WELCOME

The work of The Prince’s Foundation is inspired by HM The King’s philosophy of harmony: that by understanding the balance, order and relationships between ourselves and the natural world we can create a more sustainable future. During the last decade the impact of natural resource depletion, climate change and rapid urbanisation has become evident and widely understood. The work of The Prince’s Foundation is inspired by the belief that only by taking a holistic view of these issues can we create a sustainable future to meet the needs of our world.

Throughout the pages of our 2022-23 Highlights you will read about the work of The Prince’s Foundation, from our headquarters at Dumfries House in East Ayrshire to locations across the UK and further afield.

The work of our charity is diverse and inclusive. Our education activity alone ranges from education and skills training programmes for primary school children through to post-graduate academic courses, both within The Prince’s Foundation and at some of the world’s leading academic institutions.

Our team of skilled placemakers, architects and project managers support a range of historic buildings and sustainable urban development projects.

Our special heritage assets at Dumfries House, The Castle and Gardens of Mey and Highgrove Gardens are meticulously cared for, with an emphasis on heritage-led regeneration with, and for the benefit of, the local community.

What follows in these pages could not have been possible without the support of the many individuals, companies, trusts, and foundations who have been so generous over the past year. Thank you for your continued commitment to our work.

As I embark on my first 12 months as CEO of an organisation that changes the lives of so many people every year, my colleagues and I look forward to reporting to you further on the work of The Prince’s Foundation as we build on our considerable successes to date.

Kristina Murrin, CEO, The Prince’s Foundation

“Not everybody is designed for the academic. I’ve seen the difference we can make to people who have technical skills. It gives people intense reward and satisfaction.”

— HRH The Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, September 2021 (The Repair Shop, BBC1)
OUR IMPACT

1. The Castle & Gardens of Mey
2. Dumfries House
3. Highgrove Gardens
4. The Garrison Chapel
5. The Prince’s Foundation School of Traditional Arts
6. Trinity Buoy Wharf

THE PRINCE’S FOUNDATION’S ACTIVITY

- Bahrain
- Saudi Arabia
- Egypt
- China
- Jamaica
- Azerbaijan

IN PERSON VISITORS
250,719

- Dumfries House 207,440
- Highgrove Gardens 28,454
- The Garrison Chapel 7,550
- The Castle & Gardens of Mey 7,275

Dumfries House
- Events guests 14,418
- House tours 17,849
- Estate visitors 170,000 (estimate)
- Dumfries House Lodge 5,173 guests

The Garrison Chapel
- Visitors 7,550

Highgrove Gardens
- Gardens tours 25,826
- Orchard Room events 2,628

The Castle & Gardens of Mey
- Castle tours 6,514
- The Granary Lodge bookings 761
EMPLOYEES OF THE PRINCE’S FOUNDATION, INCLUDING:

- Delivering education and training across the UK: 432 employees
- Running The Castle and Gardens of Mey: 72 employees
- Conducting tours of Highgrove Gardens: 48 employees
- Total: 432 + 72 + 48 = 552 employees

EDUCATION IMPACT

NUMBERS OF STUDENTS ENGAGED IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- The Prince’s Foundation School of Traditional Arts: 4,329 students
- Dumfries House: 9,851 students
- Trinity Buoy Wharf: 426 students
- All-Ireland Heritage Skills Programme: 6 students
- Total: 4,329 + 9,851 + 426 + 6 = 14,612 students

ENGAGED CLIENTS THROUGH INTEGRATED HEALTH AND WELLBEING PROGRAMMES

- The Prince’s Foundation School of Traditional Arts: 4,329
- Dumfries House: 9,851
- Trinity Buoy Wharf: 426
- All-Ireland Heritage Skills Programme: 6
- Total: 4,329 + 9,851 + 426 + 6 = 14,612

Dumfries House 9,851 including:
- Farm education 1,730
- STEM education 2,717
- Future Textiles 798

Highgrove 256 including:
- Future Textiles 125

Trinity Buoy Wharf 426
- Diploma Year 37
- Future Textiles 389

All-Ireland Heritage Skills Programme 6
PLACEMAKING

BUILDING A LEGACY

The Prince’s Foundation’s Projects Team had a busy year focusing on the three main strands of international development, architecture and heritage, and urban planning and landscapes. The international focus has been on working with Commonwealth partners to convene a Call to Action on Sustainable Urbanisation which resulted in the adoption of the Declaration on Sustainable Urbanisation at the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Rwanda.

In terms of the heritage projects, work on the refurbishment of Fleetwood Hospital in Lancashire has made significant progress, delivering a number of community support services such as creative space, a food hub, a health hub as well as education services. The Fleetwood Trust received a grant of £1 million from the Youth Investment Fund to create a youth centre on site.

