



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

People centred projects to support recovery & renewal



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Are you a community all about a place, a group brought together through shared interest, or an organisation supporting communities?

Would you like support to help you bounce back and thrive post-pandemic?

HES is ready to explore opportunities with you!

Community Connections will help communities and partners deliver a range of exciting, collaborative projects showing how the heritage that matters to you has a vital role to play in supporting your community's recovery and renewal – often in surprising and creative ways!

As well as exciting opportunities to develop fresh ideas with our own experts, you'll also gain access to our vast networks of professionals across Scotland who are keen to help your community recover and thrive.

Community Connections is initially themed around developing and collaborating on projects relating to:

- health and wellbeing,
- skills and volunteering,
- creativity,
- climate change, and
- community and destination regeneration.

Our ways of working:

- 1 Listening to communities and partners to deliver the right support**
- 2 Making sure communities can confidently and easily access our knowledge and expertise**
- 3 Focusing our resources to make a difference**
- 4 Connecting, co-producing and collaborating with an open mind**

Please read on for examples of community connections that can help and inspire you...



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LISTENING TO COMMUNITIES AND PARTNERS TO DELIVER THE RIGHT SUPPORT



Our first focus for this way of working is applying and developing our approach to...



CONNECTING PEOPLE



DIGITAL



FORUMS



RESEARCH & EVALUATION



IDEAS & CREATIVITY

Community Connections Forum

© National Museums Scotland



Our new forum will host discussions, workshops and events with our staff, partners, communities and stakeholders. We want to develop a space for lively discussions and sharing of news, experiences and ambitions. It will be a platform for inspiring opportunities and growing collaborations.

www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/communities

Looking Outwards

© N Edinburgh Social History Group



© Napier University, Dept of PMPC

We have over 1200 staff members working within seven Directorates across every part of Scotland and for the first time we are going to try and map our collective community engagement. We want to utilise local staff knowledge and ideas, and understand where we should focus our resources.



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**COMMUNITIES
CAN CONFIDENTLY
AND EASILY ACCESS
OUR KNOWLEDGE
AND EXPERTISE**



Our first focus for this way of working is applying and developing our approach to...



VOLUNTEERING



KNOWLEDGE
& ADVICE



EVENTS &
EXPERIENCES



SHARE &
COLLABORATE



DIGITAL



SKILLS &
EXPERIENCE

Scotland's Community Heritage Conversations



This online event series brings together volunteers, community groups and heritage professionals. Events are delivered through a partnership of HES, Archaeology Scotland, The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Scottish Council For Archives and the Scottish Community Heritage Alliance. The Conversations have celebrated resilience within community groups, looked at adapting through digital, discussed exciting new ideas in youth empowerment and examined the connections between heritage and wellbeing, arts & culture.

www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/communities

Make Your Mark Knowledge Share Events

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The Make Your Mark in Volunteering campaign aims to increase the number and diversity of heritage volunteers in Scotland. Delivered through a collaboration of heritage organisations including HES, the team delivers live knowledge share events for volunteer managers. Topics have included COVID19: returning volunteers safely, engaging non-screen users, recruiting locally, natural heritage volunteering for all and removing class barriers.

<https://makeyourmark.scot>



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FOCUSING OUR RESOURCES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



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VOLUNTEERING



EVENTS & EXPERIENCES



SHARE & COLLABORATE



DIGITAL

Interactive talks

© Barchester Healthcare



In response to the first lockdown HES began a series of digital interactive talks, delivered by Zoom to over 100 Barchester Care Homes, for residents who had limited access to the outside world. They were also delivered over the phone to individuals with visual impairment who are supported by seescape, the leading visual impairment charity in Fife.

To request a talk please get in touch: CRTenquiries@hes.scot.

Make Your Mark: Volunteers' Week Pub Quiz



During Volunteers' Week we partnered up with Make Your Mark members and the Eden Project Communities during their Big Lunch to deliver a Zoom 'pub quiz'. The main aim was to provide a fun activity to thank heritage volunteers, but we also wanted to support groups during a challenging year by providing a Volunteers Week event on their behalf.

<https://makeyourmark.scot>



PARTNERED BY Iceland the food WAREHOUSE





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CONNECTING, CO-PRODUCING AND COLLABORATING WITH AN OPEN MIND



Our first focus for this way of working is applying and developing our approach to...



WELLBEING & FUN



VOLUNTEERING



CONNECTING PEOPLE



SHARE & COLLABORATE

Paths For All

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Paths For All is a registered Scottish Charity with a range of funders that currently works in partnership with 30 national organisations who share their vision of a happier, healthier Scotland. We are developing health walk opportunities through our Ranger Service and aim to expand on this to involve walks throughout Scotland at the sites in our care.

Community Events

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With over 300 sites in our care all around Scotland, we want you to be able to use them for your community or faith events, so they play an active part in their local communities. While the protection of the sites remains central to what we do, we would be happy to hear from you to see if we can facilitate your not-for-profit event.

Please contact communityevents@hes.scot to find out more.

Want to get involved or spread the word?

We're already engaging with a range of groups and partners. But there's still more to do and we want you involved.

Let's explore how our culture and heritage can contribute to post-Covid recovery and renewal.

If you want to talk through ideas or activities that are a good fit with our priorities and project themes then we want to hear from you.

Remember, your starting point might not be heritage, it may be more about health and wellbeing, creative practice, skills and volunteering, nature and green matters, or community and destination regeneration. Chat with us at developmentandcommunity@hes.scot.

Know of anyone else, groups or organisations who may be interested? Please spread the word by sharing this publication or guiding people to www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/communities.



Find out more about HES and how we aim to support communities through our current Corporate Plan, **Heritage for All**.



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