

Saving for a bigger slice?



Continuing to make your money work harder



Paul Denton, CEO at Scottish Building Society

This year we celebrated our 175th birthday, a special occasion for the world's oldest remaining building society.

And as a building society owned by members, we're as true to our purpose today as when we began our journey in 1848. Since then, we have helped and supported our members throughout Scotland and beyond to buy homes and save for their future.

This year we have invested in all of our relationship centres across Scotland. We know many members enjoy digital banking, but equally many see the benefit of speaking with our team face-to-face. We remain committed to providing both services to the highest standard possible and will always offer face-to-face services alongside our digital products.

Perhaps this year I am most proud that we launched the Scottish Building Society Foundation, a partnership formed with Foundation Scotland with a view to giving back to the communities who are the lifeblood of the country. With an initial funding of £175,000, the Foundation will support many important charities and community groups across Scotland for years to come.

With the first round of grants awarded just this month, we're looking forward to making a positive impact across Scotland. You will be able to read more about the Foundation within this newsletter and I hope many of you can help shape how we use this money across the communities we serve.

Looking ahead we have a solid focus on ensuring members have the most suitable products for them. During times of uncertainty we want to make sure our members are protected by offering favourable rates and products to match your needs, just as we have done since 1848.

However, it is no exaggeration to say that the most recent 12 months have brought many challenges with it. A volatile and disrupted economic market, combined with a sharp rise in inflation has seen an increase in interest rates.

The past year has impacted Scottish Building Society members in different ways. While mortgage holders will be deeply impacted by the volatile interest rates, savings customers will be looking for the best possible rate for their circumstances. This has led to many members reviewing their products.

For those who hold mortgages with us, we want to provide you with as much support as possible. With interest rates increasing to a level, we have not seen for at least two decades, it is more important than ever that you speak with our expert mortgage team to ensure you are on top of your finances. Our team is always on hand to discuss what options you have so please visit your nearest relationship centre or call us to chat through any concerns or queries you may have.

For savings members now is the time to review the full range of products available to ensure it matches your circumstances. Whether you are looking to maximise the amount of interest you could earn by locking away your money for a fixed term, or if you would like to access your savings more regularly with more flexible withdrawal periods because of rising costs – our staff are ready to help you.

Which product works best for you?

The savings market has faced a level of change which we have not seen in well over a decade. The ever-changing nature of interest rates at the moment means that making sure you have the right product for your needs is more important than ever.

As a building society it's our job is to make your money work harder by offering the products and services that best suit your needs and give you the information to help make the right decision about what product is best for you. We have developed a guide which sets out the benefits of each of our savings accounts and the situations where they can be of most benefit to you.

If you have any questions simply pop into one of our relationship centres or call our team on 0333 207 4007.

FIXED RATE BONDS

- Offers a better rate for locking away your money
- Choose to save for 1, 2 or 3 years, whatever best suits your savings goals
- Interest rate is fixed, so you know exactly how much you'll get back from your savings

This product is ideal if you have a lump sum and would like to invest it for a set period.

INSTANT ACCESS

- These are accounts that give you instant access your money as and when you need it
- Its simplicity makes it easy to use for all members
- Great for short- and medium-term savings goals such as a holiday or a birthday

This product is ideal if you are looking to start out on your savings journey, but still want the flexibility of access to your savings at any time.

CASH ISA

- Save up to £20,000 in the tax year
- ISAs are great for helping you save as any interest earned is tax-free. This means you don't pay income tax on the interest your savings earn
- Transfer in your ISA savings held elsewhere and have them held in the same place

This product is ideal if you are looking for ways to save your money tax free whilst having instant access to your money.

FIXED RATE ISA

- Like Cash ISA any interest earned is tax-free
- Interest is fixed for the length of the term so you'll know just what return you'll get for your money, making it easier to plan and manage your finances
- Choose to save for either 1 or 2 years, making it ideal for helping you save for a milestone purchase

This product is ideal if you are happy to lock away your savings and are looking to earn tax free interest.

UK Savings Week 2023

UK Savings Week is back for 2023, running from the 18th-24th September. It is a UK wide campaign to help educate and promote good financial knowledge and savings habits.

We know saving money is tough, now more so than ever. However this year we are promoting a simple yet rewarding savings plan to help people achieve their savings goals.

Step 1- Set your goal

It may sound very simple, but the first step is to set a savings goal. Setting a target of what you can save each month, over a 12-month period, that is both realistic and achievable.

Take stock of what is coming in and of your account each month and set a goal that allows you to comfortably put away money. The size is not important, whether its £5, £20 or £100- set a target that you can achieve.

Step 2- Make it a habit

Decide what you need and what things are 'nice to haves'. Think about what makes you happy and which things you only buy out of habit. Evaluate your spending and categories what can be saved and what is essential.