A core strand of Projects Team’s work is Building a Legacy, a landowner forum which is the largest landowner network in the country focussed on building mixed-use, mixed-income walkable and beautiful places. The network has grown to around 180 people with a wide range of projects being brought to site ranging in type and scale to the dismantling of a power station to a brownfield mixed-use development in central London. The activities in the last year alone have clearly shown that this initiative has now turned into a movement with the term ‘Legacy’ widely used across the development industry as representing good development principles and values.

The annual event was hosted in September last year by Moray Estates at Tornagrain, a new mixed-use settlement of 5000 homes near Inverness. Around 120 landowners and their teams attended and the keynote address was given by Scotland’s Chief Planner, Fiona Simpson. The theme of the event and the annual research report was Building Towards Zero Carbon Homes and so this was debated during the panel session involving experts in zero carbon building. The conclusions of the report set out a suggested new digital and physical model for enabling low carbon Legacy development by setting up Regional Building Hubs to enable smaller builders’ access to larger sites as part of a consortium model.

In addition to the annual event, three other events were held at Kellogg College, Oxford on zero carbon solutions, at Poundbury, Dorchester on delivering mixed-use development and at Nansledan, Newquay on integrating affordable housing. This year also saw the launch of the Building a Legacy President’s Awards, kindly supported by Lycetts in three categories, the Key Role Award won by Peter James of the Duchy of Cornwall, the Community Award won by the Elsick Development Company and the Landowner Award won by the Moray Estates for Tornagrain.
THE PRINCE’S FOUNDATION SCHOOL OF TRADITIONAL ARTS

DEGREE SHOW

The Prince’s Foundation School of Traditional Arts’ Degree Show at The Garrison Chapel paid homage to Buddhist, Christian, Islamic, Sikh and other venerable traditions. Showcasing work by students from across the School, including PhD Christabel Anderson, and MA scholars Nicole Frobusch, Aurelie Gerardin, Nora Issa, Sana Mustafa, Simran Kaur Panesar, Jingshi Wang, and Tian Yuan, the show gave supports and members of the public the opportunity to learn about the School’s work.

The 2022 Degree Show also included a rich visual summary of the School’s work in Cairo, Baku, Suzhou, Karachi, AlUla, and Jeddah where 920 students at our six international centres engaged with their local traditions in programmes developed and delivered by The Prince’s Foundation School of Traditional Arts.

920 students at our six international centres engaged with their local traditions.

Our London-based public Open Programme courses, which are run online and in person, were also featured. These courses welcome participants from over 40 countries worldwide, contributing to an expanding and inspirational community of people dedicated to exploring and celebrating the traditional arts.

Nicole Frobusch

The artistic expressions of Nicole embody the feminine essence through geometric renderings and clay forms. These offerings channel the ancient energy of the Divine Feminine.

Aurelie Gerardin

Aurelie’s canvases serve as portals to the enchanting realms of Indian and Persian miniature traditions.

Sana Mustafa

Sana navigates the pages of Persian manuscripts and the intricate art of illumination, reviving narratives through meticulous creations.

Nora Issa

In parallel, Nora’s ethereal paintings on glass bear her unique perspective.
Simran Kaur Panesar

Simran’s masterful miniature paintings assume the role of divine conduits – a sacred dialogue between humanity and the Divine within the sanctum of her Sikh faith.

Jingshi Wang

Jingshi Wang’s colourful stained glass panels embody visual stories, taken from European medieval Christian traditions alongside carvings from East Asian temples.

Tian Yuan

Tian Yuan’s artistry, guided by themes of transformation, graces paper and earthenware alike, entwining Persian, Indian, and Chinese painting processes into an exquisite yet bold statements.

Christabel Anderson

Christabel Anderson offered a modern perspective inspired by Orthodox Iconography which focused on the continuum between heritage and evolution.
The 2022/23 cohort of The Prince’s Foundation Diploma Year worked incredibly hard, demonstrating commitment and determination throughout the year.

The introduction of elective masterclass workshops to the programme’s timetable this year proved popular with students. These workshops allowed for an introduction to new skills or a more in-depth development of skills whilst in a small, focused group. Some elective workshops we held this year were Tints and Glazes, Artist books: Book Binding and Creative Pattern Cutting. The Diploma Year worked with the Thames Festival Trust in delivering a series of workshops for the Diploma Year Students. This formed part of the 2023 festival, looking at the history of the local areas surrounding Trinity Buoy Wharf.

In May, a group of Diploma Year students were invited to a special screening of His Majesty’s Coronation at St. Margaret’s Church, Westminster Abbey. The students enjoyed the day and being witness to a part of living history.

The Prince’s Foundation’s Trinity Buoy Wharf base hosted its first Open Studios event at the end of the spring term. Students raised funds to provide refreshments and invited friends, family and schoolteachers to the studios to view a display of works in progress. The summer term saw students immersed in their Final Major Projects, completing a body of work for their final assessment. The year concluded with positive outcomes, 78% of students achieving a merit or distinction.

