



3 November 2008

SOCIETY'S £12,000 DONATION TO LOCAL CHARITY

Local charity Red2Green has received a £12,000 boost to its Red2Greenhouse project in Bottisham – after a generous donation from [Norwich and Peterborough Building Society](#) (N&P).

Red2Green provides a learning, work and social experience for people who have disabilities, are disadvantaged or vulnerable. Its Red2Greenhouse scheme is a horticultural project in Bottisham, giving work and educational opportunities to adults with disabilities and to children struggling to achieve at Bottisham Village College. The children benefit from the peaceful environment of the garden, and many stay on to complete their GCSEs and move into further education.

N&P, which opened its second branch in Cambridge earlier this year, offered to help Red2Greenhouse improve its facilities. The Society donated £12,000 to cover the cost of extending the project's existing classroom and improving storage facilities. In addition, Red2Green has also paid for a new integrated shop area on the site at Lode Road, Bottisham, which will be used to sell the plants grown at Red2Greenhouse, alongside locally sourced fruit and vegetables. Building work started on Monday 27 October, and is due to complete before Christmas.

Rachel Newell, manager of Red2Greenhouse, said: "We are absolutely thrilled with the support from N&P. Last year all 55 people on the project achieved Open College Network credits in horticulture, and the extension of the classroom and other facilities means that we will be able to cater for even more people in 2009. It costs £155,000 a year to keep the project running and fund-raising is key to maintain funding. To receive such a generous donation in one go is amazing. We're very grateful to N&P and can't wait to have the new facilities up and running."

Matthew Bullock, chief executive of N&P, went along to Red2Greenhouse to help kick-off the building work. He said: "As a local, mutual building society, we feel very strongly that we should support the communities where we have branches. Red2Green does a huge amount of good work in Cambridgeshire and we were very pleased to help."

Press information: Alison Rolls – AGM, Head of Communications.

Telephone: Office (01733) 372372, Home (01733) 236938, Fax. (01733) 372243, E-mail alison.rolls@npbs.co.uk