



people's
trust for
endangered
species



Annual review 2014



Bringing the wild back to life

A voice for wildlife

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Our mission

To save our wildlife for the future.

Our purpose

Our wildlife is disappearing. Almost two thirds of species in the UK have declined in the past 50 years. There's nothing natural or inevitable about this. It can be stopped. And we can all play a part in this. That's why People's Trust for Endangered Species exists.



A voice for wildlife



Scientific research

© Andrea Frazzetta



Conservation action

© James Richard Photography



Educating and inspiring

© PPT

Our work

We live and breathe for British wildlife. Our passion is what drives our work. It's what gives some of the UK's most threatened species a chance of survival.

So how do we do this?

Scientific research

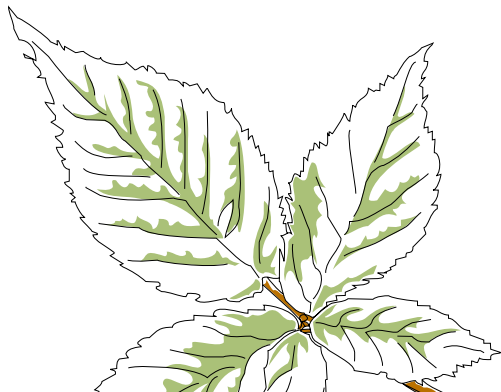
Conserving endangered species and the places they live is a huge task. To make a long term impact we must make our limited resources work as hard as possible. We use scientific evidence to judge where action is most needed and where we will have the greatest impact.

Conservation action

We work with landowners, local communities, scientists and the public to take swift and sustainable action before it's too late. From hedgehogs and stag beetles in our gardens, to lions and wild dogs on the African plains, we work with passion to save them all.

Educating & inspiring

We can save our wildlife, but we can't do it alone. We use our expertise and experience to inspire thousands of volunteers to monitor British wildlife and improve their surroundings for nature.





“ We are indebted to our devoted and loyal team of staff, volunteers and supporters. Thank you one and all.”

Message from the Chair

It's good to take a rare moment to reflect and take pride in what we've achieved in the last year. I hope you enjoy reading about it all in this celebratory report.

We have seen success in all corners of the world: changing attitudes to lions in Tanzania, rescuing slow lorises from the cruel and illegal pet trade in Indonesia, and reintroducing dormice in Nottinghamshire.

We were thrilled to receive the coveted gold medal at RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show for our *Hedgehog Street* garden, along with our campaign partners at the British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

Our brand new website is exciting much attention featuring our fresh new style

designed to attract even more support for our work.

None of our achievements would have been possible without the support of so many generous people. We are indebted to our devoted and loyal team of staff, volunteers and supporters. Thank you one and all.

We are now focusing with excitement and determination on our next steps to make a lasting difference to our most endangered species. With your support we will bring the wild back to life.

Thank you.

Sheila Anderson

Sheila Anderson, MBE

Chair, People's Trust for Endangered Species

Highlights in 2014



© Jan Green

Inspired

We struck gold with our *Hedgehog Street* garden at RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show and inspired thousands of people to help hedgehogs: our campaign with the British Hedgehog Preservation Society moves up another notch.



© Nadia Jorgic

Invested

We supported 24 conservation projects in 19 countries and helped three young conservationists get their first foot on the career ladder.



© Lorna Griffiths

Discovered

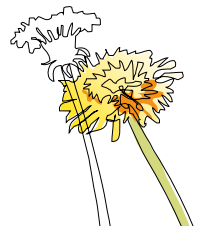
Thanks to hundreds of volunteers, we added 6,831 dormouse records to our national database. This unique resource is used to check how dormice are doing and measure the effectiveness of our efforts to save them.



© PTES

Educated

We created a training classroom in our ancient woodland nature reserve and shared our woodland management expertise with landowners far and wide.



endangered



Risso's dolphin

© Benjamin Munnery

endangered



Hazel dormouse

www.polaroids.com / PIR ©

Mammals

There are over 60 wild mammal species living in or around the coast of the UK and we are passionate about conserving them. Some – such as dormice, hedgehogs, water voles and red squirrels – are in trouble, having suffered serious losses.

It's often not clear why a species has declined but guessing is no good. Successful conservation needs a real understanding of the problem, based on thorough research. During the year we awarded six research grants and two internships to scientists studying mammals at leading universities and conservation organisations.

