

WASTE NOT WANT NOT

**FINAL
EVALUATION**





**EMPOWERING
COMMUNITIES
TO MAKE
POSITIVE
CHANGE**



Made possible with

**Heritage
Fund**



FINAL EVALUATION

**PRESENTED BY
CHRIS SANDS**

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**SKILLS WHICH WERE ONCE
COMMONPLACE IN OUR
COMMUNITIES ARE IN
DANGER OF BEING LOST.**

WE WANT TO REVIVE THEM.

**WE NEED THEM NOW
MORE THAN EVER.**

INTRODUCTION

This final evaluation of the Waste Not Want Not project follows on from the original mid-term evaluation. It describes the origins and thinking behind Waste Not Want Not and sets out what has been delivered against the originally planned outputs. It follows up on the recommendations highlighted in the mid-term evaluation and looks at additional impacts beyond just the experience of attending a Waste Not Want Not workshop or seasonal fair.

We evaluated the project through close observation, attending workshops, courses and fairs, interviewing participants and activity providers, and talking to CaVCA staff.

Chris Sands of the Good Company (Yorkshire) Ltd was engaged by Coast and Vale Community Action (CaVCA) in January 2024 to evaluate the progress and impact of the Waste Not Want Not project, producing written reports both at the mid-term of the project and at completion.

Chris has a wealth of experience in creating grassroots projects aimed at empowering communities and in gathering people's stories using a variety of methods to gauge the impact of projects. He also brings valuable insights and perspectives from his 20 years plus career as a branding consultant with a particular focus on people and places.



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ORIGINS AND AIMS OF WASTE NOT WANT NOT

CaVCA is a not-for-profit charitable community business whose purpose is to empower communities to make positive change. It provides managed workspace and community facilities, brings people together, connects communities and facilitates the development of social action.

The projects CaVCA delivers grow from its many interactions with the local community. This was the starting point for Waste Not Want Not.

From 2017 to 2020 CaVCA ran a project called Totally Socially funded by the National Lottery Community Fund. Its broad aim was to listen to local people and help them to develop their own solutions to challenges they identified in the places they lived in.

Over the lifetime of the project one of the themes that emerged was people's concerns about the environment and climate change, which led to beach sweep groups, litter picking groups, community fridges and other initiatives being set up.

At the same time CaVCA was working closely with York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership on its Circular Economy Strategy, and from 2021 began to actively promote circular economy activities in Scarborough. Engagement with local fabric and dressmaking businesses led to an interest in the cultivation of flax and the production of linen.

One of the key learning points from a small, one-off project, the "Scarborough Flax Experiment" was that the skills and knowledge of the past could help people address the challenges of the present and future. This learning was confirmed by the popularity of the Repair Cafes which CaVCA ran in 2022 and it was this central idea that ran through CaVCA's successful bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund to support Waste Not Want Not.

HOW THIS EVALUATION HAS WORKED

The central aim of the project was to demonstrate how skills and knowledge that were once commonplace can help communities now to address the challenges they face.

This was achieved through a two-year series of activity-based events that brought people together, developed understanding of the ways in which our heritage can help save money and boost resilience, and showed how the use of heritage skills can benefit the climate and nature.

THE PROJECT WAS ORGANISED AROUND THREE BROAD HEADINGS: FOOD, CLOTHING & STORYTELLING



THE EVALUATION AND THIS REPORT HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED BY:

- **analysing the data and feedback** routinely collected by Anna Rundell, the Waste Not Want Project Officer and by Chris Sands
- **attending and observing** several of the workshops, fairs and learning activities
- **gathering feedback** by interviewing participants, focusing on their reasons for attending, what they had learned, and how they will apply that learning to their day to day lives in the future to reduce waste and save money
- **attending and observing** the Waste Not Want Not Fairs
- **filming**
- **interviewing** Anna Rundell and David Stone, the Waste Not Want Not Project Manager
- **following up initial interviews** with additional questions
- **photographing, making short films and audio interviews** providing a visual and audio overview of the project

The process was informal and collaborative, and included taking part in the workshops, as well as casual conversations and even assisting the instructors. This allowed us to break down barriers with people we were talking to, allowing a better insight into their thoughts and experiences.

It provided us with the opportunity to go beyond simply measuring progress against expected outputs and outcomes and to gain an understanding of the underlying ethos of the project and the way people had interacted and what they had taken away from Waste Not Want Not.

By doing this we uncovered a genuine spirit of inquiry, an openness to learning both in participants and in those organising and delivering activities, and a developing sense of community amongst all those participating in the project.

This sense of community has increased with the second stage of the project, mainly due to many participants attending multiple courses, therefore having repeat contact with each other.

FAIRS & EVENTS

BY THE END OF THE PROJECT SEVEN SEASONAL WASTE NOT WANT FAIRS HAD BEEN HELD, ATTRACTING NEARLY 1500 PEOPLE OVERALL.

THE FIRST SUMMER FAIR was held on 24 August 2023 at CaVCA's The Street community building and featured the project team welcoming visitors and explaining *the aims of the project, preserve making demonstrations, sewing activities, woodworking and painting activities, a crafting table for children, guides on composting and wormery making, cabbage planting, spinning and weaving tasters, blacksmithing demonstrations, vintage clothing, a foraging table where people could sample foraged food and drink, and a board where people posted their memories of Waste Not Want Not skills from the past.* Around 400 people attended.

THE AUTUMN FAIR was held on 25 November 2023 at the Hungate Centre in Pickering and featured the Waste Not Want Not Project Officer welcoming visitors and explaining the aims of the project, hands on, have-a-go activities involving *spinning and weaving, apple pressing, tabletop Christmas tree making (woodwork), mini wormery making, and denim up-cycling*, as well as showcases of vintage fashion, foraging, food sharing and waste reduction. Around 200 people attended.

THE WINTER/CHRISTMAS FAIR, which took the form of a post-Christmas swapping and sharing event, was held at Scarborough Market Hall on 6 January 2024 and 8 January 2024. Over *400 items were saved from landfill and over 200 swaps were made* as people rediscovered the financial benefits of sharing with their neighbours as well as seeing the environmental benefits.

Around 100 people attended.

THE SPRING FAIR was held on 20 April 2024 at the Hungate Centre and featured the Waste Not Want Not Project Officer welcoming visitors and explaining the aims of the project, activities demonstrating *foraging, growing food, furniture repair and up-cycling, making your own photovoltaic light bulb, sewing, composting and apple pressing.*

Around 100 people attended.

THE SECOND SUMMER FAIR was held on 12 June 2024 at CaVCA's building The Street, Scarborough during the national Great Big Green Week and featured the Waste Not Want Not Project Manager welcoming visitors and *explaining the aims of the project, blacksmithing, preserve making, gardening, furniture up-cycling, sewing, spinning, weaving and mini wormery making, making our own games, hay-box cooking and jam jar light making.* Around 250 people attended.

THE SECOND SPRING FAIR

was held on 16th April 2025 at CaVCA's The Street community building.

It included demonstrations, bird box making, preserves, rug weaving, composting and wormeries, solar light making, a sewing table, woodworking and painting activities, food demonstrations, a crafting table for children, food planting, spinning and weaving tasters, vintage clothing, and more. Around 250 people attended.

