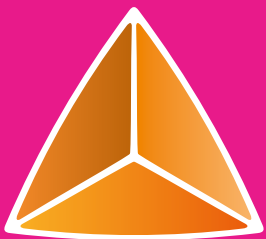


# Flash Report

October - December 2022



**Foundation  
Scotland**



**Foundation  
Scotland**

## Welcome to our very first flash report

---

With the Foundation Scotland team now home-based, locally, across the whole of Scotland, they have been working harder than ever to deliver funds to where they are most needed. The team continues to support philanthropists to help their personal giving make the most difference, work alongside communities to ensure that local funds are distributed by communities themselves, and offer social investment opportunities to enable social enterprises, community organisations and charities to grow and deliver positive social impact. And so much more. You can find out more about our work here: [Foundation Scotland | Scotland's Community Foundation](#)

In this Flash Report, we take a quick look back at the last three months, to reflect on the resilience, imagination, creativity and generosity being shown by projects and individuals across the country.

*But first, some news from us.....*



# Foundation Scotland News



## Mistakes In Philanthropy

On a chilly October evening, down a hidden cobbled street in the west end of Edinburgh, you wouldn't normally expect to see so many well-known businessmen and women congregate in a little library.

This was our inaugural 'Mistakes in Philanthropy' event, with special guest speaker Sir John Timpson CBE. Sir John, along with fellow philanthropists Anne McFarlane, Sir Peter Vardy, Claire Urquhart, Fiona Burroughs and Emily Ward, all candidly discussed their experiences, learning and views of the changing face of philanthropy.

Attended by over sixty participants, this was a creative and honest opportunity for donors, philanthropists, friends, associates and supporters to come together and share their experiences, good and bad.

Foundation Scotland Chief Executive Giles Ruck said: **"Not everyone likes to admit to making mistakes, but the lessons and experiences shared with tonight's audience provided vital learning, not only for ourselves but for future generations. The honesty, directness and passion shown by those who took part was genuinely inspiring."**

We will be running a second 'Mistakes in Philanthropy' event in Spring 2023, so watch this space.

Read more about our inaugural event here: [Learning from mistakes in philanthropy | Foundation Scotland](#)

## Make a difference with Foundation Scotland brochure

To capture all the ways in which we work, we published this online brochure in October, to help explain how we make a difference.

You can read it here: [Make a difference with Foundation Scotland](#)





## Donor and philanthropy news

We work with more than four hundred donors across Scotland, who contribute to over 250 funds. From supporting children's health and wellbeing in Aberdeenshire to tackling food poverty in Dumfriesshire, our donors address a range of challenges faced within Scotland's communities. Here are some recent developments:

### ▲ **The Rooney Family Foundation**

fund was set up with Foundation Scotland to provide vital support to disadvantaged children with health issues and disabilities in the Borders and in Edinburgh city. Foundation Scotland is now finding projects and organisations where this funding will make a significant difference for the children and families they support.

▲ We've recently been working with a number of people who are making plans to **leave a legacy** with Foundation Scotland. Legacy purposes include supporting specific communities in Scotland, providing support to improve the health and social welfare of young people and children, and supporting charities and organisations to become more effective.



# Our CEO on climate change



**“People can make change and people can make a difference. When you see a whole community take action and build its own primary school or build an energy scheme, or maybe even more simply gather community citizens to make some new decisions, they become empowered to be the powerhouse of their community. Seeing that kind of collective action gives us hope for the future, where communities will thrive and will flourish.”**

In November, the **Philanthropy Europe Association (Philea)** featured our Chief Executive Giles Ruck, talking about Foundation Scotland’s commitments to climate action alongside projects from across Scotland.

Philea is recognising that, in the face of the climate crisis, a growing number of foundations across the globe are committed to climate action, irrespective of their mission. They have recently spotlighted three such organisations: The European Cultural Foundation, Fondation de France and Foundation Scotland.

Giles told Philea: **“We do feel a responsibility to take action as best we can on climate, given that we are Scotland’s community foundation, and we need to stand up and show our credentials on what we are doing both internally and on funding. While we’re not a huge foundation, we wanted to play our part in making that difference. And as an organisation, we decided that we needed to look inside ourselves as well as outside to the communities that we support.”**

**Read more and watch a short film here:** <https://bit.ly/3V9cHZa>.

# Social enterprise

In addition to grant-making, Foundation Scotland also invests in social enterprises, providing blended finance - a combination of grants and loans - for businesses which achieve a social impact as well as a financial return. We welcome partners to join us in this approach, to help provide long-lasting support for social enterprises that are making a difference in their communities.



## Spotlight on..... ApparelXchange

**“It’s all about the impact of clothing on the environment and about the people who work in the industry and issues of forced labour. We want to enable people to access affordable sustainable fashion. People can be part of the change we need.”**

In November, Nicola Sturgeon and Foundation Scotland joined forces to support the launch of a children’s sustainable fashion and clothing exchange store in Glasgow. The initiative - ApparelXchange - is an independent fashion store for children, aged six to sixteen, in the Southside of the city.

