



Kusuma Trust UK
5th Floor
55 New Oxford Street
London WC1A 1BS
Tel: +44 (0)20 7420 0650
info@kusumatrust.org
www.kusumatrust.org

A company limited by guarantee
registered in England and
Wales (number 06753811) and
a registered charity (number
1126983)

Kusuma Trust Gibraltar
Suites 18 & 20
Watergardens Block 3
Gibraltar
Tel: +35 (0)200 76718
info@kusumatrust.gi
www.kusumatrust.gi

A Gibraltar company limited
by guarantee registered as a
charity at the Gibraltar Charity
Registry with a registration
number 196

V&A Photography Centre
– The Kusuma Gallery:
Photography and the Book.



Kusuma Trust Annual Review 2023



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The Kusuma Trust Special Care Baby Unit is improving training and care for Gibraltar Health Authority.

Clockwise from top left: Victoria and Albert Museum, p12; University of Oxford, p18; Gibraltar highlights, p32; Gibraltar Health Authority, p35; Gibraltar Garrison Library, p36; London Wildlife Trust, p23.



“Learning is the only thing the mind never exhausts, never fears, and never regrets.”

Leonardo da Vinci

“ At Kusuma Trust, we are always listening and learning. Every year, we award grants to partners ranging from large organisations of international standing to small grassroots charities. 178 new and existing grants were active in 2023. Collectively, they make a difference to millions of lives.

Creating new opportunities

In the UK we signed 63 new grants in 2023 totalling over £4.8 million. Almost half were awarded to organisations that work with young people and are opening up access to opportunities. These projects and programmes cover a huge range of activities including art, science, sports, theatre, dance and drama. They aim to develop knowledge and skills such as oracy and literacy, understanding of personal finance, and ways into employment.

Some 2023 highlights of our work in this area include: the opening of the Kusuma Photography and the Book gallery at the Victoria and Albert Museum; and the hugely successful Alexander the Great: Making of a Myth exhibition and associated activities at the British Library. These unique projects are bringing learning opportunities to thousands of people.

In India, we continued to fund our partner Transform Schools. They provide expert educational support to secondary schools and state government education departments, improving the quality of learning for millions of students. In 2023, the World Bank commissioned Transform Schools to facilitate teacher training across the State of Tripura over the next three years.

A greener London

We awarded 15 new grants to develop projects involving

London’s parks, gardens and forests. As well as building a sense of community around these essential green spaces, the activities help improve people’s mental health, knowledge and understanding of our environment, and protect biodiversity.

Highlights include: a new visitor centre at Hainault Forest, which aims to double the number of visitors to this special east London green space; and a therapeutic healing garden on the grounds of University Hospital Lewisham in south-east London. We were also excited by Art Fund’s Wild Escape project, where up to half a million seven to 11-year-olds created art inspired by wildlife they saw in museums and galleries.

Improving healthcare

We awarded six new grants, totalling over £850,000, for upgrading or buying

equipment for London hospitals. Research grants were issued to Oxford and Cambridge universities to advance medical knowledge of heart-related conditions. Just some of the other incredible achievements in this focus area include the opening of the Kusuma Stem Cell Unit at University College London Hospital, and the purchase of four custom-made emergency vehicles for St John Ambulance to use to provide first aid.

Support in Gibraltar

In Gibraltar, we supported a range of charities and local community projects through a £700,000 grant to Kusuma Trust Gibraltar. Some are small, like our grant to Young Enterprise Gibraltar to help develop students’ personal and business skills. Others are major institutions, like the Department of Education and the Gibraltar Health Authority.

In 2023, all our usual annual events took place, including our University Talks, which introduce students to the application and interview process. We issued our Excellence Prizes to inspire high attaining students, and our Professional Development Awards to help people learn skills they can use to improve lives in the local community. A special highlight for us was seeing the opening of the Kusuma Trust Special Care Baby Unit at St Bernard’s Hospital. We are looking forward to the opening of The Alameda education zone at Gibraltar’s Botanic Gardens in 2024.

Celebrating success

Some of our partners received recognition for their contributions to society in 2023 – and we were delighted to celebrate their success. Chiswick House & Gardens Trust was awarded the coveted Green Flag Award and officially recognised as

Welcome

one of the country's best parks. Garrison Library in Gibraltar received a Group Heritage Award for their Digitisation and Repository Project, which our grant helped make happen. It was a pleasure to celebrate Professor Dame Molly Stevens winning the 2023 Novo Nordisk Prize for her pioneering work in bioengineering. In the past, we have funded students in her lab researching materials that support cardiac tissue to repair itself after sustaining damage.

