

WE HELP VETERANS TO HAVE A BETTER FUTURE...

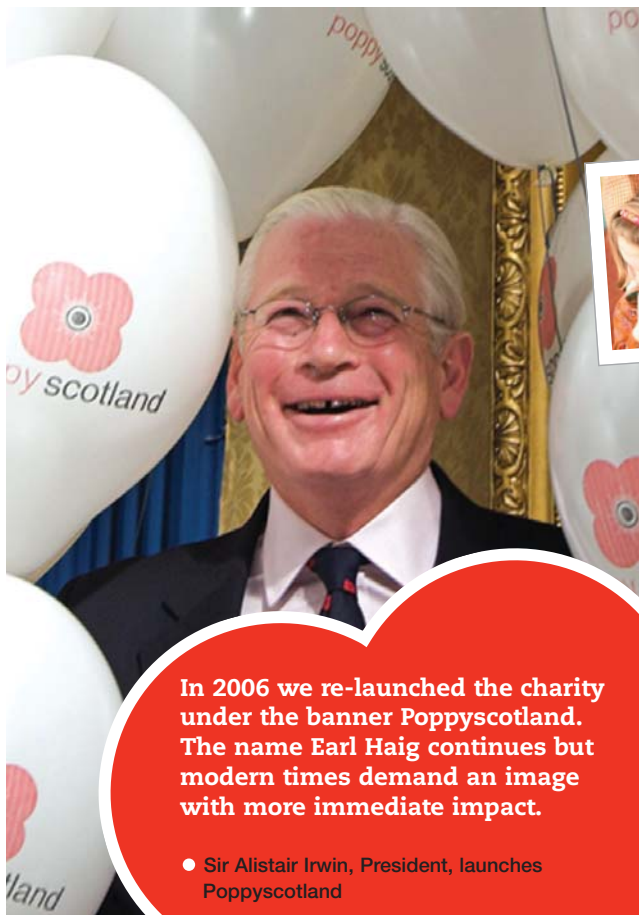
who we are

Poppyscotland (The Earl Haig Fund Scotland) was founded in 1921 to provide practical help to ex-Service men, women and their dependants. Although we're best known for the annual Scottish Poppy Appeal in November, we also organise events throughout the year to raise much-needed funds.

who we help

In 2006 we raised over £1.8 million which enabled us to support the veterans' community in the following ways:

- Direct financial assistance to individuals through grants
- Funding an advice and pensions claims service
- Supporting employment of veterans with disabilities
- Providing grants and research to other veterans organisations



In 2006 we re-launched the charity under the banner Poppyscotland. The name Earl Haig continues but modern times demand an image with more immediate impact.

- Sir Alistair Irwin, President, launches Poppyscotland

Who is a veteran?



Recent research shows that the veterans' community in Scotland is one in five of our current population.

At Poppyscotland our aim is to support as many people as we can. To us a veteran is anybody who has served in the UK Armed Forces (Regular or Reserve). These people, together with their spouses, dependants, widows and widowers, make up the veterans' community.

How we raise funds

Scottish Poppy Appeal

During our Scottish Poppy Appeal in November 2006 we raised a record £1,570,879 – thanks to the generosity of the people of Scotland.

Our total is up just over 5% on last year and over four million poppies were worn by Scots during Remembrance Week. We are aware that the continuing conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan are keeping veterans' issues at the forefront of the public's mind. Whilst this helps us to raise funds it also means that we have more demand for our services.

As our President remarked recently "The work of bringing welfare to those who serve and who have served in the Armed Forces, and to their families, seems never ending."

Run the Road

This summer, 1,200 people took part in a fun day of cycling, running and walking 10k and



Kenny and Gabby Logan with Lois and Reuben supported Run the Road 07

2.5k around the village of Eaglesham, to raise funds for Poppyscotland. At the finish, participants were presented with a fabric poppy to plant in the village. One of Poppyscotland's key functions is to support other ex-Service organisations and money raised from Run the Road will be donated to Erskine, the charity that provides nursing and respite care to veterans, to purchase a wheelchair-adapted vehicle.

Poppyscotland goes to the Opera!

