



RGH Lewis  
The Nineveh Charitable Trust  
Park Farm  
Frittenden Road  
Biddenden  
Ashford  
Kent  
TN27 8LG

Dear Mr Lewis

**Ouseburn Farm Charity - Reference 53/418  
Update Report April 2019**

Nineveh Charitable Trust awarded our charity £5,000 per annum for two years on 28th April 2018, for which we are very grateful. On behalf of the charity, I am delighted to provide an annual update on how your funds have supported our work, which is enclosed.

I do hope that this is useful and provides sufficient evidence to support your continued support in 2019/20. Should you have any questions or require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me. My email address is [louise.wilson@ouseburnfarm.org.uk](mailto:louise.wilson@ouseburnfarm.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Louise Wilson", written over a circular stamp or watermark.

Louise Wilson  
Ouseburn Farm Charity Ltd.

Enc.

## Ouseburn Farm Charity - Progress update April 2019

Thanks to support from Nineveh Community Trust, the charity was able to continue employing a full-time horticulture worker over 2018/19. Despite only 50% of requested funding being awarded, we were able to deliver a strong programme, which has yielded some positive results and delivered real benefits to our community.

With maintenance and development overseen by the horticulture worker, the farm's gardens, grazing fields and orchard have been well used by casual visitors. Our visitor numbers over 2018/19 were estimated at 36,000, a considerable increase on 2017/18 visitors. Visitors benefited from access to areas of the farm demonstrating a wide range of sustainable growing and agricultural practices, for example wildflower planting through the use of 'seed bombs', bee husbandry and sessions aimed at developing knowledge and good practice for creating sustainable insect and wildlife environments both at home and in communal green spaces.

Across 2018/19, 11 specialist workshops and sessions were delivered, aimed at adults. Involving 23 individuals (some attending more than one session), these included composting workshops, 'Pot to Plate' growing- which incorporated advice on propagation in small spaces and containers- and seasonal pruning workshops in our orchard.

With the support of some additional funding from Mila Charitable Organisation, which covered the cost of materials and an extra worker to provide another pair of hands, during 2018's school summer holidays we delivered thrice weekly 'sow and grow' sessions for children and families. This engaged 68 individuals in total, many attending several times. Within these sessions children and their carers gained understanding of the growth cycle of seeds and how various crops contribute to the food system. A weekly farmers' club engaged