The venture aims to help parents with the cost of children’s clothing and reduce the environmental impact of throwaway fast fashion.

The First Minister met the team behind the social enterprise venture and children from two local schools, who the owners have been working with on education projects.

**Izzie Eriksen, Director of ApparelXchange**, said:

**“People come to us before buying new, but as well as selling, we also give clothes away, working with schools and with support from social work to help distribute them. We also run sessions on the impact of fashion and what people can do to bring about change.”**

Maria Law, of Foundation Scotland, who provided grant and loan funding for the business, attended the launch.

**“We loved the initiative and the recycling element. So much children’s clothing ends up in landfill. Foundation Scotland will offer continuing business support as the venture develops, with mentoring and free advice should it be needed.”**

Read more about ApparelXchange here: <https://www.apparelxchange.co.uk/>



# Community-led funding

All over Scotland, local groups and charities have brilliant ideas for how to make their communities happier, fairer, and more sustainable. We work with communities to bring these ideas to life, and work with our donors to invest in community action that enables people to make decisions about the places they live.

As part of this work, Foundation Scotland administers over £6 million in community benefit payments every year, linked primarily to renewable energy projects. We work with more than three hundred communities across Scotland, supporting the set-up and on-going activities of over sixty community benefit funds.

## *Spotlight on.....*

### **Stroupster Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund**

**"The mill pond project has been a fantastic success, restoring an overgrown and unused mill pond back into a bio-diverse wetland, ready to function once again as the eco-friendly power source for the former water mill. The restoration of the pond has widened the publicly accessible land around the mill and the Greencoat funding not only allowed the physical works to take place, but also to hold heritage and nature activities in and around the pond for the local community."**



**The Stroupster Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** is provided by Greencoat UK, owner of the Stroupster Wind Farm, located in Caithness.

The Fund aims to support a wide range of projects in the area, one of which is the John O'Groats Mill Trust. The Trust was formed in 2017 to take forward the re-development of the John O'Groats Mill by a group of local people, to ensure it is restored, preserved and developed as a community asset with its rich industrial, social and natural history.

The project has gathered significant local support. Using the Community Benefit Fund support, along with the mill buildings, the Trust purchased an area of land, part of which used to be the mill pond.

With some further investment, the area is becoming more attractive as an outdoor space to enjoy. There is flourishing wildlife and opportunities to engage with local groups. A community area has been created, which provides a designated space to sit and spend some time by the pond and enjoy everything the outdoors has to offer. There are also volunteer-led educational activities around the pond and the planting of native diverse plants.



The Stroupster Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund is held and administered by Foundation Scotland.

Read more about Stroupster, and how to apply for funding here: <https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/apply-for-funding/funding-available/stroupster>

# Philanthropy

Foundation Scotland provides wrap-around services and support for corporate giving and for individual donors. Our experience in effective community engagement makes it easier for businesses and individuals to forge meaningful relationships with communities and causes – we help you find the right fit between you and the causes you value, or the places where you want to make a difference.

## ***SPOTLIGHT ON...***

### **The Scotch Whisky Action Fund**

**“The Scotch Whisky Association has worked with Foundation Scotland over the past ten years. They supported and advised us on the establishment of our Scotch Whisky Action Fund and look after the day-to-day operation of the Fund. Right from our very first meeting, we have appreciated their advice and guidance.”**



In December, **The Scotch Whisky Action Fund (SWAF)** announced **£115,000** of support to projects tackling alcohol harm throughout Scotland. Nine projects will receive support over the next year, as part of the industry's ongoing commitment to promoting responsible consumption and tackle harmful drinking. Five projects have been awarded funding for the first time; four projects are receiving their second or third year of funding to support ongoing work.

The projects, which range in location from Inverness to Galashiels, are committed to reducing alcohol harm by improving awareness and exploring key issues through activity sessions and workshops for youth workers and young people in schools, youth clubs and sports clubs. Some of the selected projects also provide counselling and support for families who have been impacted by the misuse of alcohol by a family member.

In November, SWAF held their annual learning event, to hear directly from a range of organisations supported by the fund including the Girvan Youth Trust, Rowan Alba, Bazooka Arts and Addictions Counselling Inverness. The event gave everyone an opportunity to share learning and identify and discuss common issues, and for projects to share what the funding has helped them to achieve, and the challenges that they faced.

SWAF is administered by Foundation Scotland. To date the fund has provided £1 million of support to over eighty projects throughout Scotland.

Read more here: [Scotch Whisky Action Fund supports projects throughout Scotland](#)



## OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2022



**VALUE OF NEW DONATIONS:**

**£3,758,279**



**TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTS PAID:**

**832**



**TOTAL VALUE OF GRANTS PAID:**

**£6,031,975**



**TOTAL VALUE OF LOANS PAID:**

**£162,500**



**TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW FUNDS:**

**9**





## Contact us

▲ Tel: 0131 524 0300

▲ Email: [enquiries@foundationscotland.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@foundationscotland.org.uk)

 @foundationscot

 @foundationscotland

 @foundation-scotland



**Foundation Scotland**

Scotland's Community Foundation