



# LONDON WILDLIFE TRUST ANNUAL REVIEW 2017-2018

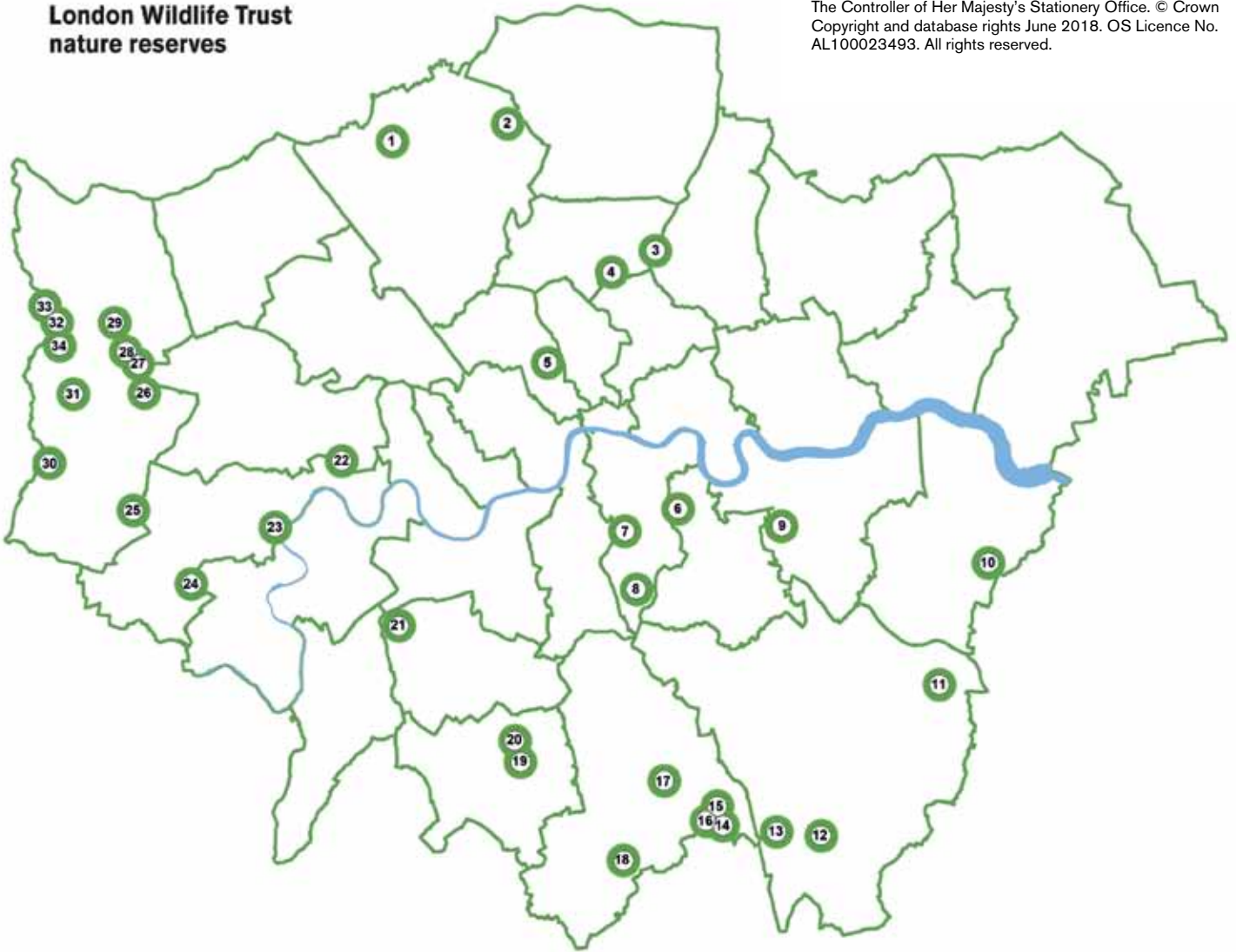


**London  
Wildlife  
Trust**

Protecting London's  
wildlife for the future

## London Wildlife Trust nature reserves

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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

## *Our vision*

A London alive with nature, where everyone can experience and enjoy wildlife

## *Our mission*

To stand up for London's wildlife, by:

- Protecting, restoring and creating wild places for nature
- Engaging, inspiring and enabling people to connect with nature
- Championing, challenging and influencing people to stand up for nature

## *Our aims*

- 1: London's wild spaces are protected, restored, created and continue to thrive
- 2: Everyone in London will have access to, value and help to protect our natural environment
- 3: London's infrastructure, development and regeneration should produce a net gain for the capital's wildlife and people's access to it



Looking back at 2017-18, London Wildlife Trust enjoyed a memorable year, with the opening of two new nature reserves, upscaling of our outdoor education programmes and delivery of exciting new citizen science initiatives across the capital, amongst many other achievements. And all of this was made possible by more than 14,500 members, 1,300 volunteers, and our many dedicated funders and partners.

