



# BORROW

# DON'T

# BUY



From DIY novices to old hands – what can the tool library do for you? **SEE INSIDE**



# Welcome to the Southside Tool Library

**S**outhside Tool Library is run by South Seeds, and was set up with financial support from the Climate Challenge Fund. The tool library helps people who live in the South Seeds project area save money by borrowing tools for DIY and gardening rather than having to buy them.

It also means people can carry out improvements on their homes which can save them money on their energy bills, or make their living space warmer, more attractive to be in, or more comfortable.

The initiative also aims to generate social and ecological benefits by cutting the energy use and resources that go into manufacturing new tools.

The tool library offers access to a huge variety of quality tools and membership is available by donation of whatever you can afford (the suggested donation is £20 for the year).

So just think how many of those DIY jobs or creative projects you can now tackle for the price of a decent-quality saw or a second-hand drill? South Seeds can support you to choose the best tools for your jobs and learn how to use them. Contact us or keep an eye on our social media platforms for upcoming opportunities to practise using power tools.

And as well as not having to shell out loads of money buying equipment, borrowing means you can easily get the tools you need at a convenient



time and then return once you've finished the job – meaning you don't have to waste space in your home by storing tools you might never use again.

On the following pages you can meet some of the southsiders who have already taken advantage of the tool library and see the many ways in which they've benefited, and find out all you need to know if you want to sign up.

Happy borrowing!

## MEET THE BORROWERS

- P3** Anne soon has things stripped for action
- P4** Clem stakes her claim
- P5** New homeowner Nina
- P6** Jamie sharpens up his act
- P7** Yotam creatively follows in his father's footsteps

## 'It saved me so much time and money'

Anne has just moved to Govanhill and bought her first flat – but it needed a lot of work and she didn't really know what tools were required.

Anne noticed a poster for the Southside Tool Library in a local cafe window, registered as a member and checked the online inventory to see what she might be able to borrow.

A job she felt she could tackle, rather than paying someone else to do it, was stripping the many layers of anaglypta and wood-chip wallpaper to make a smooth surface for a fresh lick of paint. The layers were stuck hard – but proved no match for the wallpaper stripper Anne borrowed.

"The stripper saved me so much time on a job that could have been really tedious, and meant I didn't have to pay a decorator," Anne says.

**“ Not having to buy a stripper saved me £30 which I could then use for other essentials, such as paint**

Anne

### TOOL LIBRARY PROVES PERFECT FOR DIY NEWCOMER

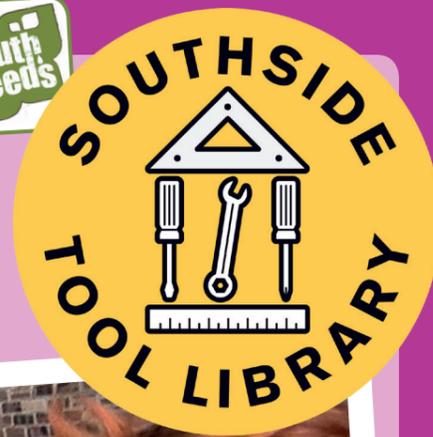
- Handy local location
- No need to buy new tools for each different job
- Using wallpaper stripper is much easier than spraying and scraping

"I really didn't want to have to buy a different tool for every job in the flat, and the local collection points make it really handy. The tool library came along at the perfect time for me."

Anne has also borrowed a hot-air paintstripper to prepare her wooden doors and door frames for painting. "That's another £30 saved," she smiles.

View the full inventory of tools at

<https://southsidetoollibrary.myturn.com/library/>



# 'Tools to help me raise my game'

After moving to the southside in the summer Clem was seeking ways to feel more a part of her new community.

She joined South Seeds' regular sociable volunteer gardening sessions and, as well as making new friends, Clem helped to mend some of the wooden raised beds.

Gardener Joe taught her the skills and tools needed to build and maintain the beds and, inspired, Clem decided to tackle a project in her own shared tenement back court, which had become a bit of dump for old furniture and rubbish.

At the same time, she heard about the Southside Tool Library – which proved to be a game changer.

"Joe and the gardening boosted my confidence in using tools," says Clem, adding that the three-week tool-loan limit motivated her to get on with the job.

Clem now feels more confident in her abilities, and her new-found skills have opened up potential employment avenues. Her back court is also a nicer place for her and her neighbours, and folk have much more respect for the space.

**“Being able to borrow tools meant I could build something to improve our back yard in a short time and at very little cost**

"The tool library is a great way to cut needless consumption," adds Clem. "I didn't have to buy tools, then have them lying about; I just borrow tools when I need them."

