

Community  
mission

eNewsletter

Training events to equip, real stories to inspire, funding sources to support

Dear Maggie,

Firstly, we do apologise that this edition is late. Jill Clark is away.

We are aware that many of you are concerned about how evangelism links to your community work and we know that many of you struggle to get funding and communicate your ethos to statutory bodies. This month we focus on this issue through training events, an interview with the Prime Minister and a hard-hitting blog from London's East End.

In addition, the Charity Commission has just produced a report on the validity of the Christian basis for most charities: ['Advancement of religion for the public benefit'](#). You can also read the Evangelical Alliance's [comments on the report](#).

Thank you to the 150 people who completed the training survey. This month we are looking for your views on the [community mission website](#). It should take you no more than three minutes to complete our short [web survey](#) and if you leave your details you will be entered into a draw for **a copy of the latest Rob Bell *Nooma* DVD**.

Thanks for helping us to help you!

God bless,

Maggie Harding

Livability Community Mission

tearfund livability

- Funding
- Training & Events
- Stories & Resources

FUNDING



The [Youth of Today Leadership fund](#) has been set up by a group of leading youth organisations to **offer skills, opportunities and networks so that 13-19-year-olds can become leaders of change in their communities**. The [scaling up fund](#) helps organisations take their projects to the next level and the [reaching out fund](#) helps projects to develop new programmes. The funds are not open to applications yet but will be soon. For now, read the [FAQs](#), [blog with feedback to applicants](#) or complete the [contact form](#).

The rail and bus company, [First](#), has a [funding stream](#) for communities in which they operate. Its aims are to support **projects that make a positive difference to young people, health or the environment**. There are no funding limits or application deadlines but the project must be in an [area that First operates](#). Complete the [online application form](#) and [email](#) it to First or send it to the address on the website.

[The Volant Charitable Trust](#), set up by the author JK Rowling to support charitable purposes, is accepting applications from **projects that alleviate poverty, with a particular focus on women's and children's issues**. For grants of £10,000 or under in Scotland, applications must be made through the [Scottish Community Foundation](#). For grants in England, there is no limit and funding is available up to three years. The deadline for the next round is 29 January, 2010. Read the [guidelines](#) or complete an [online application](#). Due to limited capacity, the trust is not able to answer general enquiries.

[BT Community Connections](#), a **funding scheme that provides a laptop and broadband internet access for one year to community projects across the UK and the ROI**, has announced that they are now accepting applications for round two. The [BTCC Award](#) stream is for an individual community project and the [BTCC Cluster Award](#) is for three to five projects that are working together. Each then receives a laptop and internet access. Past successful projects are only able to apply again under the BTCC Award scheme. [Applications deadlines](#) are in early January 2010. Read a [list of past winners](#), [FAQs](#) or phone 0845 257 6792.

The Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts is the operating office for [18 grant-making trusts](#) set up by three generations of the Sainsbury family. **The 18 trusts support community projects with a wide variety of aims: environmental projects, community and social welfare and summer schemes**. A single application should be sent to the operating office. There is no deadline or maximum funding limit. Follow the ['how to apply'](#) guidance and send in a two-page project description. All applications will be acknowledged with a letter.

## TRAINING AND EVENTS



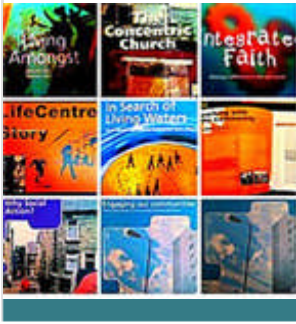
The [Churches Child Protection Advisory Service](#) is an independent Christian charity providing professional advice, support and training to churches on safeguarding children and dealing with those affected by abuse. Their [Facing the Unthinkable](#) training days are held across the country each year and give churches practical advice on making church safer for children, dealing with abuse allegations, and recruiting volunteers to help with children. There are many dates in early 2010. The cost is £19.50 per person and this includes a workbook. There is also a group offer. For more information, phone Karen Ledger on 0845 120 4550.

---

[The Lighthouse Group](#) (TLG) is a Christian charity that helps young people who are failing to cope with mainstream education. By providing alternative education, they tackle behavioural and learning issues and allow young people to receive qualifications. [TLG Conference Day](#) is being held on 19 November at the [TLG National Support Centre](#) in Bradford. Speakers include Andy Hawthorne of the Message Trust and Rev Howard Astin of St John's Bowling. It is £20 per person including lunch. [Book online](#) or phone 0845 508 3242.

[Beyond Disability: Creating a more inclusive and enriched church](#) is being held by [Livability](#) on 25 November at [Wakefield Baptist Church](#). Aimed at churches and Christian projects, facilitators from a range of disability charities and church projects will focus on understanding physical and learning disabilities and establishing good relationships. The day will include presentations by people with a range of learning and physical abilities. It is £20 per person including lunch. There will be a special opportunity to watch a film, [Inside I'm Dancing](#), after the event. To book, email [Ruth Smith](#) or phone 0113 350 8070.

## STORIES AND RESOURCES



**Churches looking for structured help in engaging with their communities can make use of two new resources.**

[Discovery](#), recently launched by Tearfund's UK team, is led by a facilitator and involves creative activities, Bible study and community research and will lead to increased integration with the community. Email [Tearfund](#) for an informal discussion on Discovery. [The Just People course](#), a six-week interactive course for churches looking to get more involved, was developed by [Tearfund](#) and [Livability](#) and is [available for £25](#). In [Time to get a piece of the action](#), read about how [Assemblies of God](#) is using both resources to increase its community focus.

---

The discussion about the role of evangelism in church community projects is all too common. In Tony Uddin's weekly Community Mission blog, [On the frontline](#), he recently argued that **evangelism is often sidelined in community work but that Christians are called to discipleship and this involves drawing people to Jesus**. To explore this issue further, Livability is hosting ['We don't do God'](#), a training event for Christian community projects to discuss these issues, in January (London) and February (Leeds). Their [events page](#) will have details over the next month.

---

Gordon Brown, in one of his most open interviews, shares his views on Christianity and how faith should interact in public life. Interviewed by [Premier Radio](#), **the Prime Minister argues that Christians should not separate their faith from their work and social action**. He also encouraged Christians, especially those working to end UK poverty, that the government will not sideline their faith. Using his comments in funding applications and in communication with the local council could help to back up the Christian distinctiveness of community projects. [Christian Today](#) has a [summary of the interview](#). Premier Radio has the [complete interview](#).

---

With spending cuts being discussed by both major political parties, [Church Action on Poverty](#) highlights the cuts in benefits for those seeking work and refugees in its new *Close the Gap* campaign. In [Hitting where it hurts most](#), Niall Cooper **challenges the Church to speak out so that the poorest in our society do not bear the burden of the economic crisis**.

---

**Churches and community projects hoping to use Christmas as a time to increase their engagement with their communities** can take part in an exciting initiative. [Operation Christmas Child](#), the world's largest Christmas children's appeal, has produced a [how-to guide for churches](#) to act as a community drop-point for the shoeboxes that local schools and community groups put together. There is also an opportunity for churches to have a greater impact through acting as a processing centre.

- > [Unsubscribe](#)
- > [Can't read links?](#)
- > [Forward to a friend](#)

Community Mission is a partnership between Livability and Tearfund

Registered Address: Livability, 50 Scrutton Street, London EC2A 4XQ,  
Telephone: 020 7452 2018

Registered charity number: 1116530 | Registered in England

To guarantee delivery of this email please add [Livability@cmp.dotmailer.co.uk](mailto:Livability@cmp.dotmailer.co.uk) to your address book and safe senders list.