

Circular Renfrewshire

Signposting local projects and services that reuse, repair, mend and share



Renfrewshire
Climate Action
Network



Reuse, Repair, Mend & Share in Renfrewshire

In a '[circular economy](#)', waste is avoided through more resourceful production and consumption, keeping materials and resources in circulation.

Renfrewshire Climate Action Hub has put together this booklet to signpost projects, initiatives, businesses and facilities in Renfrewshire that support a circular economy.

- Community Repair Initiatives
- Lending Projects
- Sewing and Creative Upcycling Projects
- Community Bike Projects
- Surplus Food Redistribution and Growing Spaces
- Men's Sheds and Furniture Restoration
- Free Giveaways, Charity Shops and Online Marketplaces
- Spaces for Making and Reimagining
- Repair & Reuse Shops and Services
- Renfrewshire Council Recycling Information
- Online Resources: circular economy information, practical repair guides and more

Beyond the projects listed here, [Renfrewshire Climate Action Network](#)'s website has a range of resources, a members list and map created integrated in [ALISS - A Local Information System for Scotland](#).

We strive to regularly update this booklet as needed and add any other relevant projects. So please do get in touch with any comments, questions, suggestions and updates.

Renfrewshire Climate Action Hub
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Community Repair Initiatives

Projects offering repairs, repair guidance or refurbishment for free or low cost

- **Care & Repair.** Free advice, repairs, and practical assistance to people who are older or have disabilities and live in Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire and Inverclyde. Find out more on [Care & Repair's website](#)
- **E-Quality Access Project, Pachedu.** Reducing digital poverty by collecting, refurbishing, and redistributing unused laptops, smartphones and tablets. Donate unused devices to your local Renfrewshire library. **Contact:** esther.misajel@pachedu.org
- **Gryffe Repair Cafe. Creating A Sustainable Gryffe, Bridge of Weir.** Hosted usually on the second Saturday of the month, 12pm - 3pm, Gryffe Repair Cafe exists to repair household items and textiles, and share repair skills. Hosted by Creating A Sustainable Gryffe. Follow [their Facebook page](#) for updates. [Gryffe Repair Cafe website](#).
- **Fix & Mend. LEAP, Lochwinnoch.** Hosted by RenCAN Hub monthly on Tuesdays, 6-9pm as a community repair drop-in with limited capacity. Check out the [RenCAN website](#), [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) for updates.

Lending Projects

Libraries of tools and other items

- **Renfrewshire Libraries.** [OneRen](#) operate **12 libraries** in Bishopton, Foxbar, Lochwinnoch, Bridge of Weir, Glenburn, Paisley Central, Erskine, Johnstone, Ralston, Ferguslie, Linwood and Renfrew offering book lending, digital suites, activities, areas for children, and [Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment \(WEEE\) recycling banks](#). Paisley Central Library makes sewing machines available to members of the public - ask at the desk for details.
- **Barshaw Tool Library.** [Friends of Barshaw Park](#), Paisley. To borrow garden tools for free, join the [Tool Library](#) as a member.
- **Howwood Hire Hub.** [Friends of Howwood Park](#). A [Tool Library](#) for Howwood residents.



Photography: RenCAN Hub

Sewing & Creative Upcycling Projects

Community projects teaching sewing, mending and slow fashion creation skills.

- **ReMode, Paisley.** Textile mending and embroidery workshops, swap events, sustainable textile design, slow fashion and local heritage. Many of their workshops are aimed at young people up to 25 years old.
More information: [Website](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook page](#)
- **Sewing2gether All Nations, Paisley.** Charity providing sewing & creative upcycling workshops, language cafes, life skill training and practical support to refugees and asylum seekers. Support them through donations and by buying products in their shop in Mossvale Church. They offer bespoke sewing and creative skills workshops - please [email](#) for cost and availability. More information: [Website](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook page](#).



Photos left & right: Becky Duncan; photo in middle: Sewing2gether All Nations

Community Bike Projects

Offering bicycle maintenance and repair training, bike repairs and second hand sales to help to get you on your bike.

