



# Caring for the Cotswolds

## Spring 2024 Update

Wolds End Orchard, Chipping Campden



**Cotswolds**  
National  
Landscape



# Latest New Projects

Following a successful few months of seeking applications, we have been able to allocate another £11,000 to organisations across the Cotswolds.

This means in the last year, thanks to the patronage of our loyal members, Caring for the Cotswolds has supported 20 environmental and community projects to tune of £31,000!



The eight projects from this round will take place all over the Cotswolds with **five counties represented** - from Warwickshire to Somerset!

## What to expect from this round of grants?

- Charlbury becoming a **walking hub** - including promotion of accessible walks.
- Community art in Cirencester as locals collaborate on turning a felled tree into a **natural sculpture feature**.
- Cycling tours of the Cotswolds made **accessible to people of Muslim-faith** living in Gloucester.

And much more to come...



**Cotswolds  
National  
Landscape**

# Boosting Biodiversity

We caught up with grantees for two conservation projects who both had the same cause - Traditional Orchards - but very different requests!

Leckhampton Parish Council came to us last year in their early stages, seeking funding towards a new **Community Orchard**.

With thanks to Caring for the Cotswolds, what used to be an overgrown reminder of a 1950s orchard is now a precious community asset with **34 newly planted traditional fruit trees**.

With a **wildflower meadow** being established beneath the trees, this site boasts benefits not only for local residents but, crucially, also its wildlife.

Alternatively, **Wolds End Orchard** in Chipping Campden has been around since 1830 and **holds over 125 trees - some as old as 150 years!**

While the orchard is managed by volunteers, storms threatened some of the taller, more brittle trees, which required **specialist aerial maintenance**.

We were able to support the costs of this, ensuring that those **ten veteran, and importantly, native** apple and pear varieties could continue to blossom for years to come.



**Cotswolds  
National  
Landscape**



# Empowering Education

Being in nature has been proven to improve mental health and this Community Farming scheme has gone the extra mile to combat loneliness and better welfare of local young adults with learning disabilities...

*'One participant, when he first came, his support worker would take his hand and lead him to tasks and they would work together on them.*

*Today he started working independently, wheelbarrowing compost himself and getting stuck into a task with gusto.'*



Common Soil is a community farm nestled in the Slad Valley in Stroud who wanted to expand their activities to **empower local adults with learning disabilities**.

Through their grant, the group have been able to start hosting **weekly growing sessions; providing a safe and welcoming environment** for learning new skills, gaining confidence and experiencing the tranquil valley surroundings.



**Cotswolds  
National  
Landscape**



# Super Supporters

Thank you to all members who have sent their donations over the last few months - every contribution means another project that can be funded, and another way that the Cotswolds stays a special place to live, work and visit.

The scheme is now closed to new applications for the year, with an estimated re-opening in January 2025.

With thanks to:

[Go Cotswolds](#)

[Cotswolds Farm Park](#)

[Cotswolds Distillery](#)

[Country Walkers](#)

[VBT Bicycling Vacations](#)

[Heath Farm Cottages](#)

[Cotswolds Photographer](#)

For more details about the scheme or Cotswolds National Landscape please visit [our website](#).

For further information or to discuss a project idea, please contact Nina Stubbington at [nina.stubbington@cotswolds-nl.org.uk](mailto:nina.stubbington@cotswolds-nl.org.uk)



**Cotswolds  
National  
Landscape**