

INVESTING IN THE BORDERS ENVIRONMENT

Issue 3: Summer 2018

Established by EDF Renewables and Roxburghe Estates, the Environment Fund supports local and regional projects within the Scottish Borders area.

Designed to help fund a balance of built, natural and cultural heritage projects, and support those parts of the Borders without access to other community benefit funds, it has, in addition to supporting 47 projects, helped lever in more than £4.2 million of additional funding. That's an additional £5 for every pound invested by the Fund. Projects are chosen for their contribution to supporting local rural communities (funding some of our excellent local organisations), helping preserve and enhance our special landscapes and biodiversity, preserving and telling the story of our heritage and enhancing the Scottish Borders as a tourism destination.

Fund Facts & Figures

101 applications



47 projects supported



£5m value of projects



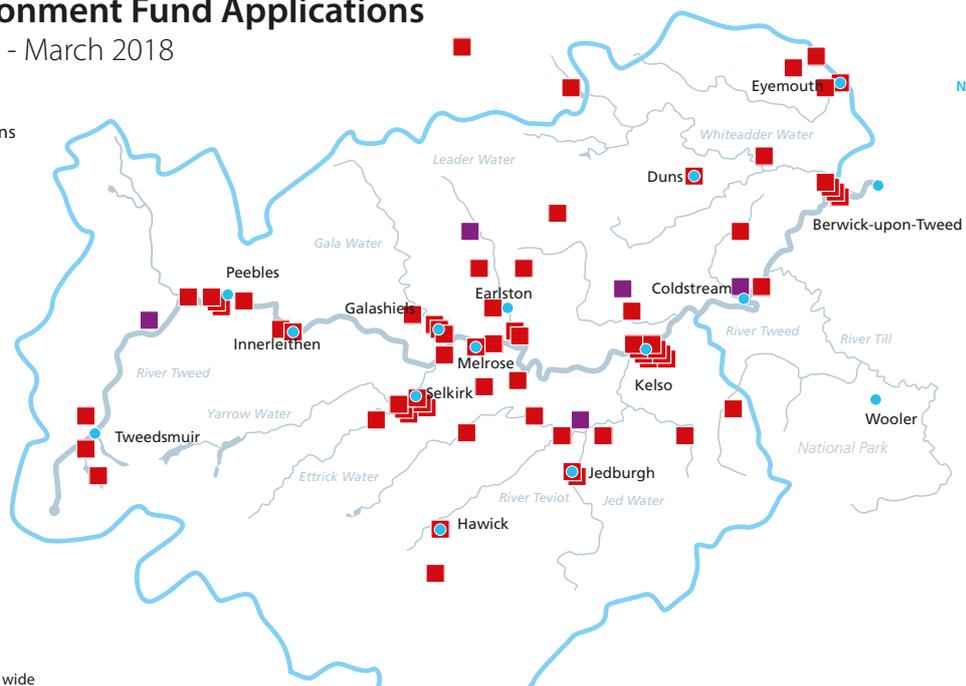
£816,149
total Fallago funding

Statistics up to and including round 10 (01.03.18)

Fallago Environment Fund Applications

September 2013 - March 2018

- Round 10 Applications
- FEF Application*
- Scottish Borders
- Main Rivers



*Some Applications are Borders wide

In 2017/18, 12 new projects were approved

– subject to confirmed match funding

The Fund will be supporting access improvements to Gifford Community woodland; the creation of an annual Kelso Folk Festival; a bee-keeping project at Kelso High School; a new Therapeutic Garden of Interest at Queen's House Residential Care Home in Kelso; a portable sound and lighting system for use by community groups in Westruther, and books for kids clubs; path improvements and interpretation along the very popular Leader Water circular walk by the community-led Earlston Paths Group; upgrading of facilities and access in Stobo village hall; a project to investigate, interpret and protect the archaeology and heritage of Hume Castle; restoration/conversion of B-Listed Keith House into affordable social housing; repairs works to the iconic Waterloo (Penielheugh)

Monument; relocating the Toy and Muniments Collection at Thirlestane Castle; and core funding has been awarded to Borders Art Development for an annual art festival (Borders Art Fair).



