# OXFORD PRESERVATION TRUST

### ANNUAL REPORT 2022





Sir Philip Pullman and students from St Andrew's School planting an oak at Larkins Lane Field as part of the Queen's Green Canopy



The launch of the walk 'Discovering Heritage and Green Spaces: Rose Hill'

#### Oxford Preservation Trust was founded in 1927. It is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee.

The objectives are:-

(a) to preserve and enhance for the benefit of the public the amenities of the City of Oxford and its surroundings

(b) to promote and encourage public interest in and knowledge of the history of the City of Oxford and its surroundings.

The Trust is active in five main policy areas:

- I. Strategic Ownership of Land & Property
- II. Projects
- III. Planning
- IV. Membership
- V. Education & Outreach

There have been no changes in the Trust's policies or methods of working in the past year, and no material changes are envisaged in the future.

#### HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS

Prof Malcolm Airs, John Ashdown, Edith Gollnast, Dr Malcolm Graham, Tom Hassall, Lucy Hughes, Dr Ian Scargill

## TRUSTEES serving during the year

Chair: The Reverend Professor William Whyte	a
Vice-Chair Charles Cooper	a
Her Honour Ann Campbell	b
John Church	b
Cllr Colin Cook	d (to May 22)
Cllr Lizzie Diggins	d (from September 22)
Dame Helen Ghosh	a
Dr Nick Leimu-Brown	С
Julian Munby	a
Philip Parker	a
Cllr Susanna Pressel	е
Cllr Roz Smith	е
Carole Souter	b
David Streat	a
Prof Joe Tah	b
Dr Geoffrey Tyack	b
Cllr Louise Upton	d
Prof Heather Viles	С

a: elected; b: co-opted; c: nominated by University; d: nominated by City; e: nominated by County

#### Area Patrons

David Carter & Lady Phyllis Treitel (Boars Hill) Martin Harris (Shotover) Daniel Tarzey (Sandford & Kennington)

#### **OXFORD PRESERVATION TRUST**

#### **Trust Structure**

The Board of Trustees, which is made up of six elected, six co-opted and six nominated Trustees, set the strategic direction for the work of the Trust. Each Trustee is appointed for a three-year term and are required to be members of the Trust. There is currently one vacancy for a co-opted member. All Trustees attend familiarisation days during their terms and are expected to take an active role, to join a committee, and to get to know the Director and her team. During their term, Trustees are offered regular opportunities to engage with the current work, and to attend the wide variety of meetings, events and site visits that take place.

The Trustees have appointed Debbie Dance as the Director, to run the Trust on their behalf. She is supported by a team (four full-time/three part-time) with relevant professional and administrative skills. The Director manages the day-to-day work implementing strategy and policy, which is reported through the Committees/sub-Committees who meet quarterly. Committee membership is made up of Trustees and co-opted members with relevant skills, and all are chaired by a Trustee with professional advisers in attendance as appropriate. The Trustees meet four times a year with minutes and written reports of the meetings provided.

Finance & Executive Committee: membership drawn from OPT Committee chairs: budgets,

income & expenditure.

Charles Cooper (Chair), Her Honour Ann Campbell, John Church, Carole Souter, David Streat, Rev Prof William Whyte

#### **Castle Committee:** castle interests.

Her Honour Ann Campbell (Chair), Cllr Colin Cook (to May 2022), Dr Victoria McGuinness, Julian Munby, Emily Spencer

#### Investment Sub-Committee: investment policy.

John Church (Chair), Charles Cooper, James Offen, Philip Parker, Jens Tholstrup

Land Committee: land and buildings in which OPT has an interest. David Streat (Chair), John Cole, Tim del Nevo, Dame Helen Ghosh, Dr Robert Mather, James Offen, Walter Sawyer

Representatives from Savills: Charles Campion, Lorna Meaden

**Planning Committee:** oversees responses to planning policies. Carole Souter (Chair), Fiona Bartholomew, Chris Cousins, Kathy Davies (from Jan 2022), Noel Newson, John Stevenson, Prof Joe Tah, Dr Geoffrey Tyack

**Oxford Flood Alleviation Steering Group OFAS:** Prof Joe Tah (Chair), Her Honour Ann Campbell, Dame Helen Ghosh, Dr Nick Leimu-Brown, David Streat.

Advisers: Peter Canavan (Carter Jonas), Charles Campion (Savills), Lorna Meaden (Savills), Jeremy Smith (SLR Consulting), Tim Taylor (Blake Morgan), Dominic Woodfield (Bioscan (UK) Ltd

#### Chairs and Secretaries of Area Committees

Marston:	Lucy Hughes, Dr Robert Mather
Boars Hill:	Nigel Jones
Professional Advisors	
Land Agents:	Savills (L&P) Ltd, Wytham Court, 11 West Way, Botley, Oxford, OX2 0QL
Bankers:	Barclays Bank plc, PO Box 333, Oxford, OX1 3HS
Auditors:	Critchleys Audit LLP, Beaver House, 23-38 Hythe Bridge Street, Oxford OX1 2EP
Solicitors:	Blake Morgan, Seacourt Tower, West Way, Oxford OX2 0FB
Investment Advisers:	Cazenove Capital Management Ltd, 12 Moorgate, London, EC2R 6DA
	Sarasin & Partners LLP, Juxon House, 100 St Paul's Churchyard, London, EC2M 8BU
Planning Consultants:	Carter Jonas, Mayfield House,
	256 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DE
Team	
Director:	Debbie Dance FRICS FRSA IHBC OBE

Debbie Dance FRICS FRSA IHBC OB
Stephen Dawson
Hywel Edwards p/t
Shona Carr
Charlie Jackson
Laura Warden p/t
Laurie Dighton (to Sept 22)
Nina Urai (from April 22)

#### **Registered Office**

10 Turn Again Lane, Oxford OX1 1QL Telephone (01865) 242918 Email info@oxfordpreservation.org.uk Website www.oxfordpreservation.org.uk

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A copy of the Trust's governing Memorandum and Articles of Association is available on request from the Office.

#### Foreword from the Chair

In hindsight, we were hopelessly wrong to imagine that this would be an ordinary year as we returned from the exigencies of the pandemic. Perhaps there is no such thing as ordinary for OPT. We had, for instance, assumed that large-scale purchases of land were unlikely ever to happen again – and then found ourselves in the delightful position of being able to acquire two important plots, securing them for generations. We also found ourselves having to pivot from the celebration of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Jubilee to the commemoration of her death in a sadly short period of time.

