



## **NEW FUND CREATED TO SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE LORD LIEUTENANT IN OUR COUNTY**

**Heart of Bucks and Alexander Boswell, the Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire, are delighted to announce the creation of a new permanent fund, The Lieutenancy Fund, to support the work of the Lord-Lieutenant throughout our county.**

Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher retired on the 27th November 2020. He has served with great dedication and energy since he succeeded Sir Nigel Mobbs as Lord-Lieutenant in 2006 and has been hugely popular and immeasurably important for the county and for Milton Keynes. This fund has been established to celebrate his legacy.

An initial endowment of £10,000 has already been donated by members of the county's Lieutenancy and Shrievalty, topped up by other significant gifts.

The Lieutenancy Fund will become an invaluable aid to the work of future Lord-Lieutenants within

the county, enabling small grants to local charitable organisations and community groups. It will also create a lasting record of Sir Henry's time in office. A donation to the fund is a fitting tribute to his outstanding contribution.

[Click here to donate to the Lieutenancy Fund](#)

### *Also in this issue...*

- £200,000 awarded in emergency funding
- Restore Hope distribute meals and fresh food to vulnerable families
- Funding opportunities
- B P Collins LLP award £12,000
- Meet our ambassadors
- Join our community investors
- Bucks Women in Charity Awards

# OVER £200,000 OF EMERGENCY FUNDING AWARDED TO BUCKS RESIDENTS

**Heart of Bucks administers a variety of crisis funds which award grants to local individuals and families who are in need. During an uncertain year for many, we are pleased to report that £205,000 has been awarded from our crisis funds since 1st April 2020.**

From purchasing white goods to winter clothes, the grants awarded have helped families in a short-term crisis, those living in fuel poverty and people struggling as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic.

To ensure that the funding reaches those who need it most, all applications to our crisis funds must come via a Community Advocate; these are local support providers who are already actively engaging with the person or family. This also ensures that other avenues, such as public services, have been explored first.

## *Feedback from grant recipients:*

"The old heater I had was not good enough to keep me warm and my mental health was starting to suffer as I hate the cold. This has been the most emotional part of what I have been going through and to be warm again makes me feel that there is light at the end of the tunnel."

"The funding I received was life changing. I was lost and there was no way out. I now have food to feed us, my daughter will be able to access school and hopefully be able to catch up. It is truly amazing, and I have realised that people do care. I hope that I can repay some of the kindness shown in the future."

*Support vulnerable people in Bucks by donating to the following crisis funds:*



Family Angels provides one-off financial support to help restore stability to families who are experiencing a short-term crisis.

It's aim is to give them a chance to get their lives back on track before the problem escalates.

Donations to this fund are used in a multitude of ways. From white goods for low income families to moving costs for someone fleeing domestic abuse.

[Click to donate >>](#)



The Winter Warmth campaign encourages people who receive the government winter fuel payment and are able to pay their heating bills to donate it to keep local vulnerable people warm during winter.

Donated money goes towards heating bills, warm winter clothing and items to keep warm in the home, including duvets and kettles, which forms part of our holistic support for vulnerable individuals and families.

[Click to donate >>](#)

# RESTORE HOPE DISTRIBUTES MEALS AND FRESH FOOD TO VULNERABLE FAMILIES



**Project:** 'FoodLife' scheme

**Grant:** £5,000

**Fund:** NET Coronavirus Appeal

**Impact category:** Reducing Isolation and Disadvantage

**Restore Hope have been working tirelessly to support families in the local area who have been struggling; both financially and with general wellbeing.**

Having transformed part of their premises into a packing and distribution centre in March last year, the charity have been able to provide fresh meals, fruit and vegetables to the local community with the help of a £5,000 grant from the NET Coronavirus Appeal.

In addition to providing families with the core ingredients to create fresh and healthy meals at home, Restore Hope's FoodLife scheme has prepared and delivered over 9,000 fresh meals to people across Amersham, Chesham, Chorleywood, the Chalfonts and the surrounding villages.

They have partnered with several local organisations, including the De Vere Latimer Estate team who have been hard at work making 'Dinner is Served' meal packs to provide families with nutritious, ready-to-go meals.

"We're doing what we can to support people and have put our resources into getting fresh nutritious food to as many people as possible", shares Graham Wakeman, the Charity Director.

"FoodLife keeps growing with the demand for fresh fruit and vegetable boxes continuing to increase each week. More and more referral partners are coming on board which is great but does go to show the concerning reality of local need.

"By the end of 2020 we had delivered a staggering 50,000+ portions to people's doorsteps!"

Restore Hope has also been making sure to stay in touch with recipients, giving families support phone calls and referring people to help from partner organisations where needed.



# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



## *Moving our Community Fund*

Funding is available for new physical activity projects that will help our communities to recover from COVID or prevent problems from emerging or getting worse. Priority groups include lower socio-economic groups, BAME communities, People with disabilities and people with long term conditions.

**Application deadline:** 10th March



## *Help Us, Help You: Improving Cancer Outcomes*

Working in partnership with the NHS, this fund supports not-for-profits to develop and deliver innovative and creative solutions to improve cancer outcomes, particularly for groups that traditionally have poorer health outcomes.

Grants of £1,000 to £7,500 are available,

**This fund is currently ongoing and there is no application deadline.**



## *Youth Bank*

Buckinghamshire Youth Bank primarily funds activities and projects that benefit vulnerable young people aged 12-19 years (and up to 25 years for young people with disabilities). The fund aims to give young people a voice within the community and young people from a wide range of backgrounds have an opportunity to be part of this panel, which offers grants of up to £2,000.

