

## Bolton's Festive Fund Funded Groups



This year has been particularly difficult for everyone and has had an impact on the voluntary sector in Bolton. On 20<sup>th</sup> November, Bolton's Fund, with gratitude for sponsorship from MBDA opened the 'Festive Fund' to give voluntary and community groups in Bolton, the opportunity to say thank you to their volunteers and to organise activities that support people to connect with each other. We are pleased to report that **75** community groups across Bolton have now benefitted from **£14,231.79** enabling them to thank volunteers and arrange Covid-safe festive activities in their local community.

Name of Group	Summary of what they will do with funding	Award
Asian Elders' Resource Centre	Giving their volunteers Christmas gifts to say Thank you for helping us deliver various items to our service users houses, in particular cooked meal provided to over 80 households for vulnerable and lonely members.	£ 200.00
Astley bridge park bowling club	Our group looks after the bowling green and clubhouse at Astley bridge park. With a grant from the 'Festive Fund' we will reward our 20 volunteers with a 'surprise gift pack' when they turn up over this Christmas period – as a reward for all there efforts over this difficult year in keeping the facilities 'fit for purpose' for the club members and the local community.	£ 200.00
Atlas Explorers	Festive Treat Boxes for volunteers & Explorers. Boxes will include items to enjoy during a virtual get together with a quiz. Thank you gesture for persevering throughout these difficult months.	£ 195.00

Bag the Bug	As a thank you for all their hard work, we want to send a simple Christmas card to all those who have volunteered since April. A small gesture to both send some festive joy, but also acknowledge the effort each volunteer has gone to this year. From sewers to delivery drivers, threaders and cutters, from age 11 to 87, we would not have been able to send out over 20 THOUSAND PPE washbags to NHS workers, care, staff, Teachers, students, hospice, McMillan.	£ 200.00
Banana Enterprise Network	We would like to give a £10 shopping gift voucher to each volunteer working on our "Save Rock Hall Farnworth" project as a token of our appreciation for their support and time given to our project. We will match fund the cost using unrestricted reserve funding.	£ 200.00
BAND	Covid has a massive impact on the mental health and wellbeing of our service users and volunteers. Isolation has been one of the most difficult issues people have faced and we are working our hardest to address this and to minimise it. Christmas this year will be particular a difficult time for all. We want to give our service users and volunteers a chance to reconnect with peers on a face-to-face basis in order to rekindle hope for the coming year.	£ 200.00
Big Local Partnership	TwTH Big Local Volunteers have continued to develop and create opportunities to engage with their communities and have a presence in the area despite the challenges of Covid-19. Each have overcome technical barriers and have worked hard to adapt to our new online world. I would like to arrange a special online festive celebration to thank them for all their continued hard work and dedication.	£ 138.00
Blackrod Community Group	We will provide Christmas selection boxes to 200 children across Blackrod. These will be distributed safely by volunteers in festive costumes. We will work with Schools and Community/voluntary groups to identify families in need that would benefit from this positive gesture. It will provide some light relief and be positive distraction for some families and the volunteers who are able to get outside and distribute these locally.	£ 200.00
Bolton Bridges	Put it towards funding gifts for our 80 residents staying with us in our homeless hostels We have already started fundraising and receiving donations, just to give them one gift will cost us over £400, so the £200 will really help us.	£ 200.00
Blackrod Sports and Community Centre	We will provide packs with Christmas templates to display at the community centre windows and in homes across Blackrod. This will be uplifting and provide cheer with people walking to schools, churches and shops throughout December. For all ages and provide prizes for different age groups.	£ 150.00
Bolton & South Lancashire Community	We will put together 10 Christmas hampers @ £20 each to gift to the children of families who are refugees or asylum seekers in Bolton. We will work with City of Sanctuary Bolton to help us distribute the hampers	£ 200.00