Of course, some things did seem more like normal. The regular rhythm of events and volunteering resumed. The OPT Awards saw some stellar entries and Oxford Open Doors was a stunning success. But in all sorts of ways, this was a year of real change, as we restructured the organisation of OPT in order to fulfil our new Strategic Plan. New Committees will take an ever more active role as we approach our centenary and seek to fulfil our founding aims in a new and ever more demanding environment.

Among our goals is to reach out to a wider group of people, to use our green spaces more creatively, and to ensure that everything we do is sustainable. These are ambitious targets and would be simply unthinkable without the energy and vision of our Director and her team. Their hard work and commitment is what enables the Trust to exceed expectations and to make the extraordinary seem ordinary for OPT. I should also like to acknowledge the remarkable support we receive from our members, patrons, trustees, volunteers, and all those who give time and money to enable our work. You help make this extraordinary organisation possible. Thank you.

#### **Trust Activities**

The Trustees fulfil Trust Aims and Objectives through five areas of work: managing green spaces and buildings, planning, projects, education, and engagement including membership, and in accordance with the Charity Commission guidelines on public benefit.

#### **Trustee Matters**

The Trust has enjoyed a return to in person meetings this year with all committee meetings held in person, with the occasional online participant. We held this year's AGM at Pembroke College, for which we thank them, and when our speaker, Professor Myles Allen, Director of the Oxford Net Zero Initiative, spoke with clarity and poignance on the threat of climate change and the possibilities for carbon capture. This year saw the 17<sup>th</sup> Oxford Open Doors and we celebrated forty-five years of the OPT Awards as our opportunity to recognise the wonderful work of others. This year has been surprised with the chance to buy two areas of land, starting the year with the opportunity to purchase the Larkins Lane Field, Old Headington, which completed just in time for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend in June, and with thanks to the support of so many people, guickly followed by the chance to acquire a further eleven acres at Harcourt Hill adjoining our existing meadows, and which made international news with a piece in The Times. Later in the year, and following the sad news of the death of Queen Elizabeth II in September, we were delighted to be able to plant an English Oak at Larkins Lane as part of the Queens Green Canopy initiative, when we were joined by Sir Philip Pullman and the children of St. Andrew's School, Headington. A tree of a different kind went up shortly afterwards, as the Christmas tree at the Castle was lit in early December with thanks to St. John's College who donated this from their nearby Bagley Wood. We express our gratitude to the Trustees of the William Delafield Charitable Trust who have kindly allowed us to use their grant for a wider range of activities this year.

During the year, with our strategy "Towards the Centenary – Our Strategic Plan to 2027" now in place and following the skills audit of the Board and the Committees, the Trustees have worked with the Director to review the Committees, their terms of reference and their membership so that they can deliver against the new priorities leading up to the Trust's 100th anniversary. The new structure, which will come into place at the start of 2023, will see all the work of the Trust under five Committees of Planning, Heritage, Engagement, Green Spaces and Finance, each to be chaired by a Trustee, with a membership of two to three other Trustees and co-opted members with relevant skills. For the first time there will also be a Sustainability Committee. The Committees will all report to the Executive committee and then to the full Trustee board in a cycle of quarterly meetings. From 2023 and in line with the change in communication patterns, there are no longer to be separate Area Committees. At the beginning of 2023, each Committee will be tasked with looking at its terms of reference and Committee membership.

During 2022 the Trustees have had to consider the unusual situation of selling an area of land. The four and a half acre field at Lower Farm had previously been farmed by the local farmer and had no public access. It had been acquired in 1931 for its views at a time when there was no ring road and the first Barton Estate had not been developed. When SODC included the adjoining Bayswater Brook site in their adopted local plan as an allocated site the land lost its Green Belt protection. After careful consideration including full landscape and visual assessment the Trustees took the unusual decision to sell the land to the adjoining developer with restrictive covenants over the land to prevent it being developed and increasing public access to it. The Trustees are very mindful of their obligations to the aims and objectives of the Trust. The sum raised has been used to acquire the Harcourt Hill Field, to undertake the signage project, to fund the conversion of Lord's Farm Barn and to allow the appointment of a Community Engagement Officer for an initial period of five years who can build on the success of the Oxford Castle education and the Rose Hill 'Discovering Heritage & Green Spaces' projects. We have a new opportunity to use the Castle Education space in 2023 and hope to have someone in post in 2023 with plans to work with the communities of Wood Farm and St. Ebbe's being discussed.

#### Trustees

We are grateful to all the Trustees who bring such varied interests and expertise to the Trust. At the AGM we were pleased to confirm the reappointments of elected Trustees, Julian Munby, with his vast knowledge of Oxford and Phil Parker, who has been invaluable in areas of finance and governance and welcomed the reappointment of Cllr Louise Upton as a City Council Trustee for the next three years. Cllr Colin Cook stood down after the May elections, and his contribution to the Trust over 23 years was recognised by the Chair at the AGM. With this vacancy created we were pleased to welcome Cllr Lizzie Diggins who will bring a new dimension as a trainee teacher in the city and is to become the Chair of the Engagement Committee from 2023.

#### **Team Matters**

The team are now mainly based back in the OPT offices which they all enjoy, alongside the flexibility of remote working on occasions, and which also allows for efficient use of desk space. Stephen Dawson has now been with the Trust for six years and as his role and responsibilities have increased we were delighted to promote him to the post of Operations Director at the start of the year, working alongside Debbie, who continues to lead the team, both supported by Hywel Edwards as administrator, who ensures that the figures add up. Nina Urai joined us in April as the Community Engagement and Events Officer taking over the running of Oxford

Open Doors, a challenge that she has risen to with notable success. In September we said goodbye to Membership Officer Laurie Dighton who has joined the London Diocese as Project & Volunteer Officer for the tercentenary celebrations Wren300. We are grateful to Jane Hornsby who came back to help until Louise Lockyer, who has recently completed an MA in Cultural Heritage comes to join us early in the new year as our new Heritage and Membership Officer. Charlie Jackson completed a year as our full-time Green Spaces Officer, bringing a smile to all our faces, and in December went on maternity leave, handing over to Hannah Brockwell, a former geography teacher and environmental consultant who will cover her role, part-time during 2023. In recognition of the importance of the role of the Trust in the area of planning, Laura Warden has increased her hours as Senior Planning Officer to three days a week, and is ably assisted by Shona Carr, who has changed her role to become the Assistant Heritage and Planning Officer, alongside completing her studies on the MSc Historic Conservation at Oxford Brookes, supported by OPT.