Looking forward

In 2023, we dedicated time to reviewing our experience of grant giving. Going forward, we are developing two areas of funding. The first is medical research, specifically into heart failure. We've started this work and will be doing much more in 2024. The second is developing a framework to give more grants to improve classroom

“This annual review celebrates the tireless work, guidance and support of everyone who joined us on this journey.”

practice and life outcomes for neurodiverse students. We look forward to refining our grant portfolio further to reflect our thinking and learning. We hope that this coherent, concentrated effort will give results that are bigger and better than the sum of the individual elements.

In future, we also aim to invest more in capital projects that will leave a legacy for years to come. One example so far is the Natural History Museum's Urban Nature Project which will help people, particularly children, to understand more

Enjoying Imperial Hospital's redeveloped play and therapy room funded through Imperial Health Charity.

about urban nature and ultimately become advocates for our planet.

Thank you

We would like to thank all of our partners and the participants of our programmes for their commitment and successes achieved in 2023. This review showcases a few of the many projects we have enjoyed supporting this year. None of this would have been possible without our advisors, trustees and staff members in the UK and Gibraltar.

This annual review celebrates the tireless work, guidance and support of everyone who joined us on this journey.

We invite you to join us in this celebration.

”

Soma Pujari, Co-founder and Executive Trustee
Anurag Dikshit, Co-founder and Chair





Our work in the UK

‘The grants can be given for programmes, capital projects and research.’

Designers take part in an interactive workshop, part of the Makerversity learning programme and exhibition run by Somerset House Trust.

Our UK partners are organisations of all shapes and sizes: leaders in their fields that we trust will have the strongest impact on people and places, now and in the future. The grants can be given for programmes, capital projects and research.

Our grants focus on three priority areas:

Access to Opportunities: These grants support organisations that serve young people from all backgrounds, including those with special educational needs, to learn beyond the curriculum and gain experiences to enhance their futures. The projects are chosen to stimulate interest and curiosity in the world around us, build confidence and soft skills to make them good community members, and open pathways to employment.

Health and Wellbeing: We support London hospitals to invest in state-of-the-art equipment, improve their facilities and care, and boost

their ability to see more patients. We also award grants for medical research that encourages innovation and helps develop life-changing treatments.

Community and Green Spaces: Our partners improve the connections between green spaces and the communities around them. We also support projects that increase biodiversity and education about endangered species in our city. Projects include co-creating local community gardens and opening green spaces in hospitals, museums and schools. These spaces offer people opportunities to volunteer and give back, learn skills and make social connections.

In addition to our priority focus areas, we make Random Acts of Kindness grants every year during the festive season. These are one-off donations of up to £10,000 for not-for-profit organisations whose work we want to recognise. Kusuma Trust staff and trustees each nominate charities, anonymously, that they would like to support.

UK highlights 2023



Exploring history at the British Library's Alexander the Great exhibition.

A new home for treasured photography books

Victoria and Albert Museum

London's Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) houses one of the world's largest, oldest, and most varied photography collections. We funded a unique space within the museum's upgraded Photography Centre dedicated to Photography and the Book. The Kusuma Gallery, which opened in 2023, features rotating displays of over 27,800 photography books, journals and pamphlets published over the past 200 years. Topics range from aerial photography to X-rays.

School groups, students, researchers, and V&A visitors from across the globe will benefit from the resources, as well as the talks and events taking place in this beautiful new space.

"The Kusuma Gallery lies at the very heart of the V&A's Photography Centre, a space for study and debate, and encapsulates the V&A's long engagement with photography and the book. It facilitates dialogue with and between our visitors, the very lifeblood of a public museum."

Duncan Forbes, Head of the V&A Photography Centre



Building vital evidence to improve education

Education Endowment Foundation

For over a decade, the Education Endowment Foundation has been working to break the link between family income and educational achievement. Through building strong evidence of 'what works'

in education, they support teachers to raise the attainment of two to 19-year-olds, particularly those facing disadvantage. In 2022, we supported the development of four programmes over two years, with the ultimate aim

of improving the quality of teaching. The programmes will generate evidence on how best to apply cognitive science – the understanding of how children learn – to the classroom.



"There is considerable interest in cognitive science from teachers and researchers, but relatively sparse evidence in terms of real-world classroom application. Given the quality of teaching is a significant factor in supporting pupil outcomes and a key lever for schools looking to support disadvantaged pupils, we are keen to explore this area further."