THE END OF PROJECT CELEBRATION

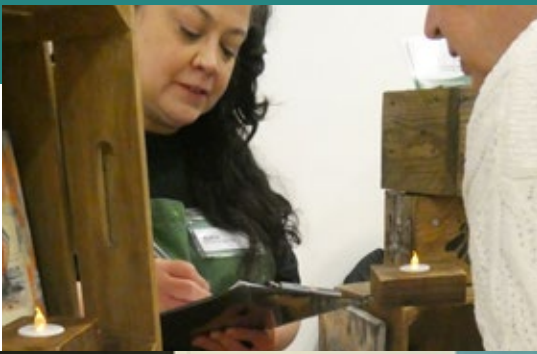
was held on 5 July 2025 at CaVCA's The Street community building.

It brought together many of the Waste Not Want Not workshop providers, workshop participants and the general public. There were many conversations about the project and what might come next, as well as a photographic exhibition, videos and tasters of some of the community heritage skills activities that had featured in the project. It was a genuinely uplifting event, with an optimism that new projects and initiatives would grow out of the Waste Not Want Not project.

Around 200 people attended.

ATTENDANCE OVERALL: CIRCA 1500

PHOTOS FROM THE FAIRS



WORKSHOPS

IN ADDITION TO THE FAIRS THERE HAVE BEEN 63 WORKSHOPS & LEARNING ACTIVITIES with 400 spaces being taken up and over 250 individuals engaged.

This included around 50 people who have attended more than one workshop/activity.

Skills covered included *blacksmithing, cooking, general repair skills, food growing, morsbag making, weaving and spinning, pottery, willow weaving, wreath making, sewing, preserve making, foraging, pottery, furniture upcycling, clothing repair, natural dyeing, story telling and mosaic making.*

MOST OF THE WORKSHOPS WERE FULL

and for some skills areas waiting lists had to be created. This happened more and more as the project went along. This showed the power of word-of-mouth communication and repeat attendance of people. In addition to word-of-mouth, fairs and workshops were promoted through CaVCA's website and social media channels, particularly Facebook and Instagram and through the local press, with the Scarborough News being particularly supportive.





OUTPUTS EXPECTED

The following outputs were agreed with the Heritage Lottery Fund at the start of the project.

**Hold 6 showcase events/
seasonal fairs**

Create one new full time job

Engage at least 200 people

Deliver 16 workshops covering:

Foraging

Making and repairing clothes

Spinning and weaving

Carpentry/furniture repair

Storytelling

Growing, cooking, and preserving food

Collect 100 stories/case studies

**Implement measures to increase
positive environmental impacts**

OUTPUTS ACHIEVED

Expected outputs were all exceeded. More workshops were provided, more fairs/showcases were held, more people were engaged and more skills areas were covered than originally anticipated.

Held 7 showcase events/seasonal fairs, attracting 1500 attendees

Employed one full-time Project Officer

Delivered 63 workshops covering:

Foraging

Making and repairing clothes/textiles

Spinning and weaving

Woodwork/furniture repair

Storytelling

Growing, cooking, and preserving food

Pottery, Solar Power electrics, Blacksmithing

Composting, Animal Rescue, Natural Dyeing and

Mosaics, General/electrical repairs

Collected 100 stories including case studies

Purchased and procured products and services that were in keeping with the environmental focus of the project and raised awareness of community heritage skills and their value in addressing climate change and protecting nature

Case studies of each of the workshops are included in this document.

YEAR 2 PROGRESS

We assessed progress by analysing the feedback forms from attendees, other data collected by the Project Officer and by interviewing participants.

In the mid-term evaluation, we stated that ‘we found strong evidence that workshops, learning activities and fairs have been attended by a wide range of age groups and by both men and women’. This continued through the second part of the project.

We also stated that ‘There was a narrow range of ethnicity and nationality taking part, which is due mainly to the demographic make up of Scarborough and the surrounding area. However, there is scope for the project to reach out to migrant communities and others from around the world who have made Scarborough their home’.

This was partially addressed during the second year of the project by the inclusion of a Caribbean Cookery course, led by Maya of Big Maya’s Jerk, entitled “A Taste of Diversity”. Although this did not bring a more diverse group of attendees, the introduction to the course included Maya telling of her experiences as a Caribbean woman in Scarborough and brought out a frank discussion around inclusion and acceptance within the group, whilst cooking. Inclusion of migrant communities remains a challenge for the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector in Scarborough and CaVCA is addressing this through its involvement in the Swift project which is led by North Yorkshire Council and funded by the National Lottery Community Fund.

Once again we found that when people had engaged in the courses, they were more likely to book onto another course, and it was obvious that confidence grew when attending more than one workshop, allowing them to take up courses they would normally not have considered. It also led to attendees recommending the workshops to friends and family, which boosted the places taken up in the second year of the project.

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Everyone we interviewed said they had learned new skills and many said it had changed the way they think about old skills and the environmental impact of their behaviour. Many said they were going to look into learning more about the subjects. Interviews revealed a desire amongst participants to learn even more skills that helped save money, reduced waste, enabled recycling, and facilitated the growing of food or the creation of new items from old materials. *This seemed more of a driver in the second part of the project. This could be due to more financial constraints on budgets which has been seen across the UK recently.*

The second year saw a change in several of the people interviewed and a desire to continue on a new course of learning and environmental change.

In the mid-term report, we highlighted the fact that, although people enjoyed the courses, they were not aware of the aims of the project, why it was happening and who CaVCA (the hosts) were. So for the second year, each workshop was introduced by Anna Rundell, explaining the origins and the objectives of Waste Not Want Not, followed by a short introduction to CaVCA and its work. This helped people to get a much better understanding of the project, its environmental impact and the value of community heritage skills

The people leading the courses also introduced their craft within this context. This helped people to get a much better understanding of the project, its environmental impact and the value of community heritage skills.”



100 STORIES

Collecting stories and case studies was a key part of the Waste Not Want Not project, capturing the many ways heritage skills continue to shape and enrich people's lives today.

Through workshops, creative activities and personal interviews over 100 stories reflecting local traditions, family memories, and the positive impact of learning and sharing new skills were gathered.

Documented through case studies, written accounts, voice recordings, photography, and film, these stories form a lasting archive and were showcased at the Waste Not Want Not celebration event on 5 July 2025.

Some samples of these stories are highlighted on the following page:

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MEMORIES EVOKED AT THE WASTE NOT WANT NOT FAIRS

Picking Brambles with my grandad

I used to grow tomatoes in my nana's greenhouse

As a child in the seventies, shelling on the back doorstep on Sunday's and pinching peas out of the bowl!

I remember grandad making his own tools

Making a clippy rug for my grandma's kitchen

Dad making my dolls house from scraps of wood, I still have it, my daughter has played with it and my grandchild will play with it, it's only 50 years old!