Utilise banking features just as direct debits or mobile apps to ensure you stick to your plan.

Step 3- Reward yourself

Rewards don't need to cost a lot or be complicated, but they are crucial in keeping you motivated. Staying on track for your goals should be celebrated like any other challenge.

Managing your finances is stressful so allow yourself space to enjoy the wins and know you are benefiting in the long run.

Help when you need it

We know that saving can be difficult, and at times feel complicated or confusing. We also know that for many, saving during the current cost of living crisis may not feel possible.

If you are worried or are not sure where to start with your savings, please speak to a member of our savings team who will be able to assist you.

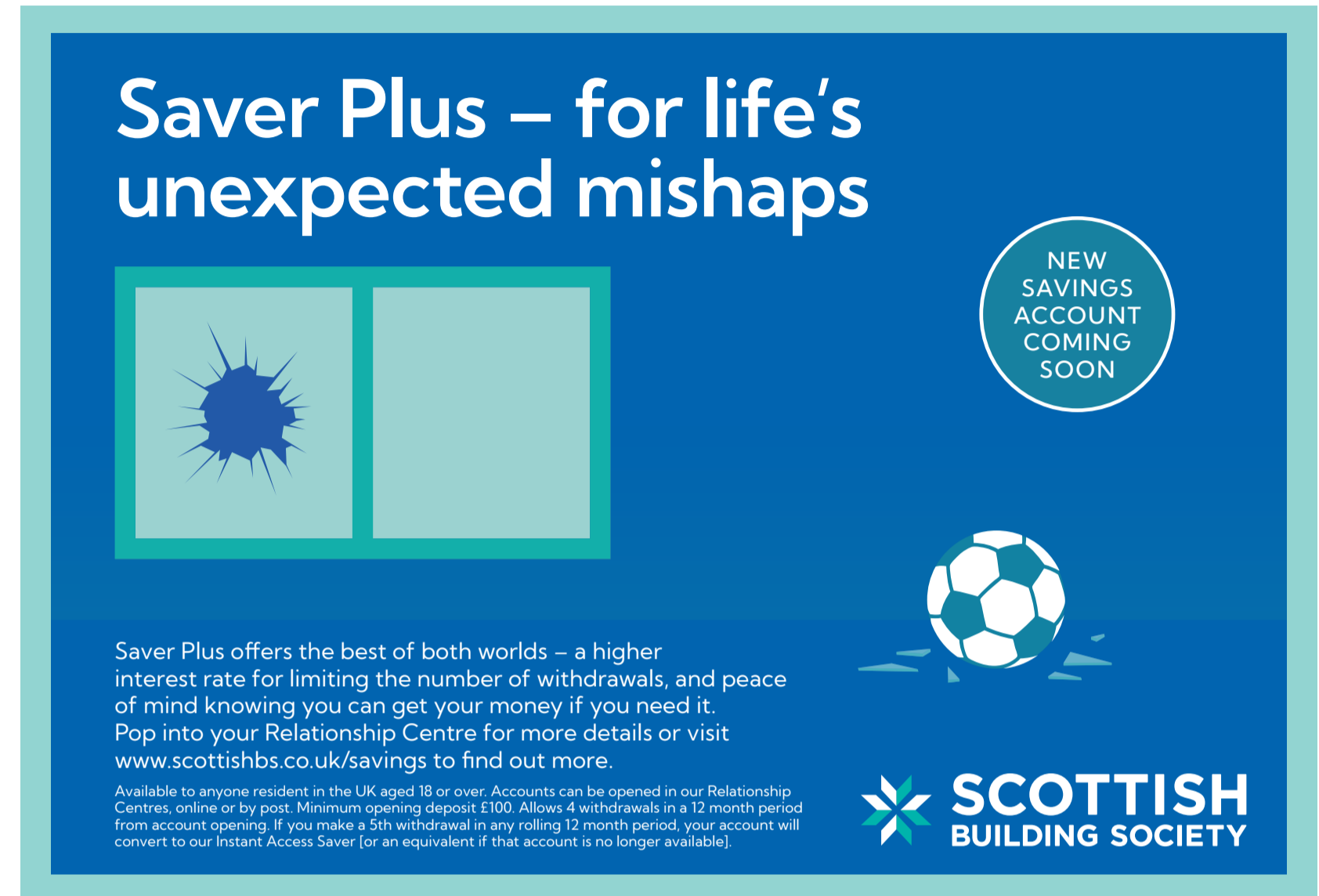
You can go into any of our relationship centres across Scotland, visit our website or call 0333 207 4007 and ask to speak to one of our savings colleagues.



