

The Go New Forest Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Visitor Economy



Countryside Education Trust

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The Countryside Education Trust was established in 1975 and has undergone many changes over the last 4 years. It is very diverse in what it offers for a variety of people including schools, visitors of the New Forest as well as residents.

Schools visit the centre during term time to learn more about the environment, farming, gardening, history as well as many other topics. They are able to teach the pupils from pre-school through to Key Stage 4 and into further education.

When the schools are closed or not using the centre The Countryside Education Trust open their doors for others to take advantage of what the centre offers.

They host clubs and extra curricular activities for a variety of ages and abilities available at different times of the day so that there is something for everyone. For example they hold a bird watching group, as well as choirs, family walks and their Little Owls and Big Owls clubs for children ages 2-6. They are also able to hold larger events such as their Christmas Fair and weddings and host approximately 12 weddings per year.

They very much see themselves as part of the New Forest and work on protecting the woodland and it's special and unique features. They support local produce businesses by buying from them anything that they aren't already able to grow themselves.



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