

HIGHLAND FUNDING INFORMATION WINTER 2010

NEWS FROM THE COUNCIL

FUNDING FOR HIGHLAND COMMUNITIES

The Highland Council has introduced a single grants process and has brought information together into one place on the website about:-

- The Council grants and discretionary funds that are currently available (including Common Good Funds)
- A range of other sources of help and advice (including free-to-use funding search facilities)

This means that, in future, it will be much easier for anyone who is looking for support to see both what the Council is able to offer and to find out about other potential sources of funding.

More information:

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/livinghere/communitiesandorganisations/voluntaryorganisations/fundingandassistance/>

NEWS FROM THE LOTTERY

2014 COMMUNITIES

The maximum amount of grant available through the 2014 Communities programme has increased. Applications can now be made for grants of between £300 and £2k by organisations such as sports clubs, community groups and schools. The aim of the programme is to encourage more people to take part in sport and physical activity and to increase the number of people volunteering in these areas. Applications can be made at any time.

More information: http://www2.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_2014_communities?regioncode=-

INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES

The funding investment programmes provided by the Big Lottery Fund (BIG) under “Investing in Communities” are now much more focussed than they were previously. Other changes include strengthening the application processes to avoid groups spending too much time and effort working up projects which simply do not meet the funding priorities and outcomes. Potential applicants are strongly advised to contact BIG first of all to discuss their project ideas and before they submit a Stage 1 application. Only projects that are potentially fundable will be allowed to proceed to Stage 2. This does not mean, however, that they will ultimately be supported as the competition for funds is expected to be even more intense in the current economic climate. Some additional help can also be made available to develop the applications that get through to Stage 2. There are three funding investment areas.

21st Century Life

Here BIG wants to support the following groups and outcomes.

- Projects about the emotional and social development of children and specifically for those in care; at risk; affected by parental substance misuse or who are young carers. With the outcome that children at risk of isolation are successful learners, confident individuals and are able to maintain better relationships with their families
- Projects about parenting and bringing up children and specifically by lone parents; kinship carers; step families; disadvantaged families. With the outcome that these groups are more resilient and have improved relationships
- Projects about financial skills and services and specifically for carers; older people and lone parents. With the outcome that these groups can cope better with financial crises

And have reduced financial stress and improved family relationships

- Projects about caring for family members and specifically those who are old; have long term illnesses; are disabled or are caring for the first time. With the outcome that families with caring responsibilities are more able to cope and are better connected to the community
- Projects about maintaining independence in old age with the outcome that older people continue to live at home longer and have better social connections and relationships

Life Transitions

Under Life Transitions, BIG wants to provide support for the following:-

- Projects about becoming an adult - guiding vulnerable young people (care leavers, those in the criminal justice system and those with additional needs) towards adulthood including first time employment. With the outcome that more vulnerable young people are in a job, training or education; in a home of their choice; have a positive attitude to their future and are able to make and maintain positive relationships.
- Projects about getting a job - specifically for people who are disengaged from the world of work. With the outcomes that more economically inactive people are in touch with job-seeking services; can access sustainable jobs created in enterprises and organisations working towards social aims.
- Projects about moving past challenging times - addressing the connections between addiction, offending, homelessness and mental health and supporting people who face more than one barrier to moving on. With the outcomes that fewer people with serious mental health or substance misuse problems enter the criminal justice system or experience homelessness and more have access to a wider range of services.
- Projects about preventing the transition into debt – specifically about building financial skills and services to key groups - people without bank accounts, tenants, homeless people, people with long term conditions and people from deprived areas. With the outcome that more people from disadvantaged groups have key financial products including a basic bank account, home contents insurance, affordable energy, access to affordable credit and relevant benefit and credit entitlements.

