



Building communities. Transforming lives.



© St Paul's Church, Winchester



© Winchester Science Museum



© Swannington Play Area



© National Coal Mining Museum



© Woodland Trust

Annual Review 2019-2020

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# Foreword

**“We have made a huge impact on many lives during increasingly difficult financial times”**

*Andrew Moffat, Biffa Award Chairman*

As I complete my fourth year as Chairman it is great to be able to look back on what has been an impressive year of achievements for Biffa Award.

At a time when funding is reducing nationally it is a privilege to have been able to grant nearly **£4million** to community organisations and charities as part of the Landfill Communities Fund. With projects ranging in size from £10,000 to £750,000 we have made a huge impact on many lives during increasingly difficult financial times. Small improvements really can make a significant impact to communities across England and Northern Ireland.

The variety of projects we see never fails to amaze me, and none more so this year than some of our Partnership Grant Scheme projects. We have had the privilege to be able to help secure the future of Attenborough Nature Reserve, a site of national importance in Nottinghamshire, and have enabled the redevelopment of Winchester Science Centre to create an inclusive interactive exhibition for children of all ages and abilities.



Every year we receive hundreds of expressions of interest, far more than we can possibly fund, meaning that competition for funding is extremely fierce.

We have to make some difficult decisions to ensure that we continue to fund the projects in most need and which demonstrate the widest community benefit or will deliver a significant and direct improvement to habitats or species.

Since 1997 we have been able to award more than **£180million** to projects in the vicinity of landfill sites which is a fantastic achievement. In this Annual Review you will see a small snapshot of what Biffa Award has achieved during the past year.



# Overview

## “It is important that we continue to invest in our communities”

*Rachel Maidment*

*Biffa Award Grants Manager*

Biffa Award is a great example of how money spent in the right way can help to build communities, transform lives and make our communities a better place for both people and wildlife.

During the 2019-2020 financial year we awarded more than £1.8million to community organisations and charities across England and Northern Ireland through our Main Grants Scheme. Funding of between £10,000 and £75,000 has enabled village halls and community centres to be renovated and refurbished to better serve their communities.

We have fixed leaking roofs and broken heating systems, replaced inadequate kitchen and toilet facilities, provided parks and recreation areas, and helped wildlife to survive and thrive.

At a time when many villages are losing vital facilities it is important that we continue to invest in their halls and community centres to ensure they can operate and serve the young, elderly and vulnerable, providing safe spaces in which to meet and socialise.

Alongside this our Partnership Grants Scheme awarded more than £1.9million to large-scale projects of national significance that restore, modernise and improve facilities that educate and engage the public, and that improve the natural environment and the wildlife that it supports.

And, thanks to our partnership with the Association of Independent Museums (AIM) we have been able to tell the stories of some of our most important, but lesser-known history makers in new and exciting ways, ensuring their achievements and successes will not be forgotten.



In my new role as Biffa Award Grants Manager it is a privilege to be able to play a part in what Biffa Award has achieved and continues to do so.

# Financial Summary

2019-2020

## MAIN GRANTS SCHEME

30

Community  
Buildings projects

£1,216,781



7

Rebuilding  
Biodiversity  
projects

£388,378



4

Recreation  
projects

£207,825



## PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

3

Built Environment  
projects

£959,066



2

Natural Environment  
projects

£1,000,023



# TOTAL AWARDED: £3,772,073

# Main Grants Scheme

2019-2020

During the 2019-2020 financial year Biffa Award funded 41 Main Grants Scheme projects across three themes - Community Buildings, Recreation and Rebuilding Biodiversity. In doing so, we have...

Repaired **5** roofs



Purchased **23** hectares of land



Created **3** recreation facilities



Improved **5** habitats for wildlife



Created **4** extensions



Upgraded **9** kitchens



Repaired **6** floors



Refurbished **7** toilet facilities



Supported **1** beaver reintroduction program



Fixed **9** boilers/heating systems



Renovated **3** entrance lobbies



Replaced windows in **9** community buildings



# Main Grants Scheme

2019-2020

## Swannington Play Area

**Grant: £64,335**

**Theme: Recreation**

In the early 1990s a play area was created in the village of Swannington, however by 2017 the wooden play equipment was deemed to have come to the end of its life by ROSPA and most items were removed leaving just a slide, roundabout and football goal.

With the only other public space in the rural Norfolk village being the church and with no public transport it was important to have a safe place for children to play and families to meet up.

