



# Spotlight

## Climate Cafe Black Isle: Continuing the conversation on waste and consumption

March 2025



Welcome to **Climate Café® Black Isle: Drink. Chat. Act.**

Since its inception in April 2023 in Avoch, as part of the Highland Community Waste Partnership, Climate Café Black Isle has been at the heart of community-led climate action in the Black Isle.

### A community-led initiative

We listened to attendees and themed evenings around topics raised. Hosting evenings like “Repair, Recycle and Reuse”, “Tackling Food Waste Through Fermentation”, and collaborating with local groups such as Black Isle Repair Café, Men’s Shed and Cromarty Youth Club. Through Climate Cafe Black Isle we are fostering a culture of sustainable living by listening to the community and creating spaces for people to drink, chat and act.



Through conversations at events we have brought local initiatives supporting conscious consumption and environmental action to different audiences and provided inspiration to communities to either join-in or start their own.

In addition to waste and consumption, we have also focused on Energy Saving and Solutions, featuring guest speakers from Changeworks, Home Energy Scotland, Local Energy Scotland, The Highland Council Climate and Energy team, and The Pebble Trust. You can find more details and presentations from the event at Transition Black Isle: Climate Café 2024 By creating opportunities for learning, connection, and practical action, we aim to empower our community to make meaningful contributions to living sustainably.



## Our vision: Empowering a waste-free Black Isle, together



“Climate Café Black Isle’s mission is to inspire and enable our community to take action against waste, promoting a culture of reduction, reuse, and recycling. We will support residents, community groups, local businesses, and visitors to make conscious choices that minimise their environmental footprint, preserving the beauty and integrity of our home for future generations.”

## Exploring climate solutions through film nights

Between December 2024 and March 2025, Climate Café Black Isle, in partnership with the Highland Community Waste Partnership (HCWP) and Transition Black Isle, organised a compelling series of film screenings. These events aimed to spotlight three key themes: Food Waste, Share & Repair, and Packaging & Single-Use Items. Each screening was paired with an expert speaker, creating a platform for insightful discussions and community engagement.

- **Six Inches of Soil:** This inspiring documentary showcased how British farmers are transforming food systems to heal the soil and support local communities. The screening featured a talk by Alex Davies, an agroecological advocate, followed by a discussion and a stall with resources such as books and seeds.
- **Rebels & The Fight Against Fast Fashion:** This event highlighted the human and environmental cost of fast fashion. It included a screening of *Made in Bangladesh* and an engaging talk by Clare Campbell, founder of Prickly Thistle, who shared her journey in promoting sustainable, hyper-local textile production.
- **The Story of Plastic:** This Emmy-winning documentary shed light on the global plastic pollution crisis. The event emphasized the Global Plastics Treaty, supported by Greenpeace, and discussed solutions for transitioning to a circular economy. A presentation on reducing single-use cups in the Black Isle was also shared.

**FILM NIGHT & Q&A** 

**Talk & Q&A:**  
With Clare Campbell of local tartan weavers Prickly Thistle, who are elevating the voices and value of local makers, keeping everything as local as possible and championing the 'Made in Scotland' identity.



**Screening**  
*'Made in Bangladesh'*  
A story of the women who make our jeans and T-shirts, told as a moving, suspenseful tale not simply of exploitation, but also of empowerment.

**TUES 28th JAN 7-9PM**  
Doors open 6.30pm  
**Muir Hub Cinema**  
\*free ticketed event\* scan QR to book





These film nights not only educated but also empowered attendees to make meaningful changes in their daily lives. By combining education, discussion, and action, Climate Café Black Isle continues to foster a more sustainable and resilient community across the Black Isle.

## Building on the Foundations of the HCWP

Creating a forum space for Black Isle residents to continue the valuable work initiated by the Highland Community Waste Partnership, Climate Café Black Isle has already established a foundation by fostering participant-led discussions and facilitating connections with various environmental initiatives.

To build on this, the forum could focus on sustaining these partnerships and exploring new opportunities for local engagement and funding. By doing so, it can ensure that the momentum generated by the HCWP project is not only maintained but also expanded upon, leading to lasting environmental benefits for the community.

**To learn more:** <https://transitionblackisle.org/climate-cafe-2024.asp>

### **The Highland Community Waste Partnership (2022-2025)**

Funded by The National Lottery Climate Action Fund, and coordinated by Keep Scotland Beautiful, the Highland Community Waste Partnership (HCWP) brought together eight community groups in the Highlands to reduce waste and promote more sustainable consumption.

**Learn more here:** [www.keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org/highlandcommunitywaste/](http://www.keeptoscotlandbeautiful.org/highlandcommunitywaste/)