Growing Community Assets

Under Growing Community Assets, BIG wants to give communities more control and influence over their future through the ownership of assets. These will usually be physical assets such as buildings, land or equipment but may also include other types of assets such as energy. Projects must meet **all** of the four outcomes for the programme which are that:-

- Communities work together to own and develop local assets
- Communities are sustainable and improve their economic, environmental and social future through the ownership and development of local assets
- Communities develop skills and knowledge through the ownership and development of local assets
- Communities overcome disadvantage and inequality through the ownership and development of assets

There are also a number of additional eligibility requirements for potential Growing Community Assets (GCA) applicants. This means that some groups which are eligible to apply for the other two programmes would not be eligible to apply to GCA.

More information:-

http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_investing-in-communities.htm?regioncode=-sco

REGISTERING AN INTEREST IN A COMMUNITY ASSET

To qualify for GCA, organisations need to own the land or building they want to develop. GCA is more interested in developing community assets and is highly unlikely to provide funds to acquire them.

It may be of interest that the Part 2 of The Land Reform Act (2003) gives rural communities (defined as a geographic settlement with a population of less than 10,000) the chance to register an interest in land/buildings that will help the community develop environmentally, economically or socially. This gives the community the right to buy the asset if or when it comes up for sale: it does not mean that the owner has to sell it. Groups need to have a definite plan for the development of the asset and would not be able simply register an interest “just in case”. Registration lasts for 5 years initially but can be renewed on a rolling basis.

Any groups interested in finding out more should first of all get in touch with the Scottish Government’s Community Assets Branch by e mail crtb@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or phone 0300 244 9822. More information: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/farmingrural/Rural/rural-land/right-to-buy/Community/Register>

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

As well as providing financial assistance directly, BIG is increasingly channelling funding through partners such independent trusts or consortia groups. At present, work is underway in the following areas.

- Within the UK, the £35m Forces in Mind Trust, which aims to help veterans who struggle with the transition to civilian life, is expected to become operational by autumn 2011
- Within Scotland, organisations have been invited to bid to run the £50m Life Changes Trust. This trust aims to fundamentally transform the life chances of young people leaving care and to improve the lives of older people with dementia and their carers.

FUTURE ALLOCATIONS OF LOTTERY FUNDING

When the Coalition Government came to power it signalled its intention to look at how lottery funding was allocated. This included a proposal to reduce the share of funding to BIG and increase the share to other lottery good causes. Legislation was passed at the end of November and from April 2011 allocations for the arts, heritage and sport will increase from the current 16.6% to 18%. At the same time BIG’s funding will reduce from 50% to 46%. In April 2012 the shares to arts, heritage and sport will increase to 20% and BIG’s allocation will reduce to 40%. Details about the actual levels of funding which will be available from the various lottery distributors in Scotland as a result of these changes will be announced in due course.

HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND

In the meantime, however, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) which covers all of the UK has already indicated it will have an additional £45m to spend next financial year. HLF has also announced a number of changes which come into effect immediately and are aimed at helping organisations cope with the on-going challenges caused by the current economic situation. These changes will last until the end of the current HLF strategic plan which runs to April 2013.

In summary the changes are:-

Reduced match funding requirements

- For grant requests of more than £1m from the main Heritage Grants programme - the minimum amount that applicants need to provide has reduced from 25% to 10%. The minimum amount that other partners need to provide has also reduced to 10%. HLF will

now be prepared to consider funding the remaining balance. It is envisaged that this will help in situations where local authorities or other partners no longer have sufficient funds to provide the previously required level of financial support for a project.

- For grant requests up to £1m – the minimum match funding requirement has been reduced from 10% to 5%. This can be in cash or “in kind” although some contribution must still come from the applicants’ own resources.
- For joint programmes run with other lottery bodies such as **Parks for People** similar changes will apply. The minimum match funding contribution required for grant requests over £1m has been reduced from 25% to 10%. And, for grant requests under £1m, the minimum match funding contribution required has been reduced from 25% to 5%. In addition, the requirement for applicants to contribute 5% in cash has also been dropped. Match funding contributions can be in cash or “in kind”. Future management and maintenance will continue to count as an “in kind” contribution from the applicant.

