

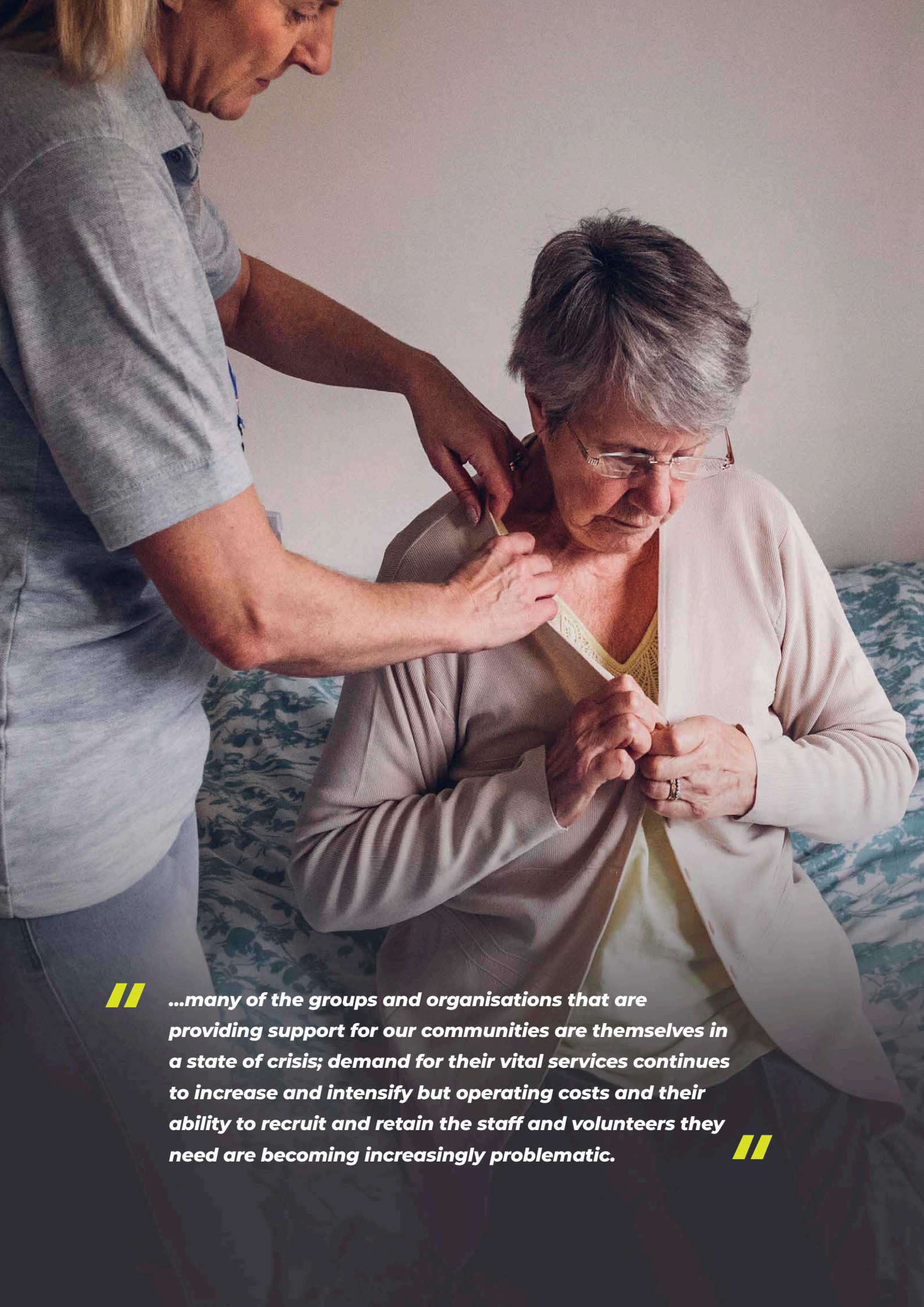


Foundation
Derbyshire

Enabling Giving.

Putting Generosity to Work.

A Review of 2022-23.



// ...many of the groups and organisations that are providing support for our communities are themselves in a state of crisis; demand for their vital services continues to increase and intensify but operating costs and their ability to recruit and retain the staff and volunteers they need are becoming increasingly problematic. //



2022-23 was yet another year in which the consequences of global events continued to play out in our communities and exacerbate existing social and economic inequalities across the county.

