

NESCAN HUB NEWSLETTER

Updates and events from

North East Scotland's Climate Action Network



DECEMBER 2024



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Welcome to our NESCAN Hub December 2024 Newsletter.

We hope you find this month's edition useful!
We are excited to present the final newsletter of
2024 and trust it reaches you in great health and
good spirits.

All links in this newsletter are clickable.

They will be **bold and underlined**




If you have any questions, please email
communications@nescan.org

Enjoy!

CWNE

SAVE THE DATE FOR CWNE 2025

Mark your calendars, everyone – the wait is over! You might have seen in our November newsletter that we decided to move Climate Week North East (CWNE) to September following public feedback and to align with Scottish Climate Week and activities in other regional hubs across Scotland. And now we're thrilled to announce the official dates for CWNE 2025 are:

 **20th September – 5th October, 2025**

Get ready for 16 days packed with inspiration, innovation, and unforgettable experiences. Whether you've been a part of the CWNE journey before or are joining us for the first time, this will be the event you won't want to miss!

Stay tuned as we're updating the website and will reveal more exciting details in the coming months. Let the countdown begin.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Daviot Village Hall

Friday 6th December 6:30pm to 9:00pm

BBC Radio 4's flagship political discussion programme is coming to Daviot with a panel of four speakers who answer questions from the audience, providing people with the opportunity to challenge politicians, policy makers, writers, and thinkers.

The programme is broadcast LIVE on Radio 4 straight after the 8:00pm news bulletin. It's your chance to put your question to the panel.

Doors open at 6:30pm and close at 7:15pm. Entry is by ticket only. Please note there will be security checks on admittance to the venue. Recording and photography during the

broadcast is not permitted. There will be question cards available for you to complete on arrival. Look forward to seeing you there!



[sign up for the event](#)

[KNOW MORE ABOUT ANY QUESTIONS?](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Join the NESFIT Team as **TREASURER!**



Interested in supporting home retrofit and renewable energy heating?

Help North East Scotland Retrofit Hub grow!

Founded 2 years ago, **North East Scotland Retrofit Hub (NESFIT)** is a Scottish Benefit Society Charity dedicated to addressing climate change, fuel poverty and poor health by supporting householders through the challenging process of upgrading their homes and installing renewable energy heating systems.

Are you passionate about making a difference in your community? NESFIT is looking for a **Treasurer** to help drive forward the mission!

What does the Treasurer Role Involve?

As a Treasurer, you'll:

- Oversee cash flow and ensure financial stability
- Report to the Board on NESFIT's finances
- Prepare annual accounts for auditing

Our current financial demands are low and, when the organisation develops further, paid staff will take on responsibility for day to day financial management with the Treasurer's role being one of oversight and guidance.

What Are We Looking For?


You don't need to be an accountant, but you should have:

- Experience in financial management for businesses or organisations
- A solid understanding of financial processes and reporting.

By joining the Board as a Director, you'll be part of a passionate team driving real change in our community.

Interested? Let's Chat!

For an informal discussion, contact George Allan (NESFIT Secretary):

 01651-842402

 climate_action_admin@udny.org

NESFIT is registered as a Community Benefit Society with the Financial Conduct Authority (8968) and with OSCR as a Scottish Charity (SC052474).

FUNDING

- **The SEED Fund is OPEN**



We've doubled the funding available from our SEED Fund to help kickstart your projects. So don't delay.

NESCAN Hub has a small pot of funding for community climate action and biodiversity projects within Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire. The Seed Fund is designed for small community projects. Therefore we can only fund organisations with an income of less than £50,000 per annum.

Grants are allocated to eligible projects on a first come first served basis while funds remain. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, grants are now a **maximum of £1,000** per organisation to enable us to fund as many organisations and projects as possible.

[find out more about SEED Fund](#)

- **LEAF Fund**



We appreciate everyone's enthusiastic participation in the first round of the Local Environmental Action Fund (LEAF). Updates on the next round will be shared soon. Stay tuned and be sure to visit our webpage and social media platforms for more updates.

[latest updates here](#)



FUNDING

- **‘HEALTHY PLANET, HEALTHY PEOPLE’:
COMMUNITY-LED AWARD**

Community-led Awards are designed to support community-led research. The awards are available to cover eligible costs arising from a defined research project. Funding will be provided to support new and existing research projects that promote the health of individuals through fostering healthy environments and communities and enabling access to healthy foods. **The Williamson Trust** and RSE are looking to award ten demonstrator pilot-scale projects led by community-based individuals or organisations, who would each receive an award amount of up to £5,000 to conduct a research project for up to 12 months. Application closes on 5th December 2024, 12pm.

[find out more](#)

LEARNING & RESEARCH

- **SPARKING CHANGE**

ARE YOU DRIVEN TO CREATE LASTING, POSITIVE CHANGE?

Sparking Change is an enterprise programme designed to empower residents of Aberdeen City to make a positive change in society.

Open to members of the local community (not currently in work) and students (including those in part-time employment) with limited to no entrepreneurial experience, this FREE programme offers a blend of bespoke activities to equip participants with the knowledge, skills and confidence to take the first

step towards social entrepreneurship, with a focus on the **UN's Strategic Development Goals** (SDGs). You might even explore a new business venture and could win a cash prize to get it off the ground!