Management and maintenance costs included in match funding

- At present applicants need to prepare a management and maintenance plan for all projects with capital works costing over £200k. These projects will now be able to count their projected additional management and maintenance costs as a contribution to match funding. However, applicants will still need to make a contribution from their own resources above and beyond this commitment.
- HLF will also consider **requests for short-term revenue funding from past grant holders** where the current economic climate is putting the achievements of a project it has previously funded at risk. This is intended to give these organisations the opportunity, with the help of some secured income and professional mentor support, to re-examine how to deliver their business and build resilience for the future.
- And, HLF will be more willing than previously to consider requests for **grant increases** arising as a result of current pressures on existing projects in order to protect money already invested and to ensure successful project outcomes.
- In all cases, however, applicants will still be expected to have explored other sources of funding and to ensure that their project offers good value for money.

More information: <http://www.hlf.org.uk/HowToApply/programmes/Pages/programmes.aspx>

THE JUBILEE PEOPLE’S MILLIONS

BIG and ITV, with the approval of Buckingham Palace, will be helping to mark the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee in 2012. In June 2011, regional news programmes will feature two project ideas in each ITV region for three nights. These projects will then compete for viewers’ votes. Grants of between £20k and £60k are available. The deadline for applications is **11th February 2011**. A range of organisations can apply for example, voluntary or community organisations, local authorities or health bodies. However, only one application from any one organisation will be accepted. More information: <http://www.peoplesmillions.org.uk/apply>

Although competition is fierce it is always worth applying for People’s Millions. Douglas Park Regeneration project in Kyle recently topped the voters’ poll in STV (North) to win £50k to create a play park facility in the village for children aged between 9 – 16.

NEWS FROM OTHER FUNDERS

ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GRANTS

The Society of Antiquaries of London administers a number of grants for archaeological and antiquarian research. Some of these are for very specific areas of interest such as prehistoric and Roman archaeology in the UK. The majority of the funds are for post-graduate studies but one (**Wheeler Memorial Travel Fund**) is available for undergraduates who wish to expand their experience by travelling abroad e.g to an excavation that they have specifically been invited to attend. Applications for all the research grants must be made by the **Friday of the first full week each January**.

In addition, the Society also administers the **William and Jane Morris Fund**. This provides small grants (up to £1k) for churches, chapels and other places of worship which were built before 1896. The funding is specifically for the conservation of decorative features such as stained glass windows, wall paintings, sculptures, internal monuments and tombs. Very exceptionally grants may be provided for major structural repairs or fabric maintenance. There are two application deadlines each year – **31st March and 31st August**. More information: <http://www.sal.org.uk/grants/>

HISTORIC BUILDING REPAIRS

Historic Scotland can provide grants of between £10k and £500k to help conserve buildings which are:-

- Of outstanding architectural or historic merit
- At serious risk from neglect or repair

There are a number of strict qualifying criteria and the conservation work must be done using traditional materials and specialist craftsman. Grants are available for individuals and private and public sector organisations who have a legal responsibility for the repair of an historic building. This usually means that the building must be owned or the applicant holds a full repairing lease which has at least 21 years still to run. Grant recipients will be required to allow some access to the building by visitors. There are three application rounds each year with deadline dates of **31st January, 31st May and 30th September**.

In addition, Historic Scotland offers a number of other grants such as urgent repairs required for places of worship or for war memorials.

More information:- <http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/grants.htm>

CREATIVE SCOTLAND

Creative Scotland is still offering some funding opportunities for individuals and groups in the current financial year. Details of these are summarised below and information about each scheme can be found on the web link. Deadline dates have been set for some schemes but, where no specific date is given, it would be advisable for any potential applicants to submit an application as soon as possible. More information:-

<http://www.creativescotland.org.uk/investment/investment-overview>

Investing in Arts

- Craft Exhibitions
- Literature & Storytelling Workers
- Creating New Music
- Recording (Music)
- International Showcasing (Music)

- Youth Music Initiative – all applications must be made by **14th February 2011**
 - Training and Continuing Professional Development
 - Informal Sector Funds (Small and Large Grants)
- Professional Development (Across Art forms)
- Disability Arts UnLtd – deadline date for applications **18th April 2011**

