

# Annual Review 2022-2023

**Biffa Award**

Building communities. Transforming lives.





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# Stewart Goshawk, Biffa Award Chair

It's been a remarkable first year as Chair and it is wonderful to be able to look back on what has been an impressive span of accomplishments. It has been a true privilege to be able to grant more than £1.6 million to community and biodiversity projects which will have a huge impact on many lives and local habitats.

Funding was distributed to 36 projects through the Main Grants Scheme. This funding has enabled 23 village halls and community centres to be renovated and refurbished to better serve their users, bringing people together and improving community cohesion. I believe it is important that we continue to invest in these types of facilities to ensure they can operate and serve the young, elderly and vulnerable, providing safe spaces in which to meet and socialise.

There have also been some impressive Partnership Grants Scheme projects that I've had the pleasure of visiting, it's been wholesome to see the difference this funding has made to these wonderful initiatives. These large-scale projects of regional or national significance have been making improvements to restore, modernise, and improve facilities that educate and engage the public, or improving the natural environment to support a range of scarce and rare species and habitats.

Since 1997, Biffa Award has awarded more than £189 million to projects as part of the **Landfill Communities Fund**. This is a fantastic achievement!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stewart Goshawk". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Biffa Award Chair



# Rachel Maidment, Biffa Award Grants Manager

This has been yet another busy but rewarding year of awarding grants to projects across England and Northern Ireland. I am so proud of the Biffa Award team, what we've managed to achieve and the support that has been given to projects over the year. In April 2022 we added the Cultural Facilities theme back into our Main Grants Scheme offering. Projects under this theme aim to improve recreation, interest and education; they can be based within a theatre, gallery, museum, concert hall, arts or heritage centre.

In recognition of Queen Elizabeth II, Platinum Jubilee in May 2022 we created a Platinum Jubilee Fund for existing projects to deliver a stand-alone element that could enhance the work being done on site. We awarded additional funding totalling more than £92,000 to 11 projects; each one held a celebration event during the year and received a unique Platinum Jubilee plaque.

In 2023 Biffa Award turned 25! To commemorate this landmark, we offered a one-off grant of up to £2.5 million to deliver an exciting project which would have an impact for at least another 25 years. Wiltshire Wildlife Trust successfully secured this grant for its Wonderful Woodlands of Wiltshire project. The project will purchase nearly 72 hectares of ancient woodland and restore it to a fully functioning ecosystem. We're really excited to see the positive effect and lasting legacy that this project will have on this heroic habitat.

Don't miss out on our fantastic funding opportunities. If you have a project that meets our guidance notes requirements, we really want to hear from you! Head to the [Biffa Award website](#) and enter your project postcode into the checker to see if you meet our distance criteria.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Rachel Maidment'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Biffa Award Grants Manager