Our income was £3.8 million in 2017-18, up from £3.1 million the year before. We have continued to work hard on diversifying our unrestricted income streams to ensure financial sustainability and to help us remain flexible and adaptive to future change – a key facet of this has been the growth of our mission-based consultancy work, which enables London Wildlife Trust to work positively with developers to improve our city's spaces for wildlife and people. We have also continued to make progress on improving our level of unrestricted reserves, which is important to help us manage future risk.

From looking after 476 hectares of wildlife-rich habitat across the capital, to inspiring 14,000 school children and young Londoners to enjoy engaging with nature, to growing our policy work, the Trust has delivered a huge range of activities over this past year. This annual review contains some highlights, to give you a flavour of what can be achieved when we all work together for a wildlife-rich future.

I would like to say a huge thank you to our members, volunteers, partners and funders for your generous ongoing support. Without you, we simply wouldn't be able to work towards our vision of a London alive with nature, where everyone can experience and enjoy wildlife.

**Gordon Scorer, Chief Executive**

*Front cover image: bug hotel © Magnus Andersson*



man orchid © Brian Eversham

# PROTECTING LONDON'S WILD SPACES

## Highlights



water vole © Terry Whittaker/2020VISION

*We opened Huckerby's Meadows nature reserve in Hillingdon to the public in March 2018, providing **13** hectares of wild habitat for butterflies, birds and water vole.*



beautiful demoiselle © Iain Leach

*As part of our Water for Wildlife project, London Wildlife Trust volunteers surveyed more than **40** fresh water locations and recorded **2,920** individual dragonflies*

*We managed and protected **5,970m** of rivers and watercourses across London*

*We received **5** Green Flag Awards (the national standard for well managed green spaces) at the Centre for Wildlife Gardening, Crane Park Island, Gunnersbury Triangle, Woodberry Wetlands, and Yeading Brook Meadows*

*We looked after **476** hectares of nature reserves – an area equivalent to 680 football pitches*



Walthamstow Wetlands © Thames Water

## Walthamstow Wetlands

Walthamstow Wetlands, Europe's largest urban wetland reserve, opened to the public in October 2017. Working in partnership with London Borough of Waltham Forest and landowner Thames Water, London Wildlife Trust is responsible for the management of this 211 hectare nature reserve for wildlife. The site comprises 10 reservoirs that provide drinking water for London and which are internationally recognised for their importance for migrating birds, with SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) status.

More than 375,000 people have visited Walthamstow Wetlands during its first year. We are continuing to deliver a programme of conservation management with the support of volunteers and corporate partners. We also provide outdoor education sessions for local schools, free guided walks, and family activities for parents and under 5s, all with the aim of connecting local people to this wonderful nature reserve right on their doorstep.

### *Since opening:*

***1,442m<sup>2</sup>** of scrub has been cleared*

***25m<sup>2</sup>** of nesting rafts for wild birds and shelters for grass snakes have been created*

***70** people have joined us as conservation volunteers*

***2,559** children have taken part in weekend wildlife events*



hedgehog © Emma Pooley

## Urban Urchins

In the 1950s there were an estimated 30 million hedgehogs in Britain, but today that number is less than one million. In London, these cute, nocturnal mammals have virtually disappeared from many parts of the capital and there is little data about those that remain. In 2017, we launched a citizen science project to engage people locally in learning about, monitoring and helping these much loved but heavily threatened symbols of wildlife conservation – London’s original ‘street urchins’ (‘urchin’ is Middle English for hedgehog), and in improving habitats for hedgehogs on a number of our nature reserves.

