



Inspired by the leadership of 20th century polar explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton, the Shackleton Foundation provides seed funding to social entrepreneurs wishing to make a difference to the lives of disadvantaged young people in the UK.

Welcome to our annual newsletter which you will be receiving because you have at some point shown support and interest for the Shackleton Foundation - should you no longer wish to receive this you will find the unsubscribe button at the end.

Our newsletter always provides a wonderful opportunity to reflect on what we have been doing and remind ourselves of the opportunities that we are realising through our seed funding. It makes me very proud. In the past year we received 58 applications and after much consideration from the Trustees throughout this highly competitive process, we are delighted that five impressive individuals (showcased later on) join our community and become Shackleton Leaders - chosen because they show many of the leadership characteristics of Shackleton himself, and secondly because we recognise the potential of their social enterprises that will benefit those less advantaged youth in the UK. Often hard to obtain given the risk involved, this seed funding comes at an instrumental time for them and really helps get the idea off the ground. They also benefit with additional advice from the Shackleton community as part of the support programme we boosted last year which is showing positive results - an impressive 80% of those we have funded (in the past 10 years) are still operating today.

We couldn't do what we do without the generosity of you all and in particular the support we receive from The Oak Foundation, The Bernard Sunley Foundation, The Headley Trust and The Saints & Sinners Club, thank you. And we certainly couldn't do what we do without our amazing Administrator Victoria and our outstanding Trustees who continue to generously give their time and efforts to the Foundation, thank you. Coming soon will be the launch of a new website, a new application form and an increase to our funding. With two board changes, bidding farewell and thank you to Gus Majed and Rich Grahame and welcoming Stephanie When and

Paul Gunstensen who you can read more about later, we are in a strong position with plenty to look forward to - *Charlotte Hatfield*

Onwards Charlotte

NEW LEADERS 2023/24



Jerome Sewell (£10,000 Grant)

Jerome Sewell is one of the founders of Therapeutic productions CIC, an arts based service that empowers young people with skills based training for jobs in the arts, media and film industry. In particular it provides arts based therapy services to help young people from gang hit environments and with mental health difficulties to engage in wellbeing services

Therapeutic productions is driven by the desire to use the arts as a gateway to helping young people take care of their mental health. The grant from the Shackleton Foundation will enable Jerome to support up to 20 young people from gang hit environments and



Sarah Gaunt (£10,000 Grant)

Sarah is the founder and CEO of Unstoppable Girls CIC which empowers and inspires teenage and young females with ADHD to create the life they choose. Sarah is a professionally qualified youth worker with 30 years experience. Realising that ADHD in females was so misunderstood and poorly recognised, Sarah started Unstoppable Girls to be a place for those who have ADHD to meet up, feel less isolated and understand their ADHD to see their strengths and skills

The funding from the Shackleton Foundation will help Sarah develop the online courses that will enable her to

who have mental health difficulties, working together to produce and create a film.



Niketa Sanderson Gillard (£10,000 Loan)

Niketa is the founder and CEO of Why Care, a social enterprise focused on increasing the number of stable, loving fostering homes available for vulnerable children. Currently there are not enough carers, in the right places, with the right skills for the children who need them. Why Care will help find, assess and support more foster carers.

The grant will help Why Care design an innovative new approach to how they assess people to be foster carers and will bring those who have experience of being in foster care or of being a carer into the design and delivery of the assessment. They will also be introducing more ways to support foster carers to ensure those doing this vital role have the right support around them to continue to support the children placed in their care.

meet young people from a wider area and generate an income enabling her to provide even more youth groups.



Ella Williams (£10,000 Grant)

Ella Williams is the founder of [OurGoal CIC](#) a not-for-profit organisation which exists to empower every girl to be active and to reach her full potential. Ella is a women in sport activist and her background is in football as a mentor, coach, and researcher.

