



cory environmental trust  
in britain



# Annual Report and Accounts 2016-2017





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Front cover - Earlestown Athletic Junior Football Club  
Left - Knole Palace Gatehouse Tower

# Foreword from Chairman Alistair Holl

It is with great pleasure that I present the Cory Environmental Trust in Britain (CETB) 2016/17 annual report. I hope you will enjoy reading about some of the fantastic projects that the Trust has funded during the past year, which have delivered positive benefits for so many communities, neighbourhoods and habitats across the country.

The Trustees are delighted to have offered more than £1.8 million worth of grants during 2016 to 48 projects across the country. In many cases, the projects we fund are located in some of the UK's most economically deprived areas. I am incredibly proud that the funding we provide can serve as a catalyst for social change, providing disadvantaged neighbourhoods with vital community resources, sporting facilities and access to nature to improve mental and physical wellbeing.

Last year marked the 20th anniversary of the introduction of the Landfill Tax. A product of the European Union's Landfill Directive, the Landfill Tax was the first time the UK had brought in a fiscal measure to address the environment.

Introduced by the Conservatives in 1996, the rationale behind the tax was simple: to change people's behaviour by increasing the cost of sending waste to landfill so that other advanced waste treatment technologies could compete with, and ultimately replace, landfill. By doing so, the Landfill Directive aimed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and boost the reuse, recycling and recovery of scarce resources.

The Landfill Tax has been hugely successful in cutting the amount of waste disposed of via landfill.

The use of landfill has dropped by 57% from over 35 million tonnes in 1995 to around 15 million tonnes in 2015, while average household recycling rates have risen from 18% to 44%.

When the Landfill Tax was introduced, landfill operators were allowed to claim a credit of 20% of their Landfill Tax liability and use the proceeds to fund environmental good causes, enabling thousands of local and national projects to go ahead which might otherwise not have been possible. However, the percentage available to landfill operators under the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) has dropped from 20% to 5.3% and looks likely to fall further.

This, coupled with the reality that the size of the LCF is shrinking as less waste is sent to landfill - and hence tax receipts from the Landfill Tax have fallen - means that less funding is now available to Environmental Bodies like CETB, and consequently there are fewer resources to help fund projects.

Despite this fact, I remain confident that the Trust will be able to meet its existing funding commitments, while continuing to provide grants to support vital community projects. The Trust will continue to focus its attentions on areas surrounding the Cory Environmental Limited landfill sites located in Merseyside, St Helens, Wrexham, Dudley, Swansea, Bristol, Colchester, Barling and Sevenoaks.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the dedicated individuals and groups within our communities who put so much time and effort into identifying schemes that would benefit from the

Trust's funding. Without these people's hard work, time and energy, many projects would never get off the ground and the Trust is very grateful for their commitment and dedication to their communities.

I would also like to thank my fellow Trustees who volunteer their time and expertise to help select the projects that meet CETB's objectives.

Finally, I am very grateful to our Trust Secretary, Angela Haymonds, for her enthusiasm and commitment to the role. We are fortunate to have her help and support in managing the day-to-day running of the Trust.

If you have a community project which you feel could benefit from Trust funding, please contact Angela Haymonds to see if we can lend our assistance. Alternatively, download an application form from the CETB website: [www.cetb.org.uk](http://www.cetb.org.uk)



**Alistair Holl**

Chairman, Cory Environmental Trust in Britain





# Creating wetland habitats in East Wickham with The Froglife Trust £29,800

CETB provided a sizeable grant to fund enhancements to biodiversity at East Wickham Open Space, a large site to the north-west of Bexley that supports a variety of habitats and wildlife.