Reliable evidence of the whereabouts and fortunes of British mammals is fundamental to effective conservation. Our annual *Mammals on Roads* and *Living with Mammals* surveys reveal what's really going on. The shocking situation of hedgehogs was discovered through this monitoring and led to our current, urgent campaign with the British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

“ Thanks to PTES funding, I'm able to realise my dream and take part in a large scale project that has the potential to make a very real difference.”

Ewan McHenry

University of Aberdeen

Protecting water voles from predatory mink in Scotland

> Now that *Living with Mammals* is online, 16% more people registered to survey wild mammals in our built-up areas

> Volunteers armed with the *Mammals on Roads* app went searching for wild mammals down 5,800 miles of the nation's roads clocking up 3,334 sightings

> We have launched a *National Hedgehog Survey* to assess whether they exist in places where we know that badgers live

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Water shrew

© ChrisHemmerl/Shutterstock.com

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Otter

© RavenHuntPhotography/Shutterstock.com

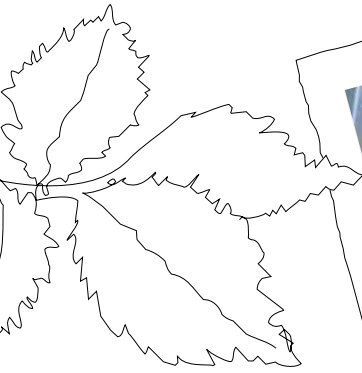
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Brown long-eared bat

© iStock/Shutterstock.com

Our year in the UK



Hedgehogs

Our own mammal surveys are very clear: hedgehogs are in trouble and declining just as fast as tigers. Our campaign, with partners the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, is giving hedgehogs a chance of survival.

With a third of hedgehogs lost in just a decade, those left in our towns and cities are all the more important to look after. *Hedgehog Street* inspires people to make their neighbourhood hedgehog-friendly by allowing space for them and adding garden features that offer accessibility, food and shelter.

With the help of award-winning garden designer, Tracy Foster, we created a *Hedgehog Street* garden at RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show. The beautiful garden showed the simple features required to help hedgehogs thrive. It caught the attention of thousands of visitors and spawned acres

of press coverage. Most importantly, the message that everyone can help hedgehogs was spread far and wide.

Other green spaces within urban and suburban areas can be managed sympathetically for hedgehogs too. Our expert trainers are teaching managers of parks and public green spaces to 'think hedgehog'.

Our research programme is revealing insights, ensuring that our practical advice is based on solid evidence. We have discovered how small a hedgehog population, isolated by encroaching development, can become before it's doomed. We've calculated that we need to double the amount of hedgerow to help hedgehogs move around safely. And, using hedgehog tracking tunnels, we can now reliably detect whether hedgehogs are present or not in an area where development is proposed.

> Over 30,000 'Hedgehog Champions' and their neighbours made over a thousand holes in their garden fences creating hedgehog highways

> Our *Hedgehog Street* garden at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show not only won an RHS Gold medal, but also the People's Choice Award, proving once again the popularity of hedgehogs

> We inspired Paragon Community Housing Group to redesign their garden fencing to suit hedgehogs and helped the RSPB and Barratt Homes to create wildlife-friendly houses

 /PTES

@WestHamParke7: Thank you Henry **@PTES** for such an informative day on hedgehog ecology and management. We're inspired to action!



Our year in the UK



Dormice

The discovery, 30 years ago, of the extinction of hazel dormice from large parts of the countryside galvanised our longstanding commitment to put them back where they belong. Dormice are vital indicators of healthy woodlands and hedgerows. These special areas support thousands of other threatened species.

We have reintroduced dormice to 19 woodlands in 12 counties, most recently in Nottinghamshire. This is the second of a three-year plan to re-establish dormice in this county. An important part of the work is making sure the woodland continues to be appropriately managed to give the animals the best chance of survival. Already the dormice introduced last year have bred and

spread out across the woodland and will soon be ready to venture through safe and leafy hedgerow corridors to meet their new neighbours.

Meanwhile hundreds of volunteers continue to monitor dormouse activity in woodlands across England and Wales. Their findings feed into our national dormouse record centre, providing the evidence against which to judge and direct conservation effort. We share this knowledge through our training courses on managing woodlands for dormice, and it helps us to target reintroductions where they are most needed.



“Loved the reintroduction day and PTES' dedication to the small, gorgeous furry critter. Keep up the good work and fingers crossed for litters.”

