



Furthering George's Legacy—The Future of The GBCT

In 2023 we will mark the 10th anniversary of George's tragic death and for over 9 of those years the GBCT has existed. Our mission has been to create a legacy, whereby the difference George made to people's lives can continue. We are proud of what the GBCT has enabled communities to achieve and as we approach George's anniversary the Trustees would like to share their plan for the future of the GBCT.

The Trustees have previously laid out a plan of action for the future of the GBCT once remaining reserves reached a certain level, recognising that grant giving increasingly exceeded our income. The Trustees have agreed to implement that plan to mark George's 10th anniversary, setting in motion steps to further George's legacy over the next decade.

In summary, we are giving substantive grants to six carefully selected projects, to be delivered by organisations the GBCT has worked with in the past. These larger grants are for multi-year projects and will ultimately exhaust the GBCT's remaining reserves. The Trustees believe this is the best way to further George's legacy, because of both the quality of the projects and to avoid the administration requirements of running an increasingly small charity becoming too burdensome.

In this final full newsletter we'll cover five of the selected projects, listed below, ahead of a special news release later in the year to announce our sixth, and final project that we are very excited about!

- Bolton Lads and Girls Group
- Criminon
- Great Western (Air Ambulance) Hearts
- Helston Railway Preservation Society
- Rise 61
- Final project, to be announced

We hope you too will feel proud of what we have achieved through your kind support and in turn, proud of what we expect will be achieved by the organisations and communities we are supporting with legacy grants.

Bolton Lads & Girls Club - Volunteering & Enhancing Skills

BLGC is a leading youth charity that has provided children and young people with a welcoming space for over 132 years. Their mission is "to empower young people and help them to enjoy happy and safe lives". BLGC is open to all and offers a variety of sporting, recreational, and arts activities; in addition their Targeted Youth Service provides critical support to the most vulnerable children and young people.

GBCT has twice supported BLGC, most recently in 2021 to start the Young Leaders Plus Project. The Project gives disadvantaged young people the opportunity to take on a prominent volunteering role within the Junior Youth Club and Holiday Club sessions. This provides young people with first-hand volunteering experience; develops their self-confidence, maturity, and leadership skills; and supports them to gain a nationally recognised accreditation. In turn, the volunteer Young Leaders enhance the Club experience for the children attending as members.

Our Trustees have been impressed by the outcomes of the Project, BLGC now how having a committed group of Young Leaders who have volunteered for over 12 months. The evaluation process has found them to be playing a crucial role within the Club in addition to the positive benefits for the young people themselves.

We are pleased to be granting £5000 to BLGC to continue the Young Leaders Plus Project, recruiting a further cohort of 10 young people. In addition, as a sustainment initiative, the funding will also enable dedicated 1:1 support from BLGC's Young Leaders Youth Worker for existing Young Leaders, supporting their development.

Children enjoying the activities provided by BLGC, supported by a Young Leader in their yellow, GBCT branded, shirt



Criminon - Enhancing Skills

Criminon is a charity established to empower offenders to make positive changes to their lives through distance learning. It addresses a need arising from research that shows the majority of offenders have little in the way of education and so aims to equip them with a toolbox of skills so they are less likely to reoffend. Participants gain a recognised qualification, certificate and credits towards ongoing education.

Criminon's Young Offenders Program started in 2016 and GBCT has been a regular supporter, to the extent that GBCT's support is regarded as instrumental to the program's success by Criminon - we are very proud of this. Our Trustees have always seen a strong fit with our objective to enhance the skills of young people, our Chairperson Maria having seen the need Criminon is working to address first hand through a volunteer role at HMP Feltham. Over the years Criminon have provided feedback from participants, which consistently demonstrates positive outcomes. As an example, this is one piece of feedback from a participant:

The completion of this course has provided not only just me with the tools and knowledge on how to overcome learning barriers but also how to help others do the same." A.R., HMP Ashfield (Learning How to Learn) Age 24

We are delighted to be able to continue to support Criminon with a grant of £4250, which will enable a further 50 young offenders to benefit from the program, taking the total number of young offenders supported by GBCT to 150.

