

ANTUR WAUNFAWR

Contact

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During the last fifteen years Antur Waunfawr has established itself not only as a ground-breaking company which offers training and employment opportunities to people with learning difficulties, but also as a venture which is recognised as a key player in the sustainable regeneration of the local community.

As the biggest employer in the community, Antur Waunfawr creates work for over 60 people – 20 of whom have learning disabilities. From a village population of around a thousand, three hundred are members of the organisation, and of these, twenty have been elected as Directors.

Income is generated through a variety of activities including recycling, a nursery and market garden, a café and shop. Volunteers are encouraged and training is offered to all workers.

Sustainability and environmental protection have always been at the heart of Antur Waunfawr's beliefs and activities. An extensive recycling organisation was begun in 1994 to enable local communities to improve their recycling rate. At present twenty-four people are employed within four related recycling enterprises:

- *A furniture re-use scheme* based on the Cibyn Estate in Caernarfon, provides good quality furniture at very affordable prices for people on low incomes. This scheme is set to expand with the completion of a new home by spring 2005.
- *A community recycling scheme* runs a network of twenty one 'Bring Sites' for the collection of paper, glass and cans.
- *Recycling for business* collects waste paper, cans and inkjet cartridges from offices, as well as a confidential shredding service for sensitive documents.
- *Recycling education* aims to ensure that young people understand the importance of protecting the environment – usually through talks at clubs and schools.

There has also been a great deal of eco-related work carried out at the Waunfawr centre. A park includes adventure footpaths, children's playground, an eco-cabin, a weather station run by the local school and a nature garden with wildlife ponds. These combine to create a unique and tranquil space much loved and used by the community.

Status of project: Registered charity company limited by guarantee

Area: Gwynedd and Anglesey