Eligibility: Participants must reside in Aberdeen City, however students throughout Aberdeenshire are also eligible if enrolled on a course and studying at one of the following institutions – University of Aberdeen, Robert Gordon University and North East Scotland College. Economically-inactive is defined as not currently in work and not actively seeking work in the last four weeks. If you have any questions about your eligibility, please email sparkingchange@abdn.ac.uk.

For more information on the programme and how to sign up, you can check out the website below.

[workshop details](#)



LEARNING & RESEARCH

- **FOODLINK NE PROJECT: DEVELOPING STRONGER LINKS BETWEEN LOCAL FOOD AND LOCAL PEOPLE**



You may remember the survey from the FoodLink NE project in our previous newsletters. We're now pleased to share that the Phase 1 feasibility study is now complete. Do check out the website for more information and to access the full report.

[FoodLink NE Project](#)

[Read the report here](#)

Please email foodlinkne@gmail.com if you would like to contribute to the project. You can **subscribe** to stay up to date with the project's progress.



LEARNING & RESEARCH

- **REVIEW OF RETROFIT ASSESSMENT IN SCOTLAND FOR IMPROVING HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY SURVEY**

The Scottish Government has commissioned Glasgow Caledonian University, Robert Gordon University, and Carbon Futures to conduct a review of retrofit assessment in Scotland for improving home energy efficiency. The review is set against four core objectives of reviewing existing methodologies, identifying gaps in the retrofit assessment market, evaluating skills and qualifications, and assessing market readiness in Scotland.

As part of this research, **Team SEDA** would like to invite you to complete an online survey consisting of seventeen research questions set out by the Scottish Government.

The survey will close at 5pm on Friday 3rd January 2025. All responses will be treated anonymously and used solely for the purposes of this research.

A report summarising the findings of this work will be published in mid-2025.

If you have any questions or wish to withdraw from participation please email Keith Baker at keith.baker@gcu.ac.uk or Magdalena Blazusiak at m.blazusiak@rgu.ac.uk.

Please feel free to forward this information to anyone else who may be interested in participating, and apologies for any cross-posting as we're trying to capture as broad a range of stakeholders as possible.

[survey here](#)

LEARNING & RESEARCH



- **RESIDENT SURVEY: CAIRNGORM NATIONAL PARK**

Do you live, work or learn in the Cairngorms National Park?

This autumn, the Park Authority is looking to hear from as many residents as possible, on the topics and issues that matter most to you.

Share your views via their online survey and it would only take around 25 minutes. Once you fill in the survey, you are entered to a prize draw of £100 in vouchers to spend locally!

If you have any questions, and for additional communications support and guidance please contact communications@cairngorms.co.uk.

[fill survey here](#)



UPDATES FROM THE HUB

NESCAN's 3rd BIRTHDAY & CELEBRATING 350 MEMBERS

On 8th November 2024, we celebrated three amazing years of NESCAN—three years of connecting, collaborating, and creating positive environmental change across the North East of Scotland. We couldn't have done it without the incredible community groups and passionate individuals who've supported us every step of the way.

To all of you who've joined us on this journey: THANK YOU!

And there is more good news. As of November 26th, we're now 350 members strong! That's 350 incredible individuals and groups coming together to make a real difference for our planet. From local sustainable projects to inspiring community-building initiatives, we're thrilled to support your work and watch your efforts grow into meaningful environmental impacts.

Here's to continuing this journey together—celebrating milestones, and making a difference. Thank YOU for being part of the NESCAN family. Let's keep creating the change we all want to see!



UPDATES FROM THE HUB

OFFICE CLOSED DURING THE HOLIDAYS

As the festive season approaches, we wanted to let you know that our office will be **closed from 24th December 2024 to 3rd January, 2025**. We'll be back and raring to go on **4th January, 2025**.

We wish you a joyful holiday season and a wonderful start to the new year. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to connecting with you in 2025!

HAPPY
Holidays!

A festive holiday greeting featuring the word "HAPPY" in a red, serif font above the word "Holidays!" in a large, red, cursive script font. The text is surrounded by several green, stylized snowflake icons.



THE SUSTAINABLE ADVENT CALENDAR: 24 DAYS OF CLIMATE-FRIENDLY CHEER

What better way to celebrate the holidays than with a fun twist of an advent calendar. Why not make it 24 days of small, sustainable actions that spread holiday cheer while being kind to the planet. Let's turn December into a month of giving back to the Earth!



Small steps make a huge difference, and December is the perfect time to reflect on how our choices impact the planet.





NESCAN
HUB

Are you looking for:

- help with your community climate action group or project?
- help with funding?
- Information about how to take action on climate change?
- inspiration about the range of ways that you can help your community incorporate positive steps for the climate into their everyday activities.

NESCAN Hub is here to help.

[Become a member](#) or get in touch: **info@nescan.org**

Keep up to date and follow us [@NESCANhub](#)

NESCAN Hub Limited is a charity registered in Scotland, No.SC053435.

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