

NESCAN HUB NEWSLETTER

Updates and events from

North East Scotland's Climate Action Network



MARCH 2025



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Welcome to our Nescan Hub March 2025 Newsletter.

We hope your year is off to a fantastic start. In this first edition in 2025, we are pleased to share exciting updates, upcoming plans, and opportunities for you to get involved and have your say.

All links in this newsletter are clickable.

They will be **bold and underlined**



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

Enjoy!

UPCOMING EVENTS



NESCAN Members' Gathering

Our annual NESCAN Members' Gathering will take place on **Saturday, May 10, 2025**. Time, venue and other details will be shared soon.

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information.

SAVE THE DATE!

Share Your Expertise – Call for Speakers & Topics!

As we're preparing up for our Members' Gathering event in May, we want to hear from you! Do you have a topic you're passionate about or insights that could benefit our members? Whether you'd like to suggest a discussion theme or step up as a speaker, we'd love your input. This is a great opportunity to share knowledge, spark conversations, and connect with like-minded individuals.

If you have an idea or want to speak, let us know by replying to this email or contact communications@nescan.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Community Open Day

Friday, 14th March 2025

12:30 pm - 15:30 pm

Ruthrieston Community Centre

Amanda from Ruthrieston Community Centre and our CDO, Jamie from invites everyone to come to a community open day on Friday, 14th March. Pop along to see some of the wonderful things that happen at the centre, enjoy free soup and a sandwich and let us know what more the centre can do to be a bigger part of the community. Get involved and share your thoughts on the Walking Group Action Plan. Partake in an art group, discuss your ideas on how we can improve the centre and relax with a sound bath.



Join us for an event filled day!

Community Open Day!

@Ruthrieston Community Centre

14th March 2025

12.30pm - 15.30pm

EVENTS:

- Walking Group
- Creative Workshops
- Community Chat

FREE

Soup & Sandwich

Tea & Coffee

Get Involved!

Give us your feedback on our Walking Group Initiative and Action Plan!

How we can support our community? Share your thoughts with Jamie from NESCAN!

Follow our facebook



RUTHRIESTON COMMUNITY CENTRE OPEN DAY EVENTS

free soup & sandwich!



12pm Walking Group
Planning Aid Scotland



1pm Art Group
Theresa Scott



1.45pm Community Chat
Jamie from NESCAN



2.15pm Sound bath
Dancing with the Universe



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Map of the Sublime Workshop with Carrie Fertig**

Friday, 21st March 2025
10 am - 1 pm

Health of the Sublime, maps the lived experience of wellbeing in the natural world through the lens of climate change has events and courses coming up soon. In partnership with The Barn, all are invited to make a multimedia handcrafted mind map. You can book your tickets below.

[see more](#)

[book your tickets](#)

Health of the Sublime, in partnership with The Barn, invite participants to help make a multimedia handcrafted mindmap, based on the places we most intensely experience wellbeing and the sublime in the natural world.

The Barn, Burn O Bennie, Banchory AB31 5QA
21st March, 2025, 10:00am - 1pm



Please bring a nature-based object from a place where you have experienced heightened wellbeing in nature (e.g. a shell, pebble, branch etc...) to be incorporated into a large flexible map, which will be joined with others to make a giant quilt of wellbeing. We will incorporate text, poems, textile skills (including embroidery) and other objects, and will engage in a discussion of the meaning of these, their connection to wellbeing, and how making and being in nature affect our outlook.

Participants from the previous September session are very welcome and encouraged to return and continue the journey with us.

Leading the sessions is socially engaged interdisciplinary artist, Carrie Fertig, who works in performance, video, sound, installation, spoken word, and virtual reality. Fertig is also a maker in frameworked glass, used for its sonic properties including music and its ability to hold ideas. The foundation of her practice is engagement with collaborators or participants, and much of it is interactive to address emotional, spiritual, and physical states and thresholds. To find out more please visit www.carriefertig.com.

Health of the Sublime is a creative arts programme focusing on the experience of wellbeing in the natural world, through the lens of climate change. Funded by Creative Scotland. In partnership with Mearns and Coastal Healthy Living Network.