Mike Dilger

TV Presenter and Ecologist

- > We reintroduced dormice to a woodland in Nottinghamshire
- > We recorded 6,831 dormice from 135,024 nest boxes in 388 woodlands
- > We presented our latest findings at the ninth International Dormouse Conference in Denmark
- > Prisoners at HMP Humber made over 2,000 dormouse nest boxes which we distributed to 44 monitoring sites



©Kunal / Shutterstock.com



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Our year in the UK

Water voles

Surveys from the 1990s revealed that nine out of ten water voles had disappeared in that decade alone. Since then we've been at the forefront of the fight to save them, creating 24 water vole havens and reintroducing them to healthy waterways.

To evaluate our progress, we are developing the first national monitoring scheme for water voles in the UK. Taking what we have learnt from over 20 years of monitoring dormice, we will soon be training volunteers to re-survey potential water vole areas that were searched in the 90s. An online record

centre will collect all the information for annual analysis.

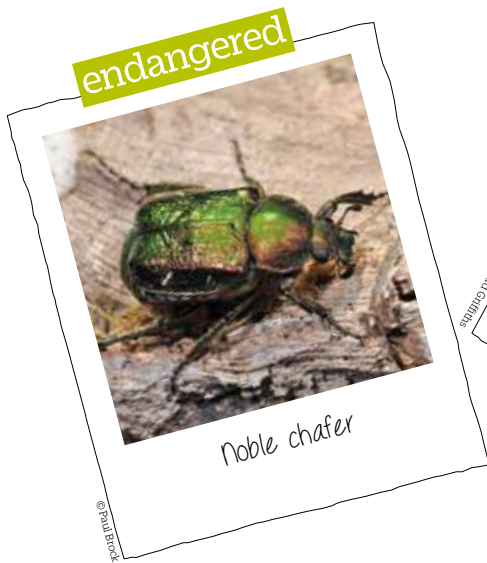
This alone won't save water voles. But what we learn and the action we take afterwards will make a lasting difference to the fate of water voles in Britain.

endangered



© Ian Schofield | Shutterstock.com



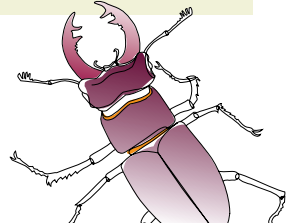


Invertebrates & amphibians

Saproxyllic beetles, such as noble chafers and stag beetles, specifically live on or in the deadwood found in woodlands, wood pastures and gardens. Just the deadwood that is all too often tidied away or burnt. No wonder many of these invertebrates are now so rare.

Our extensive records of noble chafers, and their traditional orchard homes are revealing valuable insights into the beetles' dispersal behaviour and the specific features of orchards they prefer.

- > Noble chafer beetles were found at two new sites in Buckinghamshire
- > The Great Stag Hunt recorded over 1,700 stag beetle sightings
- > Two internships supported young scientists working on endangered Mallorcan midwife toads and glow worms





Restoring landscapes

Certain habitats contain such a richness of life that they need to be protected at all odds.

Ancient woodland

Our nature reserve, Briddlesford Woods on the Isle of Wight, is a stunning example of a healthy ancient woodland, protecting thousands of species within. It is home to some of our most important threatened mammals - dormice, red squirrels and bats – as well as a host of birds, insects, amphibians and plants.

We use this idyllic place as a training centre to promote wildlife-friendly management to other woodland owners and managers. Having completed the renovation of our training hut, it's now fit for purpose in this unique setting for inspiring all who visit.

- > Our dragonfly survey recorded a water stick insect on one of the ponds we recently created – a first for Briddlesford
- > We improved visitor access by replacing a stile and some footpath steps and we allowed cattle to graze for the first time in our newly fenced wood pasture
- > Ninety people learnt how to manage woodlands for dormice and how to monitor species in woodlands on our conservation courses at Briddlesford training centre

Traditional orchards

Traditional orchards are wildlife havens, but are too often lost to neglect and development.

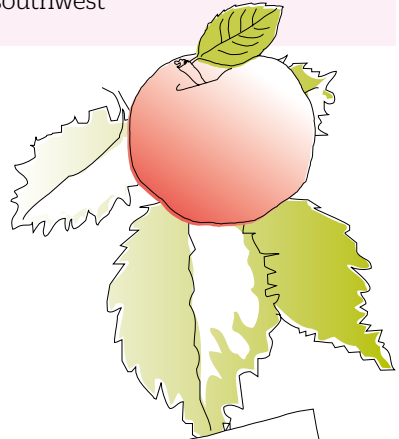
Having completed inventories of traditional orchards in England and Wales, we trained project partners in Scotland to do the same for north of the border. The inventories are widely recognised and used by planning authorities, with a number of sites being granted tree preservation orders to halt or impede ill-advised development.