Rail Partnership		
Bolton Carers Support	We will distribute a festive hamper to each of our trustees made up mainly of carers, who themselves have had a challenging year. Despite this they have remained committed to their volunteer roles with Bolton Carers Support and have learned anything necessary to continue to meet via zoom etc. and have ensured that the organisation has continued to deliver the best possible service to Bolton's carers.	£ 180.00
Bolton Children's Opportunity Group	Buy a small gift for all our members of staff/volunteers who have worked so hard in keeping our group open during the pandemic, to provide services to some of the most disadvantaged children in the borough.	£ 200.00
Bolton Deane & Derby Cricket & Social Club	To thanks our members who helped the club run smoothly during this pandemic.	£ 200.00
Bolton FM CIC	We will broadcast a Christmas message campaign for 12 community organisations-the messages would broadcast 3 times per day from 10th December through to 2nd January 2021	£ 200.00
Bolton Hindu Forum	We are planning a Virtual Christmas Party on Christmas Day when we will have games like Quiz, Bingo, Catchy Phrase etc. and will use to give prizes to winners and to pay for some materials for workshops	£ 200.00
Bolton Hindus' Age Inspiration	We will give a small Festive Christmas Hamper to our elderly and vulnerable users and our volunteers.	£ 200.00
Bolton Information Advisory Service	On behalf of Bolton Parent Carers We will make up packs of a thermos mug and some chocolate and include a card to remind them that we are thinking about them, and a suggestion to use the thermos mug to make a brew, connect with a friend and get out for a socially distanced walk.	£ 198.00
Bolton North East Wildlife Trail NEWT	We will create 60 Christmas Family bags for Brightmet, inside the bag will be sweets, festive glider toy, snowman pinball game, Christmas sticker activity book, gingerbread man crayons, map of Leverhulme Park, map of Seven Acres and 4 wood slices for children to decorate and hang on their Christmas tree. We will also attempt to make an artificial Christmas tree on Bury Road, placed in a public location to allow children to decorate it in their own time to avoid gathering which will let people feel more connected.	£ 200.00

BOLTON MANDHATA YOUTH	Due to Covid, we have been unable to organise a Christmas party. As a group we will instead reach out to our young members who have engaged in our zoom activities and arrange a Christmas activity kit for the children. Their crafts will be shared with other members on our message group.	£ 200.00
Bolton Parent Carers	We will double up with BIAS to reach parents and carers of 0-25's who have special educational needs and disabilities to send out some chocolate and include a card to remind them that we are thinking about them, and a suggestion to use the thermos mug to make a brew, connect with a friend and get out for a socially distanced walk.	£ 198.00
Bolton Rainbow community	We will organise a virtual Christmas meal and run a festive cheer photo competition.	£ 175.00
Bolton Station Community Development Partnership	We will send out festive gift bags for the families who use the foodbanks operated by NICE. Volunteers will help with the distribution.	£ 200.00
Bolton Town Centre Chaplaincy and Middlebrook Angels	We will treat our volunteer chaplains to a takeaway carvery meal.	£ 95.00
Bolton Wanderers Community Trust	2020 has been a really difficult year for everyone involved at BWCT. Despite this, our volunteers have continued to have a huge impact on the positive work we do whether that be through regularly checking in on our beneficiaries or being part of our befriending service to help tackle social isolation in over 70's. We will provide our volunteers with a small thank you gift this Christmas to show that their contribution is appreciated and as vital to our work as ever.	£ 135.00
Brazley Residents CIC	Any funding we receive will be used to purchase gifts for the volunteers who help to keep the Community Centre going. Opening, up/Locking up, cleaning and generally making the Centre a welcoming place. They also redecorated during lockdown. These volunteers, always hard working, have shown exceptional dedication since the lifting of the lockdown to ensure the Centre was and continues to be Covid safe.	£ 200.00
Breaking Barriers NW	The funding will be used to buy small gifts for our volunteers who have worked tirelessly and relentlessly throughout 2 lockdowns and countless restrictions to ensure we remain able to provide support and reassurance for the 1,100 families with Disabled children across Bolton who rely on us. We have received no financial support whatsoever during the pandemic and our volunteers have not even taken so	£ 200.00

