

The Sheila McKechnie Foundation



Rosa Parks riding on a newly integrated bus following Supreme Court ruling that ended a 381 day boycott of segregated buses. The boycott began when Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a white person. (1956)

© Photo by Don Cravens/Time Life Pictures/Getty Images

Awards 2008



Lucy Musgrave
Interim Chair
Sheila McKechnie Foundation



Claire McMaster
Chief Executive

Ordinary people doing extraordinary things

In December 1955 a seamstress in Montgomery Alabama was ordered to give up her seat on a bus to a white passenger. She refused. Through this simple act of protest, Rosa Parks galvanised the Civil Rights movement and paved the way for the Supreme Court ruling, twelve months later, that banned segregation on public transport.

The Sheila McKechnie Foundation believes we can all change the world.

We are a ground-breaking start-up charity, established in 2005 to develop and support the next generation of campaigners. The Foundation finds, supports and strengthens people who spot an injustice or a pressing need and then go out to do something about it.

These are people who don't wait for someone else to fix the problem. They try to fix it themselves and we try to help them do it.

Campaigning is rightly being recognised for the contribution that it makes to the development of civil societies in all corners of the world. We created these awards three years ago to enable more campaigners to re-write history. This year's award finalists are no exception, they are passionate, committed, visionary and have huge determination.

Our unique and bespoke model of investment for campaigners has been developed in partnership with our award sponsors, judges, coaches and mentors. For those working on social and environmental justice in the UK and internationally, across twelve categories.

Campaigners tell us they sometimes feel lonely, isolated and embattled. The Foundation's network of support gives essential recognition, hope and encouragement.

We want to equip campaigners to play an active and effective role in all areas of society. So this

year we created three new awards - London Social Justice, Shout Out! and Young Activist for campaigners based in London tackling the root causes of poverty, school students and young people respectively.

We believe that all children and young people should be given the chance to realise their potential as critical players in society who can make a difference.

Thousands of lives have been changed through the work of countless numbers of unsung heroes who have campaigned for justice and a better world to live in.

There have been many powerful moments along the way. We chart some of them here whilst paying proud tribute to our award finalists who are themselves doing extraordinary work.

Let's make change happen.

Conflict Resolution

Tackling the root causes of conflict



During the 1980's the whole world watched thousands of women protest against the siting of nuclear weapons at Greenham Common. By 1990 the cruise missiles had gone and in 1992 Greenham Common Airbase was declared redundant for military purposes. (1983). ©2000 Topham / AP TopFoto

sponsored by

Peace Direct supports grassroots peacebuilding in conflict areas. In every conflict, there are local people working for peace. Peace Direct funds their work, promotes it and learns from it.

judges

Ruth Jenkins is a Trustee of Peace Direct, an organisation supporting local peace building initiatives world-wide. She is also Treasurer of GeneWatch, a not-for-profit group that monitors developments in genetic technologies from a public interest, environmental protection and welfare perspective. She has been active in Green politics and activism for a decade.

Lindsay Mackie is a Trustee of the Foundation and a Journalist and Education Consultant, specialising in immigration, race and social exclusion. She has co-authored

a book on the obstacles to women's achievement, but also the ways in which women were forcing the pace to greater equality of pay and conditions. As Director of the Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Award for Young People she established an Award which now has 15,000 young holders. Lindsay currently works with local campaign groups fighting the standardisation of their High Streets and the loss of public outlets like banks, independent shops, post offices and pubs.

Terry Waite CBE has extensive international experience in development and conflict resolution projects, including humanitarian programmes throughout Africa. He has also negotiated the release of hostages held in the Middle East. His work resulted in his own captivity for four years in Lebanon. He has authored several books, one of which was an international best seller and lectures publicly on his experiences.

finalists



Cathy Elliott
Merseyside Young Transformers Programme
Community Foundation for Merseyside

Cathy launched this campaign to tackle anti-social behaviour to divert young people away from crime. Young Transformers aims to develop a long-term approach to look at factors that contribute to young people getting involved in anti-social behaviour, gang culture and gun crime. The campaign believes it is essential to provide positive experiences and activities for young people to help address the root causes. Cathy is working to raise the campaign's profile with local and national government.



Azar Majedi
Women's Rights in Muslim Communities
Women's Liberation-Iran

Azar is president of Women's Liberation-Iran (OWL) and has spent the last thirty years campaigning for freedom of expression and women's rights in Europe and the Middle East. She has played an active role in protesting against the veil and violence towards women and children. OWL aims to raise public awareness of women's discrimination in Muslim communities through the use of media coverage and international conferences. Azar writes for several feminist journals and produces and hosts TV programmes broadcast by satellite in Iran and neighbouring countries. The charity works continuously to awaken people to the injustice suffered by women under Islamic rule.



Nick Wilson
Conscience - the Peace Tax Campaign

Nick is campaigning for the rights of taxpayers who have a conscientious objection to war. He believes they should have the right to opt for their taxes to be spent on non-violent peace building activity rather than military funds. The campaign promotes alternative means of dealing with conflict, including the use of peace workers to monitor military agreements. Conscience strongly supports those who risk jail by refusing to pay tax. They have also formed the Peace and Security Liaison Group which brings military officials and politicians together with NGO's to work on peace building and conflict resolution. Nick's ultimate aim is a world where taxes are used to nurture peace, not pay for war.

sponsored by



Consumer Action

Campaigning for quality, safety and affordability



Dame Anita Roddick having her face painted in Columbia. Founder of The Body Shop and Anti-Corporate Globalisation Activist.
© AnitaRoddick.com

sponsored by

Which? exists to make people as powerful as the organisations they have to deal with in their daily lives. Which? provides independent advice and active support to counter the morass of misleading information and bewildering choices that people face all the time. Which? also campaigns for change to end unfairness in the way some markets are structured and operate.

judges

Tanya Heasman is a Trustee of the Foundation and Director of Systems Concepts and Deputy Chair of Which? Council. Tanya is joint Managing Director of System Concepts, an independent management consultancy providing ergonomics, health and safety and disability advice and training to a wide range of public and private sector clients. Elected to the Consumers' Association Council in 1997, she has been Deputy

Chair since January 2003. She is also a lay representative on the Food Standards Agency Research Advisory Committee.

