

South Downs Way Ahead  
Partnership

# South Downs Way Ahead Nature Improvement Area



Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics  
Valuing Local Natural Capital

## Delivery and successes of Ecosystem Service projects



*L&Ove Chalking up the  
Benefits across Lewes*

Dr. Colin Tingle

[eMail: [tc09@gn.apc.org](mailto:tc09@gn.apc.org)]

# Who are we?

## Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics Group



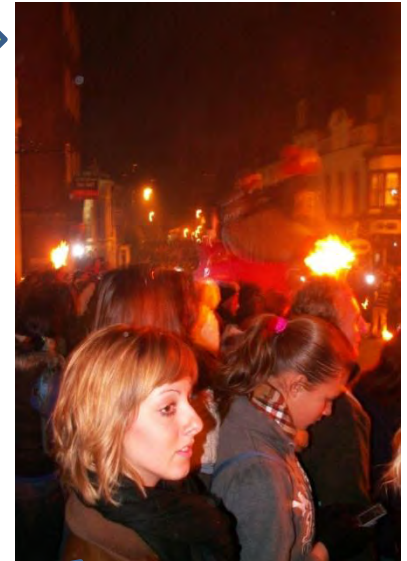
Is a community group under the Transition Town Lewes banner that acts as a focal point in the wider community for

discussion and action that connects the local economy with the local environment

# Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics

## Valuing Local Natural Capital

Aims to promote awareness of the value of ecosystem services in the Lewes and Ouse Valley area

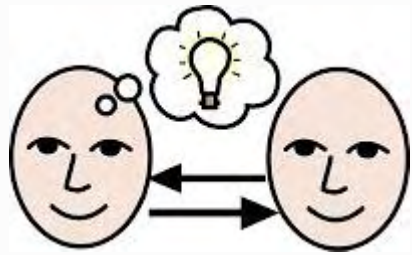


The emphasis is on the multiple benefits to wellbeing (including the economy) that can be achieved from a multi-functional landscape where natural ecosystem processes are protected and enhanced and where natural habitats are connected to promote sustainable flow of services and biodiversity.

## ***'Chalking up the Benefits':* What does Lewes get from the local environment?**

The project aims to work with the community to explore and document the benefits to wellbeing in Lewes from our local environment (with a focus on the chalk downs) and to raise and spread awareness of the gains for the Lewes local economy from locally provided ecosystem services.





# Getting the message across

- L&OVe have found that using the words **'ecosystem services'** does not tend to help members of the public, people in business and others in the community to readily engage with the concept.
- **We are thus using 'benefits from the environment', 'landscape benefits' and other terms instead of ecosystem services.**
  - We (thanks to Dr. John Parry) have also come up with another new way to **help get the message across .....**