Tickets are £3 or £5 at QR code:

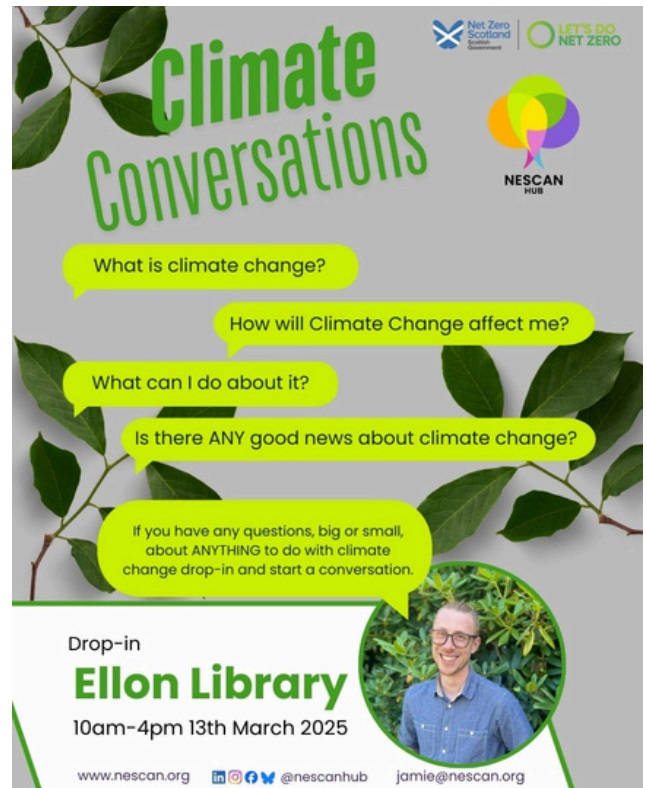


UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Climate Conversations**

Thursday, 13th March 2025
10 am - 4 pm
Ellon Library

Come along to our drop-in event 'Climate Conversations' at Ellon Library on Thursday, 13th March from 10 am to 4 pm. Our CDO, Jamie will be there to talk to you about anything climate. This is your chance to step in and get to know more about climate change and take action! No booking required.



- **Travelling Gallery: After Glass - Rachel McBrinn and Alison Scott**
20 - 22 March 2025
Free, Drop-in

The contemporary gallery in a bus takes to the road in 2025 with exhibitions exploring the themes of the environment and climate emergency. It parks up in Aberdeen in spring with 'After Glass' by Rachel McBrinn and Alison Scott. Developed from their time as artists in residence at the St Andrews Botanic Garden, the artists take the recent demolition of the St Andrews glasshouses as a starting point to rethink botanical conservation, presenting work in film and writing.

Thursday 20 March, 10:00 – 16:00

Northfield Community Centre and Cummings Park Community Centre

Friday 21 March, 10:00 – 16:00

Lochside Academy

Saturday 22 March, 10:00 – 16:00

Union Terrace Gardens



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **The Future We Choose**

Tuesday, 18th March 2025

1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Room N242, Sir Ian Wood Building, RGU AB10 7QB

RSA Fellows, members of the Northeast of Scotland's community, business, voluntary networks, students and members of society are invited to join us on RGU's campus for an important and inspiring afternoon of discussion and networking around RSA's initiative, Design for Life.

Economic, social and environmental crises have placed our world in a fragile, unbalanced and degenerative state. Our mission is to enable people, places and the planet to flourish in harmony. Our vision is for a world where everyone can fulfil their potential and contribute to more resilient, rebalanced and regenerative futures.

See more about the speakers and book your tickets.

[book your tickets](#)

- **Aberdeen - Small99's People, Planet, Pint™: Sustainability Meetup**

Wednesday, 19th March 2025

7 pm

The Spiritualist Aberdeen

AB11 6EN

Pop down to your local **People Planet Pint** meetup to find more about what's going on locally with sustainability and how you can get involved. We welcome everyone, regardless of their experience or background. People Planet Pint is a space where everyone can feel comfortable learning about sustainability and sharing their ideas.

