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# Investing in the future

Kusuma Trust Annual Review 2021







# Welcome



“There’s a way  
to do it better –  
find it.”

Thomas Edison

Cover: The Royal Parks  
Facing page:  
Chess in Schools

Since we started the Kusuma Trust UK in 2010, we’ve had the opportunity to partner with extraordinary individuals and organisations that are constantly looking for better ways of doing things. It’s been a very inspiring journey so far – and there’s so much more to come.

In 2021, we committed to 89 new grants, bringing our number of active grants to 140. Together these are impacting the lives of over 4.2 million people.

This year, one of our main focuses was to help re-engage youth into society, against the backdrop of a slow return to normal from the online world of 2020. Various in-person activities we’ve supported include: summer holiday workshops, photography and documentary-making projects, a chess festival,

outdoor learning and exhibitions, to name but a few. We’ve particularly enjoyed having the opportunity to visit projects like these, now that Covid-19 restrictions have lifted. While most programmes this year were in person, some remained online: for example, the Careers Jam virtual careers fair run by Founders4Schools.

## Investing in leaders

Our philosophy of investing in exceptional leaders and teams never fails to pleasantly surprise us. Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals used our grant towards renovating their cardiac cath labs. Not only will the new equipment and technology help save lives; it will be used to educate the next generation of doctors and health care providers.

We also co-funded a grants programme that supports

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## Welcome

digital innovation to improve patient care at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital. We were impressed by the many ideas presented.

### Engaging with green spaces

Over 20 of our grants were committed to projects to engage individuals of all ages and abilities with green spaces. We partnered with international names such as Kew Gardens, Hyde Park and the Natural History Museum, as well as smaller local gardens such as Calthorpe Community Garden, Chelsea Physic Garden and Horatio's Garden at the London Spinal Cord Injury Centre. These programmes bring with them the benefit of better awareness of our environment, along with the added health benefits for participants. They also support the local ecosystems, particularly bugs and bees.

### Developing partnerships in Gibraltar

Gibraltar has featured strongly on our grants list in 2021 as

always. We partnered with the Gibraltar Health Authority to create a new neonatal intensive care unit and deliver nursing training. Once again, our Kusuma Excellence and Professional Development Awards and University Talks have been well received.

A special highlight was the pioneering Future Forward Leadership Academy. The initiative has received recognition from the European Commission as an example of leading practice in equipping learners with understanding and skills in sustainability, climate change and the environment.

### Pioneering projects in India

In India, we saw the completion of the Sparsh Hospice in Hyderabad and gave a grant to Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology to start a new model of pain clinic for older people.

The pioneering Transform Schools initiative at People for

Action continues to make its mark, winning the Indian Chamber of Commerce award for promoting education for the third year in a row. The organisation was constantly innovating and adapting throughout 2021 – initially to support state schools to offer remote education options and then to bridge the gap when students came back to school, with accelerated learning as well as school leadership development.

This annual review is a way to reflect and celebrate what we've achieved together in 2021. It's also a humble attempt to thank the incredible people committed to making a positive contribution to this world. We remain grateful to our partners and staff who make this possible and look forward to continuing to work together towards our shared goals.

**Dr Soma Pujari, Co-founder and Executive Trustee, and Anurag Dikshit, Co-founder and Chair**



Nova New Opportunities





# Our work in the UK

2021 was a year of more uncertainty, many challenges, but plenty of hope for the future. As our partner organisations faced the fallout of new Covid-19 variants and more restrictions, we were there

to support them. In the UK, we continued working in our three key areas – access to opportunities, health and wellbeing, and community and environment – funding more innovative programmes than ever before.



Clockwise from top left:  
Environmental Research Group at Imperial College London,  
Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charity, Beauchamp Lodge, MyBnk



Our work in the UK

## Access to opportunities

Our access to opportunities grants help take education and learning way beyond the limits of the curriculum. This year, our funds have been put to use in museums, community centres and theatres, as well as mainstream schools and schools for young people with special educational needs and disabilities. Thousands of young people have gained skills and experiences – from cookery to construction, climate awareness to documentary-making.



Beano: The Art of Breaking the Rules exhibition, at London's iconic Somerset House, celebrated the world's longest-running weekly comic. Our grant to the Somerset House Trust funded accompanying learning sessions, including comic-making and illustration, and workshops on creative careers.





## Building empathy and digital skills

We gave a grant to **The Kensington and Chelsea Foundation** to support their **Recover + Reconnect Summer Youth Programme**, which involved 13 organisations working with young people. One of the charities, the **Octavia Foundation**, ran a week-long game design project where young people created an accessible computer game for older people.

**A project facilitator said:**  
*"I think what happened today was something really special. You really aren't going to see that in many places: young people interacting with older people in such a unique way. And the real takeaway for me, the young people said they didn't know what the word 'empathy' meant but by the end of the session, they were demonstrating it so well, always asking 'what would the older people think and like'. It has been really great to see that."*

## Our work in the UK: access to opportunities

### Unlocking academic potential

For families of children with speech, language and communication needs, getting the right advice and support is essential. Children's communication charity **I CAN** used our funding to enable children with possible speech, language and communication needs to be assessed by experts and get a clear understanding of their options for support.

We also funded a range of projects for young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), including professional development and awareness training for the **Helen Arkell Dyslexia Centre** and the **Royal Museums Greenwich's** educational films and digital resources.

