Trustees' Annual Report

For the period from 1st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

Charity name: The Chesterton House Foundation
Charity registration number: 1200466
Registered Address: 3 Rectory Place, Loughborough, Leics LE11 1UW
Telephone: 01509 610472 Email: CHFoundation@chestertonhouse.co.uk

Introduction

In our third full year of existence I am pleased to report that the Chesterton House Foundation has made grants to 15 separate organisations in the total amount of £13,039. It is the policy of the trustees to distribute all income received after expenses, excepting a small cash buffer, and the trustees have carefully managed expenditure in line with income received.

There is no doubt that the grants that the Foundation is able to make, relatively modest as they are at this time, are hugely valued by the recipients. Our current criteria limits grants to a maximum of £1,000, and are focused on bodies operating within the three counties of Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, although the trustees are able to step outside of these limits if they deem it appropriate. Many of the recipients are small, grass-roots charities, often staffed by volunteers, and doing amazing work in our communities with limited means and also limited resources to devote to fundraising. Whilst we do ask recipients to report on their activities and let us know how funds have been used, we have avoided applying strict compliance criteria to grant requests, and we have received feedback to suggest that this is really helpful to smaller charities who can find the administrative burden of reporting and compliance takes volunteer activity away from their primary work.

It is, of course, regrettable that we are unable to award grants to many of the very worthy requests that we receive, and this is even more true as we become better known. The word spreads quickly among charities, especially small local ones, and together with publicity on various lists run by the local authorities and others, the number of applications we receive continues to grow. Our challenge as trustees is to seek to find ways to grow our revenue to be able to extend our support further.

In that respect we have been able to boost our funds from all sources this year. Our primary funding is provided by Chesterton House Financial Planning Limited, but we have also benefited from a significant number of donations from individuals and we are extremely grateful to them for their support. A number of these donations were prompted by our Summer Barbecue event, run by Chesterton House Financial Planning Ltd, which kindly offered to direct donations to the Foundation. We also received income from the Affinity scheme run by Riviera Travel, which passes 10% of the value of holidays arranged with them to the Foundation, and from a Charity Dinner organised in association with Loughborough College's Radmoor Restaurant training school which provided attendees with a high quality meal whilst raising further funds for us.

Our charity is becoming better known and getting into its stride, and we are looking forward to building on our momentum in 2026. I would like to record my sincere gratitude for the support and commitment of our trustees, all of whom serve in a voluntary capacity.

If you are interested in knowing more about the Chesterton House Foundation, either to help with raising funds, to learn about becoming a trustee, or to seek a grant for your organisation, you can find out more on our web page at https://chestertonhouse.co.uk/foundation. We would be delighted to hear from you.



Andy Jervis
Chair of Trustees

Objectives and Activities

Purposes

The purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document are:

To advance such charitable purposes (according to the law of England and Wales) as the trustees see fit from time to time.

Grant making policy

In practice the charity will make grants to individuals and organisations whom the trustees consider are worthy of support in accordance with the charitable objectives. These are likely to include (but not be restricted to) charities operating in the local area (Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire), and will be able to demonstrate a clear need for and effective use of any grants made. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate a benefit to the general public, albeit within their specific area of concern. The trustees will also consider grants to other regional, national or international bodies where they consider it appropriate to do so, for example in response to urgent need as the result of natural disaster or other humanitarian need.

Achievements

During the period we received a number of grant applications, and these were carefully reviewed by the trustees. It was decided to award grants to the following bodies. In making these grants the trustees have at all times had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. They consider that the recipients of funds have demonstrated a clear need and community benefit for the people they serve.

Grant recipients included the following:



Incredible Edible Loughborough – £250
This initiative helps transform overlooked spaces into edible gardens. Local people can come together, learn how to grow food, and take home fresh produce—all while building stronger connections with their neighbours.
In 2024, we supported the purchase of materials for raised beds in the Corner Garden at the intersection of Cambridge Street and Charles Street. The beds have flourished, producing vegetables, herbs, and fruit for the community. Building on this success, the Foundation gave a further £125 to complete the Corner Garden with an additional raised bed. The new bed extended the existing row and used compost already donated and stored on-site. It created the perfect space for planting seasonal vegetables.

North Notts Hockey Club - £1,000



When North Notts Hockey Club lost their home pitch, it wasn't just the loss of a playing field—it was the loss of a vital community hub. For many, that pitch was more than a place to play; it was a space to come together, get active, and share in the excitement of local sports. The absence of this facility left a gap in the heart of the community, affecting fitness, social connections, and opportunities for both young and old.

Our grant helped support the Club's comeback story and ambitious rebuild. Our trustees were particularly impressed by the wide-reaching impact of the club's facilities, benefiting not just hockey players, but a variety of community groups.