- **Own Yer Bike, Ferguslie Park.** Bicycle maintenance and repair training and selling affordable bikes, especially for young people. [Facebook page](#)
- **Kustom Kruizers, Renfrew.** Community bicycle building project that teaches youth and young adults and sells affordable bikes. [Facebook page](#)



Photos: Jenny Baynes / RenCAN Hub / stock images

Did you know that Renfrewshire has one of Scotland's best long-distance cycle networks?
Find out more in the [Cycling in Renfrewshire booklet](#).

Surplus Food Redistribution and Growing Spaces

Community food pantries redistribute surplus food from supermarkets and reduce food waste. Some of them also have food growing spaces and community composting facilities.

- **Emergency food provision from Renfrewshire Foodbank.** You can access an emergency 3-day food parcel from Renfrewshire Foodbank, available for individuals and families who are in need.
Advice Works: 0300 300 1238 // Citizens Advice Bureau: 0141 8892121
- **Darkwood Crew's Community Market.** Held on Thursdays in the Tannahill Centre, open to anyone who needs it. The Tannahill Centre also has a food growing space.
Tannahill Centre, 76 Blacktown Road, Paisley, PA3 1NT
Contact: 07780 437578 / [Facebook page](#) / [Website](#)
- **Lochwinnoch Community Larder.** Distribution of surplus food to Larder members. Tuesdays 12pm - 4pm, Thursdays 10am - 2pm, Saturdays 10:30am - 12pm. The Larder also has a community fridge accessible 24/7, a food growing space and a community composting facility. Lochhead Avenue, Lochwinnoch, PA12 4AW
Contact: communitylarder@myleaproject.org / [Facebook page](#)
- **STAR Pantry Plus.** Dignified food service provision, food growing space and community composting facility. STAR Project 12-14 Wallace Street, Paisley, United Kingdom
Contact: 0141 889 5850 / [Facebook page](#)
- **Active Communities Pantry, [Station 7](#).** Community food pantry in Johnstone, open on Wednesdays, with adjacent food growing space. 7 Quarry St, Johnstone PA5 8DY
Contact: info@activecommunities.co.uk / [Facebook page](#)

Cost of Living Crisis: For anyone struggling to cope, [Engage Renfrewshire](#) has put together [Food, Fuel & Finance resources](#).

Why not grow your own food, and access fresh produce for free or a donation?

Have a look if there are community growing spaces or allotments close to you at [Renfrewshire Growing Grounds Forum](#) and [Renfrewshire Allotments Online](#).



Photos: LEAP Larder (left); stock images (right)

Reclaimed Wood & Furniture

Woodworking and furniture community initiatives and businesses

Men's Sheds

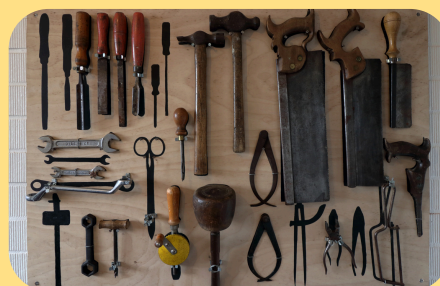
Many [Men's Sheds](#) will use mostly upcycled and donated materials - the perfect place to learn about remaking and woodworking over a cup of tea and a blether.

- **Houston & Killellan Kirk Men's Shed.** Members meet on a weekly basis to work on projects for themselves and the community, learn new skills or brush up on old ones.
West Halls, Main Street, Houston
Contact: mensshed.houstonkirk@gmail.com / [Facebook page](#).
- **Lochwinnoch Men's Shed.** Group of like-minded individuals who like to share ideas, develop skills and pursue projects.
Lochhead Avenue, Lochwinnoch, United Kingdom
Contact: lochwinnochshed@gmail.com / [Facebook page](#).
- **Paisley Men's Shed.** Open Tuesdays 11am - 1pm and Thursdays 12pm - 3pm; supported by the STAR Project, their staff and resources.
Grounds of St Mirren's Football Club, 12-14 Wallace Street, Paisley, PA3 1RU
Contact: 0141 889 5850 / paisleymensshed@star-project.org.uk / [Facebook page](#).
- **Renfrew Men's Shed.** Launched in 2023, and runs workshops on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. Anderson Business Centre, Renfrew
Contact: developmentRDT@outlook.com / [Facebook page](#).

