

West of England Rural Network – ‘Tea & Tell Us, Tea & Try It’



The West of England Rural Network (WERN) supports and works with communities, businesses, social enterprises, organisations and individuals on a wide range of matter that impact on rural areas.

WERN's UKSPF Community Grants project was split into two parts – a co-production phase (“Tell Us”) where communities were consulted to find out what residents wanted to learn, see, do, or hear; and a delivery phase (“Try It”) where residents could connect with an activity, performance, or medium they wanted to try.

UKSPF Achievements

30 events and activities supported

268 people engaged

Wider impact

There were a range of positive impacts from this project beyond simply allowing people to try out new activities. There was an increased feeling of being ‘heard’, greater community connection, the learning of new skills such as cooking, increased confidence and social connection, and educational opportunities such as studying museum artifacts.

Feedback from participants shows the impact it had:

“I really enjoyed today – thank you. It was great to be able to join in with something new and also have a good laugh.”

“I’ve so enjoyed meeting new people and the activities, especially those I’ve never tried before.”

“I’d love to make new friends and a regular group like this would help.”

“Tasty dishes which I would never have known how to cook before.”