

# IMPACT REPORT

## 2021/2022

We are incredibly proud of the work that we have achieved in our first 8 months as a registered charitable incorporated organisation.

We are extremely grateful to our funders for having faith in our ideas, and our volunteers, without you, none of this could happen and the biggest thank you to the young people who inspire us, and challenge us to create these opportunities.

Here's to building a bigger STEMunity.

Laura & Jorden (Co-founders of STEMunity)

### IMPACT SNAPSHOT AUGUST 2021- APRIL 2022

**23,000**

Young people accessed the online digital workshops.

**1000**

Educators have received STEMunity professional development.

**100**

9/10year olds completed a STEM workshop with STEMunity around plastics.

Thanks to our funders for this period!



Teachers Group  
Educational Trust



Royal Academy  
of Engineering

ERA  
FOUNDATION



STEMunity

# Chairman's Letter



Despite the challenging macro-economic conditions, STEMUnity continued in full stride officially achieving charity status in 2022. This is testament to the resilience and dedication of the leadership team and supporting functions. Still very much at the inception stages, the leadership team have excelled at harnessing feedback from workshops and activities to continuously build in a more robust and scalable offering.

Repeat donors such as TGET and the Royal Academy, along with one-off contributions from Hive Portsmouth, The Partnership Foundation and British Council, allowed the charity to maintain healthy liquidity whilst still retaining sufficient funds for capital injection into further initiatives such as workshops, videos, prototype development etc. Governance and Finance aligned with the CEO and COO to ensure sufficient spending rigour was placed against funds available, as well as future anticipated funds.

Governance drafted and institutionalised all of the necessary policies for the charity from data protection to equal opportunities, Safeguarding and Health and Safety. This critical step ensures that as the charity scales it has the right protocols in place to protect both colleagues and charity.

Spending is predominantly focussed on the developing and scaling of the charitable initiatives along with achieving brand recognition. We are very proud of the great work carried out to diversify income streams this year, however further impetus will be placed into further diversification of donors and repeat funding in the next years campaign. With pressure on educational budgets, we are putting focus on raising funds from STEM-led industries such as banking, automotive and pharma.

We have now developed the brand consistency, along with social media activity and presence, which will not only support the raising of future funds but the engagement and stickiness of past and future participants of STEMUnity. We are extremely grateful to those people and organisations that have supported our journey of bridging the gap in access to STEM educational resources across diverse and under-represented groups. In the coming years we aim to create significantly more STEM content, providing greater access and scale to a wider set of under-represented students across the UK.

*Andrew Harrison Chinn*



STEMUnity

# WELCOME TO OUR STEMUNITY



 Jorden Birch



 Laura Watford

*Aim*

We aim to advance the education of young people in the subject of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) skills by providing and assisting a network of educators, academics, and industry to work collaboratively to create opportunities for young people to experience educational opportunities to enhance the curriculum, which will support their employability and raise their aspirations for future careers in STEM industries.

STEMunity unites STEM educators, professionals, and academics in a collaborative effort to create immersive learning opportunities for young minds. Our offerings range from engaging online activities, such as web-based STEM problem-solving challenges in partnership with the Royal Academy of Engineering (RAEng), to hands-on experiences in inspiring environments that replicate the skills and challenges inherent in STEM professions. Whether in virtual or face-to-face settings, STEMunity empowers the next generation of problem solvers to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.



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# PROJECTS

# DETAILS

# OUTCOME

## STEM Academy South

Funded by Hive Portsmouth

The development of STEM video activities based in and around Portsmouth. Filmed at the UTC Portsmouth.

- A series of 3 STEM video activities have been developed and filmed.
- Available to view on our website/youtube channel.

## STEM Academy North

Funded by TGET

The development of STEM video activities based in and around Sheffield. Filmed with Ruth Amos.

- A series of 3 STEM video activities have been developed and filmed.
- Available to view on our website/youtube channel.

## Escape Rooms/Storybook adventure

Funded by RAEng

These digital resources linked to the CST ran as a live national event every term.

- Over 23,000 young people accessed the online escape rooms and storybook adventure in this reporting period.
- Further digital resources in development.

## STEM Storytime

Funded by RAEng

STEM stories were read over zoom to partnered primary schools and linked resources provided.

