



# OUR YEAR 2021 - 2022



# Greener Kirkcaldy





**Greener Kirkcaldy** is a community-led charity and development trust working locally to combat the climate emergency, tackle fuel poverty and food insecurity, and bring people together for a more sustainable Kirkcaldy.

We deliver a range of projects, events and skills training to meet the needs and goals of local people – working towards a future where everyone can live better and tread more lightly on our planet.

## Key Stats

**90**

volunteers gave

**3,797**

hours of their time

**8,000**

people took part in our activities and events

**621**

bikes repaired and serviced by Lang Toun Cycles

**2,750**

energy advice sessions through telephone calls and home visits

**756**

handy service visits, helping households save energy through measures like LED light bulbs

Over

**£1m**

in financial savings for households

**4,640**

community meals to go served by the Lang Spoon Community Kitchen during the pandemic

**12 tonnes**

of good food redistributed through the Lang Toun Larder and Community Fridge

## Between April 2021 and March 2022, our activities included:

- **The Cosy Kingdom** energy advice service, helping Fifers keep warm and save money
- **Weekly Community Meals to Go**
- **'Smart Cooking'** programmes teaching basic cooking skills and household budgeting
- **Cooking classes** and **kids holiday cooking clubs**
- **The Lang Toun Larder** 'pantry' and **Community Fridge**, redistributing surplus food from local businesses and individuals
- **Growing and gardening workshops**
- **Climate change engagement events**
- **The Climate Action Fife partnership project**, piloting activities to tackle the climate emergency in Fife
- **Lang Toun Cycles**, a social enterprise cycle shop offering cycle servicing and repairs, sales of refurbished bikes and accessories and a bike borrowing scheme
- **Cycle maintenance classes**, fix-it events and build-a-bike programmes
- **Led cycle rides and cycle training** to build participants' confidence using a bike for local journeys
- **Kirkcaldy Walking Festival** and **Kirkcaldy Cycling Festival**
- **Volunteering and employability opportunities** in our community gardens, kitchen, bike shop, helping at our events, leading cycle rides, being climate champions and blogging for our website



# Climate Action Fife

**CLIMATE  
ACTION FIFE**

Between October 2020 and April 2022 we led a Fife-wide cross-sector partnership project to pilot a range of activities tackling the climate emergency. Funded by the National Lottery Community Fund's Climate Action Fund, the project worked with Fife Council, Fife College and Fife Communities Climate Action Network.

Activities included:

- A climate change communications toolkit, Fife Climate Knowhow course and climate change engagement events for a range of audiences
- Innovative behaviour change activities encouraging climate-friendly businesses, homes and gardens, food, and holidays
- A cross-sector Climate-friendly Food Summit with 80 attendees shared ideas on how to make a more sustainable food system
- A feasibility study into the potential for a Fife community renewable energy project
- Production of a Fife Community Tree Planting Guide and a Fife Community Cycling Action Plan
- A small grants fund allowing 13 community groups to engage their communities in climate action

Climate Action Fife engaged with over **2,300 people, community groups, organisations and businesses across the region** and helped our community save **4,227 tonnes of carbon.**



Due to the success of the project, the National Lottery have awarded us a further £2.1 million to deliver more carbon reduction activities over the next five years, expanding the project to work with 12 cross-sector partner organisations.

## Our work in 2021-22 was funded by:

Business Gateway, Brag Enterprises, Climate Challenge Fund, Community Energy Scotland, Cycling Scotland, Cycling UK, Development Trust Association Scotland, Energy Saving Trust, Fife Council, Paths for All, Robertson Trust, SGN, Scottish Government, The National Lottery Community Fund, community donations and the customers of our social enterprise projects. We thank them all.

# 2021 - 2022 Headline Moments



## MAY 2021

We were able to restart our regular activities at **Ravenscraig Walled Garden**. Volunteer sessions returned to weekly drop-ins and we ran our first growing workshop since 2019.



## AUGUST 2021

132 people took part in **Kirkcaldy Walking Festival** celebrating our town, learning new walking routes and getting fit and healthy.



## AUGUST 2021

**The Lang Spoon Community Kitchen** became an accredited Royal Environmental Health Institute (REHIS) training centre, offering courses in Cooking Skills, Allergy Awareness and Elementary Food Hygiene courses.



## SEPTEMBER 2021

80 people took part in our **Line in the Sand** event on Seafield beach, part of a Fife-wide demonstration of the urgent need for action on the climate emergency in the run up to COP26.



## OCTOBER 2021

Our energy advisors launched a **winter thermal imaging campaign**, showing people where their homes were losing heat. The campaign reached 48 households.



## NOVEMBER 2021

**Lang Toun Cycles** celebrated its first year anniversary on the High Street. The community bike shop has generated over £80,000 in social enterprise income through selling refurbished bikes and accessories, and offering repairs and services.



