

**Welcome to the Fife Presbytery Mission Bulletin!**  
12th March 2021



We are delighted to bring you our latest newsletter filled with *News, Events, Training and Funding* information.

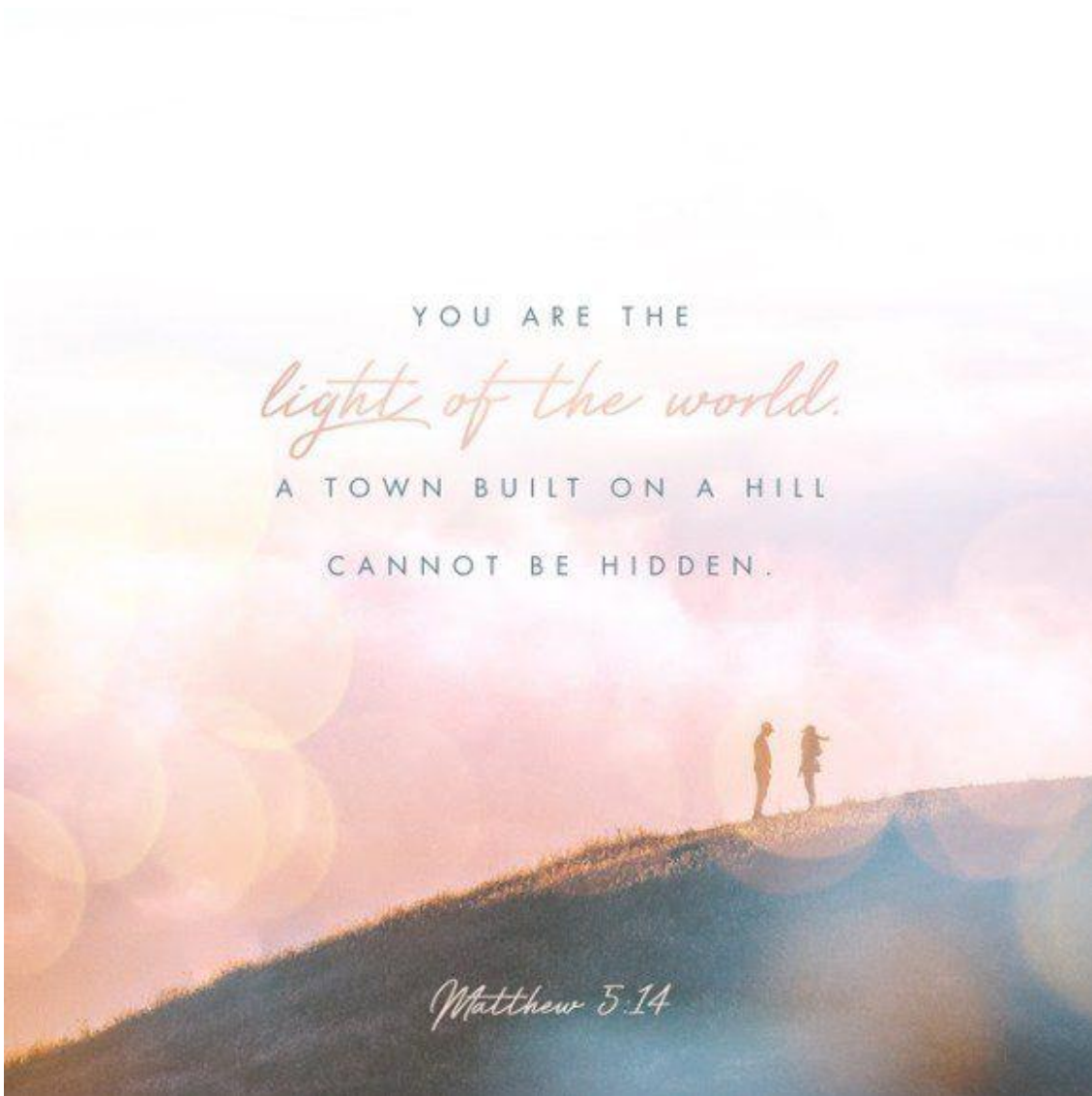
As we continue to navigate the global Covid-19 pandemic, we're here to encourage and support you in our shared Christian mission across Fife.