Making two bars of soap into one

Salvaging old bike parts from the tip to make my first whole bike for free

Using cotton reel with pins in for a French knitting bracelet

We used mums button tin to adapt clothes from the jumble sale as I got older

MEMORIES EVOKED BY THE WASTE NOT WANT NOT WORKSHOPS

GROWING – “Where I grew up we had a big productive garden. In late summer we gathered currants for the ‘aufsetzer’. This was a mix of Blackcurrant and Schnapps, it was used for soothing sore stomach, we also made a berry juice made at home as a fever remedy.” - Brunhilde, Morsbags

**REPAIRING – “When I was younger, we didn't just throw things away if they broke. My dad would spend weekends fixing our old bikes and toys in the shed. I learned to value things and take care of them instead of replacing them. It taught me patience and gave me special time with my dad.”
- Andrew, Blacksmithing**

**COOKING – “Every autumn, my grandma and I would spend whole afternoons making chutneys and pickles with leftover veg from the garden. The kitchen would smell amazing, and we'd label all the jars together. We gave them as gifts at Christmas — it felt good to share something homemade and avoid wasting food.”
- Ruth, Christmas Decoration Making**

STORIES FROM THE WORKSHOPS

GROWING WORKSHOP

“I'd never grown my own veg before, but the growing workshop with Darren really opened my eyes. I started with a few pots at home, and now I've got a little raised bed full of salad and herbs! It's saved me money, and I love nipping outside to pick my bits for my tea. It's got me outdoors more, and I've even inspired my neighbour to start too!”

MORSBAG WORKSHOP

“I hadn't touched a sewing machine since school, but the Morsbag sessions made it really easy to get back into again. Everyone was so friendly, and I actually made my own shopping bag from scrap fabric. I never thought I'd be that into sewing, but here we are!”

STORYTELLING AND STORY BOX WORKSHOP

“Making my story box helped me reflect on my family's roots in Scarborough. Learning about the history of Scarborough, the good and bad was really interesting and made me feel like I understood it better. It was a wonderful way to connect heritage, art, and community.”

FURNITURE UPCYCLING

“I joined the upcycling workshop to do something new and meet people. I ended up turning an old side table into something beautiful for my living room. I was so proud! The best part was chatting and laughing with everyone while we worked — I've made new friends and gained the confidence to tackle more projects at home.”

REPAIR CAFE

HERE



SCARBOROUGH REPAIR CAFE FIXING, SHARING, AND CONNECTING

Started by CaVCA, the Scarborough Repair Cafe has grown and flourished as part of the Waste Not Want Not project. Run by dedicated volunteers, the café offers a welcoming, supportive space where people bring broken or worn-out items to be repaired instead of thrown away. Volunteers generously share their time, skills, and tools to fix everything from clothing and household appliances to furniture and bikes.

A monthly session takes place on the last Saturday of every month at Scarborough Market Hall and Vaults, making it a regular, trusted community fixture.

The Repair Cafe helps reduce waste, save money, and promote a culture of reuse and self-sufficiency. Beyond practical repairs, it builds community connections and empowers people to learn new skills together.



QUOTE FROM REPAIR CAFE

"I BROUGHT MY OLD LAMP IN THINKING IT WAS BEYOND SAVING, BUT THEY FIXED IT IN MINUTES! IT FELT GREAT TO GIVE IT A NEW LIFE—AND I LEARNED HOW TO DO IT MYSELF NEXT TIME."



CASE STUDY

Fixing, Sharing and Learning Together

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, the Repair Cafe offered a welcoming space for people to bring broken household items and learn how to fix them. Hosted at Scarborough Market Hall and Vaults, the café operated over 8 sessions, supported by a team of knowledgeable volunteer repairers.

Participants brought everything from torn clothing and broken toasters to lamps, toys, and chairs. The ethos was simple: don't bin it—bring it! Volunteers offered guidance and hands-on support, helping attendees understand the repair process and encouraging reuse over replacement. One session was held in partnership with Dunelm as a special promotional event, helping expand the reach of the initiative.

This workshop promoted circular economy thinking, reduced waste, and empowered community members to develop practical, confidence-building skills that extend the life of everyday items.

BENEFITS OF THE REPAIR CAFE

Environmental Impact

Encourages a circular economy by repairing instead of replacing, helping to reduce carbon emissions and limit unnecessary waste.

Confidence Boost

Empowers people to try fixing things themselves.

Skill Sharing

Volunteers share hands-on repair knowledge, bringing people together across generations to learn, connect, and build community resilience through making.

Waste Reduction

Fixing items keeps them out of landfill.

REPAIR CAFES
DELIVERED

8

GROWING WORKSHOP

CULTIVATING COMMUNITY
THROUGH GROWING AND SHARING

**WASTE
NOT
WANT
NOT**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
CAVCA

Led by Darren Mancrief, the award-winning **GROW SCARBOROUGH** is nurturing community resilience through sustainable local food growing, seed saving, and orchard planning. Based at The Street in Scarborough, the team has transformed the garden into a thriving hub for locally grown produce shared with the wider community. Grow Scarborough also runs twice-weekly community gardening sessions, has created a publicly accessible sensory garden, and recently launched a community seed library in partnership with Scarborough Library.



QUOTE FROM GROW SCARBOROUGH

"OUR INTENTION IS TO BRING THE COMMUNITY CLOSER TOGETHER THROUGH THE GROWING AND SHARING OF FOOD AND SKILLS. FOR ME, IT HELPS WITH MY MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH, GETS ME OUT OF THE HOUSE AND WITH PEOPLE I WOULD NEVER HAVE MET BEFORE."

CASE STUDY

GROWING WORKSHOP Sharing Skills, Growing Confidence

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, we delivered a hands-on Growing Workshop in partnership with Grow Scarborough, led by community growing expert Darren Mancrief. These sessions brought people together to explore seasonal growing, empowering participants with the confidence, knowledge, and tools to grow their own fresh produce at home.

The workshop took place at The Street and participants learned what to grow and how to grow it, based on the current season. Through live demonstrations, open discussion, and one-on-one support, the session made food growing approachable for everyone—regardless of age, space, or experience level.

Each attendee planted their own seasonal vegetables in a pot to take home and care for. They were also given simple, easy-to-follow information sheets to guide their next steps and encourage long-term growing at home. This workshop was part of a broader mission to build community resilience, share heritage skills, and reduce food waste—by helping people grow what they eat and understand where their food comes from.

BENEFITS OF THE GROWING WORKSHOPS

HANDS-ON LEARNING

Participants actively planted seasonal vegetables, building practical confidence to grow at home.

REVIVING HERITAGE SKILLS

Encouraged self-sufficiency through food growing—once a widespread tradition and now a powerful response to rising food costs and environmental challenges.

ACCESSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE

Sessions welcomed people of all ages and abilities, showing that you don't need a garden or experience to grow your own food.

SUPPORTS MENTAL WELLBEING

Gardening and working with nature is known to reduce stress, support mindfulness, and foster a sense of calm and achievement.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Created space for open conversation, skill-sharing, and peer support—strengthening social bonds through a shared love of growing.

PROMOTES SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Encouraged local, low-cost food production that reduces reliance on supermarkets and lowers household food waste.

LED BY LOCAL EXPERTISE

Delivered by Darren Mancrief of Grow Scarborough, whose deep knowledge and approachable style helped make growing feel achievable and fun.



WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

1

SEED SWAP & GROWING WORKSHOP

**WASTE
NOT
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CAVCA

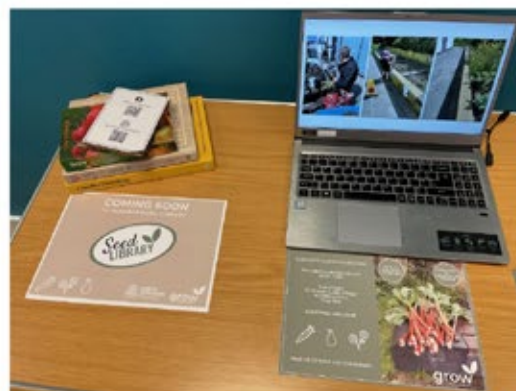
CASE STUDY

Sharing Seeds, Skills and Sustainability

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, the Seed Swap and Growing Workshop invited people of all ages and skill levels to exchange surplus or unwanted seeds—turning potential waste into opportunity. Hosted in partnership with Grow Scarborough and supported by donations from Sainsbury's, Grow Scarborough and Waste Not Want Not, the tables were brimming with a wide variety of seeds including vegetables, fruits, and flowers.

