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GREEN HIVE WORKSHOP

Project Reporting 2020

www.hub.greenhive.co.uk

Registered Charity SC047727 Registered Company SC521561



Creative Community. Recycling & Reuse.



Our Green Hive Workshop is an innovative community led upcycling centre. We specialise in reducing single-use plastic going to landfill and re-purpose this into beautiful and functional household items.

The workshop space and associated machines have been sourced and donated by the local community. We provide safe and supervised creative workshop facilities where waste items can be re-discovered, reformed and reimagined, into useful and uniquely designed items for sale.

Each item is handmade by one of our volunteers and is unique.

We began in July 2019 with an empty workshop space.

Volunteers have gained experience in creating a community workshop whilst learning about plastic upcycling, skills sharing, operating tools and machinery, workshop health and safety, identifying and categorising plastic types, and recycling waste plastic into design items for retail.

We have created a wider conversation in the community about local reuse of plastic waste in Nairn. While creating a circular economy from plastic pollution, single use plastics and plastics diverted from landfill.

 All images from processes within Green Hive Workshop.





Green Hive Workshop Nairn

700+hrs

Volunteering with Green Hive undertaken by our members in establishing the workshop and building a circular economy in Nairn.

2.6+tn

Tonnes of equipment, plastic & textiles put back into reuse & diverted from landfill at Green Hive Workshop.

70+

Unique items made for retail from 100% recycled plastic. All manufactured by volunteers in Nairn.

37+

Full day workshop sessions facilitated safely at GHW.

160+

Free plastic recycling education packs distributed by Green Hive in print and digital downloads.

£124+

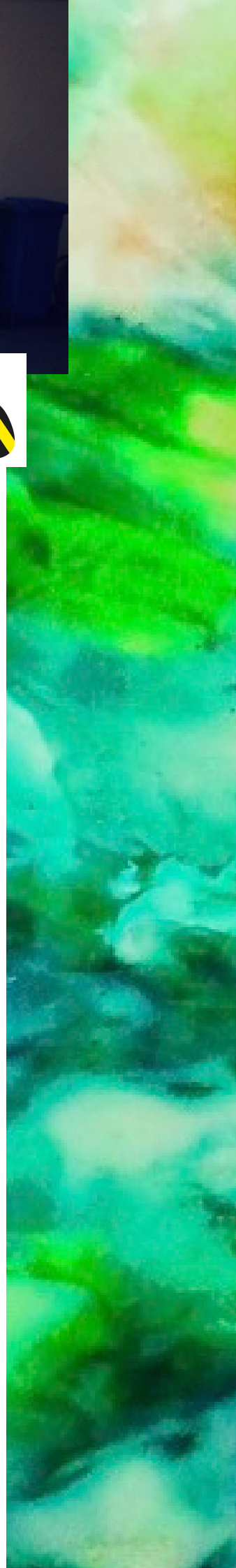
From 1kg of plastic waste destined to landfill. (generated from products made from 1kg of plastic by GH volunteers)

79%

Of plastic currently ends up as pollution or in landfill.

1000years

Time it can take for plastic pollution to break down.





Reuse

over 2.6 tonnes of furniture, equipment, tools, materials and machinery, refurbished and put back to use in the community. Donated by over 35 individuals and businesses in Nairnshire.



Remade

£1139 from recycled products handmade by our volunteers derived from plastic waste streams.

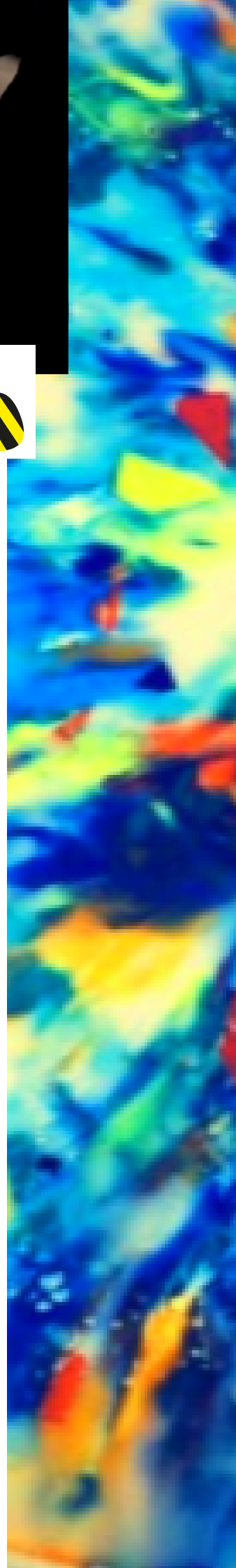
£1020, in other income via GHW.