#### **Green Spaces**

We are lucky to care for so much open green space in and around the city, but the chance to acquire more does not come up often. We are therefore delighted that during the year we were able to acquire two new green spaces for Oxford people to enjoy.

#### Larkins Lane Appeal

The two acre Larkins Lane Field was acquired following a successful appeal which was launched in Spring 2022 as our contribution to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We were delighted to raise the full £180,000 needed to acquire the land which happened just before the Queen's Jubilee weekend celebrations in June. We are grateful to the Friends of Old Headington for their support at their Open Gardens event. We have undertaken environmental surveys, done some clearing, worked with volunteers, and started to put together a plan for the future which will allow us to improve the biodiversity, plant some trees and create a quiet and a new green space with public access for everyone to enjoy. To start things off we were delighted when Sir Philip Pullman joined the children of St. Andrew's school Headington when he planted an English Oak in memory of Queen Elizabeth II and as our contribution to the Queen's Green Canopy that ran until the end of the year. The tree was planted eighty-five years to the day since the planting of the Fastigiate Hornbeams in Sunderland Avenue which were OPT's gift to the city for King George VI Coronation and have since been immortalised by Sir Philip in 'His Dark Materials.' A short film of Sir Philip is available on our website.

As a further contribution to the Queen's Green Canopy, we have also planted three further trees at the Elizabeth Daryush Memorial Garden, an Apple and a Cherry, which were donated by the Woodland Trust for 'The Big Climate Fightback' and the third, a beech which was donated and planted by member Monika Hentz who was presented with it at her recent British Citizenship ceremony.

#### Harcourt Hill

And then in the Autumn a ten acre field came up for sale adjoining our existing Harcourt Hill Field. These opportunities are so rare that the Trustees felt that they had to act. The field has arguably the best view of the dreaming spires of all OPTs green spaces and environmental surveys and clearing have begun to happen as we work out how to improve and manage the land which can balance conservation, landscape and views, and public access.

Whilst the plans for the **wayfinding, signage and interpretation** have taken longer to bring together than at first hoped, we have made significant progress so that they will begin to appear on the ground in 2023. We remain committed to the project and have agreed to fund a pilot at Heyford Meadows and Boars Hill which can then be rolled out to other areas of land. Charlie has been working closely with the volunteers at our Green Spaces this year and regular sessions have taken place at Wolvercote Lakes, Heyford Meadow, Kennington Memorial Field, Meadow Lane, Iffley Glebe, and Larkins Lane. At Boars Hill work has continued on the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment/Network Rail funded woodland management project to improve the habitats and access to wetland areas with volunteers assisting at the Matthew Arnold Reserve and Abraham Wood, and which will be completed in Spring 2023, alongside work at the Old Berkeley Golf Course, Jarn Mound and Jarn Heath. We remain grateful to Oxford Good Gym, Abingdon Green Gym, the Oxford Conservation Volunteers and all our OPT volunteers who help us to manage our green spaces.

At **Marston Hamm** improvements are too slow though relations with the Grosvenor Estate who have a number of obligations to fulfil are improving. A successful hay crop was taken this year and aftermath grazing cattle proved beneficial for the meadows and a new kissing gate has been installed to improve public access around the site. The chance to work in a wider partnership with other landowners in the Marston area on an **ecosystem restoration project** to involve OPT owned fields will continue to be discussed in 2023.

The plans for the Flood Alleviation channel **OFAS** along the western edge of the City returned in 2022 with the latest application from the Environment Agency being submitted to the County Council as the planning authority. Unfortunately, the new plans do not differ in any significant way from the former plans which were withdrawn in 2021 and still cut through OPT's Hinksey Meadows and Fields in a way which will damage them and have a harmful effect on the rare MG4a grassland here. An environmental consultant has been brought onto the team to help with the responses to the application which have now been submitted. By the end of the year, it seems likely that an amended planning application would be sent out for consultation as a great deal more information was being asked for before any decision could happen. The OPT steering group met twice during the year and was keen to understand what alternatives had been explored by the EA. In the meantime, we are grateful to Dr Tim King and Dr Judy Webb who counted Snakehead Fritillaries on the Meadows this year.

The Trustees hold a number of legal **covenants** on land and property around Oxford which help in protecting the historic environment and its setting. The shortage of suitable space for a cemetery has led the City Council to revive their ideas for a burial meadow on land at Shotover and the Trustees have agreed to have an open conversation to see if there is a way ahead. Meanwhile at South Park the promised WC and café facilities are yet to materialise at the Gin Distillery which will need to be addressed as part of any negotiations. Elsewhere OPT remains vigilant in upholding its covenants.

#### Properties

We were delighted to welcome the SPAB Research and Technical Committee to **26a East Helen Street, Abingdon** in April to share the remarkable work carried out to restore the c1430 gothic traceried window. Necessary work to repair the boundary brick and stone walls was completed over the Summer with the support of the William Delafield Charitable Trust and in time for Heritage Open Days in September when we welcomed over 900 visitors. Our monthly member tours of the house continue to be popular. We continue to share the **Painted Room** in whichever way we can as it continues to delight, as shown by the 750 visitors who joined us for Oxford Open Doors. Everyone was delighted to take part in this year's **Shakespeare Birthday Celebrations** at the Painted Room once again in person and led by our own 'Shakespeare' town crier and the Oxford Waits who follow the seventeenth century traditions of their predecessors. Prof Marion Turner, Chair of Oxford University's English Faculty Board, was this year's guest raising a toast to the immortal bard in malmsey & sac and inspiring the students of Oxford Spires with her words. But it was the Oxford Spires students themselves that made the day with Buster van der Geest, Beatrice Mascarenhas, Ruth Conmy, Eva Morris and Martha Partridge entertaining us in the Lord Mayor's Parlour and the Painted Room. Over the weekend we shared Debbie's virtual tour of the Painted Room together with a range of activities and our Shakespeare trail of Oxford. Members continue to enjoy our free monthly tours. In 2023 we are planning to complete the final works improvement works to the Painted Room with thanks to the William Delafield Charitable Trust and hope to have a new tenant in the upper floors in the Spring/Summer.