	much as bus fares from the Charity to ensure essential payments are made and we can keep going.	
Bridge Church	Many of them have learnt new skills and trained other volunteers during this in order to reach more people. They have done all of this with a huge heart for people and we would love to be able to show how appreciated they are by giving gifts to them. There are individuals who have had families who have supported them as they have given a lot of time up volunteering and overseeing other volunteers, so we would love to give them family packages with gifts and activities for their whole family to enjoy together this Christmas. We have individuals that in the midst of their own personal challenges they have continued to volunteer in this area and so we would love to be able to gift them with gifts that would bring joy over the festive period. We aim to drop these off in festive attire to put a smile on the volunteers and their family's faces, especially for the volunteers' children.	£ 200.00
BSCA Lions FC	We plan to buy each all of our 5 volunteers and 3 management committee and their families a meal at their homes and share the meal over zoom. We want to do this for our volunteers who are invaluable to our existing and sacrifice so much for is to be able to provide physical activities through sport. Most of our volunteers are in Low paid job i.e. like cleaning, factory work, and care work so they don't have much. Doing something like this for them would mean lot and would show them how grateful we are to them as a club. Our club is diverse and having a festive meal will be a great way to increase understanding between our volunteers.	£ 200.00
BSURF	We have recently established a BSURF football team open to all members to engage in promoting exercise that will involve training for fitness, skills and competition. The money will be used to provide funding to support the individual members to purchase, water bottles, shin pads and gloves.	£ 200.00
Bury and Bolton ME/CFS & Fibromyalgia Support Group	Festive food boxes from a local bistro delivered to the homes of my 5 fellow committee members, containing sandwiches, cheese, grapes, chocolates, etc. They have mostly been shielding since March, but have been supporting our members in many ways, both online and by post and telephone, and have provided me with wonderful moral support, too. This would give them all a boost at the end of a very difficult year.	£ 113.00
Chris Movement CIC	The fund will be used to drop food parcels and gift items for the lonely, widowed, survivors of domestic abuse, and individuals who have made suicide attempts the group are connected with - primarily within the Afro-Caribbean community in Bolton.	£ 200.00

CreateBolton	We plan to give a Christmas gift to say thanks to our volunteers and to encourage them as we enter a New Year. We would like to bless a combination of volunteers and customers that have had a particularly difficult year and for many are still isolated. We would like to give them an Amaryllis plant that they can watch grow and take pictures as the months go by, which encourages them to stay in touch with us and with each other. We have approached some of our volunteers who will wrap the plants, deliver them and commit to staying in touch with the people they deliver to.	£ 200.00
CREATIVE MIND	Provide WINTER WARMER SURPRISE CELEBRATION & ACTIVITY PACKS to helpers/volunteers/members/those shielding and unwell will receive a special activity pack. Each will contain activity materials, activity sheets to share with others, half time snack and keep warm items. It will be a wonderful surprise and give those an interactive task! Christmas is usually a highlight for us with a Get Together Meal laid on for whoever turns up BUT we have told all this is not possible. Our yearly anthology is about to be published and people will also receive a free copy. All items will be ovid ready and sanitised for safety.	£ 200.00
Crompton FC	Small gift for all volunteer coaches and if possible some food for an online party!	£ 200.00
Daytrippers	Purchase and hand deliver (covid safe) a tin of chocolates to all our 160 registered families along with a Christmas card to remind them that we are thinking of them all and hopefully spread a bit of cheer.	£ 200.00
Emmaus Bolton	Gifts and a festive 'Thank you' to our amazing and dedicated team of volunteers!	£ 200.00
Farnworth and Kearsley Litter Pickers	To reward the litter pickers with a small gift	£ 195.00
FC Quebec Park Ranger ( Formerly Bolton Nomads Fc)	We would like to provide a meal for each of our volunteers and committee members to say thank you for their time and effort over the past 12 months. The meals will be ordered and delivered to each volunteer and we would like all to meet up on zoom and have a 'family meal' together.	£ 200.00
Friends of Green Fold	Our volunteers are mainly parent/carers of children with SEND it would be lovely to treat them to a small gift and they will benefit from the interaction with other parent/carers as well.	£ 200.00
Friends of Astley Bridge	To provide an illuminated festive display at the corner of Andrew Lane Astley Bridge to accompany our illuminated Christmas Tree, and light up local schools art work,	£ 200.00