## JANUARY 2022

We became a **Gold Climate Literate Organisation**, accredited by the Carbon Literacy Trust. This certificate recognises that we are improving carbon literacy in our community.

Carbon Literate  
Organisation  
Gold



## FEBRUARY 2022

We published the **Fife Community Cycling Action Plan**, proposing ten actions that are likely to get more people commuting by bike in Fife.



## MARCH 2022

We were able to start serving a hot, **sit-down community meal** again after Covid restrictions eased. We also started a **pop-up café** for people accessing our pantry.



# 2022

## and beyond

The **Cosy Kingdom** energy advice service, **community food and gardening activities** and work to **engage our community on the climate emergency and greener travel** will continue in 2022-23 and beyond.



We continue to share surplus and unsold food through our **community pantry and fridge**. Our weekly **Community Meal** is a social space to eat with others - everyone is welcome. Our **energy advisors** continue to distribute fuel vouchers and to families at risk of disconnection and offer the 'handy' service to those struggling to keep their homes warm. Since March 2022, we have also been part of the **'Cash First' partnership project**, offering shopping vouchers alongside income maximisation and financial capability support.



Between June 2022 and May 2027 **Climate Action Fife** will work with 12 cross-sector partners to deliver an ambitious programme of climate action, tackling the key areas of emissions across Fife.



**Training and employability** remains a core part of our work. We have already supported over 100 young people to gain experience through employability placements in our kitchen, garden and cycle shop and we are working towards becoming an SQA accredited training centre.

Our current **Strategic Plan for a Sustainable Future 2018-23** sets out our plans and ambitions. It ends in March 2023, so we are currently consulting the community to shape our next five year plan.

## THEN & NOW

← 2018 vs 2022 →

2018	2022
20 staff	40 staff
50 volunteers	110 volunteers
500 members	900 members
1,900 mailing list	3,000 mailing list
5,000 people at our activities	8,000 people at our activities

## Cosy Kingdom

Bill and Sarah are an older couple, living in a stone farm cottage. They rely on a wood stove for heating and were worried about having enough wood to get through winter. We created a plan with them to help reduce energy use, gave them thermal curtains to reduce draughts and referred them to Citizens Advice and Rights Fife for a benefit check. They were entitled to Pension Credit and Attendance Allowance, and now receive over £11,000 a year in additional income. "We're in a much better position now thanks to all your wonderful advice and support!"



## Bike Library

Alex was considering buying a bike but hadn't cycled for years and wasn't sure if she would be confident to cycle regularly. She borrowed a bike from our library for a month to see if she would enjoy cycling. She also signed up to some of our led rides to build her confidence. Cycling was a revelation for Alex. She cycled over 100 miles in a month and loved the bike she borrowed. She went on to purchase a refurbished bike from Lang Toun Cycles.

## Smart Cooking

Paul is a member of the Lang Toun Larder pantry. He signed up to our Smart Cooking classes as he was feeling isolated after lockdown, found it difficult to manage his food budgets and was struggling to eat healthily due to a lack of cooking skills. Paul finished the classes with a REHIS Cooking Skills Certificate. He is now cooking more from scratch and has reduced the number of takeaways he buys. He is managing his food budget better and has gone on to use his new skills volunteering in the pantry. He is more confident and feels less isolated.



“ Volunteer sessions are a lifeline for me. They have brought me into contact with a diverse range of people. I enjoy the human interaction and learning from their skills. ”

“ The cooking classes have helped me gain confidence and were supportive and encouraging and I never felt pressured. ”

“ Greener Kirkcaldy are a real asset to the community. You've really helped me. I've done so much with you, like your weekly meals and energy help. Staff are all wonderful people. ”

“ Thank you for last night's class. We are introducing more meat free meals to our regular diet for both sustainability and health reasons. ”

“ This is a project that you would want in your local area. It is calming, educational, a great place to come and be with other like minded people. ”

“ The energy advisor spoke to me on the same level. I haven't been in a position to ask for help before and he really made it much easier for me. I'm in a much better position now. ”

“ I loved the cycling activities - they were very helpful and satisfying. I now cycle more, with my daughter. ”

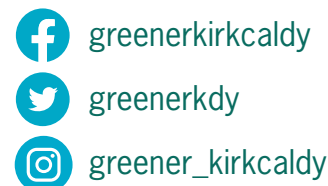
“ Great service from Lang Toun Cycles. I'll be using them for all my servicing and repair needs in future. Great to have this local to me. ”

“ An excellent in depth discussion around climate change - a steep learning curve for me in every way. I am endeavouring to put things I learned into practice. ”

**Find out more** about our work at [www.greenerkirkcaldy.org.uk](http://www.greenerkirkcaldy.org.uk)

**Support us** by becoming a member, donating or volunteering

**Keep up to date** by joining our mailing list or following us on social media



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