Earlston Paths Group celebrating their funding award

New Chairman Appointed



Kelso farmer Gareth Baird has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Fund Management Group. Gareth is a leading figure in the Scottish agriculture and food and drink sectors, and is Deputy Lieutenant for Roxburgh, Ettrick and Lauderdale, and Board member of The Crown Estate. A passionate Borderer, he has extensive knowledge and understanding of the Scottish Borders region.

PROJECTS

■ Borders Heritage Festival 2017

This festival celebrated the heritage of the Scottish Borders at over 80 participating sites including walks, talks, theatre, music and archaeology. New and innovative events such as the "Lighting the Borders" (pictured) were a bit hit.



■ Stobs Military Camp

Volunteers have been carrying out surveys, recording oral histories and hunting down surviving Camp huts. Several walks and talks and an Open Day were also held.

Image © Sam Cornwell



■ Torwoodlee Tower Consolidation Completed

The 2017 Braw Lad and Lass, Greg Robertson and Amy Thomson (pictured), viewed the newly stabilised Tower prior to the Galashiels Braw Lads' Week ceremonies, in which the Tower plays a prominent role.



■ Kelso Folk Festival (core funding 2017–2020)

The Kelso Folk and Live Music Club's mini folk festival on the 1st to 3rd of September 2017 was a great success, with sell-out audiences. The festival included sessions, workshops and open mics.



■ Archaeology and Heritage of Hume Castle

This project will work with the local community to investigate, interpret and protect the archaeology and heritage of Hume Castle and its surrounding landscape.



■ BUAS Schools Countryside Day

This annual event sees 1,200 Primary 5 schoolchildren from throughout the Scottish Borders learn about the countryside, rural issues and the environment they live in.



■ Kelso HS - Citizen Science and the Golden Swarm

This community learning project has a strong focus on bees and beekeeping. Celebrating beekeeping at Floors Castle, the High School Beekeeping Club is taking the lead in community-based art activities, as well several Citizen Science initiatives.



■ Paxton House Waterwheel and Beam Pump Restoration

This fascinating piece of Borders history – an 18th century waterwheel and beam pump – at Paxton House in Berwickshire is now open to the public, thanks to Fallago Environment Fund.



■ Borders Youth Theatre (core funding 2016–2019)

Borders Youth Theatre have been delivering multiple projects throughout 2017/2018. A key performance was *Delving Deep* (pictured). resource for the benefit of people, communities and wildlife.



Delving Deep – a new multi-media performance piece inspired by local poetry written in WW1

■ Repair, Conservation & Interpretation of the Medieval Lennel Kirk

Consolidation and conservation of this important medieval kirk is now complete. Gaining national recognition as a finalist at the Scottish Heritage Angel Awards 2017, this dynamic community project has secured the Kirk and its surroundings for future generations



The Kirk before (above) and after (below)



■ Westruther Community Amenities

This project has improved various Westruther community features - providing a safe outside area for young people to play sports, enhancing the village with floral displays and upgrading the village hall.



Newly planted hedging will provide shelter for users of the playing field in future years

■ Jim Clark Museum

Situated in Duns, the Jim Clark Memorial Room is embarking on a £1.6 million redevelopment. The new museum will promote the life and legacy of double F1 Champion and Indianapolis 500 winner Jim Clark, as well as the heritage, culture and importance of farming life in the Scottish Borders.



Ian Calder and Doug Niven from the Jim Clark Trust (left) welcome the Duke of Roxburghe and Gareth Baird (right)

Fallago Environment Fund is administered by **Tweed Forum**. Please contact us at fallago@tweedforum.org, 01896 849723 or visit www.tweedforum.org/fallago

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