# *naturegain*

*...what nature does for us and how we can help*

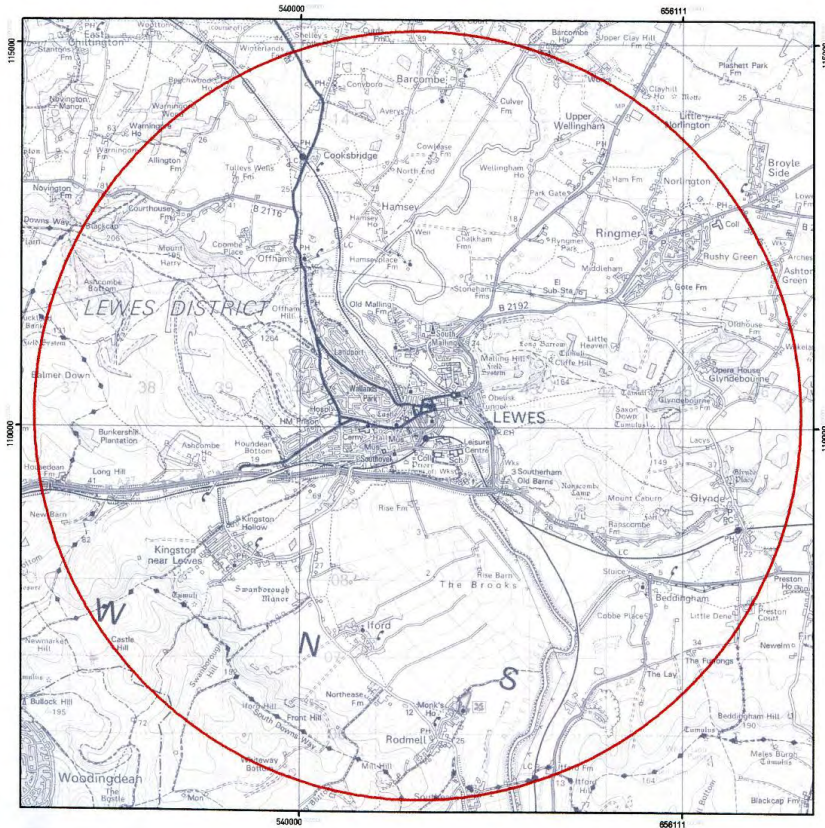
Source: Parry & Tingle, 2011

See <http://www.lewes-eco-nomics.org/naturegain/>

# LINKAGES AMONGST BIODIVERSITY, ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND HUMAN WELLBEING