At the end of the academic year in June 2023, students exhibited their work in the End of Year Exhibition at the Garrison Chapel in Chelsea. Each student exhibited works from their Final Major Project, a self-directed body of work that demonstrated independent and creative thinking, and an opportunity to showcase their achievements and skills gained from studying on the Diploma Year.

The Stephen Lawrence Day Foundation Scholarship students demonstrated an interest in further study of architecture during the interview process and will benefit from the financial support. The scholarships include full fee waiver on tuition fees, termly study support allowance to cover travel and materials, individual guidance and support with University applications, portfolio preparation and mock interviews, weekly tutorials to nurture and support skill and creative development, residencies to Highgrove and Dumfries House, including travel and accommodation.
HEALTH AND WELLBEING

INTEGRATED HEALTH AND WELLBEING AT THE PRINCE’S FOUNDATION

The Prince’s Foundation’s Health and Wellbeing Centre at Dumfries House has seen a strong recovery following the pandemic, with our services being in greater demand than ever. The Health and Wellbeing programmes currently running on Dumfries House estate utilise a holistic approach within each of the work programmes. This approach offers participants the opportunity to focus on the interconnectedness of their mind, body and spirit when considering their health and wellbeing. This is achieved through education (about health, wellness and their condition), increasing movement and activity levels and providing tasters of a range of complementary therapy sessions.

The centre has been running five key programmes – women’s health, fertility, chronic pain, mindfulness, and diabetes and weight management – with participants being referred by primary and tertiary care providers. This year, programme co-ordinators have trialled a series of new programmes, including one focused around sleep.

Alongside the standard health and wellbeing programmes, The Prince’s Foundation was pleased to collaborate with the East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership, providing wellbeing sessions for the HSCP staff. This was a wonderful opportunity to not only build a relationship with the HSCP, but also to provide much-needed support services to the community of healthcare practitioners working across East Ayrshire.

Particularly given the challenges of the last few years, the health and wellbeing centre provides a vital contribution to the benefit of the community in which we work. The centre team continues to see very strong outcomes from our programmes, as well as a continued recognition of the innovative approach we take and value of the principles that underpin our work.

THE GLOBAL CENTRE ON HEALTHCARE AND URBANISATION

The Prince’s Foundation has a longstanding relationship with the University of Oxford through its MSc Sustainable Urban Development course run in partnership with the Department for Continuing Education. Through that programme, the charity has developed a close association with Kellogg College and was thrilled in 2020 to have launched alongside them a new Global Centre on Healthcare and Urbanisation (GCHU) based at the college.

This past year saw the first major piece of work being delivered by the GCHU, a Commission on Creating Healthy Cities and an accompanying Healthy Cities Toolkit. With an ever-increasing proportion of the global population residing in densely populated urban environments, it is vital to consider how city design and use impacts the health and wellbeing of residents and the spread and severity of infectious disease outbreaks. The Commission used evidence from global events to inform urbanisation and how existing urban infrastructure and communities can adapt to become more resilient in future outbreaks. The Commission was chaired by Lord Richard Best, with an international advisory board chaired by Lord Nigel Crisp.

While the Commission focused its recommendations on the UK context, it also assessed the global evidence. The Commission took a holistic view of these issues, recognising the backdrop of the climate crisis and taking account of factors such as poverty and diversity.

The target audience is the intersection between policymakers and practitioners in the UK’s local and central governments and devolved administrations, including town planners, architects, urban designers, and allied health professionals, to inform the creation of our built environment. A key outcome of the Commission is the Healthy Cities Toolkit, an online resource of evidence summaries for policymakers and practitioners – including local and central government, and all those involved in creating our built environment.

Alongside the Commission on Creating Healthy Cities, over the past year the GCHU has delivered a series of seminars bringing together leading experts and policymakers to discuss contemporary issues in healthcare and urbanisation. It also undertakes a range of research, publications and reports and hosts an annual internship programme.

The Commission took a holistic view of these issues, recognising the backdrop of the climate crisis.
To mark Her Majesty The Queen Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee, The Prince’s Foundation hosted in May and June 2022 a series of celebratory tea dances at its sites across the UK, including Dumfries House in Ayrshire, The Garrison Chapel in West London, The Castle of Mey in Caithness, and Highgrove Gardens in Gloucestershire.

The objective of these events was to combat loneliness and isolation in surrounding communities, and more than 250 older guests were invited to enjoy afternoon tea and have a chance to socialise, while enjoying live entertainment and dancing. The Prince’s Foundation typically hosts such events each month at its Dumfries House headquarters, welcoming hundreds of people at risk of social isolation and loneliness.

Guests of the tea dances were identified by partner organisations from across Britain, including Age UK, East Ayrshire Vibrant Communities and Befriending Caithness.

At Highgrove, His Royal Highness The Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, founder of The Prince’s Foundation, made a surprise appearance at the event at The Orchard Room, where he met with members of Gloucestershire groups affiliated to Age UK while they enjoyed entertainment by Jools Holland and soul singer Ruby Turner, as well as a local swing group Honeymoon Swing.