The pivotal role that local place-based philanthropy and the voluntary sector continue to play in identifying, understanding and addressing the ensuing need and disadvantage is clear. But many of the groups and organisations that are providing support for our communities are themselves in a state of crisis; demand for their vital services continues to increase and intensify but operating costs and their ability to recruit and retain the staff and volunteers they need are becoming increasingly problematic.

Access to appropriate funding is therefore crucial for these groups and providing relevant, responsive and fit for purpose grantmaking continues to be one of our principal strategic priorities. Listening to the sector and the groups that we support is of fundamental importance to this work, as is continuing to evolve and hone our processes and criteria to reflect and meet the need and the challenges that they are facing. By way of example, in direct response to the impact that the ongoing cost of living crisis and inflationary pressures are having on our grant applicants, we increased our average grant size from £2,000 to £2,500 during the year and continue to explore

other ways in which we can provide support that is tailored to the specific requirements of the local voluntary sector.

Food Accessibility

As demand for our county's foodbanks continued, and in many cases increased, we were delighted to be able to continue our partnership with Derbyshire County Council during the year, distributing a further £92.5k tranche of funding to foodbanks and food access projects on their behalf.

Revitalising Trusts

As part of the Office for Civil Society and Charity Commission's Revitalising Trusts Initiative, we have also been working with Derbyshire County Council to review their portfolio of educational Trusts, many of which had become ineffective over time, due to the very small amounts of money that they held or because their charitable objectives were too restrictive or no longer relevant. Over £1 million of these endowed funds have now successfully been transferred to Foundation Derbyshire and will be used to provide grants that support educational opportunities for young people or enable them to develop talents in the arts, sports or science.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS 2022-23.

£8,880,000

held in
endowed funds

71 named endowment funds
now making a difference
on behalf of our donors



233



grants awarded in 2022 - 2023,
totalling

£493,000

7,200 = £18,500,000

grants distributed over the past 27 years

awarded over the past 27 years

A Black woman with long braids is sitting on the floor, smiling and holding a baby. The baby is wearing a blue patterned shirt and blue and white checkered socks. The woman is wearing a light green t-shirt and blue jeans. In the background, there is a wooden shelving unit with various items on it, including a small potted plant. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

A FOCUS ON OUR GRANTMAKING.

Grantmaking is the very essence of Foundation Derbyshire and the way in which, as a charity, we provide public benefit for the residents of Derbyshire and Derby City.



In 2022-23, over £493,000 of funds were distributed on behalf of our donors throughout Derbyshire. This brings the total value of grants made by the Foundation, since its establishment in 1996, to £18.5 million and makes us one of the county's largest independent funders.

Whilst these headline figures are indicative of our longevity and credibility as a grantmaker, they do little to articulate the very real difference that we are making to people's lives.

Measuring the impact of our grantmaking is a vital part of ensuring that the Foundation continues to be apposite and responsive and not only addresses the need in our county but is able to inspire and inform our donors and funders; giving them the flexibility to adapt the aims of their funds to address new issues and societal concerns as they arise.

Understanding the challenges and need within our communities starts at the very beginning of the Foundation's grant application process, when all groups are encouraged to talk to us about their ideas and projects. Our rigorous assessment then enables us to draw out further

information on the need that is being met and our bespoke data base (specifically designed for grant making bodies) enables us to generate visual geographic mapping of deprivation levels, down to LSOA* level.

End of grant monitoring provides additional information on the impact of our grantmaking and the difference it has made. As well as reporting on financial spend, this is also a group's chance to tell us how the project went and for us to capture case studies. An "Influence the Funder" section asks for feedback from grant recipients on the ongoing challenges that a group and the communities it serves might be facing. In addition, grant recipients are surveyed on a regular basis and representatives from our local Councils for Voluntary Service are represented on our Grants Committee, ensuring their knowledge

*Lower-layer Super Output Areas are small areas designed to be of a similar population size, with an average of approximately 1,500 residents or 650 households. There are 32,844 Lower-layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) in England.



// Measuring the impact of our grantmaking is a vital part of ensuring that the Foundation continues to be apposite and responsive. //



// We turn to the insight of panel members that are living and working in the many different communities that we serve and so have a greater understanding of particular issues. //

of the local voluntary and community sector informs our decision making and policy.

This on the ground, lived experience and intelligence is also vital when interpreting the statistical data that we gather on application levels. Key information that we analyse includes grantmaking by district, the primary issues being addressed, group/project size (by reserve levels and income), as well as indices of multiple deprivation.