Emily Robinson is a former award winner of the Health and Social Care category in 2006 with her campaign to improve the level of nursing care for special care baby units. Emily is currently Campaigns Manager at Consumers International and has been a Trustee of the Foundation since the beginning of 2008.

Rebecca Smithers has been Consumer Affairs Correspondent of The Guardian since 2006. She was previously the paper's Transport Correspondent and also wrote on education for nine years. She is governor of a North London secondary school.

finalists



Paula Dean
Tax Credit Casualties

Paula began this campaign to support victims forced into debt as a result of overpayments made through the Working Tax Credit system. Paula believes that overpayments should be written off and a fairer more transparent system should be established. Tax Credit Casualties campaigns to persuade the Government to make legislative changes to make this possible. Paula hopes to gain funding and support from the government to provide training and advice for over two hundred people who have contacted her as a result of the debts they face.



Nick Mole
Pesticide Action Network UK (PAN UK)

Nick is a policy officer for the Pesticide Action Network UK (PAN UK) working on the Food Residues campaign aiming to make conditions for those working with food safer. Nick works with a wealth of scientific data to uncover harmful pesticides and campaigns to bring their use to an end. One of his objectives is to set up a network of farmers and promote the use of safer alternatives to chemical pesticides. The campaign aims to build on its research to persuade key policy makers to legislate more effectively.



Andrew Wilson
Wales Fair Trade Forum

Andrew is campaigning for Wales Fair Trade Forum to make Wales the first ever fair trade country. He hopes to inspire people to buy fair trade products and highlight that it improves economic and social justice in the developing world. Andrew's aim is that over fifty per cent of towns and villages in Wales will eventually be awarded FAIRTRADE status and is keen to move the campaign to the next level.

sponsored by



Economic Justice

Helping individuals and communities break the cycle of poverty



Greenpeace activists paint an illegal logger's barge, in Brazil, with the message 'CRIME' and blockade access to the sort yard. (2003).
© Greenpeace/Beltra

sponsored by

The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust is an independent, progressive organisation committed to funding radical change towards a better world. The JRCT makes grants to individuals and to projects seeking the creation of a peaceful world, political equality and social justice.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation is one of the largest social policy research and development charities in the UK. It aims to better understand the causes of social difficulties and explore ways of overcoming them.

judges

Lindsay Mackie is a Trustee of the Foundation and a Journalist and Education Consultant, specialising in immigration, race and social exclusion. She has co-authored a book on the obstacles to women's achievement, but also the ways in which women were forcing the pace to greater equality of pay and conditions. As Director of the Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Award for Young People she

established an Award which now has 15,000 young holders. Lindsay currently works with local campaign groups fighting the standardisation of their High Streets and the loss of public outlets like banks, independent shops, post offices and pubs.

Stephen Pittam is the Trust Secretary at the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (JRCT), responsible for the Power and Responsibility programme. Before joining JRCT in 1986 he spent 10 years in local government in London working closely with the voluntary sector supporting community development. Previously he worked in community development projects in Ireland, Jordan and the UK.

Julia Unwin, Director of the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, has extensive experience as an advocate for the users of housing, health and social care services. As a researcher, author and consultant she has focused on the development of services, and in particular, the governance and funding of voluntary organisations and their relationship with Government.

finalists



Emma Mamo
MIND

Emma is a Campaigns Officer at MIND aiming to raise awareness of the relationship between debt and mental health and is calling on the finance, health and advice sectors to work together to address these issues. The campaign aims to improve the finance sector's understanding of the challenges that people living with mental illness and debt can experience. Emma has set up meetings between corporations, trade associations and politicians to highlight the complicated relationship between finance and mental health.



Rachel Noble
Tourism Concern

Rachel works for Tourism Concern, a charity aiming to expose exploitation in the tourism industry and campaigns for greater benefits for local people in destination countries. She has worked on the charity's Tsunami campaign aiming to ensure that the post-tsunami tourism developments are sustainable and beneficial to local people displaced by the tsunami who are dependent on the coast for their livelihoods.



John Pierce
National Housing Federation

John has been Campaign Executive at the National Housing Federation (NHF) since 2006 when he launched the Pre-Payment Meter campaign. The aim is to persuade energy suppliers to make their pre-payment meter tariffs the same as their quarterly bill tariffs. This would remove the premium of up to £100 that their poorest customers have to pay. The campaign works to persuade energy suppliers to voluntarily remove this premium. The NHF are also lobbying the government to legislate for its removal.