Igraine Rhodes, Head of Programmes, Education Endowment Foundation

A platform to articulate views through celebrated works of art

The National Gallery

Young people should feel confident to articulate their views on issues that matter to them. Our grant to the National Gallery is helping make this happen through a public speaking initiative. Participants in the Articulation programme take a deep dive into a piece of art of their choice and a theme that speaks to them. They deliver a

presentation exploring the artist, context, technique and interpretation of the artwork. Some of the themes explored this year include grief, identity, dislocation, and ownership of historic objects of art. The skills participants develop – including communication and critical thinking – help them to confidently take the next steps in their education or careers.

- 159 schools engaged with Articulation activities in 2022-23, including 101 state schools.
- 91% of teachers said that taking part in Articulation helped their students develop oracy skills.
- 96% of participants said that Articulation had helped them develop public speaking skills.



Turning legends into legacy at the British Library

British Library

Was Alexander the Great a hero, villain or philosopher? A major multimedia exhibition at the British Library explored this question and many more, taking visitors on a mythical

journey across time and space. Alexander the Great: The Making of a Myth displayed 140 exhibits from 25 countries in over 20 languages. From medieval manuscripts to Bollywood movies,

the exhibits highlighted the lasting impact of this controversial figure. Our grant helped run the exhibition and associated events from October 2022 to February 2023.



- Over 32,000 people visited Alexander the Great: The Making of a Myth.
- 2,551 people attended public events inspired by the exhibition at the Library and online.
- 1,004 students and teachers took part in workshops and events.
- 17,450 people read blogs on the British Library's website inspired by the exhibition's content and themes.
- Social media posts about the exhibition reached 650,000 people.

Creating new experiences

Nova New Opportunities

We are supporting an action-packed school holiday programme run by Nova New Opportunities for one year, starting in the summer of 2023. This is our third grant to this small charity that has a huge impact on their local community in west London.

“I have only been using Nova services since summer 2023 but I must say it has transformed the lives of me and my children for good. We get to do more things as a family which is fantastic. I am grateful for all the help you have given us.”
Parent/carer



Speeding up genetic testing for heart and lung conditions

Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charity



Genetic testing gives us vital data about medical conditions. These facts and figures can save lives. Our grant to the Royal Brompton Hospital has helped potentially double the speed at which their genetics laboratory can generate this data with the help of a powerful new genetic sequencer.

According to Debbie Morris-Rosendahl, Head of the Clinical Genetics and Genomics Laboratory, the initial results are very exciting:

“This equipment is a huge gain for the diagnostic laboratory and will enable the genetics team to continue to meet the increasing demand for genetic testing, helping even more patients and their families. Royal Brompton and Harefield hospitals pride themselves on delivering the very best in treatment and care for patients with heart and lung disease – two of the world’s biggest killers. With the enormity of uncertainty and economic pressures being placed on our hospitals, and NHS in general, the Kusuma Trust’s continued support at this time is more appreciated than ever.”

Uncovering the link between diabetes and heart disease

University of Oxford

People with diabetes are much more vulnerable to heart attacks and twice as likely to have heart disease. We're funding research

from the University of Oxford to improve understanding of the link between the two conditions and help improve treatment. With diabetes

affecting more than 470 million people around the world, the research has the potential to save a huge number of lives.



“The realisation that diabetes fundamentally reprogrammes the immune system, thereby exacerbating cardiovascular disease and its complications, opens important new opportunities for understanding and treating this globally important disease.”
Professor Robin Choudhury, project lead and supervisor

Providing life-saving support at public events

St John Ambulance

You'll find them everywhere, from the Notting Hill Carnival to the Trooping of the Colour, the London Marathon to the King's coronation. St John Ambulance volunteers have been delivering first aid at events for decades. They often need to take several vehicles to an event – one to

carry volunteers, another for kit, and another to provide a treatment area. This limits the number of events they can attend. Our grant funded four of a new type of fully equipped, self-contained first aid vehicle, known as a Community Support Unit. Each one can carry up to six people, kitbags,

and a pop up treatment tent, and has four-wheel drive to access off-road venues. The Community Support Units are now on the road, responding to emergencies and injuries and keeping the public safe and well at events around London and the UK.



- The four Community Support Units were deployed to 53 events between April and December 2023, including

sports events, concerts and street parades.

- They've helped provide almost 100 training sessions

for St John Ambulance volunteers and staff towards the Certificate in Emergency Response Ambulance Driving.

Bringing the benefits of green space to hospital staff and patients

Royal Horticultural Society

A new hospital garden is giving staff, patients, visitors and local people a space to come together, heal and grow. The Royal Horticultural Society and Lewisham & Greenwich NHS Trust have co-created this large therapeutic garden with their staff and the local community.

As well as a gardening club, the garden hosts a series of workshops, with topics including weaving willow bird feeders, houseplant health, and herbal planters. Outdoor sessions help tackle stress, anxiety, and burnout, as participants increase their confidence, knowledge and skills.