Investing in Screen

- Audience Development
- Opportunities Fund
- Digital Media IP Fund

STARTER FOR 6

Starter for 6 (mentioned in a previous newsletter) is a programme for creative entrepreneurs. It provides training, mentoring and networking opportunities and the chance to pitch for £10k to turn a good idea into a creative business. 27 people shared £150k last year for ideas such as designing a new violin peg, creating eco-furniture or using an ice cream van to promote architectural design ideas in communities. The programme opened for its second year in November and applications are due by **31st January 2011**.

You can find out more about the programme by attending one of two roadshows being held in Highland

- **9th December 18.00 – 20.00 at Eden Court, Bishops Road, Inverness**
- **12th January 18.00 – 22.00 at The Lime Tree, Achintore Road, Fort William PH33 6RQ**

The events are free but places are limited. To book a place phone 0844 544 9990 or e mail starterfor6@culturalenterpriseoffice.co.uk More information:

http://www.culturalenterpriseoffice.co.uk/website/default.asp?menu=s46&page_sel=s46

LISA ULLMAN TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This fund provides financial support to individuals working in movement and dance for example, choreographers, performers, teachers, writers, therapists and administrators. The average scholarship is £500 for travel abroad or in the UK to attend conferences or events, to pursue a research project or to undertake a short course of study. The deadline for applications is the **25th January 2011**. More information: <http://www.lutsf.org.uk/applications.html>

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

BREAKFAST CLUB MASTERCLASS PROGRAMME

ContinYou (a UK wide organisation) is providing training and funding for schools and community organisations which would like to set up a new breakfast club. The Breakfast Club Masterclass Programme will provide a day's training for two people from each school/community organisation, a grant of £350 (which needs to be matched by the school or community group) and support to help them launch a new breakfast club. Priority will be given to schools and community organisations in the most deprived areas in the UK but the programme is also available to groups from other areas who feel they need a breakfast club. Although the date and location has still to be confirmed it is intended to hold a masterclass in Scotland in 2011. Groups can register to receive more information when it becomes available. http://www.continyou.org.uk/health_and_well_being/breakfast_club_plus/training/masterclass

CASHBACK FOR COMMUNITIES

Two opportunities remain to apply for the latest CashBack funding and approximately £120k is still potentially available for Highland projects. Cashback for Communities is a government scheme which uses money recovered from criminal activities for the benefit of the community.

The Youth Work Fund, which is managed by Youthlink Scotland, can support projects involving young people aged between 10 – 19 and can be completed by May 2012. Events and activities should:-

- Target young people from areas of multiple deprivation
- Fill gaps in provision for young people
- Be open to all young people but target those involved in or at risk of being involved in violence, alcohol and/or drug misuse or anti-social behaviour
- Encourage the involvement of young people in development, management and running the project or activities
- Promote good behaviour and a positive image of young people

The remaining deadline dates for applications are **28th January and 16th September 2011**
More information: <http://www.youthlinkscotland.org/Index.asp?MainID=11384>

NOTE: Please remember that the final deadline date for CashBack's Small Grants Scheme for uniformed youth groups and youth clubs mentioned in a previous newsletter is **1st March 2011**. Grants of up to £2k are available. More information:
<http://www.youthscotland.org.uk/projects/cashback-small-grants-scheme.htm>

“FROM THE FIELD” GOLDSMITH’S AWARDS – FOR GEOGRAPHY

Secondary school geography teachers in the UK can apply for bursaries of up to £500 for projects which inspire young people to get involved in fieldwork. The bursary can be used to work with experienced researchers to develop new educational resources for pupils and other geography teachers on topics such as climate change, migration or development. The deadline date for applications is **11 February 2011**.