David Young
**Community Rights and Forest Law Enforcement
Governance and Trade and initiative of the EU
Global Witness**

David Young's background is in rural development and forestry. He is campaigning on behalf of Global Witness to put community rights at the centre of forest management in forest-rich developing countries. The campaign includes a series of partnerships between Europe and timber-producing developing countries. The main objectives of the programme are to ensure that only legal timber enters European markets and to put local communities at the centre of decision-making on forest use. David is working to build better relationships between partner countries and to lobby European decision-makers on these issues.

sponsored by



Environment

Working to provide sustainable solutions to the environmental problems we face locally and globally



One of the most widespread citizen campaigns of recent years was for better air quality, in which CLEAN-Delhi played a major role. All buses in Delhi now run on low-emission fuel. (1996). © Jenny Zarins

sponsored by

The Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation was established in Lisbon in 1956. The UK Branch of the Foundation, based in London, has for more than fifty years initiated and supported pioneering social, cultural and educational developments across the UK and Ireland. International and involving in its outlook, the Foundation aims to enrich and connect people's lives and is committed to innovation and the exchange of ideas.

judges

Martin Essayen has been an executive Board member of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation for three years. He is the great grandson of Calouste Gulbenkian. Previously he was a partner at the Boston Consulting Group, where he worked for over fifteen years as a specialist in financial services and also a systems engineer for IBM for five years.

Ed McCann is a Director of Expedition whom he joined in 2002 where he is jointly responsible for strategic direction. He is an innovative and creative designer with a particular interest in the environmental performance of projects. He previously worked at Black & Veatch on over fifty projects in more than ten countries.

Lucy Musgrave, Trustee of the Foundation and Co-Director of the General Public Agency. Lucy is a leading practitioner on sustainable communities, social architecture and urban design. She was formerly Director of the Architecture Foundation, of which Sheila was then a Trustee. She has been involved in a number of advisory and board roles, including the UK government's Urban Sounding Board, the Greater London Authority's Public Realm Advisory Group and the Mies van der Rohe European Prize for Public Space.

finalists



Jake Backus
The Coca-Cola Company

Jake campaigns for environmental sustainability on a global level within The Coca-Cola Company and believes that the two fastest ways to improve the environment are through governance and the business. The campaign aims to accelerate what The Coca-Cola Company is doing to reduce its environmental impact through refrigeration, the supply chain and through packaging (reduction and re-cycling). He is keen to build collaborations and accelerate the environmental agenda within The Coca-Cola Company and by inspiring others.



Shaun Chamberlin
Tradable Energy Quota Campaign

Shaun is Development Director at The Lean Economy Connection of the Tradable Energy Quota (TEQ) campaign which is a system of rationing energy supplies to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. The Lean Economy Connection is keen to secure Government commitment to the scheme as they believe that it will help to reach the UK's national emissions obligations and empower communities to adapt to climate change and peak oil.



Matthew Prescott
Energy Saving Day

Matthew campaigns for energy efficiency and has worked on a programme to phase out the use of incandescent light bulbs. Last year he staged an Energy Saving Day and asked everyone in the UK to turn off at least one unused electrical item and then tried to measure the national effect on electricity demand. He has successfully built a coalition of partners, including energy companies, major charities, academics, comedians and religious leaders to raise awareness and support. Matthew hopes to make this an annual event with fun and meaningful activities that make everyone aware of the severity of climate change.



Alex Randall
Centre for Alternative Technology

Alex works at the Centre for Alternative Technology to make political action and peaceful protest on Climate Change an activity practiced by everyone. CheatNeutral.com compares carbon offsetting to cheating on your partner and then paying someone else to be faithful. This is part of the humorous approach that Alex wants to use to encourage people to take action on Climate Change and to highlight the urgent need for an international agreement on carbon reduction. Alex is keen to explore the explosion in social networking media to grab attention for the issue.

sponsored by



**CALOUSTE
GULBENKIAN
FOUNDATION**

Global Action

In memory of Guy Hughes

Guy Hughes was an inspirational campaigner and activist who died tragically in a mountaineering accident in January 06, but who achieved more in his 32 years than most people manage in a lifetime. The Foundation joined David and Lynda Hughes and a group of Guy's closest friends, to establish this award supporting younger campaigners working towards global justice.



13th July 1985 saw the world sit up and take notice when rock stars from around the world held unique dual concerts in London and Philadelphia which saw millions of people watching, as Live Aid, called on people to take action to help the sufferers of the famine hitting Africa. ©PA/Topham/Topfoto

Guy Hughes. Highly intelligent and analytical. Guy studied physics at the University of East Anglia, but his interests soon turned to environmental politics and social justice. Guy became Head of Campaigns at Third World First - which later changed its name to People & Planet (P&P).

He was a founder of the Trade Justice Movement, which became a rallying point for peoples' movements across the world. In 2003, Guy established a new NGO, Crisis Action, which aims to help avert conflicts, prevent human rights abuses and ensure governments fulfil their obligations to protect civilians. Guy is deeply missed not only by his family, partner and friends but by a generation of idealistic students, campaigners and guests at his legendary Oxford cocktail parties. He was a man of sparkling intelligence, energy and wit who knew how to make life fun as well as being determined to change the world for the better.

sponsored by

David and Lynda Hughes

Artists' Project Earth aims to help create a better world by bringing the power of music and the arts to 21st century challenges. It supports effective projects and awareness raising initiatives to combat climate change and raises funds for natural disaster relief.

BOND (British Overseas NGOs for Development) is the UK's broadest network of voluntary organisations working in international development.

Oxfam UK is part of Oxfam International, a confederation of 13 organizations working together with over 3,000 partners in more than 100 countries to find lasting solutions to poverty, suffering and injustice.

judges

Adam Askew has worked at Oxfam as Head of Activism in the UK for three years. He works with thousands of volunteers promoting campaigning issues at grass roots level.

Previously he worked in the youth team engaging young people and more recently he has been leading Oxfam's G8 campaigning in the UK.

Claire McMaster - Chief Executive, Sheila McKechnie Foundation.