At **Lords Farm, Eynsham** we completed quinquennial repair works which included redecorating and external stone repointing. We have planning permission for the conversion of the Grade II listed Barn to a two-bedroomed dwelling and with the support of monies raised from the sale at Bayswater will look to take this forward early in the new year looking at how we can do this in the most sustainable way which acts as an exemplar to others.

At the OPT offices at Turn Again Lane, our talented gardener Avril Hughes have continued to restore and improve the **Turn Again Lane Garden** over the course of the year, and we are hoping it will be established enough to show it off to you in 2023. Next year we will also look at some repair and painting work to the outside of the three cottages.

#### **Rewley Road Swing Bridge**

The Swing Bridge North Abutment restoration was completed in April so that Historic England were then able to remove it from the Heritage at Risk Register where it had sat for many years. In December we were delighted to receive the Conservation Award at the National Railway Heritage Awards when Debbie and Russ Turner, project manager for TMP, collected the splendid plaque presented by HRH The Duke of Gloucester. The Award is a recognition of the work of everyone involved, the Morton Partnership, Avon Construction and our funding partners Network Rail, Historic England and the Railway Heritage Trust together with the many individuals who have supported the project. We are grateful to Vice-President Tom Hassall and former Railway Manager David Mather for their expert advice throughout the project and to the local community for their support during the works.

Our attention has now turned to the landscaping and interpretation on the site. At the year end we were awaiting the outcome of an application for permission for the railings and applying for funding. We have continued to work with the Urban Biolabs Group in Oxford University Geography Department whose work has helped us with our ideas of creating a small wildflower meadow which can be managed and kept in a way that balances its industrial past with the now abandoned bridge with something that everyone in the area can enjoy.

Debbie continues in her role on the advisory board of The Railway Heritage Trust.

#### Oxford Castle

Negotiations for a new ten-year lease on Oxford Castle and Prison have continued during the year and we were delighted to reach agreement before the year end. As planned, we have taken back the Education and Café building, and are working in partnership with Oxford Castle & Prison who continue to use it for school visits which have made a steady return following the restrictions of the past few years. The search for a local operator for the café led to Jericho Coffee Traders opening the doors in December. This is a year-long trial to see if we can find a viable way ahead and with a great space and the best coffee it is guickly gaining a loyal client base, and OPT members get a 10% discount. We hope that this initiative will encourage the site owners Land Securities to do their bit to enliven the rest of the Castle Quarter, with the example of Oxford Open Doors when the Castleyard came to life when a group of stone carvers, organised by sculptor Alex Wenham shared their skills, with events arranged by Oxford Archaeology and a parade of classic cars to add to enjoyment of the weekend. Later in the year we enjoyed a fun event when St. John's Bursar, Zoe Hancock, switched on the Christmas lights on the giant tree which they had generously donated from nearby Bagley Wood. With thanks to Oxfordshire County Council Music Service, we were joined by pupils from St Frideswide's School who led us all in singing carols.

The County Council have continued in their commitment to keep the buildings in good repair and listed building consent has now been granted for repairs to the Debtors Tower which will begin in early 2023. Problems of anti-social behaviour on the Mound are a worry as they are damaging the structure and we have been working with the County and Historic England to try to find a solution. We were also pleased to recognise the work of the team with an OPT certificate in this year's awards, for the repaired floor structure in St George's Tower.

#### Planning

We are once again grateful to members of the Planning Committee who have so readily shared their expertise and knowledge, and thank Oxford Brookes student, Victoria Grane and Shona Carr who have brought a useful and sometimes different viewpoint on issues. In line with the Strategy, the Committee have begun to review their terms of reference and will look to enhance the skills needed on sustainability, retrofitting of historic buildings and embodied energy. The daily work of the planning team continues with the consideration of planning applications, attending pre-application meetings and discussions, review of policy and guidance documents and where possible guiding development towards a better outcome. We have strong working relationships across the University and colleges and work with the City Council and Historic England.

We were disappointed that the County and four district councils, who announced the cancellation of their joint strategic planning work OxPlan50 when they were unable to agree on an approach to future housing needs. We must all now rely on their individual Local Plans. The danger of a lack of strategic overview is never more apparent than over the proposed issues on solar farms, where speculative plans come forward thick and fast where a 300-acre solar panel farm was granted permission at Nuneham Courtenay followed within short space and geography by two more, one of which has been refused. Two schemes have since come forward at Cumnor, and a giant scheme known as Botley West is so large that it is being considered as a National Infrastructure project which would remove local accountability and make central government the decision maker.

Oxford City Council have started work on their next Local Plan 2040, alongside the allocated housing sites in the previous plan beginning to happen on the ground. Many of these are on

previous Green Belt land, and with the pressures on available space, and recognising the need for housing, we remain frustrated that sites where housing could be accommodated within the city, such as at Oxpens, are instead to accommodate students, hotels and, in particular, research and development. Now often known as Life Sciences, this has become the most valuable use, where it was previously student housing and speculative developers are keen to find opportunities, such as around the Botley Road retail warehouse sites, which have become vacant as shopping habits have changed. The relaxation of building height restrictions in the Local Plan has seen developers try to push upwards so that the City's officers have much work to do to ensure that Oxford gets the good quality and well-designed buildings it deserves, and which do not harm the Oxford view and green setting. The introduction of the Vu:City 3D digital programme to assess the visual impacts of new developments is beginning to prove helpful.

Within the city, the County's draft Local Transport and Connectivity Plan has proved to be controversial with its proposals for LTNs and traffic filters which will alter the flow of cars and buses across the city. OPT have been generally supportive whilst recognising that there are a number of outstanding issues which will need to be addressed before anything is implemented, even on a temporary basis. In all the brouhaha we see little attention paid to the management of tourism across the city and, in particular, tourist coaches. Nevertheless, we hope that our visitors will feel welcome and have been delighted to continue to work with Oxford City Council on their ideas for the Covered Market, and with the County on plans for the newly traffic free Broad Street, where the parking has been removed and temporary measures introduced. This builds on the success of the OPT award winning Broad Meadow, and with the Trust's involvement going back nearly twenty years to the Kim Wilkie Broad Street Plan 2004, we will support the Councils and others to ensure that the longer term project brings beauty back to one of Europe's finest streets.

