Newsletter - January 2021



owned and managed by Clydebank Housing Association





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Centre81 has been closed since the first lockdown in March 2020. Although we have been closed to the public we have been busy behind the scenes, getting the Centre ready for when we are allowed to open. We have carried out a full COVID19 Risk Assessment, marked out 2 metre distances throughout the centre installed a new video door entry system, set up cleaning stations at various locations around the centre (with hand sanitiser, sanitising spray, wipes and gloves) and all areas have been sanitised and deep cleaned. All Gym81 equipment has been serviced and deep cleaned.

Safety is our top priority and we will be operating within all government social distancing and safety guidelines to ensure the health and safety of our staff, tenants and users when we are allowed to do so. We can't wait to welcome you back to Centre81, until then Stay Safe.

Whilst the majority of our projects have been on hold since late March 2020, by adapting them in line with COVID19 safety guidelines, we have managed to deliver a few elements of them, including Zoom Cookery Classes, Grow Bags and Bike Maintenance. See overleaf for more details.



Cycle Repair Scheme

We have received additional funding from The Scotland Cycle Repair Scheme to help local residents with the cost of repairing their bikes, such as fixing flat tyres, loose brakes and clunky gears (up to a cost of £50). So far we have carried out 41 repairs to help people get back on their bikes!

Due to current lockdown restrictions, we are unable to carry out repairs at the moment but keep an eye on our Facebook page for regular updates.



Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) - Growing Skills, Growing Spaces

We held the first block of cookery session via Zoom in September, which turned out to be a great success!



The cooking sessions are part of our CCF Project, Growing Skills, Growing Spaces which aims to encourage the community to reduce their carbon footprint by growing their own fruit and veg, cook using locally grown produce, reduce waste by freezing leftovers and composting, cycle rather than use carbon intensive modes of transport and to reduce their energy usage.

Our participants were able to safely collect a food box and instructions from the Centre. Each food box is packed with all the ingredients needed for that week's recipes. All the recipes are seasonal and are aimed at reducing food waste and minimising our carbon footprint.

If you would like to take part in our free Zoom Cookery Classes, please email **ryan.savage@clydebank- ha.org.uk** with your contact details.









Grow Bag Success!

At the start of Lockdown 1, we distributed over 40 Grow Bags to members of the local community. Each 'Bag' consisted of a raised bed kit, compost/top soil and a mixture of seeds and young fruit and vegetable plants. Participants were able to construct a small raised bed in their garden and began growing their own produce. We were bowled over with the success of this strand of our project. See right for some of our budding gardeners fantastic work.



Horticulture course with West College Scotland

During October and November, we delivered a Soft Landscaping Horticulture Course at Centre81. During the 10 week course learners worked in the Centre81 garden as well as learning about planting out and caring for a wide range of plants.

We will be running an Allotments course at the end of February which will be delivered online via Zoom. If you would like to take part in the next course or for more information, please email **ali@centre81.org**.



Clydebank Can - Get Involved!

Clydebank Can is a community-based project that aims to bring to life the canal and bandstand area of Three Queen's Square in Clydebank.

It will bring more arts and leisure activities into the area for local people to enjoy, giving everyone more opportunity to take part in events and activities which improve health and wellbeing, and increase social and economic activity in the area.





Young people from Clydebank have already been enjoying free cycle rides with Y Sort It and free Music lessons with Awestruck Academy – 2 local youth organisations working with young people in Clydebank.

Upcoming free activities are planned to take place in February with more kayaking, cycling and walking planned throughout the summer, as well as community events and festivals



Free Community Activities starting February!

Free music lessons for young people aged 12 to 18!

Contact Awestruck Academy on Facebook @AwestruckAcademy, by e-mailing awestruck-art@outlook.com or phone 0141 435 7116 for details.

Free cycle rides and outdoor activities for young people aged 8 to 25!

Contact Allan at Y Sort It by emailing **OutreachAllan@ysortit.com** or tel: **07709 121 327**

Free online photography course delivered by Inclusive Images. Be part of the Clydebank Can on Camera project, contact Charlie on **07502 460 273** or e-mail <u>inclusiveimages@</u> outlook.com

Check out the new Clydebank Can website which has a directory of over 200 local clubs, organisations, services and activities – all just a walk away from your home or delivered online for people in Clydebank.

Find Clydebank Can on Facebook and visit www.clydebankcan.com/whats-on to find out more.

Canal Path

We are delighted to report that work on the Canal Path started in November 2020 and is scheduled to be completed by mid February. The path will connect the Whitecrook community with the cycle path next to the canal and will open up connections with other areas of Clydebank.

Progress so far.....



Communities Recovery Fund

We have been successful in receiving £40,805 of funding from the Communities Recovery Fund. This funding will go toward helping those who have been affected by the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and includes the provision of fund your hare, abildren's activity peaks, exection of law.



fuel vouchers, provision of food vouchers, children's activity packs, creation of lunch club and creation of digital lending library. We will be working closely with Clydebank Housing Association's Housing Staff to distribute the food and fuel vouchers to our community.

Contact us for more information or look out for our social media channels updates.

Wellbeing Fund

In May 2020, CHA was awarded £52,900 from the Scottish Government's Wellbeing Fund to deliver food parcels, ready meals, children's packed lunches, food for black and minority ethnic residents and on-line activity tutorials for children. Over the 15-week project more than 11,375 cooked ready meals, 2,146 food parcels, 2,400 kids' packed lunches, £1,800 of food for BAME groups and 1,100 kids' activity packs were distributed to people in need in the local community. This fund also provided £1,200 of Farmfoods vouchers for families to purchase essential items and provided £18,000 of funding to Strathclyde Autistic Society to provide 20 families with 1-2-1 support and respite during these very difficult times.

Furthermore, during these difficult times, CHA's Centre81 facility, whilst closed to the public, remained open during the full lockdown period to offer the use of the main hall to the Northwest Food Bank to provide a foodbank service within Clydebank.

Huge thanks to our partners and volunteers who helped with this project.



Look out for Cafe81 on Just Eat!

Once the Centre reopens, pop in for a delicious lunch or snack!



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