

The text below is for the workshop invitations. Please do the following and we will send you the invitations as a pdf:

- Make a copy of the document (go to File_make a copy)
- Adjust any text highlighted in yellow for your specific community and event
- Send a link to your completed document to emily@darkmatterlabs.org from the email you would like us to send the initiation back to.

SHORT VERSION

Conversations for Scotland: your journey to a different future

What do we care the most about, as individuals and for our communities? What sort of world do we want our children to grow up in?

Conversations for Scotland are happening in communities across Scotland right now. We are discussing what matters to the people of Scotland as part of the current review of Scotland's National outcomes.

Please join us for a **Cramond** Workshop (with drinks & nibbles) on Thursday the **13th of April, 7-9pm in Cramond Kirk Hall.**

If you would like to attend the workshop please RSVP to adam@darkmatterlabs.org.

If you have any questions or would like more information then please do not hesitate to contact the Conversations for Scotland Central Team.

emily@darkmatterlabs.org

It always seems impossible until it's done - Nelson Mandella

LONG VERSION

Conversations for Scotland: your journey to a different future

Conversations for Scotland are a way of exploring what is really important; to us as individuals and for the future of **Cramond**. The world is changing rapidly and decisions about how to organise ourselves in this community (and in Scotland more widely) are too important to be left solely to politicians and economists. We are therefore inviting you to be part of a new civic story, beginning this spring as a series of workshops being held in communities like yours across Scotland. Our aim is to amplify and build on the work of the existing community groups in **Cramond**, by sparking new interest and engaging with people who have not historically been active in this space.

Reading this invitation you are probably wondering who we are and why we are doing this. We are a group of organisations who are working together to ensure that the people of Scotland are properly represented in national decision making. There is currently a review of our National Outcomes underway which presents a unique opportunity to shape the future direction of travel for Scotland. We are not linked to the Scottish Government but they do know this is happening and we will be communicating the outcomes from these conversations to them. To be clear, this journey is not about asking for help or criticising the government. Instead, it is about understanding the future that we want and unleashing the power of our communities to move towards it. Each of us has a local representative (an MSP) who is duty bound to work towards achieving Scotland's collective goals. If this is not aligning with our own vision for a thriving society, then we must use our voices to shift the direction of travel.

A big part of the ***Conversations*** is about creating a new vision of *the possible*. We are constantly bombarded with news of planetary tipping points being crossed, spiralling prices and a crumbling health system. Broadly, we know what needs to be done and yet somehow there is a void between the necessary and *the possible*. We want to create new visions of what possible means in our everyday lives; things that we can actually act on and change to reclaim a sense of agency. At the heart of the Core concept is the idea of linking our personal experiences to the structural causes that underpin them. Even having a conversation about these links can be liberating because it shifts the emphasis away from our personal struggles and starts to highlight common threads. Together, in community we can begin to unlock and re-pattern outdated ideas and behaviours - the first step is to ask the people of Scotland what matters to them.

If you are interested in joining us then we would invite you to take part in any of the following steps:

1. Answer a short set of [questions](#) about the things that matter most to you, plus what worries or gives you hope for the future;
2. Come to an informal workshop discussion (With drinks and nibbles!) on **13th of April from 7 to 9pm at Cramond Kirk Hall.**
3. Join a post-workshop WhatsApp group to continue the conversation;
4. Join our mailing list to receive updates about how the work is progressing. We will publish the outputs both from your community and from other groups taking part across Scotland on an interactive website later this year.

If you would like to attend the workshop please RSVP to adam@darkmatterlabs.org.

If you have any questions or would like more information then please do not hesitate to contact the Conversations for Scotland Central Team.

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