



Registered Charity No. 1048505

### Projects supported by The Naturesave Trust in 2016-2017

The range of organisations which the Trust, and you, our clients – have supported in the last 12 months is astounding. They are innovative, focused on sustainability and bear a strong sense of the importance of community. We hope you enjoy reading this snapshot summary, but if you would like more information on any of the projects please do get in touch (see back of this leaflet).

**Scotland the Bread:** A collaborative project to establish a Scottish flour and bread supply that is healthy, equitable, locally controlled and sustainable. An innovative social business, owned by its members.

**Cetacean Research & Rescue Unit:** A small charity in northeast Scotland dedicated to the conservation and protection of whales, dolphins & porpoises through scientific investigation & monitoring, environmental education, and the provision of a 24-hr veterinary service for sick, injured and stranded cetaceans.

**Saffron Heath Pond:** Previously a disused allotment site, clearance by the neighbourhood council discovered a Victorian field pond, which has now been regenerated and restocked with native plants and pond life, to accompany the Smooth Newt (*Triturus vulgaris*) population already resident in the hidden pond.

**Swift Recovery:** A swift conservation project in Wheldrake in the Lower Derwent Valley which installs swift boxes and provides monitoring of birds for valuable population and migration data.

**Sylva Community Orchard:** The Sylva Foundation is an environmental charity working nationwide to ensure Britain's woodlands thrive for people and nature, and to encourage the innovative use of the sustainable products they produce. Naturesave helped to support the creation of a small community orchard planted with native fruit and nut trees.

**South Dartmoor Community Energy:** A not for profit community benefit society which aims to help local communities become more energy efficient, and to get involved in, and benefit from, renewable energy projects. The recently launched energy advice team will be delivering an extensive programme of outreach activity across South Devon, to help reduce fuel poverty and encourage people to engage in the world of energy and its various sources.

**Furniture Recycling Project:** The FRP is working in partnership with a local housing association, Severn Housing Society, to repair and reuse donated, damaged and abandoned furniture and household electricals. The aim of the Repair & Reuse Partnership is to reduce landfill, prevent fly tipping, promote reuse and to enable disadvantaged residents in Gloucestershire to access essential, affordable furniture and electrical items that would otherwise be sent to landfill.

**Fizz Bikes:** A local social enterprise which believes that the more people cycling, the better it is for everyone. It wants to make electric bicycles accessible to anyone willing to use one for their commute to work, and when out and about. Funding from the Naturesave Trust will enable the purchase of 3 e-bikes, and double the scheme, from 3 bikes to 6. By renting out these bicycles for a minimal monthly fee, Fizz Bikes hopes to demonstrate to local organisations and business that e-bikes are a viable alternative to the car, and engage with them to financially subsidise the scheme. This will enable further expansion of the scheme in keeping with demand.

**Vegmead:** A circular edible garden community group in Hedgemoor Park in Bath, entirely run by volunteers promoting sustainable urban food systems. Vegmead is creating learning opportunities for student volunteers working on the site, and has been producing food for the local community since 2011.

**Hunters Hill School Farm:** A residential special school in Birmingham for children aged 11-16 with significant emotional, behavioural and mental health issues. The school provides a stable residential setting, and this project has re-established the school farm as a therapeutic resource for the pupils. Work started in Sept 2016 with the appointment of a rural studies teacher and plans are underway to restore the orchard and plant a vegetable garden.

**PEC Renewables Community Biomass:** Plymouth Energy Community is a not for profit Community Benefit Society delivering community-owned renewable energy installations, and allowing local people to invest in them, through community shares. The latest feasibility study has investigated the use of biomass across four sites, three of which are in schools. By providing renewable heat through the use of woodchip, wood pellet or logs, the installations would save the sites significant capital costs and reduce CO2 emissions.

**Sutton Community Farm Electric Vehicle:** Sutton Community Farm is a shared space for the community and offers inspiring courses, re-skilling the unemployed and educating children and adults as to where food comes from and how it is grown and produced. A VegBox scheme has been set up and an electric van powered with green electricity from Good Energy will enable even more efficient delivery journeys.

**John Grant Sensory Pod:** Providing education for students with complex needs, a special sensory garden has been created to enable students to access the outdoors, all year round, to experience different scents and textures of sensory plants.

**Keir's Meadow:** Located in Blean, Kent, the meadow is managed by a small group of volunteers and alongside Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership is restoring the natural pond to encourage diverse flora and fauna for the benefit of the local community, and as an educational landscape for local schools.

**Community Garden Saxon Hall:** A sensory garden designed alongside the Royal National College for the Blind and the SENAD group, with help from the Hereford Veterans Support Group. The garden will be a sanctuary for rehabilitation and therapy for ex-forces members, and is also open to the public and local community.

**Broad Raine Weir Community Hydro:** An initiative to measure the carbon footprint of their village prompted this community to encourage people to really consider renewable energy, and the idea for a 35kW screw- powered hydro power turbine on the River Lune was born! It will produce enough electricity to power half the houses in Killington, and will be fed directly to the grid. The project also supports the local salmon hatchery group which uses a tank on site to extract eggs, and then rears the young fry before restocking the upper streams.

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You may know of a project that could benefit from the Trust. The Naturesave Trust tends to provide contributions for small projects to get off the ground, although not exclusively as the Trust has funded much larger projects as well. The Trust will consider all applications which have a conservation/ environmental foundation, and/or those which demonstrate sustainable education practices. If you would like further information on how to apply please contact Bee West, the Trust Administrator on [beewest@naturesave.co.uk](mailto:beewest@naturesave.co.uk) or phone her on 01803 869761. Alternatively you could download an application from our website:

<http://www.naturesave.co.uk/the-naturesave-trust/>