### Igniting a passion for science

We've supported several projects this year to inspire a greater interest in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM); this is

particularly important for girls, who are under-represented in STEM in further education.

Fires blazing, gases exploding and Barbie dolls catapulting across the school hall. These are just a few of the unexpected things that happened when a scientist from the **Royal Institution of Great Britain** came to inspire rooms full of

young people about the possibilities of science. Our grant has helped the **Royal Institution** reach a further 21,000 young people and support 840 teachers in 70 schools in disadvantaged areas across London. It's also funded science demo kits, resources and professional development sessions for teachers.



Above: I CAN



Our work in the UK: access to opportunities



Pupils at London schools have the opportunity to design, build and race single-seater electric cars with a team of classmates. Our grant to **Greenpower Education Trust** is helping 12 schools in lower-income neighbourhoods of London to build their cars. It will also fund a race event in central London.

Cultivating a sense of adventure



Above: Greenpower Education Trust

**Venture Community Association's** adventure playground and community centre is hugely important to local children and families in North Kensington in London. But these vital resources were all put on hold when the pandemic hit. As restrictions eased, our grant helped the charity support more young people by extending their adventure playground opening hours during school holidays and providing an additional week of activities during the summer.

Our work in the UK  
Our active grants for access to opportunities in 2021

**Ambitious about Autism**, so they could continue to support vulnerable young people during the pandemic

**Brilliant Club**, to support under-represented groups of school pupils to apply for highly selective universities

**Cambridge House**, for sports sessions for children with SEND

**Caxton Youth Organisation**, for a digital media project and lease of a minibus

**Chance to Shine**, for workshops teaching life skills though street cricket

**Chefs in Schools**, to transform the meals served in schools



**Chefs in Schools**, to provide food hampers for families in need

**Chelsea Theatre**, for their Summer of Fun: August Breakfast Club and breakout sessions

**Chess in Schools**, for an outdoor chess festival



**Children's Discovery Centre**, for a teachers' forum and professional development project and evaluation

**Construction Industry Trust for Youth**, for their Building Futures programme to inspire young people about construction careers

**Create Arts**, so children with autism can take part in the 'environment:tales' creative project

**Creative Futures**, for a digital communication resource and impact evaluation

**Design Museum**, to create a family trail to accompany their Waste Age exhibition

**Equal People Mencap**, for their healthy living project

**founders4schools**, for a virtual careers fair

**Friends of Leighton House**, to develop their new learning centre

**Greenpower Education Trust**, to inspire young people in STEM by building racing cars

**Harrow Club W10**, for a debate boxing club

Our work in the UK: our active grants for access to opportunities in 2021

**Harrow Club W10**, so school children could have access to laptops



**KIDS**, to refurbish an adventure playground for young people with SEND

**KIDS**, to replace the playground slide



**Nova New Opportunities**, for summer and Christmas holiday activities



**Sir John Soane's Museum**, to support their schools outreach and informal learning programme

**Somerset House Trust**, for their young people's learning programmes



**The British Library**, for a Paddington Bear-themed family day



**The Royal Institution**, to deliver their Science in Schools shows

**The Winchester Project**, to repair their roof and replace their dance machine

**Universify**, to help change attitudes and break down barriers to further education



**Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity**, for their families and schools support project

**I CAN**, so children can have their communication needs assessed by an expert

**I CAN**, to evaluate their Talk Boost project

**Imperial War Museum**, for their documentary-making challenge

**In2Science**, to replace their face-to-face programmes with online support, training and new materials

**London Transport Museum**, for their programme to help inspire careers in engineering

**Mayor's fund for London**, to expand their Access Aspiration project for 16 to 18 year olds

**Museum of Brands**, to help them engage young learners

**MyBnk**, to deliver their Money Twist programme for 7 to 11 year olds

**National Autistic Society**, for their Autism at Work Summit

**Photographers' Gallery**, so 14 to 19 year olds can learn to lead tours

**Play for Progress**, for therapy for unaccompanied child refugees

**Royal Association for Deaf People**, for their Deaf Youth Advance project

**Royal Museums Greenwich**, to create digital learning resources

**Royal Society for Blind Children**, for their Culinary Horizons project

**St Paul's Girls' School**, to support their bursary programme

**St Paul's School**, to support their bursary programme

**Team Up**, to recruit volunteers and move services online

**The Avenues Youth Project**, to refurbish their kitchen and offer kitchen skills training

**The British Library**, to produce creative activity booklets

**The Gold Standard Charitable Trust – The Wetherby Bursary Fund**, for their bursary and scholarship fund

**The Kensington and Chelsea Foundation**, for their Recover + Reconnect Summer Youth Programme



**Venture Community Association**, to extend the opening hours of their adventure playground

**Venture Community Association**, to support their food bank

**Young Westminster Foundation**, for an analysis of the needs of young people living in Westminster



Our work in the UK

## Health and wellbeing

Our health and wellbeing grants support local hospitals to invest in state-of-the-art equipment, improve their facilities and care, and boost their ability to see more patients. We also partner with research organisations and universities to fund medical research that encourages innovation and the development of new life-changing treatments. In addition, our 2021 grants have continued to support London hospitals to cope with the impact of Covid-19.