Our aim is to restore those orchards we have designated as 'poor' or 'good' into 'excellent' condition. Most orchards lie in private ownership, so we are raising the funding to support owners looking after and improving their orchards for wildlife.

Rough Hill, our beautiful, traditional orchard in Worcestershire on the banks of the River Avon, is a nationally significant site for endangered saproxylic (deadwood-loving) beetles and is home to turtle doves, harvest mice and red-winged click beetles. This is an orchard that is not yet in 'excellent' condition so we will be using the site as a work-in-progress to inspire and equip owners who want to help orchards survive and thrive.

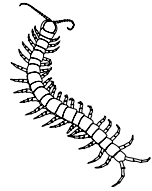
> We recorded thousands of locations of rare fruit varieties to create a national fruit bank of where old varieties still exist. This will be used for orchard restoration and enrichment

> We transferred over 300 rare varieties of cider apple from the Tidnor collection to eight new regional collections at National Trust properties throughout the southwest





Wildlife worldwide



When there are literally tens of thousands of species in trouble worldwide, deciding how and where to target our support is challenging.

We prioritise work which establishes sound, considered scientific evidence. We award grants to projects that add clarity and insight to conservation challenges so that we can address the most urgent needs and target crucial gaps in international conservation.

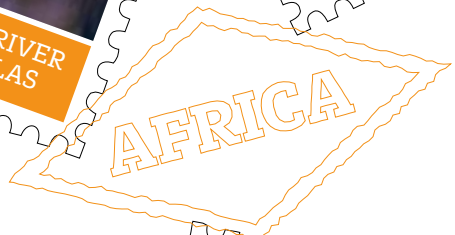
We offer two types of grants to conservationists. Small worldwide grants are for trialing or scoping an approach or technique and for collecting basic species information that will have a practical use. Continuation grants fund more ambitious work that has greater conservation impact and clear sustainable outcomes.

- > Biology teachers and wildlife club leaders attended a workshop in Russia to discuss how to protect critically threatened populations of saiga antelope from poachers as a result of a grant we awarded last year
- > Fifty rangers and scouts from the Democratic Republic of Congo, were trained to gather data on endangered bonobos
- > At the Philippine Crocodile Sanctuary, crocodile nest sites were protected through a special planting scheme

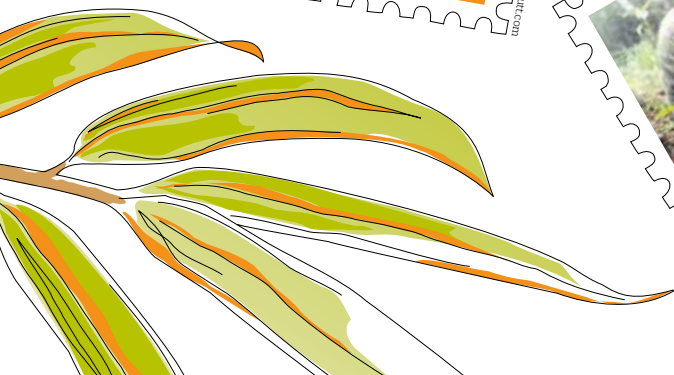


We targeted some of the world's most endangered and lesser known threatened species:

- > £10,000 to reduce human-carnivore conflict in Tanzania
- > £9,000 to develop a conservation programme for hirolas in Kenya
- > £6,700 to improve habitat for Ethiopian wolves
- > £12,300 for community action to save bonobos in the Democratic Republic of Congo
- > £5,800 to reduce the pillaging of wild medicinal plants in Cameroon
- > £6,200 to research a newly discovered dolphin species in Tanzania
- > £5,900 to protect sungazers and their habitat in South Africa
- > £4,700 to assess giraffe populations in East Africa
- > £7,600 to find out more about mountain nyalas in Ethiopia
- > £5,500 to develop a conservation strategy for Cross River gorillas in Cameroon



Our year abroad



SOUTH AMERICA

- > £6,000 to protect slow lorises in Indonesia
- > £9,000 to conserve Western hoolock gibbons in India
- > £5,100 to research and conserve dholes in Nepal
- > £8,000 to aid the recovery of Siamese crocodiles in Cambodia
- > £8,800 to save the rarest pig on earth – the Bawean warty pig in Indonesia
- > £6,200 to protect snow leopards from persecution in Mongolia
- > £5,500 to track pygmy hogs in India
- > £5,000 to raise community awareness of the importance of Bengal slow lorises in India
- > £12,100 to restore the habitat of Dahl's toad headed turtles in Columbia
- > £4,900 to monitor threatened mammals in Paraguay
- > £3,600 to conserve the beautiful water-starworts in Greece
- > £30,000 to help fund WildCRU, Oxford University, with their varied conservation research work around the world

