ARCADIA
Protecting endangered culture and nature

www.arcadiafund.org.uk 2009
Foreword

Arcadia is a UK charity, set up in 2001. We protect endangered culture and nature.

The name Arcadia embodies the foundation's aspirations: the desire to preserve fragile treasures of culture and nature that might otherwise be lost.

Our grants help record endangered languages, preserve artefacts, archives and arts across the world and seek to protect threatened landscapes.

In our cultural programmes we work with NGO's, museums, archives and universities.

In our environmental programmes, working with NGOs, we protect threatened ecosystems through land purchase, set-aside and management agreements, and we help connect conservationists with the wider academic, political and business world. We also promote education and training in the field.

We look for organisations led by exceptional individuals, operating in a sustainable, cost-effective, scientifically sound and ethical manner.

Unlike many other foundations we fund core costs, allowing organisations to focus on their mission. When we can, we build on past successes with repeat grants.

Lisbet Rausing  Peter Baldwin
Arcadia’s grant making

Grants in 2008

In 2008 we paid $18.7 million to our ongoing grant programmes. We also awarded 13 new grants totalling $16 million. These are some highlights of our 2008 grant giving.

Imperial College London – an endowment of $2 million

Our gift to Imperial College London established ‘The Hans Rausing Scholarships’, a programme that supports PhD students. For more information on the college see: www3.imperial.ac.uk

Cambridge Conservation Initiative – $1.7 million over five years

The Cambridge Conservation Initiative was created in early 2007 as a partnership among leaders in biodiversity conservation research, education, policy and action. Arcadia’s grant funds the post of the initiative’s first executive director.

Founded by the University of Cambridge and nine internationally renowned conservation organisations, the initiative has already created and raised substantial funds to support an innovative masters course in conservation leadership, and has initiated plans for a ‘Conservation Campus’ in Cambridge.

The initiative’s first executive director, Dr Mike Rands, is formerly director and chief executive of BirdLife International.

To find out more about the initiative see: www.conservation.cam.ac.uk
Cambridge University Library - $980,000

This grant established the Arcadia Fellowship Programme at the Cambridge University Library.

The programme selects leading librarians to work on projects which increase the library’s capability to provide academic services. Such projects include digital archiving, curation and publishing, and enabling scholarly re-use of digitised collections.

To find out more about the library see: www.lib.cam.ac.uk

Trust for African Rock Art - $490,000 over five years

Arcadia’s second grant to the Trust for African Rock Art (TARA) preserves and protects African rock art. TARA is the only organisation in the world doing this.

African rock art is among the world’s oldest surviving art. Most is in the Sahara and southern Africa, and much is at risk. Through TARA’s work, nine rock art sites in Africa are on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

For more information on the Trust for African Rock Art see: www.africanrockart.org
John Muir Trust – $355,000 over three years

Set up in 1983, the John Muir Trust works with local communities to protect and restore wild land in Scotland. Ben Nevis Estate is one of the areas the trust cares for. Our grant will fund the trust’s newly appointed chief scientific officer. For more information on the trust see: www.jmt.org

New grants in 2009

At the end of 2008 we decided to focus exclusively on protecting endangered culture and nature. We will no longer support projects in education and research, philanthropy or human rights. Our grants in these fields were worthwhile and successful, but a narrower focus will enable us to make a greater impact. We will of course continue to fund our existing grant commitments.

As at January 2009, we have offered ten new grants totalling $25.8 million. The following are some highlights of our new grants.

Harvard University, UCLA, and Yale University Libraries – a $5 million grant each over five years

We have given $5 million each to the university libraries at Harvard, UCLA and Yale for collecting and preservation at the discretion of the university librarian.

Yale University Library plans to provide better access to rare international materials. For example, Yale will preserve, catalogue and digitise Cambodian newspapers in the UN mandate of the early 1990’s.

Harvard University Library will decide annually how to use the grant. In 2009 they plan to use most of the grant on acquiring books related to Europe.

UCLA Library will focus on treating, preserving and digitizing collections that are in jeopardy of deterioration or loss.

For more about each library see: http://hul.harvard.edu www.library.ucla.edu www.library.yale.edu

A Trust staff member carrying out survey work on Ben Nevis Estate

Archive material at Yale University which will be preserved as a result of Arcadia’s funding
The Wende Museum – $5 million over five years

Since 2004 we have supported the Wende Museum in collecting, preserving and exhibiting cultural artefacts from primarily the DDR, but also the Eastern Bloc.

The latest grant to Wende funds further collection, and allows Wende to establish an archive-based research institute in Berlin, Germany.

For more information on the Wende Museum see: www.wendemuseum.org

Cataloguing Wende’s collection of East German scrapbooks

A Wende film archivist inspecting reels for the Museum’s Audiovisual Digitization Project

Part of Wende’s collection of over two thousand ceremonial and commemorative plates from the DDR

Found in South East Brazil, fewer than 800 araripe manakin remain in the wild

Birdlife International – $1.5 million over five years

This grant establishes a Partnership Development Fund between Arcadia and BirdLife International, to help professionally develop selected national NGOs within the BirdLife network.