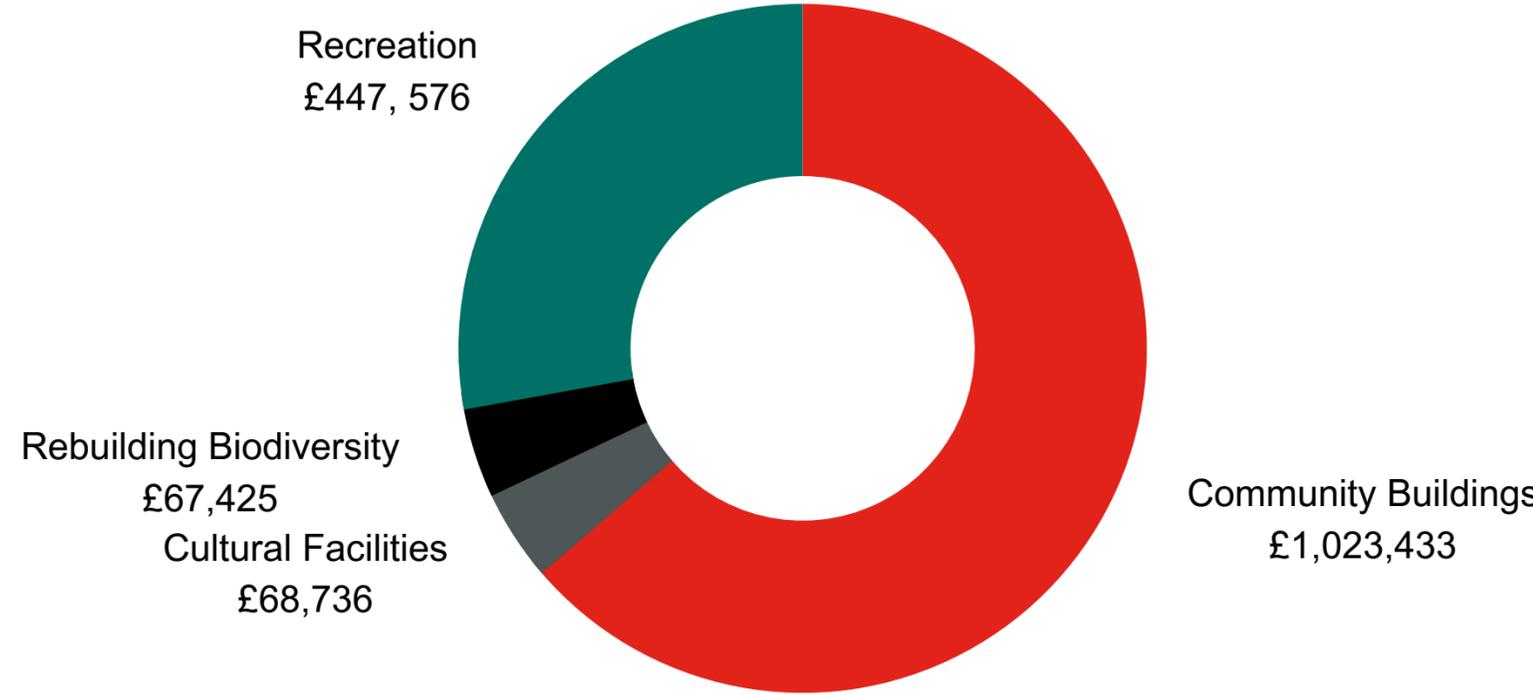


# Financial Summary

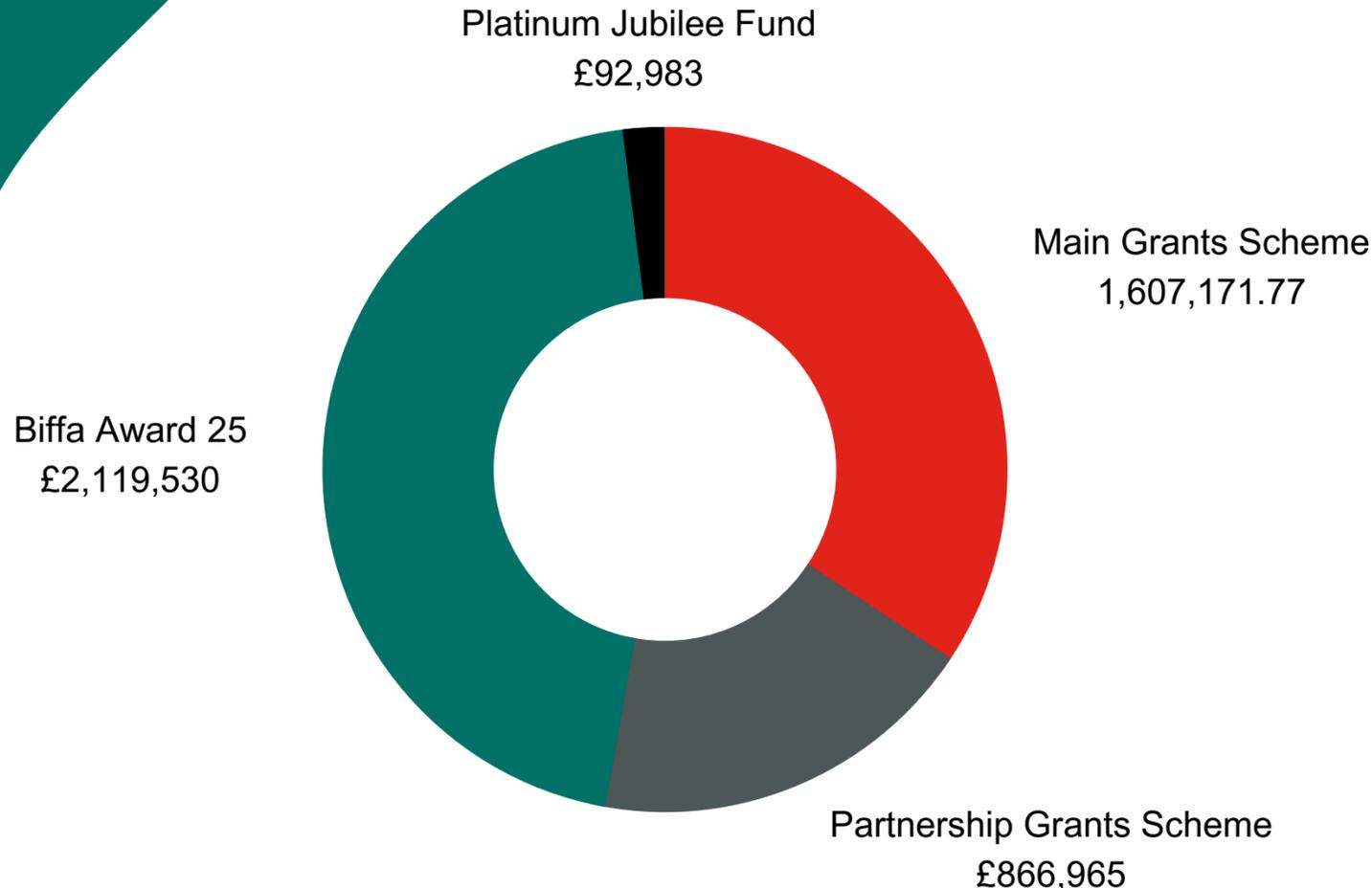
During the 2022-2023 financial year, Biffa Award funded 36 Main Grants Scheme projects across four themes: 23 Community Buildings, 1 Cultural Facilities, 10 Recreation and 2 Rebuilding Biodiversity.

