NEIGHBOURHOOD
PROJECTS FROM
ACROSS THE
WORLD



LOAF COOKERY SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY BAKERY

Loaf is building community through good food. Tom began by making bread in his home for around 20 customers, and running a 'back to basics' cookery school from his kitchen. People join the bread club and pay a set amount each month. This creates a guaranteed income for the baker to invest in equipment, supplies and labour and in return, they get fresh, locally-made bread each week. The bakery now has a highstreet location as a group of customers each invested £1000, and get their 6% dividends each year as regular fresh bread.

WWW.LOAFONLINE.CO.UK
BIRMINGHAM, UK





MAMA BAKE

BIG BATCH COOKING FOR MOTHERS

Mama Bake is a group that holds big batch cooking for mothers. Mums get together regularly in groups, and cook in bigger batches. Each contributes one big meal, they divide it up amongst the group and go home with a number of meals cooked for the week.

WWW.MAMABAKE.COM
NORTH COAST OF NSW, AUSTRALIA



PIE LAB

COMMUNITY BIRD BOXES TO INCREASE WILDLIFE.

PieLab was an experiment by a group of friends in Alabama who decided to offer free pie as a way for more neighbours to meet and chat. From these small beginnings, PieLab now occupies a space on the highstreet, but it is still more than your average café – with bike repairs, catering apprenticeships and an open community space.

WWW.THEPIELAB.COM ALABAMA, USA





SUNDAY SOUP

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF MEALS AND MICRO-GRANTS

Sunday Soups are a grassroots model for funding small to medium sized projects through community meals.

Groups host a meal and invite neighbours to enjoy a social event, and everyone decides together how to spend the money left over from ticket sales, helping to generate independent funding.

DETROIT, USA



THE PEOPLE'S FRIDGE

LONDON'S FIRST COMMUNITY FRIDGE

A community fridge where anyone can leave or take food.

A group of local food traders were inspired by similar fridges in Germany, Spain, India and Somerset. It's simple, the fridge is placed in a local accessible space that can be locked, the fridge is clearly labelled to show what and how to donate. Local people and food businesses leave edible food reducing food waste and encouraging sharing.

WWW.PEOPLESFRIDGE.COM
BRIXTON, UK





GREEN FEAST

A FARM-TO-TABLE EVENT ABOUT SUSTAINABLE FOOD

Every year, Green Feast brings together local food producers and their excess produce, to be transformed into a collaborative meal by local chefs. This farm-to-table community dinner is a great time for people to share knowledge and enjoy a meal entirely sourced within 250 miles! The dinner is held at sunset with beautifully decorated tables and lights, people gather to celebrate the harvest and taste the delicious food grown, sourced, and prepared close by.

WWW.THEECOLOGYCENTER.ORG SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, USA



500 PLATES

HAVE A MEAL AND TALK ABOUT THEIR FUTURE TOGETHER

A street lunch was held with 500 people on a 500 foot table on a closed highway in Akron, USA. For the main meal, signature dishes from each of the 22 districts were collected. The recipes were printed on custom stoneware plates which were used at the community meal, creating a unique way to connect the people from different neighbourhoods in Akron. As an extension of the meal, each one of the 500 guests were allowed to take one of the plates home.

