

Small Grants Fund Case Study



Bats Wood

What activity did you run?

We are installing living willow fedges (fence/hedges) to provide points of interest for walkers through Bats Wood, increase the greenery and variation in the wood, promote biodiversity, create windbreaks, freshen the air and encourage people to walk in the outdoors more frequently.

We wanted to show people about the amazing potential of willow to create ecosystem services in gardens and public places at virtually no cost. The grant was used to part-fund our biggest willow planting event yet and to provide refreshments for those taking part. The result was a new path feature known as The Question Mark, because of its shape.

Who were your main audience?

Our main audience was locals, Levenmouth Academy pupils and dog-walkers. We had over 20 people on the day. We also created a video about our project which engaged pupils with special educational needs at nearby Levenmouth Academy.

What did you learn?

We learned how to make 'fedge' using living willow in the winter months and how they are an effective way to plant trees with a head start and that they have artistic potential.

Has delivering your project increased capacity to tackle the climate emergency in your community?

People really liked the installations and locals have been asking me for willow so they can plant them in their gardens to make similar fences. I think this reflects an appreciation of this sustainable technology.

What feedback did attendees give?

"We didn't realise how easy it is to use willow in the garden to make a space for nature and at the same time make a fence that captures carbon and helps combat climate change."

Find out more

www.batswood.org.uk

Video: [Making Habitats with Living Willow and Trees](#)



The Question Mark, Bats Wood.