Great Western Hearts - Emergency Aid

The GBCT has been a proud supporter of the Great Western Air Ambulance's (GWAA) Heartstarters community first aid training initiative since its launch in 2016 that when last reported had trained over 4600 young people in life saving skills - George would be proud! Hearts is a new, follow-on project, which touches another area George passionately supported - the provision of community access AEDs.

Great Western Hearts aims to improve the chances of survival by increasing the number of AEDs in local communities, and providing training in CPR and the use of an AED. Hearts is specifically targeting its support at disadvantaged communities where AED provision is less prevalent, often owing to funding.

GBCT are proud to continue our support of GWAA's community and training initiatives, our £5400 grant will provide two complete AED packages for communities, along with training - the aim is to train over 100 people in each recipient community, and to link in with the local schools to enable further expansion of the Heartstarters program. It's a fabulous link back to GBCT's first project, the AED in Brompton's old red phone box.



Helston Railway Society - Volunteering & Enhancing Skills

The Society was first supported by the GBCT in 2017, with a grant that enabled the founding of a 'Junior's Day', which gave young people the opportunity to volunteer on the historic railway in a structured way and learn new skills—engineering being a subject of much interest to George.

A grant of £5000 will now enable the Society to build on their Young Volunteer Programme for 14-18 year olds. Participants are paired with more senior volunteers on specific activities to increase their practical skill sets, giving them a more authentic experience of running and maintaining a railway. Supporting this, GBCT's grant will fund the cost of professional training in welding and first aid.



RISE 61 - Volunteering & Enhancing Skills

RISE 61 is a community project in the Salisbury area, which exists to 'help young people tell a different story with their lives', seeking to mitigate a number of social issues e.g. lack of opportunity. GBCT previously supported RISE 61 with a grant to enable development of their Bike Hub, providing a place where young people could learn new skills.

GBCT has awarded £5000 to enable development of their existing Community Garden Project, through provision of a new, more permanent, gazebo. The Project hosts 'Big Build Days', where young people can volunteer e.g. to build raised beds, and regular after school clubs. During term time RISE 61 also provides an 'alternative education option' on Wednesdays for 10-15 young people struggling in mainstream education to develop their practical and workplace skills, in addition to attaining AQA accredited Short Awards.

The Garden Project is already an important space in the community, but the existing gazebo is in need of replacement. GBCT's grant will help secure the future of this fantastic project, providing RISE with the facilities they need.

About the Trust



The GBCT was set up in March 2014 in memory of George Bairstow. The GBCT's goal is to empower communities to make a difference by providing grants in support of:

- The provision of emergency aid
- Volunteering among young people
- The enhancement of skills among young people

STOP PRESS!

Congratulations to GBCT Trustee Vivian Bairstow whose extensive voluntary work has been recognized with an MBE.



News from Grant Recipients

In 2022 GBCT made a grant of £1600 to the **Refreshing Minds Project**, to support their 'J'ubelieve Leadership Program as part of their 'Great BriTeens' Summer camp. With a focus on skills development and volunteering, the projects' aims included, giving young women aged 18-24 volunteering opportunities and experience in areas such as project management, education, health and social care within the community, youth work and compliance.

The programs' outcomes are pleasing to read, with 18 young people volunteering their time and in turn developing improved safeguarding awareness and skills in working with other young people. Their volunteering helped enable 150 young people to experience trips and social activities. As can be seen, much fun was had!



We also received an update from the **Disabled Sailors Association**, whose apprenticeship program the GBCT are supporting - you may recall that George was a keen sailor himself. Theo, the apprenticeship, is making great progress through his training courses towards being a Yacht Master Offshore, with first aid and competent crew training being some of the first completed. When not on training courses, Theo is busy in supporting the servicing and maintenance of the charity's fleet. We wish Theo well as he continues his apprenticeship.

Keeping in contact with GBCT



Visit our website at www.gbct.org.uk or email us at info@gbct.org.uk



Find us on Facebook at [georgebairstowct](https://www.facebook.com/georgebairstowct) for all the latest news and pictures and, don't forget, we're on Twitter too at [gbct_uk](https://twitter.com/gbct_uk).

Copyright © 2023 George Bairstow Charitable Trust. All rights reserved. George Bairstow Charitable Trust (GBCT), a charity registered in England and Wales (1155769).