

# BOSAVERN TRAINING & WORK EXPERIENCE

Known internally as 'The Growing and Empowerment Project', our latest project is funded by the European Social Fund with support from the County Council. We are able to support unemployed people (over 18yrs) from Penwith who show an interest in growing, cooking or farm retail. We plan to run four 'series' of training between now and Spring 2022. Each series will be delivered at the farm on Tuesdays and Thursdays following Government COVID-19 guidance. Ultimately, we hope to support people into accredited college courses and into paid employment by developing two types of skills:

- 1. Employee Qualities** e.g. teamwork, communications, time-keeping, resilience, skills in using zoom, writing CVs and personal statements.
- 2. Practical Growing, Cooking & Retail Skills.** This training will be embedded within the essential work of the farm; helping to supply fresh food for the public and hot meals for our key workers.

## MARKETING & ENROLLMENT

We are marketing our offer as 'Bosavern Training & Work Experience' and have already developed good working arrangements with the following organisations:

- Job Centre Plus
- Penwith Landscape Partnership
- Social Prescribers
- Community Makers
- Cornwall Rural Community Council & PCDT
- Live West
- Tin Coast
- Konnect
- Wildlife Trust
- National Trust
- Active Plus
- Cornwall Neighbourhoods for Change

6 eligible participants have signed-up for our February start date which leaves 3 remaining spaces at present. 2 more have already shown an interest in the May series. Some people who enquired were not eligible to take part but we have been able to involve them in other ways; 1 referred to the Community Gardening group run by Lyndsay Gale, 2 as new volunteers assisting Hugh with core farm activities and we have taken on Dom Goetz as a volunteer Project Assistant for the first series. Some participants will travel by bus or taxi from Penzance and St Ives and those who are more local will be walking or cycling. *\*\*If you have a bike to donate or if you are willing to assist with bike maintenance, please contact Katie to discuss.*

## GROWING

The project portacabin landed on site back in November. This project will have a dedicated plot of land behind The Cabin where we plan to build a new polytunnel as an extra indoor learning space and a place to trial new crops. We also plan to build several raised beds. So far we have booked an external tutor to train participants in how to construct quality fencing (work which is needed in several areas across the farm) and we are working with the South West Rivers Trust, Holly Whitelaw and our volunteer Dom to develop some training around soil science and composting methods. We are currently advertising for a Growing Activities Leader (closing date 4<sup>th</sup> Feb 1pm) who will lead the in-house horticultural training activities as well as supporting the project more generally. Other elements of our course will reflect the participants' interests and the seasonal opportunities presented on the farm. *\*\*If you have a favourite book which you think would make a great learning resource, or if you can provide a relevant talk or workshop activity, please let Katie know.*

## COOKING

We have fitted and equipped a kitchen at one end of the Cabin. Thanks to the many people in the community who donated kitchen supplies, we were able to make our budget go further. We are looking forward to working with Ali Campbell who starts with us in February as our sessional Cooker Tutor. Ali has spent her whole career in catering and is a joyous addition to the team. We are also in discussion with local chefs to bring in some other influences and to give our participants an insight into careers in catering. *\*\*If you have a favourite recipe which makes use of seasonal produce, or if you earn money from your cooking or preserving skills and would be happy to give a talk or demonstration, please let Katie and Ali know.*

## ADMIN

There is always a considerable amount of paperwork associated with publicly funded projects. Dilys and Julie have been setting up thorough systems to make sure we order supplies correctly and account for our spending in compliance with the European Social Fund rules. The Hive is now established as the project office although during lockdown the team have largely been working remotely from home. All members of the project team work part-time hours. The project phone and emails are checked from Monday-Thursday. *\*\*If you have IT or admin skills and can volunteer from home, please call Katie to discuss how you can help.*



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