

A1 Green Banner Crafting!

Proposer: Alys Mumford

This idea is to gather party members to collaboratively make a banner (or banners?!) for use on marches, at stalls, conferences etc. Unions always have beautiful banners, and we should too! Members will collaboratively design the banners to reflect our values, and come together to make them.



This would involve hiring the remakery and their sewing machines, some refreshments, and materials, although the majority of the fabric will be provided from scrap, to help reduce waste. We could repeat this session twice or more times depending on demand, and it might also open the door for future 'green crafts' sessions to create things to sell on stalls or share skills etc.

Which of the aims of our PB trial will this help deliver and how?

- Promote Green value

The activity itself will promote Green values as it will be about reusing materials and contributing to the circular economy. It is also about wellbeing, and honouring crafts which are undervalued because of traditional association with women.

The banners that will be made in the project will also be used to promote Green values as they will be used at marches etc.

- Improve diversity and inclusion across the branch

This activity might appeal to people who don't feel comfortable engaging in traditional political activity like doorknocking. It will be in an accessible space, and can be engaged in with people of any skill level. It would be open to children, meaning members with childcare responsibilities will be more able to attend

- Increase membership participation & engagement

Not only will this be an engaging activity for members itself, it will also be an informal space for people to meet other party members and discuss politics, hopefully getting them more engaged.

Venue Hire and refreshments: £300 (awaiting exact costs from Remakery)

Materials (although most will be reused, things like fabric glue and pens, thread, interfacing etc will be bought new): £75

Total: £375

This has been discussed informally in the 'Lothian Women's Whatsapp' Group as well as with other members over several years, but has never had the impetus to get off the ground. Hopefully this is the moment!

A2 Dancing on the Inside: Creativity and Resilience The Legacy of Simon Fildes

Proposer: Robert Keim

This evening film event will be held in the Grassmarket Community Centre and will present the film work of Simon Fildes.

Simon was a Scottish film maker of international repute who was also an active member of the Edinburgh Greens. His films of dance and movement are famous for innovative and engaging approaches.



We'll a film entitled 'Dancing on the Inside' which compiles of some of Simon's short screendance projects and an more autobiographical piece - 'I hope you don't mind my asking what happened to your legs.'

Simon was a sufferer of MS. He was often asked 'I hope you don't mind my asking ...!' This phrase stuck in his mind and he came to plan a film with that title. He sadly never lived to make it, but, after his death, those involved in the project decided it was an important film to be made.

We'll have with us some of the people who worked on this project to answer our questions and provide context. The event will be a joint fundraiser for Edinburgh Greens and the MS Society.

Which of the aims of our PB trial will this help deliver and how?

- Promote Green Values

Simon demonstrated thoughtful creativity. He modelled positivity and resilience to the vicissitudes of life. His films show an appreciation of nature and of the rich possibilities of contemporary arts.

- Improve diversity and inclusion

The films will be of special interest to those involved in film, in dance, with disabled communities. For some, this may be their first contact with the SGP. Those outside the party or on its periphery sometimes feel that we are focused too exclusively on elections. Cultural events provide additional ways of engaging and appealing to people.

- Increase membership

The event will increase the EGP's profile. We will have information on joining the Edinburgh Greens available on the night

- Increase membership participation and engagement

As a reasonably significant event, a number of people have been involved and will continue to be. Others will as the event approaches join in in various ways to help and contribute.

The event will cost about £500 to run, including venue hire, film rights and promotion. We are requesting £200 to cover the film rights (which is a payment to the collaborators involved in creating the films). The rest will be covered by our sub-branch budget and we aim to raise money from ticket sales and a raffle.

The proposal has been developed by the Central Edinburgh Greens sub-branch Committee, with assistance from members of the Comms Working Group and with input from Simon's family and collaborators.

A3 Gazebo and banner for North Edinburgh and Leith Greens

Proposer: Mariusz Cebulski

North Edinburgh and Leith Greens are looking for 270 pounds to purchase a new gazebo which could be used for events, social meetings etc. as well as materials to create our own banner.

Our current gazebo is on it's last legs as it's been used a number of times during Leith Gala, Edinburgh climate festival and others. We also hope this could be utilized by neighbouring Green sub-branches, Green representative groups or local groups.

We'd also like to purchase materials that would allow us to sew our own NEL banner. We would like to purchase the material and organize an event when we gather for group sewing.

Which of the aims of our PB trial will this help deliver and how?

A gazebo and banner is a good investment to highlight our presence during local events. We also think that the banner sewing is a fun event to organize in our sub-branch.

