

For more details about this project:

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Charity No 297286



Ferring County Centre was established in 1986 by a small group of parents who saw the need for an active workplace setting for people who previously may not have had the opportunity to participate in one. They provide training and work experience for people with learning difficulties.

Clients develop work and social skills by assisting in the various areas of the centre. They are also able to participate in a number of community projects, including newspaper collection and gardening services. The aim is that the work ethos applied at the Centre will enable clients to move on to work in the community, voluntary or possibly paid employment.

The Country centre offers a range of activities and areas enabling people to learn a variety of work and communication skills in different settings. Whilst also promoting confidence and self esteem in a workplace model; these include:

- Riding therapy unit - facilities to benefit children and adults with both physical and learning difficulties by regular contact with horses.
- Café – essential life skills developed in the client café.
- Garden Centre - acquiring knowledge on all areas of horticulture, clients experience a range of physical, psychological and social benefits.



- Small Animals Farm - The farm has opened up new animal care training opportunities for clients whose disabilities make caring for horses difficult or for those clients who would rather receive training in farm animal care.
- Memorial Walk
- Ferring Radio Radio (see corresponding paragraph)

Volunteers are a key part of the Centre's structure, providing promotion and helping to raise funds. Volunteers on the RTU get the opportunity to ride and have lessons from the centre's instructors. The Centre also looks to form corporate partnerships with the business community and to build links by working in conjunction with them, with an understanding this will not only raise awareness of the Country Centre but also create invaluable Corporate social responsibility & PR opportunities for those companies involved.



87.7 FM - Ferring Radio Radio Live on Air

One of Ferrings most recent undertakings, having received a grant from West Sussex County Council Learning Difficulties Board, was to fund a radio station which their client group developed. The radio station was intended to give clients the opportunity to improve all areas of communication whilst developing their speaking and listening skills. Whilst also providing greater opportunity to experience social inclusion. The radio station pilot scheme broadcast throughout November 2010 and Ferring Country Centre are hoping to expand further on this in the future.



This is brought to you by the West Sussex Social Enterprise Network (WSSSEN) with support from West Sussex County Council.

For more information visit www.wssen.org.uk

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