



Impact Report - chosen charity of the year



Since opening our gates to the public in 1992, we have been very proud to support a number of local charities in raising tens of thousands of pounds of vital funds.

Each year, the team at The Lost Gardens of Heligan select a charity to support for the year and we're now looking for a charity to support in 2025.

This year has seen us supporting and working with First Light.

First Light is a charity for anyone who is experiencing or has experienced domestic abuse or sexual violence.

The charity provides a range of support in Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, Swindon and Wiltshire, and across England & Wales.

Anyone can be affected by domestic abuse and sexual violence, and First Light support people of all ages and genders, including people with a disability and members of the LGBTQ+ community.

How we've supported **First Light** this year:

1st Jan charity day: £1,400

Half marathon: £1,680

Collection tins: £800

Birdboxes / chopping boards: £200

How the money raised will support the community

Three care packs for male victims of domestic abuse and violence at £500 each
Three Play Therapy courses for children affected by domestic abuse at £800 each

Heligan runners raise over £1,600 for First Light

Heligan Team Members took part in the **Ocean City Running Festival** to raise funds and awareness for our chosen charity of the year, **First Light**.



Volunteer Support Day

First Light Volunteer Mentors were thanked by **First Light** with a wellbeing day at Heligan.



Creating Safe Homes Across Cornwall

To celebrate our partnership with First Light, Heligan's 2024 Chosen Charity, our carpenters have designed and made bird boxes and wooden boards from Heligan oak wood.

The full price of these bird boxes and chopping boards will be donated to First Light, as we have donated the materials and time to craft them.



First Light team invited to a Heligan Lost Supper

Heligan gifted the Lost Supper meal to the First Light Team Members, for Senior Managers to thank the team for their dedication and hard work.



Bystander Training delivered by Barnadoes

First Light offered Bystander training, in order to grow confidence for Bystanders to interrupt and challenge inappropriate behaviour.

This training gave Team Members, Managers and Senior Managers an insight into the culture of inappropriate behaviour and that it is challenged correctly and safely.



Media Coverage

Stories across media of our partnership with First Light which was kick started in January with Heligan raising £1.4K during our charity day on New Year's Day.

First Light CEO, Lyn Gooding, said:

“Partnering with The Lost Gardens of Heligan has been especially meaningful. The gardens are not only a local treasure, but their serene and restorative environment aligns with our work in supporting survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence. Just as the gardens offer a space for growth and renewal, we strive to provide safe spaces for healing and recovery. The connection between nature, wellbeing, and emotional restoration made this partnership a natural fit, and we are deeply grateful for the support Heligan has shown.”



If you, or someone you know, needs help, get in touch with First Light at firstlight.org.uk

To donate please visit firstlight.org.uk/get-involved/donate/

To find out more about our charity of the year: heligan.com/regeneration/charities/