Please email your stories, news and suggestions for our next Mission Bulletin to Lorraine via [fife@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:fife@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Remember to follow us on [Facebook](#) to keep up with our latest news.

Please share this e-newsletter on to interested members, elders and leaders.

You can subscribe directly to this newsletter by following the "View this email in your browser" link at the top of the page and clicking subscribe in the top left corner.



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## News



*Picture: Scottish Parliament, Holyrood, Edinburgh*

## **Scottish Parliament Election Focus**

Elections for the Scottish Parliament are scheduled Thursday 6 May 2021.

Information for churches on holding an election hustings or question time meeting is now available: [here](#). And a YouTube recording is available: [here](#).

In the period before an election, churches and community organisations often put on election meetings (sometimes known as hustings). They do this as a public service, to support the democratic process, to facilitate public debate and as a contribution to the common good.

The recommendation is that you aim to hold your event in the week beginning Monday 19 April, or earlier.

At these events members of the public can listen to and ask questions of the candidates who are standing for election. Meetings organised by church groups can provide an opportunity for respectful discussion in a neutral space, which is often appreciated by candidates as well as voters.

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we have had to operate in many areas of our lives. Hustings would usually have been in-person community meetings. In 2021, hustings will have to be held predominantly online.

For many of us, the last year has been one of quickly adapting to new technologies, as worship services and keeping in touch with families and friends have moved online.

This election will likely follow the same pattern, and the potential absence of in-person meetings with candidates means that hosting an online hustings will take on a new level of significance.

Christian Aid have also produced election material which can be accessed: [here](#)

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## Events

### Talking Mission: *Faith Action Plan* With Very Rev. Dr John Chalmers



Date: 17th March 2021



Time: 7.30-8.30pm

We're delighted that our first *Talking Mission* evening is with the Very Rev. Dr John Chalmers, Chair of the Assembly Trustees, on the subject *Faith Action Plan: In Action, Post-Covid and Next Steps* providing a national context for our presbytery and congregations as we seek to follow God's call and explore mission opportunities for the future.

 The Church of Scotland

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### **Talking Mission Series: Very Rev Dr John Chalmers, Chair of the Assembly Trustees**

Hosted by Neil Campbell, Fife Presbytery Mission Director,  
Wednesday 17th March @ 7.30-8.30pm via Zoom

Book Now via: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/talking-mission-series>

Zoom details for Event:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88493134621?pwd=TUJXdlo3QVhyMy83Tko2cGFTZkt0Z>

[z09](#)

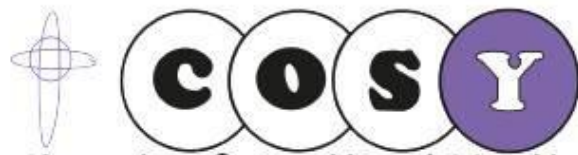
Meeting ID: 884 9313 4621  
Passcode: 681386

The purpose of these monthly online gatherings is to develop an understanding of contextual mission across our new Presbytery. A 20-30 minute talk with a missional focus followed by an opportunity for questions, reflection and discussion. These events are open to all across the Presbytery. Booking is requested to aid with preparation. For those unable to attend the event will be recorded and available to view via the Presbytery YouTube.

In recent months, so much of our ministry has been affected and changed as a result of COVID restrictions. Many things have stopped or had to be done in different ways. This has resulted in some losses but also created some new opportunities. That said, the context that we are serving in has had its challenges for a while now and we need to think radically about how we might develop mission opportunities now and in the future.

We're delighted that our first *Talking Mission* evening is with the Very Rev Dr John Chalmers, Chair of the Assembly Trustees, on the subject *Faith Action Plan: In Action, Post-Covid and Next Steps* providing a national context for our presbytery and congregations as we seek to follow God's call and explore mission opportunities for the future.

*Date for diary: Talking Mission Wed 21st April, 7.30-8.30pm with Rev Dr Donald MacEwan, Convenor of Theological Forum, on the subject of Five Marks of Mission.*



Church of Scotland Youth

# Big Questions

**Join CoSY Fife and Stirling for Lent as we look at big questions on:**

**Church**

**Faith**

**The Bible**

**Faithful Living**

**Every Sunday at 7pm from 21st February - 28th March.**

**We will have a panel of special guests each week to answer any questions on their topic.**

**There will be 4 weeks of questions, a social evening and an evening of worship where we will share Communion.**

**All 18 - 30 year olds welcome, no need to live in Fife or Stirling to participate.**

**If you do not want to ask your questions live you can email them to [cosyfife@gmail.com](mailto:cosyfife@gmail.com).**

**Get the zoom link through Eventbrite**

COSY-Fife are hosting 6 big questions evenings for 18-30 year olds. You can get the zoom link via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cosy-big-questions-tickets>



If you do not want to ask your questions live you can email them to [cosyfife@gmail.com](mailto:cosyfife@gmail.com) or Ask one of the hosts in the zoom chat.

