

## Small Grants Fund Case Study

### St Andrews Botanic Garden Trust

#### What activity did you run?

The grant played a pivotal role in supporting our project which aims to bridge the gap between under-represented communities in Fife and local organisations working in conservation and climate action.

The funding supported two events with distinct audiences:

#### Conservation Evidence Workshop:

At the Conservation Evidence Workshop, we partnered with Bill Sutherland from Conservation Evidence to bring together organisations from Fife working on climate action and conservation. The workshop allowed these groups to share successful strategies, highlight how research influences decisions, pinpoint gaps in knowledge, and create new partnerships through interactive sessions and discussions.

#### Conservation Celebration Day:

We chose St Andrews Botanic Garden as the venue for this event, which we named The Big Spring Bash. By arranging the date to avoid clashes with the Fife Climate Festival, we attracted more participants and used our resources more efficiently. This event let the organisations that joined the workshop meet a broader audience, especially those not yet engaged in climate matters. People could learn about different activities and volunteering opportunities in Fife.

By hosting these events, our project has encouraged the community in Fife to get more involved in conservation and climate action, building stronger ties between organisations and the public for a more unified approach to tackling climate issues.

#### Who were your main audience?

40 people booked place for our Conservation Evidence Workshop. These vary from local landowners to those who work in conservation focused organisations.

The Conservation Celebration Day, rebranded as the Big Spring Bash, (in line with an event we ran last year) looks likely to reach around 500 people, with about 30% representing under-served communities.

#### What did you learn?

The Fife Climate Festival was a huge success this year. We chose to shift our workshop and celebration day because it clashed with another local event that had similar activities aimed at similar audiences. In future, we'll use the contacts we've

# Community Climate Grants



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made through Fife Communities Climate Action Network to ensure we plan activities that avoid competing for the same audience on the same day.

### **Has your project increased your community's capacity to tackle the climate emergency?**

We still need to complete our project but the relationships we have made through inviting participants have already led to an increase in our capacity to deliver events to the two audiences.

The grant helped us build the networks necessary to organise both the Conservation Evidence Workshop and the Conservation Celebration Day. This fostered collaboration, knowledge-sharing and community engagement towards addressing climate change and conservation challenges in Fife. We're grateful for the support that made this project possible, and we look forward to sharing how our two activities go in April.

### **Find out more**

<https://www.standrewsenvironmental.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/standrewsbotanicgarden>