To decorate each of the four venues, thousands of triangles to form bunting were sewn by members of the Dumfries House Sewing Bee. Run by The Prince’s Foundation, the aim of the initiative is to provide people with a friendly, social environment in which to chat and to rekindle or spark an interest in sewing skills under the mentorship of tutors from the charity.

Simon Sadinsky, executive director of The Prince’s Foundation, said at the time: “We are delighted to be celebrating Her Majesty The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee with a series of celebratory tea dances this week at various Prince’s Foundation sites. Social isolation is a widespread issue which has been felt more keenly than ever by many over the past two years, and it has been great to see so many people enjoying the opportunity to socialise with others in their local communities.”
At the Castle of Mey gardens, we welcome a young man, Taylor on a Friday afternoon. He has been coming to the gardens for the past two years.

He is 17 years old, and lacks some social development skills which we are working on with him, in particular, helping him with his speech, and also to help him in his ability to interact with other people, especially with people that he doesn’t know.

We encourage him to slow down his speech and speak clearly while facing the person to whom he is speaking and to discourage him from covering his face with his hands, which he has a habit of doing. In addition, we support him to stay focused on the topic in hand and to be himself.

As well as direct social interaction and social skills, we also help him with work skills. He really likes the garden and garden environment and really enjoys coming and helping, which seems to give him a sense of purpose and value in what he does. We set him daily tasks within the garden, such as preparing beds for planting seeds, planting out bedding plants, potting up rooted cuttings, weeding, general essential tasks around the garden and even making the tea for everyone – a task on which Taylor places great importance.

When talking to his parents for feedback, they cannot believe the difference that they see in Taylor and in his attitude towards his visits to the garden. He talks about his visits to the garden all of the time and even tells his tutors at school about it. They say that it has brought him out of his shell, and that he is more willing to speak to other people and that, when he does, his speech is much clearer and more focused during these conversations.

Importantly, we are enabling him, through this process, to manage the frustration that often builds up inside of him and occasionally results in an outburst. Encouraging him to take on a task, and supporting him to focus on it in the way that we do, seems effective in defusing the situation.

Once he has calmed down, and completes a task, we will then discuss during a tea break what was making him frustrated and try to rationalise with him. This seems to bring him back to reality. Taylor tends to over-escalate small issues into something huge, and this overwhelms him, resulting in an outburst.

For me, as head gardener, it is very rewarding to be able to help this young person to develop some social skills which can perhaps be taken for granted, while he enjoys working with Mother Nature in the outside world.
The inaugural Chanel and Prince’s Foundation Métiers d’Art Fellowship in partnership with le19M ran from January to July 2023. Six students were selected from 30 applicants to benefit from this unique six-month residential training opportunity in the art of hand embroidery for haute couture.

The selected students were mostly recent graduates from textiles and fashion degrees from The Royal School of Needlework and Glasgow School of Art. Five out of the six students took the opportunity to live on site and benefit from the access to the studios and financial security this gave them throughout the duration of the programme. The monthly bursary proved invaluable in attracting students from different backgrounds and circumstances, allowing them to fully commit to the craft.

Teaching took place at the Chanel Métiers d’Art Training Atelier at Highgrove, where students developed concepts derived from the gardens. Artisan embroiderers taught students throughout the six months, with a specific focus on tambour beading, precision and speed.

The opportunity to visit Paris for two separate weeks for training at the prestigious Ecole Lesage and for Atelier immersion with Lesage, Lermari and Atelier Montex, provided an invaluable insight into the workings of the Maisons d’Art. Students were generously provided with ongoing mentorship from the Atelier Directors for the second half of the Fellowship.

Teaching in presentation skills, portfolio development and ongoing tutorials with the Curriculum Coordinator enhanced the students’ professional practice and confidence, thus supporting their employability as they enter the workplace.

An exhibition of the students’ final outcomes was held at the Chanel Métiers d’Art Training Atelier on the 20th of July, attended by parents, guests from le19M and Chanel, journalists and supporters. A dinner in celebration of the students’ graduation was held in the Orchard Room with presentations of certificates and speeches. The inaugural Chanel and Prince’s Foundation Métiers d’Art Fellowship has been a resounding success in its first year.

The Snowdon Summer School
Now in its sixth year, The Snowdon Summer School ran at Highgrove for the second time. Eight students selected from 24 applicants attended the seven-day course. All students stayed on site and were appreciative of the immersive experience.

Students were taught by local master craftsman Jonathan Rose and Furniture School Manager Nick Wright. Jonathan has 30 years’ experience, much of it working directly for David Snowdon’s company Linley. They assembled a small occasional table from prepared components, which became a vehicle for learning how to cut dovetails for a drawer and how to design and cut marquetry for the tabletop. Students had a guided walk around Duchy of Cornwall woodland with deputy head forester Ben Anderson and a teaching session with Dermot Doyne, who gave them a tour of Whitney Sawmills.