“The workshops provide a safe space to talk, while engaging in a hands-on activity, which helps to lessen anxiety, forge friendships and reduce isolation.”
Lead Perinatal Community Nursery Nurse

Introducing ancient woodland to more Londoners

Woodland Trust

Hainault Forest is a beautiful ancient wooded landscape on the north-east edge of London. It's home to all kinds of plants, animals and fungi. Around 300,000 visitors already enjoy this calming space – and we're helping to double that number. We funded a brand new visitor centre, which opened in summer 2023. It's part of a broader project in the forest that includes new trail walks and a programme of community events, such as family days and workshops for people with mental health problems and dementia. The walks and events use the visitor centre as a starting point or base. Hainault Forest is now reaching new audiences and helping even more people discover the wellbeing benefits of spending time in woodland.

“Hainault will host the first ever staffed visitor centre for the Woodland Trust. It will make it possible for us to bring Hainault Forest closer than ever to a diverse audience, breaking down physical and cultural barriers. It's a new platform to show everyone why life's better with trees.”
Ian Froggatt, Estate Manager,
Woodland Trust



Gaining green skills in a supportive space

Core Arts



We are supporting an ambitious project to transform over 1,276 square metres of underused land in Hackney, London, into a co-designed and user-led community garden. Adults with mental health problems will

work alongside experienced gardeners to create this much-needed safe green space. Situated on the grounds of St Barnabas Church, the development is being driven by Core Arts, a charity that promotes positive mental health and

wellbeing through creative learning.

At least 10,000 people, including volunteers, community green groups, and the general public, will engage with the St Barnabas Community Garden annually.

Training young Londoners in nature conservation

London Wildlife Trust

We supported a unique programme to make nature more inclusive and relevant to young people living in London. Keeping it Wild gave 16 to 25-year-olds a full-time, four-month paid traineeship based at London Wildlife Trust nature reserves. The 20 participants learned valuable practical skills in urban nature conservation, community engagement, and communications.

Our grant to the London Wildlife Trust also supported a Green Jobs Fair and the creation of a Youth Board, which included mentoring and training.

“My mentor has given me really good advice, she’s helped me see things differently. I’m very interested in policy change, and that’s what she does within her field. She gives me a lot of resources and advice, there was a presentation I had to do and she gave me really good tips about that.”

Youth Board member and mentee

- 100% of trainees agreed that they learned new practical conservation and community engagement skills.

- 90% agreed they learned new communications and media skills.

“Before the traineeship, I lacked a lot of confidence in myself and started to believe that working in the environmental sector wasn’t a good fit for people like me. The traineeship changed my mindset completely and gave me the skills and confidence to pursue a green career.”

Keeping it Wild trainee



Learning through music-making

Lewisham Music



Lewisham Music is on a mission to inspire and empower young people across their local community through a diverse programme of learning and music-making. A member of Kusuma Trust staff chose to support the charity with a Random Act of Kindness grant of £10,000 in 2023.

“When the Random Acts of Kindness nominations come around, I always look to support something local in the arts or music sector. This year, I decided to nominate Lewisham Music. When I was younger, everyone had the chance to participate in music lessons at school. Unfortunately, this is not always the case nowadays, so nominating an organisation like Lewisham Music that makes this possible was an easy decision. Giving young people the chance to experiment with music and instruments provides a way for them to shine and express themselves in a way they may not be able to in their academic subjects. Supporting this charity to give these opportunities to more people was something I was very keen to do.”

Kusuma Trust staff member

Life-changing opportunities in the snow

Snow Camp

Snow Camp’s mission is to turn young lives around through the power of snow sports, combined with engaging opportunities, positive relationships, and life-changing progression.

In 2023, a member of Kusuma Trust staff supported their work with a £10,000 Random Act of Kindness grant.

“I’ve been incredibly lucky to have access to snow sports and the mountains, and have always felt that it’s had a considerable impact on my life. Operations such as Snow Camp are essential to give that opportunity for growth and wonder to those who’d otherwise miss out.”

Kusuma Trust staff member



New grants awarded in the UK in 2023

New grants awarded in the UK in 2023

ADHD Foundation, for their Talk Matters neurodiversity project in London schools.

Art Fund, for the Wild Escape project where young people created art inspired by nature.

Ashden Climate Solutions, to help community groups share information about living in a low-cost, low-impact way.

Bonny Downs Community Association, for their group for toddlers with special educational needs and parenting skills workshops.

British Library, for their Jaipur Literature Festival in London.

Bumblebee Conservation, for their Buzzing in the East End project.