240 pounds for gazebo (<https://www.houseoftents.co.uk/pop-up-gazebos/59008.html>), about 30 pounds for green and white fabrics for the banner (<https://poundfabrics.co.uk/collections/canvas-fabric/products/plain-cotton-canvas-fabric?variant=39302597181463>)

This has been decided at our sub-branch meeting, which included two current councilors.

A4 Seed bombs

Proposer: Ola Olsinova on behalf of SEEG

We will create lots of seed bombs in a little workshop together (i.e. Nelson Hall) which will be mixtures of native flower seed and compost added together for best results. Then we will go on a walk around pre-selected areas that are most suitable for flower planting and spread the bombs there. The seed bomb making workshop and the walk will be advertised as two separate events taking place in spring this year. It will be advertised via the newsletter as well as other suitable Scottish Greens channels. We will take photos of the different stages of the process to promote this event beyond our ward. Further walk can be organised several weeks later to see which seed bombs were successful (with photo-documentation). We are hoping that once we establish this activity it can become an annual event which can be replicated in all wards with the potential of reaching non-members who might like to join in.



Which of the aims of our PB trial will this help deliver and how?

This project aims to promote Green values in terms of helping to bring native flowering plants into local communities for making them both beautiful and relaxing for humans, as well as providing vital habitat for pollinators and other species who thrive in diverse environments.

Furthermore, because of the nature of this project, families might like to participate as well as the activity is children friendly and thus improving diversity and inclusion across the branch of some demographics who might not be otherwise able to join a meeting in the evening due to childcare commitments..

Finally, we are also hoping this project will increase membership participation and engagement because it's an easily replicable activity that can be delivered in all wards, can be made accessible to the members of each particular sub-branch, and will also reach the wider community in a very visible way.

This depends on how big of an area we would like to cover: i.e. a bag of 500g native British wildflower seeds would cover the area of 166-333m² and would cost £157, plus the price of compost which should be about 5x more in its volume, and clay or flour (as a cheaper alternative) which is recommended to protect the seeds.

Members of SEEG but we might reach out for support to local community gardening projects when it comes to obtaining the seeds and compost.

A5 SEEG Up-cyclers

Proposer: John Palmer

Last September SEEG borrowed a small loom and used it at an event to attract and involve new members. Participants (11 young people) were completely new to weaving and were allowed to choose which colours of wool yarn to use and how much of it to weave. The result was a scarf, pictured above, which was successfully auctioned in the Auction of Promises.

We would like to repeat the process by purchasing our own loom, having it available at meetings, gatherings and events for members to use. For instance, in April Summerhall is hosting an event called 'The Woolly Good Gathering'; it maybe that SEEG could participate there, drawing attention to the Scottish Greens. It is hoped to keep the loom in a local community centre, so it is available for local members to use.

The process of weaving is a way of using unwanted and discarded wool that is available in charity shops and turning it into useful and attractive items that can be auctioned to raise branch funds.

Which of the aims of our PB trial will this help deliver and how?

The project will mainly help deliver the promotion of Green values and increase membership participation and engagement.

Most hand weavers take a serious interest in sustainability issues. Concerns include the material source; yarns that are animal, plant based or synthetic; and natural or chemical dyes. They look at the weaving process, whether hand or machine, how much waste is produced and yarn that is recycled or up-cycled. These are all Green values promoted in the forthcoming Circular Economy Bill.

In terms of membership participation and engagement, our activity last September showed that giving people something to do while they are at an event or gathering helps promote conversation. It opens up new sides to people that one might not otherwise know about and therefore widens our knowledge of each other and deepens our engagement. The more we know about each other, the more likely we are to come out and participate in more direct political activities with other members.

We need £80 to purchase a loom that has already been offered to us. It is a 24 inch Rigid Heddle loom with a stand, shuttles and reeds. (24 inches refers to the width of the loom, so quite sizeable pieces of fabric can be woven.) Yarn will initially be donated, and then can be sourced from charity shops..

John Palmer, who is a relatively experienced weaver, has been promoting this project. Other members who took part in the activity last September have expressed interest and it was discussed at the SEEG meeting in March.



A6 Garden Wildflower Meadows

Proposer: Boyan Karabaliev

Urban gardens have a great potential to provide habitat for wildlife, such as native flowers and grasses, butterflies, moths, bees, and birds. Unfortunately, many are maintained as mown grass lawns or even artificial "grass", significantly reducing their biodiversity and contributing to the ecologically deprived environment of the city.