SCOTTISH BUILDING SOCIETY 175 YEARS

UK SAVINGS WEEK

18th >>>>>> 24th September



Saver Plus – for life's unexpected mishaps

NEW SAVINGS ACCOUNT COMING SOON

Saver Plus offers the best of both worlds – a higher interest rate for limiting the number of withdrawals, and peace of mind knowing you can get your money if you need it. Pop into your Relationship Centre for more details or visit www.scottishbs.co.uk/savings to find out more.

Available to anyone resident in the UK aged 18 or over. Accounts can be opened in our Relationship Centres, online or by post. Minimum opening deposit £100. Allows 4 withdrawals in a 12 month period from account opening. If you make a 5th withdrawal in any rolling 12 month period, your account will convert to our Instant Access Saver (or an equivalent if that account is no longer available).

SCOTTISH BUILDING SOCIETY

Saver Plus – the most flexible way to save

This year many people have put their savings on hold and across the country many savers are not making the most of their finances.

A near decade of stagnant interest rates has created a reluctance to review savings products and disincentivised the savvy saver.

Now savers are faced with rising inflation and everchanging interest rates, it can be hard to know exactly what your needs will be in the future.

This is why we are launching our new Saver Plus account. It has been designed for people who want to save but remain concerned about the rising cost of living.

Saver Plus lets you grow your savings by adding to it whenever you want but limits you to 4 withdrawals in a rolling 12-month period. In return for limited access a higher rate of interest is paid.

Saver Plus is worth considering if you're not planning on dipping into your savings regularly but also don't want to lock your saving away.

It is a best of both worlds account giving you peace of mind knowing your savings are earning a good rate of interest and you still have access to your money in the event of any unforeseen expenses.

We know saving can be difficult during times of uncertainty however even small amounts each month can add up to a lot, and with Saver Plus, you can grow your earnings.

Launching this year, Saver Plus, will be available to all our members. You can find out more on our website or pop into your local relationship centre.

You can find out more about the account and how to manage it by visiting www.scottishbs.co.uk

Your mortgage customer journey

Mortgages can be a rather complicated world with a huge range of different products and offerings available.

With record high interest rates it is crucial for those either renewing or looking to their first mortgage to consider what factors are most important to them. Thankfully at Scottish Building Society we have over 175 years of experience in helping people find the right mortgage and our expert team is on hand to offer their top tips for members.

We have a wide ranging team of people who help you get the right mortgage for your needs. Meet some of the team who are involved and hear their top tips for making the process as easy as possible.



Peter McSherry
Mortgage advisor

As a mortgage adviser, the main purpose of my role is to help either new or existing Society members with their mortgage needs. Whether that be buying the first home, moving or refinancing their debts my job is to advise on what mortgage product is best for them.

We assess each case on its own individual merits and make a recommendation suitable for each applicant based on their personal circumstances and needs.

One of the main things that sets the Society apart is the fact that an individual accesses each case at every stage of the process – which means we can take a “common sense” approach to every scenario. With this in mind we are flexible in how we meet our members offering appointments by telephone, and face-to-face services. It means our members can interact with us in the way they feel most comfortable.

Helping people achieve their goals, whether that's getting on the property ladder, moving to their forever home or releasing equity in their current property, it is my goal to help make the process easier.

› PETER'S TOP TIP:

When applying for a mortgage always provide the most up to date evidence of income and bank statements.



Claire Swanson
Mortgage underwriter

My role as mortgage underwriter is to provide a decision on a mortgage application and give an indication on how much we can lend. Effectively my role is to provide guidance on how much an applicant can borrow when looking to purchase a home.

We look at an application from initial submission right through to issuing the offer out to the customers and their solicitors.

At Scottish Building Society, we take pride in the personal touch and use dedicated mortgage professionals to properly assess each application rather than a computer.

This means we take our members individual circumstances into consideration on every application. Whether members are building their own home or looking to release money from their properties to assist them in retirement- I consider all elements of their personal circumstances before providing an offer.

Knowing I am helping people's dreams become reality makes my job so rewarding.

› CLAIRE'S TOP TIP:

Don't underestimate your expenditure, your dream home won't be a dream if you can't afford to do anything to it.



“We assess each case on their own individual merits and make a recommendation suitable for each applicant based on their personal circumstances and needs.”



Liam Reid
Mortgage administrator

As a Mortgage Administrator, my role is to collaborate with the various departments within the Society to ensure all administrative processes relating to a mortgage are complete.

My day-to-day includes producing offer documents, instructing valuations and assessing mortgage documents. Essentially my job is to make the entire process as stress free as possible for our members.

As I know how stressful it can be, especially for first time buyers, I always say the most important part of my job is helping people understand and guide them through the entire process so they can purchase their dream home.

It is a really rewarding job because I get to work directly with members and make the journey to owning your home a little easier.