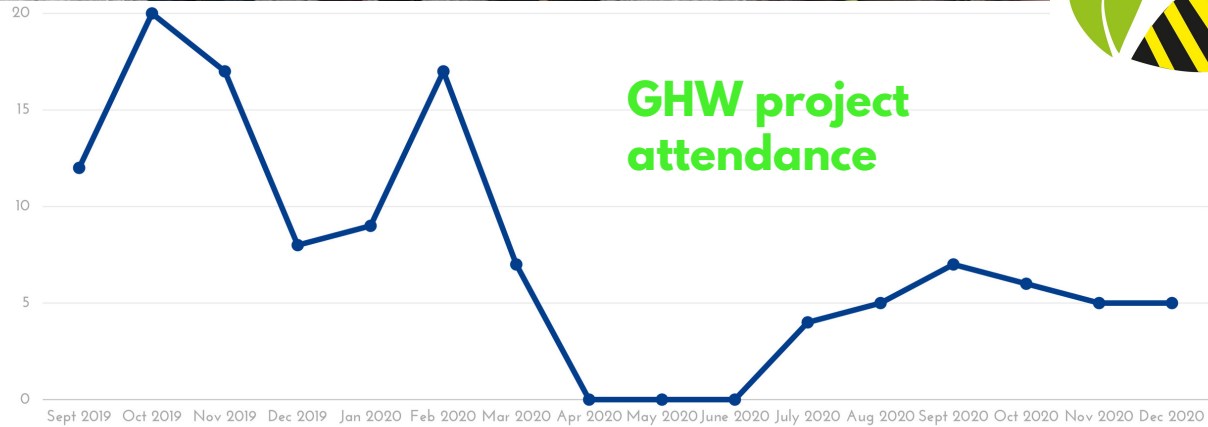
Community

The workshop currently provides volunteering opportunities for up to 20 individuals per week over 4 half day sessions, with plans to expand the activities available and volunteering provision in 2021.



We have developed strong links with partner organisations, businesses and researchers throughout Nairnshire, Scotland and Internationally - sharing our research into the reuse of landfill plastics. Recovering useable plastic pollution from the ecosystem, and pioneering micro recycling in coastal communities.





Volunteering with Green Hive Workshop

We were significantly impacted by Covid-19 in 2020. The workshop had to close from March - July while we assessed the risk and adapted the workshop to be covid compliant in line with government regulations for reopening to volunteer activities.

We are confident volunteer numbers will be able to increase once again across the third sector as the covid cases in highland reduce in 2021.

In the meantime we continue to develop processes and facilities at Green Hive Workshop, while looking forward to when we can welcome back our volunteers and visitors as soon as it is safe to do so.

Some of our volunteers attend every week, while others attend now and again when they can. All new volunteers receive a formal workshop safety induction and all volunteers are supported to develop skills and confidence in recycling at GHW.

"At the Green Hive, I helped to set up the inside of the Green Hive Workshop. I worked with the plastics shredding the plastics in the shredder and helping to make the clocks. I would put the arms and battery pack onto the clock. I helped to create the Green Hive (Workshop) logo by drawing out the logo that was used as a stencil".

Matthew Stadames (volunteer)



"I have been helping to prepare the unit for recycling plastic into other usable items. It is early days yet but this and other environmentally friendly ideas will hopefully attract other volunteers from the community and give something back as well as reusing waste materials. Hopefully the people of Nairn will rise to the challenge and support Green Hive, the community, environment and themselves, and have fun and satisfaction in doing so. I know I have"

Alasdair MacLennan (volunteer)





Education & Outreach

Green Hive workshop hosted and curated the Highland Ocean Plastics Webinar 2020. Over 200 attendees during the live discussion event from Nairn to New Zealand and over 320 views via Youtube. We hope to run another HOPW highlighting the issue of marine plastic pollution in Highland coastal communities, while introducing more people to the pioneering approach of GHW in turning discarded plastic into a useful commodity for social change in Nairn.



As well as supporting our volunteers, Green Hive Workshop engages with the wider community of Nairn who have generously supported the project by donating equipment and plastics for reuse, as well as buying products made by our volunteers.

