

# Christian Aid Scotland Annual Review 2018



Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs people of their dignity and lets injustice thrive.

But together we have the power to transform lives Stand Together. For dignity. For equality. For justice.



## Welcome

During this past year, Christian Aid has been thinking long and hard about its identity both here in the UK and within our global organisation.

We are more than ever convinced that it's only when we stand together for dignity, justice and equality that we can begin a movement. It is only by challenging ourselves and the power structures that keep people poor, that we can unearth the root causes of poverty. And it is only by acting as well as speaking, that our prophetic voice finds its resonance.

Earlier this year Christian Aid held a Just Scripture biblical dialogue which focused on the story of the Good Samaritan. One participant's response to that story really stuck with me. They commented that maybe our job as workers for justice is to narrow the road so that we can no longer walk by on the other side, choosing not to see. This year, you have joined us, not simply by standing in solidarity, but by narrowing the road and choosing to see.

A movement begins as our myriad small actions come together and grow

change. Please don't be quiet about your commitments! Whenever you use renewable energy, walk rather than drive, carry your water bottle and eat and buy more sustainably, invite others to walk with you. Action gives prophetic voice deep resonance and increased volume!

In 2018, we have worked in partnership with you and with some of Scotland's most passionately engaged advocacy and community organisations on areas such as climate change, gender equality and economic justice. As ever, we are thankful for the insight and energy of the Scottish Advisory Committee and all who partner with us.

You are Christian Aid and we thank you for pushing us, moving with us, keeping us grounded and helping us fly.

Warmest regards,  
Sally

**Sally Foster-Fulton**  
Head of Christian  
Aid Scotland





# Our values

## Dignity

Our belief that every human being is of equal worth and should be given the opportunity to realise their potential.



## Love

Our cornerstone! Our motivation to love and care for others and Creation by standing alongside those who struggle against poverty, powerlessness and injustice.



## Justice

Our determination to empower communities and to challenge the structures and systems that create poverty and prevent people from rising out of it.



## Equality

Our conviction that all individuals and groups have the right to equality of voice, opportunity and outcomes.

## Church partnerships

**Over the course of the past year we have worked closely alongside the churches in Scotland on a local, regional and national level.**

The Christian Aid Scotland team and our wonderful volunteers have spoken in hundreds of churches schools and youth groups up and down the country from Skye to Glasgow, Orkney to Dumfries, and from Argyll to Aberdeen. It is always a pleasure to worship with congregations, cross bridges, join coffee mornings and browse book sales during our key moments: Christian Aid Week, Easter, Harvest and Christmas. Over the year, we have reflected together on displacement, climate change, gender, conflict and peace.

Annual Gatherings were held during February and March in Edinburgh, Dunblane, Dumfries and Aberdeen. We were delighted to be joined by supporters and in Edinburgh, via live link, by Christian Aid Bolivia's country manager Emma Donlan. Emma's passion and knowledge about the impact of climate, gender inequality and displacement in Bolivia will live long in our collective memory.

In Aberdeen, our special guest was Sophie Makoloma from Christian Aid's office in Malawi. Sophie vividly shared her personal experience of overseeing Christian Aid projects in her home country.

2018 was the final year of the three-year Guild project. Over that time, our volunteer speakers helped us to deliver over 300 talks across the country. Thanks to your generosity we raised over £111,000 and have seen this project grow from a small pilot to an international sustainable solution which will improve the lives of thousands of families in Bolivia, Malawi and beyond.

Side by Side Scotland, the partnership of Scottish churches which focuses on gender justice, has continued to thrive and we are delighted to have appointed Katie Bradley as volunteer chair. We are sure she will inspire our commitment to equality for all in the coming years.

We continue to appreciate the dedicated support of our sponsoring churches. The input from Scottish Church leaders at the Christian Aid AGM, consultation and the meeting with Chief Executive Amanda Mukwashi (pictured) were visionary and aspirational. As we move into new challenges of a new year, your commitment is an invaluable inspiration

Thank you.



Read more at:  
[caid.org.uk/scotland-churches](http://caid.org.uk/scotland-churches)





## Events

**In 2018, over 800 people from 100 churches took part in events organised by Christian Aid Scotland.**

Many more supporters also organised Harvest suppers, coffee mornings and book sales, ran marathons and swam great lengths to raise money and awareness for our global neighbours.