Charnwood Arts - £1,000

Charnwood Arts, based in Loughborough, has long been committed to fostering wellbeing through creativity. Their *Grieve Breathe Create* project is designed to help participants explore grief and healing through creativity with six guided sessions that use art, music, and poetry as tools for reflection, emotional expression, and personal growth, culminating in an exhibition—both in person and online—showcasing artwork, recorded music, poetry, and a printed booklet.

Our grant covered essential costs including artist fees, materials, travel, and reporting, enabling Charnwood Arts to deliver professional, flexible, and inclusive sessions at no cost to participants. This aligns with our mission to encourage community wellbeing, personal growth, and social connection through creative initiatives.

Charnwood Men & Women in Sheds - £1,000



This project, run by Age UK Leicestershire & Rutland, is essentially a bigger, friendlier version of the typical garden shed. Furnished with benches, tools, and materials, it's a place where people can make, mend, and restore – using reclaimed wood, newly learnt techniques, or skills from years gone by. Members put their hands to everything from carpentry and metalwork to crafts, pottery, and even building wheelchair-friendly picnic benches.

With a £1,000 grant from our Foundation, the Shed continues to offer a safe, welcoming space for its members, helping to cover core costs such as rent for the workshop premises and ensuring its doors stay open to all who want to take part.

Headway Leicester - £1,000
Founded in 1990, Headway has more than 30 years' experience improving life after brain injury. They support adults aged 18–65, along with their families and carers, through a wide range of services, including Day Services, city- and county-wide outreach, and a digital day service for remote support. Members benefit from neuro-occupational therapy, neuro-physiotherapy, one-to-one counselling, and peer support, all delivered by a skilled team of staff and volunteers. Our £1,000 grant has helped Headway expand their Day Services, giving more people access to inclusive and engaging activities such as archery, walking cricket, pottery, and theatre trips. These activities help rebuild confidence, improve physical and mental wellbeing, and encourage members to embrace new experiences.

Charnwood Toy Library - £1,000
The Toy Library provides access to a wide range of toys that support development and play. After a move to Fearon Hall Community Centre in Loughborough, the service requested a grant to help them continue providing their much-loved service and ensure more children benefit from the power of play.
Toys are more than just a source of fun; they play a crucial role in child development. By supporting this transition, we're helping to ensure that more families can access affordable, high-quality toys for years to come.

Bodie Hodges Foundation - £1,000
Bodie's Bereavement Service supports families bereaved of a baby from 24 weeks' gestation up to young people aged 18. The service is available during the first two years after a child has died — a time that can feel overwhelming, isolating and deeply uncertain. Access to timely, specialist support can make a significant difference to how families process their grief and begin to rebuild their lives.
The Bodie Hodges Foundation aims to see families within 12 weeks of referral. All services are provided free of charge so that no family is left to grieve alone.

1st Nanpantan Scouts - £960
Nanpantan Scout Group is a thriving group providing Scouting to about 160 children aged 4-18 years, delivering the philosophy of Scouting to support children to develop skills for life, through fun activities and friendships. Sessions are supported by a dedicated group of adult volunteers and young leaders, from diverse backgrounds, each bringing their unique skills to share with the children.
The Group embarked on an ambitious project to create a new home, with a purpose-built space that would suit their needs. Our grant was specifically to fund a concrete base and set of six bike stands which would allow up to 12 bikes to be safely locked up whilst users enjoy activities in the hall.



Darts for All - £500

Founded by Gary Siddons — himself a wheelchair user — Darts for All is a fully inclusive, alcohol-free darts session held weekly at John Storer House. Gary's vision was clear; to build a space where darts could be enjoyed without barriers, no matter your mobility, experience level or social circumstances. He created a fully inclusive and welcoming space that's open to everyone, and the group is already making an impact. Sessions are regularly drawing 25 to 30 people, with competitions, fun games and a strong social element that brings very different people together.

Coats4Kids - £1,000

No child should have to face the winter cold without a warm coat. That's the simple but powerful aim of the Rotary Clubs in Charnwood's Coats4Kids project. Working with local schools, the initiative provides brand-new, high-quality coats to disadvantaged primary pupils—helping them stay warm, healthy, and confident through the colder months.

Our grant helped fund up to 40 brand-new coats. At just £25 each, every coat is delivered directly to families who need them most. Because the Rotary team is entirely volunteer led, every penny raised goes straight towards the coats themselves—making the programme simple, transparent, and highly effective.



Positive Social - £1,000

Positive Social was created in response to the impact that social media was having on children's wellbeing. The charity works with secondary schools to educate students about both the positives and pitfalls of social media, giving them the tools to use it safely and responsibly.

