



Cory Environmental Trust in Britain  
Annual Report and Accounts  
2015 - 2016

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Front cover - Colliers Moss North Community Access Project in Merseyside: CETB grant £50,000

# Foreword from Chairman Peter Gerstrom

It is with great pleasure that I present the Cory Environmental Trust in Britain (CETB) 2015/16 annual report, showcasing a variety of successful projects that the Trust has funded throughout the year.

The Trustees are delighted to have offered more than £1,850,000 worth of grants during 2015 to a large number of projects across the country. Members of the communities in which Cory Environmental operates have benefited from a range of projects including: restoration work on community buildings, sporting facilities and playgrounds, conservation projects which enhance and protect our wildlife, and schemes to ensure a safe and inclusive environment for all.

The Trust continues to focus its attention on areas surrounding the Cory Environmental landfill sites located in St Helens, Wrexham, Dudley, Swansea, Bristol, Colchester, Barling and Sevenoaks, as well as in the London Borough of Bexley, where Cory Environmental's Riverside Resource Recovery Facility is located.

CETB awards grants under the terms of the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF), which was established 20 years ago and has awarded more than £1.3bn to more than 56,000 projects. In the last five years alone, approximately £303m has been awarded to over 10,000 projects which build and improve community amenities and protect wildlife and habitats in the vicinity of landfill sites.

I believe that the projects funded by the LCF have been a vital mechanism for alleviating social deprivation and protecting wildlife habitats in communities across the United Kingdom. CETB has contributed significantly to this work and I am immensely proud of the many projects we have funded, which have made a real, positive difference to so many communities for over a decade.

However, in the future, the level of funding available under the LCF looks certain to fall as a result of a number of factors. The size of the fund is shrinking, as less waste is sent to landfill and a greater volume is recycled or disposed of via alternative means; as the volume of landfilled waste falls, receipts from landfill tax also fall and funding for projects must reduce accordingly.



Secondly, government legislation covering the LCF has seen the level of funding landfill operators can divert to distributive environmental bodies like CETB fall from 5.7% to 4.2%. In the future, these constraints on the LCF mean that the number of projects, and the value of contributions to individual projects, will need to fall to preserve the viability of the trusts. CETB is no exception, but I am confident that we will meet our existing funding commitments, while continuing to fund vital community projects.

Although CETB helps to fund a variety of different projects, many could not go ahead without the hardworking individuals and community groups who dedicate their time and energy to putting forward high quality projects that are truly beneficial to their local area. These people are the driving force behind securing the facilities for their community that they deserve, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them.

I would also like to thank my fellow Trustees, who volunteer their time and expertise to helping select the projects that meet CETB's objectives.

Finally, I am very grateful to our Trust Secretary, Angela Haymonds, for her enthusiasm and commitment to the role. We are fortunate to have her help and support in managing the day-to-day running of the Trust.

If you have a community project which you feel would benefit from Trust funding, please contact Angela Haymonds to see if we can lend our assistance. Alternatively, download an application form from the CETB website: [www.cetb.org.uk](http://www.cetb.org.uk)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Gerstrom', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Peter Gerstrom

Chairman, Cory  
Environmental Trust  
in Britain

## *The Froglife Trust's "Dragon Finder" Project: CETB grant £17,000*



The populations of frogs, toads and newts have been given a boost thanks to CETB's funding of improvements to ponds in the Bexley area.

The Froglife Trust approached CETB for a grant to help de-silt four ponds within Lesnes Abbey Woods and to train volunteers in how to manage the habitats. The project also funded a new interpretation board, which informs locals about the various species on the site and the value of wetlands in general.

Local people had been reluctant to visit the site as excessive silt in the ponds was making them unattractive. Since completion of the project the ponds have become much more attractive to passers-by, who are now more aware of how beneficial they are to wildlife.



## West of England B-Lines network: CETB grant £50,000

CETB's grant to "Buglife: The Invertebrate Conservation Trust" has enabled it to create a network of wildflower habitats linking existing areas throughout Bath, Somerset, Gloucestershire and Bristol.

The B-Lines project was an imaginative solution to the increasing loss of wildflowers, bees and other flora and fauna within the British landscape. Since the 1930s, 97 per cent of wildflower-rich grassland has disappeared, making the project vital in the quest to preserve and help restore natural surroundings.

The improvements have benefited local people, who are now able to visit these areas of natural beauty for both general enjoyment and education.



*Lancashire Wildlife Trust's  
Plan Bee project: CETB  
grant £75,000*



The aim of Plan Bee - a project by Lancashire Wildlife Trust (LWT) - was to involve a greater number of people in creating and managing bee-friendly spaces across the county. CETB's grant has helped LWT to raise awareness of the importance of bees as pollinators of crops, flowers and plants.

Engaging a range of community groups, including schools and retirement homes, the project has helped to bring more colour to the area, training people and organisations in species identification, bee-keeping, honey production and bee-friendly gardening.