- Delivered to 3000 Primary schools.
- Curriculum linked KS.1and SK2 thematic sessions

21ST AUGUST 2021  
TO  
1ST APRIL 2022

FUNDS RAISED

# £29,800

Starting out as a new organisation is a challenge at the best of times but our start has seen particular challenges in our first reporting term, with schools navigating the new world post COVID-19 pandemic and now 'living with COVID-19. Despite the associated challenges, we managed to successfully obtain grants and carry out some really worthwhile projects which have has a positive impact on our local communities.

Income from charitable activities 16.1%

Donations  
83.9%



# STEMUnity

# STEM ESCAPE ROOMS



Supported by:

Royal Academy of Engineering



Over **23,000** young people accessed the STEMunity online workshops from across key stage 1 to key stage 4 from across the UK. The online events were hugely successful. Working in partnership with the RAEng, these online opportunities were developed to extend and enhance the resources from the RAEng CST programme curriculum-linked resources.



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# STEM STORYTIME



## STEM Storytime

STEMunity developed and delivered a highly successful STEM-themed storytime program aimed at primary school-aged students. In response to the challenges posed by the pandemic and remote learning, we developed a unique and engaging approach to STEM education that combined storytelling with hands-on activities.

The program involved the design and delivery of a STEM-themed story that was delivered remotely to students. The story was carefully crafted to introduce key STEM concepts, while also being entertaining and engaging for young learners. Following the story, classes were provided with a range of STEM-themed activities that were linked to the story, allowing students to explore and apply the concepts they had learned in a fun and interactive way.

The program was highly successful, with teachers and students alike praising the engaging and innovative approach to STEM education. Through the STEM-themed storytime program, we were able to provide students with a unique and engaging learning experience that fostered a love of STEM and helped to build the skills and knowledge needed for future success. We are proud to have developed a program that has had such a positive impact on young learners and look forward to continuing to provide innovative and effective STEM education opportunities in the future.



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# STEM ACADEMY VIDEOS



At the outset of STEMunity, we were fortunate to receive generous project funding from Hive Portsmouth. With their support, we collaborated with educators, academics, and young people to develop an engaging video series highlighting the experiences of local STEM professionals in Portsmouth and the surrounding areas. Each video offers a glimpse into their careers and includes a fun activity that can be completed at home, providing young learners with an opportunity to explore and connect with STEM in a meaningful way.



Despite numerous obstacles, we were determined to create the STEMunity video series within a tight deadline.

In the face of unexpected challenges, such as another outbreak of COVID-19 and the absence of Laura for a few days due to the birth of baby Edith, we pressed on with filming and production. Our team worked tirelessly to overcome these restrictions, ensuring that the final product was of the highest quality and remained true to our mission of inspiring young learners to pursue their passions in STEM.



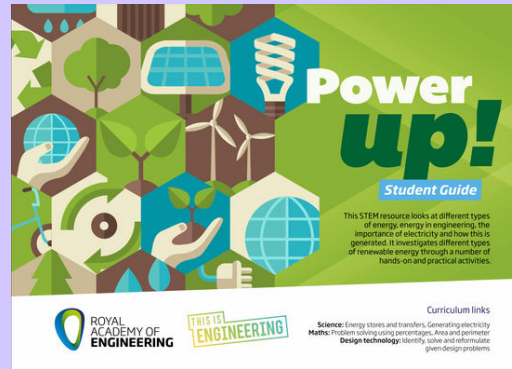
Later in the year, Jordan was awarded match funding from TGET, which enabled her to launch the STEM Academy Project in the North. Building on the success of our previous work, we partnered with three STEM industries to develop innovative ideas for our activities. With Jordan's leadership, we secured a sought-after STEM celebrity, Ruth Amos, to present our activities and further inspire young learners. The project was a resounding success, thanks to the dedication of our team and the collaborative efforts of our partners in the STEM industries and education sector.



Thanks to Voyage Creatives & Open House Pictures for their filming and production of these video series.

# STORYBOOK ADVENTURE

Working in partnership with



## Storybook Adventure: Interactive Resource

STEMunity successfully created an interactive storybook adventure that promotes and explores the key concepts of the RAEng 'Power Up' and 'Light Saver' STEM educational resources. By prioritizing connected learning, STEMunity linked context to the curriculum in an innovative way, providing students with a fun and engaging way to explore the concepts of power, sustainable energy, and the use of light.

Through the interactive activities offered in the storybook adventure, students were able to guide their own learning journey, providing a unique and personalized educational experience. STEMunity's commitment to providing dynamic and immersive learning opportunities ensures that students are actively engaged in the learning process, fostering a deep and lasting understanding of the concepts being explored.