Full details see the poster. If you have any questions please ask.

### **Society, Religion and Technology Consultation**

You may be aware that at the General Assembly of 2019 the Faith Impact Forum were asked to consider the future of the Society, Religion and Technology (SRT) Project. The SRT was set up by the Church of Scotland 51 years ago to examine the ethical and social implications of new technology. Through its reports, it advises the Church on policy regarding some of the biggest issues facing us today.

The Faith Impact Forum has formed a working group chaired by a member of the forum, Rebecca Gebauer in order to do this review.

We have created a survey that aims to collect as broad a range of views on the work of the project which will be used to shape and further develop the work of the Church in this area. It is especially important to the working group to capture the views of church members who have had no or very little engagement with the SRT.

Participation in this survey is entirely voluntary and anonymous unless you wish to be further engaged in the review process. Filling the survey will usually take around 10-15 minutes.

I would be grateful if you could take the time to fill in this survey and also forward it to all the conveners and youth workers within your presbytery, it will be available until **Friday 19 March**.

<https://forms.gle/STPq1g46Y5T2UV4B8>

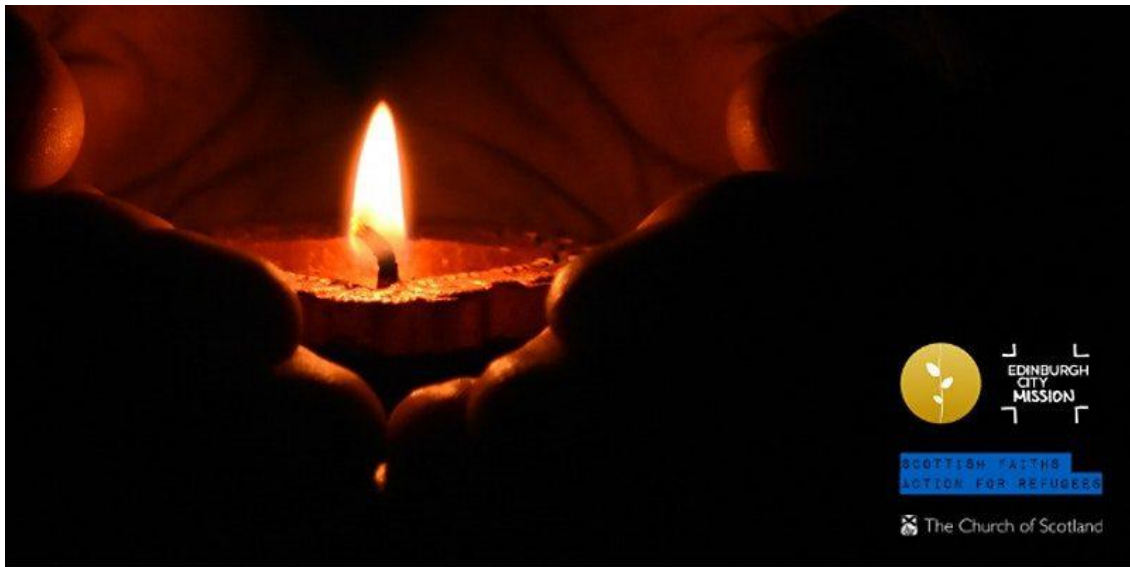
Many thanks in advance for your help.



**22 May 2021**

#### Messtival 2021

Join Messy Church for [Messtival 2021](#) online on Saturday 22 May. The morning will have a variety of workshops. In the afternoon, join The World's Biggest Messy Church for a huge celebration of the church's birthday at Pentecost.