Lucy Pearce is currently Campaigns Manager at Stop Climate Chaos. She has worked as a professional campaigner over the last ten years, initially as General Secretary of Kent Student's Union. During her four years managing People & Planet's Climate Change Campaign, she successfully persuaded 60 universities to switch to green electricity and kicked the world's biggest oil company, Esso, off campus.

Glen Tarman is Advocacy Manager for BOND (British Overseas NGOs for Development). He was previously a Co-ordinator for the Trade Justice Movement, campaigning against the unjust rules and institutions that govern international trade. He was also a founding Co-ordinator of Make Poverty History, and has previously worked at OneWorld and the World Development Movement.

finalists



Juliane Heider
End the use of Immigration Detention of Children

Juliane is campaigning to stop the use of immigration detention, particularly with children. She is campaigning to provide detainees facing deportation with skills and resources to appeal against their situation. She is particularly concerned about the lengths of time children are being detained for and the fact that they are without access to education or medical care. The campaign is developing an action network to bring together individuals and organisations concerned about the issues.



Onyeka Igwe
Student Action for Refugees

Onyeka has been a member of Student Action for Refugees (STAR) since she was 16 years old. She campaigns for Still Human Still Here which works to end the destitution of refused asylum seekers. Onyeka believes that during the asylum seeking process and the period that follows, people should be provided with an adequate standard of living. She is currently producing a film following the stories of asylum seekers and hopes to use this as a campaigning tool to raise awareness.



Hannah McFaul
The Howard League for Penal Reform

Hannah is campaigning to encourage university students to join the debate about penal reform as she believes that students can be a real force for change. The campaign takes the concerns of the Howard League for Penal Reform to universities throughout the UK. This has formed a network to organise events, debates and fundraisers to support the campaign. As part of the campaign, Hannah organises training days for students to raise the issues of penal reform nationwide.



Rosemary Zulu
Student's Partnership Worldwide (UK) and Empowering Street Children Zambia

Rosemary is working on two different campaigns, one in the UK and the other in Zambia. The focus of Advocates for Action UK is to lobby the UK Government on three issues: asking decision-makers to include young people's issues in their development plans, involving young people in the decisions that affect them and promoting sexual and reproductive health rights education and services. Through Street Children's Project, Zambia, Rosemary's campaign aims to empower young people by building their confidence, self-awareness and self esteem to help them to challenge social injustice issues.

sponsored by

David and Lynda Hughes



Health and Social Care

Improving the quality of people's lives



Disability campaigners highlight the lack of accessible transport. Protestors included Para-Olympians who travelled to and competed in Athens. (2004). © www.uppa.co.uk

sponsored by

Age Concern England is the UK's largest organisation working with and for older people. Age Concern is campaigning against ageism and encouraging older people to claim their entitlements.

judges

Gordon Lishman CBE became Director General of Age Concern England (ACE) in 2000. He has worked for ACE since 1974, playing a key role in making Age Concern one of the UK's largest charitable operations. He initiated the Ageing Well programme which for nearly 15 years has been promoting healthier lifestyles for older people and developed AC Training and Work as a national provider of training for care professionals and older people.

Lindsay Mackie is a Trustee of the Foundation and a Journalist and Education Consultant, specialising in immigration, race and social exclusion. She has co-authored

a book on the obstacles to women's achievement, but also the ways in which women were forcing the pace to greater equality of pay and conditions. As Director of the Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Award for Young People she established an Award which now has 15,000 young holders. Lindsay currently works with local campaign groups fighting the standardisation of their High Streets and the loss of public outlets like banks, independent shops, post offices and pubs.

Miranda Watson is the Campaign Manager for the Food and Health Campaign team at Which? She is responsible for planning and driving forward all food and health campaigns for Which? at UK and European level. She has worked on a number of high profile campaigns, including on issues such as nutrition labelling, the Kids Food campaign and the award winning Endowment Action campaign which helped thousands of people to claim compensation for mis-sold endowments.

finalists



Penny Halliday
Kinship Care
You Are Not Alone Family Support Group

Penny is campaigning for kinship carers and for children who are looked after by them, to be equally valued and financially supported like other children with carers. After founding the You Are Not Alone Family Support Group in Scotland over ten years ago, Penny joined-up with other kinship carers to develop the campaign. She is keen to ensure that kinship carers are supported both practically and financially and that they are valued as a serious alternative to institutional care.



Margaret Kennedy
Called to Account
Minister & Clergy Sexual Abuse Survivors

Margaret is a volunteer for Minister & Clergy Sexual Abuse Survivors (MACSAS) campaigning to install policies and procedures to safeguard men and women within the church. MACSAS is lobbying for the introduction of statutory regulations to address the challenging issues that can emerge. The campaign aims to engage with churches of all denominations and with the Government to raise awareness of the sensitive issues that the campaign raises.



Noreen Taylor
Bodyproject
The Body Project Foundation

Noreen is the founding member of the Body Project Foundation that campaigns for medical research into the illness Body Dismorphic Disorder (BDD). BDD is an anxiety disorder that affects thousands of individuals although very few people have an awareness or understanding of this illness. The campaign aims to establish research into the disease and to create an organisation that provides support for sufferers and families. Noreen hopes that this campaign will encourage the delivery of an adequate medical response to the illness that has affected her personal family life and that of thousands of others.

sponsored by

AGE
Concern

International

International campaigners working to achieve social or environmental justice



Nelson Mandela addresses a rally at Soweto National Stadium, shortly after his release from prison on 11 February 1990.
© Alexander Caminada/ Alamy

sponsored by

Concern Worldwide was set up in 1968 in response to a famine in the Nigerian province of Biafra. Concern Worldwide works in 30 of the world's poorest countries to help people living in extreme poverty achieve major improvements in their lives, which last and spread without ongoing external support. To this end, Concern engage in long term development work, respond to emergency situations, and seek to address the root causes of poverty through their development education and advocacy work.

judges

Claire McMaster came on board as the Foundation's first Chief Executive in July 2005, following a varied career in campaigning, fundraising, cause-related marketing and communications over the last 20 years. She has a strong track record of managing campaigns demanding

social justice, at a grassroots and international level from: the Anti-Apartheid Movement to the London Development Agency.