## *Natural Park Improvements at Shri Venkateswara Temple: CETB grant £50,000*

CETB's grant to Shri Venkateswara (Balaji), a Hindu temple in Tividale, West Midlands, has contributed towards improving the environmental performance of its grounds. This has been to the benefit of both the congregation and the wider community.

The site lies within the Birmingham and Black Country Nature Improvement Area, and the Balaji Temple wanted its improvements to be consistent with those suggested by the Wildlife Trust across Birmingham. To do this, the project worked with members of the local community and liaised closely with the Trust to enhance existing wildlife habitats and improve biodiversity.



## Conversion of Derelict Nursery to Community Wellbeing Centre: CETB grant £47,270



Trust Thamesmead's Birchmere Good Life Garden project required over £200,000 to convert a derelict children's nursery into a community wellbeing centre. Its aim was to support and sustain families through a variety of social, environmental and physical activities.

In 2011, Birchmere was chosen as the location for a community garden to promote healthy eating and physical exercise. A community group was developed to create a beautiful eco-friendly garden that would support wildlife and provide an enjoyable place to visit, learn, and work on gardening and biodiversity projects.

The new centre, located between the boroughs of Bexley and Greenwich, now offers alternative therapies and classes on health and wellbeing issues. The refurbished building also features a healthy-eating café, which has become a hub for the community.





## *Court Hey Park Toddler Play Space Project: CETB grant £23,000*

Community group, Friends of Court Hey Park, approached CETB for a grant to help with the redevelopment of the park's toddler and children's play area. Numerous requests to improve the area had prompted a consultation questionnaire, the results of which showed overwhelming support for swings, trees to climb and activities to improve the health and wellbeing of local children.

A plan for the play space was displayed at park events and received many positive comments. The Friends of Court Hey Park then commissioned the removal and repair of existing play equipment, installation of new equipment (targeting the under-eight age group) and resurfacing of the area to make it safer. In addition, the Friends remodelled the existing seating area to include picnic benches, allowing parents and children to spend more quality time together.



## Windmill Hill City Farm Nature Trail: CETB grant £50,000



Windmill Hill City Farm in Bedminster, Bristol, is a charity that provides recreation, education and therapy for people with health and social care needs, using food, farming and the environment as a theme.

Aided by CETB's grant, its "Natives, Flowers and Edibles Trail" project aims to create a network of horticultural sites in the local area, with City Farm as the central hub linking to other gardens in the community. Hosting around 35,000 visitors per year, the improvements at City Farm bring local people together, helping them to explore and enjoy nature in and around Bristol.

## Wrotham Park Life Project: CETB grant £50,000

Wrotham's local park in Sevenoaks had not been upgraded since 1987 and was no longer fit for purpose. Wrotham Park Life, a sub-committee of Wrotham Parish Council, approached CETB for a grant towards renovating the park and providing a fully accessible play area for all ages.

Local children were encouraged to engage with the improvements and select the equipment they would most like to see in the park. The aim was to improve their health and wellbeing and provide purposeful activities for the older ones, thereby helping to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour within the local community.



