



January 2023

Open to all
Warm welcome
guaranteed

**Winter
Connections**

Background and Context

- The Winter Connections programme was approved at Leadership Board in September 2022, with £50k allocated to support programme activities. An additional £30k funding was allocated in November 2022.
- A Winter Connections funding process was developed at pace, with approvals being made from October.
- The programme offers an extensive and varied programme of activities across Renfrewshire, hosted by community groups. These are largely running until March 2023.
- Hosts are asked to sign up to Winter Connections principles, and support has been provided to all host organisations including a Winter Connections toolkit, printed materials, information sharing, access to other services such as advice, period products provided for locations.

Examples of Winter Connections activities include:

- Piece n Music club for adults in Erskine
- 'Off the hook' crochet class in Howwood
- Bookbug and lunch in Johnstone Castle
- Jam Jar Movies in Johnstone
- Saturday night kids club in Paisley
- Open Mic and Make – Zine making in Paisley
- Eat Share Care Café in Renfrew
- Seniors Bingo in Spateston
- Move it or lose it exercise class in Langbank
- Dads Group in Linwood
- Intergenerational Music Café in Paisley
- 10 week IT programme in Paisley
- Wake Up Warm up exercise class for older adults in Johnstone
- Social and digital Café in Renfrew



Conversation Café, Langbank



Crafting Class, Lochwinnoch



**Warm welcome guaranteed,
open to all.**
**Come & Join us @ the Sherwood
Greenlaw Church.**
Every Friday 9am - 11am
For a hot drink, toast & a blether.
(Extra days added - Wednesday 28th December & 4th January).



Glasgow Road,
Paisley
PA1 3PA



Gillthomson@roarforlife.org



07825 778488



Come and try Crochet Class

Monday 9th January and Monday 16th January
The Ale House in The Boarding House
6.30pm - 9pm

Tea, coffee & cake, followed by 2 hour crochet taster
course for beginners by Becky from 'Off the Hook'.

Booking essential by e-mail (friendsofhowwoodpark@hotmail.com)
Note - Both classes are the same introductory to crochet lesson,
so please book one date only.



Free event organised by 'Friends of Howwood Park' with funding
provided by Renfrewshire Council's Winter Connections Fund



Film Afternoon now showing...

January 2023

Monday 9th

La La Land



Monday 16th

As Good As It Gets



Monday 23rd

Shawshank Redemption



Monday 30th

Walk The Line



Join us for...

FREE bowl of
homemade soup!



FREE hot drink!



... & a good old blether!



Every Monday
1-4pm



Station Seven
7 Quarry Street
Johnstone
PA5 8DY



Book your space
by calling Roar on
0141 889 7481
Limited spaces!



NOW
ON!

