



Gloucestershire

Wildlife Trust



2019 – 2020

IMPACT REPORT


Introduction

Support from our members, volunteers and supporters has meant another great year for GWT, despite the impact of COVID-19 which has hit us hard.

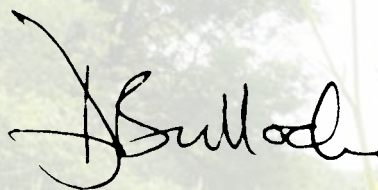
We continued to work through the year with partners, communities, corporate partners and public bodies. In particular, we are grateful for the continued support of Grundon Waste Management which has supported so many of our projects through the Landfill Communities Fund.

Highlights for the year have included: the first tranche of pine martens reintroduced to the Forest of Dean, the development of the Manifesto for a Wilder Gloucestershire, increasing the number of active supporters and our trial to inform a new national Environmental Land Management scheme. This report celebrates these and many other achievements.

We are living in extraordinary times, with increased recognition of the biodiversity and climate emergencies. The role of the Wildlife Trusts has never been more important. We have a central part to play in the recovery of nature in Gloucestershire and in supporting the connection of people to wildlife and wild places. Wildlife continues to decline, and there is much more work to do before we achieve our vision of more wildlife, more wild places and more people with a connection to the natural world. This is expected to be even more challenging as we start to emerge from the COVID-19 emergency.




Roger Mortlock
Chief Executive



David Bullock
Chair of Trustees



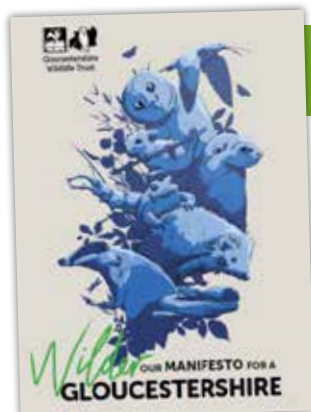


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Calendar – a year in review

Here are some of the highlights of 2019-20, made possible with the support of our members. Thank you for your ongoing support – **we have achieved so much together.**

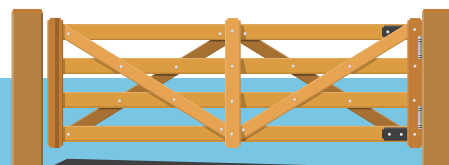


April

We launched our **Manifesto** for a **Wilder Gloucestershire**

July

We completed improvements to accessibility at **Box Wood** Nature Reserve with the Box Community Volunteers



May

We were a finalist in the Innovate UK Best of the Best Awards for **Building with Nature**



August

The first **pine martens** arrived in the Forest of Dean

September

We launched our newest nature reserve, **Dimmel's Dale** in the Golden Valley



June

Four **owlets** hatched in our owl box at Greystones Farm



41,372 ACTIVE supporters



October

We were delighted to receive a national award for the **Our Bright Future** project

1,110
hectares of land
protected for wildlife

as a result of GWT's
work to influence the
planning system



January

We worked in our
woodlands to reduce the risk
from **ash dieback** disease



February

We secured National Lottery
support for **Return to the Hill**
to deliver a new engagement
programme at Robinswood Hill

March

We had to pause many of
our plans due to the
COVID-19 emergency



595
ACTIVE
volunteers

November

We secured funding for the
Release the Titans project to
protect veteran oaks at Lower
Woods

December

We launched our **Christmas
campaign** in partnership with
Grundon Waste Management
with tips for a greener festive
period

How we've done against our plans

Wildlife & Wild Places

We will create bigger, better more connected places where people and wildlife can thrive

Engaging with farmers and landowners

We started working with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on a trial to inform a new national Environmental Land Management scheme. We are leading a partnership of five Wildlife Trusts engaging farmers to see how the new scheme can create more space for nature in Gloucestershire's farmland.

Project Pine Marten

We completed the first year of a project reintroducing pine marten to the Forest of Dean with our partners, Forestry England and the Vincent Wildlife Trust. Eighteen adult martens were translocated from Scotland. All the animals were radio-collared and micro-chipped before being released so we can track the new arrivals.



