



2021

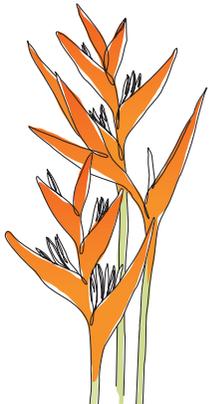
# Annual review

people's  
trust for  
endangered  
species

# What a difference a year makes

Our mission is to save our wildlife for the future.

Our wildlife is disappearing. Almost two thirds of species in the UK declined in the past 50 years. Over 65,000 species are on the international alert list. There's nothing natural or inevitable about this. It can be stopped. And we can all play a part. That's why People's Trust for Endangered Species exists.





“Despite another challenging year, we’ve continued to engage thousands of people with nature on their doorsteps during lockdowns. And we managed considerable fieldwork when conditions allowed. This is only possible with the help of our fantastic volunteers, supporters and staff. Thank you for standing up for wildlife with us.”

**Dr Andrew Kitchener**  
Chair, People’s Trust for Endangered Species

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Kitchener".

Our other trustees are Sylvia Kahn Freund,  
Dr Tony Mitchell-Jones and Sandy Richardson.

## Our approach

Conserving endangered wild animals and the places where they live is a huge task. We make our limited resources work hard, using scientific evidence to judge where action’s most needed and where we’ll have the greatest impact.

We work with land owners, local communities, scientists and the public and take swift, sustainable action before it’s too late. From hedgehogs and stag beetles in our gardens, to slow lorises in Indonesian rainforests, we work with passion to save them all.

We can’t do it alone so we use our expertise and experience to inspire thousands of volunteers to monitor wildlife and improve their surroundings for nature.



# Wildlife in the UK

With one in five wild mammals threatened in Britain, it's vital we know how their numbers change over time so we can act to protect wildlife.



## Successes and plans for mammals

- ▶ Nine hundred people took part in *Living with Mammals* through a new website launched this year. The survey is now entirely online. They recorded over 10,000 sightings of wild mammals.

The findings are encouraging. Along with data from other organisations, analysed for the *State of Britain's Hedgehogs* report, the survey shows hedgehog populations in urban areas nationally are no longer falling and may be recovering.

In contrast, it's apparent from *Mammals on Roads*, and other surveys, that rural populations show much larger declines. The full findings will be published next year.

- ▶ We awarded research grants and internships to scientists at leading universities and conservation organisations, addressing a range of questions and challenges such as:
  - > whether woodland bats, Bechstein's and barbastelles, will use artificially created roosts in young forests
  - > building a captive-breeding and training centre for wildcats due for release in the Scottish Highlands
  - > whether mitigation tunnels are used by hedgehogs and are beneficial to local populations
  - > testing if vaccinating badgers is effective prevention against the spread of bTB to cattle
  - > how mountain hares are faring in different parts of the Peak District
  - > whether eDNA from waterways can reliably indicate the presence of mammals such as water voles
- ▶ We continued to support The Rt Hon Chris Grayling, MP, as 'species champion' for hedgehogs in Westminster, The Rt Hon Matt Hancock, MP, for dormice, and The Rt Hon Hilary Benn, MP, for water voles.



## Focus on dormice

The continuing decline in hazel dormouse populations is concerning in the face of habitat loss from development. We advised Natural England on how to approach a baseline survey of dormice in the UK; some of the recommendations are being progressed.

We manage the long-running National Dormouse Monitoring Programme and run an extensive training programme for conservationists, ecologists and land managers about the ecology and habitat requirements of dormice.

Our dormouse reintroduction in Lancashire this year, where they have become extinct, is the start of a wider conservation push in the county, with a further reintroduction planned in 2022 and the installation of a dormouse bridge over a railway.

### SUCCESSES AND PLANS

- > Reintroducing the 1000<sup>th</sup> dormouse, one of 30 released in Lancashire, that went on to breed later in the season
- > Investigating dormouse box use and habitat type at our dormouse monitoring site on the Isle of Wight to share insights with other sites
- > Over 150 woodland managers and ecologists trained online to manage woods for dormice
- > Securing funding for 2.2km of hedgerow planting on a Hampshire estate through the Test Valley Dormouse Project

## Focus on hedgehogs

*Hedgehog Street*, our national campaign with the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, celebrated its tenth birthday. The event was marked with a national call to do ten things to help hedgehogs, a challenge to rate your garden for hedgehog friendliness, and a *Hedgehog Street* Bake Off featuring a celebrity judge.