The Froglife Trust approached CETB for a grant to help create a new complex of three ponds, providing a year-round habitat in which frogs and other native amphibians can thrive. Additional improvements were carried out to enhance the biodiversity and aesthetic value of the site, including





# The Land Restoration Trust, Saving Grasslands at Braeburn Park £43,807



CETB provided a grant to restore ten hectares of chalk grassland habitats on the site of a former Victorian landfill and quarry in Crayford near Bexley. The London Wildlife Trust acquired the site - which had been largely unmanaged for more than a decade - in 2014. Much of the site's grassland areas had been reclaimed by nature, with scrub, small trees and invasive species posing the threat of significant habitat loss.

CETB's grant funded a project to restore, maintain and protect this important ecological site, providing opportunities for local people to enjoy and explore the natural environment. The project comprised scrub clearance, mowing and enhancing diversity with grasses and wildflower species. Thanks to the project, this once neglected area is now a thriving oasis boasting several unusual species of insects.





## Restoring biodiversity at Clinkham Wood Nature Reserve £5,133

Clinkham Wood Nature Reserve is a large area of mixed woodlands in St Helens. Designated as a Site of Community Wildlife Interest, the reserve has been a green space since the Industrial Revolution. However, due to infestation by a number of invasive plant species, the nature reserve had become difficult for members of the public to access.

The friends of Clinkham Wood approached CETB for a grant of just over £5,000 to fund improvements to the biodiversity of the nature reserve, including excavating the pond, removing invasive plants and constructing a new dipping platform for use by local schools and other groups.

By making the pond and surrounding woodland more accessible, local schools are now able to enjoy environmental education activities, and all local people can enjoy the reserve for recreation.



## Growing wildlife and communities with Groundwork North Wales £11,638

Groundwork North Wales is an environmental organisation that helps people to create better neighbourhoods, build skills and job prospects and live and work in a 'greener' way.

CETB's grant supported Groundwork's 'Growing Wildlife and Communities' project in Ruabon near Wrexham. Working with volunteers and local community groups, the project's aims were to improve areas of neglected grassland, create wildlife habitats and open the site so that the local community could enjoy the natural environment.

Landscaping works included clearing the site, tree thinning, and planting orchard trees and community flowerbeds. Workshops with the local school also created artwork and interpretation boards to explain areas of interest at the site.



# Sevenoaks Town Council, Buckhurst Lane Play Park £40,000

CETB offered funding towards this project to refurbish a derelict children's play area at Buckhurst Lane Environmental Park in the centre of Sevenoaks. A large number of local people requested the rejuvenation of the park as part of a public consultation held by Sevenoaks Town Council. The Trustees of the Knole Estate provided land for the project.

The play park now provides a valuable resource for the local community where children from neighbouring areas can enjoy playing outdoors on an exciting range of play equipment, including





## Sowing a Wildflower Garden at Swansea Botanical Gardens £50,000

The Friends of the City of Swansea Botanical Gardens gained funding from CETB to establish a wildflower garden in an area of Swansea's Botanical Gardens that was underused and unmanaged.

Installing pathways and seating, and improving entrances and boundaries, the project's aim was to breathe new life into the area. The informal design of the space has helped to create a more casual atmosphere for users and a safe and secure environment for all.

Accessible to all members of the community and open throughout the year, the new wildflower gardens create a link between the park and existing Botanical Gardens. The aim is to encourage more people,



# Refurbishment of Tormarton Playground, South Gloucestershire £35,000

Tormarton Parish Hall approached CETB for a grant to help update playground facilities that had been in place for more than 20 years.

The playground, which caters for children of all ages from toddlers to teens, is the only recreational facility of its kind within a 3.5 mile radius. Having undertaken a survey, Tormarton Parish Hall identified a need for a better balance in the variety of play equipment including some more exciting and modern items. The new equipment has revitalised the playground as the primary recreational facility in the community and is open to the public at all times.

As a result of the CETB grant, new play equipment, including a climbing frame, slide, swing and a seesaw was installed. The re-invented play area provides an improved space for friends and families to spend quality time together.