C4WS Homeless Project, to support those without a home to rebuild their lives.

Camden Art Centre, for their special educational needs and schools art programmes.

Campaign Against Living Miserably, to help take a stand against suicide.

Castlehaven Community Association, for Edibeds, a community-based food initiative in Camden.

Caxton Youth, for their Creating Communities, Opportunities and Employment Support project.

Chess in Schools, for their Chess Fest 2023 event in London.

Conservation Education and Research Trust (Earthwatch), for their Teach Earth fellowship which instructs teachers on green education.

Construction Youth Trust, for their Pathways to Professional Careers training programme for 16 to 18-year-olds.

Create Arts, for creative:connections, a project that brings SEND and mainstream schools together through creativity.

Equal People Mencap, for a skills training programme for people with special educational needs in Kensington.

Freightliners City Farm, for farming and gardening projects.

Fulham Palace Trust, to build a greenhouse and pond to support environmental education initiatives.

Go Live Theatre Projects, for Playmakers, a playwriting project for young people who are deaf.

Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity, for two Stealth Image Guidance Systems, used for image-guided surgery.

Home-Start Westminster, Kensington & Chelsea and Hammersmith & Fulham, to help build better futures for children.

Imperial Health Charity, to redevelop a play and therapy room.

IPSEA (Independent Provider of Special Education Advice), for advice services and e-learning.

Kentish Town City Farm, to help with running costs.

London Transport Museum, for their 21st Century Skills: Preparing for the Future programme for teachers and students.

Marylebone Cricket Club Foundation, for a London-wide action plan to make cricket a game for all.

Museum of Brands, to help engage more people and expand their delivery with their Widening Reach project.

Museum of the Home, for their Discovery Garden, a child-friendly green space.

Nova New Opportunities, to run a school holiday activity programme for families.

Oasis Children's Venture, to engage young people in nature and the environment.



Top: Caxton Youth;
Above: Castlehaven Community Association.

People for Action, for Transform Schools, a project improving the education of millions of children across India.

Photographers' Gallery, to give young people an insight into the careers connected to photography.

Pursuing Independent Paths, to support young adults with learning disabilities to achieve their ambitions.

Royal Brompton & Harefield Hospitals Charity, towards a new genetic sequencer to analyse patient data.

Royal Horticultural Society, for a garden and wellness programme at Lewisham Hospital.

Sebby's Corner, to provide essential items for children, such as nappies, formula, clothing and baby equipment.

Social Farms and Gardens, for Londoners' Natural Future Together, a project to strengthen partnerships between London's nature-based organisations.

Somerset House, for their Makerversity exhibition and learning programme for young people.

Southbank Centre, to fund workshops, performances, and activities at their children's festival Imagine.

Speakers Trust, for Culturally Speaking, a programme to engage students with culture, heritage and oracy.

Street League, towards their Sport and Employability Academy in Southwark.

Sufra - NW London, to employ a Community Garden Manager at St Raphael's Edible Garden.

Thames Explorer Trust, so more pupils can attend their unique learning trips and explore the river Thames.

The Arts Emergency Service, to provide mentoring, support and advice to young people.

The Literacy Pirates, to support their volunteer programme to boost literacy.

The National Gallery, to extend Articulation, their public speaking initiative for young people.

The Royal Institution, to support their Science in Schools programme.

The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity, to purchase two new pieces of equipment, an Interoperative Ultrasound Machine & Mobile Image Intensifier.

The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital Charity, towards two new ultrasound machines to improve the patient experience.

The Royal Parks, for their Green Futures project offering hands-on environmental conservation experiences.

The Science Museum, for workshops where students meet technicians and learn about their work.

The Smallpeice Trust, for their STEM Educational Enrichment project for London schools.

The Yard Theatre, to support the Hackney-based theatre that promotes diverse voices and stages modern shows.

Tomorrow's Warriors Trust, to nurture the talent of aspiring young jazz artists.

Transform Schools UK, for their teaching, learning and school management programme in India.

UK for UNHCR, towards the relief and protection of refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced and stateless persons.

University of Cambridge, for research into restoring heart function after a heart attack.

University College London Hospitals Charity, towards upgrading cancer equipment and improving services.

University of Oxford, for research transforming understanding and treatment of the long-term cardiovascular consequences of diabetes.

Woman's Trust, to support their free counselling and support services to women in London who have experienced domestic violence.

Woodland Trust, for a visitor centre and improvements at Hainault Forest.

Young Westminster Foundation, to help understand the diverse experiences of young people across the borough.

Collectively 178 grants were active, including the new grants awarded in 2023.



From top: Nova New Opportunities; Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital; The Royal Parks; Street League.