› LIAM'S TOP TIP:

Having the necessary documentation ready is the best way to ensure there are no delays with an application.



Dealing with real people

“What a refreshing experience to be dealing with real professional people. I have had a longstanding mortgage with SBS and every time I speak to them I get the feeling they are genuinely trying to do business with me and get the right outcome. Huge thanks to Peter for his patience in working through the paperwork with me. Straight talking and thorough, couldn't ask for more.”

James, a mortgage customer ★★★★★

Guarantor mortgages, a customer journey



Mr and Mrs Chalmers had begun looking for mortgage options for their son Jack, who had recently moved to Glasgow for university. Having had their daughter move away to study and rent a property they knew of the challenges in securing long term flats that offer genuine value for money. Here is his story about how we helped him get the best solution for his family:

"When I was at University my mother was the guarantor for me. It was very unusual then, but it set me up for the rest of my life.

I was surprised by just how few places offered guarantor mortgages anymore. I faced a lot of closed doors and with many providers I simply couldn't talk to a professional about what options were available.

It wasn't until someone at work recommended speaking with Scottish Building Society that we began to make some progress.

The process was much simpler than I thought and being able to actually speak to a mortgage professional who could assess and recommend options to us was very useful.

I often work away so the ability to do it all over video calls made the process much easier for me.

We were able to get a draft decision in place which allowed me to plan how much we would borrow and hence what range of properties we could begin looking at.

Jack then found a property that suited his needs, it was within our limits and before we knew it, we were collecting the keys and moving his furniture in.

I would really recommend Scottish Building Society to people looking for guarantor mortgages. Being able to speak to a real person who can guide us through the process and ultimately help us make better financial decisions cannot be underestimated.

I just couldn't get the guidance we needed from a chatbot or online portal. Having an experienced professional with us every step of the way went a long way to making sure we got the best outcome."



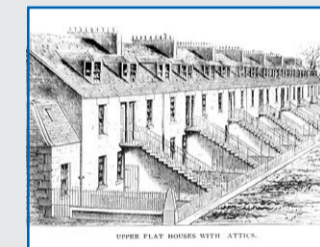
Our 175th anniversary

As part of our 175 celebrations, we have been commemorating this historic occasion in various ways.

One of the most special ways was a commemorative corporate history book, written by historian Nigel Watson. The book details the entire 175 years of existence of the Society from the early foundations, through during the two world wars, right up until today and the work being done just now to help people save and purchase their own homes.

Members who attended our AGM were able to get their own unique copy but here are just a few snippets of some of the incredible stories our building society has been a part of over the years.

History book



Beginnings:

When several fathers of Edinburgh's mercantile class set up their mutual society, its aim was to lend to 'respectable merchants and master tradesmen' on the security of their homes and business properties. It would also provide a safe haven for the savings of members and would pay dividends to members and interest to savers.



Post war rebuild:

The stock of building societies was diminished during the First World War as it was made clear to the nation that it was their patriotic duty to support the government's fund-raising activities for the war effort.

Loans were still approved during the Second World War. The Society rewarded loyalty, applauded self-help and appreciated the helping hand of family members. In 1944 the Society approved a loan of £400 for the Harvatt family who wanted to buy a £600 flat in Bruntsfield Terrace.



Loans for women:

It was rare for women to be granted mortgages in their own name before the 1970s. Many women never had their own bank account. For married women, financial affairs were invariably dealt with by their husbands alone. However, we took a different view in line with our principles of honesty, fairness, integrity and policy of judging every mortgage application on its merits and approved loans allowing women to secure their homes.

Please visit our website to find out more:
www.scottishbs.co.uk/175-years-of-scottish-building-society

Meet our new relationship centre managers

Aberdeen

Hi, I'm Kirsty and I'm the manager of the relationship centre in Aberdeen. I just started here at the end of July and have worked in financial services for the last 6 years. I've lived in Aberdeen for 7 years but I grew up in a village called Portgordon in Moray.

Outside of work, I live with my fiancé and a lot of our free time is spent planning for our wedding next year. We are also big ice hockey fans and go to see our local team Aberdeen Lynx at every home game. I love reading and when my head is not in a book it is usually down at the local pub quiz night my friends and I do every week.

My role is managing the relationship team in Aberdeen and getting to know our members. We have member right across the North East that use our relationship centre so it's a great hub to see all the different people we serve in Aberdeen. We have a small team but are committed to great customer service and enthusiasm for helping our members.



Troon

Hello, I'm Amy and I am the Relationship Centre Manager in Troon.



I currently live in the countryside on the outskirts of Ayr which I love as in my spare time I enjoy hiking round the countryside.

If I am not out exploring on foot, I will be out on the motorbike exploring the glorious views Scotland has to offer with my fiancé Fraser.