The new moderator of the Church of Scotland, Right Rev Susan Brown, led supporters on a well-attended sponsored walk around Whitelee Windfarm. The George Street Book sale surpassed all expectations again this year, raising £133,000 during Christian Aid Week. The Autumn Art and Scottish Book Sale raised £100,000 for the Harvest Appeal.

In Kintore, Christian Aid organisers held a vintage tea party to celebrate the royal wedding, while in Bridge of Weir, Christian Aid Week collectors were delighted to reach their £100,000 target after almost 30 years of house to house. Clarkston supporters celebrated 38 years of their superb Art Sale and in Troon, the Christian Aid Week lunches were still going strong after 20 years.

The combined total from the Bridge Crosses, Edinburgh Marathon and Kelpies Canter was £60,000 and we couldn't have done it without our dedicated supporters. Kathleen Leitch helps to arrange the Erskine Bridge Cross each year.

'I enjoy helping organise the walk as it brings so many people from various churches together for the day to celebrate the work CA do and raise funds for projects around the globe. So many walkers have been coming for years but still manage to raise a huge amount even when they might not be able to run or walk as fast as they did 20 years ago.'

**Thank you for standing together with our global neighbours for dignity, equality and justice.**



**Pop our events in your diary:**  
[caid.org.uk/scotland-events](http://caid.org.uk/scotland-events)



**Put Christian Aid Week 2019 in your diary:**  
[caweek.org](http://caweek.org)



## Legacies

**Our touring legacy exhibition, Inherit the Earth, has had a busy year visiting churches and community spaces across Scotland.**

The exhibition shows how Christian Aid projects are helping indigenous people in Bolivia protect the land they've inherited so they can pass it on to their own children.

Christian Aid's work supports remote indigenous communities to become more resilient by introducing solar technology, such as solar ovens, and by planting crops that are adaptable to sudden changes in weather. The exhibition also seeks to celebrate the impact of gifts in wills and encourages us to reflect on what our own legacy might one day be.

Gifts in wills are a way to make a lasting difference and to sow seeds of change. In 2017/18 Christian Aid received £12 million from gifts in wills, both small and large. These gifts make up 10 percent of our total income and contribute to our ability to continue making a long term impact in communities across the world.

On the first Saturday in September, we held our annual event when we remember loved ones who are no longer with us. Another Way to Remember is a walk that begins in Dollar and ends in Logie Kirk in Stirling following the Hillfoots Diamond Jubilee Way. At Logie Kirk we light candles and take a moment for quiet reflection and prayer for lives loved and lost.

Those who took part this year reflected that the highlights of the day included 'walking together along a new route, meeting new people and sharing stories as well as the short service of remembrance at Logie Kirk'.

**In 2017/18 Christian Aid received £12 million from gifts in wills, both small and large.**

**£ Sow seeds of change:**  
caid.org.uk/gifts-in-wills



'We were delighted to have the colourful exhibition set up in St John's Chapel in June. It opened our eyes to some of the projects taking place in a remote area of the Bolivian Amazon. We were inspired about the possibility of leaving a gift to Christian Aid in our will and the transformative impact this gift could have one day.'

Marion, St John's Episcopal Church, Edinburgh



## Scottish Government

**Our work with the Scottish Government continues to focus on two areas: integrating international development priorities into all policy areas; and implementing development projects and humanitarian aid on their behalf.**

The heart of Christian Aid's approach to development lies in identifying and addressing the structural root causes of poverty. We encourage governments to ensure that issues of global poverty are taken into consideration within all relevant policy areas, rather than restricted solely to the international development portfolio. We were therefore delighted to hear First Minister Nicola Sturgeon, at Scotland's International Development Alliance Annual Conference, describe the Scottish Government's international development work within the framework of cross-governmental policy coherence, calling it 'our approach'. We continue to work on the detail with the Scottish Government and hope that this marks an opportunity to embed a more nuanced understanding of international development in Scotland.

In March, Christian Aid received £97,920 from the Scottish Government's Humanitarian Emergency Fund to respond to a conflict situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Our priority was an influx of displaced people who returned to the devastated Kasai region. We provided basic items such as hygiene kits, bedding and cooking equipment to 630 families in two villages. We provided shelters for a further 1000 people.