EUROPE



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www.britishsurvey.com



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© J. Holden PH

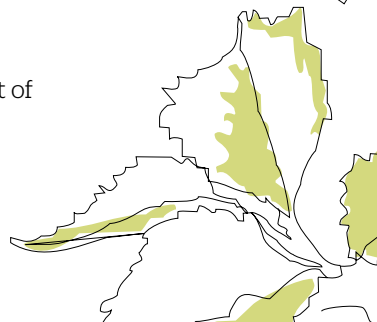
Our people



Standing up for wildlife

Our success relies on the help and support of so many people.

Conservation volunteers, charitable trusts, individual supporters, expert advisors and the long-term commitment of our staff and trustees are all critical to us making a real and lasting difference to wildlife.



“Volunteering for the PTES Orchard Project allows me to discover amazing places, in stunning locations, owned by fascinating people.”

Susie Stockton-Link

Volunteer orchard surveyor in Powys



Monitoring dormice at
Bridlesford Woods

©PTES

Volunteers

Our thousands of volunteers across the country are integral to the success of our work. Their support on the ground, week in, week out, includes:

- > Taking part in our *Mammals on Roads*, *Living with Mammals* and other surveys
- > Making holes in garden fences for hedgehogs
- > Reporting stag beetle sightings
- > Helping us with office work and data entry
- > Monitoring and making dormouse boxes
- > Checking the condition of traditional orchards
- > Helping at public events
- > Joining work parties at our nature reserves
- > Involving their friends through social media
- > Holding fundraising events

Thank you to all our volunteers



Our people

Sharing the learning

We are learning all the time from the work we do and the research we fund. To really make a difference we share what we learn by informing and educating people. From local park managers to national governments, we make sharing our learning an absolute priority.

Project leaders use many imaginative ways to engage with local stakeholders and some work is published in the scientific literature. This year, research papers were published arising from our work to reduce the illegal trade in slow lorises being sold for medicine; on sea turtles in the Turks and Caicos Islands; and on a large-scale pilot of an acoustic bat monitoring technique here in the UK, engaging amateur bat enthusiasts.

To make sure the knowledge gathered over the years about dormice is available and accessible to people managing our woodlands and hedgerows, we published user friendly summaries of 100 peer reviewed scientific papers on our website.

We share our knowledge and spread the word about conservation priorities way beyond scientific audiences. Our outreach programme reaches amateurs and experts both young and old.

- > We won an award for our conservation stand at the British Birdwatching Fair, one of a range of events countrywide we attended to encourage thousands of people to work with us
- > We redesigned our *Wildlife World* magazine that keeps our supporters in touch with all we do
- > Our brand new website expanded our online audience and our social media community grows daily with over 22,500 followers on Twitter and Facebook
- > And our *Wildlife Encounter* wildlife watching events inspired visitors with the sheer wonder of nature



Partners

Conserving the natural world is a huge challenge, one that no-one can achieve alone. To be truly effective we work with others.

We have partnerships with many organisations. Notable among these are:

