

How to join Friends of MAT

Please return this completed application form to:

for office use only

Mines Awareness Trust, c/o SOG, La Villiaze,
St Andrews, Guernsey, GY6 8YP

Personal details

Title: _____ Forename(s): _____

Surname: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

How did you hear about MAT?

Please tick the box if you do not wish to receive our newsletter three times a year or other correspondence

Personal information you provide will be held by MAT in accordance with Data Protection (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2001 and will not be supplied to any third party without your consent.

Donations by cheque or cash

Please state the amount enclosed: £25 Other £ _____

Standing order

I hereby instruct my bank to make a regular standing order for the sum of:

£2.50 £5 £10 £25 Other £ _____

per: Month Quarter Year

Commencing on _____ or immediately on receipt of the order, if later, in favour of the Mines Awareness Trust, to The Royal Bank of Scotland International, St Peter Port, Guernsey, Sort Code 16-20-29, Account Number 56232793.

Bank/Building Society: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Name(s) of Account Holder(s): _____

Bank/Building Society Account No:

Sort Code: - -

Signature _____ Date _____

What is MAT?

MAT is a Channel Island-based charitable mine action organisation. We have worked in Kosovo, Uganda, Eritrea, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sri Lanka and Sudan.

What does MAT do?

Mine risk education

MAT provides mine risk education to vulnerable communities living in close proximity to landmines and unexploded ordnance. We believe strongly that educating people about the dangers of landmines and unexploded ordnance is the most rapid and cost-effective means of saving lives. Mine risk education, therefore, remains the cornerstone of our approach to mine action.

Capacity building

MAT always tries to operate by building the capacity of existing charities and groups already working to safeguard lives. MAT aims to hand over an area to trained locals who can continue to apply their newly acquired life-saving skills.

Humanitarian de-mining

MAT undertakes humanitarian de-mining and believes in employing wholly local staff and working very closely with the local communities through a dedicated community liaison officer.

High standards

MAT prides itself on operating to the highest standards. We follow the International Mine Action Standards, which is the global standard issued by the United Nations to guide the planning and implementation of projects. MAT also operates in-country under an accreditation system usually administered by the United Nations.

How is MAT funded?

A significant proportion of our administrative costs are covered by services in kind from our generous commercial sponsors so more of your donation can go where it is needed most. Many of our projects are funded by governments and multi-national agencies, although this never covers the shortfall of funds needed for project set-up and evaluation before major donors can be found.

Would you like to know more about MAT?

Please write, phone, email or visit our website.

Mines Awareness Trust, c/o SOG, La Villiaze,
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Email: fom@minesawareness.org
Website: www.minesawareness.org

Design sponsored by The Partnership www.thepartnership.gg

Innocent. Curious.
Close to the ground.



The perfect target
for a mine.

Join the Friends of MAT for as little as £2.50
a month and help MAT keep them apart.

Mines Awareness Trust



Patron: H.E. Lieutenant Governor of Guernsey, Vice Admiral Sir Fabian Malbon, KBE.

Mines Awareness Trust L.B.G.

He thought he'd found a toy... until it exploded.



You can help us save other innocent lives and limbs.

Mines don't differentiate.

Tank, soldier, child – it's all the same.

But when war is over and the armies withdraw, who is most likely to stumble barefoot into the unexploded mines and bombs left hidden in the fields?

That's right. The children. Curious, unsuspecting and close to the ground.

That's why, of the approximately 50 landmine casualties each day, at least half of them are children. Their injuries are consequently much worse; their bright futures gone in a flash.

A programme of community education, spread using survivors and children as educators, is often enough to save innocent lives and limbs.

The mines may still be there but you can help us stop the needless killing and maiming.

As little as £2.50 is enough for MAT to educate a mother and child in a refugee camp about the deadly risk posed by landmines.

The facts

It is estimated that between 15,000 and 20,000 new casualties are caused by landmines each year.

That is at least two new casualties every hour of every day.

But the problem is actually much worse. These statistics do not take account of the casualties caused by other unexploded items such as grenades and cluster bombs.

Over 90 countries are affected by landmines and other unexploded items.

This means that agricultural land, the combined size of France and Germany, is denied to people who need it for subsistence farming.



How MAT was formed

Ben Remfrey formed the Trust in May 1999 as a direct response to the war in Kosovo. Having witnessed ordinary people suffering at the hands of landmines and unexploded ordnance, he was concerned about people returning to their homes once the conflict had ended.

Ben realised that with the right education they could go about rebuilding their lives without the threat of being maimed or killed. He drove a Land Rover across Europe to work with the high-risk groups in the west of the country. When Ben arrived there were 20 to 30 casualties every month in the region and these were mainly children. Six months later the number was reduced to near zero where it stayed.

For the Johnson family, peace-time was when the real suffering began.

In the Rwenzori Mountains region of Uganda the Johnson family lived happily; that is, until conflict drove them from their home. Once the fighting was over, the family returned. While the parents began rebuilding their home, the children played.

None of the five children thought twice about gathering around a 'little bell' lying on the ground. It was actually a small bomb. A few devastating seconds after finding it, three of the Johnson's five children were dead and the other two maimed for life.

If the Johnson's children had been given simple and clear education about landmines and other explosive remnants of war they would be alive to this day. Instead their parents mourn the three children they lost and must find ways to meet the special needs of the two they still have.