Biffa Award funding enabled the creation of a new play area including six pieces of equipment, picnic tables and surfacing.



The Covid-19 lockdown in March 2020 caused a delay to the start of the project, but when restrictions were lifted in June, work started and in less than a week the majority of equipment was installed.

The play area was opened on 24 August 2020 and has been busy ever since.

## Staffordshire Wildlife Trust: Working for Waders

**Grant: £75,000**

**Theme: Rebuilding Biodiversity**

Biffa Award funding allowed Staffordshire Wildlife Trust to purchase 23 hectares of land in the Staffordshire Moorlands which will be managed to increase the amount of wading bird habitat by creating a “wader hot spot”.

The area attracts species including curlew, snipe and lapwing, which are in decline and at risk of localised extinction.

The land is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, a Special Area of Conservation, a Special Protection Area and a National Park.



# Main Grants Scheme

2019-2020

## Clifton Campville Village Hall

**Grant: £75,000**

**Theme: Community Buildings**

Clifton Campville Village Hall was gifted to the rural village in 1971. The popular facility is used for a variety of community activities for all ages including coffee mornings, fitness classes, self-defence classes and crafting clubs.

The building was in urgent need of significant investment due to a lack of suitable heating, a leaking roof, damp and outdated facilities.

Biffa Award funding enabled the building of internal walls to make better use of the space available and the installation of new windows, heating,



flooring, plumbing and electrical work. Along with funding from the local community, the project has provided Clifton Campville with a village hall that will continue to be fit for purpose for many years to come.

## Stourbridge Scout Hut

**Grant: £12,423**

**Theme: Community Buildings**



As well as hosting Scouts and Guides, the Alderman Tye Scout HQ is home to many local community groups.

It was built in the 1960s and had a small domestic standard kitchen that was not sufficient for the growing number of community groups that now use it.

Biffa Award funding enabled the installation of a new, modern kitchen that can cater for larger groups and events that take place at the building.



# Partnership Grants Scheme

2019-2020

## Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust Purchase of Attenborough Nature Reserve

**Grant: £750,000**  
**Theme: Natural Environment**



Biffa Award Partnership Grants Scheme funding enabled Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust to purchase the nationally important Attenborough Nature Reserve.

The reserve is situated on former sand and gravel quarries which have been restored for nature alongside the River Trent, near Nottingham. It was opened by Sir David Attenborough in 1996.

Although maintained by the wildlife trust, the site was owned by CEMEX UK until Biffa Award funding, and a public appeal to raise a further £250,000, made the purchase of the site possible in 2020.

## Woodland Trust Extending Hainault Forest

**Grant: £250,023**  
**Theme: Natural Environment**



Hainault Forest is a fragment in east London's landscape, which to thrive needs buffering and extending – to give more space for nature in a squeezed, encroached and urbanised location.

Biffa Award Partnership Grants Scheme funding enabled the purchase of 24.6 hectares of irreplaceable ancient woodland.

This project extended the Hainault Forest's mosaic of habitats to benefit biodiversity and provide a larger landscape link for wildlife to Epping Forest in the north and Havering Country Park in the east.

# Partnership Grants Scheme

2019-2020

## Winchester Science Centre

**Grant: £292,400**

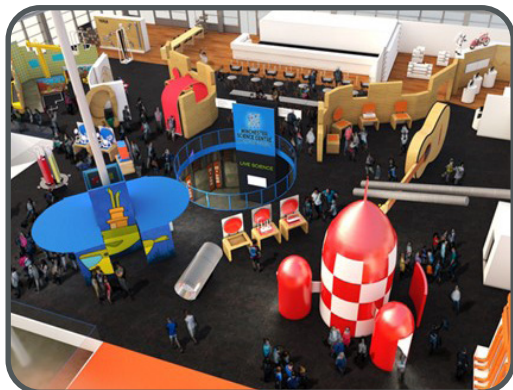
**Theme: Built Environment**

Biffa Award Partnership Grants Scheme funding enabled Winchester Science Centre to fulfil its vision to spark curiosity and deliver inspiring science for all through a significant upgrade at the popular educational visitor attraction.



The project was the biggest that has been undertaken by Winchester Science Centre since it was opened in 2002 and included a re-imagining of its entire top floor.

New exhibits such as a giant guitar, a sonic rocket, a huge ear and echo tubes are arranged in zones that highlight the arts, physics and biology, as well as an area showcasing sound in both the natural world and in engineering.