#### Awards

The Annual OPT Awards are aimed at projects that enhance everyone's enjoyment of Oxford and its surrounds. This year the quality of its entries showed how the teams had worked together to make these developments happen, large and small. The six categories remained unchanged with Conservation, New Buildings, Small Projects, Landscape and Public Realm, Temporary Projects, and the Green Awards all attracting a high level of support. We are grateful to the expert Judging Panel who gave so freely of their time in visiting all the projects. We are lucky to have the continuing support of our sponsors Carter Jonas, Critchleys, and Mathews Comfort and St John's College, who are all crucial to the success of the OPT Awards evening which happens each November and is always a hot ticket. Under the expert and fun chairmanship of William Whyte the Trust awarded twelve plaques and twenty-three certificates. Plaques went to New Buildings: Low Energy House, Coppock Close, Headington Quarry; New Housing at The Oval and Ashhurst Way, Rose Hill; Extension and reordering of Radley College Chapel. Building Conservation: Restoration of Clark's Row, St Aldate's; Refurbishment of St Giles' House. Small Projects: Exeter College Porter's Lodge, Accessibility and Energy Efficiency Improvements; Gees Restaurant; Dawson Street, Office Conversion. Landscape & Public Realm: Northmoor Churchyard, South Wall Restoration.

We were particularly pleased to see the strong level of entries to the Green Award and thank the Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, Marjorie Glasgow, who joined us on the evening to present the plaques to three outstanding projects: Long Mead Barn and Thames Valley Wildflower Meadow Restoration Project at Swinford; the Vishuddha Yoga Studio at Osney Island and the Decarbonisation of Wolfson College.

#### **Education & Engagement**

**Discouering Heritage & Green Spaces: Rose Hill** was quite the highlight of our engagement work this year as our work with the communities here culminated in a vibrant fun and informative printed guided walk which tells of Rose Hill's fascinating past and it's present. There were lots of opportunities for people to meet with Liz Woolley who led a series of walks as we met with residents young and older, and who later shared their ideas of what should be included. We worked hard to have the new walk leaflet available in time for Oxford Open Doors and it has been available to download ever since. In 2023, we hope to build on the success of the project and as the year ended had allocated some funding which will enable a Community Engagement officer to join our OPT team. This is crucial to our ability to drive the project forward, to build on our relationships at Rose Hill, and to work with other communities across the city to allow them to discover the heritage where they live.

There was an Easter Egg hunt in Abraham Woods, Boars Hill which was incredibly popular with families and will be repeated in 2023. In June local street artist Mani was at the **West Oxford Community Fun Day** where the OPT team together with local families and young people worked together to create a great piece of art in the form of a cut out train, all informed by our own railway and industrial past. This was then displayed at the Rewley Road Swing Bridge during Oxford Open Doors and proved a great hit with our visitors.

We were nervous at the idea of going ahead with **Oxford Open Doors** so soon after the sad death of Her Majesty the Queen, but with the support of the team and the many people who came, it turned into something special as people came together. A minute's silence was observed at the start and at the end of the weekend and the OPT team based their hub at Oxford Castle, with a display of photographs of the Queen opening the Castle in 2006. As the sun shone down, we were delighted to welcome over 20,000 visitors to the 110 venues and events that took part, with highlights including Jesus College's new Cheng Yu Tung Building, Magdalen College and its splendid deer park, and St John's College who opened their new state of the art library. With the chance to meet Ai-da, the world's first ultra realistic painting robot at the Bodleian, vintage bus rides courtesy of the Oxfordshire Bus Museum and the popular energy saving homes in West Oxford where residents opened their homes there was truly something for everyone. Our Oxford Open Doors Members' week events remain hugely popular with thanks to Trustee, Geoffrey Tyack who led an OPT Awards Walk, author Patrick McGuinness leading a 'real Oxford' walking tour, and a special tour of New College library and its collections. There was an open top bus ride and special tours of the energy-saving homes to whet the appetite for the weekend that would follow. We could not put the weekend on without the many partners who come together with us to make it happen, and with particular thanks to our main partner the University of Oxford, and to the Oxford Bus Company who gave us lots of promotion across the bus network, and to all who arranged events and to our fantastic volunteers.

This year we were delighted to launch the OPT Internship Award which recognises an Oxford Brookes student studying the Historic Conservation MSc, kindly supported by a donation. Tom Goodwin received the Award and was given the opportunity to sit on our Planning Committee and Awards Panel and also assisted us at Oxford Open Doors. Victoria Grane has been selected for the Award and will work with us in 2023.

#### **Communications & Digital**

We have continued to offer a range of virtual events throughout the year including at Oxford Open Doors and are looking at making available our previous events so people can continue to enjoy them. The development of the new website has progressed, and we aim to launch it in Autumn 2023. Our social media presence remains strong on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, as we improve out engagement with a younger audience. Our regular member email updates continue to be popular as are Debbie's Oxford Times articles and blogs, which this year have covered a range of topics including 'Solar Farms – coming soon to a field near you', which proved particularly popular; 'Archaeology, here, there, and everywhere'; 'Broad Meadow – the People's Quad'; 'OPT is having a right royal time'; 'Oxford Opens its Doors' and 'OPT Remember Her Majesty the Queen at Oxford Castle'.

#### Membership

We are so lucky to have such a loyal membership and have been delighted to welcome so many new members during the year, and we are particularly grateful to all of the members who gave so generously in support of our Queen's Platinum Jubilee appeal which helped us to buy the Larkins Lane Field.

We were so pleased to be able to see so many of you in person during the year and hosted 93 events and some to remember are the guided walks, with thanks to those who took part in our pilot project 'Discovering Heritage and Green Spaces: Rose Hill' with local historian Liz Woolley, and the return of the Magdalen Tower climb which the college kindly allows us to do each May Morning, and of course, Shona's favourite, a visit to OPT Award winners Barracks Lane Community Garden. Our Chairman's lecture series continues to be incredibly popular with the Spring event featuring local author 'The Other Oxford' with Prof Patrick McGuinness followed by author Dr Daisy Dunn talking on her recently published book 'Not Far From Brideshead: Oxford between the wars' with lots of references to early OPT Trustees and Secretary, Sir John Betjeman.

The continuing support of our **Corporate** and **College Members** means a great deal to us with many joining us for the OPT Awards evening, a highlight in the Oxford calendar. In 2023 we will be relaunching our college membership scheme which includes a popular lunch for the bursars. A full list of Corporate and College members is included on pages 22 and 23.