Estate Review

We have undertaken a detailed review of all the land we own or manage to see how we can best use our resources to halt and reverse wildlife declines. Using data held by the Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records, the review is focused on more, bigger, better and joined-up places for wildlife.

Inspiring Communities

We will inspire more people to appreciate and take action for nature in towns and the countryside

Wild Towns

We continued to make space for urban wildlife to thrive with new habitats created and communities engaged in Fairford, Tetbury, Cirencester, Stroud, Stonehouse, Moreton-in-Marsh, Cinderford, Cheltenham and Gloucester. 1,966 people were engaged by this programme during the year.



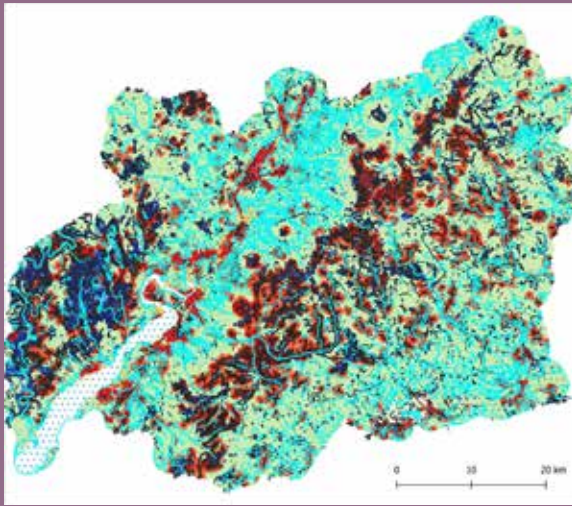
Hedgehog Way

We brought together communities in Cheltenham and Gloucester to improve connected habitats for hedgehogs. Residents worked with their neighbours to survey and track hedgehogs. We supported them to create new links between gardens and green spaces to create hedgehog highways.

Branching Out

We ran a pilot project helping young people struggling at secondary school to improve their outdoor skills, increase their confidence and make improvements to their local green spaces. The project provided opportunities for further qualifications, improved job prospects and helped to reduce the risk of exclusion from school.





Natural Solutions

We will lead on natural solutions and protect our wildlife and wild places in Gloucestershire

Nature Recovery Network created for Gloucestershire

We have produced Gloucestershire's Nature Recovery Network which gives us a map for restoring ecosystems in our county. Testing is underway with all Local Authorities and the Network will be adopted by all Local Plans revised during the year. Now we want our Nature Recovery Network to inform restoration targets for nature in Gloucestershire.

Neighbourhood Development Plans

Working across the Trust we have developed new resources to support local parish councils to create Neighbourhood Development Plans. Using the Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records the service enables communities to play a stronger role in shaping the areas where they live and work, protecting and creating new places for wildlife.



Nature on Prescription

We delivered a pioneering new project with NHS partners that proved how the natural environment can support people's health and wellbeing. Doctors and nurses were able to prescribe nature to patients through special courses held in Gloucester and the Forest of Dean.

Extending our Reach

We will grow our resources, influence and reach, shaping a stronger and resilient organisation



New nature discovery centre at Robinswood Hill

With our partners Gloucester City Council and with the support of Grundon Waste Management and the Summerfield Charitable Trust, we began work in September on a new visitor centre at Robinswood Hill. The project includes a new indoor café, visitor welcome point, improved volunteer facilities and an event space for the community.



Growing our volunteers

Volunteers power our work at GWT and this year we developed new plans to strengthen our volunteer base and think through how volunteering will change in the future. It includes creating opportunities for new audiences, including students and young people.

Manifesto for a Wilder Gloucestershire

We published our plans on how to put nature back into recovery in Gloucestershire. Developed initially with young people from across the county, the Manifesto described the actions needed by everyone from citizens to politicians to restore nature.