Overall, STEMunity's interactive storybook adventure is a valuable addition to the educational landscape, providing students with an impactful and engaging learning experience that promotes critical thinking, problem-solving, and a deeper understanding of STEM concepts. We are proud of the impact that this project has had and look forward to continuing to provide innovative and effective learning opportunities to students around the world.

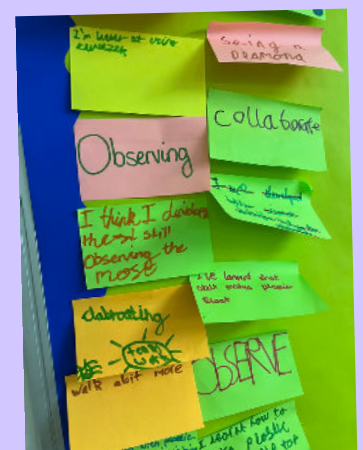
# STEM WORKSHOPS

Working in partnership with



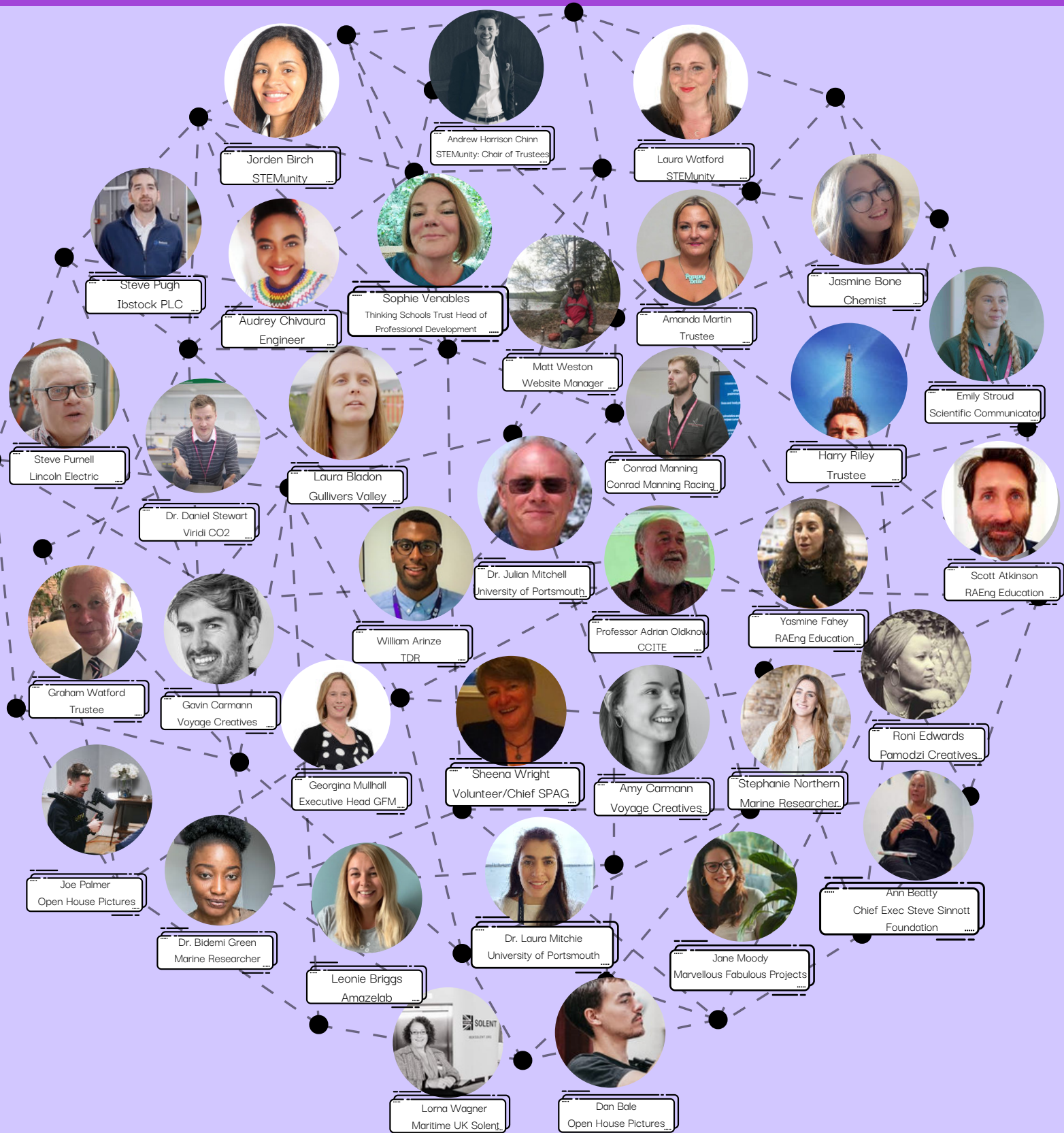
## The Octopus Medicine Project

During our collaboration with Pamodzi Creatives, we conceptualized and implemented a series of engaging STEM workshops inspired by the groundbreaking research of three marine researchers - Stephanie, Bidemi, and Laura. These workshops were delivered to Year 5 students across Portsmouth, where they learned about crucial environmental issues such as microplastics, chemical pollution, and sound pollution through immersive activities modeled after the researchers' work. To further enhance their learning experience, students worked hand-in-hand with talented artists to bring their ideas to life, culminating in a public art exhibition hosted by The Octopus Project and Pamodzi Creatives. Roni Edwards' remarkable contribution seamlessly integrated these various strands into a cohesive and beautiful learning journey for all participants.



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# THIS IS OUR STEMUNITY...



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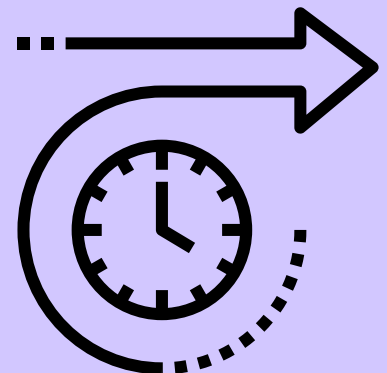
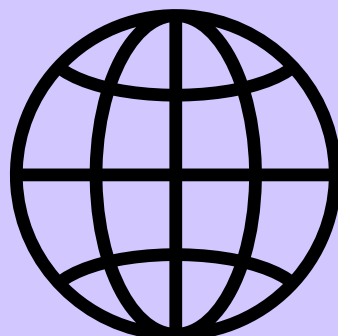
# INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

## National STEAM Education Report Jamaica: Towards Developing a Strong STEAM Ecosystem

At the start of 2022, Jorden and Laura started a project for the British Council, working closely with their team, MICO University College and National Education Trust in Jamaica to develop a report about the position of global STEAM education and how the examples of success could be applied to the Jamaican education system.



This project was both inspiring and gave Jorden and Laura the opportunity to share their experience as international curriculum designers and work collaboratively with high experienced and influential stakeholders in the Jamaican education system.



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# MEET ONE OF THE VOLUNTEERS OF STEMUNITY

JASMINE BONE