South Gloucestershire



## Wrexham County Borough Council, Ty Mawr Visitor Centre Improvements £50,000

Wrexham County Borough Council contacted CETB for funding towards a project to improve access at Ty Mawr Country Park. This involved re-profiling and surfacing steep and difficult paths and surfaces at the entrance of the park.

The pathway improvements have made the park more accessible for wheelchair and pushchair users, while reducing trip hazards. Local children also contributed to the design and production of signage to improve visual orientation and the appearance of the visitor centre.

The park was established in 2011, but kerbs and pathways made it difficult for families to access the area. With more than 60,000 visitors each year, ensuring routes were safe was a high priority for the



# St Werburghs City Farm, The Connection Centre £50,178

St Werburghs City Farm in Bristol provides a space for local people to learn about the operations of a working farm and interact with farm animals. The farm boasts a picnic area and playground, as well as a café and shop for visitors. It is also home to a variety of animals including sheep, pigs, chickens and goats.

The Farm approached CETB for a grant to help build a new community centre for education and training, as well as general community use. The Connection Centre serves as a hub for learning opportunities that are not available anywhere else in the city. The Centre will welcome approximately 40,000 visitors a year, with a particular focus on socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.



Bristol





## Equipping newly refurbished Jersey Park Pavilion in Swansea £42,000

CETB provided Grenfell Park St Thomas Port Tennant Community Regeneration Partnership with funding to equip a newly refurbished Pavilion at Jersey Park in Swansea.

The money was used to provide the Pavilion with a kitchen, furniture, and equipment for a computer room. Targeting younger members of the community, as well as unemployed and low skilled individuals looking to improve their skills set, the Pavilion provides full access to disadvantaged members of the community.



## Creating Community Connection Space at George Road Community Church £14,200

The George Road Community Church approached CETB for a grant to fund a project in Oldbury, West Midlands. The 'Creating Community Connection Space' project sought to refurbish an unused building, Hope House, to create a valuable local space for community groups.

Using questionnaires, the Church had identified a great need for a facility to host a diverse number of community groups, such as bereavement support groups, Alzheimer's and Dementia groups, English as a Second Language courses and youth clubs.

Works to the building included the extension of the ground floor to create a large room for the community groups to use. As part of the project, the staircase was repositioned to improve access and a general purpose office was established for meetings.



# Community Pavilion development at Eaton Street Park, Prescot £45,000

CETB offered Prescot Town Council a grant for the provision of a Community Pavilion based at Eaton Street Park in Prescot.

The project aimed to provide an accessible and sustainable modern building, open for community use throughout the year. Encouraging local people to come together to relax, exercise and learn, the improvements to the park bring the benefits of enhanced community cohesion.

The grant was used to create a welcoming entrance to the Community Pavilion and bowling green, and included the construction of a ramp for wheelchair access. As well as providing a kitchen, community room and disabled toilet, the grant has funded improvements to electricity cables and



# Bristol Methodist Centre, Lincoln Street Centre £30,415



The Bristol Methodist Centre has been offering shelter, sanctuary and support to homeless and vulnerable people for almost 30 years, helping around 80 people every day. However, following a strategic review in 2014 it was decided that the existing premises on Midland Road were no longer fit for purpose.

CETB granted over £30,000 to part-fund a project to convert Lawrence Hill Methodist Church on Lincoln Street into a new centre. Bristol's Lawrence Hill ward is one of the most deprived areas in south west England. The drop-in centre features activity rooms, a laundry, showers and allotments. The new facility provides free hot meals, counselling services and support groups to around 150 vulnerable people a day.





## Refurbishments at Hafod Colliery Social Club £49,000

The Hafod Colliery Social Club was established in 1966, shortly before the closure of the village's coal mine. Like many colliery clubs in the UK, the centre was formed by miners to look after the leisure, health and welfare of miners, former miners, their families and the community.

The Hafod Colliery Social Club forms a focal point of the community and is widely used as a village hall and community centre.

Refurbishment and modernisation were much needed - energy efficiency and improved disabled access had been identified as key priorities so as to lower utility bills and improve access for all members of the community.