Snowdon School of Furniture Coronation Chairs continued on the following page.

The Create Programme: “Rethinking Wood”
The Snowdon School of Furniture’s 12-week post-graduate level Create programme ran for the first time, starting in October 2022. Create aims to educate and train graduate furniture design students in the value of wood as a sustainable and beautiful material for the production of design-led furniture.

This design and making programme, for a small cohort of eight students, established an understanding of the process, from woodland management to design and production.

From day one, students were given workshop machinery training and benefited from open access to our making facilities throughout their training. Students gained experience of making batches of furniture as a production team, allowing them to see the potential of production and to use jigs and repeat process tooling. The students were given a broad introduction into woodland management approaches and harvesting and valuing standing trees and sawn plants to gain a holistic understanding of timber production and its potential. The first cohort of Create students have gone on to win awards and gain employment in respected workshops.
Coronation Chairs
Six alumni from across our Snowdon Summer School and Create programme returned to The Prince’s Foundation’s workshops at Highgrove to help make from British Oak 10 of 100 congregation chairs for the Coronation of His Majesty The King Charles III and Her Majesty The Queen Camilla at Westminster Abbey. This special collaboration between Buckingham Palace’s C section, Windsor’s Frogmore Workshops, NET Stevens and Buckingham Palace’s C section, Windsor’s Frogmore Workshops, NET Stevens and Buckingham Palace’s C section, Windsor’s Frogmore Workshops, NET Stevens and Buckingham Palace’s C section, Windsor’s Frogmore Workshops, NET Stevens and Buckingham Palace’s C section, Windsor’s Frogmore Workshops, NET Stevens and Buckingham Palace’s C section, Windsor’s Frogmore Workshops, NET Stevens and Buckingham Palace’s C section, Windsor’s Frogmore Workshops, NET Stevens and Buckingham Palace’s C section, Windsor’s Frogmore Workshops, NET Stevens and The Prince’s Foundation was an exhilarating experience for those involved.

THE MODERN ARTISAN EDITION 2

The programme and capsule collection reflect the programme’s commitment to advancing sustainability in luxury fashion, and the shared ambition of His Majesty The King, The Prince’s Foundation and YNAP to protect the planet for future generations. The Modern Artisan aims to position artisanship as a viable and attractive career path for upcoming generations, equipping them with the skills to help shape a more circular industry. The 10-month paid programme supported eight British and Italian artisans through the end-to-end process of designing, handcrafting, and bringing a more sustainable luxury collection to a global market. For the first time, Highgrove Gardens, adjacent to His Majesty The King’s private residence, served as both inspiration for a fashion collection and as the backdrop for an editorial photoshoot.

The artisans were supported by industry experts from YNAP, The Prince’s Foundation, and several designer mentor brands, including Gabriela Hearst, Nanushka and Stella Jean amongst others.

The collection was crafted by the artisans in the Textiles Training Centre at Dumfries House, where they undertook six months of intensive training in luxury small-batch production. Training focused on advanced technical production skills within sewing, pattern drafting and quality control, while also developing expertise to handle wool, cashmere, and silk to ensure garment finishes meet the luxury market standard.

While on the estate, the artisans also took part in workshops based in the education garden and farm, exploring natural fibres and dyes, complemented with a visit to meet the sheep breeds and undertake scientific testing of the properties of wool, to help develop an appreciation of traditional materials and processes. They also gained an understanding of luxury knitwear manufacturing, as they designed four knitwear pieces, the only styles to be produced off-site by UK-based suppliers Johnstons of Elgin and Corgi. The artisans, supported by YNAP, worked with environmental consultancy Carbonsink to minimise, calculate, and compensate for the carbon footprint of each garment.

The collection launched in November 2022 with a special presentation to industry and media at Dumfries House.

“...The Modern Artisan programme combines many aspects of our education philosophy in one project. It is an excellent example of industry and education working hand-in-hand to impact positive change.”


On completion of the course, the artisans have pursued a range of opportunities, with two directly employed in the luxury fashion market in Italy, one undertaking a Master’s level qualification and five who have set up sustainable fashion labels manufacturing their own collections and undertaking commission work. In line with The Prince’s Foundation Learn, Practice, Teach philosophy, we are delighted that four of the artisans are also engaged part time in passing on their skills and knowledge developed on the programme to undergraduates and trainees across the UK.

GRADUATE CASE STUDY: NICOLE CHRISTIE
Nicole Christie, founder of Scottish designer womenswear brand Ellipsis and graduate of The Prince’s Foundation’s pilot Modern Artisan training programme, was named Scottish Fashion Designer of the Year at the Scottish Fashion Association Awards in February 2023.

Nicole, 27, from East Kilbride, was named winner of the award at a reception at Edinburgh’s George Hotel. The honour completed an amazing five-year journey for the young designer who once spent two months in hospital with an eating disorder and was told she had only two days to live.