We have a fantastic team in Troon and we all share the same goal to provide the best possible customer experience we can for our members.

The Jar, a local whisky specialist based in the town came along to chat to members and give them a tasting experience. It was a great event for all and members and staff alike all came together to celebrate.

We had members who had only just joined the society and members who have been with us for decades and it was great to meet old and new members alike and hear from them. We hope to have more member events this year so do speak to our team next time you are in the town.

Edinburgh

Hello, I'm Lisa, and I have just recently joined the Scottish Building Society as relationship centre manager in Edinburgh. I started my career in the financial sector over 16 years ago when I decided to leave my life in Newcastle for sunny Scotland, and over those years I have had the pleasure of working with some incredible people who have helped shape, mould, and coach me into always being the best version of myself.



I am a mum of 2 beautiful caring boys that make me so proud and fill my heart with so much joy and happiness.

In my spare time my biggest passions are family time and writing music. Writing music allows me to be creative and tap into my own emotions which I find therapeutic.

The team recently moved from 193 Dalry Road to a fantastic new location on Frederick Street in Edinburgh's city centre and I have to say I was blown away when I first arrived- it is a beautiful relationship centre.

I am just a few weeks into my new role and already loving it. If you have not seen our new relationship centre then please do come in and say hi. We would love to have you along.

Inverness

Hi, I'm Leean and I've recently joined Scottish Building Society as Relationship Centre Manager in Inverness. I've got over 18 years' experience working within Financial Services, mainly in the Retail Banking Sector and latterly in a Conduct and Credit Risk function.



I'm originally from Greenock but recently spent a few years living down south in the sunny climes of Devon before packing up and heading all the way back up to Inverness where I have lived for a few years now.

My husband Martin and I, have 3 children and 2 chihuahuas. We love going on holiday together and soon we'll all be off to New York and Florida to celebrate my daughters 21st birthday.

To relax, I love nothing better than spending hours in the kitchen cooking. I make some awesome Birria Tacos and broth which are a firm family favourite in my house. It has been a whirlwind first few months at the relationship centre but the team here are fantastic. Their passion and commitment to customer excellence is clear to see.

I'm excited to be part of the team and can't wait to see what we achieve. If you are in Inverness make sure you come and see us.

Glasgow

Hi, I'm Mudassar, in June this year I joined Scottish Building Society as Relationship Centre Manager in Glasgow. I began working in financial and customer service management roles straight from school when I was just 16 and over a decade later I still love it.

I grew up in Edinburgh and settled in Falkirk after marrying. I cherish family moments with my wife and our lively 5-year-old son. Exploring the outdoors together has become a tradition, instilling a sense of wonder and adventure in all of us.

I am fortunate to lead such a dedicated team here in Glasgow, that share my commitment to excellence, particularly in delivering

outstanding customer service to our members. I look forward to all that we can achieve together.

We have had a very busy few months with the Banksy exhibition just across the road from our relationship centre, which has been very special.

If you haven't been into our relationship centre before, please do pop in and meet the team. We would love to meet you.



Scottish Building Society Foundation

Scottish Building Society Foundation will open for a second phase of funding. Your chance to nominate a local cause in your area.

In celebration of its 175th anniversary, Scottish Building Society, in collaboration with Foundation Scotland, has launched the Scottish Building Society Foundation, a dedicated funding incentive for Scottish charities and community groups.

With a fund of £175,000, the foundation aims to support various community-oriented causes across Scotland.

During the first round of funding, the foundation received 44 applications from charities and community groups spanning 11 Scottish local authority areas. Successful candidates could secure individual grants of up to £5,000. We supported charities the length of Scotland, from the Borders to the Highlands.

Charities like Edinburgh Tool Library; The Halliday Foundation in Glasgow, The Glencoe Folk Museum in Lochaber and The Dyslexic Collective in Peebles were among the first nine organisations to receive the inaugural grant funding from the Foundation.

The second phase of funding is about to open for applications and Scottish Building Society is asking members across the country to nominate a local charity close to them.