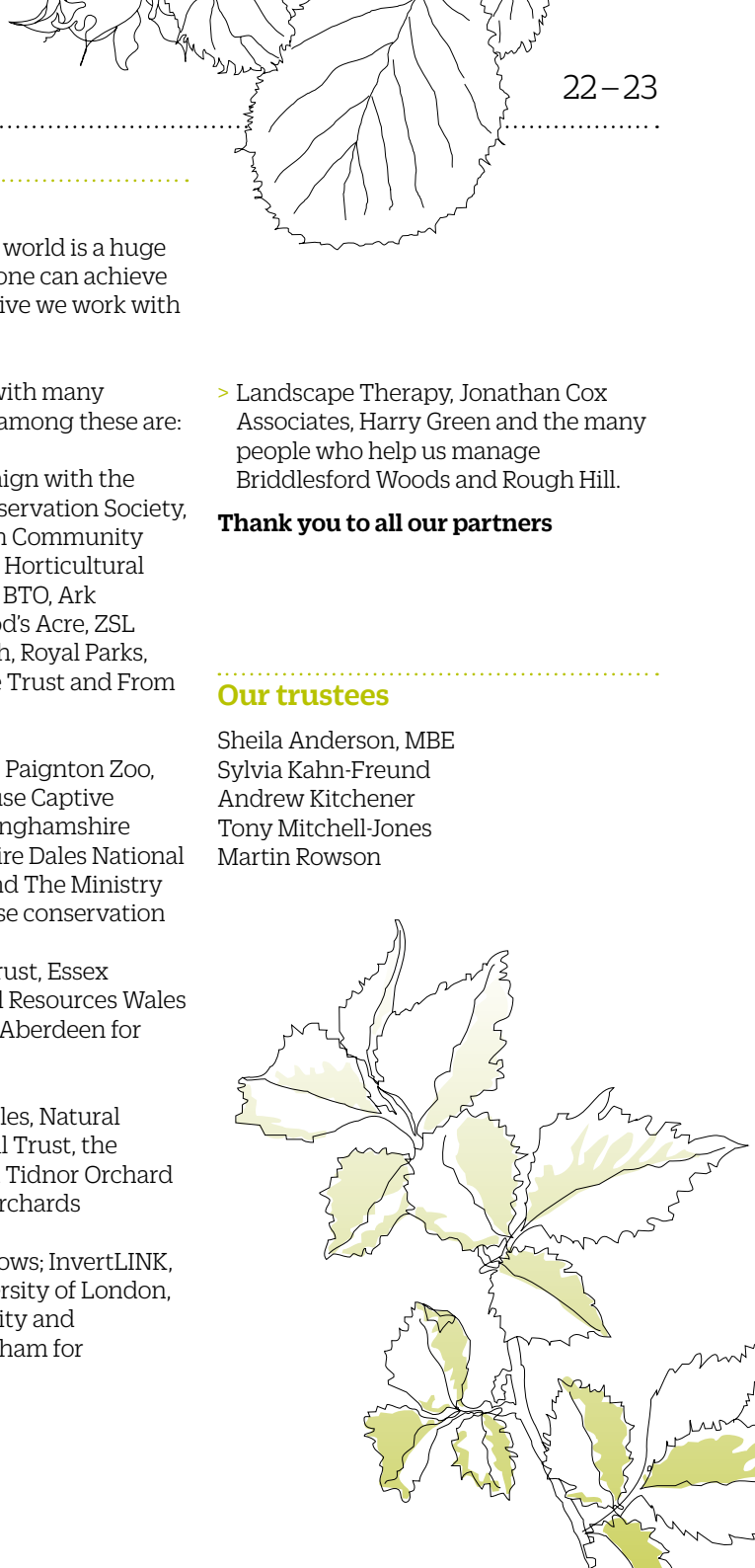
- > Our hedgehog campaign with the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, Dr Pat Morris, Paragon Community Housing Group, Royal Horticultural Society, RSPB, RSPCA, BTO, Ark Wildlife, Caring for God's Acre, ZSL Garden Wildlife Health, Royal Parks, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and From the Notebook
- > Natural England, ZSL, Paignton Zoo, the Common Dormouse Captive Breeders Group, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, Yorkshire Dales National Park, HMP Humber and The Ministry of Justice for dormouse conservation
- > Hampshire Wildlife Trust, Essex Wildlife Trust, Natural Resources Wales and the University of Aberdeen for water voles
- > Natural Resources Wales, Natural England, The National Trust, the Orchard Network and Tidnor Orchard Trust for traditional orchards
- > Hedgelink for hedgerows; InvertLINK, Royal Holloway University of London, Aberystwyth University and University of Birmingham for invertebrates

- > Landscape Therapy, Jonathan Cox Associates, Harry Green and the many people who help us manage Briddlesford Woods and Rough Hill.

Thank you to all our partners

Our trustees

Sheila Anderson, MBE
 Sylvia Kahn-Freund
 Andrew Kitchener
 Tony Mitchell-Jones
 Martin Rowson



Our people

Financial supporters

Most of our income comes from individuals through regular gifts and cash donations. Your generosity and loyalty are boundless and invaluable.

