

The Smallwood Trust currently funds several organisations working with women who run small businesses/social enterprises or provide skills and training directly to women, all designed to support women's financial resilience, employability and professional development.



These organisations include Lovewell UK, Graces Chocolates, Kundakala and Women's Workshop who all support women on low incomes to work together, support each other, and make and sell hand-made high-end products.

By buying products from local women's organisations and their beneficiaries, you will be supporting ethical enterprise and helping to fund future programmes for economically vulnerable women across the UK.

During December, at a time when people are looking to purchase gifts for loved ones, we wanted to share a spread of products created by Smallwood grant partners. These range from hand-made scarves and chocolates to high quality beauty products. We hope this leaflet will give you a sense of what is available from these organisations, and we also invite you to visit their online shops to browse a full selection of items as you plan your gift giving.

All money received by our grant partners is invested back into supporting their goals and future sustainability.



LoveWell's Mission is to create supportive pathways into employment for women who have experienced significant trauma through trafficking and exploitation. Through their employability programme - involving training in the manufacture of wellbeing products - Lovewell offers transformative training and support, for women to grow in confidence and increase their skills, empowering them to move into employment.

LoveWell's mantra is 'Working for wellbeing' and their vision is to create a world where women who have experienced trauma have the choice to move on and create a new future for themselves.

A range of beauty products are hand made by women during the training programme who have experienced barriers to employment. Through the manufacture and sale of Lovewell's products, they offer transformative employment training and skills development. The trainees are very proud of these products and hope you enjoy using them as much as they enjoyed making them. Each sale helps fund training, skills development and meaningful work, all of which support them to find alternative employment, education or training.

Large
aromatherapy
candle



LW

Working for wellbeing



Sleep well duo



Cosy toes
gift bundle



Browse Lovewell's full collection: lovewelluk.com



Grace Chocolates support women who have touched the justice system and are choosing to make positive changes in their lives.

Through the making and selling of chocolates their beneficiaries gain the skills, knowledge and experience to fulfil their potential. This isn't all they do though! Grace Chocolates operate in a positive learning environment where every mistake is an opportunity for learning and encourage kindness to self and others. By working in this way the women they support build confidence, self-esteem and resilience which supports them as they move on with their lives.

GRACE CHOCOLATES

CHANGING LIVES

Cinder toffee available covered in white, milk and oat milk



Raspberry pate de fruit truffles enrobed in dark chocolate suitable for vegans and with specific dietary requirements



Christmas pudding flavour truffles



Browse Grace Chocolates full collection: gracechocolates.co.uk/shop



ART EMPOWERING WOMEN

Kundakala is a start-up social enterprise that aims to empower ethnic minority women to come together, connect, develop enterprise skills, and become professional seamstresses.

This organisation runs a Make and Mend programme and offers employability and enterprise support for women to improve their confidence and wellbeing, reduce the social isolation they can experience within their communities, and helps them take steps to becoming financially independent.

Kundakala was set up in memory of the Indian artist Kunda Kirloskar by her daughter Poornima Kirloskar-Saini. Wherever possible she tries to print Kunda's designs on fabric and use them during workshops.

Kundakala's longer-term plan is to develop a trading arm taking commissions and selling scarves, prints, t-shirts and soft furnishings employing women from our programmes to make them. With all the profits reinvested to help organisational growth.

In this world of fast fashion, women are encouraged to upcycle clothes and fabric to make new interesting products. Kundakala reminds us once again that along with warmth and wisdoms, our homes also contain wellsprings of opportunity and enterprise.

*Dreamer in
Mulmul cotton*



ART EMPOWERING WOMEN



*Shanti in
Mulmul cotton*



*Prabhodha in
Mulmul cotton*



Browse Kundakala's online shop here: kundakala.org/products-via-workshop



The Women's Workshop is a unique, rurally based women's organisation promoting gender equality in Northumberland and beyond. Its aim is to offer learning, practical and emotional support, and creative projects that enable women to improve their chances of meeting their full potential, whether socially, economically, or emotionally.

Women in rural areas often look to creating paid work from their creative ideas, in a tourism-dominated economy where women often need to hold two or three casual jobs through the year to survive. So we have set up HERitage, a collective approach to marketing women's products, workshops and services which adds to their profile and saves costs. We hold regular HERitage stalls around the county and offer one-to-one and group support for women setting up their businesses.



heritage

Fiona Lomas

Fiona is taking a lead on running stalls featuring women's products, as part of the development of the HERitage project. The gifts that are available on the stall include Fiona's own beautiful small and large journals, using recycled waste packaging, which are covered in recycled scarves or sari and batik materials, and unique hand-painted cards.



Jenny Blayney

Jenny is an art therapist and has been running workshops in her studio based on a farm with wonderful sea views. She sees clients for one-to-one therapy sessions and her paintings are for sale and available in greeting card format. Jenny ran 'art in a box' sessions for isolated young women during Covid and regularly provides workshop at the Women's Workshop including a recent one on the theme 'Public Space is Women's Space Too.'



Anna Turnbull

Anna started experimenting with the many processes in the making of felt, then added locally grown willow basketry, to create vessels and sculptural forms. Her business Biteabout Arts provides a workshop space too.