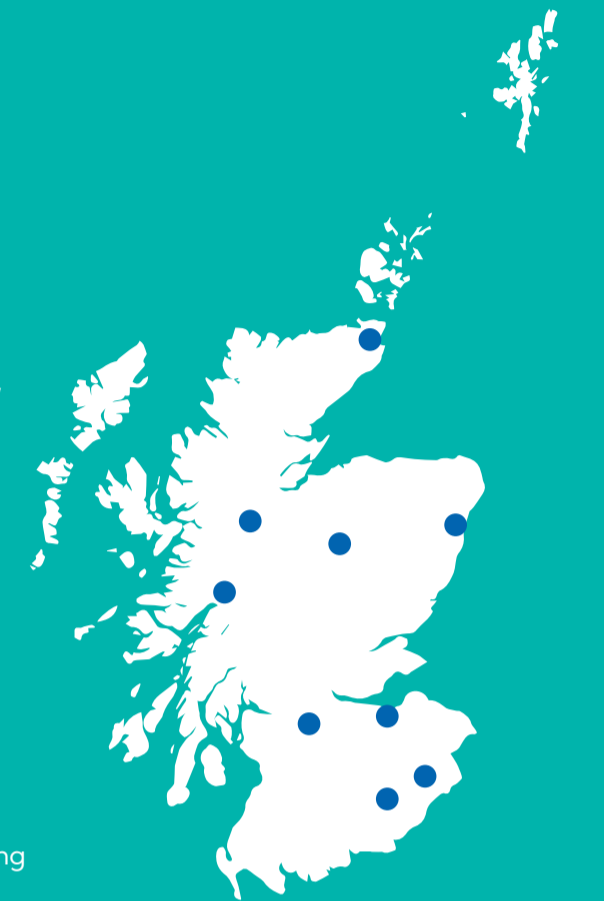
Open to a range of community groups and incentives, the Scottish Building Society Foundation particularly welcomed applications that support:

Community facilities and services, transport, open spaces, affordable housing, community development, reduction of poverty, and care for the elderly.

Local community events

Youth and education, providing training opportunities and support for vulnerable youngsters.

If you or someone you know would like to recommend a charity or a good cause please do let us know by emailing: members@scotbs.co.uk



The Edinburgh Makar

As part of our anniversary celebrations this year we commissioned Hannah Lavery, the Edinburgh Makar to produce a poem on the history of our organisation.

To celebrate Edinburgh's wealth of writing talent and its UNESCO City of Literature status, Edinburgh adopted its own version of the Poet Laureate: the Edinburgh Makar back in 2002.

The position has been held by five other poets before Hannah was appointed in September 2021.

The Makar acts as the city's literary ambassador, and it's their role to compose poems on Edinburgh,

its people and aspects of life in the city, assist in the promotion of poetry in partnership with literary organisations, and select poetry for the Council's website.

It is a civic role which is selected by representatives of the Scottish Poetry Library, Scottish PEN, The Saltire Society, the City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature Trust.

Its name comes from the Scots word Makar which means, "one who fashions, constructs, produces or prepares", and in a literary context it is the role of the poet or author as a skilled and versatile worker in the craft of writing.

The poem Hannah curated for us is a comprehensive guide through the last 175 years, from our humble beginnings as Edinburgh Friendly, the first and second world wars, right up to today and the work we are doing helping communities and members across the country.

Having the Edinburgh Makar join us at our AGM was a very special occasion and Hannah kindly gave us a reading of the poem to members.

We have a recording of her recital on our website which you can view by visiting: www.scottishbs.co.uk/175-years-of-scottish-building-society



Edinburgh Rugby

How our partnership with Edinburgh Rugby is helping Scottish Building Society support even more communities.

Tackle Maths

Part of our sponsorship with Edinburgh Rugby is centred around community programmes, this includes a new programme: Tackle Maths. The purpose is to improve confidence and show the relevance of maths in everyday life to Primary school children aged between 8-12 years. The initiative takes maths out of the classroom and into HIVE Stadium. It moves maths away from being a paper-based exercise into more active learning and helps pupils gain practical maths skills by applying it to scenarios in the real world and in this case rugby.

To celebrate our 175th Anniversary we're aiming to support 175 school pupils through this programme. Helping others prepare for future financial needs early on is something we're committed to making this a fantastic initiative to support.

Paul Denton, CEO at Scottish Building Society said: "We're passionate about teaching children early the value of maths and financial planning. Initiatives like Tackle Maths help to show youngsters about the practical benefits of having strong maths skills and that learning does not just have to be confined to the classroom."

If you know of a school that might be interested in taking part in the Tackle Maths initiative please email: community@edinburghrugby.org

Player of the month

Last year, we donated an incredible £4,500 to charity through our player of the month scheme. Each month we ask the winner to select a local charity or cause close to them to receive a £500 donation. We have had some moving charities chosen including the charity chosen by Darcy Graham who donated to one very close to his heart.

He selected the Scottish Ambulance Service's base in his Borders home-town of Hawick, to thank it for the role it played in saving his younger brother Clark's life after he sustained a brain injury in a road accident near Ashkirk.

This is one of many amazing causes we have been able to support through our partnership with Edinburgh Rugby and the reach it offers us.



Your chance to win four tickets to the 1872 cup!

The 1872 Cup is the oldest derby match in rugby union. For over 150 years, Glasgow and Edinburgh have battled it out to be the pride of Scotland, and this year you and three friends could be going along to the derby match.