More information: - <http://www.rgs.org/OurWork/Grants/Teaching/Goldsmiths+Award.htm>

PLAYGROUND PARTNERSHIP AWARDS

The deadline date to apply for a 2011 award **18th March**. Under the scheme primary schools in the UK wishing to improve play spaces can apply for an award. The scheme is also open to special schools catering for older children and young people. The first step is to register to receive an application pack. To be considered for an award, schools then need to complete an application form and submit a design portfolio. Applicants need to be able to show a pupil-led approach to the development of the portfolio and to provide evidence of whole school and wider community involvement. Last year's overall winner received £8k and the 10 runners up received £1k. More information: <http://kidsfirsttrust.org/playground.htm>

ROYAL SOCIETY PARTNERSHIP GRANTS – FOR SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

The next round of the Royal Society Partnership Grants Programme opens on 3rd January and close on **25th February 2011**. The programme can provide grants of up to £3k to enable science teachers, working in partnership with science and engineering practitioners, create projects which will make the teaching of science more interesting for secondary and primary pupils in the UK. More information: <http://royalsociety.org/Partnership/>

COMMUNITY & GENERAL

AGE UNLIMITED

The National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA) is testing one of the strands of its Age Unlimited programme in Scotland. Targeting people in their 50s and 60s, NESTA is looking for teams or individuals with good ideas for new, locally-run community services which could be reproduced in other parts of Scotland. The services should be cost-effective, innovative and should not duplicate services already available. Applications need to be made by **7th February 2011** and short-listed candidates will be invited to attend a one day workshop to refine their ideas. (There will be a workshop in Inverness on 24th February). Up to

20 candidates will be selected for further training and mentoring to allow them to develop their project and to compete to win £10k towards the cost of the work. More information: http://www.nesta.org.uk/areas_of_work/public_services_lab/ageing/age_unlimited_scotland

AUSTIN AND HOPE PILKINGTON TRUST

The Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust, which is a small grant-giving organisation, has announced changes to its funding priorities as a result of the current economic conditions. Like many charitable trusts, the income received from investments has been badly affected at the same time as there has been a 200% increase in applications. In response to this, from 2012 funding will no longer be available for overseas projects and the new funding priorities detailed below have been agreed.

In addition, funding will only be provided on a one-off basis or for one year only and grants will be limited to £3k and £1k (the one exception is for medical research where grants of up to £10k may be available). The deadline dates for applications are **1st June and 1st November** each year and applicants are advised to make sure they stick to the rules about the amount of information they provide with their application. The trust will not provide fund for a number of areas and organisations and these include animal welfare projects, village halls, uniformed youth groups and minibuses. Only registered charities are eligible to apply and the trust prefers to fund national rather than local projects. National organisations, however, can apply for projects which take place locally.

Future Funding Priorities

2011	Music & The Arts: Overseas Projects
2012	Community - homeless, addiction, asylum and refugees, sexual and domestic abuse, ex-offenders Medical – only medical research projects relating to cancer will be considered but any medical condition will be considered for non-research projects
2013	Youth and Children
2014	Music & The Arts

CO-OPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP COMMUNITY FUND

The fund provides grants of between £100 and £2k to community and voluntary groups and other organisations like PTAs. Funding is available for a wide variety of purposes for example, events, activities, rent and equipment. More information:

<http://www.co-operative.coop/membership/local-communities/community-fund/>

GARFIELD WESTON FOUNDATION

This is a general grant-giving foundation whose trustees aim to support the widest range of charitable activity. Grants are typically one-off donations the majority of which are for less than £20k. It is anticipated that applicants will have secured a significant proportion of the funding required before they apply. Applications can be made at any time and funding is for UK registered charities although a limited number of “exempt” organisations can also apply. More information: <http://www.garfieldweston.org/>

JAPAN SOCIETY SMALL GRANTS

The Japan Society can provide grants of up to £1k as match funding to enable small scale projects and events related to Japan and Japanese culture take place in the UK. The Society is particularly interested in community grassroots projects and projects involving schools and educational establishments. Previous projects include funding for festivals and events, exchange programmes and workshops. Applications can be made at any time.