[book your tickets](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Spring Tree Planting Day**

Sunday, 9th March 2025

11 am - 3 pm

**Meet at Oldcraig Path, Pitmedden
Next to Woodrecyclability**

The Spring Tree Planting Day by Udney Climate Action is taking place on Sunday, 9th March 2025 from 11 am to 3 pm in Pitmedden. Please park in the village as there is no parking nearby (16 minutes walk).

For more information contact climateaction@udny.org.



UDNY CLIMATE ACTION

Spring Tree Planting Day

SUNDAY 9TH MARCH 2025
11AM-3PM

HELP US PLANT 200 TREES

Everyone is welcome

Come for the whole, or part of the day

Remember to bring refreshments

Our annual tree planting and maintenance event in Pitmedden, boosting Udney's green spaces and increasing biodiversity in the area.
This project will be planting a range of trees along the newly opened Oldcraig Path.
We also have lots of native trees available for the community to use in their own projects.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: CLIMATEACTION@UDNY.ORG

Meet: Oldcraig Path, Pitmedden.
Next to Woodrecyclability.
W3W: ///mailboxes.chairing.waltz

Please park in the village as there is no parking nearby (16min walk)

<https://climateaction.udny.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/UdneyClimateAction>
[climateaction@udny.org](https://www.instagram.com/climateaction@udny.org)

- **Spring Fair at the Mill**

Sunday, 30th March 2025

11 am - 3 pm

Get ready with the arrival of spring at the Mill of Benholm! The Spring Fair at the Mill is happening on Sunday, 30th March 2025 from 11 am to 3 pm. With the variety of stalls including arts, crafts, food, and many other things from the area. Food, snacks and cakes are available on the day.



SPRING FAIR AT THE MILL

Spring Fair at the Mill of Benholm on Sunday the 30th of March from 11am until 3pm

Browse through more than 30 stalls offering art, craft, foods and other exciting things from the area.

The Café at the Mill, Drumsleed Burger, Stallion Pizza and Regency Whippy Ice Cream will have delicious food, cakes and snacks available on the day.

Please bring cash, as due to intermittent mobile signal at the Mill of Benholm, card payments might not always be possible at stalls

Mill of Benholm Enterprise (SCIO) - Burn House - Burn of Benholm - Benholm - DD10 0HT - email secretary@millofbenholm.scot - Scottish Charity Number SC047943

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Purpose Film Screening | Open Road**

Thursday, 13th March 2025

Doors open 6:30 pm. Event starts at 7 pm



Open Road

OMNIPOLIS



Come along us for a special film screening event at the **Fittie Community Hall** to be inspired and moved by this powerful film that will leave you with a sense of purpose. Around the world we're seeing the devastating impact of the climate crisis. So why can't we get off this path? **Purpose – a Wellbeing Economies Film** explores how the economy is at the heart of these problems and what we can do differently.

This inspiring film follows the stories of **Katharine Trebeck** and **Lorenzo Fioramonti** as they work to transform our economy so that it puts people and planet first. And highlights the pivotal role that Scotland played in establishing the Wellbeing Economy Governments Partnership. Following the screening there will be a Q&A with the film's director Martin Oetting and Dr Lukas Bunse, Policy & Engagement Lead at Wellbeing Economy Alliance Scotland.

This event is in partnership with **Aberdeen Climate Action**. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with others and enjoy a thought provoking and social night. See you there!

Thursday 13 March, Fittie Community Hall, 7 New Pier Road, Aberdeen, AB11 5DR. Doors 6.30pm event starts 7pm.

Pay on the door or purchase tickets in advance: £5.00 plus booking fee.

[book your tickets | Eventbrite](#)

OPPORTUNITIES



- **Senior Administrator**

Deadline for applications: Midnight, Sunday, 16th March 2025

Nescan Hub is on the lookout for a talented and experienced Senior Administrator. If you have a passion for sustainability, excellent organisational skills, and a desire to make a significant impact, we would love to hear from you!



- **Board Member (Treasurer)**

Deadline for applications: Monday, 31st March 2025



We are seeking a Treasurer to join our Board! If you have a background in finance, accounting, or budgeting and are eager to use your skills to create a significant impact, this is an excellent opportunity for you. Visit our careers website for more information and details on how to apply.