ONE BIG
CUPPA



**Tea and Toast
9AM - 11AM**

**Lunchtime Soup
12PM - 2PM**

**Biscuits and Blether
2PM - 5PM**

**Daily Activities
2PM - 3PM**



Winter Connections funding

29

projects awarded Winter Connections funding

£59,249

value of funding awards to date

7

projects using alternative funding sources

6

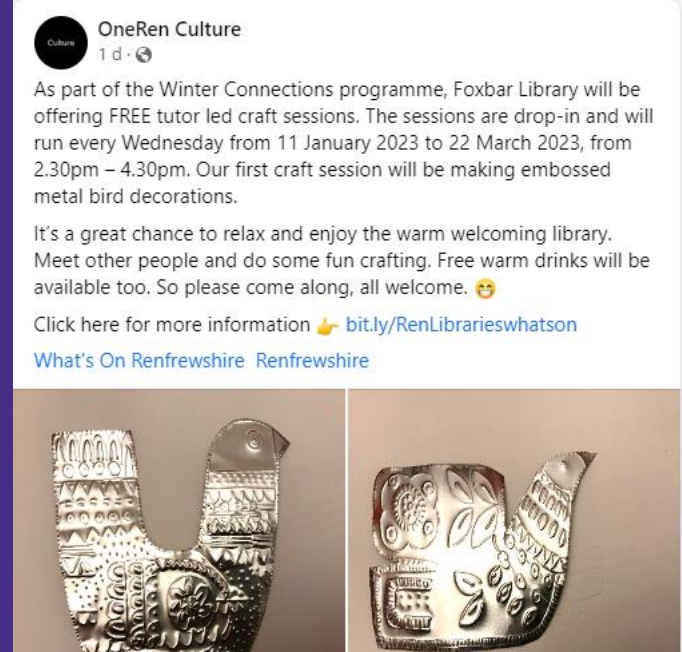
applications pending decisions

9

applications declined

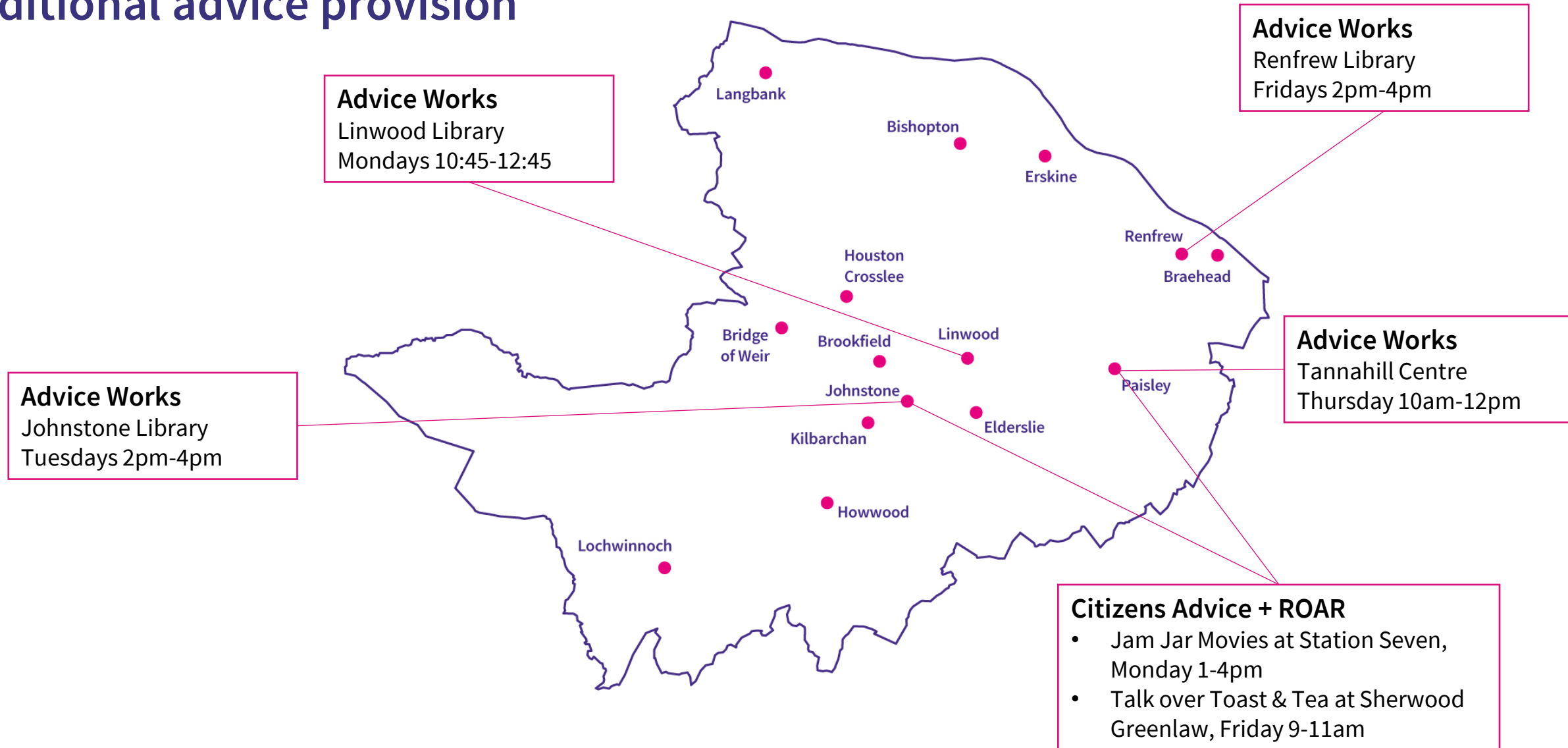
OneRen – Winter Connections in libraries

- Wide selection of fun and free activities across the library network, with additional activities focussed in areas where there are fewer community led Winter Connections activities.
- Drop-in activities including jigsaws, board games and craft tables, as well as tutor-led crafting, film nights and additional family activities such as Bookbug sessions. Tea and coffee available in all locations.
- Work underway to trial targeted advice provision from some library locations as part of the programme.



Winter Connections

Additional advice provision



Promoting Winter Connections

- Winter Connections identity developed
- Website page with searchable map developed
- Widely promoted online across social media and printed materials distributed across all towns and villages in Renfrewshire
- Social media content has reached 63,936 accounts, with total engagements of 2,046
- 3,733 people have visited the Winter Connections webpages
- Promoted through partnership and community fora

Winter Connections is a network of local places and spaces where you can connect to others in your community this winter.