Roger Harris is the Head of Corporate Services & Projects at Concern Worldwide (UK), an international humanitarian NGO. Previously to this Roger worked as a fundraiser for THT (Terrence Higgins Trust) and for the African National Congress Votes for Freedom campaign in the UK. He was an anti-apartheid activist and formerly an elected local Councillor in the London Borough of Lewisham.

finalists



Shanti Behera
Prison Reform

The Martin Luther King Centre for Democracy and Human Rights

Shanti has been campaigning for the rights of access to information and health for prisoners. He is especially concerned about prison conditions and the treatment of prisoners and believes strongly that they should be given their basic human rights. The campaign goal is to influence Indian authorities to work towards international best practices.



Tulasa Lata Amatya
End Gender Discrimination in Nepal
Community Action Centre - Nepal

Tulasa has been campaigning through awareness raising and lobbying at a local and national level in Nepal. The campaign advocates for the rights of women and against gender discrimination. Her work supports communities to empower women and encourage them to raise their voices to address all issues concerning them and to campaign against discriminatory laws. In the long term the campaign aims to free women from gender discrimination at home, at work, in the community and the political arena in Nepal.



Musenge Musomali
Paediatric HIV/Aids care, treatment and support
Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia

Musenge has been campaigning to strengthen community understanding of HIV/AIDS and increase awareness of the care and the treatment options available in government institutions across Zambia. Her campaign is designed to dispel myths on paediatric treatment through education on drugs, their availability and their access points from government clinics. The campaign also aims to address the issues that children face as a consequence of HIV/AIDS and to identify ways on how to deal with them.



Francis Njuakom Nchii
Campaign for older people's rights in Cameroon
Community Development Volunteers for Technical Assistance

Francis is Director at the Community Development Volunteers for Technical Assistance (CDVTA Cameroon) delivering a much needed advocacy campaign to enable older people to demand and secure their constitutional rights. He is fighting discrimination and marginalisation, promoting positive messages on ageing and working towards securing high quality welfare services in the remote village areas of Cameroon. The campaign aims to influence policies and decision makers to recognise the rights of older people.

sponsored by



London Social Justice

For London based campaigners tackling poverty and its root causes



Portrait of Mrs Desai- leader of the Asians Women's Workers at Grunwick factory strike, 1977. © Homer Sykes Archive/ Alamy

sponsored by

The City Parochial Foundation is an independent charitable foundation whose work enables and empowers the poor of London to tackle poverty and its root causes, and ensures that funds reach those most in need.

judges

Maggie Baxter, a freelance consultant, involved in developing Rosa, the first UK Women's Fund. Previously she was Executive Director of WOMANKIND Worldwide, Deputy Chief Executive and Grants Director at Comic Relief. She is a Trustee of City Parochial Foundation, Trust for London, Hilden Charitable Fund, and Women for Refugee Women, Dance United and Green Belt Movement International.

Bharat Mehta OBE is Chief Executive of the City Parochial Foundation, a funding body established in 1891 to benefit the poor of London. He is a Trustee of the Joseph Rowntree

Foundation and a non-executive Director of the North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust. Previously, he was Chief Executive of the National Schizophrenia Fellowship (NSF) (renamed RETHINK). He has also worked at the Medical Research Council (MRC) and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO).

Lucy Musgrave is Trustee of the Foundation and Co-Director of the General Public Agency. Lucy is a leading practitioner on sustainable communities, social architecture and urban design. She was formerly Director of the Architecture Foundation, of which Sheila was then a Trustee. She has been involved in a number of advisory and board roles, including the UK government's Urban Sounding Board, the Greater London Authority's Public Realm Advisory Group and the Mies van der Rohe European Prize for Public Space.

finalists



Ian Gilmore
OK2B Campaign

Ian has worked for the mental health anti-stigma campaign since it began in 2005. The charity works in collaboration with other projects to achieve positive change in public attitudes towards people with mental health problems. Ian wants OK2B to be innovative in the mental health field and wants to use events such as a comedy night at the Hackney Empire to raise awareness. He believes that this will lead to a reduction in suicide and self-harm.



Jan Irwin
Families without Fear
The Minster Centre

Jan works for the Families without Fear campaign to highlight the need to invest more resources into researching the causes of domestic abuse. Jan's aim is to create new methods of research into the causes of domestic violence such as psychotherapy and psychology. Families without Fear also aims to develop training based on the findings of research to help improve the safety of survivors. Jan is working to build a coalition of like-minded campaigners on the issue of domestic violence.



Rebecca Ledwidges-Eaves
The Children's Society

Rebecca is a Campaigns Co-ordinator for the Safe and Sound Campaign run by The Children's Society. The social justice campaign is run on behalf of the 100,000 young people who runaway from home each year, to ensure they are properly safeguarded. Safe and Sound hopes to make local authorities adhere to statutory obligations and provide runaway's with immediate help. The first phase of the programme has resulted in the government's decision to launch a working group for runaways. Later in the year the group plans to release an action plan on safeguarding runaways in the future.