# NATUREGAIN & THE EGG OF WELLBEING



**Ecosystem  
wellbeing**

**Natural Capital**

*Biodiverse  
Living Landscape*

naturegain

naturegain

naturegain

**Human  
wellbeing**

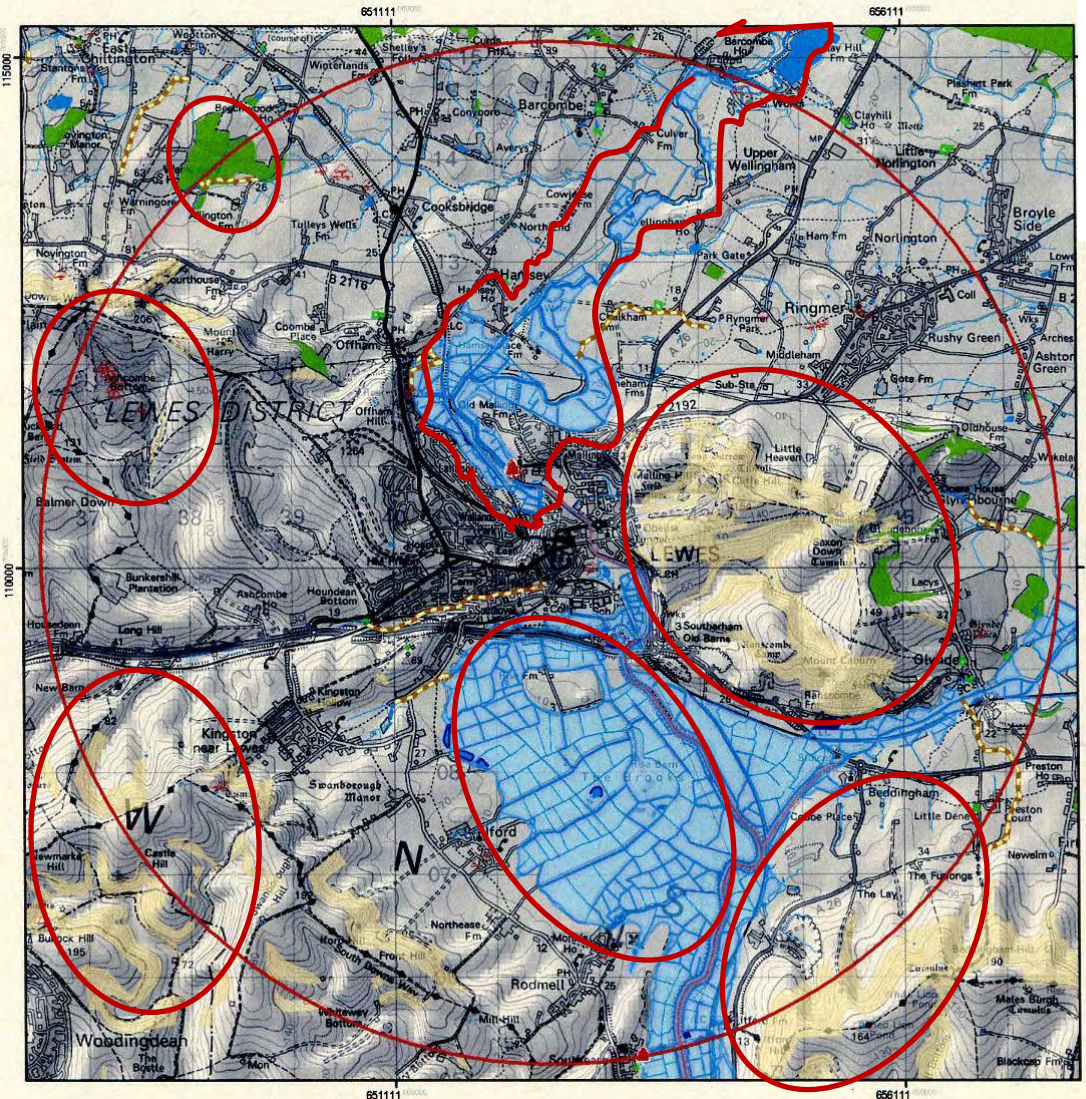
**Economic  
wellbeing**

© Crown cop.  
Ordnance Survey,  
100019601.



# Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics

## Valuing Local Natural Capital



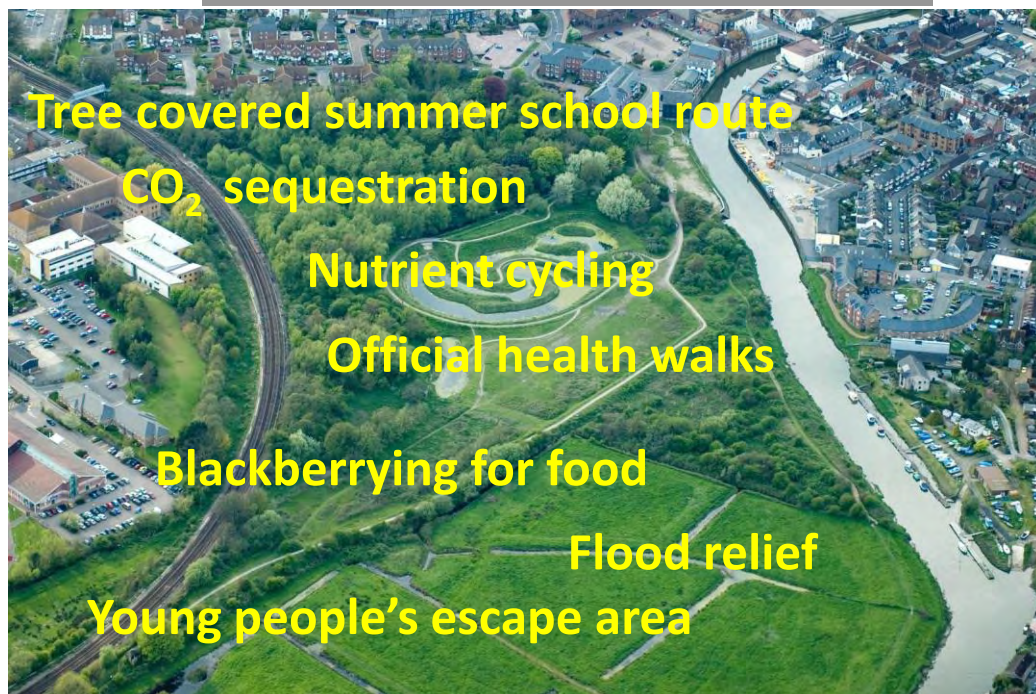
# Chalking up the Benefits

- Legend:
- Blue line: Bodfj oU4 uf sboluf f
  - Red line: Crtbd lqqrbs
  - Yellow dashed line: Df brh/Tuf bn
  - Green: Bodfj oux pperboe
  - Blue: Dpbt ubrt lgppeqrjio!hsb{joh n bst i
  - Red: Dpbt ubrt brn bst i
  - Pink: Juf sjebrtn vegtu
  - Yellow: Mpx rhoeldbndf pvt l!hsb t rboe
  - Blue: Pqf oIX b!f s
  - Dark Blue: Sff ecf e
  - Green with diagonal lines: U!bejjpobtrpscl bse
  - Red outline: 5Km radius from town centre
- Scale: 1 2 3 Km

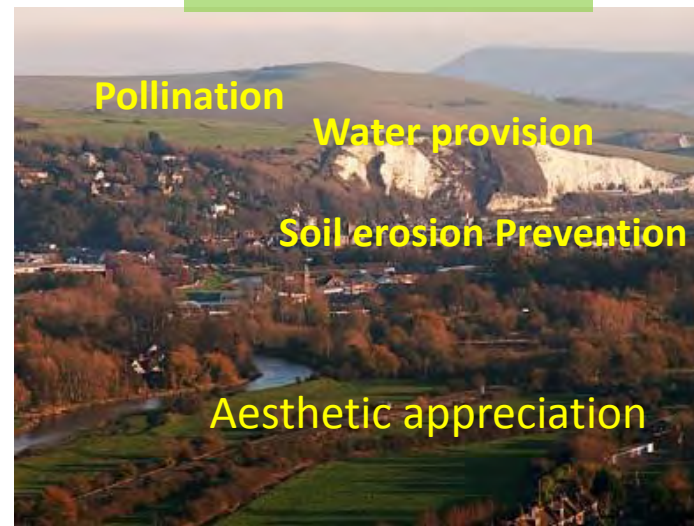
Output 1. **Valuing Ecosystem Services for Lewes (VESL): Identifying habitats**