In the springtime, for the first time ever Poppyscotland put on its finest and went to

"Many young men and women the same age as Kenny and I are in need of help when they come home from Iraq and Afghanistan" Gabby Logan

the opera. An evening of Verdi sung by four Scottish opera stars to raise funds also raised the roof of the stunning City Halls in Glasgow.

This glamorous and spectacular gala evening was the idea of Scottish opera singers, Christina Dunwoodie and Fiona MacDonald, who felt compelled to help veterans after hearing the stories of troops returning from Iraq.

They organised a wonderful evening of music by Verdi and a Grand Prize Draw for the audience of 900, who thoroughly enjoyed the singing and the spectacle.



The Opera performers, all smiles after their amazing performances

veterans



● John, a resident veteran, with some of the Erskine staff

This year we have given 1,094 one-off grants to individuals, totalling £379,000. Many of the veterans we help have worked hard all their lives, but may have an illness (mental or physical) that prevents them earning enough to cope when unexpected bills arrive or if disability means they suddenly have special needs at home.

“Words cannot express how appreciative I am for this kindness. This has helped me and my two young children at a time when I was worrying about paying this huge bill.”

Mrs D – Larkhall, aged 37

Poppyscotland’s grants in these difficult circumstances can make a huge difference to the whole family. It is not only the monetary help that is so valuable, but the feeling they are not alone, as a recent recipient told us: “It has significantly bolstered our will to keep on striving by just knowing that there are people out there who care.”

We can help by providing items such as mobility aids and funding for respite breaks, household repairs, personal clothing and electric scooters.

Some veterans need a top up to help them meet every day expenses – so we’ve also supported over 180 individuals with annual grants to help with living expenses. In total we’ve granted £189,000 this year.



Davie Cowan receiving his electric scooter

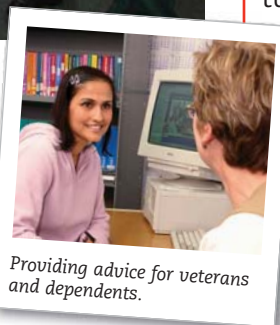
“We all think of benevolence as something we will never need, but now I realise how important that belonging to HM Forces family is at a time of need. Once again thank you.”

Mr W, aged 52

A largely unseen part of the work Poppyscotland does is donating to other organisations that provide specialist veterans’ services. This year we have supported eleven organisations with grants totalling over £890,000.

One of our largest grants, £200,000, went to Erskine to improve facilities in the Erskine Park home for veterans.

Jim Panton, Poppyscotland’s Chief Executive, sees this support as vital. “Erskine is expanding each year to meet the ever-increasing demand for its exceptional service. I am delighted that Poppyscotland has been able to make a sizeable contribution to the charity’s efforts.”



Providing advice for veterans and dependents.

Veterans helpline in Glasgow

As a result of recent research into services available to the veterans’ community – we have just started a new initiative with Citizens Advice Bureaux in Glasgow. With their help we have set up a pilot scheme one-stop advice service initially for veterans in Glasgow. This includes a helpline number veterans can call – **0845 231 0300** – for advice on where to turn for help.

“It is important to remember that Poppyscotland doesn’t just look after veterans from the Second World War and that it provides care all year round – not just in November at Poppy Appeal time.”

Gabby Logan, Sports Presenter

Get in touch

Here is a list of useful contacts:

Head of Fundraising Jan Miskelly	0131 550 1551
Publicity Leigh Howieson	0131 550 1580
Events Lynn Stimpson	0131 550 1542
Volunteering Isla Campbell Lupton	0141 221 8141
Poppy Appeal Bill Murray	0131 550 1552



A visitor meeting a member of the Factory team

Employment for veterans with disabilities

Poppyscotland supports 29 veterans with disabilities who work in the Lady Haig Poppy Factory. They make 7,000 wreaths and over four million poppies by hand for the Scottish Poppy Appeal every year.

contact us

Email: l.fernandez@poppyscotland.org.uk

Telephone: 0131 550 1550

Website: www.poppyscotland.org.uk

Registered Head Office Address: New Haig House, Logie Green Road, Edinburgh EH7 4HR
Company Limited by guarantee. Registered in Scotland Number 194893. Scottish Charity No 014096.

poppy
scotland
THE EARL HAIG FUND SCOTLAND