	along with festive illuminated animals. This will give a lot of socially distanced pleasure for residents hopefully spreading the festive spirit to everyone	
Friends of Dixon Green Park	We plan to purchase a Christmas tree and decorations for ourselves to enjoy the park that we have worked so hard on and for the wider community. Hopefully have a Christmas light turn on with other festivities.	£ 200.00
Friends of Moorgate Primary School	We want to purchase a number of Christmas themed plant pots. Recipients will be asked to place them on their window sill with the 'Moorgate' sign prominently displayed. We will ask that as they are going about their daily lives and they see one of the planters displayed they will wave or knock on the door and have a socially distanced chat with someone who they may have only ever seen on school premises in the past. We are also hoping that as we bring people from different streets together in this way that they may begin, in the future, to meet up outside of school events and thereby strengthen community spirit after so much restriction and isolation.	£ 199.31
HAFWAY	We will make a Christmas stocking for each of the young people and add a personal gift for each of them. This is to show them that they are individually valued. These stockings will be handed out to the young people at their last support session before Christmas, and we plan on delivering the rest of the stockings to those who will be isolating or unable to come. A significant number of our young people live with family members who need to shield, plus with school bubbles being sent home, we find that there are always some young people who can't attend a session but zoom in instead.	£ 150.00
Headspace	As a co-production organisation all our participants are members and they contribute in any way possible to the running of headspace so we wish to thank them all with writing related Christmas gifts so they can continue recording their stand-up comedy, ideas for sketches and scripts and write out spoken word poems, monologues etc.	£ 200.00
Halliwell Environmental Ramblers	The funds would provide the food, the pasties from Allen's Bakery and the cakes would also be locally sourced where possible. There would be a need for disposable plates, cups and cutlery to be Covid compliant. The event is a way of saying thank you to volunteers for the work carried out over the year. We would be holding the event outdoors on the park as access to buildings is restricted.	£ 51.10
High Hopes for Halliwell-being	We want to say thanks to all our volunteers for the hard work they have done this year and previous years. We would like to either buy them a small food package to help them with food over the festive period.	£ 200.00
Inspire Serving Your Community	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide gift hampers to the elderly who we have been providing food parcels to.</li> <li>2. Give a small 'Thank you' bag with chocolates, a thank you card and provide personalised T-shirts with the names of the volunteers and the community group's logo.</li> </ol>	£ 200.00

Johnson Fold Residents Association	I will buy a large tub of Quality St chocolates for the volunteers on the estate community group	£ 200.00
Kings People church	We are hosting a special online quiz-shindig-celebration party for all our volunteers who have given their time, energy, resources in what has been such an odd year. The event is being held on Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 8-9.30pm and is named..... The Big Holly Jolly Team Night Christmas Shindig Quiz Covid Secure Stay In , Go Out Zoom-athon. With the funding we would love to give each volunteer a little gift (which will either be posted, hand delivered or collected) as well as purchasing prizes for the event for the winning team and best festive fancy dress.	£ 200.00
KRIMMZ Girls Youth Club	We will gift our volunteers with thank you packs for their continuous support given to our young people over the pandemic. They have been on call for the young people supporting them mentally and emotionally. We know and recognise how much time and effort this takes on the volunteers themselves, alongside managing social distancing and adhering to government guidelines.	£ 180.00
Lend a Hand	I really want to give the amazing volunteers at Lend a Hand a little treat...They have worked tirelessly to support their community since the group started in March they have helped with Shopping, Picking up Prescriptions, Transport Services, Dog Walking, Friendly Phone Calls and even Knocking down a Shed... all without any funding at all they are incredible people...and it would be lovely to be able to say Thank you.	£ 200.00
Live From Worktown	we will orgaise an online celebration for members, volunteers and partners in the form of an on-line 'Cultural Cabaret' on December 17th featuring music, comedy and poetry from those that have contributed to our on-line activities over the lockdown and help them to stay connected. Many are isolated with not being able to perform live over this time. A professional Zoom licence is needed to operate over 40 minutes.	£ 193.88
Love Stoneclough Action Group	We have been clearing overgrown areas all through the year and would use some of the money to buy our volunteers thorn proof leather gloves as a token of appreciation and enable our work to continue through the winter. We would like to buy some battery powered Christmas lights to decorate our community garden "The Square" which we have created this year on Stoneclough Road, so that people walking up the hill have something nice to look at if they sit on the bench there to catch their breath. We will also set up a Swedish Tomte trail (Tomtes are gonks). We will give each Tomte a name and will encourage people to photograph them and post them on our Facebook group (lovestonecloughactiongroup), to see if anyone can find all 12. We hope this might encourage people to get out and about over the Christmas period.	£ 188.00

