

# Community Climate Grants

## Small Grant Fund Case Study



## Batswood

### What activity did you run?

We made a short film and podcast for the Willow Worlds project with professional equipment.

We also brought in the skills of TreeWilding CIC. They installed a prototype Air-Pruning Tree Nursery table in Ravenscraig Walled Garden. This for use by Bat's Wood and potentially schools and other community groups.

### Who were your main audience?

The small video we produced has achieved 163 views on our Substack group and should achieve the same on YouTube. The main audience is Buckhaven residents.

<https://youtu.be/5xml4zHQIXI>

The tree nursery installation involved two people from TreeWilding CIC, a volunteer from Buckhaven, several of our members and at least three people from Kirkcaldy Walled Garden. The main audience is people who will see the tree nursery now it is a new feature of Kirkcaldy Walled Garden.

We will encourage people and schools to donate tree seeds and nuts for our members to grow saplings for local tree planting projects. We are happy that this installation has given TreeWilding a chance to test their new design and tweak parts of it. We wish them luck in their important work to bring air-pruning into community tree nurseries.

### What did you learn?

Air-pruning in a tree nursery improves the structure and resilience of the sapling's root system. A tree raised for two years in this nursery has a much better chance of surviving than a tree grown in a pot or pod. This is because traditional methods produce a pot-bound roots. We are adopting methods that large nurseries use all the time using this smaller scale design.

We had planned to release a more ambitious film during Fife Climate Festival but we had to change the plan.

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

Over the years we have become increasingly aware that saplings supplied for community tree planting are weak, fragile and seem pot bound. We now understand that the way we grow trees is part of that problem. We have found something that is part of responding to that problem.

The tree nursery gives us a local place to plant tree seeds until they are two years old. Now we have a healthy and local source of up to 600 young trees which can supply or supplement community tree projects.

### Find out more

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



grow. Tree planting has never been more important than now, but the roe deer are a problem in

The Willow Worlds Project - August.



Bat's Wood

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