Our grant to **Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charity** helped to fund a cath lab with equipment for children and adults with heart and lung conditions. The highly sensitive imaging equipment means more patients can get quicker, more accurate results and the treatment they desperately need.

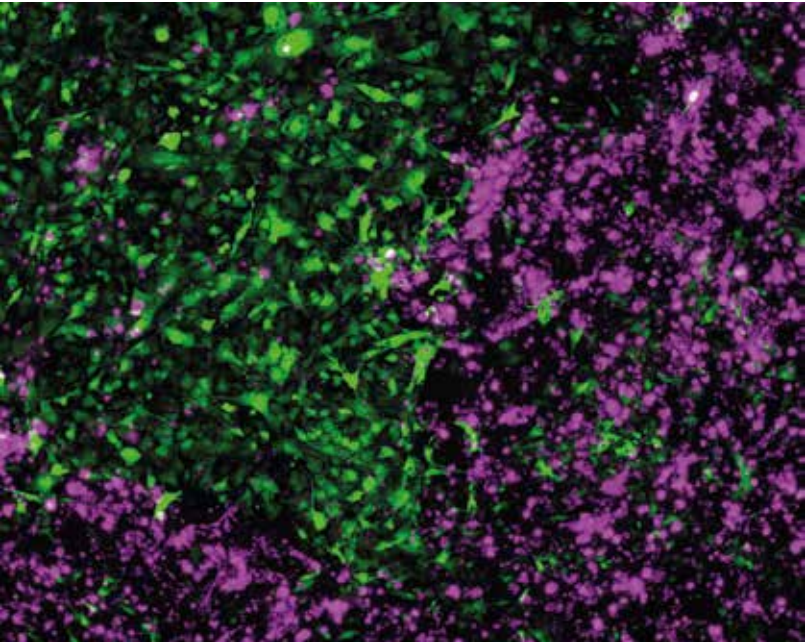




World-class intensive care units

Our two-year grant to **CW+, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital** is helping fund a world-class intensive care unit for babies and adults.

“With the support of Kusuma Trust, we are completely redeveloping and expanding our Intensive Care Unit at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, enabling us not only to care for more patients but provide better accommodation for visiting families.”  
Chris Chaney, Chief Executive of CW+



Treating the body’s most amazing muscle

We’re helping fund a pioneering research collaboration that could potentially prevent heart failure. Prof Sanjay Sinha, from the **Wellcome-MRC Cambridge Stem Cell Institute**, and Prof Molly Stevens, from **Imperial College London**, are developing new materials that aim to regenerate the heart muscle. This is our third grant to help develop treatments for heart disease, which claims around 450 lives every day in the UK.

Understanding the unprecedented

Covid-19 raised endless questions for the medical community. Our support for **Barts Hospital’s COVIDsortium** study will help answer some of them. The research project involves more than 700 health workers from three London hospitals. It’s giving essential insight into long-term Covid-19 immunity and other aspects of the virus that will affect future decisions about healthcare around the world.



Our work in the UK

# Our active grants for health and wellbeing in 2021

**Barts Charity**, for COVIDsortium research into Covid-19

**CW+, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital**, to help fund the expansion of their new critical care unit



**CW+, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital**, to support staff and digital innovation to improve patient care

**Greenwich and Bexley Community Hospice**, to help with their Covid-19 response

**Imperial College, The Stevens Group**, for a second piece of research into repairing the heart

**London North West Healthcare Charity**, for their staff wellbeing appeal

**Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charity**, for an electronic clinical observation system to monitor patients' conditions

**Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charity**, for equipment to diagnose and treat heart and lung conditions



**Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charity**, to buy intensive care equipment for Covid-19 patients

**Sinha Lab** (Wellcome-MRC Cambridge Stem Cell Institute) and **The Stevens Group** at Imperial College, for research developing an innovative material strategy to heal the heart

**University of Cambridge**, towards a confocal microscope for the Wellcome-MRC Cambridge Stem Cell Institute and a contribution to artwork in the Institute

Greenwich and Bexley Community Hospice



Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charity



Our work in the UK

## Community and environment

Green spaces are a lifeline for many people who live in, work in and visit our capital. Our community and environment grants support green space projects that bring together communities, improving mental health and wellbeing as well as the environment. In 2021, our work in this area also focused on improving air quality, particularly around schools.



We're partnering with **The Royal Parks** charity to help young people connect to London's green spaces and develop skills to combat the climate emergency. The Green Futures project links to the curriculum and includes hands-on STEM learning days and citizen science lessons.





## Opportunities to grow

**Walworth Garden** is offering free gardening training to people who wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to pursue their passion for the outdoors.

“In the 20-plus years we have been delivering this training, we have equipped hundreds of south Londoners with the skills and knowledge to transform their lives. We have the honour of watching students’ transformations unfold, using our industry expertise to support their individual pathways, and providing personalised references as they move forward in employment. This funding from Kusuma Trust will be instrumental in opening our gates wider, and sharing these same benefits to a larger array of Londoners, providing them with previously inaccessible entry to our growing industry.”

