



Nurture Lakeland Small Grants Funding Round Up 2016

Thank you for your amazing support for the Small Grants Fund, which allows us to give grants of up to £1,000 to local community groups and organisations who would otherwise struggle for financial support.

In May 2016 we awarded grants to four projects across Cumbria:

Coniston and Crake Catchment Partnership - £1,000

The Coniston and Crake catchment area is home to Biodiversity Action Plan priority species, such as Arctic charr, Atlantic salmon and sea/brown trout. The aim of this project is to improve water quality, habitat and biodiversity through a number of conservation projects. These include improving in-river and riparian habitats, establishing and enhancing spawning gravels and habitats of juvenile salmonids, removing obstructions to migration, reducing phosphate inputs, restoring Coniston's reedbeds and controlling freshwater invasive non-native species.

Mirehouse Environmental Workshops - £800

Mirehouse Residents Group were awarded £800 to deliver workshops at local primary schools to highlight the beauty and potential of the local environment and wildlife. The educational workshops hope to achieve long term positive impact by engaging with young people and inspiring them to understand the roles they could undertake to achieve improvements to their local environment.

Mirehouse Wildlife Playground - £460

St Gregory & St Patrick's school will be developing an underused area of school fields to promote and support wildlife. This will involve installation of 'bug runs', bird seed feeders and nest boxes. As well as supporting biodiversity, this project hopes to spark a change in culture that will be sustained in future generations. The project was awarded £460 to purchase the materials and labour needed to build the wildlife playground.

North Cumbria Barn Owl Study Group - £576

The aim of the North Cumbria Barn Owl Study Group is to enhance the breeding population of Barn Owls within the Cumbria through the provision of nest boxes. Nest box provision has become even more important with the demise of farm buildings. Another important part of barn owl conservation is the monitoring of the population, only achievable by the marking of individual birds. The recapture/recovery of previously ringed individuals gives the opportunity to calculate survival, mortality, movements and breeding success of individuals, and the data collected is invaluable to the long term future of this beautiful bird. A grant of £576 was awarded to the North Cumbria Barn Owl Study Group to purchase equipment so that the monitoring programme can continue.

Thank you again for your support, this work couldn't happen without you!