CETB provided a generous grant towards the refurbishment of the Club's facilities, including roof insulation, repairs to the ceiling, replacement doors and windows, new heating, lighting and electrics, refurbished toilets and aesthetic improvements.





# Establishment of New Grounds for Earlestown Athletic Junior Football Club £72,167

A project to provide Earlestown Athletic Junior Football Club with new grounds at Harrison Way in Earlestown was made possible thanks to a considerable grant from CETB.

The grounds required draining, levelling and the installation of three junior football pitches in order to provide appropriate facilities for training sessions and matches. Other improvement works were made to the car parking area and entrance gates, as well as the kitchen, toilet facilities and safety netting.

Hosting approximately 8,000 matches per year, the club is now able to provide higher quality training to members of its team, as well as offering space for six nearby primary schools to undertake their sporting activities. The local





## Improving disabled access at Dudley Water Sports Centre £11,000

Dudley Water Sports Centre in the West Midlands approached CETB for a grant to provide full access to people with disabilities, and water sport opportunities for disabled people.

The clubhouse was originally constructed in 1963. Small extensions had been added over time, including changing rooms, toilet facilities, a bar and garages, but with little consideration given to the provision of facilities and services for people with disabilities.

Accessed by a number of local clubs and charities, the project has created a safe and inclusive space for all, providing disabled water



## Refurbishing Leigh Road Baptist Tennis Club £10,670

CETB granted £10,670 towards this project to resurface, re-line and improve drainage for two tennis courts at Leigh Road Baptist Tennis Club in Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. The Club's facilities provide a valuable benefit to the local community; however, the existing hard court surfaces were nearly 15 years old and in need of urgent repair.

The refurbished tennis courts are frequently used by club members and guests as well as the local community. Thanks to the project, the courts will remain safe and fit for purpose for the next decade, enabling many local people to enjoy a leisurely game of tennis or take part in competitive league tennis and tournaments.



# Provision of shelters at Brownhills & Oak Park Bowls Club £5,991

Brownhills & Oak Park Bowling Club was transformed with the installation of three new shelters, thanks to a grant from CETB.

The new shelters provide seating for spectators, and enable players and supporters to shelter from bad weather during games. The shelters will go a long way to making competitive games more enjoyable for club members all





## Wall Heath Tennis Club, Community Tennis Hub £50,000

Wall Heath Tennis Club in Kingswinford approached CETB for a grant to fund the construction of a new clubhouse, which would form the centre of a Community Tennis Hub to promote, develop and sustain tennis at all levels within the community.

The existing 'mobile' clubhouse and tennis courts were well-used throughout the year, but the condition of the clubhouse had deteriorated to the extent that it was increasingly costly and difficult to maintain.

The substantial new clubhouse and improved facilities will provide opportunities for schools and other community groups to participate in tennis for recreation, as well as coaching and competitions. The Community Tennis Hub also offers benefits to the wider community, with a range of groups making regular use of the clubhouse, including the Dudley Stroke



# Installation of drainage at Chipstead Football Club £25,584



Chipstead Football Club in Sevenoaks was founded in 1936 and has been based at Chipstead Recreation Ground since the early 1950s. The club offers training facilities to support two senior and 21 junior football teams, comprising well in excess of 300 junior members.

The club enjoys excellent facilities, thanks in part to a previous £40,000 contribution from CETB in 2004 towards the replacement of the recreation ground's old sports pavilion. However, the main football pitch and junior mini-soccer pitches were frequently waterlogged during the winter, resulting in cancellations and additional costs to hire alternative venues for matches and training.

CETB funded the installation of a new drainage system, which has enabled the club to use its facilities for the whole season.





## Landscape Development with the Crossness Engines Trust £50,000

The Crossness Engines Trust works to preserve the Crossness landscape, share the remarkable achievements of the Victorian era and provide education and entertainment to locals and visitors. The Trust approached CETB for a grant to help improve the landscaping of a main access route to the site.