Restored & Reclaimed Furniture

Projects restoring or reclaiming used, worn or damaged furniture

- **Glasgow Salvage.** Architectural salvage and reclamation. 26 McGowan St, Paisley.
Contact: 0141 842 1190 / [Website](#) / [Facebook page](#)
- **Restoration & Creation.** Business offering furniture restoration and craft workshops and a range of upcycled and restored items in their shop or at the monthly [Brown's Lane Market](#). 8 Browns Lane, Paisley PA1 2JH
More information: [Website](#) / [Facebook page](#)



Photos: Stock images

Giveaways and pre-loved sales

Buy or source specific second hand items

Free Giveaways

There are many local online groups to give away and receive free items from private individuals. You can also download the [Olio App](#) for free giveaways and second-hand sales.

- [Brilliant Bartering \(Renfrewshire and Inverclyde\)](#)
- [Bridge of Weir Upcycle](#)
- [The Darkwood Crew](#) posts up items to give away in Ferguslie Park
- [Free Paisley](#) - Paisley-based giveaway group
- [Freebay Paisley](#), Foxbar, Glenburn, Hunterhill etc.
- [Free for Johnstone](#)
- [Linwood Free Upcycle](#)
- [Free for Renfrew](#)
- [Foxbar Community Garden & Environmental Projects Group](#) host swap events

Buying Pre-loved Items

Buying second hand items often gets you good deals, and helps reduce waste.

- [Charity shops](#) in Paisley, Johnstone, Linwood, Bridge of Weir, Lochwinnoch...
- [Renfrew Market & Car Boot Sale](#). Fridays 8am-1pm, 1 Western Park Gate, Renfrew PA4 9EF

For specific items, try **online groups** where people sell on items locally:

[Facebay Renfrewshire](#), [Paisley & Surroundings](#), [Buy & Sell in Beith](#), [Lochwinnoch](#), [Kilbarchan](#), [Johnstone & Howwood](#) and others.

A note of caution: Unlike official traders, online marketplaces are often not regulated.

Check out these [considerations for staying safe online](#) when buying or selling items privately.



Photos: Granny Mutch; stock image

Spaces for Making and Reimagining

Creative spaces and shops in the community, with an upcycling & pre-loved focus

- **Browns Lane, Paisley.** Artisan market, home to independent makers, artists, and small businesses, many of whom specialise in upcycled or preloved items. Discover handcrafted furniture, local art, and unique studios in one of Paisley's most distinctive hidden spaces, or sign up to furniture restoration and other workshops.

6 Browns Lane, Paisley. [Website](#) & [Facebook page](#)

- **Granny Mutch, Lochwinnoch.** Granny Mutch is an independent Charity Shop and Community Space based in the heart of Lochwinnoch. Our aims are to provide affordable shopping choices in a rural area while keeping quality items out of the bin, reducing carbon emissions and consumerism. We facilitate mending and upcycling activities while generating income for other environmental and community projects locally, helping to build a local, circular, wellbeing economy.

1 High St, Lochwinnoch. [Website](#) & [Facebook page](#)

- **Johnstone Textile Space, Johnstone.** The JTS Gallery is a contemporary arts space in Johnstone, Renfrewshire. We host a year-round programme of exhibitions, events, films, literature, workshops, and performances celebrating cloth, community, and creativity.

36 Houstoun Ct, Johnstone PA5 8DL. [Website](#) & [Facebook page](#)



Photos: Becky Duncan / Open Aye; Granny Mutch

Repair & Reuse Shops and Services

Businesses that repair items, refill or source upcycled and reused items.