We are also greatly indebted to those who gave the ultimate gift to us by leaving a legacy and allowing us to plan ahead and respond quickly to need. We received over £327,000 in legacies this year from the following people:



Mary Margaret Fletcher Adams
Marjorie Meriel Archard
Miss Mary Joyce Atyeo
Helmi Bate Margaret • Alma Bowen
John Victor Clarke • Mary Cope
Howard Lloyd Davies
Miss Rosa Warburton Davis
Hazel Dawn Devonshire
James Alexander Driscoll
Miss Margaret M Dunn • Yvonne Valerie Fearne
Jean Margaret Gurner • Robert Harding
W Harris Raymond • Lionel Johnson
Alwyn Kaye • Daphne Edith Kirkham
Richard Martin Lee
Mrs Marian Legge
Patricia Hebe Low • Hazel Park
Nanette Reynolds
Mrs ADD Springford
Hilary Tapper • Mr Alan Taylor
Mrs Diana Mary Thomson
Mr John Wevill • Freda Joan Wheatley
Miss Pamela Wingett
Miss Joan Wright
Mr George Thomas Woods



During the year we gratefully received support from the following trusts and foundations:

Our most sincere thanks go to all our supporters



Bostock Foundation
 AS Butler Charitable Trust
 Bewlay Charitable Trust
 Chapman Charitable Trust
 David Cutforth Charitable Trust
 Derek and Clare Stevens Trust
 D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
 Frognal Trust
 Geoffrey Arnold of Langdon Memorial Trust
 Helianthus Charitable Trust
 Mary Lady Fuller Charitable Trust
 Miss E M Sage Charitable Trust
 Mrs Jean S Innes Charitable Trust
 Keith Ewart Charitable Trust
 Langdale Trust
 Mullion Trust
 Oakdale Trust
 Pauline Bishop Charitable Trust
 Portobello Fund
 R O Kinnison Charitable Trust
 Rowan Bentall Charitable Trust
 Rowland Trust Fund
 Tisbury Telegraph Trust
 Walker 597 Trust

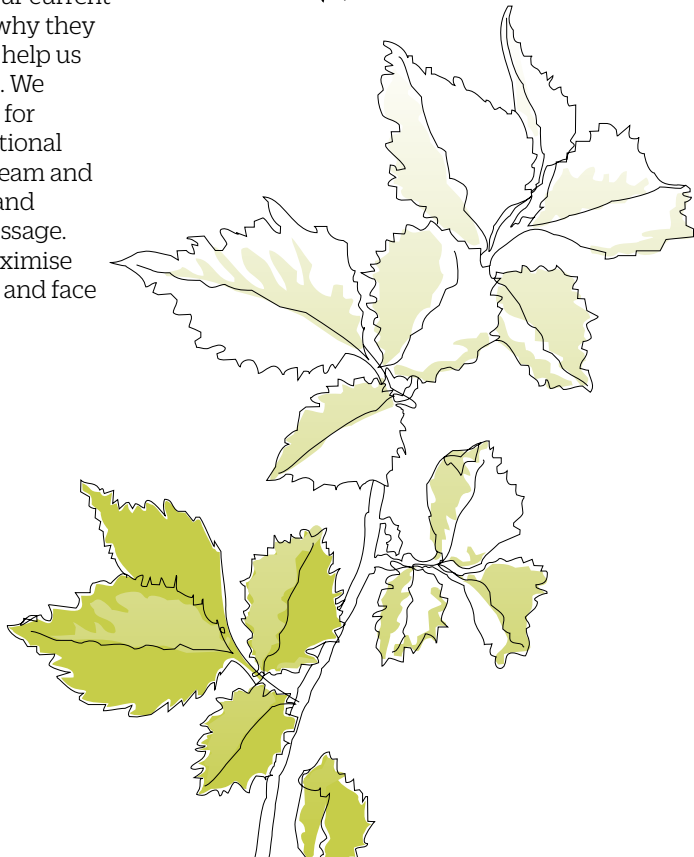


Financial overview 2014

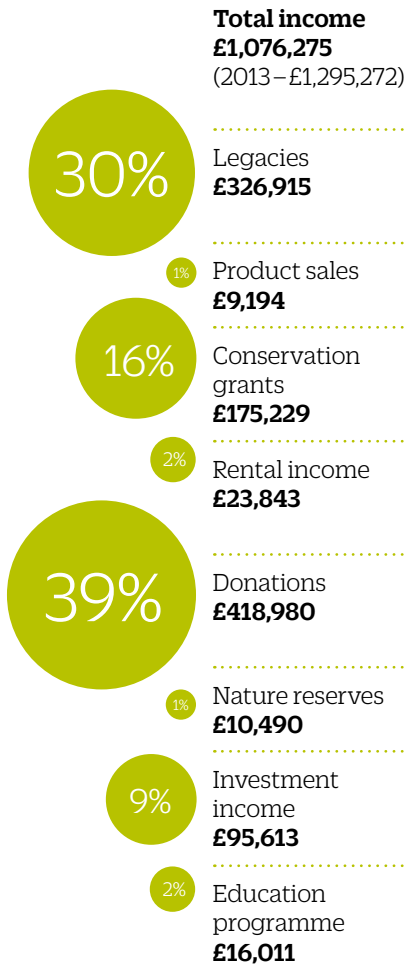
We are delighted to report that income has remained quite stable during the recent economic gloom.

