

Ecosystems Knowledge Network Connecting people and nature

Involving local communities in the recognition of what nature does for people



South Downs Way Ahead Partnership South Downs Way Ahead Nature Improvement Area

'Chalking up the Benefits' project

Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics Valuing Local Natural Capital

L&Ove valuing ecosystem services across Lewes

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THE GROUP: Who are we?
Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics Group

Is a community group under the Transition Town Lewes banner that acts as a focal point in the wider community for discussion and action that connects the local economy with the local environment

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Valuing Local Natural Capital

Aims to promote awareness of the value of ecosystem services in the Lewes and Ouse Valley area

All activities entirely voluntary

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THE PROJECT: 'Chalking up the Benefits' - What does Lewes get from the local environment?

Project part of

South Downs Way Ahead Partnership

Funded by DEFRA via Natural England, SDNPA & Sussex WT

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'Chalking up the Benefits': What does Lewes get from the local environment?

Aims to work with the community to explore & document benefits to wellbeing from local environment (with a focus on the chalk downs)

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'Chalking up the Benefits': what does Lewes get from the local environment?

Aims to raise and spread awareness of gains for Lewes local economy from locally provided ecosystem services.



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'Chalking up the Benefits': what does Lewes get from the local environment?

Project officer paid
1 day/wk (yr 1);
2 days/wk (yrs 2 & 3)



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'Chalking up the Benefits':
Outputs and targets

Output 1. Establish links between local economy, community wellbeing and ecosystem services; establish valuation criteria for locally provided ES; promote project (e.g. via relevant websites)



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'Chalking up the Benefits':
Outputs and targets

Output 2. Techniques identified and trialled to value ES benefits across community (including public sector and business decision-makers) and key enterprises; identify major beneficiaries of local ES provision



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'Chalking up the Benefits':
Outputs and targets

Output 3. Key ecosystem services mapped and benefits assessed. Stakeholders engaged in project and programme of land management



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'Chalking up the Benefits':
Strategy

Work with professionals plus established groups

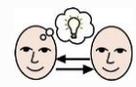


WHAT? WHERE? WHO? HOW?



**'Chalking up the Benefits':
Strategy**

Interpreting ecosystem services **with** locals



Getting the message across

- L&Ove have found that using the words 'ecosystem services' does not tend to help members of the public, people in business and others in the community to readily engage with the concept.
- We are thus using 'benefits from the environment', 'landscape benefits' and other terms instead of ecosystem services.
- We (thanks to Dr. John Parry) have also come up with a new word that may help get the message across

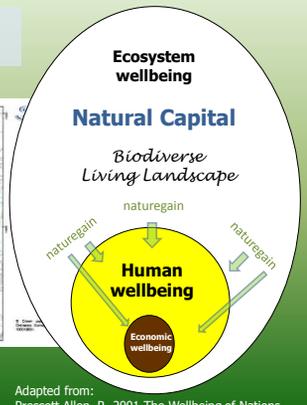
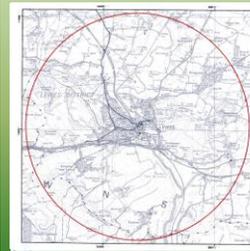


naturegain

... what nature does for us and how we can help

Source: Parry & Tingle, 2011

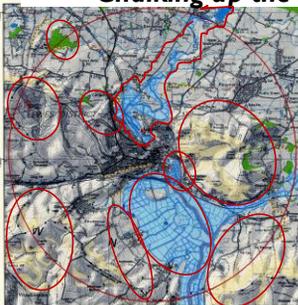
NATUREGAIN & THE EGG OF WELLBEING



Adapted from: Prescott-Allen, R. 2001 The Wellbeing of Nations



Chalking up the Benefits



Output 1.
Environment/Community/eco-nomy
– Links and valuation:
Valuing Ecosystem Services for Lewes (VESL):

Team: L&Ove
Sussex Wildlife Trust
Lewes Railwayland WT
Natural England

Identifying habitats



Chalking up the Benefits

Output 1. Valuing Ecosystem Services for Lewes (VESL)