#### **Vigil for Syria**

Monday 15 March marks the 10th year of the conflict in Syria. Please join Christians across Scotland in an online Vigil for Syria as a public expression of solidarity with Syrians affected by the conflict, both in Syria and those living here in Scotland and other countries. We will hear from a Syrian pastor and bear witness to the long years of the conflict, taking time to hold silence by lighting 10 candles and to pray, reflect and respond in the shared space together.



Whether or not you are able to join the vigil, join us in an act of solidarity by lighting a candle and sharing a photo on social media with the hashtag #ScotlandWithSyria.

You can register: [here](#)

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## Training



### Community and Dementia: Creating Better Lives in Fife

On Thursday 25th February 2021, the Life Changes Trust held an online conference: 'Community and Dementia: Creating Better Lives in Fife'.

This was the seventh in the 'Creating Better Lives' series of conferences, which are held across the country.

The conference had two exceptional co-chairs: Gerry King, from the STAND group in Fife, which is part of the UK Network of Dementia Voices, and Irene Donaldson who is also a member of the STAND group. Gerry is an Architectural Technician, now retired, and has a diagnosis of dementia. Irene is a teacher, she was a Primary School Deputy Head, and is also retired. She also has dementia.

You can watch a recording of our full webinar, or you can just watch some of the presentations: [here](#)



### Emerging Pioneers

Emerging Pioneers is the vision for a structured, supportive, training process with the express aim of preparing people to start new Church Plants, mission projects and Kingdom businesses. Forge Scotland, Cairn, Alpha Scotland, and the Baptist Union of Scotland are seeking additional partners to collaborate to make this possible. We know that none of us have all the answers, but we want to take the initiative and invite others to join us in developing the next generation of leaders.

What is envisaged is a 3-year process, which builds, year by year cohorts, of 12-15 young adult leaders to emerge as 21-28yr-olds ready to lead new initiatives.

A vision event sharing more information is being held on Tuesday 23rd March, 8-9pm, Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87875699774>



Preaching Today, a partnership of Ascend and New College, is going online for 2021. Throughout the day on Monday 19 April, Sally Brown, Rachel Mann, Russell Barr, Marjory Maclean and Neil Glover will bring reflections on preaching in these new times. There will be opportunity to connect with others throughout the day.

You can find out more and book: [here](#)



**Youth for Christ: Sometimes it Hurts**

Very excited to announce the return of 'Sometimes It Hurts' - mental health and emotional wellbeing conference...we're taking it digital, so you can attend from your

living room!

'Sometimes It Hurts' is a mental health and emotional well-being day conference. The training you will receive aims to equip you in your context to support children and young people with their emotional mental health and well-being. The day itself contains several seminar streams delivered by front line professionals, complemented by important keynote topics that are relevant to all settings.

"Good mix of topics, professional speakers with lots of experience"

"Motivational to keep doing what I am doing & what God has called me to do/be."

For more information and to book your space, go to [www.yfc.co.uk/sometimesithurts](http://www.yfc.co.uk/sometimesithurts)



### **Introduction to Workplace Chaplaincy**

Who? Why? What? How?

If you want to know more about WPCS and you are interested in becoming a volunteer Chaplain, then this is for you! This introductory module helps you to understand the structures of WPCS and where you fit into the organisation. What is chaplaincy and what defines it from other arms of ministry and pastoral care? What is the theological understanding of the purpose and functions of chaplaincy? What are some of the skills required? How might it fit into your local workplace community and church context?

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Paul Wilson ([paul.wilson@wpcscotland.co.uk](mailto:paul.wilson@wpcscotland.co.uk) or 07703 585987).

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## **Resources**



SU Ireland and SU Scotland have teamed up yet again to produce this free 3 part video series that provides a fresh perspective on Easter and why it matters for us today.

**Available Now...**

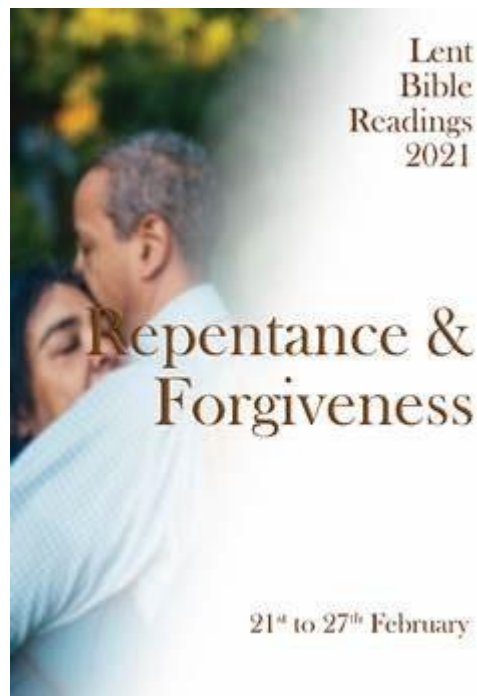
**About:** 3 Episodes (plus a bonus video) - Aimed at 9-14 year olds

