



2019 Impact Report





The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) are on a mission: to connect people and green spaces to deliver lasting outcomes for both.

In 2019, we were awarded
£525,000
thanks to players of People's
Postcode Lottery.



We do this by bringing people together to create, improve and care for green spaces. From local parks and community gardens to Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Special Scientific Interest, from school grounds and hospital grounds to waterways, wetlands and woodlands – we connect people to the green spaces which form a vital part of any happy, healthy community.

Support from players of the People's Postcode Lottery had a significant and positive impact on TCV's work in 2019, our 60th anniversary. We put our £525,000 award from the Postcode Green Trust to good use, by:

- Promoting the health benefits of green spaces
- Developing and supporting our people and volunteers
- Raising the profile of our work
- Developing partnerships and generating income

This report highlights just how impactful this support has been by providing examples across each of these four themes. Whether it's the 20,000 volunteers we supported through the TCV Community Network, the £1,000,000+ generated to connect more people and green spaces or the TCV 60th Anniversary Hero Awards which celebrated some of the people who went above and beyond in 2019, we hope you'll agree that it has been a remarkable year.

The unrestricted, flexible and long-term nature of this support is invaluable to us in our work. We are very, very grateful.

Darren York
Chief Executive



Over
380
people took
part in new
Green Gym
programmes.

▶ Glasgow's
Green Gym
regenerated an
unloved green
space with over
180 sessions.



◀ Leicester
Green Gym has
supported over
30 school children
and adults.



◀ Over **300**
people took part
in our Leeds
Green Gym.

“With your support,
we secured £29,000
from Hampshire
Hospitals NHS Foundation
Trust to continue our
Basingstoke Green Gym
for a further two years”

Craig Lister
Green Gym Managing Director.

Promoting the Health Benefits of Green Spaces

By attending Green Gym sessions, people improve their physical and mental health and wellbeing by being outdoors, active and connected with others. Thanks to support from People's Postcode Lottery, we've worked with hospital clinicians and other health professionals to deliver new Green Gym sessions to more people.

You've also helped us create a film which tells the story of one of our Green Gym volunteers.

[Click here for Mitchell's story.](#)

“I am so pleased to have engaged with TCV and thanks the Players of the People's Postcode Lottery, to establish a Green Gym at Hampshire Hospitals. The patients have created a “Secret Garden” a quiet haven where plants and people can thrive.”

Katrina Kennedy MSc MCSP
*Associate Director of Allied
Health Professionals; Hampshire
Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust.*



Developing and Supporting our People and Volunteers

Through the support from players of People's Postcode Lottery, we delivered a wide range of training courses where volunteers and staff have learnt new skills in areas such as project leadership, species identification and habitat management.



95%

of our volunteers rated their volunteering experience as excellent or good!*



Over **130** people took part in training to develop their skills and knowledge.

98%

of our volunteers are very likely or likely to recommend TCV to family and friends!*



We delivered training in over **20** different subjects.

**from TCV Volunteer Survey 2019*

[Click here to see feedback from the courses.](#)

“From being more aware of my environments I will now be able to point out other fungi to volunteers. I will encourage others to see the wonders and importance of fungi in the biosphere.”

Fungi Identification participant

“I gained valuable experience and professional training in order to progress in my conservation career!”

Participant of drystone diking course

“This course provided me with a wide range of tools and techniques to improve my leadership skills. I'm now much more self-aware and confident to continue my development as a leader.”

*Sara Harrison,
TCV Operations Leader*



The TCV Community Network supports local independent volunteer groups to create and care for green spaces. With your help we grew membership by more than 50% to almost

1,300

groups.

Raising the Profile of our Work

In 2019 TCV celebrated its 60th Anniversary with volunteers, staff, funders and partners. Thanks to players of People's Postcode Lottery we were able to mark the occasion throughout the year with events and awards, collecting some very special stories from past and present volunteers and supporters.

We have continued to raise our profile and thank players for their continued support with some great results:

10
items of media coverage

107
posts across social media channels creating...

157,049
social media impressions!

TCV 60th Anniversary Hero Awards

Our TCV 60th Anniversary Hero Awards celebrated some of the people who went above and beyond to support the work of TCV in communities across the UK.

“I am still totally taken aback by winning People's Postcode Lottery Volunteer of the Year award. I love volunteering with TCV, this is just lovely.”

Colin Goldsack (pictured second from the left) is our People's Postcode Lottery Volunteer of the Year Award winner.

[Click here to see all of our TCV Heroes in action.](#)

Big Green Weekend

We held over 50 events across the country, with 6 large national events bringing people from communities together for one very special weekend in September.

#BigGreenWeekend

TCV Glasgow
60th Stakeholder Showcase



TCV Leeds
Skelton Grange
Family Open Day

TCV Leeds
Hollybush
Community Open Day



TCV Doncaster
Bentley
Big Green Weekend Woodland Fair

Healthier, happier communities for everyone



TCV Greenwich
60 Homes for Wildlife Day



TCV Brighton
TCV at 60 Celebration Day





Developing Partnerships and Generating Income

People's Postcode Lottery has supported us to raise more than **£1 million** in 2019 to connect more people and green spaces.



“In addition to a Veolia Environmental Trust grant of £248,353, we have also received generous support with £15,000 from Wates, £10,000 from National Grid and £5,000 from the Leeds Civic Trust.”

Caroline Crossley, TCV Operations Leader

“I am really pleased to see how investment in business development has helped TCV grow our South Yorkshire Community Woodlands partnership to reach out and connect more schoolchildren with the natural environment. This will ensure over time that there is a long lasting and positive effect on the community who live close to our sites.”

Alan Carter, Director of Portfolio Management, the Land Trust



“Support from players of the People's Postcode Lottery has allowed me to spend time developing strong new partnerships and ideas that will really meet local needs, as well as securing new funding for our conservation and education work across the country.”

*Ruth Gerrard,
TCV Development Manager*

Colin Goldsack, People's Postcode Lottery Volunteer of the Year with his walking group.



Thank you to players of People's Postcode Lottery for helping TCV to connect more people and green spaces.