*Since the start of the project:*

*147 volunteers trained in monitoring hedgehogs*

*89% of volunteers have told us they’ve improved their knowledge of hedgehog ecology*

*550 hedgehog sightings submitted via our Hedgehog Mapper app*

*2,840 free hedgehog detective kits have been sent out to Londoners, to grow our network of ‘hedgehog detectives’*

*“The girls absolutely loved it and we couldn’t believe how much they came away with. The house is set up in the garden ready to accept a new guest - fingers crossed.” – Parent after a family hedgehog house building workshop at Gunnersbury Triangle*



Gutteridge Wood © Val Borrell

## West London woodlands

We carried out a raft of habitat improvements at our Gutteridge Wood and Denham Lock Wood nature reserves in Hillingdon, to enhance conditions for the special wildlife found there. The nature reserves are home to nationally rare and nationally scarce invertebrates, including mollusc, hoverfly, ant and beetle species.

At Denham Lock Wood, a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), volunteers supported a conservation project to open up areas of wet woodland that make excellent invertebrate habitat, by cutting back trees to prevent over-shading, and clearing out ditches of unsuitable vegetation. Together we restored 450m of ditch at the site.

At Gutteridge Wood, we created new dead wood habitat by pollarding veteran trees and creating habitat piles out of coppiced hazel. Dead wood is vital habitat for stag beetles and other invertebrates, many of which provide a food source for bats, birds and other wildlife. Volunteers also worked on opening up the woodland paths at the nature reserve, which support butterflies including white admiral, speckled wood and purple hairstreak.



speckled wood © Val Borrell

# SUPPORTING PEOPLE IN LONDON TO ACCESS AND HELP PROTECT NATURE

## Highlights



**14,109** children and young people took part in outdoor education sessions and community engagement activities at our nature reserves

**11,910** people attended our guided wildlife walks and talks

An estimated **650,000** members of the public visited our nature reserves

**1,363** people carried out **4,224** days of volunteering for the Trust, helping us to improve wildlife-friendly habitats across our 37 nature reserves and at other locations across London. Volunteers also supported our education sessions, and wildlife surveying work and public engagement – that's an incredible 16 years' worth of work if this had been done by a single staff member!



Crane Park Island © Penny Dixie

## Young Visions

Our Young Visions project supported 53 young people with learning disabilities, helping them to enjoy and engage with wildlife at our Crane Park Island nature reserve. Young Visions was co-created by young people attending Richmond Upon Thames College Supported Learning in collaboration with London Wildlife Trust.

Young Visions offered an opportunity for young people, who often face barriers to engaging with nature, to play an active role in investigating and interpreting the wildlife on their doorstep, with a particular focus on the river habitat at Crane Park Island. The participants took part in nature-related activities included woodworking, willow craft, wildlife photography and film, line fishing, and bush craft such as fire lighting and shelter building. They also learned about river restoration and river species identification.

We are using our experience of engaging young people through this project to launch a scaled up, pan-London project to engage a much larger young audience, working with a number of partner organisations. Keeping it Wild is a three year programme, starting in autumn 2018.



pond dipping © Penny Dixie



cutting reeds © Penny Dixie

## Outdoor learning at Woodberry Wetlands

One of our newest nature reserves, Woodberry Wetlands, welcomed more than 2,400 schoolchildren through its doors last year. Children from 37 local primary schools took part in outdoor learning sessions linked to the curriculum, with hands-on interactive activities including pond dipping, mini-beast hunts and exploring plants on the woodland trail.

Children and their teachers were supported through fun, engaging sessions to enjoy the natural world on their doorstep, many for the first time.

Unlike classroom learning, which can provide limited opportunities for children who do not learn well by traditional methods, outdoor learning harnesses all learning styles, making learning more accessible and enjoyable to those children who need different ways of learning to achieve their potential.

*“It was good because I got to try new things and met mini-beasts face to face” - Young participant in an outdoor education session*

*‘Toad day is our daughter’s highlight of the year!’  
- Parent at a family drop-in session*

*We collect feedback on our volunteers’ experience and how we can improve. In 2018, we had an 18% response rate and of those who responded, volunteers reported the following:*

*79% said volunteering improved their connection to nature and wildlife*

*80% said volunteering increased their knowledge of nature and wildlife*

*55% said that they improved their practical skills through volunteering*

*39% said volunteering improved their general health and fitness*

# ENSURING LONDON'S INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT PRODUCES A NET GAIN FOR WILDLIFE AND PEOPLE

## Highlights



Cator Park, Kidbrooke Village

*We contributed to The Wildlife Trusts' Housing Vision and Towards a Wilder Britain – through our work at Woodberry and Kidbrooke*