This hard data plays an invaluable role in flagging areas and issues where additional focus and resource may be needed but, in isolation, cannot give us the full picture. For this, we turn to the

insight of panel members that are living and working in the many different communities that we serve and so have a greater understanding of the particular issues or challenges being faced.

Our impact measurement and needs analysis information is reviewed at quarterly Grants Committee and Board meetings and provides an opportunity for staff and Trustees to identify trends, as well as spot early warning signs, emerging communities in need and gaps in our provision. This in turn feeds into our grantmaking strategy and policies, from the philanthropic advice we give to our donors through to how and where we allocate our own resources.



PICTURE PERFECT PHILANTHROPY.

One of our longest standing named donor funds, the Jonathan Vickers Fine Art Award, has become one of the largest art prizes in the UK. It's a shining example of how creative the Foundation can be when helping donors to deliver their philanthropic objectives.





Our story begins when the executors of the late Jonathan Vickers' estate asked us to create an art award, as a fitting way to commemorate his lifelong love of fine and decorative art.

In 1998 the Jonathan Vickers Fine Art Award was launched, bringing our very first resident artist to the county. A quarter of a century later and a further seven emerging artists have taken on the Vickers' mantle, creating beautiful artworks in response to the people, culture, heritage or landscape of the county.

The Award was created to be more than just an art prize, however. Its primary aim is to enrich the cultural life of Derbyshire and it does this in two ways:

The first, and perhaps the most traditional way, is by building a collection of contemporary art inspired by the people, landscape and heritage of this county. **The second** way is through education and community outreach, which have always been integral parts of each residency and a key way for our artists to connect with the county's people. This might involve the artist leading educational workshops with school children or in the community or co-creating an exhibition of work.

The ongoing success of the Award lies in the support and expertise of our partners: **Derby Museums** have worked with us since day one, providing us with a solo exhibition for each residency and helping the artist to develop crucial curation and exhibition skills. **Rolls-Royce plc** have been

involved from the very beginning too, funding and helping us to develop our community outreach work.

In 2007, we began working with the **University of Derby** and now offer the artist on-going support, mentoring, and professional development and teaching opportunities within the University of Derby's BA (Hons) Fine Art programme, as well as providing art students with both the opportunity to design the exhibition catalogue and an invaluable insight into the experience and practices of a working artist.

As the Award reaches its 25th year, it continues to develop and build new partnerships. In 2019 we announced a new collaboration with **Mall Galleries**, helping us to promote the Award and manage the application process. Not only has this initiative introduced the Award to many new artists, it's also enabled us to include a solo exhibition at London's Mall Galleries as part of the Award.

Our ninth artist is Glasgow based artist and graduate of the Royal College of Art, Max Gimson. He began his nine-month residency in Derbyshire, in October and is now working towards his solo selling exhibitions at Derby Museum & Art Gallery and Mall Galleries, London, between July 2024 and February 2025.



Preceding page: *Mashing Mugs* by Bartholomew Beal. This page, clockwise from top left: *Dandelion* by Ed Burkes; *Vivienne Red* by Eleanor May Watson; *Yellow Path (Deborah)* by Eleanor May Watson; *Thruppence* by Bartholomew Beal. Next page: *Taking Stock* by Kerri Pratt.

An abstract painting featuring a complex composition of layered, textured brushstrokes. The color palette is dominated by earthy tones like ochre, sienna, and terracotta, interspersed with deep blues, purples, and greys. The texture is highly visible, with thick applications of paint creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall effect is one of organic complexity and rich tonal values.

***For further information on the
Award and its artists, or to support
the Award by purchasing a
limited edition print, please visit
vickersartaward.co.uk.***



Jonathan Vickers
Fine Art Award



A TRIBUTE TO JOHN WESTON.

**John, a dear friend and supporter of
Foundation Derbyshire, passed away in
December 2022, aged 88 years.**

Local benefactor and philanthropist, John Weston, began helping the young people and community organisations in Duffield and South West Derbyshire in 2002, when he established his own charitable trust.

“I have lived in Duffield all my life and I particularly wanted to give the young people of Southern Derbyshire the opportunity to get a good start in life, perhaps by developing their skills, doing something challenging or helping others. I also wanted to help the many organisations that are building stronger communities and make South Derbyshire a better place to live for so many people”.