There's some exciting work ahead of us

➤ **Bigger, better, more connected**

We've not got long before the declines in nature become catastrophic. We want to increase our ambitions to work on a landscape scale, launching new priority landscapes, growing our nature reserves, and increasing our work with farmers and landowners. We'll be using the work we've done on the Nature Recovery Network for Gloucestershire and our Estates Review to help us identify where we can make the most difference.

➤ **Extending our reach**

We are proud of our education and community programmes which reach thousands of people each year, but we know that to save nature in our county we need more people to care. So next year we will be testing new ways to extend our reach and encourage new ways for people to take action for wildlife.

➤ **Build back greener**

We want to play our part in supporting the county to 'build back better and build back greener' following COVID-19 – trying to ensure that new housing, roads and other developments think about the role they can play in nature's recovery. As part of that we want to extend and normalise use of our Building with Nature standards for housing development in the county.

➤ **Project Pine Marten**

After a successful first year we want to continue Project Pine Marten in the Forest of Dean with our partners Forestry England and the Vincent Wildlife Trust. We'll be relocating a further 20 adult pine martens from Scotland to Gloucestershire in September.

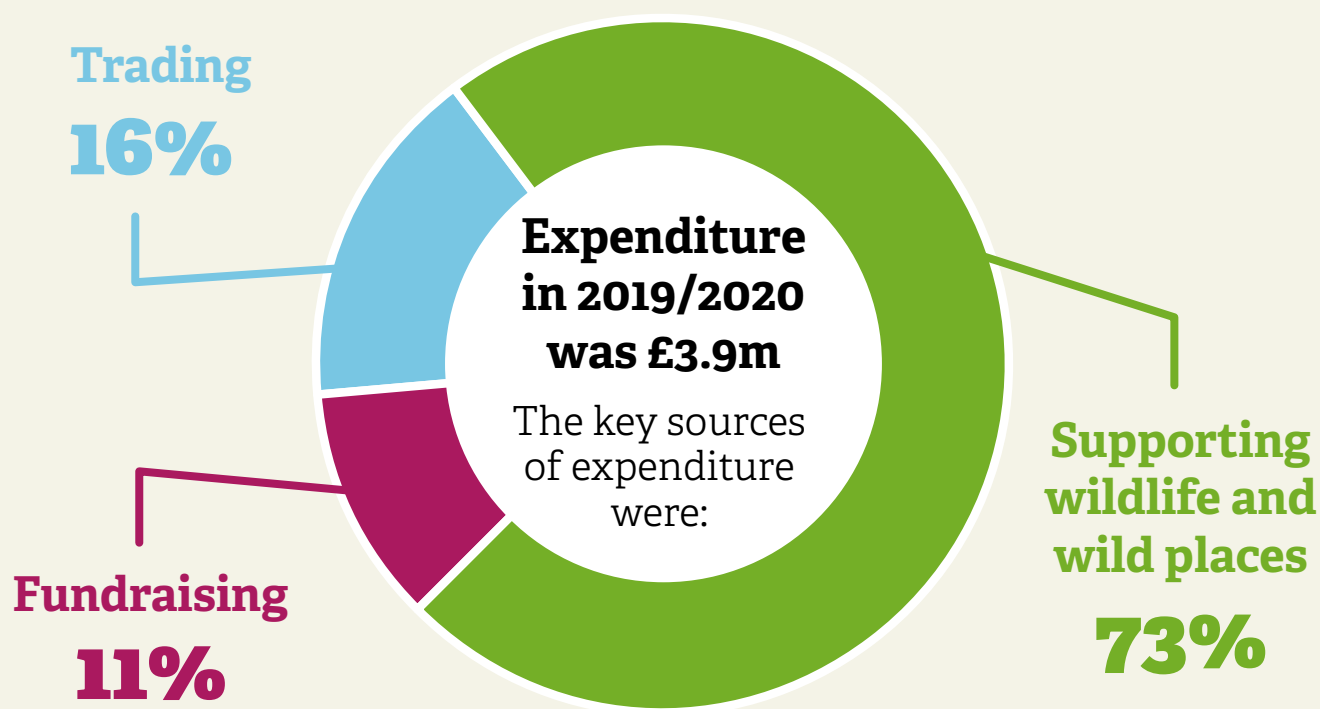
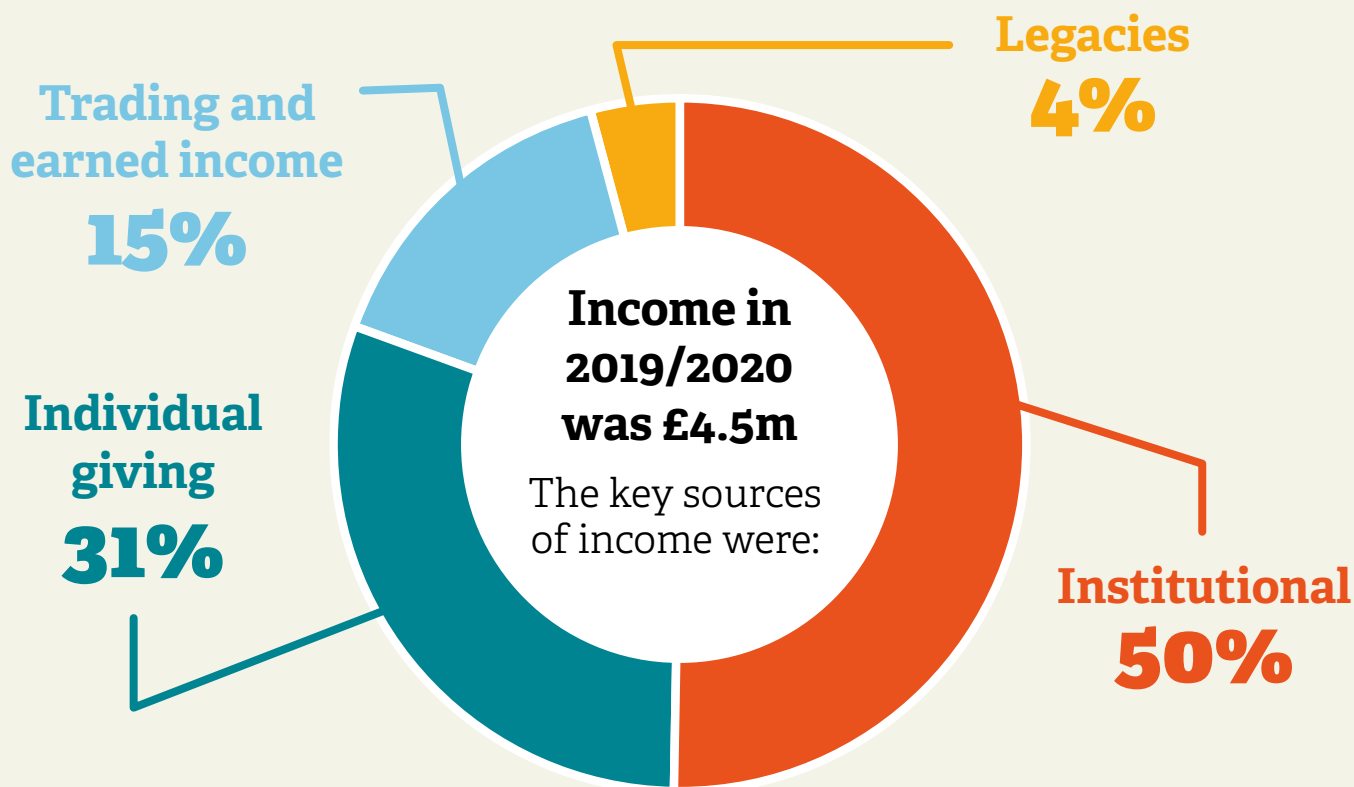
Thank you

We would like to thank all our members, individual supporters, corporate and institutional partners, trusts and foundations who have supported Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust in 2019/20. **Without you our work would not be possible.** Your ongoing support means we can continue to connect and improve Gloucestershire's wild places for wildlife and people.