Oliver Haden, CEO and Head Gardener, Walworth Garden

## Our work in the UK: community and environment

Buglife

### Helping protect our pollinators

Climate change and development are destroying the habitats of our essential pollinators – including bees, butterflies, moths and hoverflies. We're helping rebuild habitat and 'habitat connectivity' in London through an innovative project run by **Buglife – The Invertebrate Conservation Trust**. They're creating 'B-Lines' – a series of 'insect pathways' or stepping stones of wildflowers in public parks and back gardens, across green-roofs and green-walls. They link existing wildlife areas together, creating a network, like a railway, that will weave across the British landscape, helping save our vital pollinators. Our grant will fund testing some new and exciting ways to deliver the B-Lines across an urban environment, such as 'vertical meadows' and 'living lamp posts'.

### Developing our future green leaders

**The Royal Parks** is helping young people become more connected to London's green spaces with a hands-on environmental



conservation skills programme in Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens and Green Park. Our grant to the charity will fund the Green Futures project, which is linked to the school curriculum. Green Futures includes hands-on STEM learning days in the Royal Parks and practical citizen science lessons that teach participants about biodiversity. The project is on track to benefit over 800 students from local state secondary schools, selected from the boroughs of Westminster, Camden, Kensington and Chelsea, Lambeth, Southwark and Wandsworth.

### Taking on air pollution

Air pollution poses a huge threat to our health, especially in big cities like London. That's why we're supporting the **Environmental Research Group** to gather the information they need to better understand emissions and pollution. Our funding helped buy equipment for a mobile unit that can be transported to various locations to measure emissions. Armed with this new research, the Environmental Research Group can help inform policies and actions that will minimise the impact of air pollution on our health.



Our work in the UK

# Our active grants for community and environment in 2021

**Bankside Open Spaces Trust**, for their horticultural employability training

**Beauchamp Lodge**, to set up a forest school

**Buglife – The Invertebrate Conservation Trust**, to develop ‘B-line’ networks to help save London’s pollinators

**Butterfly Conservation**, for their Big City Butterflies project connecting Londoners to local green spaces

**Calthorpe Community Garden**, for a closed loop waste recycling and food production micro system

**City Harvest**, to help with the running costs of a delivery van

**City Harvest**, to scale up and increase the distribution of food

**Conservation Education and Research Trust**, a.k.a Earth Watch, to train

pre-qualified teachers to include environmental education in their lessons

**Environmental Research Group** at Imperial College London, to buy equipment to measure local air quality

**Global Generation**, for their Growing Together crafting and gardening project for young people



**Hammersmith Community Gardens Association**, for additional face-to-face volunteering sessions and management capacity

**Horatio’s Garden**, for a new accessible garden at the London Spinal Cord Injury Centre



**Hubbub Foundation UK**, for their Give it a Grow communal gardening and food growing project

**Jamie’s Farm**, to fund a farm programme for young people struggling with behavioural challenges

**Kew Gardens**, towards their school bursaries programme

**Kew Gardens**, for their Youth Explainers Programme to give young people opportunities to volunteer

**Linking Environment and Farming**, to go towards the LEAF UK Regional Education Consultant for the London region and their engagement with students, teachers and farmers

**Meanwhile Gardens Community Association**, to repair and upgrade their play hut

**Natural History Museum**, for their urban nature project including creating a bronze Diplodocus

**Ramblers Association**, for their project to protect potentially lost paths

**Roots and Shoots**, to plant bee-friendly flowers, make a new growing area for students, and pilot a parent group

**Thames Explorer Trust**, for advertising and communications for a foreshore exploration project

**The Chelsea Physic Garden Company**, for a wellbeing

project for healthcare workers and a rooftop garden for the Chelsea Academy school

**The Horniman Museum and Gardens**, for a micro-forest, a forest school and an Environmental Champions Club

**The Inland Waterways Association**, to clean up the Paddington Arm of the Grand Union Canal



**The Kensington and Chelsea Foundation**, to fund projects that encourage local green spaces, bring people together, and promote the benefits of gardening

**The Orchard Project**, to create two new orchards in London primary schools

**The Phoenix Garden**, for their Growing Together project including classes and volunteering opportunities

**The Royal Parks**, for their Green Futures project offering hands-on environmental conservation skills

**The Tree Council**, for their Force for Nature Young Ambassadors project

**The Zoological Society of London**, to bring a new community and education hub to the Snowdon Aviary at London Zoo

**Vauxhall City Farm**, for improvements including a new community garden, mini forest, vegetable and herb garden, and an ecological pond

**Walworth Garden**, for their Growing Pathways training programme to give people skills and hands-on experience of landscaping or working in a plant nursery

**Wildfowl and Wetland Trust**, to refurbish and upgrade their observatory tower



# Random Acts of Kindness grants 2021

Every year during the festive season, we make Random Acts of Kindness grants. These are one-off donations of £10,000 for not-for-profit organisations whose work we want to recognise. Kusuma Trust staff and trustees each nominate a charity to support, anonymously.



Above: The Bhavan  
Facing page: Matt Hampson Foundation, Bow Food Bank



Three staff members shared their thoughts on giving a Random Act of Kindness grant:

“My Random Act of Kindness this year went to an organisation that means a lot to me, funding research into an illness that has touched my family. Hopefully this grant will help to improve prognoses for those who battle leukaemia in the future.”

“What I really like about the Random Acts of Kindness is that the organisations have no idea they are going to receive the grant – and the money can have a huge impact. This is the third time I’ve been lucky enough to support charities working in my own neighbourhood and knowing the difference and joy this money can bring to small organisations is very rewarding.”