Nicole said The Modern Artisan had helped shape her business, which aims to slow the trend of fast fashion and champion the skills that are required to make high-quality, timeless and sustainable garments. Her elegant dresses, tops and trousers are made from 100 per silk sourced from within the UK. The brand also features hairbands made from leftover material, in line with the brand’s commitment to sustainability. In recognition of her work, Nicole was invited to represent The Prince’s Foundation at the Coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla.
In January 2023, a panel discussion was held at The Prince’s Foundation’s exhibition space The Garrison Chapel in West London in front of invited industry members and practitioners to discuss craft in the context of the charity’s motto “Respecting the Past, Building the Future.”

Panel members included The Prince’s Foundation’s Simon Sadinsky (executive director for education), Sarah Robinson (associate director of architecture) and Jay Blades MBE (an ambassador for our charity, eco-designer and award-winning BBC presenter of The Repair Shop). The discussion was expertly chaired by Helen Chislett, prolific author on all things design, including Craft Britain, co-written with The Earl of Snowdon, Vice-President of The Prince’s Foundation.

The panel shared their understanding of what craft means to them as educators, architects, designers and ambassadors; their experience of working within, or tangential to, the craft world; and the meaning of craft in modern-day Britain and, most importantly, what role it has to play in the future.

Simon spoke of the enthusiasm that students bring to the courses at The Prince’s Foundation and the hope he has for the future of craft skills in their hands. The loss of craft skills is something that The Prince’s Foundation has been working to address, with its breadth of training programmes helping to ensure that these valuable skills are passed on to a new generation before they are lost. Currently, the charity runs the Building Craft Programme, Building Arts Programme, All-Ireland Heritage Skills Programme, and annual Summer School, as well as courses at its Snowdon School of Furniture.

Within the world of architecture and urban design, Sarah discussed how craft can have an important place within modern construction, perhaps contrary to popular view. There is a huge knowledge base among craftspeople who understand local and breathable materials that can be utilised to sustainably upgrade all manner of buildings – be they historic or modern – and that a local skills base is required. The joy of craft doesn’t need to be preserved solely for conservation but can be an active tool for built environment professionals to employ in tackling the climate emergency.

Jay’s passion for the virtues of working with your hands and the enduring nature of items crafted by people with care and precision was clear to all listening on the day. He is a true ambassador for understanding the value in repurposing and an advocate of engaging people of all ages and backgrounds with this cause. More and more, Jay explained, people were able to turn their craft skills into profitable full-time careers and this is something that should be encouraged at an early age as a viable alternative to traditional education routes.

Needless to say, the overwhelming feeling amongst the panel and audience was that there was a very positive future for craft in Britain through all of its many expressions.
DUMFRIES HOUSE

LAUNCH OF FOOD FOR THE FUTURE PROGRAMME

Food For The Future is an innovative, multidisciplinary programme that addresses the issue of food waste through project-based learning with third-year secondary school pupils.

The project began as a pilot in 2021 with support from Jamie Oliver and Jimmy Doherty to help shape the curriculum. Pupils responded well to the problem-setting and solution-based approach to learning, and the programme was incorporated into the annual curriculum that focuses on sustainable food systems delivered from The Pierburg Building and Kaufman Education Garden on Dumfries House estate.

In partnership with Education Scotland’s curriculum innovation team, three schools were recruited to take part in the programme from a diverse demographic: Lochend Community High School, based in Easterhouse in Glasgow, St Matthews Academy in North Ayrshire, and Dalbeattie Academy in Dumfries and Galloway. At the start of the programme, each of the pupils had varying levels of experience in food-based education. Some had no access to green space whatsoever, while others were already connected to the farming world through their families. The programme was also beneficial to the wider school community as the programme demonstrated the value of an interdisciplinary approach.

Pupils spent time in the education garden understanding the issues around food waste, followed by participating in farming practices and how to farm for our future. Science-led workshops developed their knowledge of the importance of good soil health and nutrient value. Spending time in the Belling Hospitality Training Centre allowed the pupils to consolidate their learning and take away skills to enable better habits in shopping, cooking and preserving food for longer. All schools concluded their research of the industry with a visit to a local food producer to see first-hand “best practice” approaches to reducing food waste.

Pupils returned to present their solutions to a panel of judges, with awards being given for innovation, team-working and overall achievement. Solutions included creating social media channels to educate others, seasonal recipe books, linking waste in the school kitchen to composting solutions as well as devising apps to allow for considered shopping experiences.

96% of pupils who participated now rate reducing food waste as an important or highly important issue.

THE LIBRARY OF KNIT AT DUMFRIES HOUSE ARBORETUM

In 2022, the Knitwise community group based at Dumfries House developed a number of samples that created the Library of Knit. We showcased the library of samples in The Maguire Arboretum on Dumfries House estate in an exhibition curated by Di Gilpin and Sheila Greenwell.