WWW.CREATIVEINTERVENTIONISTS.ORG/500-PLATES AKRON, USA





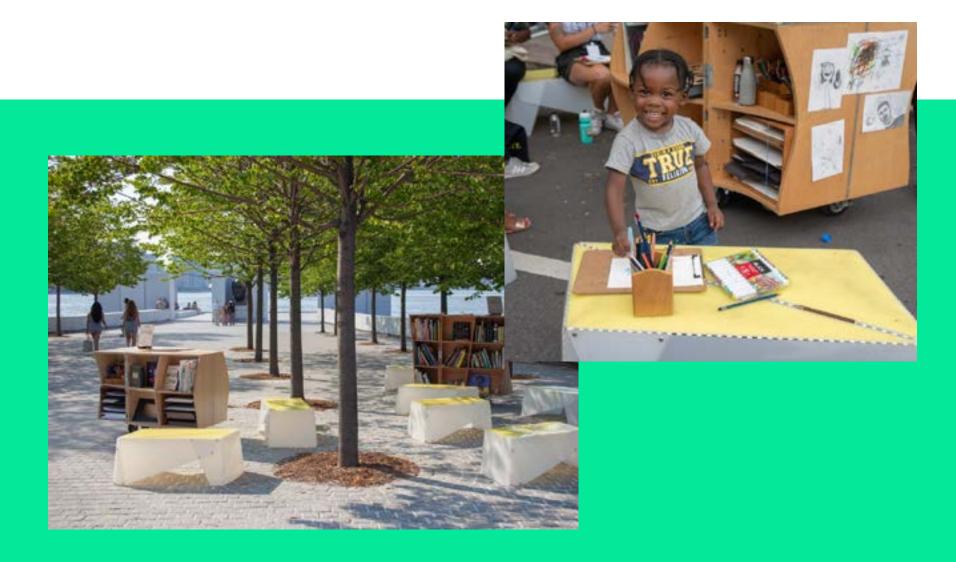


TRADE SCHOOL

AN ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SPACE, WHERE ANYONE CAN TEACH

Trade School is an alternative learning space started in New York, where anyone can teach. No money changes hands, instead teachers say what they'd like in exchange for giving their class, and pupils agree to bring a barter item. Experience, practical skills and big ideas are all valued equally. Swap food, advice or materials for a class in how to bake bread, fix your bike and much more.

NEW YORK, USA





UNI PROJECT

PORTABLE READING ROOMS

The Uni Project is a portable reading room in New York. Sharing books, showcasing the act of learning, and improving public space. It all starts with a cube... Many cubes hold books. Some hold activities like origami, flash fiction, and chess.

Some are in Spanish, and some are in Chinese. Some special cubes are curated by others (institutions, educators, and individuals) who have a passion and depth of knowledge on a specific topic. The Uni Librarians mix and match the cubes depending on where they go.

WWW.STREETLAB.ORG/UNI-PROJECT
NEW YORK, USA



HACKER MOMS

THE MYTHICAL VILLAGE THAT RAISES THE CHILD AND THE MOTHER TOGETHER

A hackspace is a place where workers and makers share tools, knowledge and community. In 2011 a group of mums came together to create something new. They wanted space to learn, be creative and stimulated, and use their talents - not another play group.

HackerMoms offers the time and space for new parents to meet and explore DIY, craft, design and entrepreneurship and all with on-site childcare.

WWW.HACKERMOMS.ORG SAN FRANCISCO, USA



BABY SITTING CO-OP

PARENTS TO COOPERATIVELY SHARE BABYSITS WITH EACH OTHER

A platform that helps arrange free babysitting trades for groups of friends. Local parents can safely organise day time temporary child care amongst themselves. The whole system works on points so no money is exchanged and parents can make themselves available without having to stick to a tight schedule. The Babysitting Co-op is not about full-time child care needs, it's about supporting your friends and neighbours when they need it and building relationships amongst children.

WWW.BABYSITTINGCOOP.COM WASHINGTON, USA



BALL BOXES

ENCOURAGING KIDS TO GET MOVING

A new campaign in Brazil which translates to "Be More Child" is placing footballs in special boxes throughout the streets in order to encourage kids to get moving.

The ball brings children from around the neighbourhood together and creates a centralised space for community interaction and activity. The balls are locked away in the boxes, which only local kids have access to.