**EOI deadline:** 9th June **Application deadline:** 30th June



## *Flood Recovery & Awareness Fund*

Grants can be used to support capital, revenue and project costs and expenditure must relate to flood damage/prevention or awareness in the form of training or education. Grants of up to £5,000 can be applied for by Bucks voluntary and community groups that are charitable in purpose and town/parish councils.

**EOI deadline:** 17th March **Application deadline:** 7th April

**Click on the relevant fund logo above to view more information and apply**

**To view all our current grant funds, [click here](#)**

# B P COLLINS GIVES OVER £12,000 TO LOCAL CHARITIES AND CAUSES



**Buckinghamshire-based law firm B P Collins has announced the local causes to benefit from their stewardship fund in 2020 and 2021.**

B P Collins' fund has helped local charities and community projects over the last six years, supporting causes that align with their corporate social responsibility (CSR) values: building stronger communities, providing better futures and helping create safer lives.

This year, the five organisations they have chosen to benefit not only best reflect their CSR values, but they have also either struggled as a result of COVID-19 or have focused on helping local Bucks communities with issues caused by the pandemic.

Ordinarily, B P Collins staff vote to decide how much funding each organisation will receive over a charity lunch at their office in Gerrards Cross. However, due to the current restrictions prohibiting large gatherings, the chosen five charities and organisations submitted their applications online this year, in which they proposed how their donation from B P Collins would be spent. Staff from the law firm then voted remotely on which causes to support.

Now in its sixth year, the B P Collins stewardship fund has donated over £62,000 to Buckinghamshire charities in partnership with Heart of Bucks, creating a lasting legacy.

**£4,000**

*Dash charity*  
Domestic abuse support

**£3,000**

*One Eighty*  
Behaviour support

**£2,500**

*Art Beyond Belief*  
Improving life through the arts

**£2,000**

*Wycombe Multicultural Org.*  
Wellbeing activities

**£1,225**

*New Leaf*  
Support for offenders

"I'm delighted that the whole B P Collins team have been so involved with our work in the community over the last year, from volunteering their time to local charities to 'virtually' turning out in force to vote for causes that mean the most to them. We look forward to hearing how our donations will make a difference."

– Simon Deans, senior partner, B P Collins

# MEET OUR AMBASSADORS

The role of an Ambassador is voluntary, fulfilled by a highly respected subject matter expert who is able to lend their support and advocacy to Heart of Bucks. Below we share four insightful blog posts written by our ambassadors.



*David Hall*

*Ambassador for Education and Employment*

"Throughout the pandemic we have relied on technology to ensure businesses can continue to trade, families communicate and students learn. With lockdown it has meant more services being exclusively available online exacerbating the problems faced by large swathes of the population – the digitally excluded."

[Read full blog post on digital poverty >>](#)



*Julius Weinberg*

*Ambassador for the Arts, Culture and Heritage*

"We want to make Buckinghamshire "sticky", so that residents stay in the county to enjoy themselves, young people and graduates stay in the county to work and create businesses, and others want to visit, building the reputation of the county as a great place to be."

[Read full blog post on Bucks as a cultural gem >>](#)



*Liz Barter*

*Ambassador for Isolation and Disadvantage*

"The last lockdown gave even the luckier among us a sudden tour of how it feels to be really isolated and vulnerable. For people already living that reality day to day, the pandemic has been pretty merciless. Small charities and community groups have stepped up, and will keep stepping up, because that is what they do..."

[Read full blog post on uncertainty and the role of the charity sector >>](#)



*Trudi Scrivener*

*Ambassador for Physical and Mental Health, Wellbeing and Safety*

"We need to be talking to families of dementia patients to find out their experiences of diagnosis, care, and treatment services. We've already learnt a lot and great steps have been made to improve carers' understanding and approach to BAME dementia however there is still so much more to be done."

[Read full blog post on dementia in the BAME community >>](#)

# JOIN OUR COMMUNITY INVESTORS

Ashridge  
Group



bpcollins  
SOLICITORS



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE  
BUILDING SOCIETY



fish  
media  
group



hiya  
bucks



MIRUS

PASSAGEWAYS



seymour taylor



thinkpublic

*The Heart of Bucks Community Investor scheme recognises our corporate and business supporters.*

Organisations and businesses whose fundraising and donations make an impact on the local communities and charities in Buckinghamshire are awarded with the Heart of Bucks 'Community Investor' badge. These valued, responsible and caring companies work closely with Heart of Bucks, whether it be by making donations to our appeals or core costs, fundraising for our organisation, establishing funding programmes, sponsoring research or events, or promoting our work to the community.

In November 2020, we established the Community Investor Fund which enables businesses to support the community where they work, safe in the knowledge that Heart of Bucks has the local knowledge to maximise the funds and the impact that they make in Bucks.

To find out more please contact Henry Allmand, CEO - [henry@heartofbucks.org](mailto:henry@heartofbucks.org)



Click here to donate to the  
Community Investor Fund

# BUCKINGHAMSHIRE WOMEN IN CHARITY AWARDS - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE WOMEN IN CHARITY AWARDS

**Do you have a colleague, friend, or family member who works or volunteers in the Bucks charity sector who deserves to have their story heard? Or perhaps you have been helped by a woman working or volunteering in the sector who stands out from the crowd?**

Local charity Community Impact Bucks has launched the Buckinghamshire Women in Charity Awards – the first ever awards which celebrate the achievements of women from across Buckinghamshire who are working or volunteering in the charity sector – and is encouraging Bucks residents to nominate women whose inspirational stories should be shared.

**There are four award categories:**

*Outstanding Leadership in the charity sector*

*Outstanding Trailblazer in the charity sector*

*Outstanding Volunteer*

*Young Charity Woman of the Year*

Winners and those highly-commended will be announced on International Women's Day (Monday 8th March).

Deadline for nominations is midnight on Sunday 28th February

[Click here to nominate](#)