## *Chalking up the Benefits*

### Lewes Railway Lands



### Lewes Downs



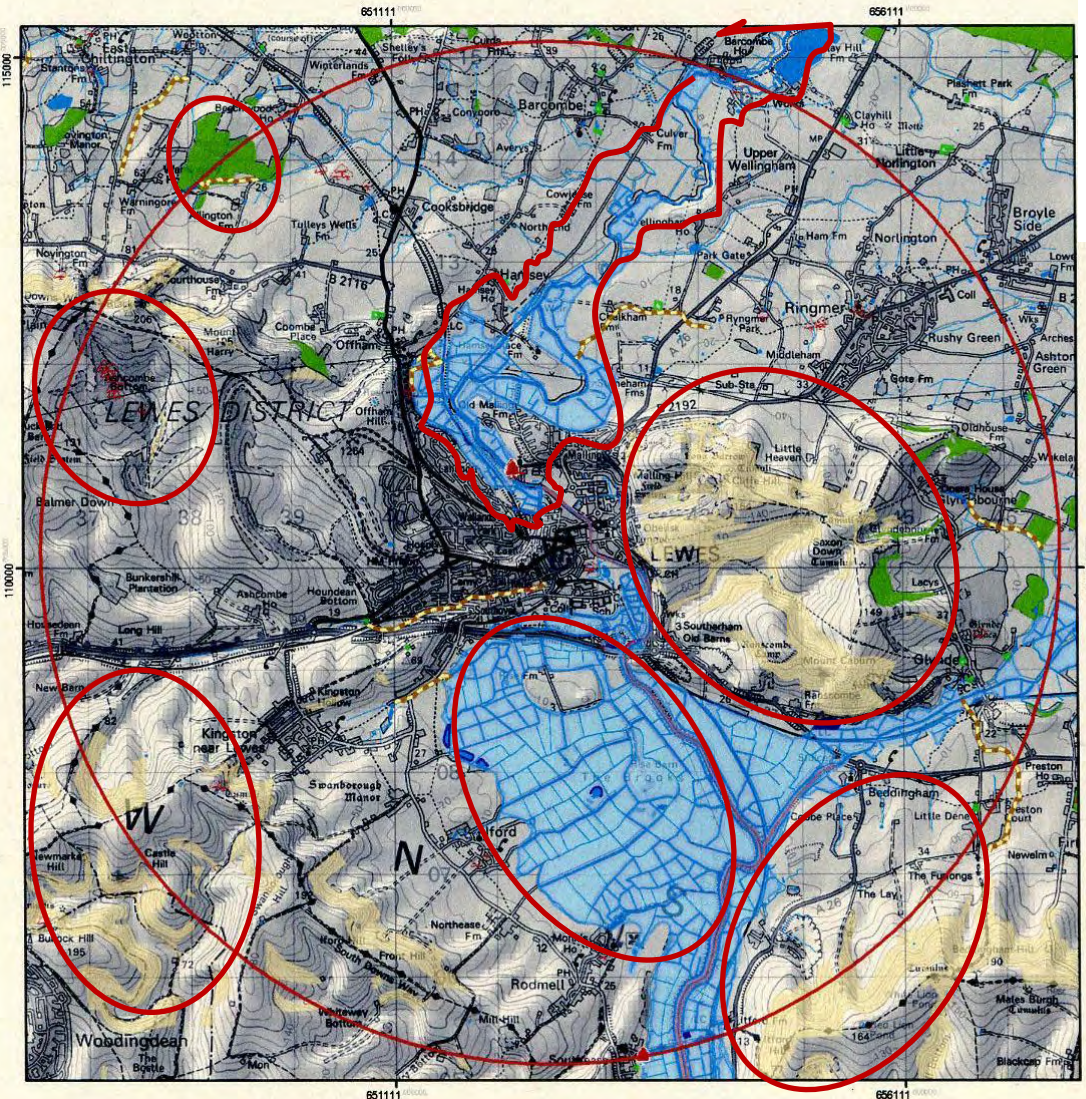
Output 1. **Valuing Ecosystem Services for Lewes (VESL)** – in partnership with Sussex Wildlife Trust, Lewes Railway Land Wildlife Trust & Natural England

# Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics

## Valuing Local Natural Capital



# Chalking up the Benefits



- Legend:
- Bodfj oU4 uf sboluf f
  - É Crtdl lqqrbs
  - Di brh/Tuf bn
  - Bodfj oux pperboe
  - Dpbt ubrt lgppeqrjio/hsb/john bst i
  - Dpbt ubrt brn bst i
  - Juf sjebrtn vegtu
  - Mpx rhoeldbnbf pvt lhsbt t rhoe
  - Pqf oIX bús
  - Sff ecf e
  - Ubejjpobtrpscl bse
  - 5Km radius from town centre
- Scale: 1 2 3 Km

Output 1. **Valuing Ecosystem Services for Lewes (VESL): Awaiting EcoServe GIS results**

# Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics

Valuing Local Natural Capital



## 'Chalking up the Benefits': Outputs to date

### Output 2. Tools developed & key beneficiaries identified



Postcard from the Future: 25 years on

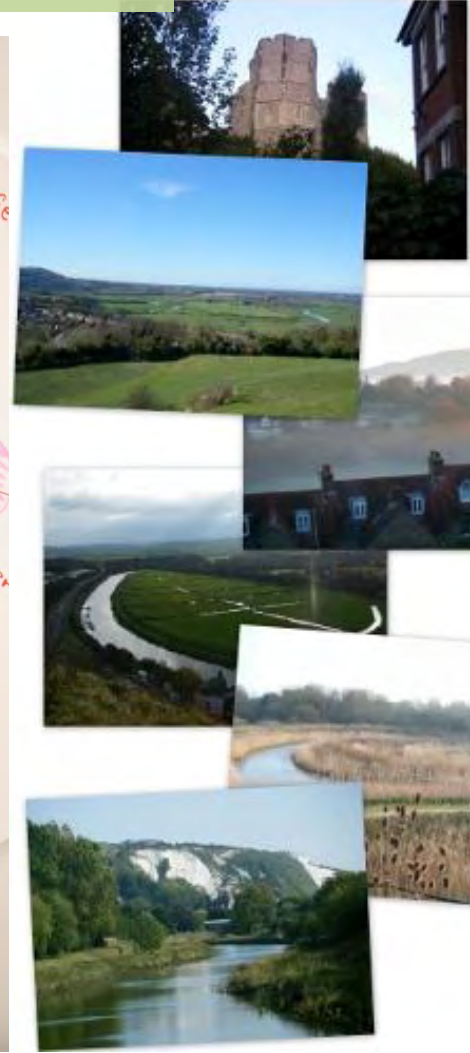
Imagine yourself in Lewes, 25 years ahead  
- a future full of naturegain.  
Walk around it in your mind .....  
enjoy it!

Now, turn over the postcard and write to  
tell us what you see and value

PLEASE POST YOUR POSTCARD IN THE BOX BY THE BIG BENEFITS GAME



# L&Ove 'Naturegain Going Local' workshops: Community visualisation of ecosystem services



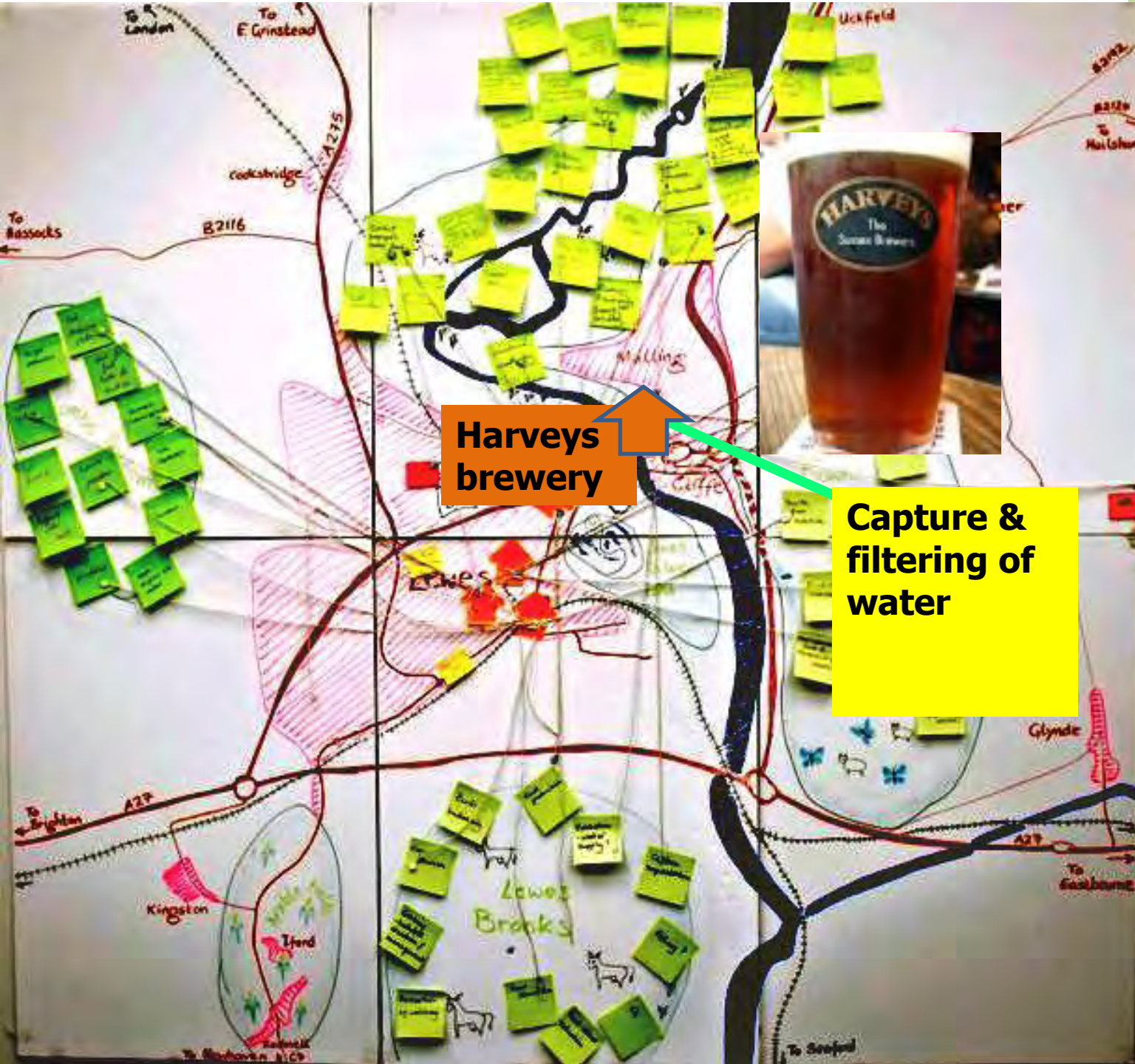
Go Exploring!



