

**Newspaper – Magazine
Foundation**

**THE BIG
ISSUE**



NEWS • POLITICS • CAMPAIGNING • ARTS • CULTURE

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THE BIG ISSUE

'It was my own personal Vietnam'
ROBSON GREEN'S
 pop hell
 Page 22

THINK YOU KNOW SCOTLAND?
THINK AGAIN...

HELP FIND SPUD!
 Reward offer after Vendor's plea
 Page 6

THE BIG ISSUE FOUNDATION

Charity No. 1049077

The Big Issue

The Big Issue is a street newspaper founded by **John Bird** and **Gordon Roddick** in **September 1991**. It is written by professional journalists and sold by homeless people. *The Big Issue* exists to offer homeless people the opportunity to earn some money and help them to live in the society. It is the world's most widely circulated street newspaper.



The History of Big Issue

- Inspired by Street News, a newspaper sold by homeless people, *The Big Issue* was founded in 1991 by John Bird and Gordon Roddick, who were friends since 1967, to help homeless people in London.
- The Body Shop provided start-up capital to the value of \$50,000. The magazine was published monthly but in June 1993 *The Big Issue* went weekly.



- In 1995, The Big Issue Foundation was founded to offer support and advice to people with issues such as housing, health, personal finance and addiction ones.
- In 2001, the magazine sold nearly 300.000 copies. Between 2007 and 2011, the circulation of *The Big Issue* declined from 167.000 to less than 125.000 because of the competition. In January 2012, new people were interviewed for the magazine, such as the Premier League footballer Joey Barton, and its circulation increased again.



The Big Issue Foundation

The mission of the Big Issue is to connect homeless people with the support and personal solutions that can help them rebuild their lives for a better future.

They also organize events like the Big London Night Walk and a bike ride from London to Amsterdam. Many people have walked or cycled so they can help the Big Issue Foundation collect money for homeless people. Many people also make donations to the Big Issue Foundation.