The group meet on the estate and regularly joined a series of Zoom calls with industry experts from across Scotland covering traditional knitting techniques such as Fair isle, Gansey, Sanquhar, Aran, Intarsia and Shetland lace. The group shared their experience of working with new yarns and new knitting terminologies.

As the project developed the participants became more knowledgeable, learned to identify various styles of patterns and understood the weight of wool and needle size needed to knit each knitting style.

Throughout the project, the group developed knowledge and pride in their own skill. They were honoured to be joined by HRH The Prince Charles, Prince of Wales at the event to meet the Knitwise members and hear about their journey to create the installation and the skills they learned as a result.

All of the participants attended the opening event in July and were on hand to discuss the project with the public. The positive response from the exhibition attendees was further demonstrated with many enquiries into joining the Knitwise group. Several visitors also shared their own memories of knitting with family members.

As the project developed the participants became more knowledgeable, learned to identify various styles of patterns and understood the weight of wool and needle size needed to knit each knitting style.

In July we were able to showcase the hard work of the group with the installation at the Arboretum at Dumfries House.

“All Knitwise programme brings together likeminded people to develop handknitting skills and create opportunities for those who wish to earn an income from home by utilizing their craft.” – Ashleigh Douglas, Future Textiles manager at The Prince’s Foundation

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The community engagement and education around traditional knitting was an inspiration to all, and many visited the drop-in sessions that were free for the public to join.
TRADITIONAL BUILDING CRAFT SKILLS

Throughout 2022, The Prince’s Foundation’s traditional craft programmes have continued to support students across a wide range of craft disciplines to expand their traditional hand skills within the context of the built environment. These programmes explore the built environment in a holistic manner, recognising the value in working collaboratively by providing students with the opportunity to learn from each other, as well as a wide range of leading practitioners from across the sector.

Building Craft Programme

The Building Craft Programme continues to attract students from across the UK with an ambition to expand and refine their heritage craft skills. This year’s programme brought together 12 students from England, Scotland and Wales, with backgrounds in carpentry, masonry, brickwork, metalwork, and plasterwork. Participating in a Summer School, Live Build Project, Industry Placements and Business Skills Course, all students have achieved the Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Heritage Skills (Construction). Participants have taken part in an introductory Summer School, Industry Placements, Winter School and Final Project, in an introductory Summer School, Industry Placements, Winter School and Final Project, as well as the opportunity to work towards a Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Heritage Skills (Construction).

Over a ten-week period, the students worked between Craigielea House, external facilities, and the Dumfries House estate to design, create and install new encaustic tilework, decorative plasterwork, lighting, stained glass, and bespoke furniture. The result is an injection of high-end craftsmanship, which provides a source of inspiration and intrigue for the communities and groups that will visit the house over the coming years.

Building Arts Programme

The Building Arts Programme 2022 was the second edition of the highly successful programme launched in 2020 through a collaboration between The Prince’s Foundation and Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust. Over a period of nine months, students from a broad range of discipline areas learned together, exploring both the interdisciplinary nature of architecture, the decorative arts and traditional craft, and the role that these practices can continue to play in shaping the world around us.

The programme culminated in a final project, which tasked the students with producing new work showcasing the role of traditional craft skills in the built environment. The focus was Craigielea House, a Victorian property owned by East Renfrewshire Council in the Ferguslie Park area of Paisley, Scotland, which has a history of being among the most deprived communities in Scotland. Craigielea House is the location for a new community interest company (CIC) known as The Sculpture House, which has an ambition to utilise sculpture to transform our lived environments.

The Building Arts Programme project came at a time when The Sculpture House was in its infancy, and as such, the students became one of the first groups to explore and work in response to the building. This early arrival resulted in a brief which aimed to explore the notion of “Welcome,” and how physical spaces can invite the local community, the studio-holders and all visitors to the house.

“Teaching traditional building techniques is crucial to the preservation of heritage skills and vernacular architecture throughout the UK and across the world. They play a crucial role in the upkeep of thousands of historic buildings and monuments.”

– Michael Goodger, built environment education manager, The Prince’s Foundation

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All-Ireland Heritage Skills Programme

The All-Ireland Heritage Skills Programme is a new programme delivered through a collaboration between The Prince’s Foundation, The Heritage Council (An Comhairle Oidhreachta) and Historic Environment Division Department of Communities, Northern Ireland Government. This is a full-time, 12-month course that aims to promote traditional craft skills across Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

In 2022, six students came together to gain practical experience in heritage building skills as well as the opportunity to work towards a Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Heritage Skills (Construction). Participants have taken part in introductory Summer School, Industry Placements, Winter School and Final Project, as well as coming together at various points throughout the year to participate in Materials Weeks. These weeks have enabled students to trace the materials from source, production, craft, and re-use, as well as explore the diverse nature of craft throughout the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