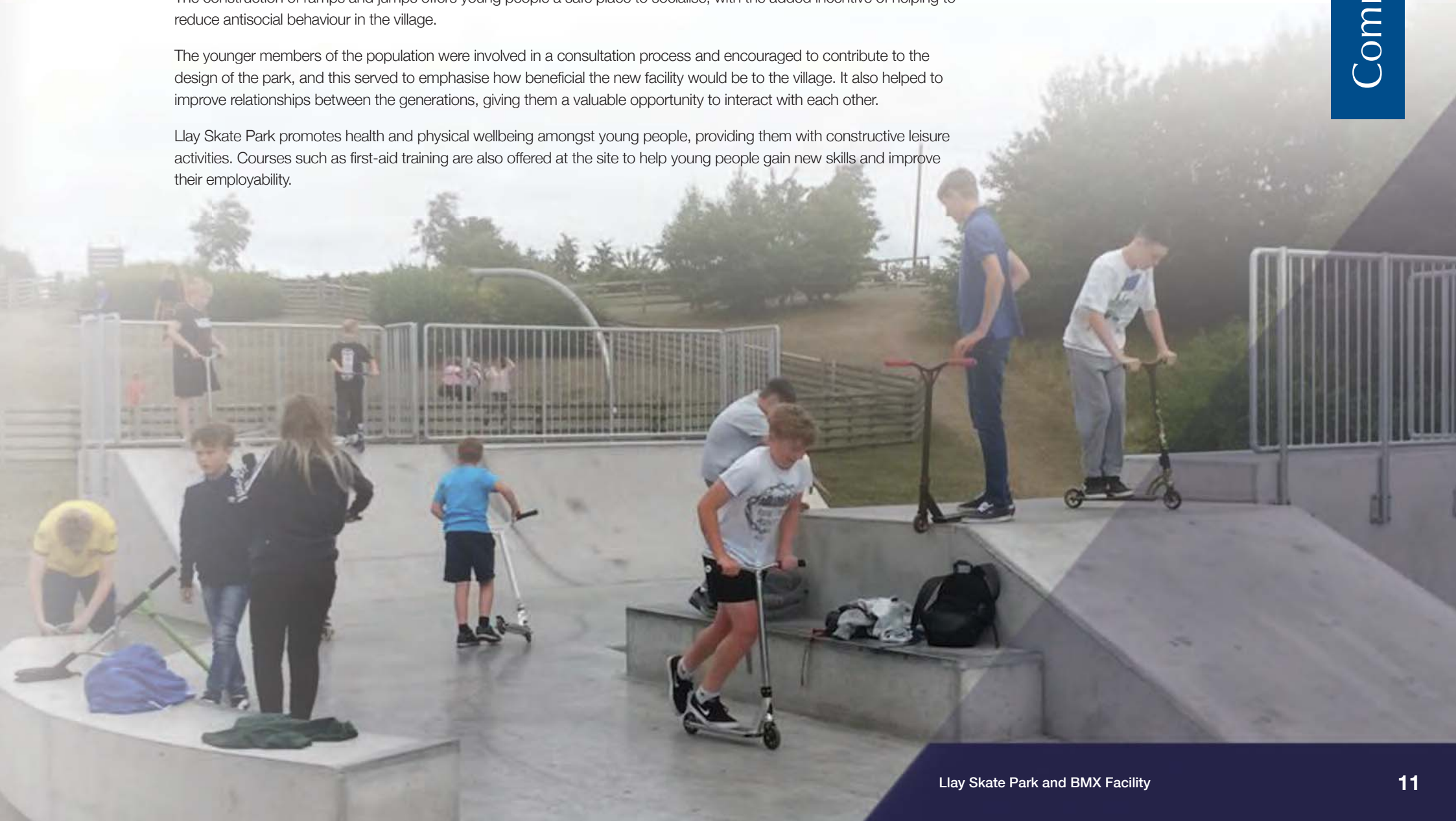
## *Llay Skate Park and BMX Facility Project: CETB grant c.£50,000*

CETB's grant to Wrexham County Borough Council has helped provide the young people in Llay village with a new skate park and BMX facility.

The construction of ramps and jumps offers young people a safe place to socialise, with the added incentive of helping to reduce antisocial behaviour in the village.

The younger members of the population were involved in a consultation process and encouraged to contribute to the design of the park, and this served to emphasise how beneficial the new facility would be to the village. It also helped to improve relationships between the generations, giving them a valuable opportunity to interact with each other.

Llay Skate Park promotes health and physical wellbeing amongst young people, providing them with constructive leisure activities. Courses such as first-aid training are also offered at the site to help young people gain new skills and improve their employability.

