



Building communities. Transforming lives.

ANNUAL REVIEW 2016-17



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INTRODUCTION

Money put in the right place at the right time can produce some phenomenal projects and work wonders in communities.

2016 to 2017 saw an incredible range of projects, we could hardly keep up with all the amazing work being done! We have created meadows for butterflies and improved habitat for squirrels, transformed football pitches and skate parks, perfected playgrounds, created havens for lizards and mended a lot of roofs! Since 1997 we have been involved in an enormous 2,830 projects and this year alone has seen 4 improved heating systems, 5 renovated changing rooms and 6 rejuvenated play areas.

We are so proud of the positive impact that Biffa Award has had over the past year and are incredibly excited to watch how the projects, places and people will grow and develop as a result. One of the best things for me is the role that the local community get to play in their projects. Hungarton playground was completely transformed last year and local people were involved in the design of the part right from the off. It is this connection to the area that makes so many of the projects a little bit magic.

Gillian French,
Head of Grants



FOREWORD

At Biffa Award we are proud to be a significant part of the Landfill Communities Fund, supporting positive change across the UK.

It is, more often than not, the small stuff that builds communities. It is about putting the right infrastructure in the right place. Improving the changing rooms at a sports centre can have a big impact on encouraging more people to get involved with a sport, meet new people and join a team. Money put behind rebuilding a play park means a safer space for children and a social hub for parents. It ignites imaginations and builds friendships.

The variety of projects that Biffa Award gets involved in never fails to amaze me. Nor does the potential that they create. The scale of the project Friends of Nidderdale AONB has taken on is incredible. 43.5 hectares of lowland

meadow will be enhanced and protected. A project aiming to reverse the decline of species and habitat is a fantastically exciting one to feel part of and to see develop. Who knows what this charming spot will look like in ten years' time?

Biffa Award projects are all united in one mission: to build communities and transform lives. This year has seen our mission successfully realised in a myriad of different ways. We have loved hearing back from the people and places that have received our support. From transforming parks to developing exhibitions, we love the rich potential that each new project brings.

Andrew Moffat,
Biffa Award Chairman

PARTNERSHIPS

CASE STUDY – PARTNERSHIP PROJECT POSTAL MUSEUM, THE MAIL RAIL PROJECT.

The AIM Biffa Award ‘History Makers – People who shaped our world’ programme funds museums to create new, inspiring exhibitions. The Mail Rail Project at the British Postal Museum was funded to create an imaginative, interactive space to tell the story of the first driverless electric railway and the only dedicated underground mail transport system. Mail Rail became operational in 1927 and was a solution to getting mail across crowded city streets. The exhibition tells the story

through interactive exhibits showing the science behind the operation, key collection objects, the Mail Rail ride, immersive voices and much more. The exhibition opened in spring 2017 and thousands of visitors have already been enjoying a unique glimpse into the history of this fascinating underground secret.



COMMUNITY BUILDINGS



CASE STUDY: CULCHETH SPORTS CLUB

Following a grant from Biffa Award of almost £50,000 Culcheth Sports Club have completed a major upgrade to their changing and showering facilities. The development resulted in four completely refurbished changing rooms for teams, two officials' changing rooms and two showering facilities, along with a new heating system. The new facilities have helped to increase club membership and sports participation in the surrounding area. Since the work was completed a new women's team has been formed, an example of

how the right infrastructure can make a big impact on the local community by creating links and bringing people together. Boxing legend Ricky Hatton was on hand to help officially open the club and the numbers of teams using the club has been increasing ever since. The club has been transformed into a thriving sports hub that the whole village can be proud of.



IN THE PAST YEAR £1.3 MILLION WAS GRANTED TO COMMUNITY LIFE PROJECTS.

RECREATION



CASE STUDY: HUNGARTON PLAYGROUND

Hungarton is a stunning historic village in Leicestershire. With a small, close knit community and a lovely, friendly atmosphere the inhabitants were keen to improve facilities so that they could see a bit more of one another. The old playground was coming to an end of it's 26 year life and was beginning to look a little sad. With Biffa Award support however, the villagers were able to see a complete transformation. The playground has now been replaced by state-of-the-art, brand new facilities.

The community played a large role in the design of the new park, making sure that it was in keeping with the conservation status of the village. The new park now provides a safe place for children to play. It aims to encourage exercise and to ignite children's imaginations. The new play park had a grand opening with a large turn out and some brilliant fancy dress.



IN THE PAST YEAR £8 HUNDRED THOUSAND WAS GRANTED TO RECREATION PROJECTS.

REBUILDING BIODIVERSITY

CASE STUDY: FRIENDS OF NIDDERDALE AONB

Friends of Nidderdale AONB has taken on a huge project in which it will create a 10 kilometre stretch of linked, flower-rich habitats. The group is working with farmers to restore 43.5 hectares of lowland meadow using locally-sourced seed where possible. The resulting pathway is intended to support at risk species of insects and flowers.

Species rich lowland meadow was once a common habitat across Nidderdale AONB, but changes in farming practice have led to a severe decline in habitat area and a reduction in the diversity of

surviving lowland meadow habitat. The money from Biffa Award will go toward creating new pollinator habitat close to existing flower rich hay meadows. It will also go towards improving the quality of the surviving meadows and to build up a comprehensive seed bank for future grassland restoration.



IN THE PAST YEAR £4 MILLION WAS GRANTED TO REBUILDING BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS.

FUNDING SUMMARY 2016-17

TOTAL AWARDED
OTHER REPAYMENTS AND WITHDRAWALS
GRANT TOTAL

£4,079,866
(250,308)
£3,829,557

FUNDING BY THEME



£1,308,737
COMMUNITY
BUILDINGS



£812,832
RECREATION



£1,958,296
REBUILDING
BIODIVERSITY