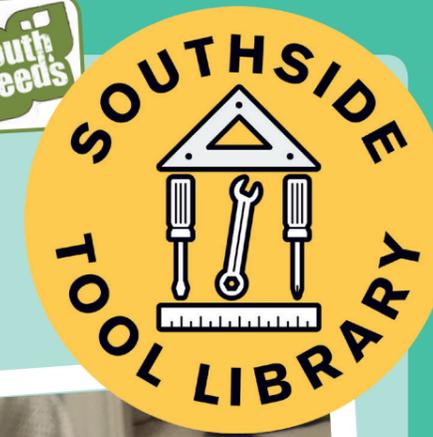


Clem



**NEW SOUTHSIDER BUILDS RAISED BEDS, AND HER OWN CONFIDENCE**

- Uses new skills to transform her shared tenement back court
- Tool-loan time limit motivates her to get the job
- Opens up new routes to fulfilling potential employment



# 'It's there when I need it – that's brilliant'

Nina recently bought a flat in Govanhill but she had no money left to spend to make the space her own. She decided to build a bed on stilts to maximise space in her small bedroom.

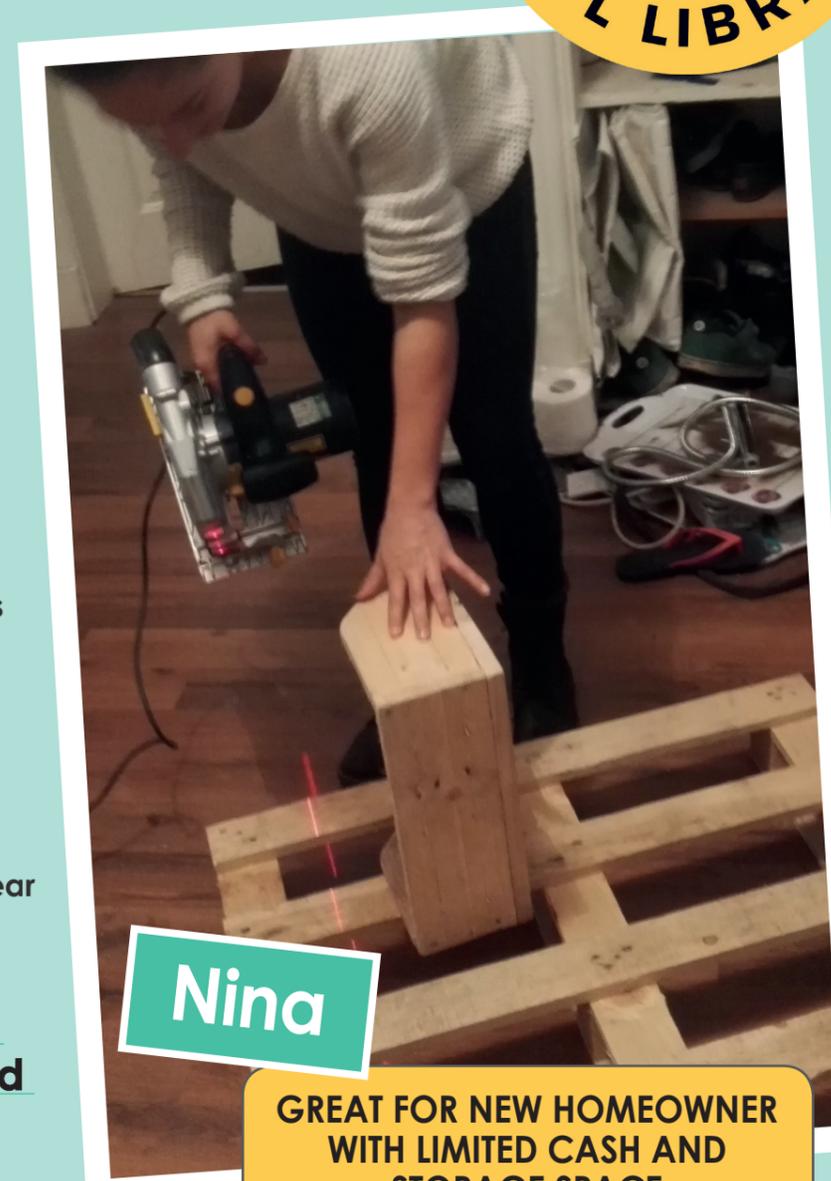
With limited storage space in the rest of her flat, Nina had heard about the tool library and liked the idea of sharing tools in the community rather than maybe buying cheap ones in her local supermarket.