“It’s such a privilege to have the opportunity to nominate a charity that is close to my heart. I hope that the personal nature of these awards makes the grantees feel even more valued in the work they are doing and the difference they are making.”



# Random Acts of Kindness grants 2021

**Ace of Clubs**, a community providing transformative support for homeless, vulnerable and otherwise marginalised people in southwest London



**Alzheimer’s Research UK**, investing in research to make life-changing breakthroughs in diagnosis, prevention, treatment and cure of Alzheimer’s

**Bite Back 2030**, a movement to make sure every young person has access to healthy, nutritious food

**Bow Food Bank**, an independent charity providing food to the local community in East London

**Leukaemia UK**, funding ground-breaking research and care for those affected by leukaemia and other blood cancers

**Live Unlimited**, providing support and opportunities for looked-after children and young care leavers in Barnet

**London Friend**, supporting the health and mental wellbeing of the LGBTQ+ community in London and the South East



**Matt Hampson Foundation**, inspiring and supporting young people seriously injured through sport

**Music as Therapy**, embedding music in the care of vulnerable children and adults in the UK and worldwide

**North London Cares**, tackling loneliness and isolation in north London by bringing older and younger neighbours together



**Papyrus**, a national charity dedicated to the prevention of young suicide

**Refugee Café**, helping refugees and those granted asylum in London to build safe, happy, productive lives



**Royal Mencap Society**, supporting people with a learning disability, and their families and carers

**Small Acts of Kindness Trust**, reducing loneliness and isolation for older people by connecting communities with kindness

**Spread the Word**, London’s writer development agency, helping London’s writers make their mark – on the page, on the screen and in the world

**Tamasha Theatre Company**, enabling artists from the Global Majority to shape the most powerful stories to move, provoke and inspire people across the UK

**The Armitage Foundation**, working to increase the

diversity of UK medical schools by supporting students

**The Bhavan**, the largest centre for Indian arts and culture outside India, offering South Asian music, dance and language classes to over 800 students

**The Bike Project**, taking in second-hand bikes, refurbishing them and donating them to refugees and asylum seekers in the UK

**The Elizabeth Foundation**, supporting infants and pre-school children with hearing loss and their families

**The Kids Network**, a community of children and young professionals connecting through fun, friendship and hardship for positive social change

**The Literacy Pirates**, improving the reading, writing, confidence and perseverance of children who are falling behind in school and have fewer opportunities

**Tower Hamlets Opportunity Group**, providing a playgroup for children from ages 2 to 5 across the London borough of Tower Hamlets

**UNICEF UK**, supporting emergency aid (nutrition, healthcare and education) for children affected by the conflict in Yemen



**Wasafiri Magazine**, the UK’s leading magazine for international contemporary writing, encouraging readers to travel the world to engage in cross-cultural dialogue

**Young Lewisham Project**, providing a safe, inclusive learning environment where young people can maximise their chances of becoming valued members of society

**Young Roots**, working with young refugees and asylum seekers aged 11 to 25, most of whom are alone in the UK, to improve their wellbeing and fulfil their potential





# Our work in Gibraltar

This year in Gibraltar we continued to support charities, education programmes and community and cultural groups making a positive difference to local society.

We have also encouraged individuals to reach their full potential through our Excellence Prize and Professional Development Awards.



Above: CYE-CYL  
Facing page: Gibraltar Botanic Gardens, Rotary Club Gibraltar



# Our work in Gibraltar

The Futures Forward Academy



## Essential medical equipment for sick babies

In Gibraltar, sick babies and pregnant women at high risk have to be transferred to Spain or the UK for treatment – a time-consuming, stressful and expensive journey. To help avoid this, the **Gibraltar Health Authority** is setting up a new Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for the

Paediatric Department at St Bernard's Hospital. It means premature and very sick newborns can be cared for in Gibraltar. Our grant will help buy essential equipment, which includes an incubator and imaging equipment. By treating babies in Gibraltar, the health service will save money, which can be invested back into the hospital's neonatal care service.

## Building our understanding of marine science

Our grant to **The Nautilus Project** is helping Gibraltar's students to explore marine biodiversity in the region and develop local expertise. The charity is setting up a marine science laboratory offering fieldwork opportunities, lab skills and work experience to local GCSE, A-level and university

students. This will give them essential experience they can use to apply for marine science-related degrees at university. The Nautilus Project already teaches children about the marine environment and leads several community initiatives, such as the 'Great Gibraltar Beach Clean' and a citizen science platform for recording marine sightings around Gibraltar's coastline.

## Investing in future leaders

The **Futures Forward Academy** brought together some of Gibraltar's most promising young minds to become skilled change-makers. At Kusuma Trust, we believe it's important to support up-and-coming talent, so we awarded a grant to the Academy, which is an initiative from HM Government of Gibraltar's Office for the Commissioner for Sustainable Development. The Academy used the funds to establish a programme of workshops, keynote talks, mentoring, an international visit and an action project to help develop young people's potential. The themes explored included: health

and wellbeing; biodiversity, climate, environment and nature protection; and the circular economy. Participants developed the know-how to inform and

influence change, the ability to see the 'bigger picture' and the confidence and resilience to become catalysts for a better future.