This project aims to provide members with means to create their own wildflower meadow in their gardens: freely available seed mixes (3 types), as well as help and guidance from fellow participants.

A 45-minute online Q&A event will take place to help with the following information:

- introductory guidance on establishing a wildflower meadow, best practices to ensure success
- some wildlife that can be expected to appear

Ideally, at least one workshop in a volunteer's garden will also be conducted in the autumn as this will be the best time for sowing..



Which of the aims of our PB trial will this help deliver and how?

This event will help promote at least 2 aims:

- Promote Green values by making a small contribution to the natural environment in our city, and making it accessible by providing seeds and workshops. Holding a hands-on workshop in a volunteer's garden would give people interested some hands-on experience and allow those who do not have their own gardens to participate in some wildflower gardening.
- Increase membership participation and engagement: events will be an opportunity for participants to meet other like-minded party members and hopefully attract some currently inactive members. People who join will be encouraged to share pictures of their wildflower meadows as they develop.

If it is promoted to non-members, it may also help towards the aim to increase membership across the branch. We can reach out to organisations such as the Edinburgh Garden Partners to find interested participants.

We will spend £75 in total on 3 native wildflower/grass mixes: 50g Bee Wildflower Seed Mix, 50g Butterfly and Moth Seed Mix, 100g on Hedgerow and Light Shade Seed Mix from britishwildflowermeadowseeds.co.uk. This can be adjusted if participants would prefer different seed mixes or a different provider. Each of these mixes will cover 25 square meters of grass.

Boyan Karabaliev

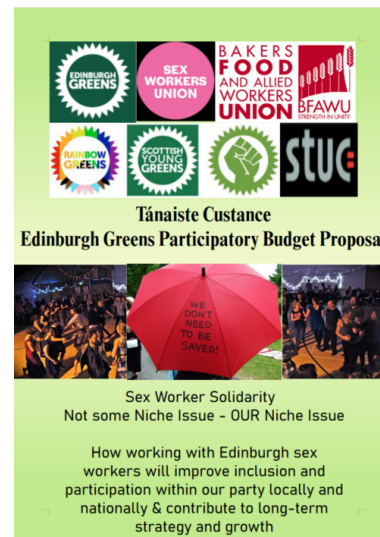
A7 Fundraising Ceilidh & Sex Worker Solidarity

Proposer: Tánaiste Custance

I propose that we hold a fundraising ceilidh jointly with the Sex Workers Union for the purpose of educating and entertaining members and supporters and building connections between Edinburgh Greens, the SWU and its parent union the Bakers Union. We already have successful experience of holding a large ceilidh.

As well as being fun, this helps build strategic links with a particular community who we have excellent policies and some connections with already. This event will also help further promote our Westminster candidates. We will invite party members across Scotland including Westminster candidates, councillors and MSPs.

The Sex Workers Union last year joined the Bakers' Union (BFAWU) and hence also the TUC and STUC. Labour won't touch either (Bakers Union left Labour under Starmer after 119 years of affiliation). It would be a powerful signal of our growth if we were to build strong connections with a trade union.



Which of the aims of our PB trial will this help deliver and how?

All of them :)

Queer, working-class, disabled & neurodivergent, young and migrant members are more likely to have experience of sex work or know people who are sex workers. As a particularly stigmatised and marginalised group, collaborating openly with them as a party demonstrates very clearly our Green values and is likely to engage some members who would notice a visible pro-sex worker stance from the Edinburgh Greens.

Good relationships with SWU and Bakers Union are valuable to the party's long-term growth and strategy at connecting with working-class communities. More than any other union they are most likely to affiliate to us. By demonstrating our lack of fear of their stigmatisation we will attract new members.

Our policies are to support sex workers by promoting decriminalisation of sex work. This aligns with our values of Social Justice, Participatory Democracy and Respect for Diversity. Probably more than any trade union, the SWU's values are closely in alignment with ours.

Money would be used in organising the ceilidh, though money would be recouped through the event. If members decide to solely fund this project, it would be possible to offer payment to the SWU to provide an educational training on sex worker rights and how we can a party can demonstrate solidarity with them. This would be an excellent way of showing committed support. On that basis, I ask for £500.

I have developed this myself, but would work closely with members with experience of organising large ceilidhs, as well as Susan Rae and Maggie Chapman who have led on this issue. I would also work closely with Sex Workers United, NUMbrella Lane and SCOT-PEP in the delivery. At least one Edinburgh WM candidate would be happy to perform at this event.