



MEDIA RELEASE

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Supporters from across the globe rally to help National Trust for Scotland

Charity thanks the public for their generosity as Save our Scotland appeal reaches £3.4million

The National Trust for Scotland wants to thank members and donors from around the world as donations to its Save our Scotland Appeal reach £3.4 million.

These donations, along with a £3.8million support package from the Scottish Government, have helped steer the Trust out of an extremely financially challenging period, as a result of strict lockdown measures. These contributions have helped to safeguard more than 200 jobs within the charity and enable the Trust to continue to care and protect the things we all love about Scotland

Donations came from all around the world including the Trust's network of friends and supporters across the USA as well as donors, volunteers and patrons in the UK and of course members and visitors.

Supporters took part in their own fundraising activities to help raise money for the Save our Scotland appeal. US based George Russell (aged 74), whose family has links to the charity's foundation, is now halfway through a sponsored 3,000 mile cycle across the states from California to Florida, and Trust Patrons, Simon and Bridget Fraser took on a 100km walk along the Berwickshire coast, raising over £15,000 to help secure the charity's future.

The Trust also teamed up with bespoke Highland tartan designer, Prickly Thistle, to create two limited edition tartans that represent the charity's importance in protecting Scotland's heritage with all profits going to the SOS Appeal.

While the Trust's financial situation has stabilised for the time being, the charity is still on course for a £20million deficit and is encouraging people to keep offering their support so it can continue its recovery into the future. Supporters can still donate to help Save our Scotland, or can support the Trust's current fundraising campaign The Footpath Fund which, helps the Trust maintain footpaths across its landscape properties, which has become even more important at a time of increased visitation.

Philip Long, Chief Executive of the National Trust for Scotland said: "We asked our members, donors and the public to help us raise £2.5million to allow us to continue our crucial work in caring for and protecting Scotland's built and natural heritage. They went much further than that, and to date, we have been blessed with contributions of £3.4 million. Without this financial support, the future of the Trust would be extremely uncertain.

"We are overwhelmed, encouraged and extremely grateful for all the donations we have received. Due to the unforeseen circumstances of the pandemic, our properties were closed and many of our projects have

been paused. The work we do to care and protect everything that makes Scotland so special was in jeopardy, and while we are still on the road to recovery, this support will now allow us to continue protecting Scotland's heritage. From everyone at the Trust, thank you'

"I would like to also thank our members who have continued to support us through their membership over the past seven months. Your support is invaluable and helps us do what we do for the love of Scotland. We look forward to welcoming you to a Trust property soon."

To find out more about how you can become a member of the National Trust for Scotland or donate to its fundraising appeals visit www.nts.org.uk.

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Editor's Notes:

The National Trust for Scotland is the charity that celebrates and protects Scotland's heritage. It relies on the support of its members and donors to carry out its important work of caring for the natural and built heritage of Scotland for everyone to enjoy.

From coastlines to castles, art to architecture, wildlife to wildernesses, the National Trust for Scotland exists to protect the national and natural treasures we all love. To plan your visit today, enter your postcode at www.nts.org.uk.

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