

Our Communities & People

2021

DERWENT
LONDON



Youth Task Force

We collaborated with Chickenshed on two projects this year. Their Youth Task Force helped us refresh and update our Community Fund procedures, and a number of employees took part in a Living Letter programme exchanging lived experiences in the work place with a matched young person

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Overview



Introduction



Mousetrap Theatre Projects
*Recipient of Fitzrovia & West End
2021 Community Fund*

Supporting our Community

Developing and maintaining strong relationships within the communities in which we operate remained an essential part of our approach in 2021. Our Community Fund has supported projects that foster social cohesion and our volunteering programme has seen us participate in an array of initiatives within the wider community. Our Sponsorship and Donations Committee has recognised that this is a real time of need for many groups and therefore our corporate giving has reflected this by supporting not only small scale good causes but also longer term commitments to individuals or larger charitable organisations.

The following pages highlight some of the projects we were pleased to have been a part of.

Our Community Fund

Our Community Fund has been running since 2013 and we are proud of what it has been able to achieve for local communities. The examples opposite are testament to that.

However we wanted to make sure that it remained true to its original intentions and therefore it was time to take stock. With the help of Chickenshed's Youth Taskforce we took time to reflect and discuss ways in which the fund process could be enriched, made more accessible to a wider audience, and for the voice of fund recipients to be heard. As a result the application and subsequent feedback process will be adapted for 2022.

In total in 2021, £104,000 was awarded to 19 projects across the two funds.

DERWENT
LONDON
COMMUNITY FUND

£850,000

Invested in the Fund to date

130

Projects supported since 2013



← **The Doorstep Library**
Doorstep reading project
Fitzrovia & West End Fund 2021



↑ **Global Generation**
Nature Explorers After School Club
Tech Belt Fund 2021



↑ **All Souls Serve the City**
Seniors lunch club reopens for in person events after being closed during lockdown
Fitzrovia & West End Fund 2021



↑ **Migrateful**
Chefs training programme for refugees and migrants
Tech Belt Fund 2021

Our sponsorships and donations

In 2021 our programme of corporate giving has allowed us to contribute to a number of causes in the wider community with an emphasis once more on mental health and homelessness.

We entered into a new three year agreement with the charity Greenhouse Sports who support schoolchildren's physical and mental wellbeing through a combination of sports and mentoring.

As a long term member of the property sector charity LandAid we were pleased to support their LandAid House redevelopment project of the YMCA site in Old Street which provides safe and supportive accomodation for homeless young Londoners.

We responded to Westminster Council's appeal to businesses in the borough to support the hundreds of Afghan refugees who had arrived seeking sanctuary. We were one of 40 businesses who donated to this appeal alongside individual donations made by employees.



£343,000

donated to to 60 projects in 2021



Greenhouse Sports

Giving young people the opportunity to participate in sports, receive mentoring and improve their physical wellbeing



LandAid House

Redevelopment of Old Street YMCA



Westminster Responsible Business Network

Emergency appeal for Afghan refugees

Our volunteering

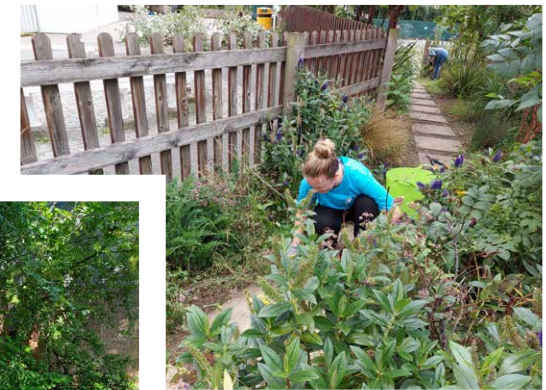
During 2021 employees volunteered across the community giving their time and sharing their skills with a range of people.

The year saw a particular focus on events with schools, universities and young people through a mix of programmes designed to open up the world of work, improve literacy and promote the property sector to a more diverse range of people.

We continued with volunteering for environmental projects such as the Great British Spring Clean, a beach clean along the River Thames in collaboration with Paper Round and a school grounds maintenance day at a junior school in Paddington.

32

employees took part
in 11 initiatives and
contributed 99 hours



↑
School grounds maintenance day
at King Solomon Academy

“It’s been an absolute pleasure taking part in the Writing Partners scheme with the year 6 children. I have really enjoyed reading my letters and I wish them all the best for secondary school”

Volunteer from the Writing Partners initiative organised by The Switch for White Chapel Building.

Overview



Looking ahead our Community Fund has been extended for a further three years with an increased commitment of £360,000 across the two funds which will enable us to help even more local groups and their ambitions for the communities they work in.

We are pleased to be entering into a three year agreement with the Fitzrovia Community Centre and support their vision for the centre to be at the heart of the Fitzrovia community.

Our work experience programme continues to grow as we seek to improve diversity and inclusivity in the sector. 2022 sees us taking part in the 10,000 Black Interns programme and we look forward to welcoming the interns to Derwent London.

2022 looks set to be a busy year full of opportunity.



The Mad Hatters Collective
One of nine winners of the City Benches 2021 competition which formed part of the London Festival of Architecture
Sponsorship & Donations Committee recipient
Photo credit: Agnese Sanvito

Community Fund

2021 – Fitzrovia & West End

Mousetrap Theatres
After school drama club at Gateway Academy
Church Street

All Souls Serve the City
Senior Care

Doorstep Library Network
Children's literacy project

Holcroft Court
Greening project

Soup Kitchen at The American International Church
Core costs to maintain the service

Fitzrovia Youth in Action
Core funding

Spring 2021 – Tech Belt

St Hilda's East Community Centre
Boundary Womens Project

Society Links
Educational support for children after lockdown

Shadow Heroes
Creating inclusive classrooms for children with English not as their primary language

PEER
Enhancing two community gardens

Autumn 2021 – Tech Belt

Global Generation
Nature Explorers after school club

Rich Mix Cultural Foundation
School film education programme

City YMCA London and North
Young people's street arts at Whitecross
Street Party

National Youth Theatre of Great Britain
Skills for Life project through inclusive drama

Let Me Know
Healthy relationships and abuse prevention

Head Held High
High society, online club reducing isolation in the elderly

Other charities and organisations supported in 2021

Donations

All Souls Primary School
The West End Community Trust
Royal Academy of Music
African Gifted Foundation
LandAid
Downs Syndrome Association
Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice
Glasgow Riding School for the Disabled
Merkland School for children with additional needs
Cardboard Citizens
Norwood
Microscope Ball (in aid of Muscular Dystrophy)
Young Camden Foundation
Teenage Cancer Trust
Madhatters Collective
Academy of Real Assets
Head Held High
Centre 404
The Parent House
CALM
Place2Be
Open City
The Architecture Foundation
NLA
Civic Trust Awards
Westminster Pop Up Business School
RREF
Lord Leicester Hospital
BCO NextGen Awards
Cardiac Risk in the Young
City Harvest
Home Start
Donation in memory of Claude Lawrence
Bishopbriggs Bowling Club
EDICT Arts
Black Global Girl project
The Story of Christmas
Missing People
Knight Frank Day of Giving
Westminster Council Afghan refugee appeal
Willow
Chickenshed
St Hilda's East Community Centre
Mens Minds Matter
Refuge
Young Minds
St Mungos
St Patricks Church Soho
CHT (Coal House Trust) BEC
RSABI and MyNameDoddie5
Lets go Zero
St Mungo's AFC
Carevision, The Why Not Trust
Common Thread
Auchinairn After School Club
Mind
Pets as Therapy
Bartlett School of Architecture
Providence Row

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