More information: <http://www.japansociety.org.uk/grants/>

PEOPLE'S POSTCODE LOTTERY – DREAM FUND

The People's Postcode Lottery recently launched the Dream Fund which will provide a total of £600k (£300k in 2011 and £300k in 2012) for new and innovative projects that meets at least one of the following criteria:

- Helping Communities Lead an Active Life (linking with 2012 Olympic Games and 2014 Commonwealth Games)
- Helping to Involve Volunteers (linking with 2011 Year of the Volunteer)
- Helping to tackle climate change (linking with 2020 environmental targets)

Partnerships of registered charities and community organisations can apply – at least one of the partners must be a registered charity. Grants of up to £100k are available for projects that are “ready to go” as they will need to be able to start within 4 weeks of receiving an award. Projects must also be able to demonstrate visible results within a period of 12 months. Applications must come from organisations in Scotland and all projects must take place in Scotland. The deadline date for the first round of applications is **17th December 2010**. More information: www.postcodetrust.org.uk/dreamfund

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

CARES

Unfortunately, CARES (Community and Renewable Energy Scheme) which was mentioned in a previous newsletter has become the victim of its own success. CARES provided grants to enable community groups invest in renewable energy technologies. However, due to an unprecedented level of demand, the scheme has now been closed to new applicants. It is to be hoped that it will be able to re-open for business again in the future but, in the meantime, groups are still able to contact the CARES development officers for advice and information <http://www.communityenergyscotland.org.uk/team.asp>

THE NATURESAVE TRUST

The Trust provides “seed corn” grants for community renewable energy projects. Funding is available for initial start-up capital to allow groups undertake the preliminary work needed to get to the planning stage and to help ensure that the community retains as much control as possible over the operating income once a project has been successful. More information: http://www.naturesave.co.uk/trust_naturesave.html

PATAGONIA ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS PROGRAMME

Patagonia, the outdoor clothing company, offers an international environmental grants programme. Although based in the USA, applications can be accepted from number of other countries including the UK. The grants are for projects dealing with the root causes of environmental problems and which can demonstrate a commitment to long-term change. Through the programme, the company wants to support small, grassroots activist organisations aiming to preserve and protect the environment. Most grants are in the range of 3,000 - 8,000 US dollars. There are two deadline dates for applications in 2011 – **28th February and 31st August**. Applicants are advised to note that it will take between 6 – 8 months for a decision to be made. More information <http://www.patagonia.com/eu/enGB/patagonia.go?assetid=2942>

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT GRANTS (ECOLOGY)

The deadline date for applications to the British Ecological Society's Public Engagement Grant scheme is **15th January 2011**. Individuals such as Society members and researchers and organisations such as schools, museums, libraries, and community groups can apply for grants of up to £2k for events which aim to engage the public with ecological issues. More information: <http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/grants/policy/peg.php>

NOTE: The Society also provides some grants to enhance the teaching of ecology. Each scheme has its own guidelines and deadline dates for applications throughout the year. More information: <http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/grants/education/index.php>

SOLAR ELECTRICITY SYSTEMS FOR SCHOOLS

A £50m fund is available through Our Generation to allow schools in England, Scotland and Wales have solar electricity systems installed free of charge and low-cost fixed price energy for 25 years. More information <http://www.ourgeneration.org.uk/>

TREE PLANTING GRANTS

It has been confirmed that two grant programmes which provide funds to schools and communities to plant trees will be available again in 2011. Planting events need to be organised to coincide with the National Tree Week which will take place between 26th November and 4th December 2011. Grants of between £100 and £700 are available and successful applicants can receive up to 75% of the planting costs. The closing date for applications is **31st March 2011**. More information <http://www.treecouncil.org.uk/grants>

WATER ENVIRONMENT RESTORATION FUND

The final opportunity to apply for grants for projects over £10k which improve and conserve Scotland's water environment is **8th January 2011**. (Applications for projects under £10k can continue to be made). Eligible organisations include local authorities for non-statutory projects, fisheries trusts, environmental charities, landowners and community and voluntary groups. Eligible activities can include removing/altering weirs to improve the passage of fish; restoring flood plains; controlling non-native invasive bank side plants and scoping studies for physical restoration works - http://www.sepa.org.uk/water/restoration_fund.aspx