A partnership with national housebuilder Taylor Wimpey led to a commitment to install hedgehog highways on development sites. Following the success of a petition calling for increased legal protection for hedgehogs, the subject was debated in parliament. Thanks to the dedication and lobbying efforts of Hedgehog Champions, the debate was well attended by MPs offering their support.

### SUCCESSES AND PLANS

- > Milestone of 100,000 Hedgehog Champions reached in 2021
- > 28,800 sightings of hedgehogs logged on our Big Hedgehog Map
- > Over 2,900 'hedgehog highways' (holes in fencing) created to help garden hedgehogs roam freely to find food and mates.

**HEDGEHOG STREET** 

**CITY OF WILDLIFE**





## SUCCESSSES AND PLANS

- > Of 115 water vole sites monitored, 48 revealed presence or signs of water voles
- > Advising land managers on how to help water voles
- > Planning to trial latrine rafts next year to help monitors spot evidence of water vole droppings

## Focus on water voles

Accidental and deliberate releases of American mink and loss of healthy, protective riverbank vegetation almost eradicated water voles by the 1990s.

We advised Natural England on potential water vole survey techniques when considering planning applications. And we continue to support the mapping of water vole records, run by the Wildlife Trusts, to inform planning applications.

Our water vole monitoring resumed in spring, after interruption last year.



## Focus on invertebrates

In a further development of our longstanding conservation work to help stag beetles, we asked the public to create dead wood habitats for them. 1783 log piles, log pyramids and retained tree stumps are now logged on our new *Map Your Log Pile* website. And over 13,000 people took part in our *Great Stag Hunt* survey.

## SUCCESSSES AND PLANS

- > Over 16,000 stag beetle sightings recorded in the *Great Stag Hunt*
- > Planning to focus on stag beetles in woodlands next year



# Restoring landscapes

## SUCCESSSES AND PLANS

- > Moth surveys revealed small yellow underwings and oak lutestrings, and a micro moth called *Glyphypterix forsterella*, all firsts for the reserve
- > Coppicing 1.5 hectares of hazel
- > Planting 275 hazel saplings in coupes that were coppiced last year

## Focus on ancient woodland

Our woodland nature reserve on the Isle of Wight is home to rare mammals including red squirrels, dormice and bats, but also thousands of invertebrate species. Annual butterfly, dragonfly and moth surveys, carried out by dedicated volunteers, help us to increase our knowledge about this unique place.



## Focus on hedgerows, wood pastures and parkland

Through the *Close the Gap\** partnership, our work focused on supporting farmers and others actively managing the nations' hedgerows. Our new *Healthy Hedgerows* app delivers healthier hedge management by providing bespoke management advice in response to six easy questions.

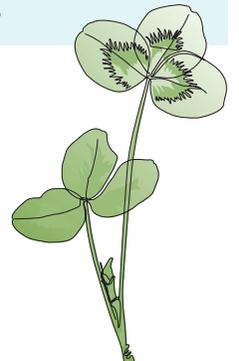
A widespread publicity campaign through agricultural media, social media, leaflets, blogs, podcasts and radio appearances, was supported by a great many online and in-person talks and training events.

We also supported the first National Hedgerow Week. And continued to promote our *Great British Hedgerow Survey*, aimed primarily at volunteer groups and wildlife trusts.

\*Close the Gap partnership with The Tree Council, the Farming Wildlife Advisory Service, Moor Trees and University of Reading supported by the Green Recovery Challenge Fund.

## SUCCESSSES AND PLANS

- > 37 live hedgerow training days and talks for farmers and hedge enthusiasts
- > 2,000 downloads of the *Healthy Hedgerows* app in its first season
- > Plans to build on the immensely positive *Close the Gap* experience to improve the condition of Britain's hedgerows





## Focus on orchards

Traditional orchards are cherished for their cultural heritage and fruit, but we value them most for the amazing breadth of wildlife they support.

Orchards comprise a mosaic of other habitats, including grasslands and hedgerows, ideal homes for thousands of species from birds, bats and small mammals to fungi and lichens, many rare.

We curate the national orchard inventories, working with orchard projects and people across Britain and Ireland, to increase, protect and improve the habitat. To enhance the inventory for England, we trained volunteers to analyse and map sites marked as orchards on historical Ordnance Survey maps.