September 2018 saw the end of our health governance project in Balaka, Malawi. We are grateful to the Scottish Government who funded £600,000 towards this project, as well as to the many churches who raised funds. As a result of our support, the community are more knowledgeable and confident about health provision in the area.



**Read more at:**

[caid.org.uk/scottish-government](http://caid.org.uk/scottish-government)



Christian Aid Scotland has launched a new community partnership to complement our Scottish Government funded project in Zambia. If you church would like to be involved in the Zambia community partnership, contact Mary Mulligan on 0131 240 1523 or at [mmulligan@christian-aid.org](mailto:mmulligan@christian-aid.org)



## Climate justice

**Christian Aid holds a vision of a better world, free from poverty and climate change where everyone has enough to eat and can live without fear of their home being destroyed.**

We work with many women and men whose lives are becoming harder due to climate change. We support them to diversify crops, implement sustainable farming practices and harness renewable energy. But the solution to climate change does not lie simply 'over there'.

Throughout 2018, and in partnership with Stop Climate Chaos Scotland, Christian Aid has been training local lobbyists to push their MSPs for an ambitious Climate Change Act.

In September, 80 constituents from across Scotland met their elected representatives at the Mass Lobby of Parliament and showed tremendous passion and knowledge in their conversations. The 25 MSPs, which included three party leaders, represented all of the main political parties.

At this year's Take One Action Film Festival, Christian Aid supported *Anote's Ark*, a film which speaks to the heart of our work on climate change. The film examines the challenges facing islanders on Kiribati, a low-lying nation in the Pacific Ocean. Christian Aid supports Take One Action because it has been passionately rousing people to action for the past ten years. *Anote's Ark* reminds us that we need to act now, that we need to ask our leaders and politicians to commit to ending our contribution to climate change.

The Scottish Government claims that Scotland will be one of the first countries to achieve net zero emissions. But, as yet, the recently published Bill doesn't set a date for achieving this. As climate change continues to gain traction in the media, Christian Aid Scotland supporters will have many opportunities to get involved in more campaigns in 2019.

Together, we can create an Act that ends Scotland's contribution to climate change within a generation.



Christian Aid campaigners have been persistent in calling on the Scottish Government to ensure that the upcoming Climate Change Bill fulfils Scotland's commitments to the Paris Agreement and keeps climate emissions to as close as possible to 1.5 degrees.



**Take action now at:**

[christianaid.org.uk/news/scottish-climate-bill](http://christianaid.org.uk/news/scottish-climate-bill)



## Gender justice

**Gender justice continues to be a core area of work for Christian Aid. Many churches in Scotland are actively engaged with Side by Side and the ecumenical steering group has been working to promote gender justice across the churches in Scotland and in wider society.**

In March 2018, Christian Aid and Side by Side Scotland celebrated International Woman's Day by launching a new exhibition at the Scottish Parliament. The exhibition, Faith in Gender Justice tells the stories of sixteen inspirational women of faith whose work challenges gender inequality both here and around the world. The stories are mapped across eight themes including climate change, refugees, violence against women, and women in leadership. The launch event was sponsored by Kate Forbes MSP and was attended by faith leaders, gender justice advocates and other politicians.



**Read more at:**  
[christianaid.org.uk/campaigns/gender-justice](http://christianaid.org.uk/campaigns/gender-justice)

In November, BBC Radio Four broadcast Sunday Worship from Glasgow using extracts from Faith in Gender Justice and contributions from partners in India, Brazil and Malawi.

Christian Aid and Side by Side also worked together to raise the profile of the UN-supported 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign. This campaign runs from 25 November (the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) to 10 December (Human Rights Day). With contributions from Side by Side chapters worldwide, our joint focus for the campaign was on the role which faith leaders and faith communities must play in order to achieve gender justice.



'Being supported by organisations such as Christian Aid, rather than by any one denomination, has enabled the group to be wide-reaching and proactive. We cannot work in isolation on this issue and since gender inequality is a global issue, the group works with international partners such as the Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil and the All India Council of Churches.'

Miriam Weibye, Church Relations Officer, Scottish Episcopal Church and member of the Side by Side Scotland steering group.