Our 87 Patrons in the **Betjeman Circle** make a huge difference to what we can achieve, and we have had some very generous donations this year, particularly in support of the Larkins Lane Field appeal. In June we welcomed the Patrons to St Hilda's College for the spectacular dreaming spires views from their new tower and special tours of the gardens with Oxford's well-known Walter Sawyer, former Superintendent of the Parks and Head Gardener, Deborah Bowden. In early December, with thanks to fellow Patrons Bernard and Sarah Taylor, we all enjoyed the most wonderful evening at Rycote Park, with the splendid Chapel filled with the organ music by Prof Robert Quinney, Director of the Choir at New College and former Sub-Organist at Westminster Abbey, with our Chair William able to lead the prayers and Debbie reciting Betjeman. At the end of the year, we were saddened to learn of the sudden death of fellow Circle member, Sarah Martin.

We welcomed our legacy group, the **Centenary Circle** for our annual Chairman's Tea after a couple of years missing, enjoying the hospitality of St Cross College. The estate of the **Hon. Elizabeth Stamp** made a further contribution during the year, and we are grateful to **Mary Rees** for her generosity, and to former life member **Mark Barrington-Ward** and to **Kate Joyce** who remembered us in their Wills.

#### Financial

During the year, the Trust acquired land at Larkins Lane for £192,374 and at Harcourt Hill for £300,793 resulting in an aggregate cost of £493,167. However, the disposals of land at Barton for £1,234,353 and of rights at Kennington for £51,550 coupled with a loss on the disposal of a computer resulted in total proceeds of £1,285,510. Overall, there was a net surplus of £793,368 on the land transactions. The Trustees have subsequently agreed to designate £350,000 of the surplus funds towards the redevelopment of Lord's Farm Barn, with a further £250,000 allocated for Education and Engagement and the cost of a part-time officer over the next five years.

The accounts to 31 December 2022 which included income of £27,202 from legacies and the surplus generated by disposals showed an overall surplus of £1,255,828, which included a growth in our restricted reserves of £46,457. The global downturn led to a reduction of £462,725 in the value of our investments resulting in net income, of £793,103 as stated in the Statement of Financial Activities, a loss on ordinary activities of £56,884 demonstrated OPT's willingness, where necessary, to use its reserves to fund its activities, but on a limited and manageable basis.

Restricted Funds are held for specific projects with Unrestricted Funds available for general use, both as cash and investments, all of which are held in furtherance of the Trust's strategic aims and objectives. OPT's green spaces and properties are also held in furtherance of the Trust's aims and objectives and are shown as designated funds.

The financial strategy of the Trust is to balance income and expenditure over the longer term and the OPT team, led by the Director, work hard to achieve this, keeping down costs of administration and seeking value for money on necessary expenditures. OPT operates a policy where all project work funding must be identified before work takes place. Expenditure on reviewing and commenting on planning proposals continues to reflect the importance of this area of OPT's work.

#### Investment

The Investment Sub-Committee has responsibility to oversee investment policy and meets quarterly to review the performance of the Trust's portfolio. As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, the investments totalled £3,632,149. £2,133,919 was held in the Cazenove Charity Responsible Multi-Asset Fund and £1,498,230 was invested in the Sarasin Climate Active Endowment Fund. These investments seek to generate long-term returns appropriate to a balanced portfolio whilst acting as a responsible investor.

Total investment income which was used to fund the work of the Trust was £133,345, including £9,000 arising from the application of the total return policy of drawing down 3.5% of the average year end balances of the three prior years, (2021: £116,121). In 2022, the investment portfolio generated a negative total return (income and capital movement, less costs) of minus £352,317 compared to a positive £463,073 in 2021. This represented a total return of minus 8.6% in 2022 (2021: 12.3%), however, this was considered to be a satisfactory performance in the context of market conditions.

#### Reserves

At the year end the Trust had total assets of £8,136,669. Tangible and heritage assets increased to £3,212,092 (2021: £2,727,477), as a result of the land acquisitions. Investments, designated funds and general funds were £4,720,421 (2021 £4,458,390), with the gain on land disposals

more than compensating for the reduction in the value of the investment portfolio and with a further £204,156 (2021: £157,699) in restricted funds. The latter has increased primarily due to income received for the landscaping works to be conducted at the Swing Bridge in 2023. Within the unrestricted funds the principal designated funds are Lord's Farm £478,478, Education and Engagement £250,000, Land Management Fund £101,637, and William Delafield Charitable Trust £41,444.

The Trust holds unrestricted reserves to enable it to move quickly to secure land in line with our strategic aims and objectives. Additionally, income from the investment portfolio supports routine annual expenditure and is considered essential to maintaining the Trust's ongoing activities over the long term.

#### Risks

The Trust has identified seven main financial risks:

- Loss of key personnel.
- Future loss of funding due to changes on European funding relating to land.
- Diversion of funds due to the unprecedented planning growth around Oxford.
- Diversion of funds due to the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme (OFAS).
- Cost overrun on the restoration of Rewley Road Swing Bridge.
- Inflationary pressures

The Trust operates through a small team, some of whom are key to the activities of the Trust and the attracting funding. The Trustees are mindful of the importance of valuing these individuals. During the year, the Trustees have begun to consider the issue of succession planning to provide continuity when individuals move on.

A significant proportion of the Trust's land income was derived from EU agri-environment grant funding. The Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) is being phased out (2021-2027) and will impact the Trust's income. The Trust is being advised by an experienced land agent team, ensuring future income opportunities including Stewardship schemes.

There is considerable pressure to develop in the City and within the green setting of Oxford. The Trustees are mindful of the need to provide the necessary funds to ensure that there is a strong planning team able to fully engage in this area of the Trust's work.

The proposed Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme (OFAS) runs through land owned by Trust. In order to mitigate the considerable effects of the OFAS on Trust land and to ensure that the wider planning and compulsory purchase implications are properly considered, the Trust is aware that further unbudgeted funds may be expended.

The Rewley Road Swing Bridge is under contract for restoration work being carried out by a very experienced team and working closely with the funding partners. Regular meetings take place to assess risks and revise cost plans. The project is on course to be delivered within allocated funds.

The Trust is mindful of the potential increases in core costs due to inflation. A cautious budget has been set which is regularly monitored with careful scrutiny of expenditure.

#### Remuneration

Remuneration matters are managed by the Finance & Executive Committee who delegate HR matters to the Chair of the Committee.

For and on behalf of the Trustees Reverend Professor William Whyte (Chair) Mr Charles Cooper (Vice-Chair)

25 May 2023

#### Statement by the Trustees of Oxford Preservation Trust

The attached summarised accounts are a summary of information extracted from the annual accounts and certain information relating to both the statement of financial activities and the balance sheet.

