

## **NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **National recognition for Kellie Castle volunteer**

A volunteer who's devoted many hours of her time to protecting one of Fife's heritage treasures – Kellie Castle - has been awarded a prestigious award by the National Trust for Scotland.

Elizabeth Bracher was one of the recipients of the conservation charity's George Waterston's Award. The award recognises the contribution of volunteers and staff who go above and beyond in helping the conservation charity protect the nation's heritage and is presented at its annual general meeting which took place in Stirling on 1 September.

Elizabeth was nominated for her commitment to Kellie Castle where she has volunteered for many years, undertaking a huge number of activities, including organising teams of volunteers in the winter months to carry out deep cleans in the castle's rooms, co-ordinating 'Conservation in Action' arrangements so that visitors can see what it takes to care for the property and even making covers for the castle's furniture to protect it during closed season.

In presenting the award, Trust vice-president Professor Hugh Cheape paid tribute to Elizabeth's passion for Scotland's heritage, saying:

"Without people like Elizabeth, who do all they do for the love of Scotland, the Trust simply could not function."

The George Waterston Award is presented at the National Trust for Scotland's Annual General Meeting in memory of Dr George Waterston, who bought and subsequently donated Fair Isle, together with its Bird Observatory, to the Trust in 1954.

John Lemon, Visitor Service Supervisor at Craigievar Castle, also received the award.

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