Led by Darren from Grow Scarborough, the event also included a practical demonstration on how to plant and care for the swapped seeds—providing beginners with the confidence and knowledge to get growing. A steady stream of participants came through the event, with many staying to chat, share tips, and offer growing advice in a friendly and informal atmosphere.

This session not only helped reduce waste and promote sustainable growing but also strengthened community ties by bringing together people with a shared interest in nature, food, and self-sufficiency.



QUOTE FROM PARTICIPANT

"I AM SO HAPPY WITH THE SWAPS I MADE, IT'S NICE TO KNOW THAT MY UNWANTED SEEDS ARE GOING TO BE GROWN BY SOMEONE ELSE AND THAT THEIRS WILL BE ADDING TO MY GARDEN. I ALSO HAD A CHAT WITH A WOMAN WHO DOES HYDROPONICS, THIS IS SOMETHING I'M NOW GOING TO TRY!"



WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

1



BENEFITS OF SEED SWAPS & GROWING WORKSHOPS

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Created space for open conversation, skill-sharing, and peer support—strengthening social bonds through a shared love of growing.

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grow
SCARBOROUGH

PLANTER MAKING

CASE STUDY

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, Grow Scarborough delivered an inspiring planter making workshop at The Street, encouraging participants to learn woodworking skills while promoting sustainability. Led by the Grow Scarborough team, the session focused on transforming reclaimed pallet wood into practical, attractive planters for home or community gardens.

Participants learned how to dismantle pallets, select suitable wood, and safely use hand tools to build and finish their own planters. Remarkably, all participants were women, many of whom had never used power tools or attempted DIY projects before.

The friendly, supportive atmosphere helped build confidence and sparked creativity, proving that woodworking is for everyone regardless of experience or background. Beyond skill-building, the workshop promoted reuse, reduced waste, and encouraged participants to grow their own food at home.

Each attendee left empowered, with a handmade planter and new confidence to continue creating.



BENEFITS OF PLANTER MAKING WORKSHOPS

Promotes Reuse

Transforms reclaimed wood into planters, reducing waste and supporting sustainability.

Builds DIY Confidence

Empowers beginners with tools — only 14% of UK adults feel confident doing DIY (Statista).

Strengthens Community

Brings people together to learn, share, and connect through hands-on making.

Supports Home Growing

Encourages growing food; homegrown produce can cut food bills by up to 30% (Garden Organic).



SOWING BEE MORSBAGS



Sowing Bee have been at the heart of the Waste Not Want Not project, championing creativity, sustainability, and community connection through sewing. This Scarborough-based group brings people together to learn heritage textile skills, reduce fabric waste, and enjoy the wellbeing benefits of making by hand.

Led by dedicated volunteers Emma and Diane, Sowing Bee delivered a series of Morsbag making workshops and Christmas decoration making workshops at The Street, and also run a regular Tuesday session at Gallows Close Community Centre. Open to all ages and abilities, their sessions offer a welcoming space to create, repair, and share.



WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED
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Case Study - Morsbags

Stitching Sustainability with Sowing Bee

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, 13 Morsbag making sessions were delivered in partnership with Sowing Bees, forming the now well-established "Street Bees" Morsbag Pod. With an average of 10 people attending each session, the workshops welcomed a mix of regulars and newcomers—individuals, couples, and friends—keen to try something new.

Using waste fabric and simple sewing techniques, participants made reusable bags as an alternative to single-use plastic. Beyond learning or improving sewing skills, the sessions fostered confidence, conversation, and connection in a relaxed and inclusive environment.

Thanks to continued support from CaVCA, the Street Bees Pod will carry on at The Street beyond the end of the project.

CHRISTMAS DECORATION MAKING

SHARING TRADITION

CASE STUDY

SUSTAINABLE CHRISTMAS DECORATION MAKING

This workshop focused on using waste fabric to create Christmas decorations, offering an eco-friendly alternative to buying mass-produced ones. Attendees learned basic hand-sewing techniques, including how to stitch fabric, attach buttons, and choose patterns. These skills provided a creative outlet and gave participants confidence to sew at home.

Each participant received a starter sewing kit to continue practising their skills beyond the session, helping remove barriers to sewing in the future. The workshop also created space for people to share festive memories, reflecting on simpler and more creative Christmas traditions.

The activity served as a gentle way to explore themes of sustainability and resourcefulness during the holiday season. By turning waste fabric into beautiful, handmade decorations, attendees gained a deeper understanding of the environmental impact of overconsumption and were encouraged to reflect on their ecological footprint.

In essence, making decorations from scrap fabric not only promotes reuse, but also fosters community, creativity, and mindfulness. It offered a warm, social space to reconnect with the true spirit of Christmas—one rooted in care, craft, and togetherness—rather than material excess. A small, meaningful act that honours both heritage and the planet.



BENEFITS OF SEWING WORKSHOPS

PROMOTES SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Encourages people to use what they have to make something festive and reduce consumerism at Christmas.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Brings people together through creativity and community spirit.

FREE SEWING KIT

Provides tools and skills to continue crafting at home.

REDUCES FESTIVE WASTE

Reduces festive waste through handmade, reusable décor.

REVIVING TRADITION

Revives heritage sewing skills in a seasonal context.

SUSTAINABLE GIFTS

Supports sustainable gift-making and home decoration.



WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

2

MARTIN HELBROW

The Foodie Folk

Chutney and Red Onion Marmalade

Martin Helbrow is the founder of The Helbrows: The Foodie Folk, a small-batch producer based in Bridlington specialising in seasonal preserves, chutneys, and traditional handmade goods. With a passion for heritage recipes and locally sourced ingredients, Martin blends culinary craftsmanship with community engagement.

His workshops share time-honoured skills such as chutney and lemon curd making, encouraging others to embrace sustainable, home-based cooking traditions. Known for his warm teaching style and deep food knowledge, Martin inspires others to reconnect with the joy of preserving, reducing food waste, and celebrating the stories behind the food we make and share.



WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

3

CASE STUDY Preserve Making

This hands-on workshops focused on teaching the heritage skill of preserving food through the making of red onion marmalade and caramelised onion chutney. Led by Martin, participants learned how to chop, simmer, and preserve seasonal locally grown ingredients.

The session created a relaxed, sociable space where people could share stories, discuss food waste reduction, and reconnect with traditional kitchen practices. Everyone left with a jar of homemade preserves and the confidence to continue preserving at home—celebrating sustainability, heritage, and the joy of cooking from scratch.

BENEFITS OF MAKING PRESERVES

FOOD PRESERVATIONS KILLS

Teaches traditional methods of preserving seasonal produce, reducing waste and extending food life.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING

Promotes local, seasonal produce use and reduces dependence on shop-bought goods and packaging.