Through the Partnership Grants Scheme, we funded 3 large-scale projects under the Built Environment theme to benefit local communities.

## Main Grants Scheme



## Biffa Award Funding



# Main Grants Scheme: Community Buildings

## Redcar Baptist Church



Redcar Baptist Church is a place of worship and a hub for the local community, located on the North East Yorkshire coast. The building is very well used by those in the local area but it wasn't fit for purpose. The building desperately needed updated facilities to match its use.

Biffa Award provided a grant of £27,965 to help refurbish the kitchen, install air conditioning in the community cafe and hand driers in bathrooms. The improvements have helped create a functioning and safe space for all, supporting the building for continuous wider public use.

The project completed in March 2023 and has since been enjoyed by many different groups. Supporting this project helped provide increased opportunities for the community to gather, facilitating improved mental health and well-being, as well as reducing social isolation.



[Watch the project video here](#)

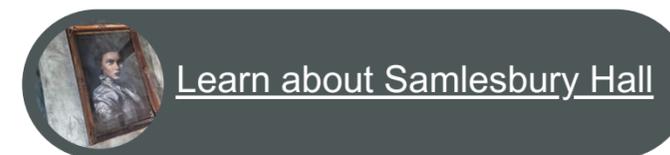
# Main Grants Scheme: Cultural Facilities

## Samlesbury Hall Trust

Samlesbury Hall is a historic stately home in Lancashire. The site has a lot of historical heritage and is popular with visitors.

Funding was requested to help with reinterpreting areas of the museum for an enhanced visitor experience. This included the creation and installation of display panels, graphics and banners as well as set dressing, props and the restoration of two new museum rooms. Biffa Award provided a grant of £68,736 to support these developments.

The project will officially complete towards the end of 2023 and expects to see a large increase in visitors who will be able to gain a greater understanding of local history, the building, and the wider site, preserving it for future generations.



[Learn about Samlesbury Hall](#)



# Main Grants Scheme: Rebuilding Biodiversity

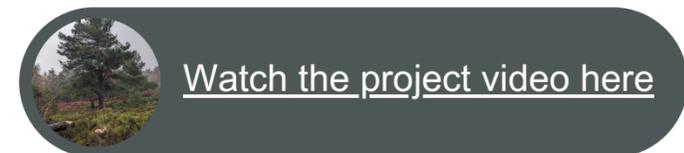
## Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust



Blacka Moor Nature Reserve is owned by Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust. The site contains 181 hectares of breath-taking scenery and forms part of a much larger internationally important wild landscape – the Eastern Peak District Moors, a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Biffa Award provided a grant of £29,645 to help improve the condition of heathland and wetland across the site, protecting six habitats and 19 priority species including the common lizard, hairstreak butterflies and many birds, including the Whinchat, a small perching bird that is included in the Red List of Threatened Species, following a 50 percent decline in Britain and Europe since the 1990s.