Borrowing the tools she needed – a circular saw, drill and sander – from a charity such as South Seeds felt better than borrowing from friends or neighbours as there are clear processes for how to book, collect and return tools.

**“I found it really easy to find and reserve what I needed using the tool library's online inventory**

"I also liked that I could reserve tools in the evening or at weekends rather than waiting until opening times to call or drop in somewhere," adds Nina.

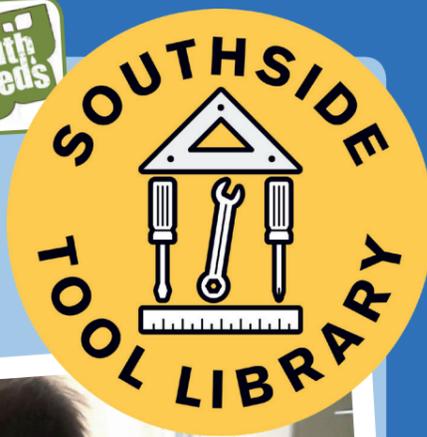
She says life is much less hassle without a cupboard full of tools (and she has more spare money). It's also great knowing that the Southside Tool Library is there when she needs it, and Nina's already borrowed a jigsaw to do more work on her flat.



Nina

**GREAT FOR NEW HOMEOWNER WITH LIMITED CASH AND STORAGE SPACE**

- Saves money not having to buy tools
- Can maximise cupboard space as no need to store tools
- Reservation and drop-off system quick and simple to use



# 'The right tools make jobs easy'

Jamie has lived on the southside for six years and had already done a lot of DIY in his tenement flat before the Southside Tool Library came along.

He likes maintaining things to keep them running smoothly but two little jobs were annoying him – all his kitchen knives were blunt, making cooking a chore, and his bath was draining slowly. Both jobs needed specialist tools so Jamie kept putting them off.

Then he found out about the Southside Tool Library, checked the online inventory and found he could borrow the right tools for free and pick them up from a convenient, nearby location.

"Becoming a member of the tool library was quick and easy," says Jamie.

"It was great I could borrow tools straight away so I couldn't put off the jobs any longer."

He borrowed a knife sharpener and a drain unblocking tool, and got both jobs done and the tools returned within a week.

"Getting these small jobs done without having to buy tools has made a surprisingly big difference to my life," says Jamie. "Our bath drains quickly and our knives are nice and sharp, so cooking is faster and more enjoyable."



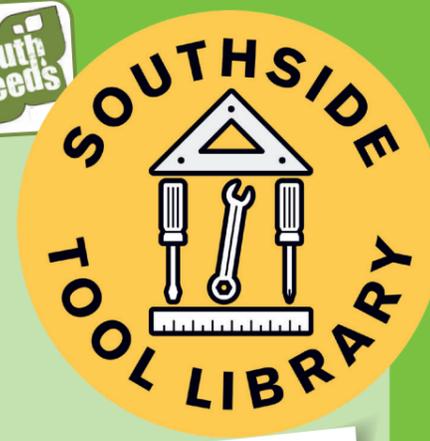
Jamie



“Finally getting these small jobs done has made a surprisingly big difference to my life

### 'QUICK, EASY, CONVENIENT'

- Convenient access to specialist tools so no excuse to put off doing jobs
- Easy sign-up process and could borrow tools straight away
- Noticeable, no-cost improvements made with little effort and time



# 'I can now use the skills my dad taught me'

Yotam learned his woodwork talents from his father and, despite living in a flat with minimal storage and work space, he is keen to keep developing these skills.

Yotam also finds making things from scratch "fun and very therapeutic".

He wanted to make a chair out of recycled scaffolding boards but had no tools to do so but then found out about the tool library as he passes the South Seeds office en route to his job and saw a poster in the window.

"The location of the tool library is ideal for me as it's on Victoria Road, which is on my way to and from work, so I can reserve tools online and easily pick them up from South Seeds the next day," Yotam says.

He borrowed a jigsaw, combi drill and sander, and has built a workbench in his living room, where he made the chair.