**'The full and complete development of a country, the welfare of the world and the cause of peace require maximum participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields'**

**Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, 1979**



## Education and Youth work

**Christian Aid Scotland works with youth workers and educators to help children here understand the poverty and injustices in the lives of many children around the world.**

Early in 2018, we produced a new resource for primary schools. Windows on The World looks at the effects of climate change around the world and close to home. It has been enthusiastically received in many schools across Scotland.

Over the summer and autumn, we held a couple of interactive simulation games with groups of young people. In August, we ran a fully immersive refugee game with 60 young people who were attending the Argyll Presbytery Youth residential. With no prior warning, the young people were plunged into an unsettling and unexpected situation. They had to negotiate visas, build shelter and barter for food and water. It was an experience which none of us will forget easily. We were delighted that this year's Safe Place Challenge at Whitelee Windfarm was fully subscribed. It too was a thought-provoking and challenging exercise.

Throughout this, the Year of Young People, we have been impressed by the engagement from uniformed organisations in Christian Aid fundraising. The Scouts, Girlguiding, Girls Brigade and Boys Brigade supported ventures such as the Cambuslang Declutter and the Forth Bridge Cross. Fifteen Police Scotland Youth Volunteers kept watch over proceedings at the Erskine Bridge Cross. Former Youth Moderator of the National Youth Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Robin Downie, raised £1,341 running the Edinburgh Marathon.

Our hope is that in raising funds and raising awareness for the world around them, these young people will be inspired to stand together with our global neighbours for many years to come.

**We support teachers and pupils to develop skills for life in a complex world.**



Young people from Argyll Presbytery built a shelter out of ropes and tarpaulin at the Christian Aid immersive day in August.



Learn about our work in schools:  
[christianaid.org.uk/schools](http://christianaid.org.uk/schools)



## Pray

**An estimated 244 million people worldwide are on the move as international migrants. Of that number, over 65 million people have been forced to move. 40.8 million of those forced migrants have been displaced within their own country and as such have no rights.**

In 2018, together with Scottish Faith Action for Refugees, Christian Aid Scotland published a resource for churches supporting those who are seeking to find their place in the world. Becoming Human Together invites people of faith to not only see the image of God in those who are migrating, but also to recognise our own identity as migrants. The paper was delivered at the 2018 Church of Scotland General Assembly and has been used in discussion groups run by the Iona Community.

The Just Scripture project, which brings together bible study groups from across the world to discuss justice issues, has thrived in 2018. Sessions linking groups in Ireland, Scotland and England with those in Bolivia, South Africa and Haiti shared from their own contexts about issues such as gender, climate and justice.

**One participant in South Africa told us: 'I didn't understand what the Bible had to do with fracking. But now I see it's not just for a Sunday. We can use the Bible in our suffering.'**

The Worship Collective continues to bring inspiration to the worship resources for key moments in the church calendar: Lent, Easter, Harvest, Christmas and Christian Aid Week. Wendy Lloyd curates all of the daily, weekly and monthly reflections as well as the prayer diary. These are all accessible on the Christian Aid Scotland website.

Our mission to challenge faith to action continues on into 2019. Will you be inspired with us?



The 'Uprooted' exhibition toured Scotland in 2018. Thanks to your action, we received a letter from the Prime Minister supporting a plan of action for internally displaced people, and expressing support for an expert report into internal displacement.



**Discover our  
worship resources:**  
[caid.org.uk/pray](http://caid.org.uk/pray)

Here's how you can continue to support people on the move:

- 1. Pray for people forced from their homes**
- 2. Host an Uprooted exhibition in your church**
- 3. Donate to Christian Aid to help us continue to advocate for the rights of all displaced people.**

For more information about the exhibition, contact Diane Green on [dgreen@christian-aid.org](mailto:dgreen@christian-aid.org)



## Contact us

**Katie Mathers**, based in Edinburgh, is our first point of contact for supporters in the East of Scotland, from the Scottish Borders to Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Moray, Orkney, Shetland, Angus and Perth & Kinross.

**Fiona Scott**, also based in Edinburgh, manages supporter relations work across Scotland.

**Colin Dowse**, based in Glasgow, will be looking after supporters in the West of Scotland, from Dumfries & Galloway right up to the Highlands and the Western Isles.

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