To ensure the designs stayed true to the centre's guiding principle of 'no decision about me, without me', the concepts were tested for accessibility and fun through an Accessibility Advisory Panel of individuals representing a wide range of disabilities and impairments and a Young People's Steering Group whose members are aged 8-12.



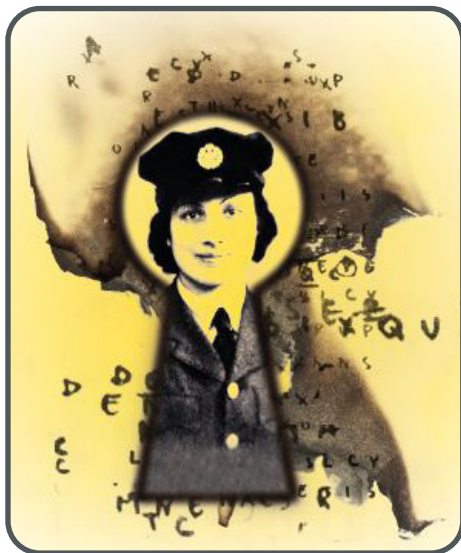
**The new exhibition opened on  
10 October 2020**

# AIM Biffa Award History Makers' Programme

Through the Association of Independent Museums (AIM), the AIM Biffa Award History Makers' Programme awards grants to museums, galleries and cultural facilities so that they can tell the stories of some of our lesser known historical figures in new and exciting ways.

## Commonwealth War Graves Commission

### Noor Inayat-Khan: A Woman of Conspicuous Courage



Thanks to AIM Biffa Award funding, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission was able to create a new digital exhibition celebrating the life and legacy of Noor Inayat-Khan, the first British female radio operator to be sent to Nazi-occupied France during the Second World War.

During her mission she was captured and tortured after being betrayed but never gave anything away. She was eventually executed when she was just 30 years old.

The exhibition was developed by young women from the Girlguiding Association.

### National Coal Mining Museum A Light in the Darkness

A Light in the Darkness, tells the story of how Sir Humphry Davy invented a safe lamp to be used by coal miners underground after a series of coal-mining explosions including the Felling mine disaster in 1812 during which 92 men were killed.



# Biffa Award Board

The Biffa Award Board meets to consider applications for funding. The Board is made up of representatives from Biffa Group Ltd and the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts.



## **Andrew Moffat, Chairman, RWST**

Andrew is a Trustee at the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust. He has spent his career as a civil servant working for the Ministry of Defence in a senior management position and has served as Chairman of the Biffa Award Board since February 2016.

## **Jackie Doone, Biffa Group Ltd**

Jackie spent her early career in tax with HMRC and Hewlett-Packard and Dell. She joined Biffa in June 2008 and is Biffa's Group Indirect Tax Manager. Landfill Tax takes up a great deal of her day job and as such she was invited to join the Biffa Award Board in June 2010.



## **Patience Thody, RSWT**

Patience joined RSWT from the banking sector where she held various roles in both Operations and HR. Within RSWT she was appointed Director of operations in March 2014 and appointed Deputy CEO in April 2020. Her current role oversees the operation of RSWT which includes the grants team.

## **Rob Jones, Biffa Group Ltd**

Rob started his career with Avon County Council in Waste Regulation before moving to Biffa in 1990. His various roles at Biffa range from environmental monitoring to operational management. He has been in his current role of Group Environment Manager for four years.



## **Debbie Tann, RSWT**

Debbie works at Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. She began her career as an ecologist specialising in freshwater habitats, ponds and rivers. She has worked in a variety of roles including Head of Conservation and Deputy CEO before becoming CEO in 2008.

## **Mick Davis, Biffa Group Ltd**

Mick's early career was centred around mineral extraction and land management. He first joined Biffa in 1990 and this is his third 'tour of duty'. He has undertaken various roles before his current role as MD of the Resource Recovery and Treatment Division.







### **Biffa Award**

Since 1997, Biffa Award has allocated funding totalling more than £180million to thousands of worthwhile community and environmental projects across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The scheme administers money donated by Biffa Group Ltd through the Landfill Communities Fund.

### **Landfill Communities Fund**

The Landfill Communities Fund is an innovative tax credit scheme enabling landfill operators to contribute money to fund community projects situated in the vicinity of landfill sites.

### **ENTRUST**

ENTRUST acts on behalf of HM Revenues and Customs as the sole regulator of the Landfill Communities Fund. Organisations who are awarded funding through Biffa Award must be registered as an Environmental Body through ENTRUST.



**Biffa Award**