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e-bulletin | December 2014

Dear Supporters

2014 has been a busy year, with some significant achievements. We'll be sending a 'Top Ten' of these in the New Year.

We've held three presentations for grant awards in the past few weeks, to highlight the vital work of our county's many community and voluntary groups. You can see the pictures from all of these below.

Upcoming grants are the Bishop Stamer Fund, Stoke on Trent Children's Holiday Fund and the Staffordshire Charitable Trust. Further information is available in this issue.

*Steve Adams*

#### Meet the team



Gemma Bond,  
Communications Administrator

#### Dates for Your Diary

##### *Grant Deadlines*

2nd January 2015  
[Staffordshire Charitable Trust](#)

8th January 2015  
[Bishop Stamer](#)

15th January 2015  
[Children's Holiday Fund](#)

12th February 2015  
[Malam Heath Fund](#)

**Q My favourite food is;**

Lasagne and chips

**Q My favourite film is;**

Favourite movie is Eight Below, just because I love Huskies and have two of my own.

**Q My favourite saying is;**

'Every day's a good day, some are better than others'

**Events**

Two Saints Way Walk

15th February 2015

1st March 2015

## Grant Presentations

### 'You shall go to the Ball'

*A Colourful day for the 'We Love Lichfield fund' Presentation*



The 'We Love Lichfield' fund grants presentation took place on Friday 5th December 2014 at the Lichfield Garrick Theatre, where we were greeted with colourful costumes from the cast of 'Cinderella'.

Boley Park Pre-school were awarded a grant of £700 to fund their project to build a sensory, wildlife and exploratory garden area, to enable children to take part in sensory opportunities that they would not normally experience, it will also give them positive and investigative learning experiences.



Chasetown Town's Women's Guild received £649.00 to enable them to purchase a projector to save the cost of hiring equipment.

The item will be used for all further projects for charity.



## 'Malam Heath Fund'

*Smiles all round for the Malam Heath fund award presentation*



The Malam Heath presentation was held at Port Vale Football Club Stoke on Trent this year, supported by the High Sheriff, Ann Fisher. Here are just a few grant awards that were made that will make a difference.



Biddulph Visually Handicapped Social Club were awarded £1000 towards the hire of premises and transport costs for taking members out for their annual Christmas meal.



Blurton Farm Residents were awarded £1000 towards a trip to the theatre, covering the costs of a coach. They were also able to sell tickets at a subsidised rate that would be more affordable to those in their community.



Tunstall Special Needs Group were awarded £1000 to enable them to take their members and volunteers on holiday.

Their members are disadvantaged by their various disabilities and with help and support from volunteers, they try and help their members achieve a better quality of life.

## Community Cash Jackpot



The Community Cash Jackpot awards were presented on the 17th December 2014.

17 Community groups took a share of over £37,000 available.

A total of 99 groups entered the competition which then got whittled down to a total of 24 projects that were put forward to a public vote.



Some of the successful applicants included Staffordshire Afghanistan Association, Swan Bank Luncheon Club, Hanley Stroke Support, The Dyslexia Association and Whitfield Valley Group. The full article can be read [here](#).

## Fund Raising



Surviving Winter is a scheme that helps to raise money and distribute it to some of the most needy in our community.

Many people are still faced with a choice of 'heat or eat', where they can either pay for their heating bills or stock up their larder. This scheme aims to alleviate some of this pressure, by providing funding to luncheon clubs, to help ensure people receive a hot meal; to transport schemes to ensure that people can remain active and keep doctors and dentists appointments to stay on top of any health problems and reduce the likelihood of hospital admission; and to contribute towards fuel bills for some of the most needy - we don't aim to pay someone's bill, but to provide a buffer, so that an older person, or someone with severe health problems doesn't need to worry about whether they can afford to run their heating.

The scheme is all about strength in numbers, and even a small donation can help to contribute to a huge difference.

If you have something to spare this winter, or if you receive the winter fuel allowance and are fortunate enough not to need it, or if you'd like to just give a few pounds, then please contact us. Everything raised this winter will be spent this winter, and more importantly, everything raised in Staffordshire will be spent in Staffordshire.

For more information please see the [Surviving Winter](#) section on our website.

## High Sheriff Fund



The High Sheriff of Staffordshire, Mrs Ann Fisher, is raising funds for local Community groups within Stoke on Trent and Staffordshire by walking the newly re-created pilgrimage route - The Two Saints Way. The High Sheriff will walk 88 miles over 9 days during her year in office, from Chester Cathedral to Lichfield Cathedral, in order to raise funds and awareness for the High Sheriff Fund.