Research shows a sharp rise in mental health issues and self-harm among children linked to social media use. In 2023, over 92% of children aged 10–15 went online daily or almost daily, and some engaged in risky behaviours such as accepting friend requests from strangers or sharing their location publicly.

Our £1,000 funding supported the direct delivery of sessions in secondary schools across Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire. Each session reached approximately 500 pupils teaching them how social media works, how to interact with others online in a healthy and responsible way, how to detect, avoid and report bullying or inappropriate behaviour, and commit to positive changes, such as reducing screen time or focusing on hobbies.

MIND Leicester - £954

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) Mind is committed to improving mental health and wellbeing across our communities. We provided a grant to support one of their key initiatives, the delivery of Good Mood Groups — informal, welcoming gatherings that help people connect with others, access wellbeing support, and engage in meaningful activities. These groups are free to attend and designed to be flexible, allowing individuals to participate as and when they need. A standout example is Mindful Meanders, a walking-based Good Mood Group which combines gentle guided walks with opportunities to connect, reflect, and enjoy nature. The additional funding has helped to increase attendance and outreach, run sessions more frequently, and recruit and train volunteers to help deliver sessions sustainably.



Buxton Civic Association - £1,000

The charity's woodlands provide a vital space for recreation, connection, and mental health support. BCA's team works alongside over 80 volunteers to care for the woodlands. Their efforts maintain habitats, manage trees affected by ash dieback, and create engaging features for visitors.

Our grant was used to purchase equipment designed to move large felled logs safely and efficiently, enabling BCA to clear dead timber and plant new trees, create features such as interpretation panels and benches for visitors, build habitats, including otter holts, for wildlife such as squirrels, hedgehogs, bats, finches, and woodpeckers, and train volunteers of all ages and backgrounds in using specialist woodland equipment.

Charnwood Citizens Advice - £1,000

Local bureaux like Citizens Advice Charnwood are independent charities and rely on grants, project funding and community support to continue their vital work — even though they are quality-assured and part of the wider Citizens Advice network. Our grant helped support volunteers and a small paid staff team to deliver their service across the borough, and to travel out into the community, meeting people where they are and ensuring face-to-face support can still be offered to those who need it most.

Lutterworth St Mary's PCC - £500

St Mary's asked for help to fund their Youth Work, specifically their Summer Club which supports up to 70 children in the school holidays with funded places for those who can not afford it and the rest of the places subsidised. Equipment they needed included for their Little Acorns Group (60 toddlers, bumps and babies on average each week) to Summer Club Resources including paint and water balloons, to access to fresh fruit everyday (it sounds like great fun!).

If you represent an organisation that would like to apply for a grant from the Foundation, you can do so using the form on our website at https://chestertonhouse.co.uk/foundation.

Financial Review

The financial period covered by this Report was from 01-01-2025 to 31-12-2025. At the end of that period the Foundation had funds available of £5,925.36.

It is not the current policy of the trustees to hold funds in reserve. All funds are immediately available for the purpose of making grants to qualifying applicants at the discretion of the trustees.

The Foundation's principal source of funds was in the form of gifts and donations. These were received directly to the Foundation bank account, or were made using the PayPal facility on the Foundation's website page.

The Foundation held no assets other than cash at bank and had no liabilities at the end of the period. No trustees held any assets or title on behalf of the Foundation.

All funds are held with NatWest Bank at its Loughborough Branch.

Date	Payee	Category	Payments	Receipts	Comment
01/01/2025	*Opening bank balance brought forward £277.09*				
03/02/2025	CHFP Ltd	Donations:Corporate		£5,856.21	
07/02/2025	Riviera Tours Ltd	Donations:Corporate		£296.82	Affinity Scheme
12/02/2025	Incredible Edible Loughborough	Grants	£125.00		
12/02/2025	North Notts Hockey	Grants	£1,000.00		
12/02/2025	Charnwood Arts	Grants	£1,000.00		
19/02/2025	Age UK Leicester	Grants	£1,000.00		Charnwood Men & Women in Sheds
19/02/2025	Headway Leicester	Grants	£1,000.00		
08/04/2025	Shepshed Toy Library	Grants	£1,000.00		
01/05/2025	Individual donation	Donations:Personal		£882.00	
12/05/2025	Individual donation	Donations:Personal		£2,250.00	
14/05/2025	Bodie Hodges Foundation	Grants	£1,000.00		
15/05/2025	1st Nanpantan Scouts	Grants	£960.00		
15/05/2025	Darts for All	Grants	£500.00		
29/05/2025	Individual donation	Donations:Personal		£100.00	
26/06/2025	Individual donation	Donations:Personal		£50.00	
26/06/2025	Individual donation	Donations:Personal		£49.15	
12/07/2025	Individual donations	Donations:Personal		£873.50	
14/07/2025	Transfer from Ticketsource to NatWest Current	Donations:Personal		£1,049.68	Summer BBQ
14/07/2025	Transfer from PayPal Account to NatWest Current	Donations:Personal		£373.88	
14/07/2025	Individual donation	Donations:Personal		£2,185.00	
21/07/2025	HMRC	Gift Aid received		£267.47	
05/09/2025	Coats4Kids	Grants	£1,000.00		Rotary Club of Loughborough Beacon
19/09/2025	CHFP Ltd	Donations:Corporate		£3,183.58	
29/09/2025	Individual donation	Donations:Personal		£50.00	
06/10/2025	Transfer from Ticket Tailor to NatWest Current	Events		£752.88	Radmoor dinner sales
07/10/2025	Positive Social	Grants	£1,000.00		
13/10/2025	Transfer from Ticket Tailor to NatWest Current	Events		£240.94	Radmoor dinner sales
20/10/2025	Transfer from Ticket Tailor to NatWest Current	Events		£80.18	Radmoor dinner sales
27/10/2025	Transfer from Ticket Tailor to NatWest Current	Events		£371.96	Radmoor dinner sales