One of the highlights of the sporting calendar will be on on December 30th 2023, at Scottish Gas Murrayfield at 3pm.

And exclusively available to Scottish Building Society members, you can be there.

Simply email members@scotbs.co.uk with your name, address and telephone number - putting in the subject line 1872 - to be in with a chance of winning.

Alternatively write to us at: Society Competition, Marketing Department, Scottish Building Society, 193 Dalry Road, Edinburgh, EH11 2EF

With your name, address and telephone number, and one lucky winner will be chosen to win the four tickets.

Final date for entries is Friday 1st December. Only one entry per person is permitted. Terms and conditions can be found at www.scottishbs.co.uk

Ceres Highland Games

Did you know Ceres Highland games is the oldest Highland games in the world?

It is said that Sir Robert Keith, Great Marischal of Scotland, instructed the men of Ceres in the use of the bow, prior to the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314. This instruction apparently took place upon the village green now known as the Bow Butts. It is upon this green that the annual village games are held each year.

The first was simply a charter to hold a market, which was given to the people of the village by Robert Bruce himself, in celebration of the victorious return of the men who fought at Bannockburn to Ceres.

Whilst Highland Games, as we know them today, only came into being in the early 19th Century, there are a few traditions that derive from these early gatherings. It is said that King Malcolm III of Scotland, in the 11th century, summoned contestants to a foot race to the summit of Craig Choinnich (overlooking Braemar).

King Malcolm created this foot race in order to find the fastest runner in the land to be his royal messenger. Some have seen this apocryphal event to be the origin of today's modern Highland games.

Gradually, the Games have evolved into what we see now, as a day to celebrate the community, sporting endeavors and ultimately a great day out for the family.

Ceres opens with a pipe band who march through the village with The Chieftain officially opening the Games before the Highland Dancers show off their skills in the middle of the field.

The "Heavies" showing off the skills of strength and balance much prized in earlier times by the fighting men of the land and the Back Hold Wrestling, an event that is particularly hard fought, with the winners receiving a unique Wemyss plate for their endeavours.

The Scottish Building Society has supported the Ceres Highland Games for a number of years and this year was an incredible day out.

It was an enjoyable day in the sunshine, watching a mix of pipe music, dancing, wrestling, heavyweight events, running and cycling. Around the Bow Butts there were lots of exciting stalls, and food and drink tents.

Richard Cleary, Presidents of the Ceres Highland Games said:

"We had several thousand visitors along over the weekend and there is a real community spirit about the games. The whole village really turns out to help us and the games themselves were special with the calibre of athletes we had this year.

"For me one of the real special parts of the Ceres Highland Games is that it is a free event for people to attend and without the help of sponsors like Scottish Building Society we simply wouldn't be able to do this."





The FairLife Charity is an organisation set up to raise the standards in finance and improve financial education. The charity awards its trademark logo - The FairLife Mark - to companies that price honestly and trade fairly with their customers. Its aim is that customers can shop with confidence, by making products better and easier to understand.

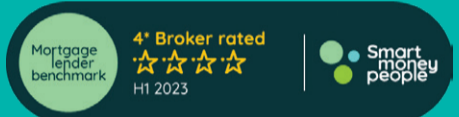
The FairLife Charity's commitment to fair and transparent finance standards mirrors that of Scottish Building Society and we're proud to have been awarded The FairLife Mark.

You may already see the mark in some of our relationship centres or on our website and it is something we are very proud to display.

It is a great achievement for us at Scottish Building Society and we hope our commitment to ensure transparent and clear information on all our products helps our membership make the best choice for them.

To find out more about the FairLife Mark visit: www.fairlife.org.uk

Another Broker Award for Scottish Building Society



Mortgage brokers are a key part of our business, and we work with a range of external partners to provide support in offering members mortgages when purchasing a home.

Many of our existing mortgage members will have been introduced to our Society through a mortgage broker and we work hard to ensure we are offering products which appeal to homeowners.

That is why it was very encouraging to have Scottish Building Society rated an incredible 89.7% for overall satisfaction by Brokers and 65.3 Net Promoter Score in a Smart Money People survey in H1 2023.

Our flexible underwriting means our underwriters consider individual circumstances rather than sticking to a set formula. This allows us to consider complex cases that could be difficult to place and find solutions based on individual circumstances.

These rating underline how our commitment to a human approach to mortgages is very well received and bucks the trend from other providers who are becoming more reliant on computer programmes.

Mortgage applications can be made using our online application portal and all cases will be allocated to an individual underwriter who'll keep in touch with you throughout the application.

We've partnered with Snugg to deliver greener homes for members

We all need to play our part in reducing our CO2 levels, but it can be difficult to know where to start.