The final leg of the walk will be held on Sunday 1st March 2015 reaching Lichfield Cathedral on St Chad's Day.



Leg Eight of the walk will be taking place on Sunday 15th February 2015 from The Visitor Centre, Cannock Chase to Christ Church, Gentleshaw **should you wish to take part!**

You can still keep following the High Sheriff Walks and or make a donation to the fund. Further details about making a donation can be found below.

The High Sheriff of Staffordshire is still raising money for the High Sheriff Grants Fund, held here at the Staffordshire Community Foundation All contributions will be gratefully received and donations can be made via this [link](#).

For more information on The High Sheriff Fund and or how it can help you, please go to our website for more information. [High Sheriff fund](#)



## Staffordshire Moorlands Fund

Although the Staffordshire Moorlands Community Fund was first established in 2010 and has received regular small donations since, it has yet to receive its official public launch. We are pleased to announce that this will take place in Spring 2015 and more details will be announced soon.

The interest earned on the fund will be split, part of it added to the fund and reinvested so that it continues to grow, year on year. The other part of the interest will be used to create a grants scheme specifically for third sector, charity and voluntary organisations in the Staffordshire Moorlands. Grants can then be given out year on year and the fund will continue to grow to give out more each year.

For more information, please check our [website](#).

## What's Hot

### Bishop Stamer Fund

*January 2015*

The aim of the Bishop Stamer Fund is to provide funding for relief of sickness by supporting the provision of nursing and rest facilities for the aged and or infirm of the North Staffordshire area.

Grants for Organisations will be awarded to those who provide facilities or services for the elderly and infirm. The aim is to enhance the provision of service and to help make organisations more efficient or to improve the scope of their provision. This might include extending provision to older people, or providing facilities that make the use of a building easier.

For more information on the fund, please visit our [website](#).

### Children's Holiday Fund

*January 2015*



The Children's Holiday Fund was set up to provide respite and educational holidays to children aged between 4 and 17 years of age you reside in Stoke on Trent.

The fund is usually given towards educational holidays that are run through a school or college, although family holidays may be considered if the need can be demonstrated.

For further information, please click [here](#).

## Staffordshire Charitable Trust

January 2015

The Staffordshire Charitable Trust was founded to make small grants to community and voluntary based organisations around Staffordshire. The grant will award up to £500 to recipients that operate within the county boundary of Staffordshire its aim is to reduce disadvantage and improve local communities in Staffordshire. Applications are usually considered twice a year and could fund the following;

- Equipment hire or purchase
- Information technology equipment
- Materials for use in your project
- Publicity materials for use in your project
- Sessional workers (those who work only as and when required)
- Training
- Transport costs
- Updating equipment for health and safety reasons
- Venue hire
- Volunteer expenses

For more information please click [here](#).

### Your Projects

It's always interesting to hear how groups have got on and how funding has helped support their project. Alrewas Arts Festival received funding from the High Sheriff Fund and here is how it benefited their project.

### Alrewas Arts Festival



Alrewas Arts Festival received £500 on behalf of the [High Sheriff Fund](#) to employ a professional graffiti artist to help 30 local youngsters, aged between 12-19 during their Arts Festival Week.



The project took place under a road bridge which spans the Trent and Mersey Canal in the village which was currently liberally sprayed with obscene and unsightly graffiti.

The Graffiti artist held workshops with the youngsters to teach them controlled graffiti skills. With no main place for teenagers to go in the village, we were delighted at the response we had and how many youngsters were engaged in the project.

### Whitfield Valley Centre



**Last year Whitfield Valley Centre** were one of the successful applicants from the Sentinel Cash Jackpot and wanted to provide a gardening and environmental improvement project, to improve the Community Garden which was converted from a disused and overgrown play area by Fegg Hayes Residents Association.

They also wanted to work on the gardens of local elderly and vulnerable residents who are finding their own outdoor space difficult to manage.

They used the funding to purchase greenhouses and a shed to enable them to store tools and grow vegetables and plants on the grounds of Whitfield Valley. This ensured that the Centre could be used to benefit local people and organisations, whilst learning new skills and transferring those skills to the residents own gardens.

All the volunteers that helped with the project were unemployed.

Simon says that finding gardening jobs can be difficult without experience and because he hasn't worked for a long time this also increases the difficulty in gaining employment. He is now getting out of bed in the morning rather than the afternoon and is getting more involved in the project in an artistic way.



### Further Information

For further information on any of our grants or endowments, please do not hesitate to contact one of our team here at SCF on 01785 353789, alternatively please keep checking our [website](#) for further updates and information or visit our [Facebook](#) and [twitter](#) pages.

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