Our work in Gibraltar

'We form partnerships and work closely with those who share our aims and values.'

We partner with the Government, education institutions and community organisations in Gibraltar to enhance people's health, wellbeing, education and cultural life. We form partnerships and work closely with those who share our aims and values.

We work alongside Gibraltar Health Authority to improve healthcare, by funding new equipment and specialist training.

We run the Kusuma Trust University Talks in schools to introduce and prepare students for the world of higher education. Our

Excellence Awards recognise the commitment and hard work of high achieving students. We partner with organisations offering programmes outside the classroom that improve young people's confidence, soft skills and life skills.

We also work alongside many different community and cultural organisations. The projects we support range from classical concerts and literary festivals to training courses for volunteers and charities. Professional development grants are given to applicants who can demonstrate how the skills they learn can be used to improve people's lives in the local community.

A performer at BrightMed's Gibraltar World Music Festival.

Gibraltar highlights 2023



Tanya Goodin (left) and Rory Cellan Jones (right) discuss our relationship with technology at the Gibraltar International Literary Festival organised by the Government of Gibraltar.

Delivering the best care to babies in Gibraltar

Gibraltar Health Authority

Premature and sick babies in Gibraltar are getting the best possible treatment and care, thanks to the new Kusuma Trust Special Care Baby Unit, which opened at St Bernard's Hospital in 2023. Our funding helped to buy equipment, including incubators, cooling devices, and a mechanical ventilator. The Unit is also home to 'Baby Paul', a state-of-the-art baby simulator that has already been used to train doctors, nurses and midwives in Gibraltar and nearby Spain.

"I am delighted that we have been able to officially open the brand new Kusuma Trust Special Care Baby Unit at the St Bernard's Hospital. This is part of the Gibraltar Health Authority's ongoing plan to repatriate as many services as possible to Gibraltar, thereby increasing the patient experience. I am particularly grateful to the Kusuma Trust for their very generous donation, which has been fundamental in making this project a reality."

Professor Patrick Geoghegan, Director General of the Gibraltar Health Authority



Equipping medical staff with the skills and equipment they need

Gibraltar Health Authority

When you work in a healthcare environment, keeping up to date with the latest technology and continuously improving your skills are vital. That's why we funded a St Bernard's Hospital staff member to train for a Postgraduate Certificate in Radiography at London City University. The training will help ensure there's a seamless handover when the current senior CT radiographer retires. It will also mean they have a staff member qualified to perform cardiac scanning – a new service to come to Gibraltar – when the hospital gets a new scanner early next year.

"My clinical placement was an invaluable experience that significantly enhanced my professional capabilities. It provided me with hands-on opportunities to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world settings, improving my clinical skills and decision-making abilities. This practical experience has been instrumental in my job, improving my confidence, competence, and compassion in delivering high-quality patient care."

Marco Costa, Senior Radiographer



Preserving precious resources for future generations

Gibraltar Garrison Library



The Gibraltar Garrison Library is home to 45,000 books, as well as maps, plans and historical images, and the complete archive of the Gibraltar Chronicle, the leading local paper. Right now, everything is hard copy only – if you want to view a document, you have to come to the library. But that’s all about to change. With our funding, the library has bought two high-spec scanners and is transforming their basement into a digital studio. They’ll use the scanners and space to digitise their collection, which will be accessible online from all over the world.

The digitisation project will create:

- a fully searchable database of the Gibraltar Chronicle newspaper from 1801 to 1990
- an image library of over 300 historical prints and 100,000 negatives dating from the early 20th century to the 1990s.

“This generous grant from the Kusuma Trust for our digitisation project has coincided with the Gibraltar Garrison Library’s 230th anniversary in 2023. We find ourselves, therefore, in the wonderful position to be able to commemorate our historic trajectory whilst also thanking the Kusuma Trust for being instrumental in equipping the Gibraltar Garrison Library with the means to achieve greater relevance and sustainability in this digital age.”

Dr Jennifer Ballantine, Director, Gibraltar Garrison Library

Harnessing skills for a successful future

Young Enterprise Gibraltar

Young Enterprise Gibraltar has been helping students build workplace know-how, knowledge and life skills for over a decade. We support a range of their programmes including:

- The charity’s flagship **Company Programme** – where 16 to 17-year-olds set up and run a company, taking an idea or product to market. As well as building confidence, skills and knowledge, the Company Programme helps boost their applications to education and training providers or future employers.
- **Learn to Earn** – where young people learn from employers about work and the skills that are valued in the workplace.
- **Personal finance programmes** – which teach young people money management skills. This includes the **Fiver Challenge**, where primary school pupils are pledged £5 and have one month to set up a mini business. Over 100 pupils took part in 2023.