Ben Watson
FairPensions

Ben joined Fair Pensions in 2007 and works on The Campaign for Responsible Investment. The objective of the campaign is to alleviate poverty, environmental damage and human rights violations caused by corporations. The programme targets London-based pension funds and fund managers who own shares in these companies. The campaign aims to increase the awareness of investors of social, environment and government issues in their investment decisions. Last year the campaign worked in conjunction with Oxfam, using investors to persuade pharmaceutical companies to improve public access to medicines in India.

sponsored by

cpf City Parochial
Foundation
Tackling poverty in London

Shout Out!

Supporting the campaigns of school students



United Kingdom, Young British Muslim women at a vigil in Trafalgar Square to remember the victims of the terrorist attack on London on the 7th of July 2005. © Jenny Matthews/Panos

sponsored by

The City Bridge Trust aims to address disadvantage by supporting charitable activity across Greater London through quality grant-making and related activities with clearly defined priorities. The Trust's vision is to work for change to benefit the people of London.

judges

Lindsay Mackie is a Trustee of the Foundation and a Journalist and Education Consultant, specialising in immigration, race and social exclusion. She has co-authored a book on the obstacles to women's achievement, but also the ways in which women were forcing the pace to greater equality of pay and conditions. As Director of the Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Award for Young People she established an Award which now has 15,000 young holders.

Lindsay currently works with local campaign groups fighting the standardisation of their High Streets and the loss of public outlets like banks, independent shops, post offices and pubs.

Clare Thomas is Chief Grants Officer at The City Bridge Trust, London's largest independent grant-maker. She was formerly an Adviser to the Active Community Unit at the Home Office on the charities, voluntary organisations and grant-making. She has worked as Deputy Clerk of Sir John Cass's Foundation and for several years as Deputy Director of the Rainer Foundation. She has also worked in London boroughs as a teacher in Haringey and as a social worker in Hackney. She is Chair of the National Offender Management Service Advisory Group at the Home Office, an Adviser to the British Red Cross's Disaster and Flood Relief Funds and has recently been elected Chair of the Association of Charitable Foundations.

finalists



Azhir Mahmood, Valerie Okoampah, Luke Pearce, Raymond Tsang
Gladesmore Community School

Gladesmore Community School is involved in Value Life - a campaign to raise awareness of gun crime in Tottenham, which they aim to develop into a national project. The campaign began in 2004 and since then has organised peace marches and rallies as well as making a documentary DVD on the issue of guns. The young campaigners have developed a website called Value Life as a way of reaching out to young people. They are keen to further develop their website to make more people aware of the dangers of gun crime.



Libby Rees
Rewrite the Future and Save the Children

Libby is a youth ambassador for Save the Children and published a self help book for children when she was 9 years old. At a young age, she wanted to share her methods for coping with personal difficulties with other children. She continuously works to get children's voices heard. Libby is currently knitting hats to prevent babies from getting pneumonia in the developing world. She is taking her knitting to the House of Commons to urge MP's to join her. Her greatest wish is to bring about change in countries where children are deprived of education.



Charlie Young
Queens Park Community School

Charlie is campaigning to make his school and the local community a greener place. His aim is to cut the school's emissions by 30 per cent in the next five years. The campaign has been working to raise awareness through articles in the school magazine and through holding assemblies to inform people about global warming and how to make change happen. Charlie hopes the campaign will urge his school and community to cut down on energy use and introduce more methods of recycling. His long term aim is to encourage schools across Britain to teach pupils about climate change so that the issue is taken seriously.

sponsored by



Social Inclusion

Fighting disadvantage and inequality



Sir Elton John ties the knot with long-term partner David Furnish on the first day that same-sex civil partnerships are permitted under the new Civil Partnerships Act. (December 2005). ©National pictures/ Topfoto

sponsored by

Shelter believes everyone should have a home. Shelter helps more than 170,000 people a year fight for their rights, get back on their feet, and find and keep a home. Shelter also campaigns for decent housing for all.

judges

Nick Partridge has been Chief Executive of the Terence Higgins Trust since 1991 and worked at THT since 1985. Over the past 23 years he has been a consistent voice on the coverage of AIDS and sexual health. He has negotiated numerous mergers with other charities and now mobilises over 1,000 volunteers and 350 staff. He is Chair of INVOLVE, Deputy Chair of the UK Clinical Research Collaboration, Deputy Chair of the Healthcare Commission and Deputy

Chair of the Expert Advisory Group on AIDS (EAGA) that advises Ministers and the Chief Medical Officer.

Adam Sampson is a Trustee of the Foundation and is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Shelter, having previously been the Deputy Director of Prison Reform Trust and Director of the addiction charity, RAPT. He is also a Trustee of End Child Poverty, Inquest, the Prisoners Advice Service and is a Commissioner of the UK Drugs Policy Commission. Adam has written, researched and broadcast widely on a range of social inclusion issues. He has also been a judge for the RIBA Prize and is both a Fellow and a member of the Advisory Council of the Royal Society for the Arts.

finalists



Tara Flood
Alliance for Inclusion Education

Tara founded the We Know Inclusion Works campaign to highlight the importance of including disabled children in mainstream schools. Having personal experience of segregation in schooling, Tara has an insight into the effects of exclusion from mainstream life. The campaign's main objective is to create a united and influential voice that includes young people, their families, teachers and allies. Tara uses other people's stories to help increase awareness through media coverage.



Mariam Kemple
Help the Aged

Mariam is a campaigner for Learning for life. The programme aims to provide older people in England with access to informal adult learning. The campaign believes that adult learning can dramatically improve the lives of older people by keeping their minds active, reduce isolation and provide health benefits. Mariam's objectives are to increase awareness of the campaign through Adult Learning Week that takes place every May.