[apply here](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

- **Co-Producer Roles at Deveron Projects**

Deadline for applications: Tuesday, 1st April, 12 pm (noon) GMT



Deveron Projects is looking for two passionate and practical Co-Producers to join the team in Huntly for at least two years. These new roles reflect their deeply collaborative approach within the team and with artists, communities and partners. Working across the organisation, from programme to operations, buildings to communications, the Co-Producers will be essential members of Deveron Projects, creatively and practically co-developing the work they make, and how they make it. The full requirements of the role and the tasks each Co-Producer may hold are detailed in the job pack. More information in different formats are available on their **Opportunities** webpage.

They are running informal 1:1 open sessions where you can meet with the team and get a feel for the role, what it's like to work/live here and ask any questions. These can be booked **here**.

FUNDING



- **SEED Fund & LEAF Fund are now CLOSED**

Thank you all for your applications. Our SEED Fund and LEAF Fund are now closed.

We hope that our SEED Fund will return in the next financial year. We're currently in the process of assessing the LEAF Fund applications and hope to get back to you soon.

Keep an eye out on our websites

[SEED Fund](#)

[LEAF Fund](#)

- **Cycling Scotland - Access to Bikes, Parking and Storage Fund**

Cycling Scotland work with partners to support delivery of People & Place programme. Funding is available to enable more people to cycle through increasing affordable access to bikes, parking and storage. Local authorities and registered social landlords can apply. Next deadline is 2nd July 2025. Please email Cycling Scotland team to confirm eligibility before submitting your application at cyclingfriendly@cycling.scot.

[find out more](#)



FUNDING & CONSULTATIONS

- **Vattenfall Unlock Our Future Fund had opened**
Deadline: 12th May

The overall purpose of the fund is to support charitable activity that addresses at least three of the following criteria: contribute to a climate smarter world with sustainability at its core, invest in community facilities and activities that are fit for the future and are environmentally sustainable, especially community spaces and transport, support creative solutions, ensure a legacy and lasting impact, which clearly brings benefit to the local community. Grants up to £20,000 are offered and will cover Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire.

[find out more](#)



LEARNING & RESEARCH

- **Culture RoundUp by Culture Aberdeen - Opportunities for Creative Community Groups**

Culture Aberdeen is a partnership of the city's cultural organisations with support from Aberdeen City Council. The network delivers ambitions through agreed action plans alongside member organisations. Culture RoundUp is a monthly update designed to keep local creative community informed about funding opportunities, residencies, job openings, and ways to get involved. Find out more below.

[subscribe & read February edition](#)

- **Aberdeenshire Community Learning and Development Partnership Plan: Forums Open - Have Your Say!**

The **Aberdeenshire Learning Community Partnership Community Learning and Development Plan 2024-2027** has now been published and on January 2025, the forum discussion are open. You can add your comment here on the respective themes below:

On Theme 1 Community Empowerment

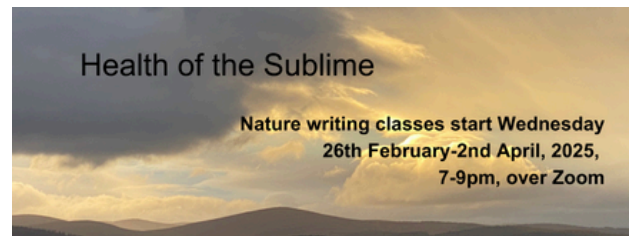
On Theme 2 Employability and Skills

[find out more](#)

LEARNING & RESEARCH

- **Nature Writing Classes by Carrie Fertig**

**26th February - 2nd April 2025
7 pm - 9 pm, over Zoom**



Artist Carrie Fertig, partnered with Mearns and Coastal Healthy Living Network, announce the next block of Health of the Sublime courses. This creative arts project for folk over 50, funded by Creative Scotland, focuses on our experience of wellbeing in nature through the lens of climate. Nature writing/poetry class runs for six weeks, 26th February - 2nd April, 2025, Wednesdays 7-9pm, over Zoom. The course costs £10 total for six sessions inclusive. All proceeds support Mearns and Coastal Healthy Living Network. You can start after week one. If cost is an issue, bursaries are available.