Our Goal wants to achieve a world where every girl has positive, safe, and empowering experiences of physical activity. Ella will use the Shackleton grant to develop Our Goal's school-based mentoring and physical activity programme (Eva). The Eva project is a 6-month intervention delivered to teenage girls to boost their mental and physical health and wellbeing through physical activity. It particularly targets inactive girls who live in areas of multiple deprivation as these are the young people who face most barriers to being active.



John Harrison (£10,000 Grant)

John Harrison is the founder of Solidarity Farm CIC an organisation based in Northumberland that works with young people struggling in mainstream education. Using farm and nature based activities it provides a non judgemental space for young people to be themselves and connect with nature. Formed to work in partnership with schools and organisations it utilises farming practices and the natural environment to create a psychologically safe learning environment where relationships of trust are built, and individual transformation can take place.



The Shackleton grant will support Solidarity Farm at an early stage in its journey to become established and develop further offers to support young people at risk of exclusion from education, while also providing a community of inspiring leaders that can provide support as Solidarity Farm grows a space in the local education and social enterprise ecosystem.



LEADERS' NEWS



In May, Charlotte Hatfield as Chair of the Shackleton Foundation, attended the Sir Ernest Shackleton Appreciation Society's convention at the Royal Geographical Society - to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Shackleton's birth. She enjoyed an amazing line up of speakers, hearing all about Shackleton's approach to selecting crew and what he looked for over and above necessary core skills of carpentry, navigation etc – choosing those who also had other skills and attributes, comedians, storytellers and actors – a valuable lesson there. And she was delighted to hear from Mensun Bound, renowned marine archaeologist who was part of the search, and who retold the finding of The Endurance in 2022 at the bottom of the Weddell Sea, beautifully preserved. At the Foundation, when we evaluate applications for funding, we choose individuals who demonstrate Shackleton's qualities of leadership, courage, resilience, resourcefulness and imagination - this was a great reminder of the remarkable man.



We were thrilled to see that **Celia Hodson**, the visionary founder of Hey Girls CIC was awarded an Order of the British Empire (OBE) for her outstanding contributions to promoting period dignity and raising awareness of free period products in Scotland. This prestigious honour was announced in the King's Birthday Honours List of June 2024, recognising Celia's tireless dedication to social enterprise and charitable initiatives. The Shackleton Foundation supported Celia in 2017 at the very start of her amazing journey.



Victoria Cushing our administrator was delighted to visit the new Hey Girls distribution centre in Norfolk and was amazed by the scale of growth since we first supported Celia 7 years ago. The new distribution centre is a 13,000-square-foot facility in Norfolk

Congratulations to the following Leaders for achieving so much in the last year. Anna Wardley has been named as a finalist in the Pioneering Leader category of the NatWest SE100 Social Business Awards 2024. Alice Moxley was once again listed as one of the top 100 Women in Social Enterprise by NatWest Social and Community Capital and Standing Tall founded by Christy Acton has been shortlisted for the Social Value Awards 2024. Meanwhile Niketa Sanderson Gillard and Lindsey Crosbie have both been awarded Churchill Fellowships. Further information about this amazing achievement below.

which enable the organisation to scale their operations and reach even more communities in need, with more period product donations going out the door every day.

Victoria visited as part of their new 'Visits Programme' which enables businesses to see how working with Hey Girls can aid their social impact, achieve sustainability goals and uphold their ESG offering.



LEADERS' FORUM

Jem Stein was our guest speaker for our 10th Leader's Forum. Jem is the Founder of [Daring Capital](#) which he set up to invest in extraordinary, underrepresented entrepreneurs and create profitable companies that make the world a better place. Their focus is similar to ours, on early stage businesses working with disadvantaged groups such as women, ethnic minorities and those experiencing mental health challenges. Prior to this he was the founder and CEO of the Bike Project, a social enterprise that provides refurbished bikes for refugees across England. Jem spoke honestly and candidly about running his Social Enterprise for 10 years and shared some his key lessons.