Samantha Nicklin
The Children's Society

Samantha is working for Stand by Me, a campaign established by The Children's Society. The campaign believes that independent advocacy for disabled children will empower them in the decision making process to ensure that they receive the care they need. Stand by Me is lobbying national and local governments to encourage local authorities to have a statutory requirement to provide independent advocacy services by 2009. The campaign aims to support and train campaigners to influence local government and make their voices heard.



John Ward
Leeds No Borders

In 2005 John helped to set up the Leeds No Borders campaign that supports people who face detention and deportation by providing information, advice and by running anti-deportation campaigns. John, with his colleagues, created inventive and informative events to educate people on these issues. The main objective for this campaign is to approach and affect government policies on detention and deportation. John is committed to providing practical solidarity in the fight against deportation and associated poverty and racism created by the asylum system.

sponsored by

Shelter

Transport

Meeting the transport challenges of our age



United Kingdom, Lancashire Eco-warriors protest against the construction of the M65 motorway, with one climbing a tree to delay the project. (1995). © Andrew Testa/ Panos

sponsored by

Simon Norton

judges

Stephen Joseph OBE has been Executive Director of the Campaign for Better Transport since 1988. He has previously worked for a range of organisations, including the British Youth Council, the Civic Trust and the Town & Country Planning Association. He was awarded the OBE in 1996 for services to transport and the environment. In July 2004 he was given a Lifetime Achievement Award as part of the National Transport Awards.

Vaughan Lindsay is Trustee of the Foundation and Chief Executive of the Dartington Hall Trust. The Trust is committed to helping people realise inspired ideas through several strands of activity, from arts and education, ecology,

social research and commercial enterprise. Vaughan was formerly Director of Resources at Shelter - where he worked with Sheila, Deputy Director of NCVO and then responsible for strategy, marketing and sales at the internationally renowned strategic management consultancy McKinsey.

Simon Norton is a mathematician at Cambridge University with a particular interest in sustainable transport. In particular he is Co-ordinator of the Cambridgeshire & West Suffolk branch of the Campaign for Better Transport, the national environmental transport campaign.

finalists



Daniel Glass
Plane Stupid Scotland

Daniel is the founder of Plane Stupid Scotland. The campaign consists of a network of groups taking action against airport expansion and climate impact. They organise popular education programmes to instill community self-determination in tackling climate change. Through public events, rallies and reports Plane Stupid has instigated flight reduction policies in various universities, secured energy 'descent' plans, green rep-schemes and has prompted universities to create ethical sponsorship policies which supports green energy. Daniel also campaigns for better education into the aviation industry to inform the younger generations of the results of increased aviation.



Calum McCallum
Transform Scotland

Calum has been campaigning for Transform Scotland for over two years and is now the representative for the Transform Glasgow campaign. The campaign aims to significantly improve conditions for public transport users, pedestrians and cyclists in the Greater Glasgow area, as part of a Scotland-wide campaign for sustainable transport. The campaign's objective is to raise awareness of sustainable transport issues at all levels in Glasgow. Currently the campaign is assessing proposals for sustainable transport during the Commonwealth Games in 2014. Calum is keen to spread awareness of the issue of transport throughout Glasgow and to urge Glasgow City Council to take action.



Sheila Owen
West Lancashire Pensioner's Forum

Sheila is a member of the West Lancashire Pensioners Forum and is campaigning to change her local council's policy on travel contributions for pensioners so that they are given equal access to the benefits of free travel, already available in some areas of the country. The group's main objective is to lobby the local council for overall better public transport for pensioners in rural areas.

sponsored by

Simon Norton

Young Activist

Supporting young people to improve their communities



Siphwe Hlophe, founder of Swaziland Positive Living and SMF award finalist, stands next to a giant ribbon, made of 6000 flowers, in the lead up to Worlds Aids Day. In 2007 this represented the number of people that were dying of AIDS related illnesses each day. (November 2007). Photographer © Steve Forrest/Insight

sponsored by

The Foyer Federation transforms young people's experiences of disadvantage into solutions that support their transition into adult independence. They work with over 130 integrated learning and accommodation centres across the UK, known as Foyers, which support 10,000 16-25 year olds each year.

The YMCA is a leading Christian charity committed to supporting young people, particularly in times of need. The charity reaches out to over 1 million young people each year, working with them at every stage of their lives and offering support when and where they need it most.

judges

Pushpa Dougall is Communications Development Manager at the Sheila McKechnie Foundation. She has been campaigning for over twenty years on issues including child protection, domestic violence and race equality. Previously a youth worker in the Midlands, she has delivered centre based, outreach and detached youth work.

Colin Falconer is Head of Innovation at the Foyer Federation where he leads the development work for the Federation's emerging Transitions Framework, supported by Futurebuilders and the Big Lottery. He was previously Head of Learning and Accreditation. He has held a variety of development roles in post-16 education, from establishing online learning communities in Tottenham and Tuscany, to administering the world's first distance learning degree for ballet teachers.

Stephen Matthews is Head of Policy, Media and Research for YMCA England, supporting local YMCAs in their work with young people in England. At YMCA England, Stephen has helped organise the Changing Your World campaign, a training course that gives groups of young people skills to create their own campaigns. As a volunteer youth worker, he won a millennium award with CAFOD to travel to South Africa and work with their projects.

finalists



Vicki Collin
Claim your Voice
Chester-le-Street

Vicki with the help of a group of young people began the Claim your Voice campaign to encourage young people to take a more active role in local politics. Claim your Voice aims to get more 18-25 year olds to use their right to vote and to increase interest in politics both locally and nationally. The campaign provides support for young people in public speaking and confidence building. They hope that the next step will be to build better relationships with MP's to increase the profile the campaign.