These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information, the full annual accounts and the trustees' annual report should be consulted. Copies of these can be obtained from the office and are available to view on the website.

The full annual accounts have to be subject to external examination by an independent auditor and received an unqualified report.

The annual accounts were approved by the trustees on 7 June 2023 and will be submitted to the Charity Commission.

For and on behalf of the Trustees Reverend Professor William Whyte (Chair)

Mr Charles Cooper (Vice-Chair)

25 May 2023

#### OXFORD PRESERVATION TRUST INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
INCOME		
Members subscriptions Investment Income Rental and other income from land and property Grants and donations for projects	91,248 133,345 200,598 277,499	89,014 116,121 216,106 330,996
Other restricted income	56,656	52,254
Total income from ordinary activities	759,346	804,491
EXPENDITURE		
Expenditure on land and property Projects Planning, scrutiny and advocacy Education, membership and administration Total expenditure on ordinary activities Net (deficit)/surplus on ordinary activities	240,898 227,350 74,691 <u>273,291</u> <u>816,230</u> (56,884)	177,477 703,414 69,788 <u>270,190</u> <u>1,220,869</u> (416,378)
OTHER INCOME		
Income from legacies Realised gain/(loss) on fixed assets Realised (loss) on investments	27,202 1,285,510 	27,515 - (6,671)
Overall surplus /(deficit)for the year excluding unrealised investment gains/(losses)	1,255,828	(395,534)
The growth/(reduction) in our restricted reserves which is included in our overall surplus/(deficit) for the year (see note 12 for details)	46,457	(450,955)

#### OXFORD PRESERVATION TRUST STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total F	unds
	2022 £	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £
Income				
Grants and donations	179,378	216,571	395,949	447,525
Income from charitable activities	200,598	56,656	257,254	268,360
Investment income	133,345	-	133,345	116,121
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	1,285,510		1,285,510	
Total income	1,798,831	273,227	2,072,058	832,006
Expenditure				
Costs of raising funds	54,345	-	54,345	48,532
Charitable activities	606,454	155,431	761,885	1,172,337
Total expenditure	660,799	155,431	816,230	1,220,869
Net income and net movement in funds before gains and losses on investments	1,138,032	117,796	1,255,828	(388,863)
Gains/(losses) on investments				
Realised	-	-	-	(6,671)
Unrealised	(462,725)		(462,725)	376,205
Net income and net movement in funds before transfers	675,307	117,796	793,103	(19,329)
Transfers between funds	71,339	(71,339)		
Net income and net movement in funds for the year	746,646	46,457	793,103	(19,329)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	7,185,867	157,699	7,343,566	7,362,895
Total funds carried forward	7,932,513	204,156	8,136,669	7,343,566

All activities are continuing. There are no gains or losses other than those recognised through the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### OXFORD PRESERVATION TRUST Company no: 225839 BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022		202	
FIXED ASSETS	£	£	£	£
Tangible assets		1,807,595		1,816,147
Heritage assets		1,404,497		911,330
Investments		3,632,149		4,117,811
		6,844,241		6,845,288
		0,044,241		0,043,200
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	61,453		58,219	
Cash at bank and in hand	1,344,465		521,785	
	1,405,918		580,004	
CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR	(113,490)		(81,726)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		1,292,428		498,278
NET ASSETS		8,136,669		7,343,566
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY				
Designated funds (fixed assets)		6,544,241		6,545,288
Designated funds (projects)		956,314		463,917
General funds		431,958		174,862
Total unrestricted funds		7,932,513		7,185,867
Restricted funds		204,156		157,699
		8,136,669		7,343,566

#### **RESTRICTED FUNDS as at 31 December 2022**

	£
Harcourt Hill	23,968
Rewley Road Swing Bridge	105,699
Martyrs Memorial	1,182
Oxford Castle	69,248
Oxford Land Fund	(500)
Railings Project	1,132
John Thompson Legacy	2,077
Kennington Memorial Field	350
Iffley	1,000
	204,156

Harcourt Hill – acquisition and management of nineteen acre field at Harcourt Hill

Iffley – for the restoration of a wall at Glebe Field, Iffley

John Thompson legacy – legacy receipt for planting of trees in central Oxford

Kennington Memorial Field – funds to be spent on improvement, maintenance and public access.

Rewley Road Swing Bridge – in furtherance of the restoration project. The project has been substantially completed with additional funding from the Railway Heritage Trust (£108,500), Historic England (£57,594) and Network Rail (£25,000)

Martyrs' Memorial – maintenance of the Martyrs' Memorial, St Giles.

Oxford Castle – rental and other income which, under the terms of the agreement with the National Heritage Memorial Fund, is used for the benefit of Oxford Castle.

Oxford Land Fund - for the purchase and improvement of land

Railings Project – project to restore traditional railings.

#### UNRESTRICTED FUNDS as at December 2022

Designated Funds	£
Tangible fixed assets	3,212,092
Fixed asset investments	3,332,149
Lords Farm	478,478
The William Delafield Charitable Trust	41,444
Land management fund	101,637
Rewley Road Swing Bridge	39,755
Larkins Lane	20,000
Harcourt Hill II	25,000
Education and Outreach	250,000
Total designated funds	7,500,555
General Funds	431,958

#### 7,932,513

Tangible fixed assets represent the charity's tangible fixed assets and heritage assets including land and property.

Fixed asset investments represent the Charity's fixed asset investments net of amounts within other designated funds.

Lords Farm represents the proceeds from the sale of cottages at Eynsham and has been designated for the benefit of the Trusts' land and properties, to include necessary works to Lord's Farm.

The William Delafield Charitable Trust represents donation which the Trustees are to use for specific costs at their discretion. The fund contributed towards works done to Turn Again Lane.

Rewley Road Swing Bridge includes a sum of £50,000 set aside by the Trustees in 2011 towards the restoration of the Swing Bridge, less expenses incurred to date.

Land Management Fund is to be spent on improvements of existing land holdings at the discretion of the Land Committee. The addition this year was a donation from the West Oxford Wildlife Group which is to be spent on our land at north Hinksey.

Larkins Lane fund is for the future management of this property acquired in 2022.

Harcourt Hill II fund is for the future management of this property acquired in 2022.

Education and Outreach is to fund a community engagement programme over 2023 to 2027.