POPUPCITY.NET/OBSERVATIONS/FOOTBALLS-ON-DEMAND-ON-THE-STREETS-OF-BRAZIL
BRAZIL







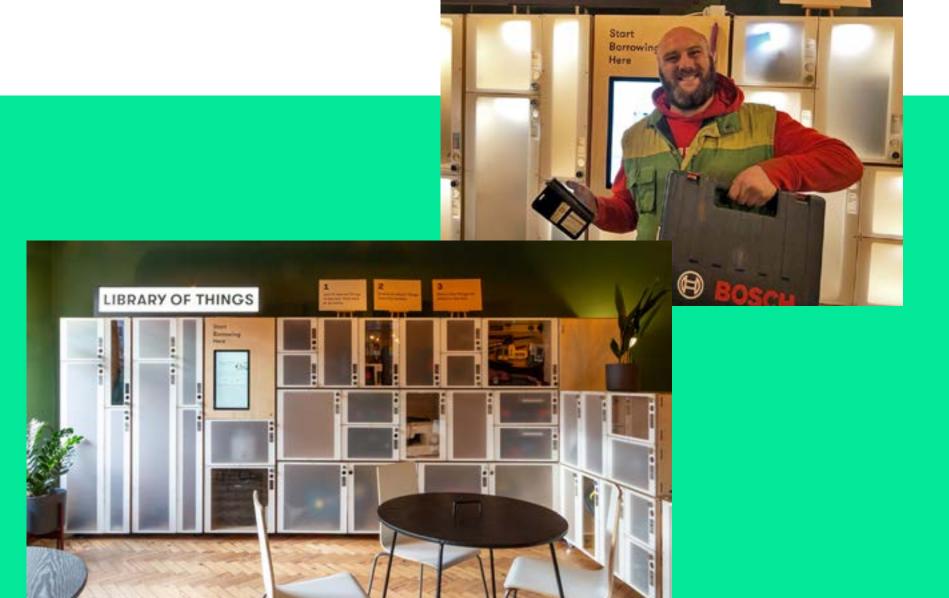
BUURT LAB

COMMUNITY CHILD CARE

BuurtLAB develops projects for improving the quality of life in neighbourhoods throughout the Netherlands and focuses on children who involve themselves less actively with the people around them.

Research has found that children develop better when they are brought up in social networks which are more extensive than that of just the family. Through BuurtLAB these social networks are available in the neighbourhoods where children go to school, live and play.

WWW.BUURTLAB.N ROTTERDAM

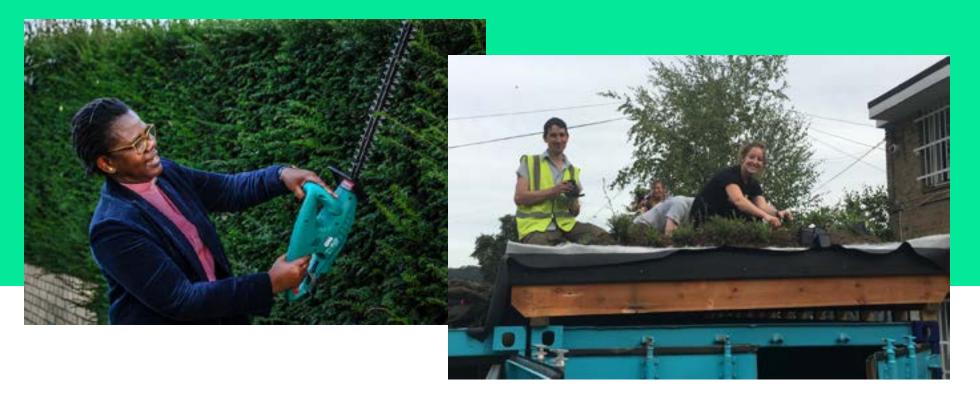


LIBRARY OF THINGS

LENDING LIBRARY OF USEFUL THINGS

A Library of Things is a friendly space that lends out useful items to the community and teaches you how to use them. Tested in Open Works West Norwood, in which the first space for 'Library of Things' was born. The project is now working across London and the UK.

WWW.LIBRARYOFTHINGS.CO.UK
CRYSTAL PALACE, UK





MAYORS LIVING ROOM

A COMMUNAL, WELCOMING, NEIGHBOURHOOD SPACE.

In spring 2009 a property on the corner of Burgemeester Meineszlaan (Mayor MEinesz Road) became available. The idea to use this building as a centre for neighbourhood activities developed, which could help strengthen social cohesion in the neighbourhood. What had been a thorn in the side of local residents for many years overnight became a positive place for the local area.

WWW.WEOWNROTTERDAM.NL ROTTERDAM



RÜTLI WEAR

COMMUNITY FASHION LABEL

Rutli Wear involves young people in hands on learning experiences and creates long lasting bonds. It all began with a set of self printed t-shirts and an open access screen printing workshop.

In 2006 they started working with school classes, and a year later created the Rutli Wear fashion label and online shop. By 2011 the project developed to making its own t-shirts locally. It is a successful hybrid business model, making connections between community activity and the professional fields of fashion and education.