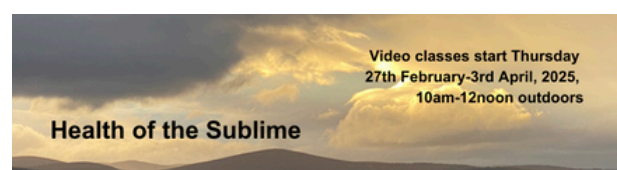
We are thrilled to welcome author and participatory arts and nature connection facilitator Linden McMahon to teach the next block of nature writing/poetry.

All levels of experience welcome. Our small group is a safe space to learn, hone skills, and increase your connection to nature, and make community. Learn more: contact Carrie Fertig carrie@carriefertig.com, or scan the QR code for course descriptions.



- **Video Classes by Carrie Fertig**

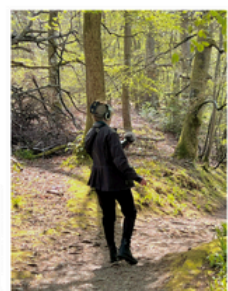
**27th February - 3rd April 2025
10 am - 12 noon, Outdoors**



Artist Carrie Fertig, partnered with Mearns and Coastal Healthy Living Network, are excited to announce the third block of creative tuition of Health of the Sublime. This creative arts project for folk 50+, funded by Creative Scotland, focuses on our experience of wellbeing in nature through the lens of climate.

Video classes start Thursday 27th February-3rd April, 2025. Classes meet for two hours, once a week for six weeks. Video class meets outdoors, in and around Kincardineshire, Thursdays 10am-12 noon in a different location every week, usually followed by a cuppa and cake. Classes will change the way you see, hear, and experience nature. Video class includes audio and we will learn techniques improving both sound and vision as we add a big dose of wellbeing to our lives in a small supportive group. Led by project lead artist Carrie Fertig.

No experience needed. The course costs £10 total for six sessions inclusive. All proceeds support Mearns and Coastal Healthy Living Network. You can start after week one. If cost is an issue, bursaries are available. To learn more about courses contact Carrie Fertig: carrie@carriefertig.com. Scan the QR code on this page for more information about classes.





MEMBERS' STORIES

=Welcome=

We're now **400 members** strong! Thank you for becoming our member, join our community and for your enthusiastic participation and support.

NEW MEMBERS

A heartfelt welcome to all who have joined NESCAN recently!

- Bonnymuir Green Community Trust
- Drumblade Parent Council

This section of our newsletter, focuses on sharing crucial updates from our members. We want to hear your stories, volunteer opportunities, and more. Please send any event details or stories you would like to share in the newsletter to our email at communications@nescan.org.

UPDATES FROM THE HUB



SCVO THE GATHERING EXTRA

Our CEO, Alison had an incredible experience reflecting on sustainable features and achieving carbon savings through local projects while addressing funding challenges at The Gathering Extra by **SCVO** on Wednesday, 5th March 2025. For those who missed it, sessions will be available soon on the **SCVO YouTube** channel.



Alison shared her reflection: *"It's a scary time. We've got to work together as a sector and society to really start to push for what we want. Whether that's small things in your personal life, or in your business, or doing your own climate project."*



UPDATES FROM THE HUB



- **NEW BLOGS ALERT!**

We have published a variety of blogs on our website, each addressing different themes and discussions, packed with valuable insights from diverse areas such as buildings and energy, food, climate justice, education, and more. Whether you're looking for expert guidance, look for funding opportunities, or simply seek a fresh perspective, there's something for everyone. Happy reading!

[read the latest blogs](#)



- **BlueSky is ACTIVE now!**

We have now fully switched to BlueSky, where all updates from us will be posted. The X account will remain inactive. Make sure to follow us to keep up with the latest news.

Join us and become a valued member of our community!

[join us on BlueSky](#)



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](https://twitter.com/NESCANhub)

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

Registered office: The James Hutton Institute, Aberdeen AB15 8QH