L&Ove  
'Nature  
-gain  
Going  
Local'



Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-economics Group



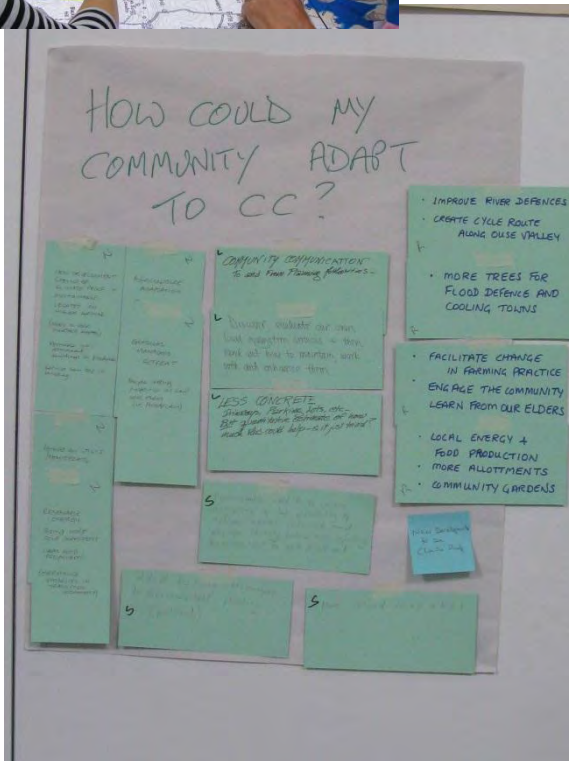
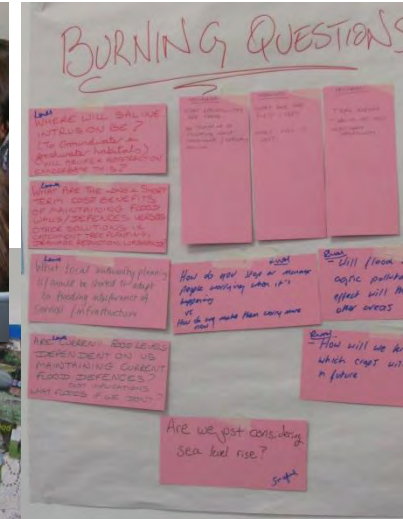
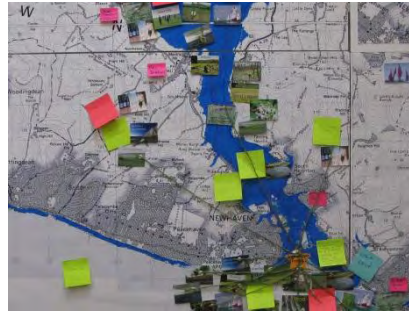
Harveys  
brewery