*We provided detailed input to the preparation of the New London Plan and the Mayor of London's Environment, Transport, Housing, Wellbeing and Food Strategies*

*We provided expert input to the Local Plan reviews for the boroughs of Redbridge, Croydon, Sutton and Havering*

*As an active member of the HS2 Colne Valley Regional Park Panel, we helped shape the Additional Mitigation Plan for the Colne Valley area affected by railway proposals*

*We worked with partners to pilot, help shape and deliver biodiversity net gain work*

*Our mission-based consultancy expanded significantly in scope, providing ecological advice and detailed planning input to new developments in Kidbrooke and Southall*



habitat enhancement © Berkeley Homes

## Wild About Kidbrooke

As part of our mission-based consultancy work, we have been working with Berkeley Homes at Kidbrooke Village to enhance wildlife habitats and engage local residents with nature. The primary aim is to enhance biodiversity in the area and link the community with their local green space.

We conducted a strategic assessment of the existing habitat, offered design and master planning advice for the development of new high quality green space, and involved the local community with ongoing engagement on site.

### *Since our involvement:*

*1,500 local residents have attended wildlife events*

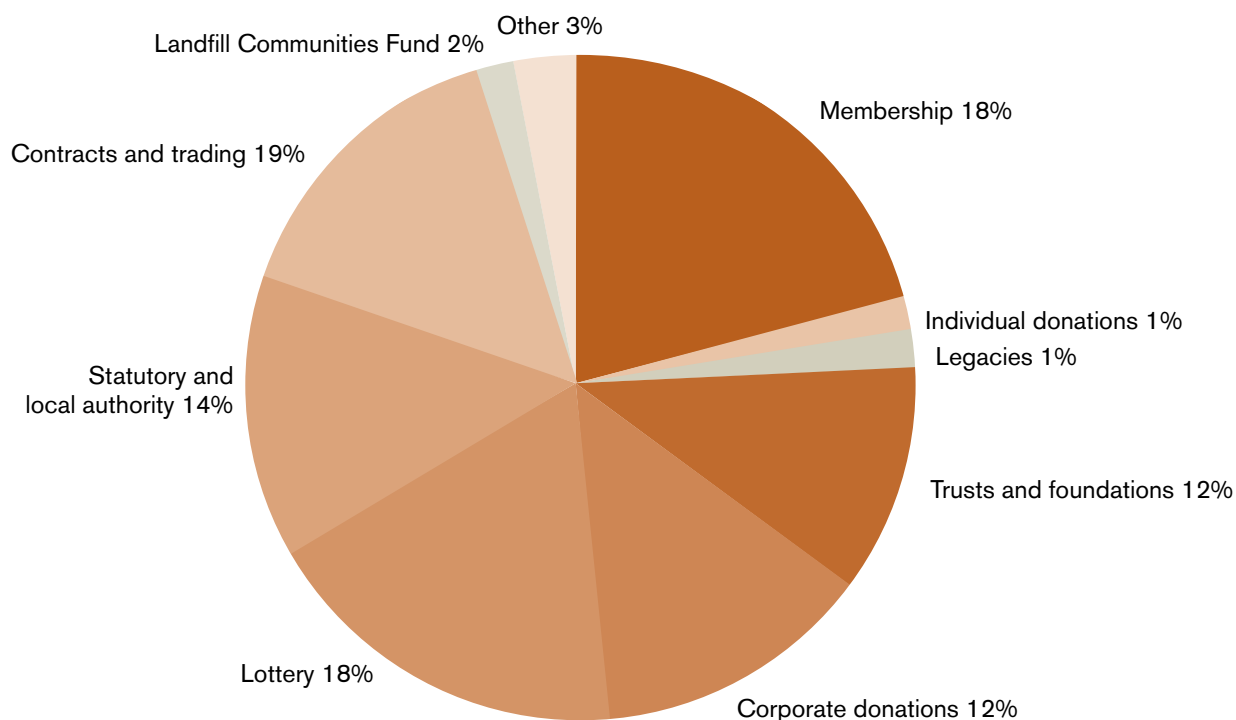
*49 people have become nature conservation volunteers, supporting with nature habitat management, planting days and wildlife surveys*

