

“Originally built in 1876 as a school for the children of ironstone miners, our building still serves an educational role relating to the area’s wildlife, natural habitats and industrial heritage.”

Jeremy Garside

## Tees Valley Wildlife Trust

### Project:

Margrove Environmental Education

### Subject:

Facilities and building improvements  
Education, learning and practical skills

### Location:

Saltburn-by-the-Sea, Redcar and Cleveland

### Overview:

Margrove Heritage Centre is the base of the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust and is used by over 1000 young people each year. It provides environmental education activities and has a strong partnership with local schools such as Lockwood Primary, while also attracting visits from across Teesside. This provides a sustainable use for a heritage building which had previously fallen into disuse. As well as its use by schools, the education room is in near constant demand as a teaching space by a wildlife gardening group, by conservation apprentices and by the Trust’s Life Skills programme for people with special needs.

However, the education room was in desperate need of internal refurbishment and redecoration to continue to meet the needs and expectations of visitors.

£5,000 of funding was awarded to the Trust and used to refurbish the environmental education room, including removing old and broken fitted-cupboards, repairing and repainting walls, installing new flooring, new furnishings, signage and permanent education and display materials. Refurbishment included the production of a permanent display on industrial and mining heritage, and its ongoing influence on the area’s wildlife, landscape and communities.