HEALTH & SPORT

BARCLAYS COMMUNITY SPORT AWARD

The Barclays Community Sports Award is an award to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of individuals and groups that use sport to benefit communities in the UK. Each month a winner will receive £1k for their group and will also be entered into an end-of-season competition to win an additional £5k and a trip to London to collect the award. Nominations can be made for individuals, groups and not-for-profit organisation. Nominations must be made via the website before 5pm on the 20th of each month. The final deadline date for nominations is **20th May 2011**. More information <http://www.barclayscommunitysportsaward.com/>

THE BIRNIE TRUST

The Trust provides small grants to young Scottish athletes (3 – 18). Priority is given to top junior level athletes competing in minority sports and no grants are available for cricket, rugby, tennis, football and golf. The funding is to help with extra coaching, competition fees and travel costs associated with travelling outside Scotland. There are four application deadline dates: **last day of January, April, July and October**.

More information: <http://www.thebirnietrust.co.uk/index.php>

SPORT FACILITIES FUND – SMALL PROJECTS FUND

sportscotland now offers a small projects fund for clubs undertaking capital projects with a value of less than £100k. Usually clubs are expected to provide a minimum of 25% from their own resources. In exceptional circumstances, however, they now may be able to apply for 100% grants up to a maximum value of £50k. Applications can be made at any time and there is a single stage application process. (**NOTE:** the two stage application process continues to operate for projects with a value of over £100k.) **sportscotland** advises that, because of funding limitations, only "high priority" projects are likely to be supported and examples of these are given in the guidelines.

More information:

<http://www.sportscotland.org.uk/ChannelNavigation/Topics/TopicNavigation/Facilities/Funding/The+Sports+Facilities+Fund>

SPORT RELIEF

This grants programme is managed by Scottish Community Foundation (SCF) on behalf of Comic Relief. Grants of between £1k and £5k are available for voluntary and community groups that want to use sport:-

- To increase access to sport and exercise for people facing social exclusion
- To help people who are experiencing difficulties to gain confidence and self esteem

Applications can be made at any time and should be made using SCF's standard Community Grants application form. More information:

<http://www.scottishcf.org/strengthening-communities/apply-for-a-grant/scotland-wide-grant-programmes/community-grants/>

NOTE: SCF can fund a wide range of community and voluntary projects through the various grant schemes it provides or manages on behalf of other organisations so it is definitely worth checking out the information on the website.

TORCH TROPHY TRUST

The Trust provides bursaries for volunteers to improve their skills as coaches and officials in youth sport and sport for the disabled. Awards of up to £1k are available and applications can be made at any time. More information: http://www.torchtrophytrust.org/ttt_site.htm

TECHNOLOGY

ANTIGONE FOUNDATION

The Foundation was set up by Martha Lane Fox the dot.com entrepreneur and is interested in helping a small number of registered charities think about how they can use web and mobile technologies to help socially excluded people in the education, health and criminal justice sectors. More information:

http://www.marthalanefox.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&layout=blog&id=6&Itemid=58

NOMINET TRUST

The Trust can provide support for organisations with innovative IT-related project ideas which can make a positive difference to disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. The Trust is especially interested in projects that can be replicated and scaled up. The current areas of focus are UK-based initiatives about:-

- Web access - providing people with the motivation, skills and tools to get online in a meaningful and sustained way
- Web safety - improving understanding about the risks of being online and reducing Internet crime and abuse
- Web in society - imaginative applications of the Internet to address specific social problems

There is a two stage application process and organisations need to complete an on-line questionnaire first of all to check that both they and their project are eligible to apply. More information: <http://www.nominettrust.org.uk/about-us>

AND FINALLY...

We welcome any comments you have or feedback from you about this newsletter or any suggestions you have for items that could be included in future editions. Please get in touch with Jeannie Graham on (01463) 702064 or by e mail jeannie.graham@highland.gov.uk