The project's overall aim was to link the Thamesmead community to the wider area through an enhanced network of 'green' connections, which would maximise the relationship with the River Thames and take advantage of the new Crossrail station planned for Abbey Wood. CETB's grant helped to complete the first phase of landscaping in time for the Trust's 150th anniversary celebrations.





# Knole Palace Gatehouse Tower, The National Trust

## £53,098

The National Trust approached CETB for funding to refurbish the interior rooms of the Gatehouse at Knole Palace in order to open the tower to the public for the first time in history.

The refurbishments at the site involved restoring and redecorating the walls and ceilings of two rooms, thereby invoking the character and artistic passion of Eddy Sackville, who occupied the rooms in the 1920s. Specifically, CETB's grant was used to renovate the Music Room, restoring the 1926 colour scheme and preserving the graffiti left by Sackville's





## Restoring the 700-year-old bell tower at St John the Baptist Church £10,000

CETB funded a project to make urgent repairs to and restore the base of the tower and boundary walls at St John the Baptist Church in Pebmarsh, Essex.

Built from flint pebbles, the tower is the oldest part of the Grade I listed church and probably dates from the end of the 13th century. The remainder of the building was constructed during the 14th century, although red-brick battlements and patching were added several years later. Having stood for over 700 years, the base of the tower understandably required maintenance work to restore the flint structure.

The church is in use most days of the year for worship, services, concerts and festivals and the



# The Arts Catalyst, Graveyard of Lost Species £6,460

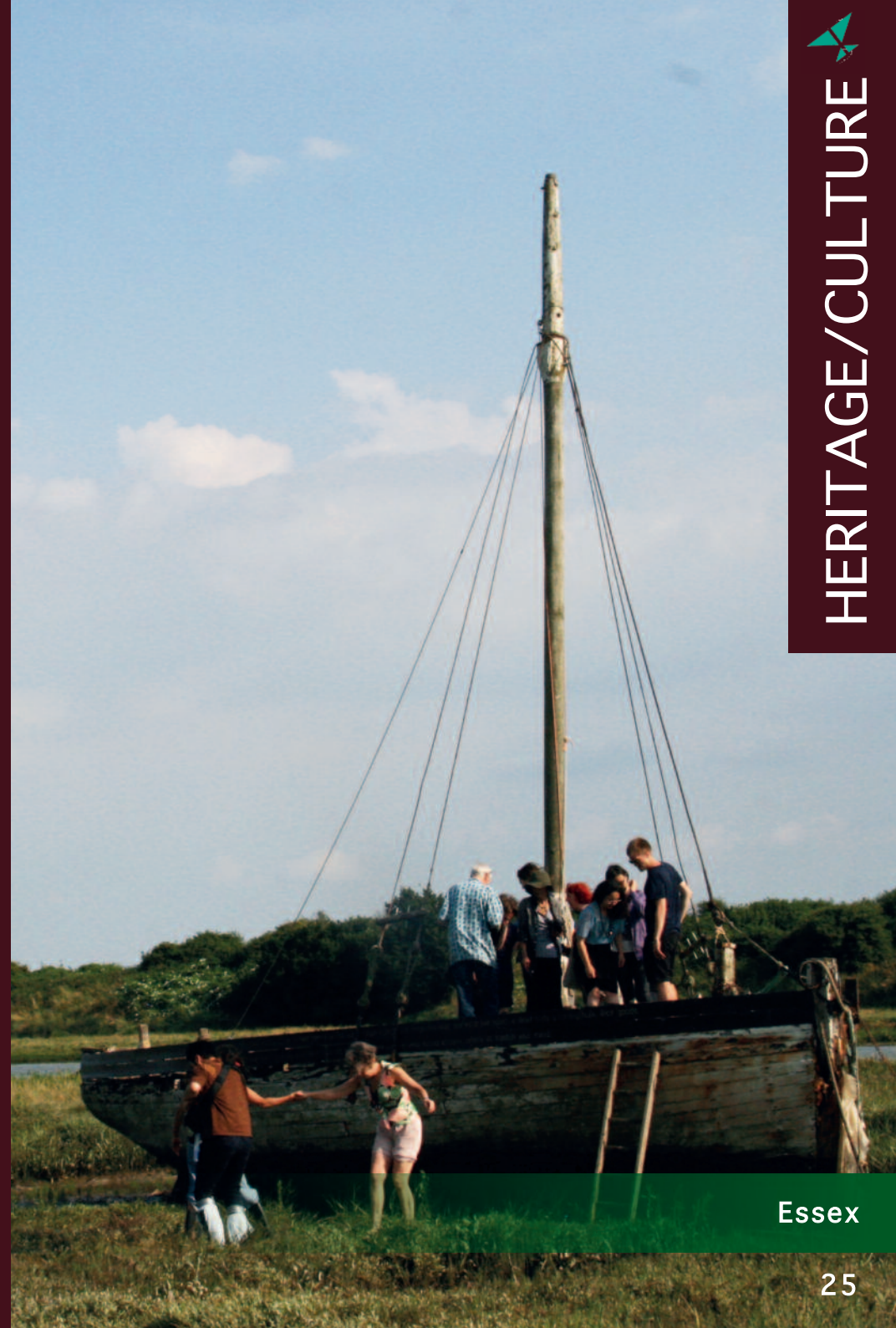
Graveyard of Lost Species is part of an art project to highlight the changing ecology, society and industry of the Thames Estuary. The Arts Catalyst commissioned local artists in Leigh-on-Sea to create a monument recording species that once flourished in the estuary and are now disappearing.