During the Forum, Leaders discussed a wide variety of topics including scaling, recognising your value as an entrepreneur rather than working on the front line and focusing on finances. Jem highlighted the importance of focusing on commercial demand not just social demand and advised that all social enterprises should focus on one or two income streams and not end up spread too thin. The Forum closed with Jem encouraging Leaders to take the time to think about their exit plan even when its 5 or 10 years away. *To summarise Jem's talk was a powerful personal account of what it takes to create, grow and leave a Social Enterprise.*

TRUSTEE CHANGES

This year has seen a number of changes on our Trustee Board as we continue to develop and ensure we have the relevant skills on hand to strengthen and grow the Foundation. Gus Majed left us in early summer and Rich Grahame stepped down after nearly 3 years as our Leader Trustee representative. We are delighted to welcome Steph When a Leader from 2018 who joins us as our 'Leader Trustee' and Paul Gunstensen who has just been appointed after an open recruitment process.



Stephanie When is a highly specialized paediatric physiotherapist based in Bristol. With over 20 years of experience in the industry, she founded Gympanzees in 2016, a multi-award-winning charity that provides services for disabled children and young people. Stephanie's vision was to address the lack of accessible leisure facilities for her clients, who needed exercise and play opportunities.

Gympanzees has grown from an idea, to create inclusive spaces where children with disabilities can engage in physical activities, to the recent purchase of a 43,000sqft building and the launch of a multi-million-pound capital appeal. Gympanzees has won a host of awards, including a Queen's Award for Innovation,



Paul has over 20 years of leadership experience in the social enterprise, philanthropy, impact investment and international development sectors where he has worked on both the implementation and funding side of the table. A builder at heart, he supports organisations to define their vision and mission, translating this into clear strategies and actional plans.

He started his career at Water Aid, the UK's leading water and sanitation charity, supporting programming and financing in Southern and Eastern Africa, South Asia and the Pacific. He then spent seven years at Water & Sanitation for the Urban Poor. As the Managing Director of the Stone Family Foundation, he served as the de facto CEO for seven years,

and Stephanie has recently won a Prime Minister's Points of Light Award, one of only two awarded in Bristol.

overseeing the allocation of \$75 million and the growth of the size of the portfolio, impact investment, and team.

THE CHURCHILL FELLOWSHIP

One of The Shackleton Foundation's unique strengths is that we support projects that are often considered too risky or early-stage which means we often meet Leaders at the start of their Social Enterprise journey. We are therefore very keen to provide advice on where to seek follow on funding or additional support to help our Leaders grow.

The Churchill Fellowship like us is a grant giving charity which supports individual UK citizens to follow their passion for change and to develop new solutions for today's key challenges, based on learning from the world. Previous Churchill Fellows include [Anna Wardley](#) from Luna Foundation and [John Harrison](#) of Solidarity Farm.

The Fellowship is open to all UK adult citizens, regardless of their background, qualifications, professional experience or age. They prioritise people and projects from under-represented and under-funded groups, and those who would not receive funding from other sources. Fellows may bring professional knowledge or personal experience of the issue they wish to address.

Fellows are funded to research their topics with practitioners anywhere in the world that they choose. This enables



them access the key expertise and evidence for their topic. A programme of Fellowships usually lasts for three years and creates a cohort of approximately 30 Fellows who are addressing the same issue, often from a variety of perspectives and disciplines. They become a network for collaboration and momentum in their area, and their collective learnings are published as a public resource.

This year two of our recent Leaders Niketa Sanderson Gillard and Lindsey Crosbie have both been awarded Fellowships and will be funded to spend up to two months discovering new ideas and best practice. Niketa will be looking at international models of assessing and supporting foster carers whilst Lindsey will focus on investigating the value of therapeutic riding interventions for care-experienced young people.

To become a Fellow applications open on 4th Sept - 12th November - [Click Here](#)

OUR SUPPORTERS



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