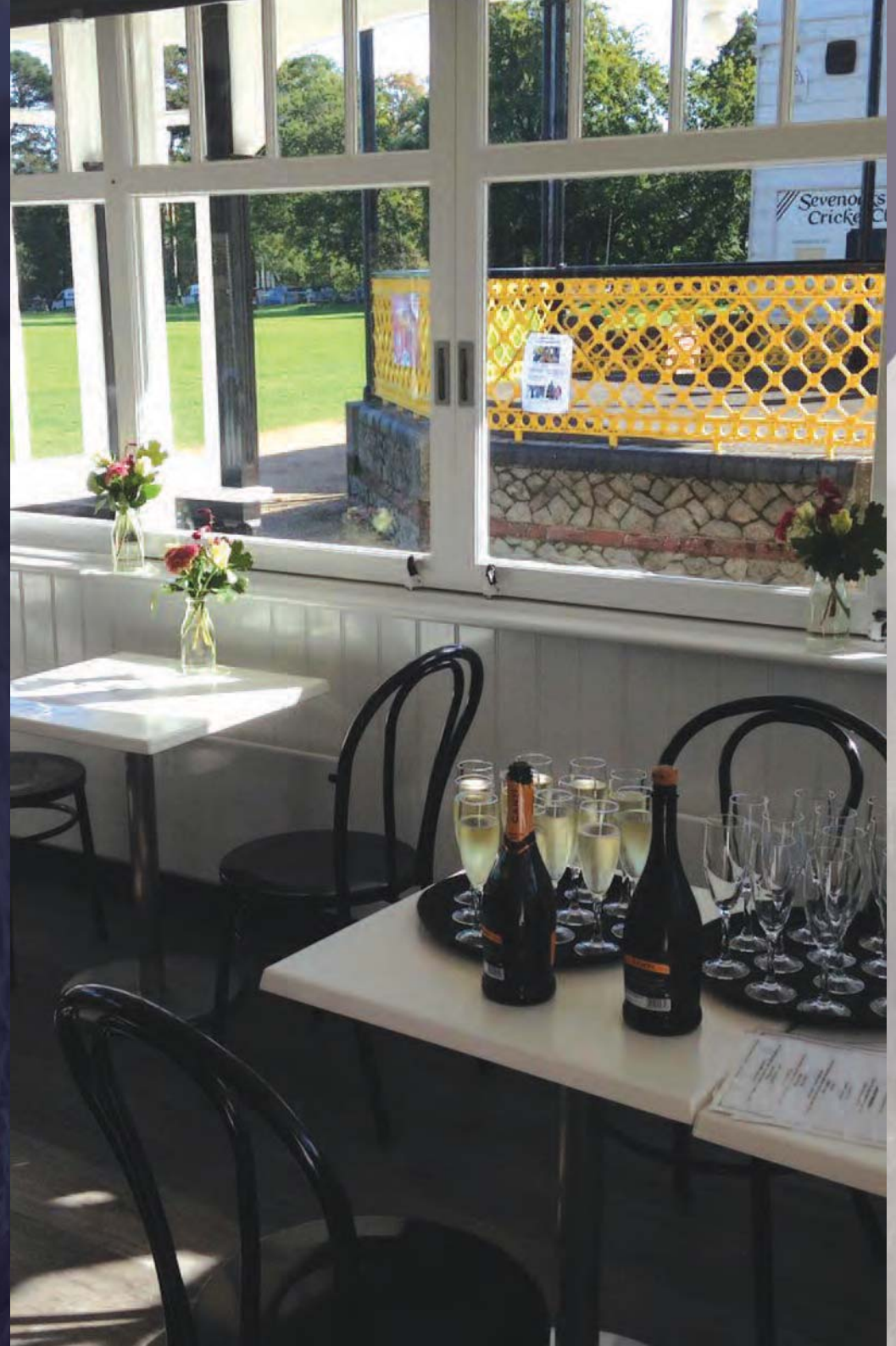


## Sevenoaks Vine Café: CETB grant £50,000



CETB offered Sevenoaks Town Council a grant towards the establishment of a community café at the Vine.

The building, which was originally a band practice pavilion, was upgraded and converted into a café and a new disabled toilet was installed. The new facilities will benefit the many people who use the Vine for leisure activities as well as the many passers-by who use the café when visiting Sevenoaks.



## *New Buildings at Black Country Living Museum: CETB grant £50,000*

The Black Country Living Museum approached CETB for a grant to build a new learning reception area to accommodate the 65,000 visitors from school and college groups that visit each year. At weekends, evenings and during school holidays, the new facilities will provide a range of workshops, talks and lectures for adults and families.

The money offered has helped the museum to build its new entrance and reception building on a derelict and overgrown area of land, improving the overall appearance of the site and making it much safer for members of the public.

As part of a larger regeneration project to reverse the socio-economic decline in Dudley, Black Country Living Museum has also created a visitor hub to build links between the museum and three other major Dudley attractions: Dudley Canal Trust, Dudley Zoo and the Dudley and Sandwell Archive.



## *Richard Evans Centre Improvements: CETB grant £14,000*



When Valley Brass Band in St Helens took a 20-year lease on The Richard Evans Centre to keep it open for the community, they approached CETB for funds towards some much-needed improvement works.

CETB's grant paid for replacement windows and roof repairs, as well as the relocation of a disabled toilet and the provision of new tables and chairs.

The centre, which opens five days per week, is used by a variety of local community groups, including a Seniors Social Club, a Jujitsu Club and of course the Valley Brass Band. The improvements have helped to maintain the building and provide a venue for valuable social activities.

## *Marchwiell Village Hall Redevelopment: CETB grant £50,000*

Originally built in 1910, Marchwiell Village Hall was in desperate need of repair and redevelopment works. A consultation carried out by the Marchwiell Village Hall Committee had identified a pressing need for space that local people could use to hold meetings and host community groups.

CETB's contribution to the project has aided the construction of an extension to provide the entrance to a small Post Office, a new foyer with toilet facilities, and the creation of a main hall with two smaller meeting rooms, using moveable partitioning when necessary.

The project's aim is to improve social interaction between local people and reinforce the sense of community within the local area.



# Scout Hut 6366 Redevelopment, Bristol: CETB grant £50,000

CETB's grant to 63rd Bristol Boy Scout Group has helped deliver a complete rebuild of its 60-year-old wooden Scout hut, which had become unsafe for users and was irreparable.

The rebuild has provided an affordable, multi-use community venue for the inner-city community of Ashley, which has over 50,000 inhabitants.

Hut 6366 is home to over 350 registered Scouts and Guides, and is used by a women's circuit training class. Since the improvements, the building has also offered facilities for playgroups, youth groups and other fitness groups, as well as local history groups. Additionally, the venue is now available for private hire.