The artists used a local boat wreck, the 'Souvenir', which had been rescued from the estuary mud. Using lasers, the artists cut the names of lost species into the boat's hull. Once completed, the vessel was installed on Leigh Marshes, forming an eye-catching monument and reclaiming its position in the local landscape.

CETB's grant funded the installation of information boards to promote and inform visitors of the environmental issues that affect biodiversity. Approximately 50,000 people are expected to visit the monument each year.



Images: Steve Barnes





# Cory Environmental Trust in Britain statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account) for the year ending 31 December 2016

## INCOMING RESOURCES

Donations and grants  
Interest

## TOTAL INCOME

## EXPENDITURE ON:

ENTRUST administration fee  
Charitable activities:  
    Grants  
    Administration costs

## TOTAL EXPENDITURE

## NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

## RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:

Total funds brought forward

## TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

Restricted funds 2016	Total funds 2016	Total funds 2015
1,034,696	1,034,696	2,959,690
2,277	2,277	1,508
<b>1,036,973</b>	<b>1,036,973</b>	<b>2,951,198</b>
24,419	24,419	66,700
1,490,287	1,490,287	1,855,348
82,951	82,951	81,077
<b>1,597,657</b>	<b>1,597,657</b>	<b>2,003,125</b>
<b>560,684</b>	<b>560,684</b>	<b>948,073</b>
2,856,097	2,856,097	1,908,024
<b>2,295,413</b>	<b>2,295,413</b>	<b>2,856,097</b>



# Cory Environmental Trust in Britain balance sheet as at 31 December 2016

	2016	2015
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Debtors	91,873	1,567,692
Cash at bank and in hand	2,353,816	1,577,585
	<b>2,445,689</b>	<b>3,145,277</b>
<b>CREDITORS:</b> amounts falling due within one year	<b>(150,276)</b>	<b>(289,180)</b>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>2,295,413</b>	<b>2,856,097</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>2,295,413</b>	<b>2,856,097</b>
<b>TRUST FUNDS</b>		
Restricted funds	2,295,413	2,856,097
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>2,295,413</b>	<b>2,856,097</b>





Eaton Park Pavilion opening ceremony

## For more information, contact:

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