Join Sarah Campbell, Darren Bourke and Mark Murray on a very unique and entertaining journey that highlights the meaning of the incredible events of Easter.

Alongside the videos is a downloadable resource pack with quizzes and reflection activities formatted for youth groups, classroom delivery and home learning.

For more information, to register (free) and access: <https://nuafilmseries.org/nua-easter-registration-form>





### **Lent reflections online**

An imaginative multimedia resource for the season of Lent has been produced by two Church of Scotland ministers, Robin Hill and Alec Shuttleworth. Their Lent Daily Journey involves a series of seven weekly magazine guides to Bible readings which are intended to take participants on a spiritual adventure, leading all the way to Easter Day.

In each virtual issue a range of activities will be offered for different stages of the day. First, there will be a Bible passage to read on screen each morning. If preferred, the click of a mouse will allow that reading to be heard from one of four readers.

For the middle of the day there is a prayer, followed by an afternoon musical reflection. Then to close each day there will be a short evening video meditation from Alec.

Among the readers is professional actor M.L. Stone, best known for playing Maggie LeBeau in BBC Scotland's Police comedy series, *Scot Squad*, and the Scottish opera singer Frances McCafferty

A team of seven musicians will offer very different styles of hymn renditions, ranging from church organ to concert grand piano, from cello to mandolin, from blues guitar to flute quartet to vocals.

This project is very much a family affair as Alec has enlisted brother Andy as a musician and son Jack as a reader. Meanwhile, Robin has roped in his orchestral-musician sister Ann to play her flutes.

The Lent Daily Journey can be accessed free of charge [here](#). It can be viewed either



as a printable pdf file or as a fully interactive e-document with links to audio and video files.



### **TryPraying: Spring Campaign 2021**

A friend recently said, it's a good time to be reminded of the truth that God can make the empty place and the empty person full and it's exciting to have the opportunity to make this tangible and real together.

*"The beauty of trypraying is in its simplicity - use it and lose it. And yet wrapped up in that simple formula is a resource that is seeing lives change. Grab it and get on with it!" (Martin Fair – Moderator)*

This is the hope we have for our Spring campaign which will run from 1st March - 4th April (Easter). ). Can I encourage you independently, or with other churches around you, to join us in making this a headline story where you live by...

- Organising a 1 hour prayer event / evening via Zoom for a SUNDAY in March 2021
- Order the pack of a banner, 100 booklets and perspex box at [www.thereishope.co.uk/resources](http://www.thereishope.co.uk/resources) (£150) and display your banner straight away.

For more information please contact David Hart, Trypraying Development coordinator by mail: [david.t@trypraying.co.uk](mailto:david.t@trypraying.co.uk)



**Sanctuary First: Lent 2021 Lent Connect Booklet**

Our new and beautifully illustrated Lent Connect Group booklet is now available for download and printing from the website.

The booklet is filled with mindful prompts, questions and meditations for you to use in a variety of contexts. Go through the material on your own while journaling, meet as a small group online and reflect together, or with your own household.

Alternatively, you can join an already established online Connect group. If you would like to find out about joining an established Connect group, drop us an email to **[contact@sanctuaryfirst.org.uk](mailto:contact@sanctuaryfirst.org.uk)** and we can put you in touch with the group leaders.

Read the Connect group questions **[online](#)** or download the booklet **[HERE](#)**

We hope you find this new resource very useful.

May God Bless you throughout this period of Lent, and draw you closer to Him.