Discover your nearest space at
www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/winter-connections

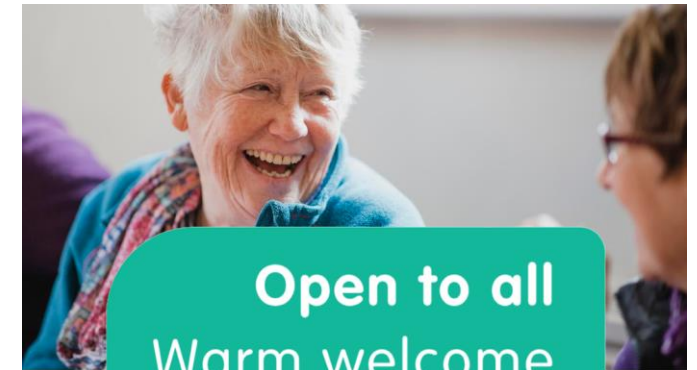


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**Winter
Connections**

Winter Connections Identity



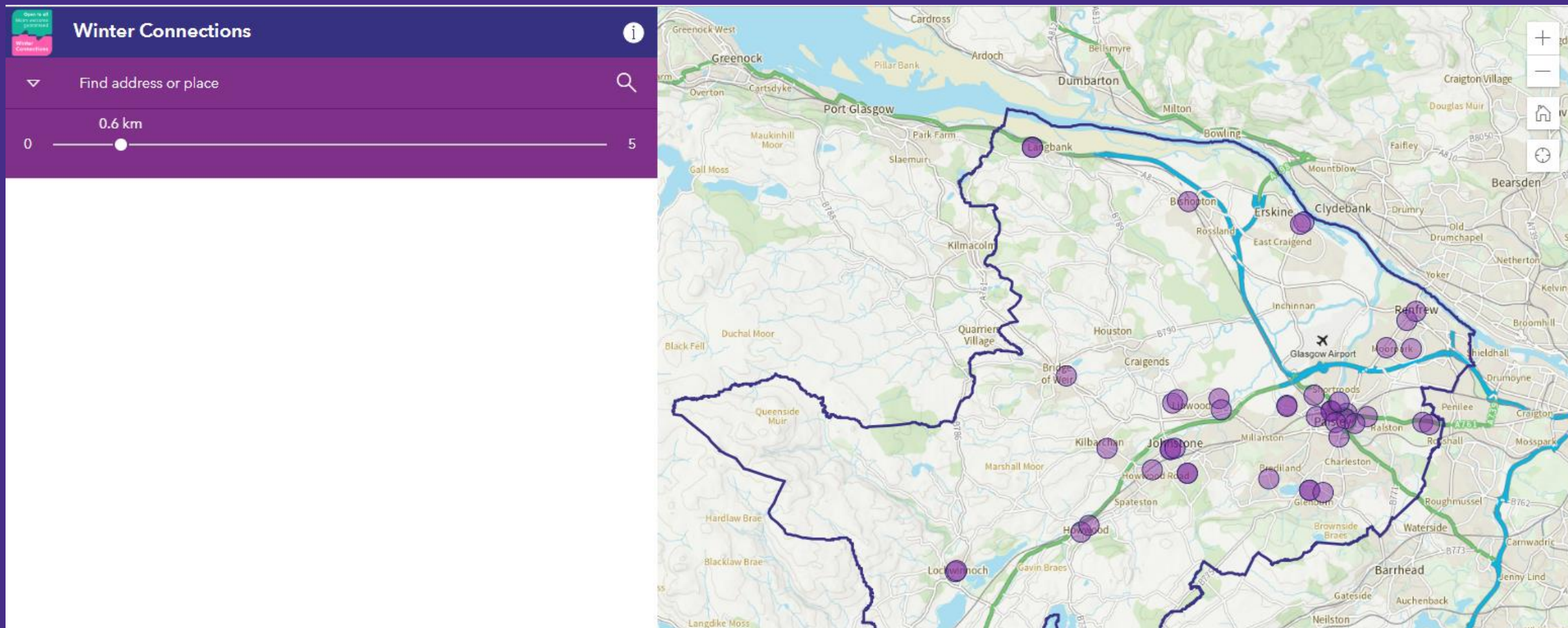
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www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/winter-connections

Searchable map function



Approach

- Positive feedback from a wide range of partner organisations about the programme, both in terms of tone and content
- Partnership approach to developing the programme
- Building on learning from previous approaches, particularly as part of pandemic response
- Focus on building ongoing relationships and partnerships with groups as part of programme - continuing to build capacity and relationships
- Developing a picture of need, capacity and also gaps across Renfrewshire



Intergenerational music café, Paisley



Coffee morning, Howwood

Evaluating the programme

How did your activities go?

We want to understand whether sessions were well-attended, who attended them, what kind of activities were popular, and what went well, as well as what could be improved, when running activities

What difference did it make?

We want to understand what difference it made for the people that took part in activities, and what host organisations learnt about what their communities want and need

What did you think about the Winter Connections programme?

We want to know what people thought about the programme as a whole, what worked well and what could be improved, and how hosts were supported

Next Steps

- Last awards to be made, focussed on gap areas identified
- Continuing to support Winter Connections hosts to support the delivery of their activities
- Evaluation of the projects underway, as well as programme more broadly

Thanks for listening!

You can find up to date information on the Winter Connections programme at www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/winter-connections

Key Contact

Andrena Faulkner – andrena.faulkner@renfrewshire.gov.uk