE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT	£4,264
Training volunteers to provide individual and group bereavement support to vulnerable grieving adults in Gloucestershire	
GL11 COMMUNITY PROJECT	£4,000
Grant to fund DiversiTea: a neurodiverse pop-up fortnightly outreach Cafe at Dursley Methodist Church. The activity was co-designed by, and is run by, GL11's 'Explorers' group of adults with learning difficulties, as a friendly, safe place to meet for song, laughter and fun, with tea, cake, and activities.	
GLOUCESTERSHIRE BUNDLES	£3,000
To provide clothes for disadvantaged children from new born to age 16	
GLOS HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST	£2,000,000
Big Space Cancer Appeal	
GLOUCESTERSHIRE DEAF ASSOCIATION	£10,000
Donation to help fund the charity's Wellbeing programme of activities and events for deaf and hard of hearing adults living in Glos.	
GUIDEPOSTS TRUST	£4,980
Grant to support the charity's CONNECT project: Growing Health, Resilience & Hope for isolated older people and their carers in the Forest of Dean.	
HEARTSIGHT SERVICES CIC	£4,000
Based at the Scout Hut in Winchcombe; SCT's grant was to help fund nature based eco-education programmes for neurodiverse children and young people.	
HOME-START NORTH AND WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE	£5,000
This branch of Home Start works in Cheltenham, Tewkesbury and the Forest providing support to families at home and groups with a variety of needs. SCT's donation was to support volunteers running the Mothers in Mind groups.	
HOME-START STROUD AND GLOUCESTER	£5,000

Grant to fund weekly home visiting support to 5 vulnerable families for a year.	
LYDNEY DIAL A RIDE	£5,000
Donation to purchase an additional minibus so they can expand their service to elderly residents of Cinderford.	
MENINGITIS NOW	£5,000
Support of the Rebuilding Futures Fund in Gloucestershire which pays for items and services that improve the physical and emotional wellbeing of people and families affected by meningitis	
MINDSONG	£18,000
Improving and expanding services for people with dementia and their carers throughout the county. SCT awarded a grant to the charity's Music Therapy @ Home; a course of 12 weekly sessions for people being cared for at home.	
RECONNECT GLOUCESTERSHIRE CIC	£5,000
SCT supported ReConnect, based in Stroud, to set up a Stroke Mentor Programme for survivors who have returned home.	
SEVERN FREEWHEELERS EMERGENCY VOLUNTARY SERVICES (EVS)	£7,000
Grant towards purchasing a replacement Blood Bike motorcycle for Gloucestershire hospitals.	
SUE RYDER FOUNDATION, Leckhampton Glos.	£15,000
Leckhampton Court opened in 1974 and is the only palliative care inpatient unit (IPU) in Gloucestershire. SCT awarded a grant towards the refurbishment costs of the five IPU rooms.	
THE CHAMWELL CENTRE CHARITY, GLOUCESTER	£5,000
Vital alterations to an accessible changing room for non-ambulant visitors using the charity's hydro pool.	
THE FAMILY HAVEN	£5,003
The Family Haven operates a day centre and nursery for vulnerable families in Gloucester. They urgently needed funds to repair their drainage system.	
TRIBE FESTIVALS LIMITED	£2,000
Accessibility improvements for audiences at Wychwood music & arts festival	
Total Award for Vulnerable or Disadvantaged Sectors of Society	£2,113,847

Summary of Applications Received and Grants Paid in 2024

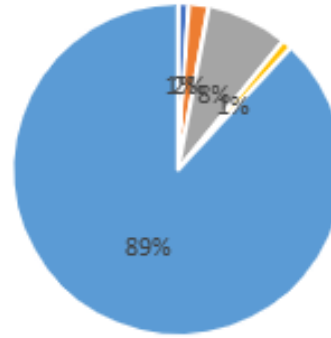
	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Number of applications considered by the Trustees	65	68	75	62
Total grants paid	34	41	43	47
Applications considered but the Trustees refused	30	27	32	13
Other applications considered – payment deferred	1	0	0	2
Applications refused by the Administrator – not eligible	3	5	4	8
Total applications received	68	73	79	70

BREAKDOWN OF GRANT PAYMENTS 2024

Grant Category	Amount Paid	No of Grants
The Arts, Museums and the Built Heritage	£33,832	9
Community Work	£39,000	6
Education, Sport and Recreation	£183,850	8
The Environment and Natural Heritage	£15,000	3
Vulnerable or Disadvantaged Sectors of Society	£2,113,847	21
TOTAL	£2,385,529	47

Breakdown of Grants Paid by Grant Category 2024

- The Arts, Museums and the Built Heritage
- Community Work
- Education, Sport and Recreation
- The Environment and Natural Heritage
- Vulnerable or Disadvantaged Sectors of Society



SUMMERFIELD CHARITABLE TRUST

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