The result will be more effective national conservation NGOs which monitor and conserve critically endangered bird species, secure key bird biodiversity sites and help avoid deforestation.

To find out more about Birdlife International see: www.birdlife.org

The critically endangered lear’s macaw

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The Millennium Seed Bank Project is one of over 300 scientific projects at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. By 2010 the project and its partners will have banked seed from 10% of the world's wild plants. The seed will be from some of the rarest, most threatened and most useful plant species known.

The project intends to secure in storage 25% of the world's plant species by 2020.

Our grant will be used for critical areas of collection, and on research techniques for seed viability, quality and longevity.

For more information on the project see: www.kew.org/mspb/

The Early Manuscripts Electronic Library in San Pedro, California, makes historical manuscripts digitally accessible to the public. The library is about to embark on a five-year project to recover the erased and written-over texts on 4th -7th century palimpsests held by the monks at St Catherine's Monastery at Mount Sinai, Egypt.

Using new image sensing techniques, the library will digitize the images and make them available online.

Our initial grant will support the survey work to establish how best to recover the overwritten texts from these ancient manuscripts.

To find out more about the library see: http://emelibrary.org
Many of our grants awarded are for multi-year projects and programmes. These are some highlights from our continuing grants.

School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) – $31.5 million over twelve years

The Hans Rausing Endangered Languages Project at SOAS was created in 2002 to fund fieldwork, training and archiving to record near-extinct languages.

An international panel of linguists awards funds on the basis of competitive applications from established scholars, postdoctoral researchers and graduate students. Chosen languages are highly endangered, not previously studied and not closely related to other well-documented languages.

Documentation grants are subject to strict ethical conditions. Researchers must secure full prior agreement from the language communities for their projects. The results must be disseminated to both scholars and the local community.

The project also supports teaching and post-doctoral work in field linguistics at SOAS, as well as its endangered languages archive.

Over the past five years the programme has funded over 110 projects, in more than 120 near-extinct languages. These include Kayardild, a language spoken by eight people in the Mornington and Bentinck islands of Australia; the Watunhua and Daohua languages from Tibet; the native American Dakota language; the Swahili Shangaji language from Mozambique; and the Reyesano language from Bolivia.

One of the major documentation projects is ‘Vanishing Voices of the Great Andamanese’. Great Andamanese is a mixed language of ten groups of people that once inhabited all of the Andaman Islands in the Bay of Bengal.

Anvita Abbi, from Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi, was the principal investigator and produced an illustrated trilingual Hindi/Great Andamanese/English dictionary.

For more information on the endangered languages project see: www.hrelp.org.
The Endangered Archives Programme at the British Library was set up in 2004. The programme awards grants to preserve threatened archives by digital or microfilm copies, and the protection in situ or in safe local archives. One microfilm or digital copy is always deposited in the British Library. The programme focuses on pre-modern material from non-Western societies. As with the endangered languages project, a panel of international experts awards the grants.

Before a grant is made, local authorities and owners of archival material have to agree on copying, protecting or relocating materials. No materials are moved outside their countries of origin. Indigenous cultural attitudes are fully respected.

The programme has awarded grants to 89 projects. These include grants to preserve Iranian photographs from c. 1900; the presidential and national archives of Liberia; audiovisual material on Andean cultures; 18th century choral music manuscripts and printed scores from Zemun in Serbia; endangered documents and manuscripts written in the Cameroon Bamum script; and rare Buddhist artefacts and manuscripts that survived Soviet rule in Mongolia.

One of the major research projects has been the digital documentation of a monastery collection in Gangtey, Bhutan, by Dr Karma Phuntsho at Oxford University. This project documents 17th century manuscripts of immense local religious significance. For more information on the programme see:

www.bl.uk/endangeredarchives
Fauna and Flora International – $10 million over ten years

Arcadia has made grants of $10 million to the FFI Arcadia Fund. Our grants have been used to leverage a further $56 million to support the fund’s projects.

The FFI Arcadia Fund protects key habitats using innovative and flexible land ownership arrangements, local land stewardship and strategic land management practices.

The fund has secured over 4.4 million hectares of threatened habitat and directly influenced the conservation of over 13.9 million hectares – an area larger than Switzerland and Austria combined.

Examples of the fund’s work include securing local management of threatened high mountain landscapes in Tajikistan, home to snow leopards and some 116 bird species; and protecting savannah grasslands in north-eastern Kenya - home to numerous wildlife species, including the reticulated giraffe.

More recently in Australia, the fund has partnered with the Queensland state government to protect some 9.6 million hectares of land and coastal habitats. The region is home to 80% of Queensland’s native birds, and over half of its native mammals and reptile species including the endangered loggerhead turtle.

To find out more about the fund see: www.fauna-flora.org/arcadia.php
Conservation Land Trust and Conservacion Patagonica – $2 million

In 2007 Arcadia made three grants to sister foundations The Conservation Land Trust and Conservacion Patagonica.