We've partnered with Foresters' Forest to carry out conservation grazing in the Forest of Dean. The project aims to conserve and enhance wildlife in the Forest by creating areas of open habitat, especially heathland.

Financial Statement

This year you have helped us protect more wildlife and wild places, and connect more people with nature.



Our full Annual Report and Accounts are published on our website. Find them in the About section, under Governance, or call us for a copy.

Thank you

CORPORATE SUPPORT

Cotswold Outdoor
Dove Construction Ltd
Ecclesiastical
Ecosulis
Forest Holidays
Horizon Nuclear Power
Hydro Components UK Ltd
International Plywood (Importers) Ltd
Smith's (Gloucester) Ltd
Sudeley Castle
Vine House Farm
Westmorland Limited
Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust
Wildlife Travel

LANDFILL COMMUNITIES FUND

Biffa Award
Enovert Community Trust
Grundon Waste Management
Ibstock Enovert Trust
Tarmac via Derbyshire
Environmental Trust
Viridor Credits Environmental
Company

GRANTS

Box Gardening Club
CPRE
Chalford Parish Council
Cheltenham Borough Council
Cheltenham Borough Homes
Cotswold District Council
DEFRA
Environment Agency
European Agricultural Fund for Rural
Development
European Structural and
Infrastructure Fund
Forest of Dean District Council
Forestry England
Gfirst LEP
Gloucester City Council
Gloucestershire County Council
Gloucestershire Gateway Trust
Gloucestershire Police & Crime
Commissioner's Fund
Grow Wild
Midcounties Co-op Good

Causes Fund
Ministry of Housing, Communities
& Local Government
National Trust
Natural England
Neighbourly (TKMaxx & Homesense)
Network Rail - The Greater West
Programme
North Cotswolds Walkers
Podsmead Big Local
Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
Rural Payments Agency
Severn Trent Water Ltd
South West Wildlife Trusts
Stroud District Council
Tewkesbury District Council
The National Lottery Community
Fund
The National Lottery Heritage Fund
The Waterloo Foundation
Thriving Communities Grant
Cheltenham
University of Gloucestershire
Woodland Trust

PARTNERSHIPS

Countryside and Community
Research Institute
Gloucestershire Local Nature
Partnership
Jordans Farm Partnership
Vincent Wildlife Trust

CHARITABLE TRUSTS

Alice Noakes Memorial
Charitable Trust
Ammco Trust
Andrew Harris Charitable Trust
Banister Charitable Trust
Bernard Sunley Foundation
British Hedgehog Preservation
Society
Charles Irving Charitable Trust
D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Ethical Giving
Finnis Scott Foundation
GR Lane Charity
GloucestershireLive Cash for
Communities

Gordon Gray Trust
J & M Britton Charitable Trust
Langdale Trust
Lochlands Trust
MV Hillhouse Trust
Montague-Panton Animal
Welfare Trust
Mrs Constance Taylor Marr Dunn
Charitable Trust
Nichola Odey Charitable Trust
People's Trust for Endangered
Species (PTES)
Pilgrim Trust
Simpsons Education and
Conservation Trust
St James's Place Charitable
Foundation
Stock Exchange Veterans
Charity Association
Summerfield Charitable Trust
The Ernest Cook Trust
The Hobson Charity
The Holroyd Foundation
The Linley Wightman Shaw
Foundation
The Morrisons Foundation
The Rowlands Trust
The Saintbury Trust
The Verdon-Smith Family
Charitable Trust
The Winstone Charitable Trust
WF Southall Trust
Wessex Watermark Award

ADDITIONAL THANKS

Forest of Dean Area Group
Wildlife Guardians and Patrons
All of our dedicated volunteers





Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust

To find out more and get involved please contact us.

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W: www.gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk

For regular updates about our work sign up for our regular e-newsletter by visiting **gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk/enews**

Keep up to date with our work on social media by following **@gloswildlife** on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



Registered Charity Number: 232580

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