HERITAGE COOKING

Connects participants with timeless recipes and cultural food traditions passed down through generations.

EXPERT-LED LEARNING

Guided by a skilled local producer, participants gain confidence through hands-on, professional instruction and tips.

STORY SHARING

Creates space for participants to share memories, family recipes, and food-related experiences.



MARTIN HELBROW

The Foodie Folk

Lemon Curd

CASE STUDY

This welcoming workshop celebrated the heritage skill of lemon curd making, bringing people together to share traditional recipes and kitchen wisdom. Led by Martin from The Helbrows: The Foodie Folk, the session offered a hands-on experience in crafting lemon curd from scratch using simple, seasonal ingredients.

As participants zested, stirred, and preserved their curd, the warm scent of citrus filled the space—stirring memories of childhood kitchens and homemade treats. The session created space for conversation, storytelling, and the joy of learning by doing.

Beyond the practical skills, the workshop explored the value of traditional methods in reducing food waste and using surplus ingredients creatively. It encouraged a more thoughtful, seasonal approach to cooking while honouring time-tested techniques.

The lemon curd workshop brought people together through flavour, memory, and heritage—fostering a deeper appreciation for simple pleasures and the power of shared experience in the kitchen. A small, joyful act with lasting impact.



QUOTE FROM PARTICIPANT

"EVERYTHING WAS SPOT ON - I LEARNT HOW A FEW SIMPLE INGREDIENTS MAKE A WONDERFUL LEMON CURD. IT WAS A LOVELY WAY TO SPEND THE EVENING - THANK YOU".

AMANDA

WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

6

FORAGING

FOOD FROM NATURE



RAINCLIFFE WOOD
COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE

Raincliffe Woods and Seven Two Bushcraft

Raincliffe Woods Community Enterprise manages one of Scarborough's most treasured natural assets—Raincliffe Woods, a historic and biodiverse woodland on the edge of the town. Their work focuses on conservation, education, and community engagement, creating opportunities for people of all ages to connect with the natural world. From habitat restoration and sustainable woodland management to wellbeing walks and outdoor events, the team fosters a strong relationship between people and place.

In partnership with Raincliffe Woods, Seven Two Bushcraft and Survival offers hands-on outdoor learning rooted in traditional skills. Led by experienced instructor Joe, Seven Two delivers immersive sessions on bushcraft, survival techniques, and foraging. These workshops empower participants with practical knowledge—such as fire-lighting, identifying edible plants, and building shelters—while promoting environmental respect and personal resilience.

Together, Raincliffe Woods and Seven Two Bushcraft create memorable outdoor experiences that inspire curiosity, build confidence, and support wellbeing. Whether it's a mindful woodland walk or learning how to forage safely and sustainably, these organisations play a vital role in helping people reconnect with nature, heritage, and each other.

Their work is a celebration of outdoor heritage, environmental education, and the restorative power of the wild.



Foraging Workshop

Reconnecting with Nature, Building Resilience

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, we partnered with Raincliffe Woods Community Enterprise, Seven Two Bushcraft and Survival, and The Growth Company Scarborough to deliver an immersive foraging workshop led by expert instructor Joe. Set in the serene surroundings of Raincliffe Woods, the session taught participants how to identify edible plants, understand the principles of sustainable foraging, and safely connect with nature as a source of nourishment and wellbeing.

To ensure the workshop was accessible to everyone, we arranged transport for those without access to a vehicle. This made it possible for a wider and more diverse group to take part, including individuals who might otherwise face barriers to participating in outdoor learning.

A closed session was delivered in partnership with The Growth Company, providing a safe, positive experience for young people at risk of offending. For many, this was a first encounter with outdoor education and a rare opportunity to build confidence, practical skills, and trust in a supportive environment.

The workshop successfully blended environmental education with social impact—offering space for reflection, personal growth, and a deeper connection to the natural world, while planting seeds of resilience for the future.

QUOTE FROM PARTICIPANT

"IT WAS LOVELY TO GO FOR A WALK AROUND THE WOODS AND LEARN ABOUT THE USE OF THE PLANTS, THAT BEFORE I'VE WALKED PAST WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT".

JAMIE V

WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

1

FURNITURE UPCYCLING



The Community Furniture Store Scarborough is a social enterprise that supports local people by offering affordable, good-quality second-hand furniture and appliances. By collecting donated items, the store helps reduce landfill waste and promotes reuse. It also provides practical training and volunteering opportunities, teaching restoration, repair, and upcycling skills to build confidence and improve employability.

Through creative workshops, such as furniture upcycling, participants learn sustainable techniques while contributing to a circular economy. More than just a store, it's a supportive community space where people come together to share skills, reduce waste, and improve their homes and lives in a meaningful way.



QUOTE FROM WORKSHOP

"I REALLY ENJOYED LEARNING NEW SKILLS AND MEETING LIKE MINDED PEOPLE.

I FEEL MORE CONFIDENT TO GIVE UPCYCLING A GO AT HOME."

CASE STUDY

Furniture Upcycling

Turning Waste into Worth

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, the Community Furniture Store Scarborough delivered two furniture upcycling courses, each made up of three workshops each. Participants learned how to transform old, unwanted side tables into beautifully restored pieces through hands-on training and expert guidance.

The workshops covered each stage of the process—from preparation and minor repairs to sanding, priming, painting, and achieving a professional-quality finish. Using donated furniture and sustainable materials, attendees gained confidence in DIY techniques, with many tackling furniture restoration for the first time.

The sessions attracted a range of participants, creating a welcoming, creative atmosphere where people could share ideas and support one another. As well as developing practical skills, the workshops encouraged reuse, reduced waste, and inspired pride in making something new from something old. Participants left with finished tables, new skills, and motivation to keep upcycling at home.

BENEFITS OF WORKSHOP

Environmental Impact

Encourages a circular economy by repairing instead of replacing, helping to reduce carbon emissions and limit unnecessary waste.

Confidence Boost

Empowers people to try fixing things themselves.

Skill Sharing

Volunteers share hands-on repair knowledge, bringing people together across generations to learn, connect, and build community resilience through making.

Waste Reduction

Fixing items keeps them out of landfill.

WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

6

CLOTHING REPAIR



Sea Glimpse Designs Creative Reuse and Heritage Skills by Julie Kelly

Sea Glimpse Designs is the creative practice of Julie Kelly, a skilled maker, tutor, and advocate for sustainable crafting based in Filey, North Yorkshire. Passionate about creative reuse and heritage skills, Julie delivers engaging workshops that help people rediscover the joy of making, mending, and upcycling.

With years of experience in teaching sewing, leatherwork, and textile arts, Julie specialises in helping people build confidence with both hand and machine sewing. Her workshops—ranging from clothing repair to lampshade making—emphasise accessibility, creativity, and the environmental benefits of reusing materials.

Julie is also known for her warm and inclusive teaching style, creating welcoming spaces for all abilities. She has presented on Sewing Street TV and featured at the Knitting and Stitching Show catwalk, sharing her ethos of “make do and mend” with wider audiences.

Through Sea Glimpse Designs, Julie inspires sustainable creativity—one stitch, patch, and idea at a time.



CASE STUDY

Clothing Repair Workshop Mending with Confidence and Creativity

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, Julie Kelly of Sea Glimpse Designs led a hands-on clothing repair workshop focused on reviving worn denim. The session introduced both beginners and experienced sewists to essential repair techniques using hand-stitching and sewing machines.