Markland Hill Racquets Club	We will provide custom made Christmas hampers for some of our members and committee members (across our 3 sports) who have given so much during this year by cleaning the club for free, volunteering their time for free to coach members when only coaching was allowed inside (Tier 3 etc). Also, we have several committee members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty for helping to keep the club running whilst the staff have been on furlough and dealing with situations which no one anticipated.	£ 200.00
MhIST	Have some entertainment at each self-help group in the week before Christmas. We will use the money to buy small prizes/sweets. People have expressed an interest in playing some games and having some mince pies. This year more of our members than ever will be alone on Christmas day and even though we cannot all meet together we can meet in our usual socially distanced groups	£ 200.00
New Bury Vision	This year due to Covid-19 pandemic and current restrictions in place we are unable to organize our Christmas lunch at the New Bury Ucan centre and unfortunately not all of our volunteers has IT equipment or internet access to do a virtual meeting. All of the volunteers continued to promote Bolton at Home and the Ucan services and they made loads of the referrals during the pandemic. We will show how we appreciate their hard work by giving them gift vouchers this Christmas.	£ 200.00
Over Hulton Community Group	We are going to make a little Christmas hamper for all our litter-pickers and volunteer gardeners. Secondly – for Halloween we staged a Scavenger Hunt quiz and we were to do the same for Christmas. Families have to find “hidden” posters on the estate, answer a question and all the answers make a message. They take the answer sheets in to our local store. They will be given a chocolate treat when they collect their sheets and also when they submit their completed sheets. This encourages families to get out and take exercise.	£ 200.00
Positive Vibes Community Youth Club	Purchasing gifts for volunteers & members that will be dropped off at houses plus hosting a virtual party	£ 200.00
Reach Family Project	We plan to host a virtual zoom bingo game with our volunteers as a fun Christmas social. We want to be able to thank the volunteers and also give them an opportunity to get to know each other even though we are not able to physically meet yet. We'd like to use the funding to purchase prizes which will be their thank you gifts. (obviously there is no cost to the bingo )	£ 200.00
S.S. Simon & Jude's Amateur Dramatic Society	As with most theatrical groups we have been unable to stage any productions since February 2020 and during the current lockdown we took the decision to cancel our Christmas get-together for all members and volunteers and to postpone our February pantomime. This has left us with extremely disappointed Junior members, as many do not attend any other drama outlets. Plus several of our Senior members are feeling isolated. As a result, we would like to purchase and deliver small gifts to all	£ 145.00

	these people to support them at this time and to assure them that we are still a viable society and that we will rely on their talents in the future.	
Sapphire Partnership	Isolation and loneliness are high on the list of risk factors that we have identified and the link between these and mental health are increasing. Considering the impact that these risks, the lockdown measures and the restrictions will mean for this group in particular, we are keen to put in place an intervention that will best support the young people during the 2 week period over Christmas when our provision is closed for the holidays. We want to provide each person with a journal to record thoughts and feelings in. We have researched and found a website that has a resource we feel is appropriate for their varied needs (The Big Life Journal). We will introduce the concept in a group discussion prior to the holiday and pick it up again once we return after Christmas. This will provide us with a platform to address how talking about things can impact positively on their wellbeing.	£ 200.00
Senior Solutions	With the funding we will purchase small gifts for our volunteers over the festive period. We are also planning to hold an online quiz night and party to celebrate their achievements and all the support they give to this organisation, even more so during the Covid-19 pandemic, as all our usual parties will not happen. For those unable to attend we will distribute the quizzes in other forms. We will also send Christmas cards, letters and poems to all clients and volunteers. The funding will also help to put together some activity packs for our clients who are isolated at the moment which will be delivered out by staff and volunteers.	£ 200.00
Sevadal of Bolton	We will purchase a small gift for our Volunteers.	£ 200.00
Supported Steps CIC	Supported Steps would host a series of Covid-safe group workshops where vulnerable members of our community may come along and create handmade Christmas gifts or favours to give to family, friends, or those who might be experiencing social isolation or other means of deprivation in our local area. As an organisation who hosts weekly wellbeing walks in our local community, it would be nice to incorporate any gift making we do into these, where our walk participants may give gifts out to strangers as we walk, as a kind gesture and a way of reminding local residents of the value of community spirit. As well as supporting those in our local community, it would also be wonderful for us to use a small part of the funds to create some gift hampers for our support workers and volunteers, whom have worked extremely hard throughout the past few months, and definitely deserve a special token of kindness to say thank you this Christmas.	£ 197.50