However the trustees recognise that the sources of funding currently called upon are somewhat limited and are in danger of diminishing over time.

Following a review of our fundraising activities last year, we asked our current loyal supporters more about why they chose to support our work, to help us attract more people like them. We updated our internal systems for greater efficiency, added additional expertise to our fundraising team and refreshed our visual identity and website to strengthen our message. We are now well placed to maximise the return on this investment and face the challenges ahead.



How we raised our money



Investment reserves stand at £2,267,744. Committed expenditure beyond 2014 in addition to usual activity: £246,018 conservation grants, £378,782 restricted funds mainly for British mammals and £153,000 planned extra expenditure on conservation and fundraising.

“ I want to support organisations such as PTES who are working really hard to protect our precious wildlife.”

Denise, Hampshire
Supporter

An increase of 60% from 2013

Selling sustainable timber from our woodland reserve helps fund its management

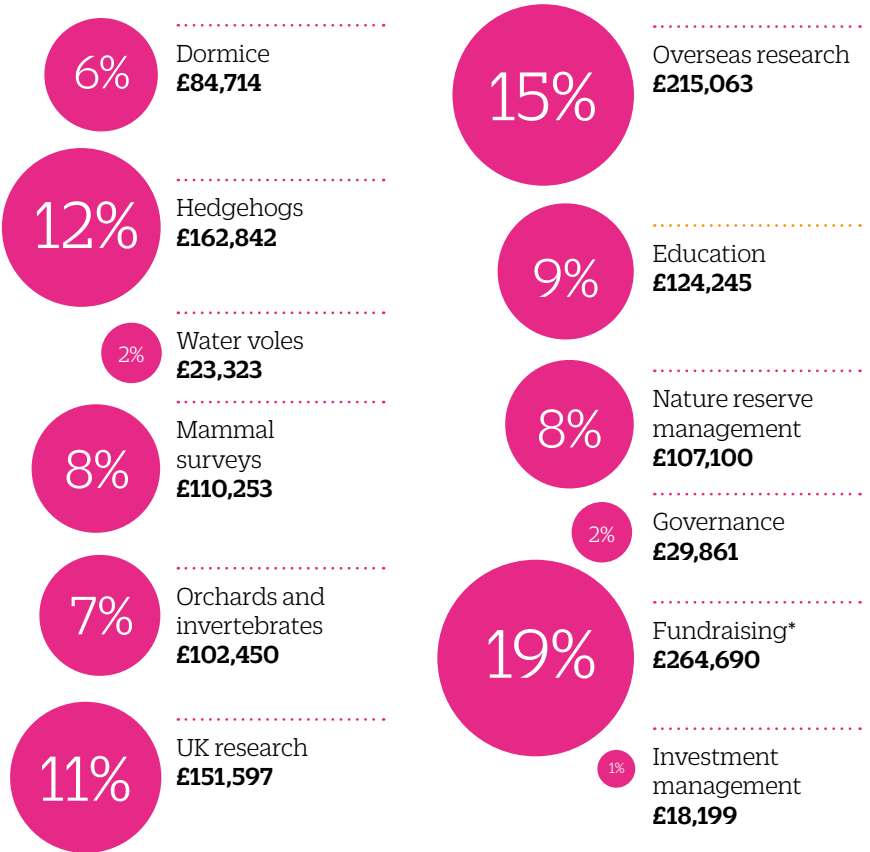
Investment policy: our trustees reserve the right to exclude companies that carry out activities known to be detrimental to the environment.

Reserves policy: we maintain financial reserves at a level to meet all current conservation obligations including committed grants, to be able to respond immediately to sudden and unexpected conservation need, and to be responsible employers.

The investment policy and level of reserves are reviewed annually.

How we spent our money

Total spend
£1,394,337
 (2013 – £1,379,761)



*For every £1 we spent on fundraising in 2014 we got £3.50 back, and hope to improve on this even more in 2015

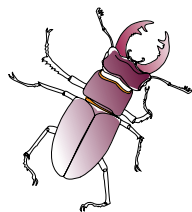


Bringing the wild back to life

“ PTES has an exceptional track record of solving some of our most urgent ecological challenges and has vastly improved the outlook of some of our most threatened species.”

Sir John Beddington

Government Chief Scientist 2008-13





www.ptes.org



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