“Young Enterprise provides first-hand learning experiences in starting, building and running their own business, allowing them to make an informed decision on their future career path. Everyone who supports or takes part in the programme benefits in the development of skills such as coaching, negotiating, sales and interpersonal skills amongst many, many more. The fact we have past participants return as volunteers is testament to the fact that they believe the experience is worth supporting. They want to share their own experiences for the benefit of others.”

Carlos Garcia, Chairman,
Young Enterprise Gibraltar

Supporting professional development

Every year, we celebrate Gibraltar's strong community spirit by awarding grants for professional development that will benefit the people who live and work there. The successful Professional Development Award applicants for 2023 chose the following courses:

Joanne Barabich MSc Psychology Conversion Course

Sufian Arrais Biomed Online Course & Portfolio Training

Amy Martinez Level 3 Certificate in Counselling Studies

Jeremy Victor Elective placement in USA or Canada

Katrina Celecia Access to Healthcare

Lorena Soler Casale MSc Football Medicine in Association with FIFA

Kamil Baczynski MSc Football Medicine in Association with FIFA



University Talks

Celebrating Gibraltar's high-achieving students

Our yearly Excellence Prize, a one-off grant of £3,000, is an incentive for students to study their chosen subject at some of the best universities. In 2023, we awarded grants for the following university places:



Morgane Jacobs, Medicine, University of Exeter



Lizhe Zhang Zhuo, MSci Architecture, UCL



Esther Tricker, MEng Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Bath



Emma Rocca, MBChB Medicine and Surgery, The University of Liverpool



Dyan Risso, MMathCompSci Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Oxford



Aman Shivdasani, BSc International Management, University of Bath

"I am grateful to have enriched my studies beyond my degree by building more sophisticated models, learning new software I otherwise would have never learned, and exploring architecture in different countries, thanks to the Kusuma Trust. I believe the Prize is a symbol of encouragement for Gibraltar's future."
Lizhe Zhang Zhuo

"As a medical student, the financial relief from the Excellence Prize has allowed me to prioritise my mental wellbeing alongside my rigorous studies. With this burden lifted, I can fully immerse myself in my medical education, knowing that my passion for dance can also thrive, offering me balance in my everyday life. I'm extremely grateful to the Kusuma Trust for giving me this opportunity and support."
Emma Rocca

Grants awarded in Gibraltar in 2023

Bayside Comprehensive School and Westside School, for an educational visit to the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland.

BrightMed, to support the Gibraltar World Music Festival.

CYE-CYL, for a summer camp and Innovation Hub, helping young people develop skills for further education or employment.

Excellence Awards, an incentive for committed students to study their chosen subjects at university.

Gibraltar Botanic Gardens, to develop a purpose-built education area.

Gibraltar Digital Skills Academy, for Microsoft technicians' courses.

Gibraltar Garrison Library Trust, to purchase two high-spec scanners to digitise their collection.

Gibraltar Health Authority, to fund a special care baby unit, radiographer training and equipment to treat pre-cancerous cells.

Gibraltar Philharmonic, to support classical music events for the local community.

Gibraltar Red Cross, to buy a specially-adapted van to transport patients and mobility equipment.

Gibraltar Youth Service, for an educational visit to Brighton, England, and a new careers advice website.

HM Government of Gibraltar, to fund a talk about tech-life balance at the 2023 Gibraltar International Literary Festival.

Kusuma University Talks and interview workshops, advice sessions that prepare students for life at university.

PossAbilities, for the Kusuma Trust Cafeteria at a new centre providing supported employment and training for disabled people.

Professional Development Awards, one-off grants for professional development that will benefit the people who live and work in Gibraltar.

The Rock Retreat, for a series of creative writing workshops led by well-known authors, illustrators, poets and songwriters.



From top: Gibraltar Digital Skills Academy; Gibraltar Red Cross; Gibraltar Youth Service.



Clockwise from top: The Rock Retreat; Gibraltar Philharmonic; CYE-CYL.

Financial information



IntoUniversity's work increases aspiration and attainment in young people.