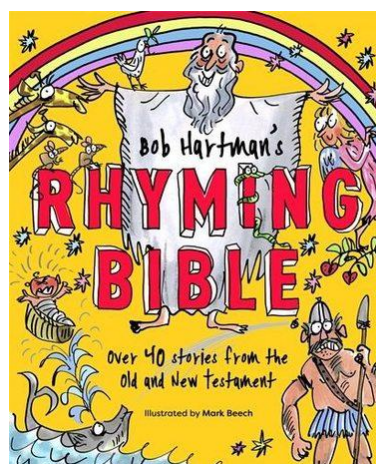
The Sanctuary First Team



**Scripture Union: Jungle Adventure Holiday Club**

Coming soon... Jungle Adventure! A brand new Holiday Club resource for 2021

Developed to help children discover how Jesus is the greatest guide ever, Jungle Adventure is written for use in an outdoor woodland setting, with easy adaptations offered so it can be used in other settings



**DramaKirk: Easter 2021**

For Easter, Drama Kirk is producing an engaging way to share the Easter story with Primary School-aged children, a series of five poems from Bob Hartman's "Rhyming Bible". Together, they tell the Easter story in an accessible way. We will perform the following:-

**Waiting in Line** – This poem introduces Jesus and lets us hear about various things he has done – and how wants to see children!

**The Clip Clop Beat** – On Palm Sunday, Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey. Let's hear about what happened in a fun rap.

**Body and Blood** – The last meal Jesus shared with his friends. Find out what happens and what he tells them will happen next.

**When Jesus Hung Upon the Cross** – We look at what Jesus said on the cross and what happened that first Good Friday.

**No More Crying** – It's not the end of the story! Jesus' friends are sad...but not for long. Something amazing is about to happen!

Each section will last around 2 to 3 minutes and will be freely available on YouTube. If you have difficulty accessing it, we can provide DVDs. We plan to launch one per week from 1st March onwards and you can access them here –

[DramaKirk - YouTube](#)

All are welcome to use this fun way to tell the Easter story. We simply ask that you either email us to let us know you have used it, or complete our audience survey here - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RLVW8X3>

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## Funding

### **SCVO Funding Scotland**

Funding at your fingertips

Find funding for your charity, community group or social enterprise using our free online search engine. From small grants to funding for big capital projects, we can help you track down the funding you need to make a difference in your community.

See: <https://fundingscotland.com/>

### **The Community & Third Sector Recovery Programme**

The Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)'s Community & Third Sector Recovery programme aims to support charities (including churches, community groups, social enterprises and voluntary organisations) that are supporting people and communities through the shift from lockdown to recovery. As well as providing ongoing crisis support, they will be planning and implementing changes to adapt and thrive in a very different social and economic climate.

The programme is currently open and has two strands: Adapt & Thrive and Community Recovery Fund.

In the simplest terms, Adapt & Thrive is capacity building to help organisations adapt, change, and thrive post-COVID-19. The Communities Recovery Fund is grant funding to deliver support and services in communities.

Money for Adapt & Thrive has to be allocated by the end of March but can be used for up to 12 months thereafter. No match funding required and grants range from between £5K and £75K.



For information please see [SCVO Website](#)

### **Volant Trust: Funding to Alleviate Social Deprivation**

The Volant Charitable Trust's Grants programme has re-opened for applications. The fund aims to support Scottish charities and projects that help alleviate social deprivation. Specific themes the fund will consider for support include:

Women - Victims of sexual abuse, rape, domestic violence and those working in the sex industry; care for young mothers and those affected by postnatal depression, isolated and lone parents; community support for black and minority ethnic women and asylum seekers; support services for women prisoners and their families.

Children and young people - Counselling, support services and outreach projects for those who are disadvantaged or deemed to be at risk through neglect, emotional and physical abuse, alcohol or drug misuse.

Poverty and deprivation - Mental health projects for women and children; support for vulnerable families; promotion of healthy eating for families in areas of extreme deprivation. Registered charities, community interest companies, community organisations and social enterprises can apply for grants of up to £15,000 per year for up to three years.

Funding is administered by Foundation Scotland and can be used for project and core costs. Applicants are initially required to complete an enquiry form outlining their project. This must be submitted by the 30th April 2021.

See: <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/volant-charitable-trust>

### **Funding to Create Resilient Rural Communities**

Grants of up to £10,000 are available for projects from across the UK which are working to create resilient rural communities. The Prince's Countryside Fund will award funding from the Barclays 100x100 UK Covid-19 Community Relief Fund to support farming and rural communities to cope with the impact of Covid-19, to expand on new services that have emerged to support the local community during this time and to build future resilience. Applications are encouraged from community-led organisations with a turnover under £500,000 per year, from communities with a population of up to 3,000 residents. Examples could include rolling out longer term food and medicine delivery services; social groups to support isolated people; or mental health support. The Fund will close when enough eligible applications have been received.

