

NEWS RELEASE

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THE WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST AWARDS NINE TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS WITHIN EAST PENNINES

Nine grants totalling £69,000 have just been awarded to **East Pennines** citizens from all walks of life to acquire knowledge overseas to the benefit of Community and Country. These Churchill Fellows will travel to 10 countries between them, across 4 continents, where they will carry out a wide range of projects. The average length of each Fellowship is just under 6 weeks. This year's East Pennines applicants include: a CEO of Veterans at Ease Charity, a Film Educator and Cultural Manager, a Deputy Head Teacher, and a Methodist Minister.

The purpose of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Fellowships is to widen an individual's experience through overseas travel in such a way that he or she grows in confidence, knowledge, authority and ambition. Their Fellowship must also bring benefits to others in the UK through sharing the outcome of the travel experience. This is achieved in particular through the inspiration provided by the individual's example – his or her subsequent performance and achievements together with the dissemination and application of new knowledge, different perspectives and innovative solutions. See the Trust's press page at: <http://www.wcmt.org.uk/press/>

The Fellows selected come from all over the UK, representing a wide variety of backgrounds, qualifications, professions and interests.

The Fellows from **East Pennines** are:

Samina Tariq, 31 also from **Bradford**, is going to USA and Canada to examine how to *empower people with disfigurements, building resilience through non-medical interventions.*

Dr Catherine Bladen, 37 from **Leeds**, is going to the USA to research *the biological outcomes and responses to orthopaedic surgical implants.*

Garreth Murrell, 42 from **Spennymoor**, is travelling to Canada & the USA to research *Neuro Linguistic Programming and its effective use for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and war veterans.*

Helen Ward, 47 from **Crook**, will visit South Korea, Laos, China and Japan to *observe young people's filmmaking projects and youth film festivals in action on behalf of 'Kids for Kids UK' in Asia.*

John McGregor, 42 from **Blyth**, is going to New Zealand to research *how to help make UK credit unions sustainable.*

Martin Wright, 55 from **Cramlington**, is travelling to USA and Canada to assess *employment opportunities for people with learning difficulties.*

Olivia Ahmad, 25 from **Newcastle-upon-Tyne**, will visit Japan, USA and Germany to examine *illustration as an accessible and relevant creative discipline through public exhibitions and events.*

Nadia Clarke, 19 from **Halifax**, will visit the USA to assess *Leadership in Alternative Communication Aid* for the disabled and deaf.

Rev Dr Barbara Glasson, 55 from **Bradford**, will travel to Nepal and Indonesia to *discover economic regeneration through local enterprise* with regard to Bradford's weaving industry.

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Patron:
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This living memorial to Sir Winston operates a travelling fellowship scheme which enables British Citizens from all walks of life to acquire knowledge overseas to the benefit of Community and Country. Subjects cover the widest variety of topics: from the arts to industry and leading edge technology; conservation and the environment; social concerns and animal welfare and from exploration and adventure to services for the disabled. As well as promoting a greater understanding between peoples, the experience makes Churchill Fellows more effective at work and in the community. Approximately 100 awards are made annually with an average duration abroad of 4-8 weeks.

Full information and details on how to apply can be found on the Trust's website: [wcmt.org.uk](http://www.wcmt.org.uk)



Past Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Fellows, include:

Jo Pitt

Jo travelled to Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand at a time when there were only a few isolated pioneers in the parenting field in the UK. She wanted to look at both the marketing of parenting courses and the development of this movement, with a view to developing the field more rapidly in the UK.

She returned with many examples of the publicity material being used to promote the courses, as well as many stories of success and development, and details of practitioner training. The Fellowship gave Jo the courage to apply for a national job with the very new Parenting Education and Support Forum, soon after her return. She had a keen desire to ensure support and conferences would be available all over the UK and not just in London. In her new role, as Regional Development Officer, she was able to share her very local, but pioneering, experiences with many others across the country and work towards this goal.

Jo helped build the regional team from two part-timers, (one "north", one "south") into a fully functional national team with one full-time person in each of the nine government regions. This team has recently been transferred from Parenting UK into the National Academy of Parenting Practitioners. She was able to share her passion for parenting all over the North of England and brought together other professionals who were isolated in their work. She was part of the original group that developed national training for work with parents and brought to this group much of what she had learned on her Fellowship.

NOTES TO EDITORS

In total 113 Fellowships have been awarded in the UK in 2012, with the Fellows travelling to 56 countries between them, across 6 continents, where they will carry out a wide range of projects. The average length of each Fellowship is just under 6 weeks, with the Trust paying approximately £6000 per Fellow. This year's applicants include a basketball tutor, a Methodist minister, a police officer, teachers, nurses and lawyers.

The categories for the 2013 Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowships will be announced on 15 May 2012 and for online applications at www.wcmt.org.uk.