WWW.RUETLI-WEAR-EV.DE/?PAGE_ID=104
BERLIN, GERMANY



MAKERHOOD

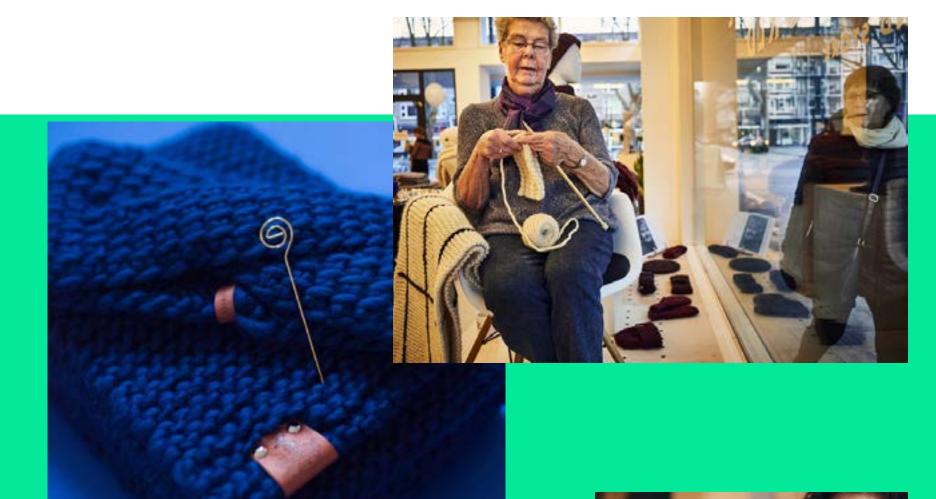
LOCAL MAKING MEETS THE WEB

Makerhood offers online stalls for local makers to promote their goods; and hosts workshops and activities to help people develop new skills and connections, and support local makers in setting up and running their businesses.

The inspiration was a traditional town marketplace: a space that is open to all and supports community life, where sellers and buyers have a relationship which goes beyond their immediate transactions.

WWW.MAKERHOOD.COM LAMBETH, UK







GRANNY'S FINEST

DESIGNED BY THE NEW, PRODUCED BY THE BEST

Granny's Finest creates knitwear fashion accessories by pairing young design talent, with older experienced knitters. This offers opportunities and purpose for older people to use their skills and talents together. And the up and coming fashion designers gain experience.

There are two retail shops and an online store where customers can buy gift vouchers to commission a handmade item. More than just a community initiative, it is producing quality fashion products as well.

WWW.GRANNYSFINEST.COM
AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS





ASSEMBLE & JOIN

COMMUNITY MICRO-MANUFACTURING WORKSHOP

Assemble and Join has free workshops with a precision wood cutting machine and design software.

Local residents, school children, shopkeepers, market traders and community groups come together to research, design and build items for shared public spaces. Including bird boxes, street signs, seating or market stalls.

WWW.ASSEMBLEANDJOIN.CO.UK
WATERLOO, LONDON





REPAIR CAFE

A FREE MEETING PLACE FOR LOCAL PEOPLE TO MEET AND REPAIR ITEMS TOGETHER

Repair Cafés are free meeting places for local people to meet and repair items together. Tools and materials are provided to help people make any repairs on clothes, furniture, electrical appliances, bicycles, crockery, toys and more!

Visitors bring their broken items from home, together with the specialists they start making their repairs, it's an ongoing learning process and a space for connection. If you have nothing to repair, you can enjoy a cup of tea or coffee.

WWW.REPAIRCAFE.ORG
WORLDWIDE





THE RESTART PROJECT

LOCAL PEOPLE TEACH OTHERS HOW TO REPAIR THEIR BROKEN AND SLOW DEVICES

At events called "Restart parties" local people teach others how to repair their broken and slow devices – from tablets to toasters, from iPhones to headphones.

They work with schools and organisations to help them value and use their electronics for longer. And use the data and stories they collect to help demand better, more sustainable electronics for all.