## Relocation of Downend and Fishponds Lawn Tennis Club: CETB grant £50,000



Downend and Fishponds Lawn Tennis Club needed funds to help with the relocation of its premises from Cleeve Hill to Frenchay Cricket Club. CETB's grant has contributed towards the building of two new tennis courts at the new site - complete with disabled access and floodlighting to make the courts more accessible at night. The opening ceremony was attended by tennis star Greg Rusedski.

The courts are open to the general public for sport and recreation and will add to the activities on offer. The new site is already home to mini football pitches, a golf driving range and cricket green. The addition of the tennis courts will establish the club as a sporting hub for the area, attracting more visitors and providing a valuable resource to the surrounding community. To mark the move the club has been renamed Downend and Frenchay Lawn Tennis Club.





## *Spectator Facility and Drainage Improvements at Sevenoaks Rugby Club: CETB grant £50,000*

Sevenoaks Rugby Club approached CETB for funds towards installing new ground drainage to its three rugby pitches, improvements to the spectator facilities and providing overflow car parking. Improving wheelchair access was also an important part of the club's new plans.

Without efficient drainage, the club's pitches were often waterlogged during periods of heavy rain. Accommodating over 550 people on Sundays and providing training during weekday evenings, access to the pitches through all weathers was becoming increasingly important to the club's members.

Benefiting the health and fitness of the wider Knole Paddock community, as well as members of the club itself, the aim of the improvement works at the club is to make the facilities more accessible to a large variety of individuals.



## *Iceni Gymnastic Club Improvements: CETB grant £25,000*



As a successful gymnastics club with over 150 affiliated members, Iceni Gymnastics moved premises in 2015 in order to offer increased opening hours and better facilities to its users.

Volunteers from the local community dedicated time to fundraising for the move, and helped with the renovations of the building, painting walls, laying flooring and building rooms for toilets and offices.

Iceni Gymnastics approached CETB for funds to help with the installation of heating, allowing the club to remain open throughout the year and reducing the number of classes cancelled during cold winter months. The grant also helped to provide a sprung floor to improve safety at the club and enable faster development of its members.



## *Johnstown Bowling Club Facilities Improvements: CETB grant £75,000*

Wrexham County Borough Council and Johnstown Bowling Club approached CETB for a grant to help develop a new community building with toilets and a kitchen.

Located adjacent to the Johnstown Bowling Green, the project's aim was to provide both a clubhouse for Johnstown Bowling Club and a purpose-built facility for the wider community.

Thanks to the installation of efficient heating, the new building is available for public hire six days a week, with disabled entry access and low level sinks in the toilets.



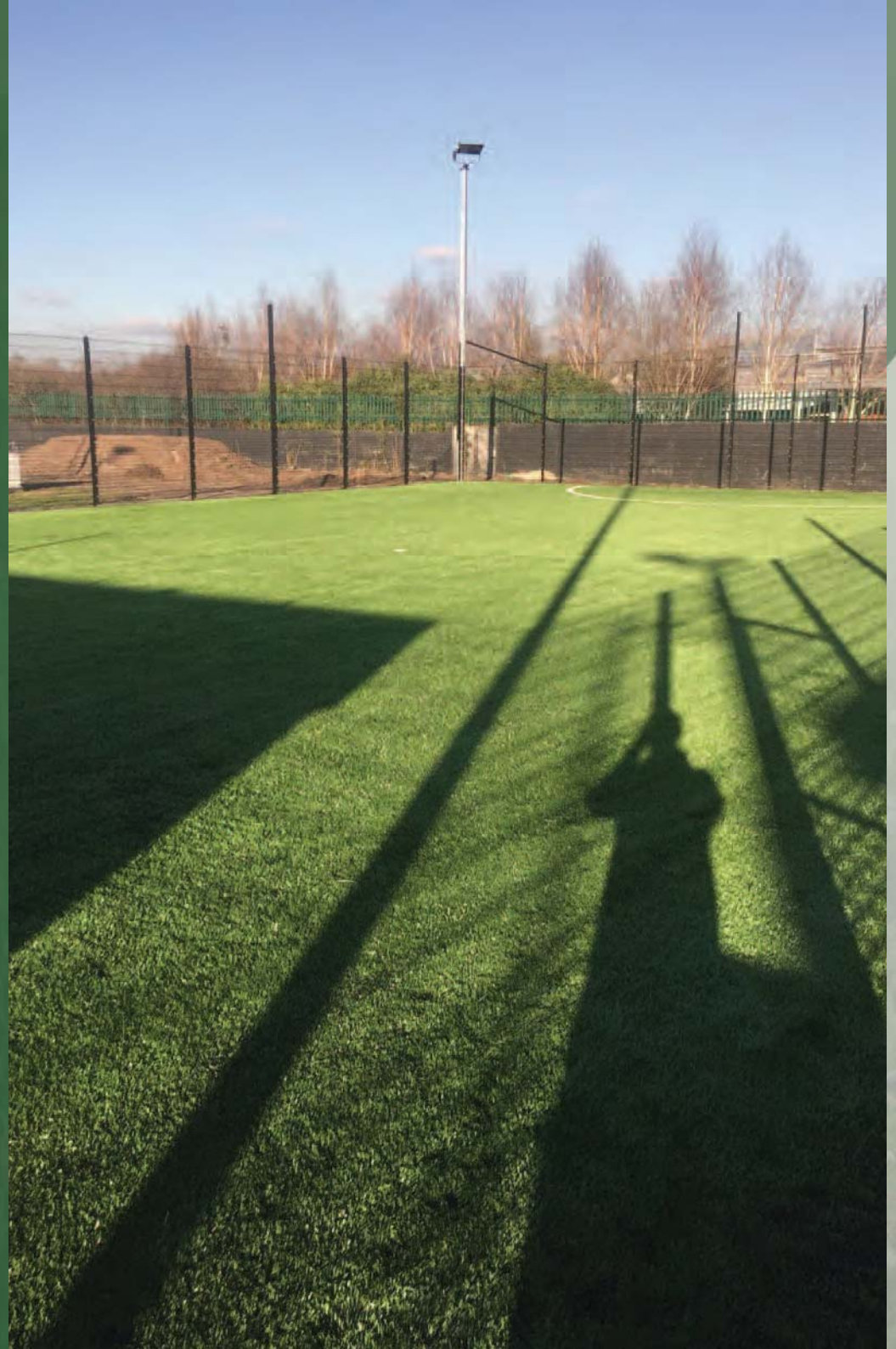
## *Community Gets Active Project at Sporting Khalsa: CETB grant £70,000*