Refill and Zero Waste Shops

- [Barnhill Farm Shop](#) offers refills of reusable milk bottles, sells local produce and hosts local food organisation Locavore CIC, as well as operating a cafe and play areas. Barnhill Farm, Houston Road, Inchinnan, United Kingdom, PA4 9LU. [Facebook page](#)
- [Rainbow Turtle](#). Fairtrade shop and education charity in the heart of Paisley offering refills of many cleaning products and selling many eco and upcycled items from around the world. 7 Gauze St, Paisley PA1 1EP. [Facebook page](#)
- [McQueens Dairies](#) will deliver milk and oat milk to your door in reusable bottles, and collect your used bottles. [Facebook page](#)
- [The Green Herbalist](#) offers a range of Zero Waste Products and refills. Open Fri / Sat (see Facebook page). 16 Church St, Lochwinnoch PA12 4AH. [Facebook page](#)

Clothing Alterations in Renfrewshire

Website listing local clothes alteration businesses.

clothingalterationsnearme.co.uk/location/scotland/renfrewshire/

Repairs in Renfrewshire

Find your local repair businesses - anything from shoes to washing machines, vacuum cleaners, cars, IT, furniture and more.

www.192.com/atoz/business/renfrewshire/repairs/

Bicycle Repair Shops

- [Bicycle Chain Johnstone](#). The Bicycle Chain: 3 Collier Street, Johnstone PA5 8AR. Phone: 01505 335551
- [Dooleys Cycles](#). 58 Causeyside Street, Paisley, PA1 1YW. Contact: 0141 889 6090 / info@dooleys-cycles.co.uk
- [PG Bike Services](#). 11 Braemar Road, Inchinnan, PA4 9PS. 07410 382545
- [Sprocket & Hubs](#), mobile bike repair service serving Erskine and nearby areas. Contact: 07563 995486 / enquiry@sprocketandhubs.org.uk

This list is not exhaustive, and we do not endorse any particular businesses.

Renfrewshire Council recycling services

If it's not practical to repair, upcycle or reduce an item, dispose of it safely in the correct bin or at the Recycling Centre.

What can go in your bins and rubbish sacks?

[Renfrewshire Council's website](#) has the most up-to-date information.

- **Grey bin:** Your grey bin is for rubbish that cannot be recycled, also called 'general waste'. If you have clinical / medical waste, do not put it in your grey bin. Email us at mybins@renfrewshire.gov.uk or phone us on 0300 300 0300 to discuss your options.
- **Blue bin:** Your blue bin is for paper and cardboard.
- **Green bin:** Your green bin is for plastics, cans, and glass.
- **Brown bin:** Your brown bin is for garden waste and food waste.

Unofficial app for Renfrewshire's bin collection service: <https://bins.ren>

Recycling Centres

Renfrewshire's Recycling Centres are open 7 days a week, from 8am to 6pm (last entry 5:45pm). You can find current information on [Renfrewshire Council's Website](#).

- Erskine, Barrhill Road, PA8 6BU
- Johnstone, Miller Street, PA5 8HP
- Linwood, Middleton Road, PA3 3DP
- Paisley, Underwood Road, PA3 1TL
- Renfrew, Haining Road, PA4 0AJ.



Image: public domain

Online resources

Information about a circular economy - including how-to repair guides, textile upcycling and mending techniques, and much more.

What is a Circular Economy?

- [Circular Economy | Ellen MacArthur Foundation](#). Packed with resources about circular economy principles and implementations.
- [The Story of Stuff Project](#). US-based organisation providing accessible information on circularity principles in manufacture and consumption
- [Open Repair Alliance](#). International group of organisations working towards a world where electrical and electronic products are more durable and easier to repair

Circular Scotland

Organisations and networks working on policy changes in Scotland

- [Zero Waste Scotland](#). Scotland's circular economy public body
- [Share & Repair Network Scotland](#). Supports and represents a network of sharing libraries and repair projects across Scotland
- [Circular Communities Scotland](#). Representing charities and social enterprises that support Scotland's circular economy

Practical repair guides

Online repositories, guides and tutorials to fix and mend many items

- [ifixit](#). Online repair manuals
- [Repair What You Wear](#). Textile repair resources
- [RepairWiki](#). Repository of information to repair any kind of device
- [Restart Project](#). How-to repair manuals; campaigns for the Right to Repair
- [Sewing2gether All Nations](#). Make Do & Mend online tutorials

If you know of any useful resources we have not included here, please get in touch:
admin@myleaproject.org