

**Autumn Newsletter 2021**

**(in January!!)**

# **THE ALICE McCOSH TRUST NEWSLETTER**

## **TRUSTEES**

Rachel Lewis has been a Trustee since the Trust was first registered in 2006. She met Alice in Turkey in 1994 when they were both living and working on environmental projects in Istanbul.

Rachel has decided to step down and on behalf of the Trustees I would like to take this opportunity to say a **BIG THANK YOU** to her for all her input particularly in the early years when her help with the finances was instrumental. We really appreciate all she has done for the Trust - helping with shortlisting applications for Awards and supporting the sign off of the annual accounts.

Rachel found it interesting having a window into people's passions and interests through their applications to the Trust and I am sure this is exactly what Alice would have wanted. So thank you Rachel.

Grace Carswell has been appointed to take her place. She has been heavily involved since day one so the change over has been seamless.

## **GRANTS**

Due to travel restrictions in 2020 and the uncertainty caused by the pandemic the Trustees decided to suspend the awarding of any grants in 2020.

The travel restrictions also impacted the 2019 grant recipients - Buffy (Elizabeth) Smith and Ben Yoxon (IOSF) - who were unable to complete their fieldwork. So the Trustees agreed to extend their projects until they are able to get back into the field.

**2022**

We are delighted to announce that we have opened up applications again this year and all details on how to apply can be found [here](#).

Due to the delay in sending out this newsletter all applications will be considered if received prior to the 31st January 2022.

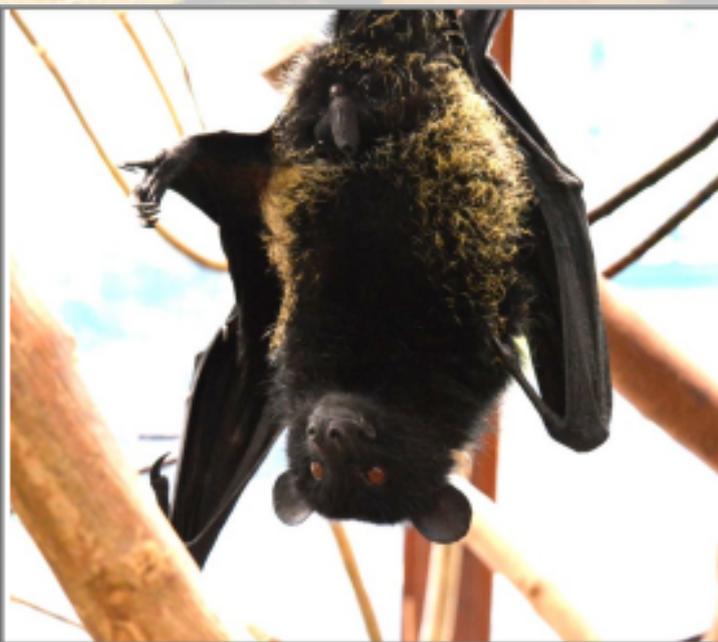
## **SARAH RICHDON - FINAL REPORT**

Sarah was awarded a grant in 2018 and despite the challenges of the pandemic she has completed her work and the full report can be found [here](#) on The Alice McCosh Trust website.

Her aim was to unravel the genetic framework of captive Livingstone fruit bats by creating a family tree to identify who is reproducing.

These bats are Critically Endangered and found only on the Comoros islands.

The knowledge gained from this work will allow conservationists to make better informed decisions around future breeding to ensure the genetic health of the bats.



Rasputin - a Livingstone fruit bat  
Photo: Sarah Richdon

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This work would not have been possible without the kind support of the Alice McCosh Trust, for which I am very grateful to have received and proud to be affiliated with.

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Sarah Richdon