CETB's grant to Sporting Khalsa Community Facilities has funded the installation of a multi-use all-weather games area (MUGA) on derelict land, transforming it into a facility to be used and valued by the whole community.

The charity aims to use the power of sport to tackle social exclusion, removing discrimination of all forms and providing equal opportunities by encouraging all members of the local community to get involved in sport.

The new facilities provide a safe environment for people to meet and socialise, engaging hard-to-reach groups and offering sport sessions as well as risk-aversion programmes on a variety of topics including bullying, relationships, drugs and alcohol.



## *Ashton Bears Clubhouse Rebuild: CETB grant £50,000*

In 2014, Ashton Bears Clubhouse was destroyed in a fire, rendering the building unusable. Following the fire, the rugby club held numerous fundraising events including fun days, evening entertainment and sponsored events, raising £20,000 towards the project.

CETB's grant has helped build a new facility, enabling the club to continue to provide the community with opportunities to play rugby.

Home to six junior teams, two open-age teams, a girls team and a ladies touch rugby team, the facility is in use most evenings, and matches are played on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the season.



*Rediscovering 18th Century Terraces, Dyrham Park:  
CETB grant £50,000*



CETB offered Dyrham Park a grant to help bring five acres of land with historical significance back into public use.

Dyrham Park is made up of a Grade I listed baroque mansion, a four-acre garden, a deer park of 200 acres and an additional 75 acres of meadows, woods and access ways. Owned by the National Trust, the project aimed to make an extra five acres of land available for public use by refreshing the landscape and making the area safe.

With over 150,000 visitors a year, the project will be of great benefit to the surrounding communities, giving them the opportunity to increase their knowledge of the history of the 18th century property.