Toni Cowans
HIV/AIDS Awareness
Stoke-on-Trent

Toni is campaigning to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS through Stoke-on-Trent YMCA. Her key objectives are to challenge the misconceptions and discrimination associated with the illness, not only in her local area but nationwide. She hopes to educate young people about HIV by producing accessible information on the subject. Toni aims to influence MPs and increase public awareness through the media.



James Faulconbridge
Raising the Green Flag
Nottinghamshire

James is part of the Environmental Action Committee, a collective group of young people in Nottinghamshire promoting the Raising the Green Flag campaign. Their aim is to encourage all secondary schools in Nottinghamshire to sign up to the Eco-Schools commitment to encourage them to take steps to achieve Green Flag Status. The campaign believes that schools becoming more environmentally aware will have a stronger positive impact on the whole community. James is passionate about raising the profile of the committee to encourage more young people to get involved.



Helen Kiely
Irish Travellers Campaign
Chingford

Helen is campaigning to improve public opinion of the Irish Traveller community in East London. After personal experiences of prejudice against her background Helen decided to take action and openly talk about the issues that her community faces in the hope of changing perception. She has produced two DVD's on the subject and has spoken at conferences and workshops. Her main objectives are to raise the public profile of issues faced by the Irish Travellers community and to build connections with other campaigners working on similar issues.

sponsored by



The Sheila McKechnie Foundation would like kind support and generosity in sponsoring the



David and Lynda Hughes

We would also like to express our gratitude to coached and provided shadowing opportunities

to thank the following for their
2008 Awards.



Shelter



which?



peace direct

Simon Norton



our partners and key figures who mentored,
for the 2007 award winners and finalists.

Dame Sheila McKechnie was a fearless and passionate campaigner who empowered individuals to recognise and assert their rights through her work as Chief Executive at Which? and previously as Director of Shelter.

She inspired the creation of the Foundation, set-up by a founding group of Trustees who all knew and worked with her at the Architecture Foundation, Foyer Federation, Shelter and Which?. They believed that the insight and passion Sheila demonstrated in her own lifetime should be passed on to a new generation of campaigners fighting for social justice.

The Foundation gained charitable status in February 2005 and is entirely dedicated to helping campaigners create significant and lasting change.

The Foundation's five founding Patrons continue to play a critical role.



Dame Sheila McKechnie (1948-2004)

Patrons

Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP, Prime Minister

Alan Grant

Rt Hon The Lord Howe of Aberavon, Kt CH QC

The Baroness Morgan of Drefelin

Jon Snow

Trustees

Lucy Musgrave - Interim Chair, Co-Director of General Public Agency.

Margaret Donnelly - Sheila's Personal Assistant for 17 years, now Personal Assistant to the Chief Executive at Which?

Carolyn Hayman OBE - Chief Executive of Peace Direct. Former Chief Executive of the Foyer Federation.

Tanya Heasman - Director of System Concepts, Deputy Chair of Which? Council.

Vaughan Lindsay - Chief Executive of the Dartington Hall Trust, former Director of Resources at Shelter. Formerly at McKinsey and Deputy Director, NCVO.

Lindsay Mackie - Journalist and independent education consultant, formerly Director of Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Award for Young People.

Andrew Reading - Treasurer, Company Secretary, Which?

Emily Robinson - Winner, Sheila McKechnie Award 2006, Campaigns Manager, Consumers International.

Adam Sampson - Chief Executive of Shelter.

Alastair Wilson - Chief Executive of the School of Social Entrepreneurs (SSE).

Huge thanks to Jenny Gee, Nick Stace and Gary Waller, who stepped down as founding Trustees of the Foundation, for their valuable and unwavering support.

Over the last forty years there have been snapshots in time that have represented or led to significant moments of social change.

Campaigners are the conscience of society, they are our critical friends saying what we urgently need to hear. They are our real snapshots, fighting injustice in all our names.

The Foundation helps them hone and focus their powers to generate even greater impact and be heard above the background noise to create those pivotal moments that spark the change we want to see in the world.



Every Easter since April 1958 the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament [CND] had marched from the British Atomic Weapons Research Establishment at Aldermarston, Berkshire into London's Trafalgar Square 1968. © uppa/photshot



25,000 people congregate in Trafalgar Square to launch I Count/ Stop Climate Chaos- to call for Action on Climate Change. © Sheila McKechnie Foundation

Finally, we would like to thank the following who provided wonderful images for this brochure.

Alexander Caminada/Alamy

Don Cravens

Steve Forrest/Insight

Greenpeace UK

Getty Images

Lucy Musgrave and Clare Cumberlidge, Design and Landscape for People (Thames and Hudson)

National pictures/Topfoto

Panos

AnitaRoddick.com

Homer Sykes Archive/Alamy

Andrew Testa/Panos

Topham/AP TopFoto

Photoshot/uppa

Jenny Zarins

Pushpa Dougall/Sheila McKechnie Foundation

Shona French/Sheila McKechnie Foundation

Rosie Higham-Stainton/Sheila McKechnie Foundation

The Sheila McKechnie Foundation
2 Marylebone Road
London NW1 4DF
0207 770 7852

www.sheilamckechnie.org.uk

Sourced from sustainable paper - FSC certified.
Designed by Steven Chambers
Printed by Blunt
The Foundation is a registered charity, number 1108210