Participants learned how to set up their machines for denim, patch and reinforce damaged areas, and apply creative flourishes through free machining and visible mending. The atmosphere was friendly and supportive, encouraging people to share stories and skills as they worked.

With a small class size, everyone received tailored guidance, helping them build confidence and enthusiasm for sustainable clothing practices. Julie's display of reworked garments inspired participants to see mending as both useful and creative. The workshop not only extended the life of clothing but also promoted environmental awareness and self-sufficiency—encouraging a shift away from fast fashion and towards thoughtful reuse.

BENEFITS OF CLOTHING REPAIR

Creative Reuse

Reduces Fast Fashion Waste. Encourages repairing clothes rather than replacing them. The UK throws away 300,000 tonnes of textiles annually—most goes to landfill.

Promotes Sustainable Habits

Supports reuse and conscious consumption. Extending the life of a garment by 9 months reduces its carbon footprint by 20–30%.

Builds Practical Sewing Skills

Teaches essential techniques. A 2022 survey found only 14% of UK adults feel confident repairing their own clothes.

Connects People Through Making

Social crafting boosts wellbeing. According to the Crafts Council, 82% of makers say it improves their mental health.

WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

1

THE CLAY PLACE POTTERY

Rebecca Norris & The Clay Place

Rebecca Norris is a ceramic artist and community educator based in Scarborough, known for her warm and inclusive approach to creativity. A former contestant on The Great Pottery Throw Down, Rebecca brings both professional experience and a passion for sharing the joys of working with clay to every workshop she delivers.

Her studio, The Clay Place, is a welcoming space where people of all ages and abilities can explore handbuilding, sculpting, and decorating techniques in a relaxed and friendly environment. With a focus on creativity, wellbeing, and sustainable practice, Rebecca designs sessions that are not just about learning a craft, but about slowing down, connecting with others, and expressing yourself through making.

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, Rebecca led popular pottery workshops where participants learned basic handbuilding skills and created their own meaningful pieces. These sessions provided an accessible and joyful introduction to an ancient heritage skill, fostering confidence, mindfulness, and pride. The Clay Place continues to be a vibrant part of Scarborough's creative and community landscape.



CASE STUDY Pottery Workshop

Crafting Confidence with The Clay Place

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, three pottery workshops were delivered by ceramic artist Rebecca Norris of The Clay Place, Scarborough. A former contestant on The Great Pottery Throw Down, Rebecca brought warmth, creativity, and expertise to each session, welcoming participants of all ages and skill levels.

The two-hour taster workshops introduced attendees to the heritage craft of handbuilding with clay—one of the oldest forms of sustainable making. Participants learned techniques such as slab-building, pinching, and texturing to create their own functional clay pieces. All materials and tools were provided, with Rebecca guiding each person through the process in a relaxed and encouraging environment.

Beyond skill-building, the sessions created space for mindfulness, self-expression, and community connection. Many attendees shared how the experience helped reduce stress and boost confidence in creative making.

These workshops not only revived traditional pottery techniques but also celebrated slow, sustainable crafting—encouraging people to value handmade objects and reconnect with their creativity.

WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

3



BLACKSMITH WORKSHOPS



ENVIRONMENTAL ART

Environmental Art is a sustainable design and craft company based Malton. Committed to circular design and low-impact living, the organisation specialises in creating high-quality, handmade furniture, craft items, and bespoke commissions using locally sourced and reclaimed materials.

Founded to promote ethical making and environmental responsibility, Environmental Art has grown into a thriving network of independent artists and craftspeople. Together, they deliver creative workshops, restoration services, and sustainable design projects that reconnect people with traditional skills and promote conscious consumption.

Their services span furniture making, blacksmithing, glasswork, and applied arts, all with a focus on reuse and community engagement. Through their workshops and outreach, they empower individuals to make, repair, and restore—extending the life of everyday objects and reducing waste.

At its core, Environmental Art blends creativity with conservation, encouraging people to live more sustainably through hands-on learning and meaningful connection with materials, tools, and heritage crafts.



WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

2

CASE STUDY

Blacksmithing Workshops Forging Sustainability and Skill

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, Environmental Art delivered two inspiring blacksmithing workshops at The Street. Led by Piers a skilled Craftsman, each session introduced participants to the heritage craft of blacksmithing using reclaimed metal and a gas forge to create beautiful mason jar tea light holders.

With eight participants per session, attendees learned how to safely heat, shape, and manipulate metal using traditional tools and techniques. For many, it was their first time working with metal or using a forge—an empowering experience that sparked new interest and confidence in practical making.

Environmental Art, known for its focus on sustainable design and circular craftsmanship, made sure the workshops reflected environmentally conscious values, promoting reuse and long-lasting, handmade goods. These sessions blended heritage skills, sustainability, and creativity, providing an unforgettable opportunity to connect with traditional craftsmanship in a modern, accessible way.

Participants left with new skills—and a handcrafted piece to treasure.



QUOTE FROM WORKSHOP

"THIS WORKSHOP WAS GREAT!
I HAVE NEVER DONE BLACKSMITHING
BEFORE BUT IT BROUGHT BACK FOND
MEMORIES OF MAKING STUFF WITH
MY GRANDAD".

NATURAL DYEING WORKSHOP



Crescent Arts & Meg Woodward-Hay

Based in Scarborough, Crescent Arts is a leading contemporary arts organisation dedicated to supporting artists and engaging local communities through creative practice. Known for its inclusive and environmentally-conscious programming, Crescent Arts curates exhibitions, residencies and workshops that encourage artistic exploration and social connection. A key partner in the Waste Not Want Not project, the organisation promotes creativity as a tool for sustainability and positive change.

Collaborating with Crescent Arts, gardener and artist Meg Woodward-Hay brings her passion for the natural world into hands-on workshops that blend craft, ecology and wellbeing. Her natural dyeing sessions, for example, guide participants through the use of foraged and waste plant materials to colour fabric in sustainable, heritage-inspired ways. With a calm, encouraging teaching style, Meg connects people to traditional skills and their environment—promoting curiosity, self-sufficiency and a deeper appreciation for nature's resources.

Together, they inspire learning, making and mindful living.

WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

1

CASE STUDY

Natural Dyeing Workshop Colouring with Nature and Creativity

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, Crescent Arts partnered with gardener and artist Meg Woodward-Hay to deliver a hands-on natural dyeing workshop. Inspired by the Rooted exhibition, the session introduced participants to the art of using plants, flowers, and food waste to colour fabric.

Held at The Street, the half-day workshop provided all materials and welcomed people of all skill levels. Participants experimented with different vegetables and flours, learned traditional dyeing techniques, and created hand-dyed bags to take home.

The session highlighted the beauty of heritage skills and the environmental benefits of using natural dyes over synthetic alternatives. It also sparked conversation around sustainability, creativity, and our connection to the natural world.

Accessible, engaging, and environmentally focused, this workshop empowered attendees to reuse materials, reduce waste, and explore creative expression in harmony with nature.



BENEFITS OF NATURAL DYEING

Promotes Sustainable Practices

Natural dyes reduce chemical use and pollution. Over 10% of global industrial water pollution comes from textile dyeing.

Teaches Traditional Craft Skills

Revives heritage dyeing methods lost to fast fashion. 60% of UK adults want to learn more craft skills (Crafts Council).