## Rewarding excellence

Our yearly Excellence Prize celebrates Gibraltar's most inspiring students. The one-off £3,000 grant is an incentive for high-achieving students to study their chosen subject at top universities. In 2021, we awarded 7 Excellence Prizes for students to take up the following university places:



**Nayan Adamberry**  
*BSc in Anatomy, Developmental and Human Biology at King's College London*



**Gianna Stanley**  
*BA in English Literature and History at The University of Manchester*



**Emily Feeke**  
*MSc in Chemistry at University of St Andrews*



**Avraham Noah Wine**  
*BSc in Mathematics at University College London*



**Joelle Harrison**  
*BSc in Biological Sciences at Durham University*



**Petr Zagura**  
*DPhil in Materials, Applied Superconductivity at University of Oxford*



**Pierre Leroy**  
*BSc in Natural Sciences at University of Cambridge*



# Our work in Gibraltar

## Supporting professional development



Every year, we celebrate Gibraltar's strong community spirit by awarding grants for professional development that will benefit the people who live and work there. Rose Ann Victor, one of 11 successful applicants, received a Professional Development

Award in 2021 to fund her MSc Mental Health in Children and Young People: Psychological Approaches at the University of Edinburgh.

"Children and young people in Gibraltar experience mental health difficulties – and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, with its lockdowns and restrictions, cannot be underestimated. My course has allowed me to deepen my knowledge of the importance of developmental wellbeing for children and the negative impact of trauma and social inequalities.

I have a strong determination to promote mental health in children and young people in Gibraltar and contribute positively to the lives of Gibraltarian children. I'm already applying my learning in the field and it's proving beneficial to the wellbeing of the children and young people in Gibraltar that I interact with.

I am most grateful to have been a beneficiary of the Kusuma Trust Professional Development Award as this has supported me to undertake and devote the time necessary to further my professional development."

## The other successful Professional Development Award applicants chose the following courses:

**Danielle Bensadon** Health Care and Professional Council Registration Training Portfolio

**Christian Manuel Quintal Fa** Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care

**Gilda Fa** Level 3 Diploma in Health and Social Care

**James Grant** Interpersonal Mediation Practitioners Certificate

**Ruth Sonia Gross** MSc in Dietetics and Nutrition

**Nicole Pizarro** MSc in Health Sciences Postgraduate Dissertation Module

**Angela Rebora** Level 4, Diploma in CPCAB Counselling

**Selena Victory** Postgraduate Diploma Oncology Massage; Diploma in Clinical Aromatherapy, Cancer Care and Aromatherapy workshop; and Hormones, Menopause and Essential Oils workshop

**Nadine Villalta** Health and Care Professions Council Registration

**Marco Zavagni** AACP Acupuncture Course

# Our work in Gibraltar

## Our active grants in Gibraltar in 2021

**BrightMed**, for local micro-finance project BrightMed Forward, to support local small businesses struggling due to the pandemic

**CYE-CYL**, to provide young people with the skills for employment or further education

**Excellence Awards**, for seven students taking up places at universities

**Gibraltar-American Chamber of Commerce**, to sponsor the first prize in a competition for local school children to celebrate Kamala Harris becoming the first female Vice President of the United States



**Gibraltar Botanic Gardens**, to develop a purpose-built education area

**Gibraltar Health Authority**, for specialist equipment for a new neonatal intensive care unit at St Bernard's Hospital

**Gibraltar Health Authority & Northumbria University**, to fund eight places on the Advanced Diploma in Adult Critical Care Nursing

**Knit Gibraltar**, to purchase wool and yarn for its members

**Nicole Torres Byrne & Gibraltar Disability Society**, for an app to support local students with SEND

**Office of the Commissioner for Sustainable Development**, for the Futures Forward Leadership Academy for Sustainable Development

**Optimising Futures**, for one-to-one sessions to help students improve their interview techniques

**Optimising Futures & Entrepreneurs in Action**, to deliver our annual Kusuma University Talks

**Professional Development Awards**, to fund 11 individual and group professional development applicants

**Prostate Cancer Support Group Gibraltar**, towards a urology ultrasound machine

**Rotary Club Gibraltar**, for their fundraising to buy a new ultrasound scanner and trolley for St Bernard's Hospital

**The JM Memorial Foundation**, for a research project around the support given to young people with mental health issues