The Conservation Land Trust creates and expands provincial and national parks, primarily in Argentina and Chile. One national park has already been created in Argentina, and a second is being established in Chile.

Conservacion Patagonica protects and restores wild lands in Patagonia, South America. The organisation has already placed 460,000 acres of Patagonian habitats into permanent, privately owned protection. The ultimate goal is to return these areas to the public.

To find out more see:
www.theconservationlandtrust.org
www.conservacionpatagonica.org

A typical Patagonian landscape

Marine Conservation Biology Institute – $1.5 million over three years

The Marine Conservation Biology Institute was set up in Washington in 1996 by scientists who want to safeguard the oceans’ web of life. It advances marine conservation biology, and lobbies to protect ocean ecosystems.

It published the first American assessment of the status of deep-sea corals, helped make bottom trawling a global environmental issue and played a key role in getting President Bush to establish the North-western Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument.

The institute has also helped establish the largest area of protected seas in the world, around the biodiversity-rich US Pacific Islands which includes the Marianas Trench.

Our grant in 2007 to the institute supports core costs, and its campaign on bottom trawling.

For more information on the institute see:
www.mcbi.org

The endangered Hawaiian monk seal

Convict surgeonfish over dead coral near Palmyra Atoll, central Pacific Ocean

The huemul deer, on the edge of extinction, and now being protected thanks to work by Conservacion Patagonica
Cambridge University – an endowment of $6.7 million

In 2006 we endowed the Miriam Rothschild Chair in Conservation Biology in the Zoology department at Cambridge University.

Professor William Sutherland, appointed in September 2006, is a leader in evidence-based conservation practices.

Our grant also supports graduate scholarships and student travel bursaries. These awards enable students from poor countries to attend the annual Cambridge Student Conference on Conservation Science. To find out more about the endowment see: www.zoo.cam.ac.uk

Harvard University Library – $5 million over three years

Our grant of $5 million in 2004 to Harvard University Library was for Open Collections, a project which makes Harvard library materials publicly accessible. So far it has made public over 1.3 million pages from books, serials, pamphlets, incunabula and manuscripts.

For more information on the project see: http://ocp.hul.harvard.edu

For the complete list of all the grants made by Arcadia, please visit our website at www.arcadiafund.org.uk
Our financial commitments

Since 2001 we have made grant commitments of over $181 million. Prior to November 2008, we were making grants across five thematic areas. Nevertheless, over three quarters of our grant commitments have gone to protecting endangered culture and nature.

By the end of 2008 we had paid just over $97 million of our grant commitments. In 2009 we expect to make a further $21 million of grant payments.
How we operate

Arcadia makes grants only to charitable organisations and institutions. We do not consider unsolicited applications.

Individual grants are awarded at our discretion on the basis of our donor board’s interests and experience, as outlined here, and on expert advice from our advisory board and policy advisers.

Since 2007, Arcadia has been administered by the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF). Established in 1974, CAF is an independent registered charity and has a board of independent trustees.

To find out more about CAF, visit their website at www.cafonline.org

Who we are

Our Donor Board

Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin form our donor board. Lisbet is an historian and research associate of Imperial College. She was educated at UC Berkeley and Harvard, where she also taught for eight years. Lisbet serves on various boards and committees, among others the Harvard Board of Overseers and the board of Yad Hanadiv.

Peter is professor of history at the University of California, Los Angeles. He was educated at Yale and Harvard. His published works include The Politics of Social Solidarity: Class Bases of the European Welfare State, 1875-1975 (Cambridge UP, 1990), Contagion and the State in Europe, 1830-1930 (Cambridge UP, 1999), Disease and Democracy: The Industrialized World Faces AIDS (University of California Press and Milbank Foundation, 2005) and The Narcissism of Minor Differences: How America and Europe are Alike (Oxford UP, 2009).

Our advisory board

Our advisory board, established in 2009, advises on our grant giving strategy and assesses grant proposals. The board members are Nick Ferguson, Don Randel, Alison Richard and Lord Rothschild.

Nick Ferguson is chairman of Institute for Philanthropy and is chairman of SVG Capital plc.

Don Randel is a musicologist and is president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Alison Richard has been vice-chancellor of Cambridge University since October 2003 and previously was provost of Yale University.

Lord Rothschild has been active in the field of philanthropy for many years and was the first chairman of the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Our team

Our staff research future grants, and monitor those ongoing.

Anthea Case, our principal adviser, is also chair of Heritage Link and a commissioner for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE). She is also chair of the National Trust East of England Regional Committee and a trustee of the Lakeland Arts Trust.

Dr Fay Bound Alberti is our policy adviser on cultural and social knowledge. Fay is a cultural historian who has researched and published works in the histories of medicine, science and society.

David Sisam is administration director and is a chartered accountant, having qualified while working for Deloitte & Touche in Wellington, New Zealand.

Lesley Dean is our charity administrator and has been with us since 2003.

If you would like to learn more about the charity, including a list of our grants, please visit our website at www.arcadiafund.org.uk Alternatively, email us at arcadia@nyland.org.uk