A survey of invertebrates at Rough Hill, our own traditional orchard in Worcestershire, revealed the site to be of national significance for 40 species of saproxylic (dead wood-loving) beetles. These included three British Red Data Book beetles, six nationally scarce, 30 species of saproxylic flies and two digger wasps.



### SUCCESSSES AND PLANS

- > Reviewing our strategy to help the public protect orchard habitat from damaging development
- > Fundraising and planning for the UK Orchard Network's first Orchard Blossom Day next year
- > British Red Data Book species, false click beetle, hairy fungus beetle, and hide beetle, recorded at Rough Hill



## Wildlife worldwide



**Bayarajargal Agvaantseren** secures protected land for snow leopards in Mongolia, by harnessing the active participation of local communities.



**Mohammad Farhadinia** protects Persian leopards in Iran, through better law enforcement, anti-poaching effort and controlling contagious diseases.



In Tanzania, **Amy Dickman** tackles human conflict with lions and other carnivores by engaging local villagers to defend livestock and monitor threatened wildlife in return for healthcare and educational benefits for their families.

Our Conservation Partnerships support exceptional conservationists working in challenging situations





**Adi Barocas** collects evidence of the potentially disastrous impact on giant otters of mercury contamination and riverbank destruction from illegal gold mining in Manu National Park in Peru.



And in Indonesia, **Anna Nekaris** protects slow lorises from the wild pet trade, and works with local farmers to counter habitat loss by planting organic coffee crops.



**SUCCESSES WORLDWIDE**

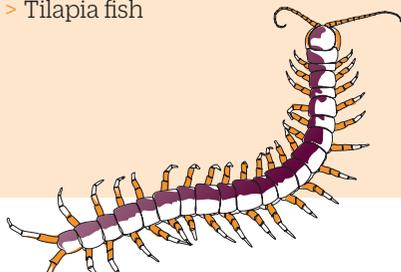
**Despite the continuing impact of the pandemic on conservation work globally, there's much to celebrate**

- > Adapting gold-mining in Peru to maintain fish stocks for threatened giant otters
- > Surveying 500,000 km<sup>2</sup> of territory in Mongolia to estimate the snow leopard population
- > Encouraging organic coffee farming in Java to maintain sustainable surrounding habitat for slow lorises
- > Rewarding villagers in Tanzania who pledge to safeguard lions and other endangered wildlife
- > Monitoring leopard behaviour in Iran by tracking individuals along the Turkmenistan border

# Insight Awards

We support projects that offer real insight into a conservation problem – work that makes a lasting difference. We targeted some of the world's most endangered, and some lesser-known threatened species:

- > Andean bears
- > Asian elephants
- > Asiatic wild dogs
- > Black-headed spider monkeys
- > Cheetahs
- > Chinese pangolins
- > Cotton-headed tamarins
- > Dinagat moonrat hairy-tailed rats
- > El Rincon stream frogs
- > Giant anteaters
- > Golden langurs
- > Gorgon salamanders
- > Green turtles
- > Grevy's zebras
- > Hawksbill turtles
- > Hirola antelope
- > Lions
- > Northern river terrapins
- > One-horned rhinos
- > Persian leopards
- > Slow lorises
- > Snow leopards
- > Tilapia fish



## SUCCESSES WORLDWIDE

- > Training guard dogs in South Africa to protect livestock and reduce conflict with cheetahs
- > Providing the evidence for local government to designate greater protection of forest reserves to safeguard threatened primates
- > Gaining insights into why people buy and use rhino horn in Vietnam to address and reduce demand
- > Measuring the efficacy of new government guidelines for fisheries in Turks and Caicos to reduce the impact on sea turtles.



# Standing up for wildlife

Volunteers, individual supporters, expert advisors and our committed staff and trustees are all critical to us making a real and lasting difference to wildlife.

Thank you to all our volunteers in our shop in Egham, enduring recurring closures. Also volunteers at our nature reserves, doing wildlife surveys, and supporting us through fundraising events. 1,409 news articles appeared in the press in 2021 (our best yet!). Together we have over 95,000 people following us across Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube.

A sincere thank you to all our donors who give so generously and bequeath us legacies. A full list can be seen in our audited accounts.