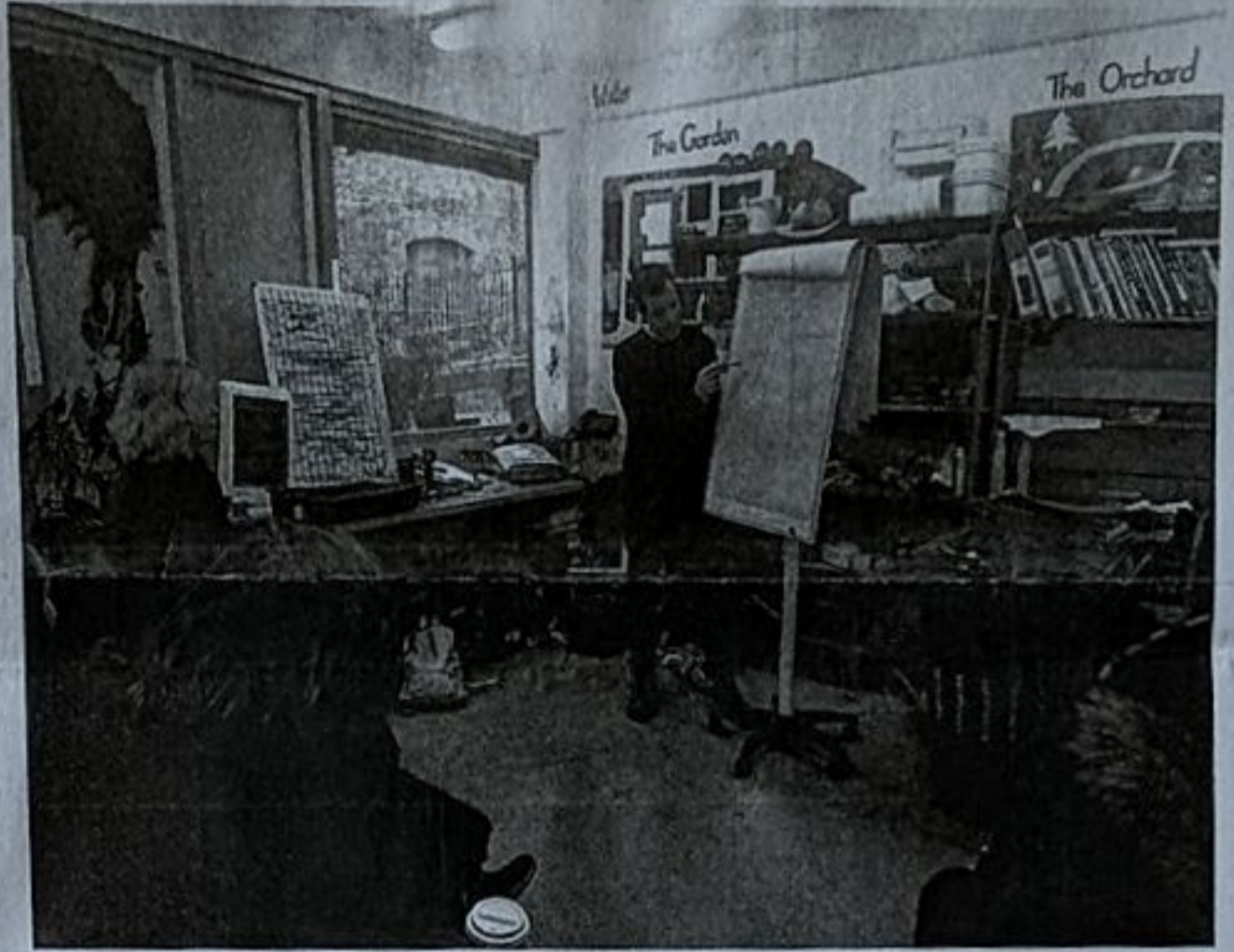


149 attendees who learned more about agriculture, animal and plant husbandry and the farming industry. This was delivered jointly by the horticulture worker and a project worker with a farming background.

Our charity provides placements for approximately 50 adults with learning disability and the trainees have also benefited from access to expert support from the horticulturalist. 12 now participate in regular growing and farming activity and one has returned

as a volunteer to assist in growing and animal care across the site.

Through the horticulturalist we were able to support the local business community. We delivered a bespoke composting workshop for a local restaurant owner interested in adopting more sustainable practices and have worked with him and his chefs to demonstrate growing techniques to use in his own allotments to maximise yields and quality. We aim to develop this work in 2019/20.



Evaluation and feedback from those adults attending organised sessions has been very positive, with respondents reporting:

- A 260% increase in knowledge of the given subjects from the start of the course to the completion.
- On a scale of 0 – 10 (ten being excellent) Our worker scored an average of 9.25 for meeting participants' needs
- 100% of participants said they were interested in attending other sessions (and many did)
- 100% expressed interest in volunteering (although this has not yet translated into 100% becoming volunteers)

Participants were asked to make comments on the sessions and which elements they found most useful. They said:

- *"Interactive & Informative"*
- *"Looking at alternatives if you don't have a garden"*
- *"Learning which materials are brown/green waste"*
- *"Learning about tree compost, compost bins"*
- *"Learning how to start a compost bin."*

Volunteer recruitment has made a good start. At the end of our first year of funding, we now have a cohort of 18 regular horticulture volunteers and another two applications currently being processed. We plan to begin training some of these to become volunteer leaders over 2019/20 to increase capacity and help them progress in their volunteering role.



#### Project costs:

Costs over the year have been close to those outlined in the application letter, although a reduced budget necessitated a lower spend on materials and resources. Most of these costs were covered through some additional funding from Mila Charitable Organisation and were spent on work to educate children and families over school holidays.

<b>Expenditure</b>				
	<i>Forecast</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Forecast</i>	
<i>Item</i>	<i>Year 1</i>		<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Total</i>
Salary costs	£21022	£21022	£21443	£42465
Training/education materials and resources	£800	£300	£100	£400
Evaluation				
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>£21822</b>	<b>£21322</b>	<b>£21543</b>	<b>£42865</b>
<b>Income</b>				
Nineveh Charitable Trust	£10,000	£5,000	£5,000	£10,000
Mila Charitable Organisation	0	£250	0	
Ouseburn Farm Charity Ltd. (donations, trading income and community fundraising)	£11,822	£16,072	£18,543	£32,865

In the original application we built in costs to cover an independent evaluation. Unfortunately, because we were not awarded the full amount of the application there is insufficient funding available to cover this. However, we have recently completed a social impact evaluation covering the work of the charity overall and the benefits delivered by this project are included within that. Final results are anticipated in May 2019. As part of the evaluation work a framework for ongoing evaluation will be left behind, which means we can continue to measure the project's outcomes over 2019/20.