Thames Hospice announces special contribution by Charlie Mackesy, author of The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse

Tuesday 24 March, 2026

This summer, an unforgettable herd of beautifully decorated elephant sculptures will take to the streets of Windsor and Slough as part of Trunks across the Thames, a Wild in Art event brought by Thames Hospice. This spectacular free public art trail, taking place between 13 July and 13 September 2026, is set to capture hearts, spark conversation, and raise vital funds and awareness for Thames Hospice.

In one of its most exciting announcements to date, Thames Hospice is proud to include internationally acclaimed artist and author Charlie Mackesy amongst the list of contributors who will design and hand-paint one of the trail's elephants. Charlie will be joining previously announced contributors, including Alec Saunders, Luke Crump and Jess Garrett. Known for his much-loved illustrations depicting connection, kindness, and hope, Charlie's involvement represents a truly special moment for the trail, bringing national significance and emotional resonance to this much-anticipated community event coming to Windsor and Slough this summer.

Thames Hospice is proud to be working in partnership with the Royal Windsor Flower Show again this year and Charlie's unique elephant sculpture will be unveiled exclusively ahead of the trail's official launch at the Show on Saturday 6 June 2026.

Dr Rachael de Caux, Thames Hospice Chief Executive, said:

"We are incredibly honoured and thrilled that Charlie Mackesy has chosen to support Thames Hospice. His work has touched millions of people across the world, offering compassion and ensuring that no one feels alone, qualities that are so deeply aligned with the care we provide every day here.

"Trunks across the Thames will raise vital funds, but just as importantly, it will raise awareness, break down taboos, and show that hospice care is here for everyone, at every stage of life's journey. We hope this trail inspires compassion, dialogue, and a deeper understanding of what it really means to care for one another."

Charlie Mackesy said:

"Hello. I've discovered Thames Hospice plays such a compassionate and vital part of many lives, giving dignified end-of-life care to patients and their families so they never feel alone. They offer kindness, comfort, hope and connection - my favourite things - and need support, which is why I am happy to play a part in their Trunks across the Thames summer art trail."

To follow the herd and stay up to date with the latest Trunks across the Thames art trail news, visit: https://trunksacrossthethames.co.uk/ and follow our dedicated Facebook and Instagram pages.

To be among the first to see Charlie Mackesy's sculpture at the Royal Windsor Flower Show on Saturday 6 June, tickets are available now at https://www.rwrhs.com/royal-windsor-flower-show/

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