Identifying ecosystem services provided by each habitat/area

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'Chalking up the Benefits': Outputs to date

Output 2. Tools developed & key beneficiaries identified



Postcard from the Future: 25 years on
Imagine yourself in Lewes, 25 years ahead
It's a place full of naturegain.
Walk around it in your mind
enjoy it!
Now, turn over the postcard and write to
tell us what you see and value

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'Chalking up the Benefits': Outputs to date

Output 2. Tools developed & key beneficiaries identified



Almost all tools involve participatory experiential learning

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Chalking up the Benefits: Output 2. Tools

1. *Naturegain* walks



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Chalking up the Benefits: Outputs to date

Naturegain walks



UPTAKE

- 7 walks run locally with SWT, LDC & FoL
- Teaching tool – Natural Resources MSc, University of Greenwich
- Darwin project: Ecosystem approach to pesticides & biodiversity in the Ethiopian Rift Valley



2. *Naturegain* Going Local workshop

Go Exploring!



L&Ove workshop

Blank Map



L&Ove
workshop
Completed
Map



UPTAKE

- Coastal Communities CC2150 Project
- Lewes Neighbourhood Plan



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'Chalking up the Benefits': Tools

3. Big Benefits Game

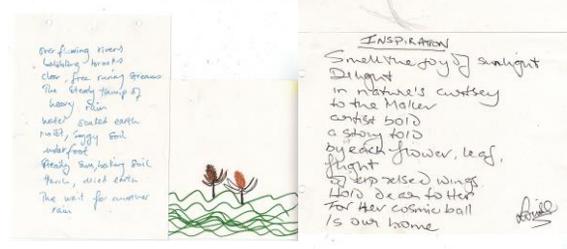


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'Chalking up the Benefits': Tools

4. Naturegain poems



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'Chalking up the Benefits': Tools

5. Naturegain Quiz



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'Chalking up the Benefits': Outputs and targets

6. Teaching materials for Schools

Ecosystem Services data collection
Priory School Lewes yr 10

Cultural Services – survey of visitors to Lewes Railway Land Nature Reserve

Regulating Services – estimation of carbon sequestration at LRLNR

Rythms of Life
Wallands School Lewes yr 2

Introducing naturegain

Where does our water come from?

The water cycle



'Chalking up the Benefits': Outputs to date



Output 1. Publicity

<http://www.transitiontownlewes.org/landove-group.html>

<http://www.lewes-eco-nomics.org/>



Thank you for listening!

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References

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<http://www.maweb.org/documents/document.356.aspx.pdf>
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- TEEB (2010) *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity. Report for Business - Executive Summary*.
<http://www.teebweb.org/Portals/25/Documents/TEEB%20for%20Business/TEEB%20for%20Bus%20Exec%20English.pdf>
- WRI (2008) *Ecosystem Services: A guide for decision-makers*
<http://www.wri.org/publication/ecosystem-services-a-guide-for-decision-makers>

Useful websites

- Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics
<http://www.transitiontownlewes.org/landove-group.html>
- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
<http://www.maweb.org/en/index.aspx>
- Natural Capital Initiative - <http://www.naturalcapitalinitiative.org.uk/>
- Pavan Sukhdev (2011) *The invisible economy*.
<http://bankofnaturalcapital.com/category/natural-capital/>
- The economics of ecosystems and biodiversity (TEEB)
<http://www.teebweb.org/Home/tabid/924/Default.aspx>
<http://www.teebweb.org/InformationMaterial/TEEBReports/tabid/1278/Default.aspx>
- UK National Ecosystem Assessment
<http://uknea.unep-wcmc.org/Resources/tabid/82/Default.aspx>
- Valuing Nature Network - <http://www.valuing-nature.net/>



L&Ove is planning to work with businesses within the Lewes community and, amongst other things, to introduce them to the 'invisible economy', including via the words of a senior manager at Deutsche Bank
<http://bankofnaturalcapital.com/2010/10/04/dr-pavan-sukhdev-on-the-invisible-economy/>

Go Exploring