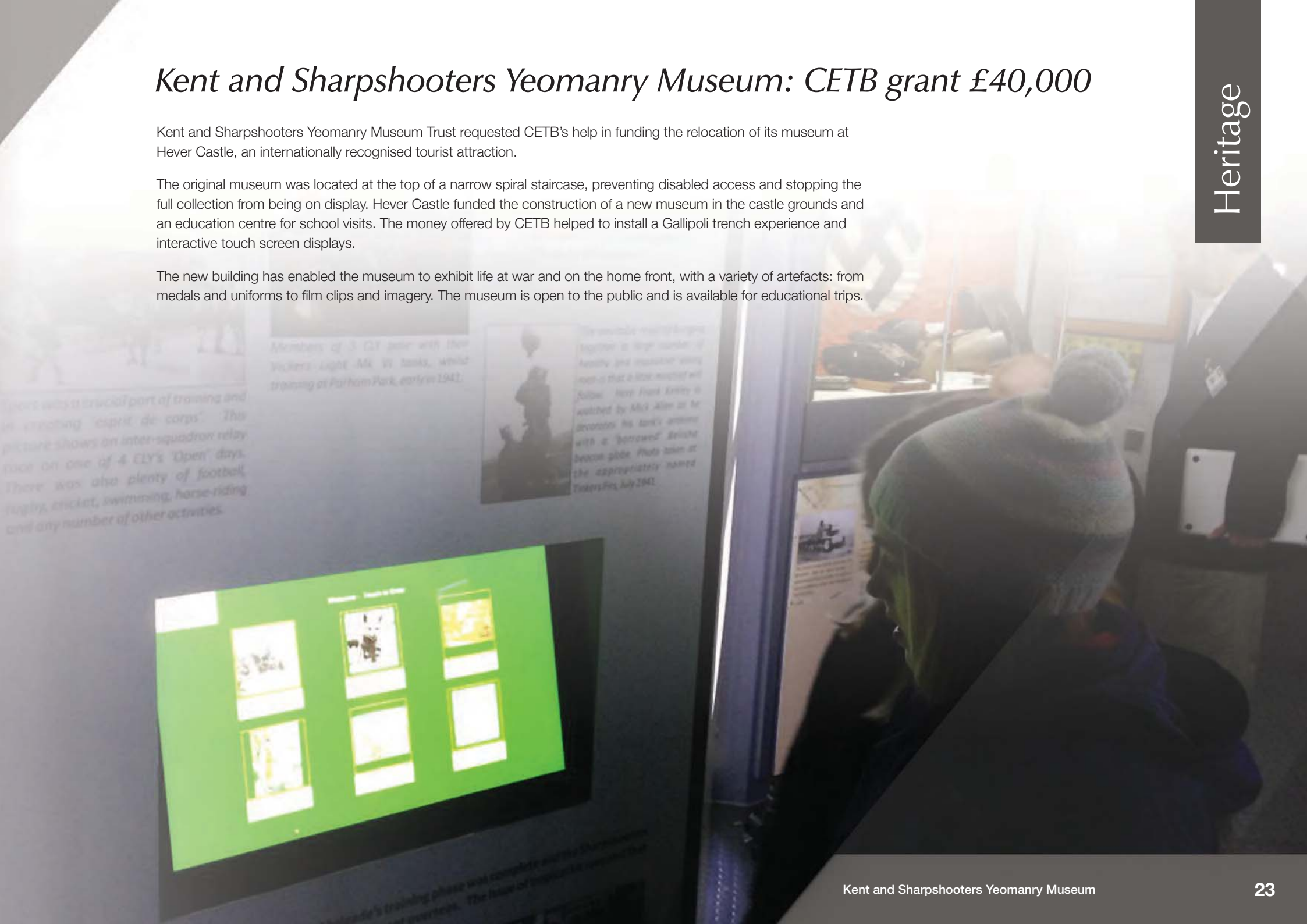


# Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry Museum: CETB grant £40,000

Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry Museum Trust requested CETB's help in funding the relocation of its museum at Hever Castle, an internationally recognised tourist attraction.

The original museum was located at the top of a narrow spiral staircase, preventing disabled access and stopping the full collection from being on display. Hever Castle funded the construction of a new museum in the castle grounds and an education centre for school visits. The money offered by CETB helped to install a Gallipoli trench experience and interactive touch screen displays.

The new building has enabled the museum to exhibit life at war and on the home front, with a variety of artefacts: from medals and uniforms to film clips and imagery. The museum is open to the public and is available for educational trips.