Capture &  
filtering of  
water

Lewes  
& Ouse  
Valley  
eco-  
nomics  
Group



# CC2150 Ecosystem Services, Climate change & Community Adaptation workshop



# CC2150 Ecosystem Services, Climate change & Community Adaptation workshop

## NEXT STEPS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

- Seaford: long term sea defences
- Newhaven: raising awareness - high profile media awareness events, sports & activities  
large scale public screenings of fly-through
- Looes: don't just scare people - give individuals tools & ideas e.g. driveway, house alterations  
emphasis lifestyle changes re. bad being a quality of life. not just or more

- More workshops of this type e.g. Rodmell requested a 'drop-in' one in autumn - **Rural Parishes**

## Next Steps in our Communities

- Build strong relationships between different communities - Looes, Seaford, etc!

# **L&OVe Experiences and lessons learned**

We have achieved a great deal, but it's very much 'behind the scenes' – if you go out into Lewes and ask people if they've heard of naturegain, you'll mostly get a blank look

Start with 'easy' parts of the community and aim to spread from there

**It's a difficult role for a community group -**

Partnerships with professional bodies are vital

The actions and activities of a community group will **depend on members' interests and drive** – difficult to align with 'higher level' aims & objectives (e.g. those from TEEB, NEA, etc.) BUT of great value in reflecting the values/drives within the community

# ***Chalking up the Benefits:*** **Best Practice?**

Jury is out!!

**We've achieved some useful outputs and begun the engagement process across the community.**

Only just starting with Business

Direct interaction with farmers & landowners still to begin but is being explored – indirectly (via partners)  
**it's underway**

Good practice? Probably yes!  
Best remains to be seen!



# Naturegain walks



# References

MA (2005) *Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Synthesis*. Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. Island Press, Washington, DC.

<http://www.maweb.org/documents/document.356.aspx.pdf>

Natural England (2012) **Delivering the ecosystem approach on the ground – an evaluation of the upland ecosystem service pilots (NERR046).**

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4084624>

Natural England (2013) National Character Area Profile 125: South Downs.

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/7433354>

Parry, J. & Tingle, C.C.D. (2011) *New ways of thinking and a new word to match: 'Naturegain'* In: TTL (ed) Transition Town Lewes Newsletter. December News & Events. 2011. [http://www.transitiontownlewes.org/naturegain\\_dec\\_2011.html](http://www.transitiontownlewes.org/naturegain_dec_2011.html)

<http://www.transitiontownlewes.org/524.html>

Prescott-Allen, R. (2001) *The Wellbeing of Nations: a country-by-country index of quality of life and the environment*. Island Press, USA. 342 pp. (Summary at <http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/wonback.pdf>; preview copy – not complete)

TEEB (2010) **The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity. Report for Business - Executive Summary.**

<http://www.teebweb.org/Portals/25/Documents/TEEB%20for%20Business/TEEB%20for%20Bus%20Exec%20English.pdf>

# Useful websites

Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics

<http://www.transitiontownlewes.org/landove-group.html>

<http://www.lewes-eco-nomics.org>

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

<http://www.maweb.org/en/index.aspx>

Natural Capital Initiative - <http://www.naturalcapitalinitiative.org.uk/>

Pavan Sukhdev (2011) The invisible economy.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZWnMaX\\_bsY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZWnMaX_bsY)

The economics of ecosystems and biodiversity (TEEB)

<http://www.teebweb.org/>

<http://www.teebweb.org/publications/>

UK National Ecosystem Assessment

<http://uknea.unep-wcmc.org/Resources/tabid/82/Default.aspx>

Valuing Nature Network - <http://www.valuing-nature.net/>



# Useful websites

The UK Natural Capital Committee

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/naturalcapitalcommittee/>

Ecosystem Market Task Force

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/ecosystem-markets/>

The Natural Capital Project

<http://www.naturalcapitalproject.org/>