Encourages Waste Reuse

Uses food scraps and plants that might otherwise be binned. The UK wastes 6.4 million tonnes of food yearly.

Fosters Connection with Nature

Builds appreciation for natural resources. Studies show nature-based activities can reduce anxiety by up to 60%.

NATURAL MOSAIC WORKSHOP



Crafty Alfredo is the creative venture of Scarborough-based artist and community facilitator Sheila Downing. With a passion for reuse, storytelling, and making art accessible to all, Sheila delivers hands-on workshops that invite people of all ages to engage with recycled materials in meaningful, imaginative ways. Her work blends traditional craft with contemporary creativity, offering participants a chance to reconnect with heritage techniques such as mosaic-making, textile reuse, and assemblage.

A regular contributor to community projects like Waste Not Want Not, Crafty Alfredo workshops focus on sustainability, self-expression, and social connection. Sheila's warm, inclusive teaching style encourages people to relax, experiment, and share stories while learning new skills. Whether it's transforming sea glass and pottery shards into outdoor mosaics or crafting from discarded materials, every session is a celebration of creativity, resourcefulness, and local culture.

Crafty Alfredo is where art meets community—and where waste is transformed into something truly wonderful.



QUOTE FROM WORKSHOP

"I ENJOYED MEETING SHEILA AND THE GROUP, IT WAS NICE TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW AND WAS LOVELY AND RELAXED".



CASE STUDY

Natural Mosaic Workshop Crafting with Nature and Memory

Natural Mosaic Workshop – Crafting with Nature and Memory
As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, the Natural Mosaic Workshop invited participants to create outdoor hanging mosaics using recycled and foraged materials. Led by Sheila Downing of Crafty Alfredo, the sessions were inspired by the artwork of James Brunt and focused on connecting creativity with sustainability.

Attendees brought personal items—like sea glass, beach pottery, and small treasures—to incorporate into their pieces, blending memory with craft. Sheila provided all tools, materials, and guidance, making the workshop accessible for beginners and experienced makers alike. The workshop highlighted how heritage techniques like mosaic-making can be revitalised using waste materials, creating beautiful, meaningful art while encouraging conversation, reuse, and connection with the natural world.



WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

2

CARIBBEAN COOKING WORKSHOP

Big
Maya's
Jerk

Big Maya's Jerk

Bringing People Together Through Food and Culture

Big Maya's Jerk is a Scarborough-based Afro-Caribbean food and community business led by the passionate and vibrant Maya. Known for her authentic flavours, warm hospitality, and infectious energy, Maya uses food as a tool to celebrate culture, build understanding, and bring people together.

Beyond the kitchen, Big Maya's Jerk delivers workshops, pop-up events, and community sessions that explore cooking, heritage, and identity. Maya's inclusive approach encourages participants to learn new skills, try new dishes, and share their own cultural stories.

Through her involvement in projects like Waste Not Want Not, Maya creates safe, joyful spaces where people connect, cook, and celebrate diversity—proving that food has the power to educate, uplift, and unite communities.



WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

2

CASE STUDY

Caribbean Cooking

A Taste of Diversity – Cooking, Culture, and Connection

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, Big Maya's Jerk delivered joyful Caribbean cooking workshops that celebrated culture while tackling food waste. Participants learned to prepare Afro-Caribbean dishes using commonly wasted or overlooked ingredients—showing how delicious meals can be made sustainably and affordably.

Led by Maya's infectious energy, the session featured cooking, dancing, and shared storytelling, creating a welcoming environment for all. Attendees explored their own food heritage while learning about others, encouraging mutual respect and connection.

The workshop also sparked conversations around inclusion, unconscious bias, and community building. By blending practical cooking skills with cultural celebration, Maya helped participants see how everyday ingredients—and shared experiences—can reduce waste and bring people together in meaningful ways.

Maya created a space where food not only nourished bodies—but helped build a stronger, more connected community.

BENEFITS OF WORKSHOP

Reduces Food Waste

Uses commonly wasted ingredients—UK households waste 4.7 million tonnes of edible food yearly (WRAP).

Fosters Community Connection

Brings diverse groups together—83% of people say food helps connect with others (Co-op Community Wellbeing Index).

Promotes Sustainable Eating

Encourages low-waste meals—food production accounts for over 30% of global greenhouse gas emissions (UN FAO).

Celebrates Cultural Diversity

Explores Afro-Caribbean traditions, promoting respect and awareness through shared stories, music, and food.

STORYTELLING



Crescent Arts & Yasmin Stefanov-King Storytelling Heritage Through Creative Making

Crescent Arts is a contemporary arts organisation in Scarborough, dedicated to supporting local artists and engaging communities through creative, heritage-inspired activities. As part of Waste Not Want Not, they delivered two open workshops at The Street Community Hub and St Martin's School, empowering participants to explore Scarborough's rich past and craft personal connections to place.

These workshops, led by project coordinator Yasmin Stefanov-King, focused on creating "story boxes" that reflect themes like war, crime, seaside traditions, and fishing heritage. Yasmin, with her extensive background in education and historical research—including work on the Scarborough Atlas—guided participants through imaginative storytelling and creative design processes.



CASE STUDY

Scarborough Story Box Workshops Exploring Heritage Through Creativity

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, Crescent Arts collaborated with artist and educator Yasmin Stefanov-King to deliver a series of heritage-inspired storytelling workshops. Two sessions were hosted at The Street for the wider community, welcoming people of all ages to creatively explore Scarborough's past. Participants designed personal "story boxes" using found materials and historical prompts drawn from the Scarborough Atlas project.

In parallel, Crescent Arts also led a series of sessions at St Martin's School, engaging children in uncovering the town's rich history. Through hands-on art-making, the young participants explored themes such as seaside traditions, wartime stories, and fishing heritage.

These workshops built intergenerational connections, boosted creative confidence, and encouraged people to reflect on the stories and landscapes that shape Scarborough's identity—past, present, and future.

Completed story boxes were exhibited at Woodend Gallery as part of the "Stories of Scarborough" pop-up exhibit (30 May–17 June 2025), showcasing community voices and celebrating local identity.



WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

5

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

Down
2
Earth

CASE STUDY

Christmas Wreath Making Celebrating Craft and Tradition

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, the Christmas Wreath Making workshop invited people to reconnect with heritage skills and celebrate the festive season in a sustainable way. Held at The Street, Scarborough, and led by Janice Burley of Down 2 Earth Willow Weaving, the session used natural, foraged materials to create beautiful, eco-friendly wreaths.

Participants learned traditional wreath-making techniques, weaving willow bases and decorating them with holly, pinecones, and other natural embellishments. The friendly, indoor community setting encouraged people to share stories, enjoy festive music, and embrace the creative process together.

More than just crafting, the workshop promoted a thoughtful, low-waste approach to Christmas, highlighting the joy of making handmade decorations that are both meaningful and environmentally friendly.

Everyone left with a unique wreath and the skills to continue this tradition at home — a true celebration of community spirit, creativity, and a greener festive season.



QUOTE FROM WORKSHOP

"I LOVE THE AIMS OF THE WASTE NOT WANT NOT PROJECT AND THIS WORKSHOP WAS A LOT OF FUN!

I AM HAPPY TO HAVE LEARNT HOW TO DO A FLORIST BOW".



WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

1

WILLOW WEAVING



RAINCLIFFE WOOD
COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE

Down 2 Earth Willow Weaving

Founded by Janice Burley, an award-winning garden designer and willow weaving expert, Down 2 Earth offers hands-on workshops across North Yorkshire.

Janice shares her passion for sustainable craftsmanship and traditional techniques, teaching participants how to transform locally sourced willow into decorative and functional pieces—such as wreaths, baskets, plant supports, and sculptures.

Sessions are accessible to beginners, with a calm, engaging teaching style in inspiring settings like Danby Lodge, Helmsley Walled Garden, and community venues.

Whether weaving seasonal wreaths, bird sculptures, or lamp shades, each workshop fosters creativity, mindfulness, and environmental awareness. Participants leave with handmade objects and renewed confidence in working with natural materials. Down 2 Earth nurtures connection with nature, heritage craft, and community—one flexible willow workshop at a time.



WORKSHOPS
DELIVERED

3

CASE STUDY

Willow Weaving in the Woods A Day of Craft and Connection

In partnership with Raincliffe Woods Community Trust, three immersive willow weaving workshops were delivered in the heart of the woodland, led by expert artisan Janice Burley of Down 2 Earth. Surrounded by nature, participants spent the day learning traditional weaving skills while connecting with the environment and each other.

The day featured three focused sessions: weaving a decorative fish, crafting a delicate willow flower, and creating a woven heart. Janice guided attendees through each step, sharing the heritage of willow work and its environmental significance. With birdsong overhead and dappled sunlight through the trees, the sessions offered not just practical skills but also peace and reconnection with nature.

Participants of all abilities left with their own handcrafted items and a deeper appreciation of heritage crafts, sustainability, and the wellbeing that comes from creating in natural surroundings.



WOODWORK FOLK FLOWERS



CASE STUDY

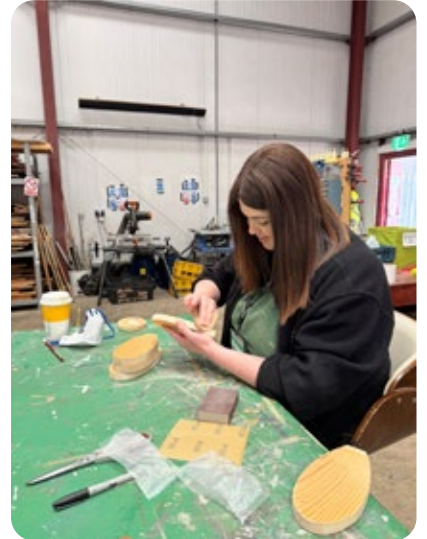
WOODWORK - FOLK FLOWERS

Honouring Craft and Creativity

As part of the Waste Not Want Not project, the Community Furniture Store Scarborough hosted a hands-on Folk Flower Woodwork Workshop. Led by Katie and Alice, the session guided participants through the process of transforming reclaimed wood into beautiful decorative folk flowers using basic tools and traditional techniques.

The workshop celebrated heritage skills while promoting sustainability through the reuse of waste timber. With friendly, step-by-step instruction, even beginners were able to confidently design, shape, and decorate their own wooden flower creations. Many attendees had never used woodworking tools before, and left feeling empowered and creatively fulfilled.

Bringing together people of different ages and backgrounds, the session offered more than just practical skills—it created a welcoming space for conversation, creativity, and connection. It was a joyful reminder of the value of slow making, shared learning, and environmental care.



QUOTE FROM PARTICIPANT

"IT'S WONDERFUL TO LEARN NEW SKILLS AT MY AGE — SO CREATIVE, FRIENDLY, AND ABSOLUTELY UPLIFTING!"

WORKSHOPS DELIVERED

1



ADDITIONAL IMPACT

As well as the expected outputs and outcomes our evaluation found that Waste Not Want Not's impact has been greater than the sum of its parts. We have been particularly interested to find the social impact that the project is having and the seeds of sustainability that have been sown which suggest that the work being done to promote the financial and environmental benefits of skills and knowledge once commonplace in the community, but in decline, will continue beyond the lifetime of the project.



In terms of the social impact the project had, we were told by a number of participants in workshops and activities that taking part in Waste Not Want Not has helped them to alleviate their feelings of isolation and allowed them to meet new people they wouldn't have come across otherwise.

During the Blacksmithing workshop one participant said *'I am a hermit. I never leave the house'. After going to the Blacksmithing course said 'This was awesome, I loved it. If I wasn't here I would just be sat on my play-station, not talking to anyone.'*

Additionally, there is a developing community amongst a number of participants who have attended more than one of the workshops and learning activities and a parallel community of interest amongst the individuals, groups and organisations delivering the workshops and activities.

This was particularly evident in the Morsbag workshops, which was so popular that 13 workshops were provided. The people attending the Morsbag Making group decided to continue working together and to expand their reach into the community and are now looking to set this up.

Community Furniture Store has decided to continue running furniture up-cycling courses after Waste Not Want Not and some groups have indicated that they want to find ways of continuing their activities after the project has finished.

The Waste Not Want Not Fairs/Showcase Events also served to promote and encourage volunteering. For example, five people who attended the Celebration Event at The Street on 5 July 2025 are now involved as volunteers in the not-for-profit company This Is Scarborough which is seeking to celebrate and revitalise Scarborough's town centre."

We witnessed that the fairs also allowed exhibiting and demonstrating groups to link and talk with each other, leading to collaboration on projects and future bids. This is a hugely important, and possibly unanticipated benefit of the fairs.





QUOTES FROM ATTENDEES:

Clothing Repair Workshop

"I thought fixing my jeans would be impossible, but Julie made it easy and fun. I left feeling empowered to mend rather than throw away, and it will help me save money and feel good about being more sustainable."

Pottery Workshop

"Trying pottery was so calming and creative. I'd always wanted to give it a go, and making my own piece felt so rewarding. It felt very wholesome and grounding— and I can't wait to do more."

Blacksmithing Workshop

"I never imagined shaping metal with myself! The blacksmith workshop was an incredible experience that left me feeling strong, creative, and like I had accomplished something new. It was a really unique experience and I would love to do it again."

Caribbean Cooking Workshop

"Cooking with Maya was such fun — we danced, laughed, and made amazing food using ingredients that often go to waste. I feel inspired to use up leftovers creatively at home and loved how the workshop brought everyone together."



CONCLUSION

The Waste Not Want Not project overachieved in respect of all the expected outputs and achieved a number of additional impacts, including improving community involvement, reducing isolation and encouraging people to volunteer.

It also successfully increased people's understanding of how community heritage skills can help address contemporary challenges such as climate change and the rising cost of living.

The project was run with passion and drive by the Project Officer Anna Rundell, who kept a keen eye on delivering outputs and outcomes, as well as on the enjoyment, inclusion and learning experience of everyone participating.

Whilst interviewing workshop and activity providers we found that they themselves had learned new things and made connections with other, like-minded groups and organisations, building a strong local network around the Waste Not Want Not principles.

Throughout this evaluation we only came across positive comments from attendees of workshops and events, and from providers of workshops and activities. This is a remarkable achievement for a project that provided such a diverse range of activities to so many people.

The Waste Not Want Not project has provided a platform for the people of Scarborough to rediscover community heritage skills and to see how these skills can be used in a beneficial way in their day-to-day lives.

**Chris Sands -
Assessor of Waste Not Want Not.**

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