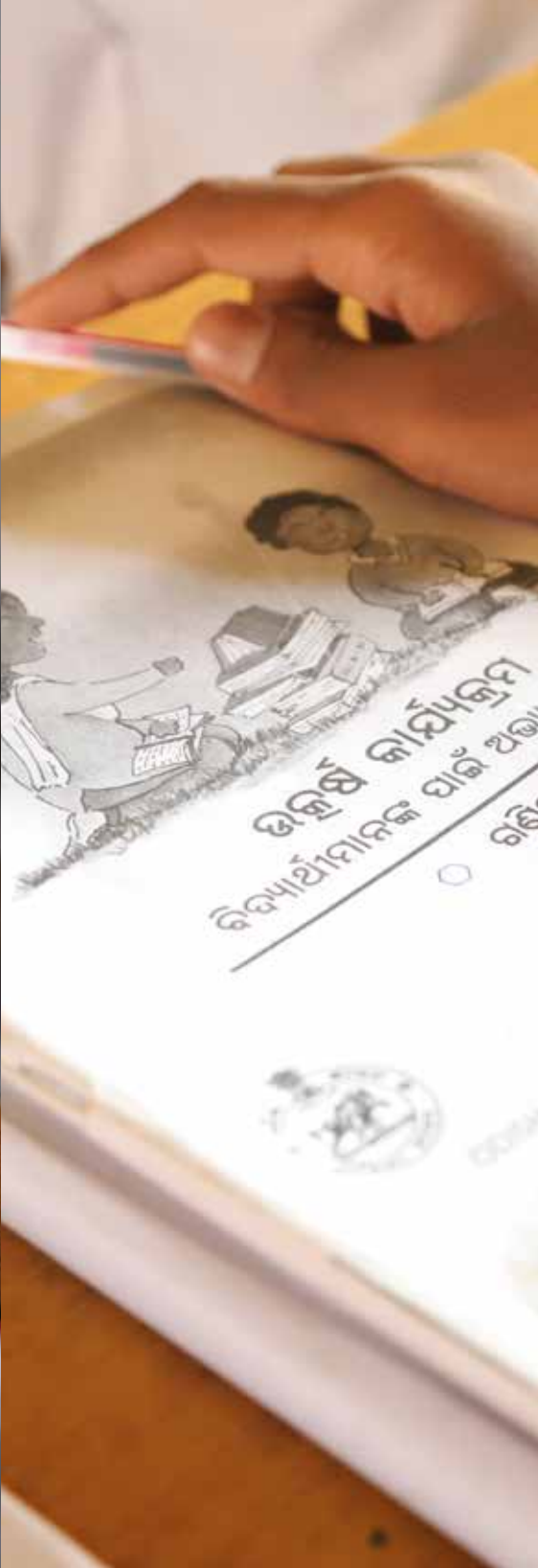
**The Nautilus Project**, to establish a marine science laboratory

**Young Enterprise Gibraltar**, to support young people to harness their personal development and business skills





Transform Schools, People for Action



# Our work in India

We've continued to focus on supporting the Transform Schools initiative at People for Action, which improves the education of millions of children across India. During another challenging year, with Covid-19 making in-person teaching

impossible for many, our grant has helped Transform Schools set up alternative programmes for students and teachers. We've also worked with new partners including a well-established Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology in Kerala.







## Developing skills and confidence

**Transform Schools' Future School Leaders Programme** is for teachers, head teachers and school governors to improve school standards. The programme builds leadership and management skills – strategic, academic and administrative. Priyambada Tripathy, who is now Head Teacher at Tarayani Nodal High School, took part. She says:

“The first training helped me to learn important leadership skills a head teacher should have to manage the school’s affairs efficiently. Secondly, regular engagement online made me comfortable with digital accessibility and made me confident enough to guide my teachers how to use different online platforms for teaching students.

Managerial skills and strong self-confidence can make your dreams come true. The Future School Leaders Programme taught me both.”

## Our work in India

### Improving teaching, learning and school management

The **Transform Schools** initiative is working within the Indian government’s school system to make sure children can reach a level of learning that’s appropriate to the class they’re in. They’re strengthening school governance, helping teachers develop professionally, and supporting State departments to make improvements to the education system.

Some of Transform Schools’ key achievements in 2021 include:

- Forming three new partnerships with government organisations in Odisha that will benefit from the Transform Schools initiative.
- Creating a blended learning programme so education could continue during the pandemic. This has improved performance in schools in Puri and Hyderabad, and helped girls access STEM learning in Kolkata.
- Translating materials so that key Transform Schools programme models are now available in six languages.
- Reaching 257,124 children with a summer school and at-home programme to re-engage them with learning after schools closed due to Covid-19.
- Providing 530 children with a Back to School community-based learning and student retention programme in the State of Telangana.
- Exploring new ways to reach students – these included working with community-based organisations and other NGOs, and using inclusive and open-source technology, to produce creative teaching and learning content that can be shared with other not-for-profit organisations.
- Working with young graduate and postgraduate students during lockdown to create new solutions for unmet needs in the education space, through the Transform Fellowship. This will help

non-profits better collect, manage and analyse essential data; help educators address poor menstrual health awareness among students; provide actors with the tools to create a comprehensive sex education module; and introduce or strengthen arts-based ‘pedagogue in classroom’ teaching.

- Securing a range of press and social media coverage to raise awareness of Transform Schools’ work, including 25 press mentions, 5 op-eds and 339 posts profiling their work.

“The Aqrity Back to School programme has helped me to strengthen my foundational knowledge. I also found the regular socio-emotional learning session to be quite useful. I learnt about online safety and about cyberbullying which helped me to keep myself safe online as well.”  
Keerthana, 14





## Improving end of life care

The Sparsh Hospice in Hyderabad provides medical care and emotional support to people with terminal illnesses and their families. Accommodation, food, medical and professional services, and medications are all free.

Our grant helped the hospice expand their facilities, contributing to an impressive new building which was

officially inaugurated in September 2021. It has a physiotherapy room, pharmacy, library, gym, lounge, and dedicated space for nurses and doctors to rest and relax. The hospice can now provide services for over 80 patients on site, while also caring for 50 outpatients and 150 patients in their own homes.