*600 children have taken part in school sessions and workshops*

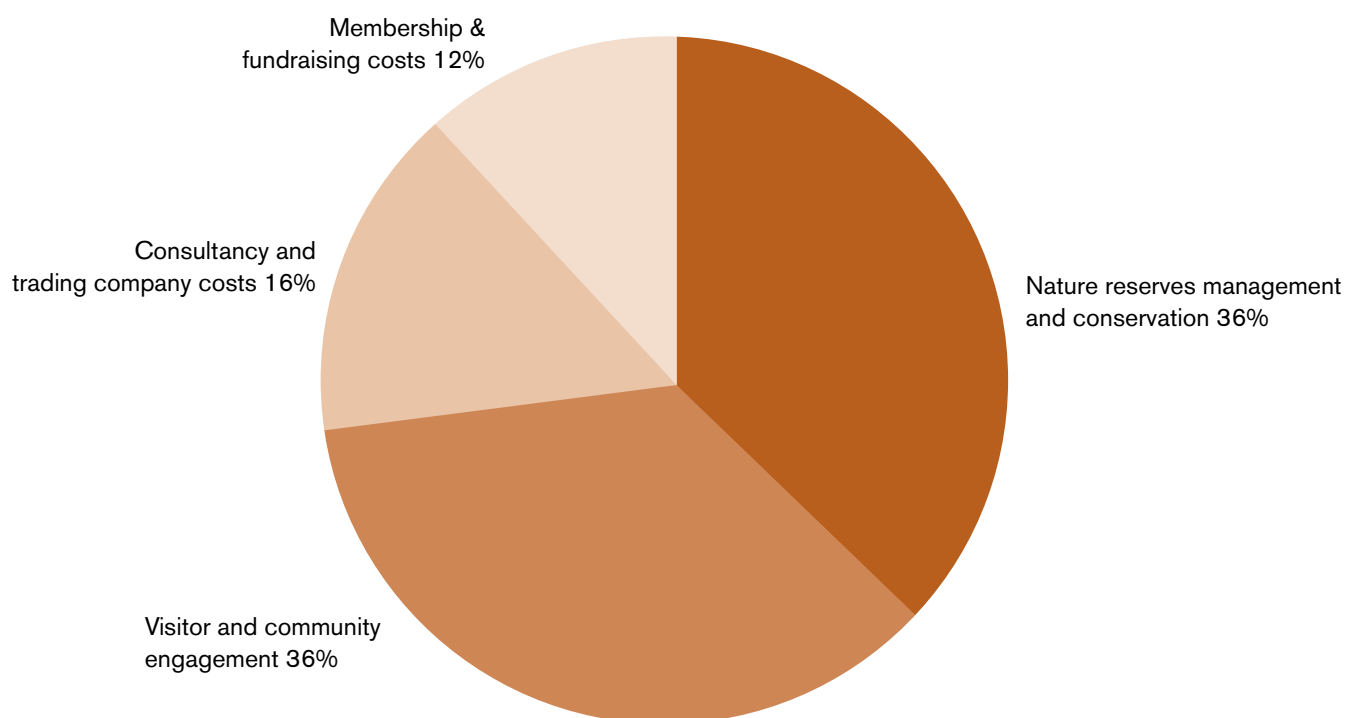


# HOW WE RAISE AND SPEND MONEY

## How we raised our funds in 2017-18



## How we spent our funds in 2017-18



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2018	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Endowment funds £'000	Total 2018 £'000	Total 2017 £'000
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	802	578	397	1,777	1,520
Charitable activities	450	1,275	-	1,725	1,513
Trading activities	321	-	-	321	88
Investments	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,573</b>	<b>1,853</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>3,823</b>	<b>3,127</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	772	-	-	772	609
Charitable activities	767	1,754	-	2,521	2,256
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,539</b>	<b>1,754</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,293</b>	<b>2,865</b>
<b>Net income</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>262</b>
Transfer between funds	-15	15	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>262</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>					
Total funds brought forward	860	499	103	1,462	1,200
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>1,992</b>	<b>1,462</b>

Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2018	Group	
	2018 £'000	2017 £'000
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Tangible assets	930	962
Investments	-	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>962</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	598	567
Cash at bank and in hand	883	411
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>1,481</b>	<b>978</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Creditors:		
Amounts falling due within one year	-419	-478
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>1,062</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>1,992</b>	<b>1,462</b>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>		
Restricted income funds	613	499
Endowment funds	500	103
Unrestricted funds	897	860
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>1,992</b>	<b>1,462</b>

These summarised accounts have been extracted from the full audited accounts. To obtain a copy of the full accounts please contact London Wildlife Trust or visit our website.

# THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you to all of our supporters, whose generous donations helped to keep London alive with nature in 2017-2018

## MEMBERS AND INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS

Including those who have generously left legacies to the Trust

### GRANT FUNDERS

Biffa Award  
DEFRA  
Environment Agency  
Greater London Authority  
Heritage Lottery Fund  
London Borough of Camden  
London Borough of Hillingdon

London Borough of Hounslow  
London Borough of Lambeth  
London Borough of Richmond upon  
Thames  
London Borough of Southwark  
Players of People's Postcode Lottery

Richmond Civic Pride  
Sutton and Merton CCG Charitable Fund  
Suez Communities Trust  
Veolia Environmental Trust  
Viridor Credits Environmental Company  
Western Riverside Environmental Fund

### TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

Adobe Foundation  
Alan Evans Memorial Trust  
Ashdene Trust  
Banister Charitable Trust  
Barnett and Sylvia Shine No1 Charitable  
Trust  
Bedford Memorial Trust  
CHK Charities  
D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust  
Dulwich Society  
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation  
Garfield Weston Foundation  
Hampton Fuel Allotment Charity

Heathrow Communities for Tomorrow  
John Lyon's Charity  
John Spedan Lewis  
Joseph Strong Frazer Trust  
Kestrelman Trust  
Linley Shaw Foundation  
Mercers' Company  
Michael Marks Charitable Trust  
Miss RCR Angel Charitable Trust  
Peckham Settlement  
Taurus Foundation  
Thames Rivers Trust  
The Barleycorn Trust

The Dulwich Estate  
The MacRobert Trust  
The Maudsley Charity  
The Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity  
Richmond Parish Lands Charity  
Schroder Charitable Trust  
Spear Charitable Trust  
Stavros Niarchos Foundation  
Wates Foundation  
West Hendon Community Trust  
Wild Flower Society

### BUSINESS PARTNERS

Argent  
Autotrader  
Berkeley Homes  
Britvic  
Circle  
Dee McLean Art  
DLA Piper  
FactSet

John Lewis  
Lendlease  
Mace  
Mattinson Partnership  
Merck Sharpe Dome  
One Stop Carriers for Causes  
Royal Bank of Canada  
Siemens

Tesco Bags of Help  
Thames Water  
The Green Well  
University College London  
UK Power Networks  
Vine House Farm



*hedgehog prints from our Urban Urchins project*



wren © Penny Dixie

**London Wildlife Trust** is dedicated to protecting the capital's wildlife and wild spaces, engaging London's diverse communities through free access to our nature reserves, volunteering, campaigning and outdoor education. We are one of 46 Wildlife Trusts across the UK.

**Contact us**

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 @wildlondon

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**wildlondon.org.uk**

**Acknowledgements**

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Protecting London's  
wildlife for the future

# WORKING TOGETHER

## TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

Charitable trusts support a broad range of our exciting and inspiring initiatives across London, for the benefit of people and wildlife. Their support enables community outreach, outdoor education, landscape conservation and much more. If you are involved in a charitable trust and our activities fit with your aims and objectives, please do get in touch with us.

Contact **Amy Warner:**  
020 7803 4291 or [awarner@wildlondon.org.uk](mailto:awarner@wildlondon.org.uk)

## BUSINESS PARTNERS

We believe that by working together we can achieve more to help transform the capital's natural environment, making London a better place to live and work and a better place for people and wildlife. Your business can join us through our Investors in Wildlife scheme to arrange Wild Workdays for your team, or work with us through a bespoke partnership.

Contact **Rosie Oldham:**  
020 7803 4274 or [roldham@wildlondon.org.uk](mailto:roldham@wildlondon.org.uk)

## INDIVIDUALS

We welcome the support of individuals who share our aim of keeping London wild and green, now and for future generations. Building a lasting relationship with our supporters is vital to achieving this. If you are interested in helping us through individual support of our core work, specific projects or leaving a legacy, please do get in touch.

Contact **Cathy Gale:**  
020 7803 4276 or [cgale@wildlondon.org.uk](mailto:cgale@wildlondon.org.uk)