The project completed in July 2023 and will offer a nature haven for the public to visit. Funding this project will support the creation of important wildlife habitats offering nature the chance to be restored within the area.



[Watch the project video here](#)



# Main Grants Scheme: Recreation

## Blakeney & District Recreation Centre

Blakeney & District Recreation Centre is a charity that offers an array of activities for the public to get involved with. This thriving community was in desperate need of a play facility to bring together local people.

Funding was requested to help with the creation of a new play park following the removal of existing equipment due to safety concerns. Biffa Award provided a grant of £57,000 to supply eight pieces of play equipment including swings, a zip wire, a play tower trail, a climbing frame and an amazing play train.

The project completed in August 2022 and the playground has since been enjoyed by many families. This space enables young people to make positive connections with their local community areas and encourages participation in outdoor physical activity. Users now have a safe space in which to play, socialise and be adventurous.



[Watch the project video here](#)



# Partnership Grants Scheme

We awarded £869,000 to three Partnership Grants Scheme projects.



The Land Restoration Trust:  
Pleasley Pit Restoration and Interpretation



Lichfield & Hatherton Canals Restoration Trust:  
Darnford Moors Ecology Park



Cheshire Wildlife Trust:  
Accessing Danes Moss Nature Reserve



# Biffa Award 25

The year 2023 saw Biffa Award celebrate its 25th year of funding vital community and biodiversity projects. Wiltshire Wildlife Trust was successful in securing the £2.1 million grant for their Wonderful Woodlands of Wiltshire project. The goal was to purchase Great Wood, a 71.89ha ancient woodland securing it in perpetuity, and, restoring it back to its former glory.

The purchase has safeguarded the future of probably the largest collection of wild service trees in the country, as well as fantastic stands of oak, with some trees more than 200 years old, making the site nationally important for conservation. Once initial habitat improvement works have completed the woodland will offer a home to an array of species. The public will also benefit through a programme of education, wellbeing and engagement activities.

The purchase of Great Wood is a major step towards delivering nature's recovery. Thanks to Biffa Award funding, the future of this site is secure.



# Biffa Award Board



Stewart is the Honorary Secretary of RSWT and the previous chair of trustees at Essex Wildlife Trust. Stewart has been CEO of the Wembley National Stadium Trust for the last 10 years with prior roles in the grant-making world.

**Stewart Goshawk,  
Chair, RSWT**



Since joining Biffa in 2005, Vicky has moved up through the ranks gaining experience in environmental management, legislation, permitting and compliance. In her current role as National Environmental Control Manager she sits on various industry working groups and leads a team of 20 across the UK.

**Vicky Clack,  
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 COO for Resources and Energy.

**Mick Davis,  
Biffa Group Ltd**



Simon has 30 years of experience within waste management and the wider safety, environmental and sustainability management field. He is currently the Biffa lead for Waste Policy and Sustainability.

**Simon Rutledge,  
Biffa Group Ltd**



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.

**Patience Thody,  
RSWT**



Debbie is the CEO of Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust. She began her career as an ecologist before moving into policy and campaigning and then into senior management and leadership. She has worked at Defra and served on a number of Boards and Advisory Committees in her 25 years in the environment sector.

**Debbie Tann,  
RSWT**



## **Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT)**

Biffa Award is managed by the grants team at the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT). The Wildlife Trusts are a grassroots movement of people from a wide range of backgrounds. There are 46 individual Wildlife Trusts, each of which part of is The Wildlife Trusts federation and a corporate member of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts.

## **Biffa Award**

Since 1997, Biffa Award has allocated funding totalling more than £189million to thousands of worthwhile community and environmental projects across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The scheme administers money donated by Biffa Group Ltd through the Landfill Communities Fund.

## **Landfill Communities Fund**

The Government's 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.



Building communities. Transforming lives.

THIS PROJECT WAS FUNDED BY BIFFA AWARD  
AS PART OF THE LANDFILL COMMUNITIES FUND



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