Siva Josyula, whose mother was referred to Sparsh, said:

*The Sparsh team was very welcoming. They offered free regular home visits and their services were unconditional. When I had requested an emergency visit, they changed their schedule and travelled over 20 kilometres to reach me. It was comforting to know there is help available in such bad situations. The work this team is doing is very special and I hope they expand their services to assist many other people in need."*

## Our work in India

# Our active grants in India in 2021

**People for Action**, for the Transform Schools teaching, learning and school management programme

**iPartner India**, for their Covid-19 emergency relief fund for families and communities in need

**Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology**, to update their pain clinic for older people



Top: Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute  
Above: iPartner India  
Right: People for Action





# Grants awarded by Kusuma Trust UK

1 January 2021 - 31 December 2021

## UK GRANTS

Alzheimer's Research UK	£10,000	Horatio's Garden	£23,000
Bankside Open Spaces Trust	£17,783	Hubbub Foundation UK	£23,500
Barts Charity	£25,000	ICAN	£22,245
Bite Back 2030	£10,000	Imperial College London	
Buglife	£24,700	(The Environmental Research Group	
Butterfly Conservation	£9,277	and The Stevens Group)	£136,693
Calthorpe Community Garden	£18,940	Imperial War Museum	£18,510
Cambridge House	£7,911	iPartner India	£20,000
Caxton Youth Organisation	£12,707	KIDS	£23,500
Chance to Shine	£16,800	Leukaemia UK	£10,000
Chefs in Schools	£25,000	Live Unlimited	£10,000
Chelsea Theatre	£13,920	London Transport Museum	£18,269
Chess in Schools	£10,000	Meanwhile Gardens Community	
Construction Industry Trust		Association	£10,182
for Youth	£25,000	Migrants Organise Ltd	£15,000
Create (Arts) Limited	£24,753	Music as Therapy	£10,000
Creative Futures	£24,150	MyBnk	£19,780
Design Museum	£8,000	Natural History Museum	£350,000
Discover Children's Story Centre	£25,380	Nova New Opportunities	£11,198
Earth Watch	£19,865	Ramblers Association	£25,000
Education Endowment Foundation	£35,910	Roots and Shoots	£22,507
Equal People Mencap	£20,000	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew	£40,750
Founders4schools	£18,800	Royal Institution of Great Britain	£32,995
Global Action Plan	£8,500	Royal Mencap Society	£10,000
Global Generation	£23,229	Royal Museums Greenwich	£14,730
Greenpower Education Trust	£24,304	Sir John Soane's Museum	£15,000
Greenwich and Bexley		Small Acts of Kindness Trust	£10,000
Community Hospice	£25,000	Somerset House Trust	£30,780
Harrow Club W10	£2,500	Spread the Word	£10,000
Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity	£22,722	St Paul's Girls School	£50,000

## GIBRALTAR GRANTS

Tamasha Theatre Company	£10,000	Kusuma Trust Gibraltar	£456,629
The Armitage Foundation	£10,000		
The Avenues Youth Project	£7,845	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£456,629</b>
The Bike Project	£10,000		
The British Library	£21,386		
The Chelsea Physic Garden Company	£12,070		
The Gold Standard Charitable Trust	£10,000		
The Horniman Public Museum	£29,305		
The Inland Waterways Association	£5,830		
The Kensington and Chelsea Foundation	£82,433		
The Kids Network	£10,000		
The Literacy Pirates	£10,000		
The Mayor's Fund for London	£25,000		
The Phoenix Garden	£10,000		
The Photographers' Gallery	£9,900		
The Royal Brompton and Harefield			
Hospitals Charity	£212,202		
The Royal Parks	£20,000		
The Tree Council	£9,600		
The Winchester Project	£5,000		
Tower Hamlets Opportunity Group	£10,000		
UNICEF UK	£10,000		
Vauxhall City Farm	£45,133		
Walworth Garden	£25,000		
Wasafiri	£10,000		
Young Lewisham Project	£10,000		
Young Roots	£10,000		
Young Westminster Foundation	£8,680		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,133,174</b>		

## INDIA GRANTS

People for Action	£191,264
Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for	
Medical Sciences and Technology	£12,644
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£203,908</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,793,711</b>



Grants

Grants awarded by Kusuma Trust Gibraltar

1 January 2021 - 31 December 2021

GRANTS TO INSTITUTIONS  
AND PROJECTS

BrightMed Forward	£50,000
Change Your Energy – Change Your Life	£10,000
Gibraltar-American Chamber of Commerce	£299
Gibraltar Disability Society	£15,678
Gibraltar Health Authority	
Critical Care Training	£24,000
Gibraltar Health Authority	
Neonatal Department	£70,000
Knit Gibraltar	£1,000
Office for the Commissioner of Sustainable Development	£12,500
Prostate Support Group Gibraltar	£92,689
Rotary Club of Gibraltar	£2,300
The JM Memorial Fund	£4,000
The Nautilus Project Trust	£50,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£332,466</b>

GRANTS TO INDIVIDUALS

Professional Development Awards	£25,346
University and Excellence Scholarships	£18,000
University Talks for Students	£9,324
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£52,670</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£385,136</b>



Trustees

Dr Soma Pujari,  
Co-Founder and  
Executive Trustee  
(KT-UK and KT-Gib)  
Anurag Dikshit,  
Co-Founder and Chair  
(KT-UK and KT-Gib)  
Nitin Jain (KT-UK)  
Peter Isola (KT-Gib)

Advisers

Rebecca Eastmond (KT-UK)  
Dr Sandra Sequeira (KT-UK)  
Joey Garcia (KT-Gib)  
Trino Cruz (KT-Gib)

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