

# Car clubs - A shift towards active travel

Do you enjoy cycling but feel you still need a car for those rare occasions when you can't make the journey by cycling, walking or public transport, for example:

- it's too far to cycle and you can't make the journey on public transport
- you need to transport someone unable to cycle to an appointment
- you have too much to carry - even with a bike trailer!

Joining your local car club could be the solution.

Car clubs give you access to a new, fuel-efficient car when you need it, without the hassle or cost of owning one, meaning you can stay active like Janet from Dunbar.

Janet McDougall Welch is a teacher in Dunbar where she lives with her husband and children.

Although we own a car which we use at weekends and my husband needs for his commute, I'm a teacher in Dunbar so cycle to work, and my children cycle or take their scooters to school and other activities.

We appreciate being able to build this exercise into our day, and are keen not to purchase a second car as this, as well as being expensive, would encourage the children to use "mum's taxi service", rather than be independent in their travel. However, for the odd time that we need a car during the day, for example to get to an orthodontist appointment in the next town, the car club is ideal.

I prefer the electric car for short journeys, but have occasionally used the 7-seater for taking friends on days out. I've been a member of the local car club for 5 years, and I don't use it often, but it's great to know it's there.



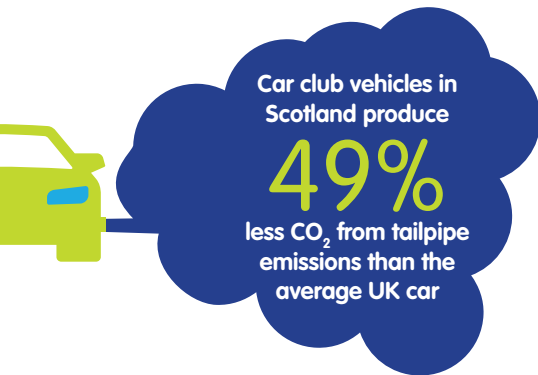
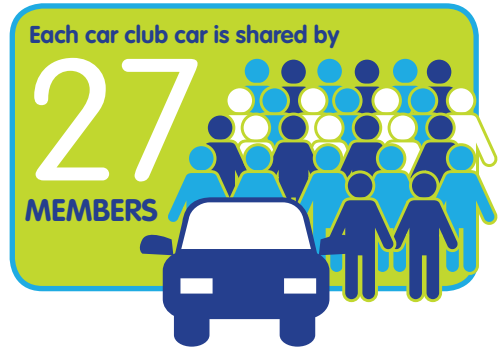
# What is a car club?

A car club is a member-based organisation that provides access to self-service, pay-as you-drive vehicles. These are available for hire for as little as 30 minutes up to several days at a time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Vehicles tend to be parked in dedicated and clearly marked parking spaces close to the homes and workplaces of members.

As of Jan 2017, there are car clubs in 31 locations throughout Scotland, with more than 10,000 members. On average, each car club car is shared by 27 members.

Car clubs are not only great for their members, but also help the local environment and community.

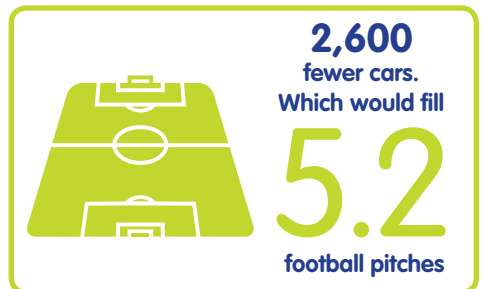


## Improving air quality

When you do need to use a car, choosing a car club car can help improve local air quality. Scottish car club cars tend to be newer, more fuel-efficient models than the typical Scottish car. In addition, 22% of the car club fleet in Scotland is electric, with zero tailpipe emissions.

## Reducing the number of vehicles on our streets

Research shows that car club membership has a significant impact on mode choice. Members decrease their use of private cars and taxis, and increase their use of public transport. People who join a car club tend to either dispose/sell a car or defer purchase of a new car, meaning fewer parked cars. In 2015/16 this meant over 2600 fewer cars sitting or driving on Scotland's roads.





## Tackling Climate Change

Car Clubs across Scotland saved nearly 3000 tonnes of CO2 in 2015-16, thanks to lower car use and greener cars, and Carplus Bikeplus has submitted evidence to the Scottish Government's Climate Change Plan consultation.



## Improving accessibility and fairness

Drivers who can't afford to run a car, or who choose not to own one, can be members of a car club and make use of a vehicle for those occasional journeys where public transport or cycling just wouldn't work.

Therefore, car clubs bring a bit more sanity to our too car-oriented world.

---

## Carplus Bikeplus

Carplus is the national charity promoting shared transport. In Scotland we are funded by the Scottish Government to develop and support car clubs across the county.

To find your nearest car club, use our searchable map: [www.carplus.org.uk](http://www.carplus.org.uk)

Contact us on [Scotland@carplus.org.uk](mailto:Scotland@carplus.org.uk) or **0131 243 2734**

## South East Scotland operators

Current car clubs operating in Edinburgh and the Lothians:

- Edinburgh and Mid Lothian – Enterprise Car Club  
[www.enterpriseclub.co.uk](http://www.enterpriseclub.co.uk)
- East Lothian (Dunbar, Haddington & North Berwick) – Co-wheels East Lothian  
<http://franchises.co-wheels.org.uk/eastlothian/>

# Bikeplus

**Bike share schemes increase the number of people cycling and the number of trips made by bikes. They provide flexible and affordable last mile trips, reduce car use and improve cycle safety.**

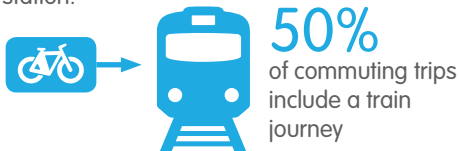
Bike sharing is growing in the UK.

- 17 towns and cities have public bike share, including Glasgow and Stirling and others are in development;
- Transport for Edinburgh is investigating an Edinburgh bike share scheme;
- 16,413 on-street bikes are shared in the UK, 13,868 of which are in London;
- There are 138,802 casual users and members of bike share schemes in the UK.

- Glasgow's fleet of over 400 bikes has been used 231,666 times since the launch in 2014, the scheme now averages 464 trips daily. The scheme is doubling in size in 2017.
- In 2015 there were 10 million bike share journeys with numbers of trips growing year on year.
- Bikeplus is a new representative body for bike share. We collect evidence of the benefits of bike sharing and share best practice to support investment and innovation.

## Bike share is a tool for commuting

Bike share offers integrated multi-modal travel, connecting people with public transport. Belfast bikes is a popular scheme which saw 21,448 journeys in September, the most popular origin-destination was the railway station.



Bike share commuters stated their main reason for using bike share was



**72%** convenience

**70%** time savings

## Bike Share is a tool for behaviour change

**Catalyst for new cyclists**

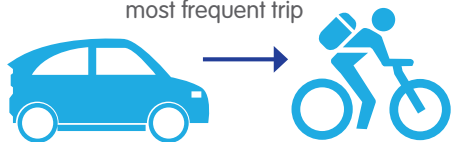
**13%** of bike share riders said the scheme was their reason for starting to cycle



**37%** said they cycled more because of bike share

**Smart travel behaviour**

**22%** of bike share riders previously travelled by car or taxi for their most frequent trip



For more information visit [www.bikeplus.org.uk](http://www.bikeplus.org.uk) or contact: [antonia@bikeplus.org.uk](mailto:antonia@bikeplus.org.uk) or 0113 410 5261