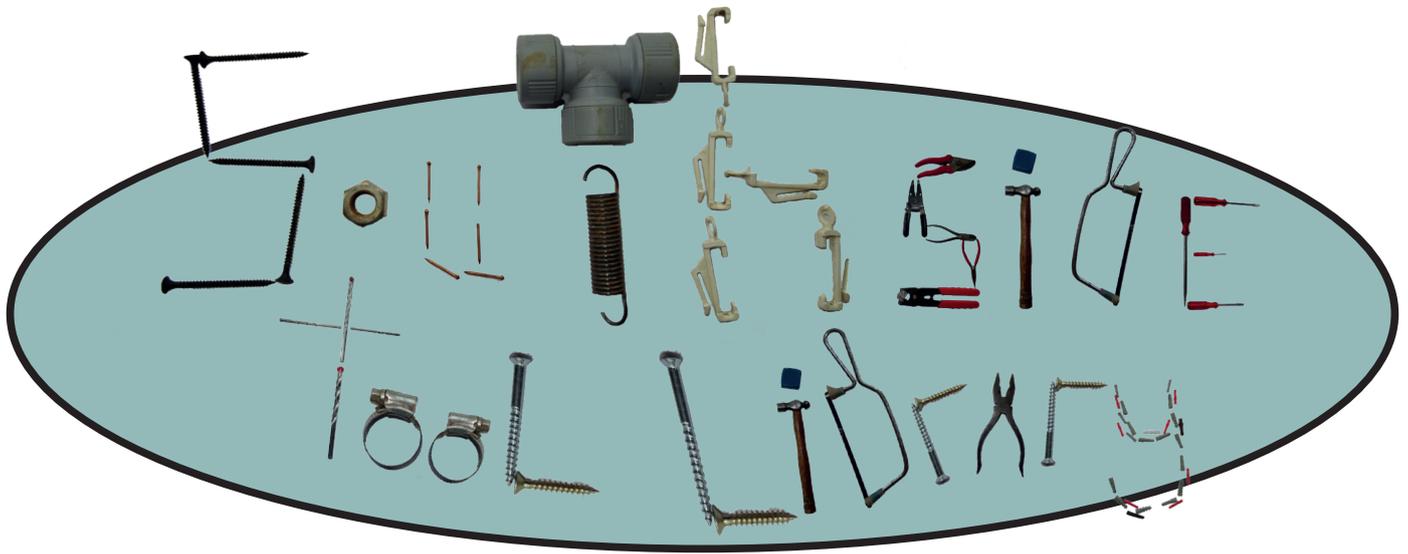
Yotam

“It's great for people who want to try DIY or make stuff without having to buy tools

"I think the tool library is also really empowering – it gives people more autonomy in how they live, and in how they express their creativity," adds Yotam.

### THE POWER TO CREATIVELY CHANGE LIFE FOR THE BETTER

- Good, free resource for people who want to try out DIY
- Handy location as tool library is on his way to work
- Enjoyable and therapeutic to pursue his hobby and build practical skills



## WHO CAN JOIN?

Anyone who lives in the South Seeds project areas or with a G41 or G42 postcode.

## HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

It is free to borrow tools. However, we ask for an annual membership donation (suggested donation £20). This helps cover the costs of repairing and maintaining tools. The donation can be in the form of tools that we need rather than cash if you prefer.

## HOW DO I JOIN?

Bring the following to South Seeds' base at 514 Victoria Road:

- photo ID
- a recent proof of name and address (eg utility bill or delivery note)
- an annual membership donation of whatever you feel you can afford. We'll also ask you to sign the borrower's agreement and liability waiver.

## HOW DO I BORROW/RETURN A TOOL?

Once you have registered you will be able to search the inventory for the tool you need and click 'Reserve' next to the tool image. Select the reservation dates from the day you want to collect the tool – note the tool library opening times are 9.30am

**ALL YOU  
NEED  
TO KNOW**

to 4.30pm on weekdays – to the day you will return it.

Tools can be borrowed for up to three weeks as long as no one else has reserved them. Please allow at least 24 hours for your tool to be ready for collection from the time you

reserve it during opening hours. Tools can be collected from/returned to South Seeds' base at 514 Victoria Road during the tool library opening hours.

## HOW DO I GET IN TOUCH?

Contact the Southside Tool Library by email at [tools@southseeds.org](mailto:tools@southseeds.org) or through South Seeds on **0141 636 3959**. These are also the contacts to arrange an alternative time if you have reserved or borrowed tools, and are unable to collect or return them during tool library opening hours. You can also drop in to 514 Victoria Road between 9.30am and 4.30pm on weekdays.

## IS SUPPORT AVAILABLE?

Yes. Get in touch by phone or email to tell us about your project and ask for advice. Also, keep an eye on our social media to find out about upcoming opportunities to try your hand at using power tools and practise some DIY skills in a friendly, supportive environment.



For more information about the Southside Tool Library call us on 0141 636 3959, drop into our office at 514 Victoria Road, Glasgow G42 8BG, visit [www.southseeds.org/tools](http://www.southseeds.org/tools) or email [tools@southseeds.org](mailto:tools@southseeds.org)  
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