## Why do I volunteer for STEMunity?

I am a lover of all things STEM so when Laura approached me and asked whether I would want to volunteer for STEMunity, I obviously said yes. I never really had a 'scientific' role model until much later in my journey to becoming a chemist and I feel that working with STEMunity will give me the opportunity to be there for someone else as they are starting out in their journey. I have always said that if I can just inspire one person to pursue their STEM passion then all the work has been worth it. I also love being able to provide a female figure for those girls still at school thinking that science and STEM are just for men and proving to them that it is equally a field for us too. I absolutely love STEMunity and what they stand for, so why would I not want to volunteer for them!!

## During the lockdowns, you supported STEM online lectures, why were these important and what experiences did you gain?

I loved being involved with the online lecture series that we provided during the lockdown as I thought that it was a really good way to get everyday people excited about STEM and show them that it really is everywhere and influences all of our daily lives. It was a brilliant way to bring some quite complex topics to a level that everyone can appreciate. Being in attendance at all the lectures was a brilliant experience for me as it enabled me to develop some new skills in terms of hosting a virtual meeting and also in terms of my academic skills/knowledge. I would definitely jump at the opportunity to do something like this again.

## What future projects are you excited about?

I am super excited about being able to volunteer at some STEM school workshops as I think they will be a great way to get people excited about STEM on a practical level quite early on in their academic journeys. As I am a student at the University of York, I am not around in person for large chunks of the year so I am particularly excited about leading some more online projects in the next year and having some creative freedom to design projects based on my current experience as a chemist. I think this will be a great way to rid of the stigma that surrounds careers in chemistry and hopefully inspire a new generation of chemists.



STEMunity

We couldn't  
have done it  
without your  
generous  
support.



# THANK YOU

to all our donors and volunteers.

Many thanks for the contributions from all our collaborators, educators, STEM professionals, STEM leaders and young people. Thank you for working with us to develop a STEMunity we can be proud of.

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