The programme concluded with a group project focused around the theme of traditional Irish shopfronts. Over the course of the year, the students examined this Irish style of vernacular classicism through sketching, measured drawings, and detailed proportional study. A design proposal was subsequently developed through the student research and the main joinery elements of the shopfront were manufactured by student Tony Duignan at his workshop in Athlone. Assembly and finishing took place during the final two weeks in June, with all six students working together as a team. This included final assembly of all the joinery, manufacture, and fitting of metalwork railings, and all the finishing work such as wood-graining, painting, and signwriting.
THE MACROBERT FARMING AND RURAL SKILLS CENTRE

The development of the new MacRobert Farming and Rural Skills Centre is well underway with courses planned to launch in Autumn 2023. The farming and rural skills industry has numerous environmental and sustainability priorities to consider and there is simultaneously both a knowledge and skills gap plus a lack of new entrants. We hosted a number of round-table discussions with key industry stakeholders and educators throughout 2022/2023 to share our vision and ensure our planned offerings are in line with the needs of the land-based sector.

The Prince’s Foundation’s aim, through the centre, is to bring new talent into the farming and rural sector, encouraging individuals from non-farming or rural backgrounds to consider a career in the area, as well as assisting those within the sector to diversify and hone their skill set to support growth within the industry and help ensure sustainable agriculture practices become industry standard. This will be achieved through delivering interdisciplinary industry insight programmes to secondary school students, intensive industry training for new entrants aged 16 and older as well as offering our centre as a convening hub to the wider industry and providing networking opportunities. Continued Professional Development programmes will also be included in the curriculum for practitioners and educators. These will be focused on regenerative farming practices as well as preserving traditional heritage skills such as hedge-laying and drystone walling. Career events will reach a wider audience, highlighting the breadth and scope of roles available within the farming and rural sector, inspiring the next generation to consider a rural career and support sustainable practices.

Generously funded by The MacRobert Trust, the features of The MacRobert Farming and Rural Skills Centre include two indoor teaching spaces, including areas for laboratory work and a fully-equipped working barn. The facility will provide participants with the opportunity to engage in practical real life scenarios during both day visits and residential courses.
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITY
The Prince’s Foundation’s total expenditure on charitable activity was £14.4m, up by £1.6m on the prior year, a 12% increase (*excluding one-off revaluation movements). 

£14.4m +12% increase

INVESTMENT IN MAINTENANCE OF ESTATES, BUILDINGS AND CONTENT
Our investment in maintaining our estates, restoring our buildings and preserving their contents amounted to £4.3m, up £0.4m on prior year, a 10% increase (*including depreciation).

£4.3m +10% increase

INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION
Our in-year investment in education programmes and offerings was £2.1m, up £0.7m on prior year, a 48% increase (*this includes delivery of new education courses and programmes during the year).

£2.1m +48% increase

2022/23 INCOME
During the financial year (1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023), the charity had total income of £23.3m – an increase of 4% from the previous year.

£23.3m income +4% increase

“*We are grateful to our hardworking staff who generate revenue from our commercial operation, as well as our donors for their exceptional generosity, for ensuring that The Prince’s Foundation can continue to deliver and build upon its important charitable work*” – Kristina Murrin, CEO, The Prince’s Foundation

Income streams

- General Funds – £16.0m (*includes donations, grants, gifts in kind and income from trading operations)
- Restricted Funds – £7.1m (*includes capital donations)
- Endowment Funds – £0.2m (*investment income)
THANK YOU

The Prince’s Foundation offers a diverse range of innovative and inspiring education and training programmes for all ages and backgrounds, from traditional arts and heritage craft skills, to architecture and design, science, engineering, horticulture, wellbeing and hospitality. Programmes take place within and beyond the charity’s sites, both nationally and internationally.

Working with communities and partners around the country and the world, The Prince’s Foundation practises and champions a sustainable approach to how we live our lives and build our communities. From heritage-led regeneration through to new build projects, we do this through assisting, advising and taking the lead.

Whether coming to Dumfries House, enjoying one of our exhibitions in London, or visiting a building or community around the world that we have helped to transform, our places, their history and their stories are open to all and demonstrate how our principles and philosophies can be put into practice.

This work is inspired by our Founder and President, HM The King, and his philosophy of harmony: that by understanding the balance, the order and the relationships between ourselves and the natural world we can create a more sustainable future. And so through practice, education and places, the Foundation is focused on delivering the beneficial outcomes that your generous support enables.

Like all charities, we depend upon the generosity of our donors and supporters to develop and deliver our education programmes, projects and properties portfolio and to keep Dumfries House available to the widest possible audience for years to come.

We need to raise more than £12m every year to provide our work with a firm foundation upon which to plan and grow. We warmly invite you to join us in fulfilling The Prince’s Foundation’s vision of respecting the past and building the future. We would be delighted to work with you to identify an aspect of The Prince’s Foundation’s work that particularly inspires you and to give you a unique insight into that project or programme.

Further details of how to get involved can be found here: princes-foundation.org/support-us/ways-to-support
MORE INFORMATION
If you want to find out more about us, visit our website princes-foundation.org or email us fundraising@princes-foundation.org

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