In 2006, John and his fellow Trustees decided to transfer the Trust into Foundation Derbyshire and established the John Weston Charitable Fund. Pleased that he no longer had the legal and administrative burden of managing his own trust he continued to be very much involved in what he described as “the nice bit - deciding which applications are funded and reading the letters of thanks from the young people and groups we have helped”.

John was always keen to increase the impact his grantmaking was having and, with guidance from the Foundation, was pleased to be able to develop the funding that he gave to community and voluntary groups supporting older people, especially those facing isolation due to a lack of mobility, living alone, dementia, stroke or other illnesses.

John generously supported his Fund every year and, in 2017, gifted the proceeds of a property sale to establish an endowment element, ensuring it would be there as a source of grant funding in perpetuity. Since 2007, the Foundation’s John Weston Charitable Fund has distributed over £295,000 of grants across South West Derbyshire and the Foundation is privileged to have been able to work with John and help him deliver his charitable aims. We are also incredibly grateful to the longstanding members of the John Weston Fund grantmaking panel; with care, diligence and foresight, they have supported John with his funding decisions and will continue to work with us to deliver his incredible legacy to his local community.





Warm Wednesday Project.

In February 2023, the John Weston Fund awarded £1,500 to Ripley Recreation Ground for their Warm Wednesday project.

The project provides a weekly warm space with free WiFi, TV, music, activities and crafts, hot drinks and a hot lunch. As a direct response to the cost-of-living crisis, the project is aimed at people of all ages who would otherwise need to use their heating during the daytime.

Since the Warm Wednesday initiative started in November 2022, numbers have grown steadily, from around 30 people to well over 50. Most users are older residents living in the local area but there are several people who live in supported accommodation that come along with their carers and, occasionally, young mothers and their pre-school age children also attend.

The benefits of the project extend well beyond just heating and eating; some of the older residents say they come for the companionship, as they don't often see people during the day. In addition, local agencies have used the space to offer advice and support on a range of issues such as access to financial support, tips and hints on keeping warm at home, plus health services on offer. The sessions have also been enhanced by being able to offer social activities and entertainment. Attendees since November have included; BBC Radio Derby, the Fire Service, Citizen's Advice, Derbyshire Carers, UK Event Medix and Police officers from the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

Warm Wednesday Case Study

// A gentleman in his 40's was coming along for the last half hour of the day when the room was quiet and he would just access the hot drinks and some biscuits. It seemed he was happier to attend when there were less people about and when, maybe, he wouldn't attract too much attention.

He was very quiet and reserved but then one of the volunteers was able to strike up a few conversations with him, over the course of a few weeks. She managed to get him to come earlier and have his lunch, sensing he would benefit from the meal and was maybe anxious about being perceived as having a need for help. He is now mixing a little more and accessing food, which he clearly needs. //

// **Warm Spaces are scratching the surface of a deep-seated need within our communities. They do so much more than keeping people warm and fed; they offer connection at a time when the pandemic has left many feeling isolated and vulnerable and a place where people can develop friendships or just have a chance to chat and be with others. As we see many traditional luncheon clubs or social groups folding, Warm Spaces are a lifeline for older and more vulnerable members of the community and their ad-hoc/drop-in nature can feel more accessible and less daunting.**

Sarah Stainthorpe – Assistant Director and Head of Grantmaking, Foundation Derbyshire





In these times of challenge and uncertainty, our mission to create a culture of giving at the heart of life in Derbyshire is as important as ever.

By being the bridge, between those with the means to give and those that need their support, we are enabling a vital “third way” to help our communities and tackle problems that the public and private sectors, alone, can often struggle to solve.

We thank our many donors, supporters and volunteers, whose generosity and compassion makes our work possible, and the hundreds of community and voluntary groups that work tirelessly to make our county a better place to live.

If you've been inspired, please contact Rachael Grime, our Chief Executive, to find out more about our work.

✉ rachael@foundationderbyshire.org
🌐 foundationderbyshire.org
☎ 01773 525860
🐦 @Foundation_dbs
f @FoundationDerbyshire



Foundation
Derbyshire

Unit 2, Heritage Business Centre,
Derby Road, Belper DE56 1SW

01773 525860

www.foundationderbyshire.org

hello@foundationderbyshire.org



Front Cover: *Yellow Path (Deborah)* by Eleanor May Watson.
Jonathan Vickers Fine Art Award Collection, Foundation Derbyshire.
© Eleanor May Watson

Foundation Derbyshire is the operating name of Derbyshire Community Foundation.
Charity Registration No: 1039485. Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England & Wales No: 2893759.