#### LEGAL FORM & MEMBERSHIP LIABILITY

Oxford Preservation Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee incorporated in England & Wales. In accordance with Clause (8) of the Company's Memorandum of Association, every member of the Trust undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Trust in the event of the same being wound up during the time that he is a member, or within one year afterwards for payment of debts and liabilities of the Trust contracted before the time at which he ceases to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up the same, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories, such amount as may be required not exceeding fifty pence.

The registered address is 10 Turn Again Lane, St Ebbe's, Oxford OX1 1QL.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Trust gratefully acknowledges grants, donations, sponsorship and gifts in kind to the value of £1,000 or more from the following individuals, trusts and organisations:

- Gillian Bryan Carter Jonas David & Genefer Clark Critchleys LLP Joanna Davidson William Delafield Charitable Trust The Eyre Estate Friends of Old Headington Dame Helen Ghosh Dr Michael Heaton Jillian Hedges
- Historic EnglandAmanda PonsontClive HurstRailway HeritageMargaret JacksonMary Elizabeth ReChris Jones & Sara EverettDavid RoweLaing Family CharitableClemence SchultzSettlementCarole SouterJames MalcolmsonHon. Elizabeth StMathews Comfort Insurance BrokerSt John's CollegeProf Richard MayouDr Michael TappinNetwork RailTrust for OxfordstOxford Bus CompanyUniversity of Oxford
  - Amanda Ponsonby Railway Heritage Trust Mary Elizabeth Rees (estate of) David Rowe Clemence Schultze Carole Souter Hon. Elizabeth Stamp (estate of) St John's College Dr Michael Tappin Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment University of Oxford

Together with those donors who wish to remain anonymous.

We wish to thank those who have made grants, donations, sponsorship and gifts in kind to the value of £100 or more from the following individuals, trusts and organisations:

John Alexander	Liza Denny
Mark Barrington-Ward (estate of)	Eleanor Dic
Dr Sarah Beaver	Martin Duc
Maurice Benington Reckitt	Anita Eator
Charitable Trust	Chloe Fishe
Charles and Sadie Berman	Oliver Greig
Charitable Trust	Gresswell E
Martin Berry	Catherine H
Prof Bryan Birch	Edith Holt
Violet Black Charitable Trust	Tim Horder
Sheila Blackwell	Christopher
Lord Bradshaw	Sara Howa
James Bretherton	Clare Jaker
Tim Brunton	Kate Joyce
Christ Church	Thomas Kn
CNN International	Sophia Kral
Paul Collins	Susannah L
Nicola Creed	Jerry Lewin
Joy Crispin-Wilson	Merton Col
Critchleys Charitable Trust	Robin Mills
Mark Davies	Sally Munro

ickey icker on her eig **Environment Trust** Hilliard ۲ er Hoskin ard eman e (estate of) nollvs akowian Lankester in ollege S ro

**Briony Newport** Marion North Oxford City Council Peter Shaw Barbara Spencer Jeremy Taylor Dr Kate Tiller Alan Trinder Richard Van-Gucci Maaaie Wana Trudy Watt Wendy Welch Janice Wheeler Pat Whitehouse Daniel Wickham-Jones Adrian Williams The late Kathleen Williams Anaela Wood Wright & Wright Architects

We also thank those who support our activities as:

#### **College Members**

All Souls College	Magdalen College
Brasenose College	Pembroke College

St John's College Trinity College

#### **Corporate Members**

Beard Oxford Berrvs Benfield & Loxley Bidwells Blake Morgan Burke Hunter Adams Carter Jonas LLP Continuum Group Corefilina Critchleys LLP Edgars Ltd Fathom Architects Feltham Construction Ltd Freeths Gelder Joinery Ltd Greenwood Projects Ltd Greenford Ltd Grosvenor Developments Ltd

#### **Betjeman Circle (Patrons)**

Philip Allen Sandy & Sue Arbuthnot Alexander & Hannah Armstrong Sir Jonathan & Lady Baker Mark Beard Revd William & Dr Sarah Beaver Peter Bennett-Jones Danby & Sandy Bloch Her Honour Ann Campbell & His Honour Quentin Campbell John & Joanna Church Dr Tim & Kathy Clayden David Coleman Charles & Gisela Cooper Stephen Dance Joanna Davidson Richard & Felicity Dick

Holywell Press Ltd Kingerlee Ltd Kitchen Architecture Ltd Lucy Group Ltd Magdalen College School Malmaison Tradina Ltd Mathews Comfort Insurance Brokers Minns Estates Ltd Olamalu Original Field of Architecture Ltd Oxford Architects LLP Oxford Bus Company Oxford University Development Ltd Penwarden Hale Architects **PSP** Construction Consultants Purcell

Nick & Shong Fisher Dame Helen Ghosh David Jane Gye Nigel & Griselda Hamway Dr Michael Heaton Lord & Lady Jay of Ewelme Chris Jones & Sara Everett Ian & Caroline Laing James & Jan Lawrie John & Margaret Leighfield Trefor & Heather Llewellyn Jeremy Long & Rachel **Bailev Williams** Tim & the late Sarah Martin Dr Robert & Dr Rebecca Mather Prof Richard Mayou Lord Mendoza

Pve Charitable Settlement Radley College The Randolph Hotel Ridge & Partners LLP Robin Swailes Design & Development Savills Savvy Group Sidlevs Chartered Surveyors Sporn Construction Ltd Stuart Barr CDR T W Jones Property Ltd Towle Spurring Hardy Ltd Turnberry Plannina Ltd W G Carter I td West & West Ltd Wright & Wright Architects Woolridge & Simpson (Oxford) Ltd

Araminta Morris James & Susan Offen Tom Peers Rupert & Amanda Ponsonby Steven & Jo Sensecall Sir Tom & Lady Shebbeare Andrew & Judy Silver Dr David & Carole Souter Sir Tim Stevenson Simon & Ruth Tate Bernard & Sarah Taylor Dr Kate Tiller Professor Graham Upton & Bebe Speed Cllr Louise Upton Richard & Kate Venables

We are also grateful to all those who have let us know of their generosity in leaving the Trust a gift in their Will and to all those who have made contributions in so many ways financial, volunteering and general support.



The dreaming spires view from the new Harcourt Hill Field



The Rewley Road Swing Bridge restored



Debbie and project Manager Russ Turner receiving the National Railway Heritage Award for the Swing Bridge

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