28/10/2025	Leicester Mind	Grants	£954.00		
28/10/2025	Buxton Civic Association	Grants	£1,000.00		
28/10/2025	Charnwood Citizens Advice	Grants	£1,000.00		
28/10/2025	St Mary's Lutterworth	Grants	£500.00		
03/11/2025	Ventus Enterprises	Donations:Corporate		£100.00	
03/11/2025	Transfer from Ticket Tailor to NatWest Current	Events		£77.90	Radmoor dinner sales
07/11/2025	Transfer from PayPal Account to NatWest Current	Donations:Personal		£9.66	
07/11/2025	Individual donations	Donations:Personal		£186.77	
07/11/2025	Cash Donations	Donations:Personal		£229.65	Radmoor Dinner collection
10/11/2025	Transfer from Ticket Tailor to NatWest Current	Events		£107.04	Radmoor dinner sales
01/12/2025	Ventus Enterprises	Donations:Corporate		£100.00	
04/12/2025	Individual donation	Donations:Personal		£10.00	
05/12/2025	Individual donation	Donations:Personal		£15.00	
22/12/2025	Loughborough College	Event charges	£1,062.00		Radmoor meal costs
		Totals	**£14,101.00**	**£19,749.27**	
		of which grants =	**£13,039.00**		

31/12/2025 Closing bank balance carried forward £5,925.36

Structure, Governance and Management

The Foundation is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). Its governing document was dated 4th May, 2022.

The Foundation was registered with the Charity Commission on 22nd September 2022 under registration number 1200466.

Trustees are appointed by the Board at their discretion, and there are no restrictions on who may act as a trustee, subject to meeting basic criteria around integrity and competence. In practice the Board aims to draw up to 8 trustees from the staffs of companies within the Chesterton House Group of businesses, and up to 4 trustees from persons connected with the group in some way, typically as customers thereof. However these are guidelines and not mandatory requirements and the trustees will consider all applications on their merits.

None of the Foundation's policies and procedures implies any link to businesses within the Chesterton House Group, or any other related entity. The Foundation is an independent body with its own constitution and trustees will be expected to make decisions on their own merits and without regard to any commercial or other considerations.

Charity Policies

The trustees have created and agreed policies designed to ensure compliance with Charity Commission guidance, and to help the trustees in their work by setting out a framework for administration and decision-making. The policies in place included:

- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Complaints Procedure
- Register of Interest
- Risk Policy
- Investment Policy
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Beneficiaries Policy
- Volunteer Policy

Copies of these documents are available on request.

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

As at 31st December, 2025 the trustees included the following:

Trustee name	Office	Date appointed
Andrew Kevin Jervis	Chair	02/05/2022
Simon Leese		31/01/2023
Rachel Kitching-Burrows		17/11/2022
Michael Toms		17/11/2022
Jonathan Nicholas Potter		17/11/2022
Jane Nancy Vora		02/05/2022
Kaushika Chauhan		02/05/2022
Carol Davis		17/01/2024
Nicholas Hetzel		17/01/2024
Anthony Creedy		17/01/2024
Kathryn Emma Davey		23/04/2025

Further details of trustees and copies of relevant documents can be found on the Charity Commission website at https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission or by writing to the Chair of Trustees at the address on page 1 of this Report.

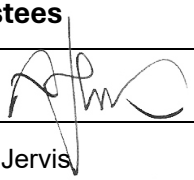
Getting involved

If you would like to get involved with the Chesterton House Foundation, either as a trustee or to support our fundraising efforts, please contact Andy Jervis, Chair of Trustees. Our contact details are shown on the first page of this report. We would be delighted to hear from you.

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Andrew Jervis	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair of Trustees	

Date	31/10/2026