WWW.THERESTARTPROJECT.ORG LONDON, UK





HACKNEY BIKE WORKSHOP

COMMUNITY BIKE MECHANICS

Our workshops, run by volunteers, aim to help you fix your bike (rather than fix it for you). We supply tools but you need to bring your own parts. Donations for tools and rent costs are very welcome. Our sessions are drop-in and we advise that you allow enough time to work on your bike.

The Hackney Bike Workshop aims to provide bicycle maintenance assistance and training to enable people to learn to fix their own bikes, in order to encourage people to cycle and help the community to build skills and development.

WWW.HACKNEYBIKEWORKSHOP.COM HACKNEY, UK



NEW YORK COMPOST

PAY AS YOU GO COMMUNITY SPACES

City dwellers looking to dispose of organic material while keeping their communities green will have another way to pitch in. Newspaper boxes that have lain dormant with the rise of the web have found new life. Each box will be placed in a location that processes the scraps on site.

The composted product will be used to help revitalize soil locally and eliminate carbon emissions from transport.

WWW.NYCOMPOSTBOX.COM
NEW YORK, USA





LICENCE TO PLANT

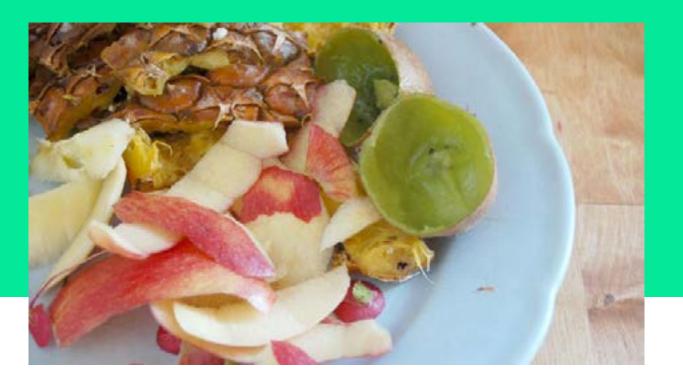
THE CITIZENS OF PARIS ARE PLANTING GARDENS IN THE STREET

Paris passed a new law that allows anyone to plant an urban garden within the city's limits.

Upon receiving a permit, gardeners can grow plants on walls, in boxes, on rooftops, under trees, or on fences. They can cultivate greenery in front of their homes or offices. They can grow flowers, vegetables, and fruit.

WWW.GREENINFRASTRUCTURECONSULTANCY.COM/THE-GREENING-PERMIT-IN-PARIS
PARIS, FRANCE





POP UP COMPOST

A PILOT PROJECT ENCOURAGING LOCAL PEOPLE TO COMPOST THEIR HOUSEHOLD FOOD WASTE

A pilot project by Metropolitan University encourages local people to compost their household food waste. A range of different composting options will be placed around the borough of Tower Hamlets; from wormeries to sealed anaerobic bins.

Residents that wish to participate collect a small bin and bio-degradable bags, decide which method works best for their home and the day to drop off their food waste.

WWW.POPUPCOMPOST.ORG LONDON, UK





NEWHAM COMMUNITY GARDEN

A NETWORK OF COMMUNITY GARDENS RUN BY LOCAL RESIDENTS

This community gardens offers the perfect opportunity for people to keep active and meet their neighbours while enjoying the rewards of growing fruit and vegetables.

WWW.ACTIVENEWHAM.ORG.UK/NEWHAM-COMMUNITY
-GARDENS-NETWORK
LONDON, UK





MASIKHANYE FOOD GARDEN

SIYAZAMA COMMUNITY FOOD GARDEN
CHANGING LIVES IN KHAYELITSHA

A charity co-op on a 1.2 hectare garden run by 20 women on the edge of Siyazama. The Community Allotment Garden Association began growing food in 2000. Abalimi Bezekhaya helped them to establish gardens and also provides them with a market – Harvest of Hope, which sells their produce to Capetonians via a school delivery system. The co-op also feeds the women who work on the gardens, with food parcels twice a week.

