

PRESS RELEASE:

March 2021

CONTACT:

Julie Gough

e: Julie.gough@johnmuirtrust.org



Adventure grant enables young people from Ashton under Lyne go to Cairngorms for winter mountaineering course

Fifteen young people from Ashton under Lyne will go on a mountaineering course in the Cairngorms in February 2022 with funding support from the Des Rubens and Bill Wallace Grant.

Rehna, 27, a youth and community worker, submitted an application on behalf of young people from her own community in Ashton under Lyne, East Manchester, for support towards an annual trip to the Cairngorms that can create the moment when young people get hooked on the outdoors for life.

On receiving the news of the grant offer, Rehna said: "Really fantastic news at a time when young people have missed out on so many opportunities and adventures. We had this great news during the week when we should have been in Scotland this year. We're so excited about going to the Cairngorms in 2022 and this grant will make it one step closer to making it possible for us."

Rosie Simpson of the John Muir Trust, who administers the Des Rubens and Bill Wallace Grant said: "Rehna's application was on behalf of a group of young people who, like Rehna before them, would not get to explore the Cairngorms if it wasn't for an organised group trip provided by The Lindley Educational Trust. We're delighted to support young people to experience wild places, to test their resilience and learn from nature and were particularly impressed by Rehna's ability to speak from her own experiences in her application."

Rehna is one of six successful applicants to the Des Rubens and Bill Wallace Grant. This grant was established to give people the opportunity to seek out life-changing experiences in wild places in ways which will benefit both the person, and the wild places themselves.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

ABOUT THE DES RUBENS AND BILL WALLACE GRANT

The John Muir Trust administers the Des Rubens and Bill Wallace Grant for free. The grant was set up in honour of Bill Wallace, who died of heart failure in February 2007 while skiing in the Alps at the age of 73 with two artificial hips, and Des Rubens, a popular teacher at Craigroyston High School in Edinburgh who was killed in June 2016 in an Alpine climbing accident at the age of 63.

Since the grant was established in 2007, initially in honour of Bill Wallace, it has supported almost 60 people from all walks of life, from students to scientists, from grandmothers to gardeners, take part in life-changing adventures of educational or scientific value in some of the wildest places in the world.

Grants of £200 to £2,000 are awarded annually on merit to individuals who wish to experience wild places in the spirit of Des Rubens and Bill Wallace and meet the grant criteria.

ABOUT THE JOHN MUIR TRUST

The John Muir Trust is a membership based conservation charity dedicated to the experience, protection and repair of wild places. The Trust was founded in 1983 and was inspired by the life and works of John Muir (1838-1914), the Scots-born founding father of modern conservation and the inspiration behind national parks. We operate in Scotland, England and Wales and are the guardians of some of the finest wild places in the UK including Ben Nevis, Helvellyn and Schiehallion.

For more info about the Des Rubens and Bill Wallace Grant, contact:

Rosie Simpson

Des Rubens and Bill Wallace Grant Administrator

John Muir Trust

rosie.simpson@johnmuirtrust.org

<https://www.johnmuirtrust.org/grants-and-awards/the-bill-wallace-grant>