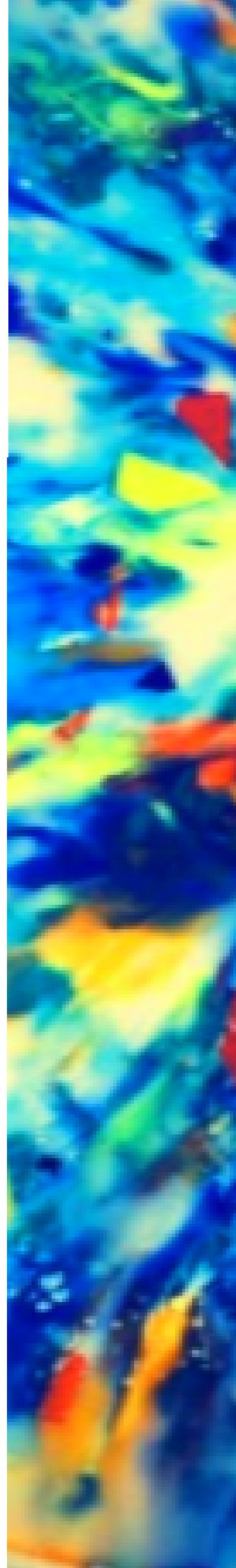
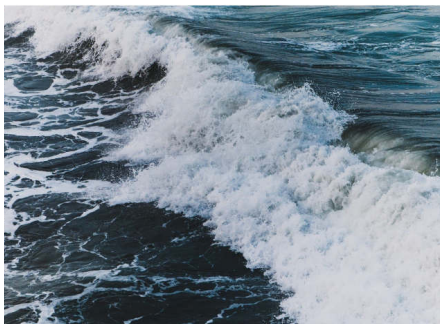
GHW created an illustrated 'Plastic Education Pack'. Marine wildlife from the Nairnshire coast explain our project philosophy, methodology and how people can identify plastics we can use in the project, or get involved themselves.

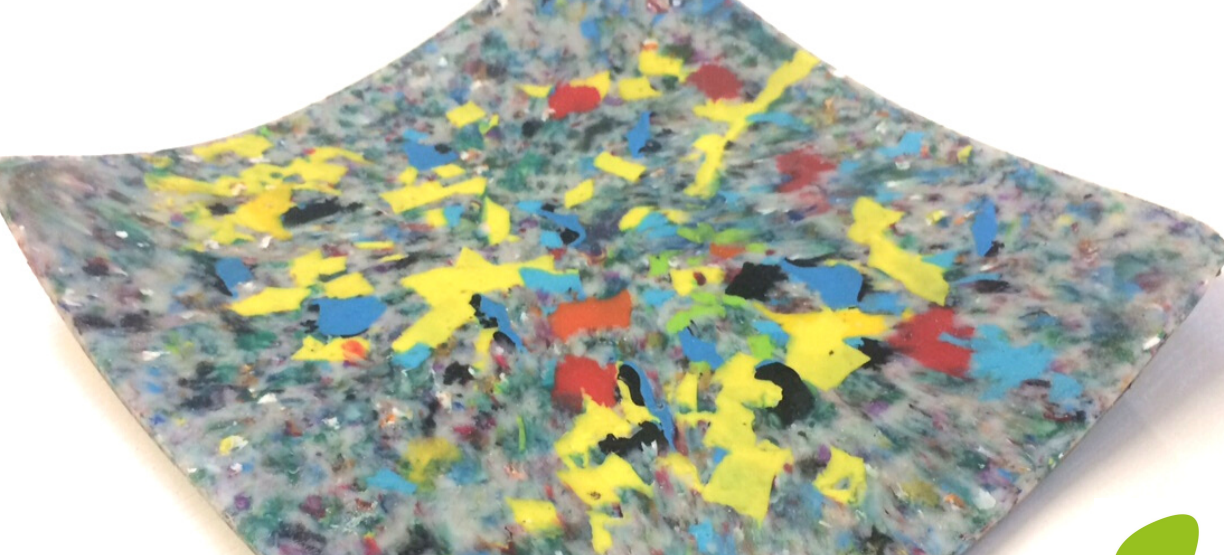
more information on outreach:
www.hub.greenhive.co.uk

HIGHLAND OCEAN PLASTICS WEBINAR 2020

FRIDAY 12th JUNE / start time 3PM / [sign up to attend here](#)

FREE WEBINAR EVENT EXPLORING PROJECTS TACKLING PLASTIC POLLUTION, IN COASTAL COMMUNITIES, FROM A HIGHLAND PERSPECTIVE.





Products

Our design philosophy is a simple one.

Take end of life plastics and reform them into unique plastic products that people will keep for many years.

We can work with PE and PP plastics. We have diverted end of life plastics going to landfill back into functional use. We can also accept some plastic pollution recovered from the eco system (beach cleans, litter picks etc.) and many single use plastics.

All our products come with a guarantee. All are fully recyclable, and are hand finished by one of our project volunteers.

We have made clocks, coasters, 250mmx250mm tiles for a range of craft making applications, jewellery, key safes, contemporary bowls and are currently working on furniture for 2021.



2021 we are looking to bring online a new plastic injection system. An extrusion system. and inhouse CNC digital cutting, while diversifying the origin and volume of plastics we accept. From pollution to functional use, we will continue to develop new products.

The upgrades to the welfare facilities, the heating system and the Yard Ideas Garden project with Ebike hub, will widen the range of activities that can be hosted at Green Hive Workshop to benefit the community of Nairn and the environment.