WWW.IOL.CO.ZA/CAPEARGUS/NEWS/PICS-SIYAZAMA-COMMUNITY-FOOD-GARDEN-CHANGING-LIVES-IN-KHAYELIT SHA-42154811

KHAYELITSHA, CAPE TOWN





SEEDY SUNDAY

THE UK'S BIGGEST AND LONGEST-RUNNING COMMUNITY SEED SWAP EVENT

This event began in 2001 after two local gardeners visited a seed exchange in Canada. The event has grown to include talks, demonstrations, children's activities, a cafe and a vibrant marketplace with over 50 stalls.

But at heart it remains a community seed swap: a place where experienced and aspiring growers share seeds for the following year's crop and tips on how to grow them.

WWW.SEEDYSUNDAY.ORG BRIGHTON, UK







PLANT SWAP

A FRIENDLY GROUP WHO MEET TO SWAP HOUSE AND GARDEN PLANTS

PlantSwap was started to encourage more people to enjoy and connect with plants and to help newbies get started with plants and gardening.

This means that they do not do a straight up 'plant for a plant' exchange. You bring your plants, put them out on a table. Then at the start time you choose some new plants to take away.

WWW.PLANTSWAP.UK/EVENT/SHEFFIELD-PLANTSWAP-14 SHEFFIELD, UK



HACKNEY HARVEST

MAPPING THE FRUIT TREES IN HACKNEY

A project mapping the fruit trees that are tucked away in squares, parks and gardens around Hackney.

Once the mapping has taken place Hackney Harvest helps local people make the most of the fruit so it does not simply fall to the ground and go to waste. They post useful information on this website, including how to identify fruit trees and recipes to encourage the owners of trees to convert the fruit into delicious food, and if anyone doesn't have the time they collect the fruit.

WWW.HACKNEYHARVEST.COM HACKNEY, UK





FALLEN FRUIT

NEW CONNECTIONS AND CONVERSATIONS THROUGH EXPERIMENTAL FRUIT JAM

Three friends decided to wear hard hats and boiler suits and push a shopping trolley round on night walks to gather unpicked fruit. Over 100 people joined them on night fruit forages, neighbours invited them in to pick fruit in the backyard, and groups of residents gathered to make public fruit jam.

Public Fruit Jam invites everyone to come with home grown or street-picked fruit and make jam together. People who have never met before sit down to make experimental jam combinations. Working without recipes, so every jam is a negotiation among its makers.

WWW.FALLENFRUIT.ORG LOS ANGELES, USA





THE HONEY BEE PROGRAMME

RAISE AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HONEY BEES

The Honey Bee programme is designed to raise awareness of the importance of honey bees in food production and to introduce teachers and students to the wonders of keeping bees at school. Local beekeepers give teachers and students the opportunity to observe a hive and learn more about the process. They learn what is required to keep a colony at school and understand how the school site needs to be prepared.

WWW.SCHOOLFOODMATTERS.ORG/PROJECTS/HONEY-BEE-PROGRAMME

RICHMOND, UK



POST CODE HONEY

MAPPING MEETS BEEKEEPING

The taste of honey is affected by the placing of beehives – because it depends on the flowers that are growing in the landscape. Imagine a place that had so many beehives, that each area of the city could produce its own flavour of honey.

A local flavour defined by the types of flowers growing in gardens, civic planters, or parks.

WWW.POSTCODEHONEY.COM.AU
PERTH, AUSTRALIA

NW3

N16

SW7

SE10







THE NEST PROJECT

COMMUNITY BIRD BOXES TO INCREASE WILDLIFE

Cities are home to almost 20% of the world's bird species but when was the last time you heard birdsong in your neighbourhood? What if all you had to do to encourage more birds in your neighbourhood was to work in pencil? The Nest Project engages citizens with encouraging bird life in inner-city areas.

The Nests are designed to exist in the urban environment, easily attaching onto existing lamp-posts and street furniture. The nests are homes for birds but also urban interventions for people.

WWW.FIELDWORKFACILITY.COM LONDON, UK





URBAN HENSTO

RESIDENTS TO HAVE URBAN HENS IN SPECIFIC AREAS OF THE CITY

A three year project launched by the City of Toronto allowing local residents to keep hens in specific areas of the city. In the rest of Totonto hens are still prohibited, this project trials backyard hens for egg production as well as enjoyment in residential areas.

WWW.TFPC.TO/URBANHENSTO-PILOT CANADA