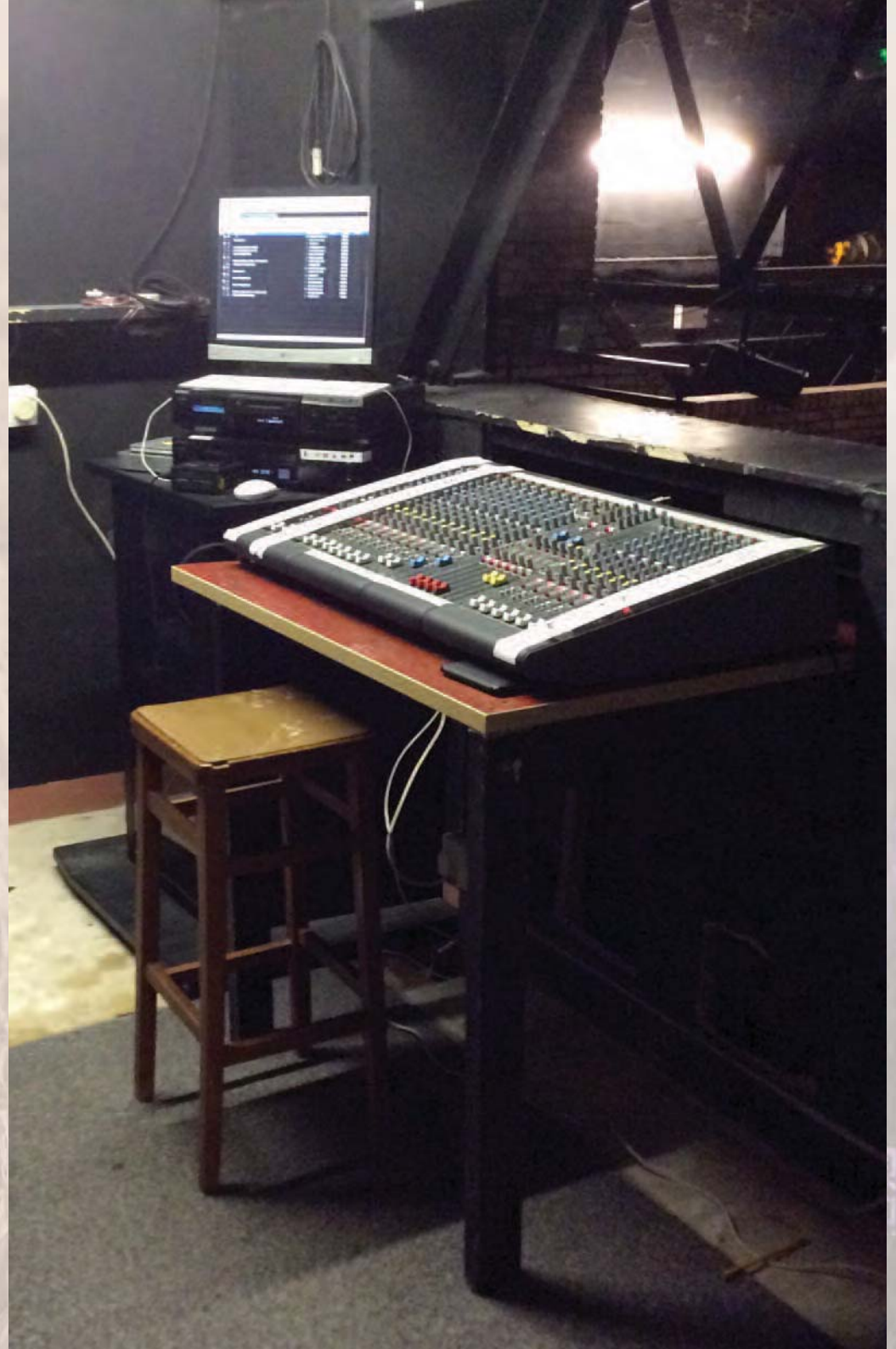


*Swansea Little Theatre  
Improvements:  
CETB grant £37,500*



CETB offered a grant to Swansea Little Theatre to cover the costs of a new lighting control panel at the Dylan Thomas Theatre, as its old equipment was beginning to fail and this was affecting the quality of productions.

The theatre provides a valuable community venue, offering professional technician courses in lighting, sound and stage management, as well as offering space for both amateur and professional theatre companies to put on performances. The new equipment enables it to continue to offer these services.





# Trinity Community Arts Project: CETB grant £50,000

Trinity Community Arts requested a grant from CETB to purchase and install a PA system, including speakers, cabling, rigging, microphones and stands.

This new technical equipment enabled the arts centre to put on a workshop and live-performance project called 'Ignite', which aimed to promote up-and-coming artists reflective of Bristol's diverse communities.

Working with partner organisations to develop a hub of contemporary theatre, dance and music, the new equipment increases the centre's ability to deliver high quality events and achieve artistic excellence, with many social benefits to the community.



*Cory Environmental Trust in Britain  
statement of financial activities  
(incorporating income and expenditure  
account) for the year ended  
31 December 2015*

**INCOMING RESOURCES**

Grants from Landfill Operators  
Investment income

**TOTAL INCOME**

**RESOURCES EXPENDED**

Entrust commission  
Charitable activities:  
    Grants payable  
    Running costs

**TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED**

**NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR**

**MOVEMENT IN TOTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR**

Total funds at 1 January 2015

**TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015**

Restricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
2,949,690	2,949,690	1,310,810
1,508	1,508	1,509
<b>2,951,198</b>	<b>2,951,198</b>	<b>1,312,319</b>
66,700	66,700	28,445
1,855,348	1,855,348	708,734
81,077	81,077	64,570
<b>2,003,125</b>	<b>2,003,125</b>	<b>801,749</b>
<b>948,073</b>	<b>948,073</b>	<b>510,570</b>
<b>948,073</b>	<b>948,073</b>	<b>510,570</b>
1,908,025	1,908,025	1,397,455
<b>2,856,098</b>	<b>2,856,098</b>	<b>1,908,025</b>

*Cory Environmental Trust in Britain  
balance sheet as at 31 December 2015*

	£	2015 £	£	2014 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Debtors	1,567,693		33,099	
Cash at bank and in hand	1,577,585		2,085,407	
	<b>3,145,278</b>		<b>2,118,506</b>	
<b>CREDITORS:</b> amounts falling due within one year	<b>(289,180)</b>		<b>(210,481)</b>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>2,856,098</b>		<b>1,908,025</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>2,856,098</b>		<b>1,908,025</b>
<b>TRUST FUNDS</b>				
Restricted funds		2,856,098		1,908,025
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<b>2,856,098</b>		<b>1,908,025</b>



**cory environmental trust**  
in britain



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