Grants paid by Kusuma Trust UK

1 January 2023 - 31 December 2023

Grants paid by Kusuma Trust UK 1 January 2023 - 31 December 2023

UK GRANTS

ADHD Foundation	£22,000	IPSEA	£29,396
Ambitious about Autism	£16,428	Kentish Town City Farm	£10,000
Art Fund	£150,000	Kingston Hospital	
Ashden Climate Solutions	£49,409	NHS Foundation Trust	£92,000
Asthma and Lung UK	£49,321	London Transport Museum	£23,325
Bonny Downs Community Association	£24,991	Loughborough Junction Action Group	£25,000
Bumble Bee Conservation Trust	£40,000	Marylebone Cricket Club Foundation	£25,000
C4WS Homeless Project	£10,000	Mayor's Fund for London	£10,000
Calthorpe Community Garden	£18,939	Migration Museum	£45,900
Camden Art Centre	£28,596	Moorfields Eye Charity	£41,000
Campaign Against Living Miserably	£10,000	Museum of Brands	£15,000
Castlehaven Community Association	£25,000	Museum of London	£27,000
Caxton Youth	£25,000	Museum of the Home	£20,000
Chess in Schools	£25,000	Natural History Museum	£200,000
City Harvest Ltd	£20,000	Nova New Opportunities	£20,000
Conservation Education and Research Trust (Earthwatch)	£25,000	Oasis Children's Venture	£31,015
Construction Industry Trust for Youth	£25,000	Pursuing Independent Paths	£32,745
Core Arts	£32,100	Royal Brompton & Harefield Hospitals Charity	£103,906
Create (Arts) Limited	£25,000	Royal Horticultural Society	£108,800
Creative Futures	£5,000	Royal Institution	£48,865
Crisis UK	£14,777	Royal Society for Blind Children	£20,013
Equal People Mencap	£24,802	Science Museum	£21,147
Foundling Museum	£20,750	Sebby's Corner	£10,000
Freightliners Farm	£25,000	Social Farms and Gardens	£65,180
Future Frontiers	£25,000	Somerset House	£57,652
Go Live Theatre Projects	£25,000	Southbank Centre	£25,000
Great Ormond Street Hospital Charity	£79,556	Speakers Trust	£43,910
Home Start WKCHF	£10,000	Speech and Language UK	£50,000
Imperial College	£49,988	St John Ambulance	£126,240

GIBRALTAR GRANTS

Street League	£43,723	Kusuma Trust Gibraltar	£644,530
Thames Explorer Trust	£24,380		
Thames21	£76,515	TOTAL	£644,530

INDIA GRANTS

The Arts Emergency Service	£10,000		
The Barbican Centre	£24,625		
The Brilliant Club	£25,000		
The British Library	£95,000		
The Education Endowment Foundation	£77,000	People for Action	£46,700
The Garden Classroom	£14,858		
The Literacy Pirates	£25,000	TOTAL	£46,700
The Media Trust	£25,000		
The National Gallery	£126,000		
The Royal Association for Deaf People	£14,992	TOTAL	£ 4,812,140
The Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital Charity	£25,250		
The Yard Theatre	£10,000		
Hospital Charity	£25,250		
The Smallpeice Trust	£24,701		
The Zoological Society of London	£30,000		
Tomorrow's Warriors Trust	£10,000		
Transform Schools UK	£25,000		
United Kingdom for UNHCR	£10,000		
University of Cambridge	£75,000		
University of Oxford	£73,427		
Victoria and Albert Museum	£1,000,000		
Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust	£15,688		
Woman's Trust	£10,000		
TOTAL	4,120,910		

Grants paid by Kusuma Trust Gibraltar

1 January 2023 - 31 December 2023

GRANTS TO INSTITUTIONS AND PROJECTS

Alameda Biodome (Wildlife Gibraltar Ltd)	£5,746
Bayside Comprehensive School	£10,000
Change Your Energy - Change Your Life	£20,000
Gibraltar Air Cadets	£10,200
Gibraltar Garrison Library Trust	£264,798
Gibraltar Health Authority (GHA)	£20,000
Gibraltar Philharmonic Society	£10,000
Gibraltar Red Cross	£30,155
Gibraltar Tourist Board	£3,000
Gibraltar Youth Service	£6,500
PossAbilities	£60,000
The Rock Retreat	£8,525
Young Enterprise Gibraltar	£5,000

TOTAL £453,924

GRANTS TO INDIVIDUALS

Excellence Awards	£18,000
Professional Development Awards	£29,115
University Talks for Students	£15,355

TOTAL £62,470

TOTAL £516,394

Freightliners City Farm provides a much needed green space in Islington, north London for 40,000 visitors a year.



Trustees

Soma Pujari, Co-Founder and Executive Trustee (KT-UK and KT-Gib)
Anurag Dikshit, Co-Founder and Chair (KT-UK and KT-Gib)
Nitin Jain (KT-UK)
Peter Isola (KT-Gib)

Advisors

Rebecca Eastmond (KT-UK)
Dr Sandra Sequeira (KT-UK)
Trino Cruz (KT-Gib)

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Writing: Sarah Myers

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