See: <https://www.princescountrysidefund.org.uk/grant-giving-programme/grant-programme>

### **Funding for Community Based Projects**

The Hilden Charitable Fund awards grants of an average of £5,000 to causes working at community level in the UK and developing countries which are less likely to be able to raise funds from other sources. Current UK funding priorities are: • Homelessness, • Penal Affairs, • Asylum Seekers and Refugees, • Community-Based initiatives for Disadvantaged Young People Aged 16 to 25. Overseas, Hilden concentrates on projects in developing countries working on community development, education, and health and particularly welcomes those that address the needs and potential of girls and women. Only applications submitted on the form supplied on the website will be considered. Hilden accepts applications at any time but the closing date for applications to be considered at the next meeting of

Trustees is the 16th April 2021.

See: <https://www.hildencharitablefund.org/>

### **Grants to Help Older People Lead More Fulfilling Lives**

Barchester's Charitable Foundation is a grant giving charity that helps older people and other adults with a disability across England, Scotland & Wales to lead more fulfilled lives and reach their full potential. The Foundation's focus is on connecting or re-connecting people with others in their local community, helping combat isolation and loneliness and enabling people to be active and engaged. Funding of between £100 and £5,000 is available for individuals and small community groups to help improve people's mobility, independence and quality of life. Individual applications must be completed by a third-party sponsor such as a health care professional, social worker or charity/support group representative. Applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis, with funds allocated to those who demonstrate greatest need.

See: <https://www.bhcfoundation.org.uk>

### **People's Postcode Trust Opens for Applications**

The People's Postcode Trust has re-opened its grants programme and will award grants on a monthly basis until October 2021. Funded by players of the People's Postcode Lottery, the Trust makes grants to support smaller charities and good causes in Scotland under the following themes: • Improving mental wellbeing • Enabling community participation in the arts • Preventing or reducing the impact of poverty • Supporting marginalised groups and promoting equality • Improving biodiversity & green spaces • Enabling participation in physical activity • Responding to the climate emergency & promoting sustainability • Increasing community access to outdoor space Registered charities can apply for grants of up to £20,000, other not for profit organisations can apply for grants of up to £2,000 to support both project and organisation core costs. The funding is available for 12 months. To be eligible to apply, organisations will need to have an annual income of below £1 million with preference given to those with an income of below £500,000 per year. The Postcode Community Trust will operate on a monthly basis. On around the 1st of each month, applications will open, and organisations will be able to submit their request for funding until the maximum number of 150 has been received until the 1st October 2021.

See: <https://www.postcodetrust.org.uk>

### **AllChurches Trust**

AllChurches Trust like to fund projects that demonstrate an impact on people and communities. Applicants should include clear (and where possible, measurable) outcomes for projects and demonstrate how they will ensure sustainability beyond our funding. It's also important to show how additional funding support will be sought to enable the project to be completed.

Our open grants normally fund capital projects and equipment, not salaries or running costs, with the exception of our transformational and Hope Beyond programmes. In most cases, we give a small percentage of the project cost as this enables us to say yes to more worthwhile causes, although we do occasionally give larger grants.

See: <https://www.allchurches.co.uk/what-we-fund>



### **National Church Trust**

Funding available for Scotland's cash strapped churches and chapels  
A range of grants are available from the National Churches Trust

Churches and chapels in Scotland needing funding for urgent repairs and maintenance are being encouraged to apply for grants from the National Churches Trust.

In 2021, the church support charity expects to allocate more than £1.5m to churches and chapels throughout the UK. Any church, chapel or meeting house in Scotland that is open for regular public worship can apply.

See: <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/news/funding-available-scotlands-cash-strapped-churches-and-chapels>

### **Scotland's Churches Trust**

Scotland's Churches Trust helps sustain and support Scotland's places of worship through a range of grants, bursaries, advice and support.

Scottish Churches Trust offers grant support to help with:

- restoration projects in the repair of buildings and windows
- cost of routine preventative maintenance
- organ educational awards
- support towards organ concerts

See: <https://scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/>

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