Supporting Factors	We plan to make care boxes for both our volunteers and ladies in the Bolton community, containing, pamper products and wellbeing activities.	£ 200.00
The Great Lever Voice	We would like to give a bag with all cleansing products similar to the packs you can purchase if you were going abroad on a plane. We feel these will be really useful and personal to each young person. They have been learning about a healthy lifestyles and looking after their bodies. We will embroider their initials on each bag so it makes them more personal. This activity comes under	£ 160.00
The Life Support Group	The Group members have requested some kind of Christmas party. We have still been holding face to face meetings of up to 15 in the recent lockdown which has been massively beneficial. The funds would help provide food and drink for the event which would be held at one of our usual Wednesday evening meetings in December. We would order a take away or cold buffet (yet to be decided by the members). We will also buy the members a small Christmas gift with the funds. Just a small token to show them how special they are.	£ 195.00
The VI Dream Team	Our community group supports families with children with a visual impairment in Bolton. We have found that that the Covid restrictions have made it very difficult for families to access sensory resources for their children and we want to support them by putting together packs of sensory resources which can be used at home and returned to school in a sealed box, left for three days and then disinfected to be rotated to another family. Especially the families with younger children and the families with children with complex needs need this support to allow them to add quality and variation to what they can do with their children at home.	£ 200.00
Tonge Moor Men In Sheds	We are hoping to put together around 13 Christmas hampers for the group members. It's to bring a little bit of festive cheer into their homes on Christmas day as the group haven't met since March of this year and it's been tough for the group not having the social contact they were used to having by attending twice a week.	£ 200.00
Transforming Lives Group	We will give a small gift for Christmas to our most needed and most vulnerable who may be struggling over the festive period with isolation or no family or might be self isolating through underlying health issues. A gift bag with some treats Christmas card but most importantly some life saving contact numbers for services if they may require them for example crisis team mental health services Samaritans NHS help lines etc.	£ 200.00
Trust Music	We would use the funding to hold a Zoom Christmas Gathering for our 176 adult studio members, 16 volunteers, 6 tutors, 2 staff and 10 trustees as we have not been able to be together since the first lockdown. We would use the £200 to pay for a self-employed artist who we all know are struggling to find work as our theatres are closed, using the principle to pay forward, we would engage a magician to entertain us at the gathering. Our guests would arrive in our Festive Christmas Zoom Waiting Room and are welcomed into the Gathering with Christmas music playing in the	£ 200.00

	background. We would ask them to wear a Christmas jumper, festive hat, have a drink and mince pie ready, and bring a banana (all will be revealed later at the gathering)	
WAVE Adventure	We will say thank our volunteers by providing a personalised card and gift. The gift will be a headtorch which will enable them to continue to access the outdoors during and after lockdown. The gift will be especially useful and appreciated as they are getting outdoors far more than usual over the winter months as indoor venues are closed.	£ 200.00
Westhoughton Vision	We will be having a digital Christmas party with guess the Christmas songs, everyone will receive a pack prior to the Christmas party with a gift and set of instructions, there will be interactive games, to take part people will have to wear either a Christmas hat or jumper, they will be given a well known verse of Christmas carol and this will be used when they know an answer to a quiz question	£ 200.00
Women of Westhoughton	Compile Christmas quiz and purchase a puzzle activity book for each member. Send out with stamped return envelope for quiz along with charity Christmas card containing chairman's Christmas message. Entries to be verified and one winner selected who will receive Christmas floral display. Most will be delivered locally but for those members living in Little Lever and Horwich will be posted. Any extra costs to be paid from club funds.	£ 200.00
	Total	£ 14,231 .79