## Thanks to our corporate and other financial partners

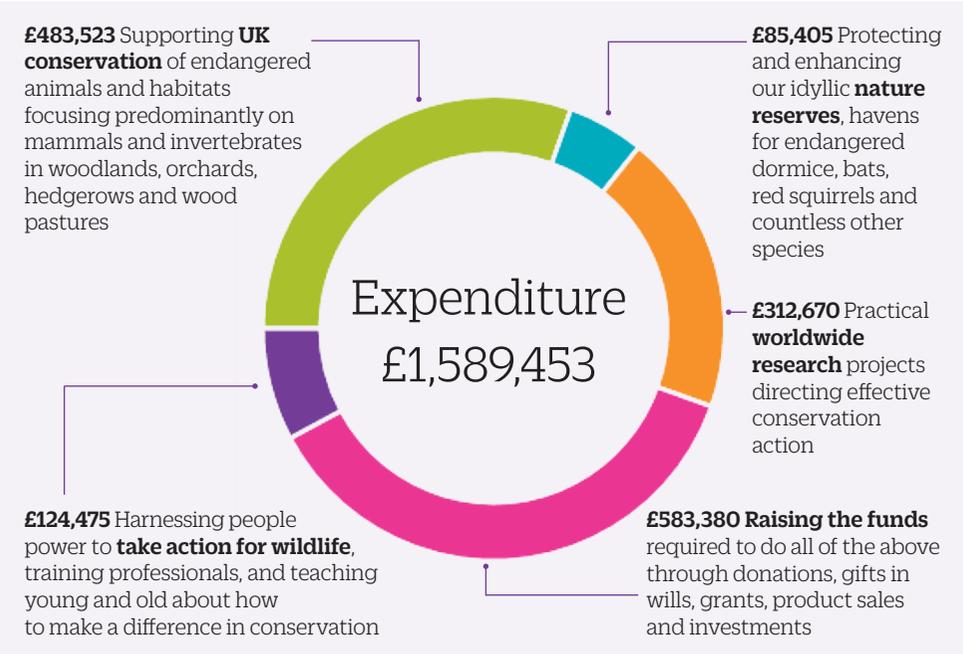
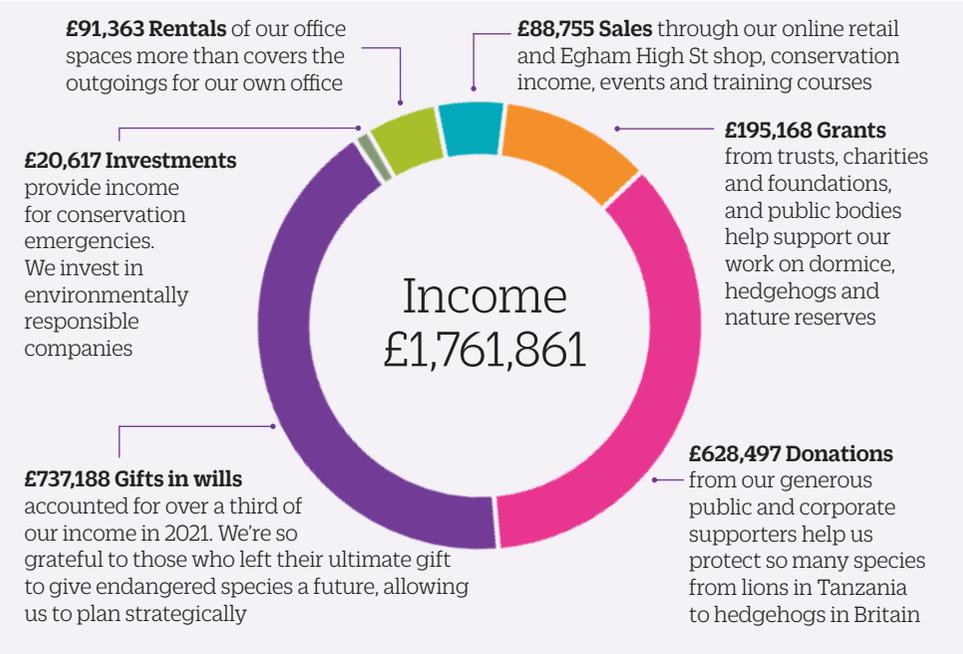
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CJ Wildlife • Creature Candy  
Seedball • Original Cottages  
Robin and Rose Nature • Animex  
and artists  
Penel Kirk and Kate Priestman