With energy prices showing no signs of reducing it is a good time for members to be reviewing their energy usage and if there are any home improvements that could be made that can permanently reduce energy consumption.

That is why Scottish Building Society has partnered with Snugg to make home energy efficiency simple and affordable for its customers.

The partnership will see members provided with personalised plans as well as access to trusted installers and funding options to help with implementation, via Snugg's online tool.

Snugg is a specialist in energy efficiency and crucially financial planning. They can not only assess homes and offer advice on how to improve energy efficiency but also recommend funding packages such as grants to modernise your home.

Two-fifths (40%) of the UK's CO2 emissions come from homes, with 48 percent of Scottish homes being given an energy performance certificate rating (EPC) of worse than C. In Edinburgh alone, some 47 percent of homes fall beneath the C

rating. By improving the energy efficiency of Edinburgh's homes, the city could save 250,000 tonnes of carbon annually, the equivalent to the weight of all the cars in the city combined.

Snugg will also provide members with recommendations for installers, as well as relevant grants which Scottish Building Society members could be eligible for, both of which will help see their energy efficiency plan come to fruition.

Crucially for members who wish to progress with the energy improvement plan and require additional funding to do so can contact us to explore their options.

We are very excited by this new partnership, and it is exclusively available to Scottish Building Society members - both savings and mortgage customers.

If you are interested please visit our website to find out more information.



Serving our Community

The Scottish Building Society, Business Development team, used its volunteering day to support local charity Inch Park.

The Scottish Building Society BDM team was out in force this summer as the team spent the day helping Inch Park, painting over graffiti which had been sprayed on the facilities storage containers.

Inch Park is a social sports hub which promotes sports activities for those of all ages and abilities. It supports those with additional development needs to help them play sport in a safe inclusive environment.

Originally formed to meet the lack of sporting facilities in the local area, their goal is to provide a vibrant inclusive community space where sport and other activities can take place.

Designated as a Community Sports Hub by their partners at SportsScotland, Inch Park, exists to benefit the local community and ensure that the legacy of the club, and its hub, is passed down to future generations.

With a particular focus in recent years of breaking down barriers and making sure sports are accessible to all who want to take part, regardless of sex, race, gender, background, or ability.

They believe accessible sport makes a significant difference to young lives, particularly for people in disadvantaged areas. Sports not only helps with encouraging healthy lifestyles but has a much wider reach including helping with isolation, mental health, and personal development.

The BDM team had a great day out helping the charity and learning about all the work they do.



Our Annual Results and AGM

We presented our annual results at our most recent AGM on Wednesday 17 May 2023 at Edinburgh City Chambers and we're very pleased to say it has been another positive year.

Perhaps most encouraging of all is that we have grown our digital membership, from the previous year making it consecutive years where we have had more people join our organisation online.

In the current economic environment we are seeing people move between products and providers like never before. Rapidly changing interest rates have led to people looking to make their money work harder – be that in savings or mortgage products.

That is why it is especially encouraging to see so many people join our organisation and put their trust in our ability to guide them through these turbulent times.

Whilst we will also maintain our High Street presence for our members, we also know that for some, digital banking is the most convenient way for them.

Our profits, mortgage assets and savings balances have grown this year which is hugely encouraging.

The more members that join our movement the more we all benefit so it is really encouraging to see so many people trust in our vision and values.

Indeed many of our newest members joined us at the AGM and it was really encouraging to see members old and young come together to celebrate our Society.

You will see from the images it was well attended and included the presentation of our 175 corporate history book, a recital from Edinburgh Makar, Hannah of her poem about our Society and a lovely evening of food and drinks.

You can read our full annual report on the Scottish Building Society website and we encourage all members to attend our next AGM in 2024.

"It was an amazing day so thank you to all members who came along and made it so special."



Go down in history!

This year we dug deep and discovered more about our history. We found out facts about our origins, discovering people and places that were part of our story that may have gone untold.

It was an interesting and exciting experience and we want to share this with our members, so we're giving you the chance to find out more about your roots.

You could win a 6-month subscription at AncestryDNA®, to get a new view into what makes you uniquely you.

Your DNA can reveal your ethnic mix and ancestors you never knew you had; places and people deep in your past where records can't always take you.

All you have to do is answer this Question: What year was Scottish Building Society founded?

To be in with a chance of winning, email your answer, along with your name, address and telephone number to: members@scotbs.co.uk (with the subject line 'Ancestry') or alternatively, cut-off the slip and post this to us: Society Competition, Marketing Department, Scottish Building Society, 193 Dalry Road, Edinburgh, EH11 2EF or visit us at one of our Relationship Centres.

Only one entry per person is permitted. Closing date is 25 October 2023. If multiple correct predictions are received, the winner will be close at random and contacted by 1 November 2023.

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