

Community Impact Bucks' COVID-19 Briefing #31

Chance to put the spotlight on our volunteers

Short regular briefing from Community Impact Bucks

7th May 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

There are over 4,500 voluntary organisations in Buckinghamshire alone and the majority of us rely heavily on the time and skills of thousands of volunteers throughout the year. The current pandemic has brought volunteering into the mainstream and, with Volunteers' Week in a few weeks, we should use the awareness week as a platform to not just say 'thank you' to our volunteers but to show the value of volunteering in both times of crisis and normality. Find out below how you can put the spotlight on volunteering.

See also details below of two new funds including the Nationwide's Community Grant Scheme which provides **grants for non-COVID-19 related work**.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEER CASE STUDIES FOR VOLUNTEERS WEEK

Volunteers Week (1-7 June) presents a great opportunity for all volunteer-involving organisations to say thank you to volunteers and to recognise their contribution to help deliver vital services and support the sector in general. Without them, many of us would not be able to make such a difference to our clients and communities.

We at Community Impact Bucks would like to help you say thank you by showcasing some of the amazing volunteers in the county. If you would like your volunteers to be included in our Volunteer Weeks' video and social media posts, on our website and discussions with the local press, please get in touch with us via comms@communityimpactbucks.org.uk next week.

Alternatively, you can tag us in your #VolunteerWeek posts with:

- Facebook - [@CommunityImpactBucks](https://www.facebook.com/CommunityImpactBucks)
- Twitter - [@CommunityBucks](https://twitter.com/CommunityBucks)
- Instagram - [@communityimpactbucks](https://www.instagram.com/communityimpactbucks)
- LinkedIn - [@community-impact-bucks](https://www.linkedin.com/company/community-impact-bucks)

For more information and ideas on how to take part in the awareness week, go to [Volunteers' Week](#).

NON-COVID RELATED FUND OPENING FROM 1 JUNE

Most of the funds announced lately are focused directly on the COVID-19 response, so it's good to be able to share details of a new fund to support other much-needed work. Nationwide's Community Grant scheme is offering grants of £10,000 to £50,000 over the duration of one to two years. Projects must meet one of the following outcomes:

- Preventing people from losing their home
- Helping people into a home
- Supporting people to thrive within the home environment

The grants, which will cover 50% to 100% of the total cost of the project, will open on the 1st June with decisions made in December. To find out more and to apply, visit [Nationwide's Community Grant Scheme](#).

You can also join a webinar about this fund on 4th June at 2.30 – email NationwideCommunityGrants@nationwide.co.uk for more details.

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS

The government has redirected £400,000 to provide emergency support to hard-hit **community radio stations and local grassroots stations** which find themselves struggling as advertising revenues drop significantly as a result of COVID-19.

Community radio plays an important role in our communities, broadcasting to around a million listeners a week with around 300 not for profit stations staffed mainly by volunteers. Funds are available to successful applicants within weeks. To find out more, read the [Government press release](#).

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