## And thank you to the charitable trusts and foundations that supported us during this challenging year

Animals' Voice • Daisy Rich Trust  
David Cutforth Charitable Trust  
Dr A Banister • Henocq Law Trust  
Mary Lady Fuller Charitable Trust  
Mrs Jean S Innes Charitable Trust  
Mrs Mary A Salmon • Mitchell Trust  
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The Walker 597 Trust  
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# Financial overview 2021





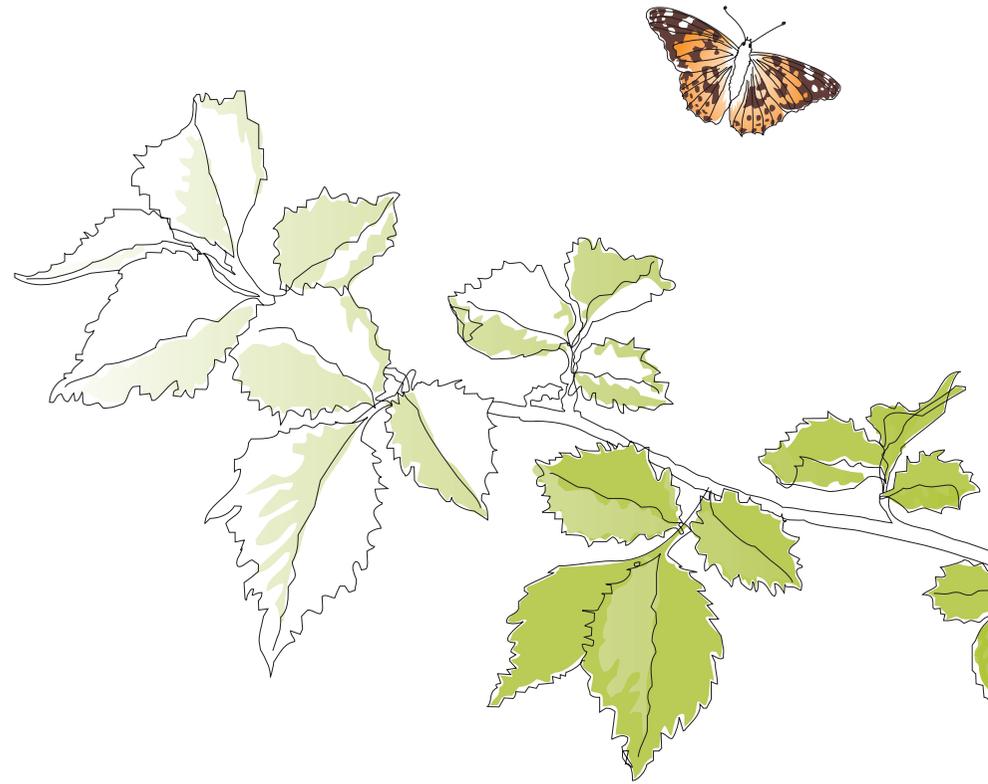
## Looking forward

Due to the exceptional loyalty and generosity of our supporters, and some agile work by the fundraising team, our income in 2021 held up well.

There are welcome signs in the coming year of no impediments to outdoor surveying, training and fieldwork. We will return with even more energy to promoting all our survey work. Our monitoring and surveying drive our knowledge about where to focus and what to prioritise in the UK, so it's vitally important to bounce back.

We will resume our support for research grants to pre-pandemic levels, and plan a vibrant programme during 2022 including

- > three new, five-year Conservation Partnerships involving snow leopards, slow lorises and saiga antelope
- > offering conservation internships, grants to tackle key areas of conservation concern and commissioning research work to support our wider work
- > publishing population trends for hedgehogs and planning national hedgehog monitoring to measure abundance
- > training hedgerow owners and potential surveyors to survey hedges and improve management
- > reintroducing dormice to a further woodland in Lancashire
- > developing training for water vole surveyors, and testing water vole latrine rafts
- > launching the first Orchard Blossom Day with the Orchard Network and adding historical traditional orchard sites to the habitat inventory
- > revamping the Mammals on Roads survey website
- > surveying for stag beetles along woodland edges and hedgerows



## Over £8 million

There's sadly no shortage of urgent work to protect endangered species from the imminent threat of extinction. The challenge of the continuing pandemic is considerable. Just to maintain our effort at the current level, we need to raise more than £8 million over the next five years. Please contribute if you can: [ptes.org/donate](https://ptes.org/donate)

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# people's trust for endangered species

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