

# GREENPOINT

## Intentional Creative Community

### *Behind the vision, the meaning and the purpose*

*By Victoria Heath*

Many people ask why on Earth we have bothered to create a movement when we are so terribly overwhelmed with our current work and being such a tiny small team of people with no outside support. Especially as it seems pointless to try and attempt to change anything in this dark world right now.

Many people also ask us what it's all about and what we are trying to achieve from our work with Greenpoint.

So I thought I would take this opportunity to explain our reasons, our vision for the future and what we have achieved so far.

### **Why?**

Greenpoint was born from a vision to create hope for the future in a time when many suffer from a state of despair and confusion.

Through our work with the public over many years we have made studies and observed the decline in self-belief, self-value and independent thought.

This serves only to destroy passion for life and freedom of thought, confining people to an insular state, destroying empathy with our fellow man and removing social skills. The lack of integration that has come from the increased technological age seems only to close people off from the rest of mankind, encouraging isolation when it is obvious that man should be joining together to help his fellow man and the planet we are a part of.

A stagnant mind loses the ability to reach out and find alternative solutions in life. It finds itself confined to insular thinking and cannot see a way forward. This state of mind is so terribly easy to slip into during these times of extreme stress and we are taught from such an early age to fit in to the 'tick boxes and drop down menus', leaving all creative thinking by the wayside so that we all 'conform' to the norm that society expects of us.

We have witnessed those with failing health, both emotionally and physically, medicated by prescription drugs that often compound the very problems for which they are being prescribed by added side effects, causing distress and a lack of hope for the future.

We have witnessed the stressed services of our country failing to provide basic human needs and support in times of huge change leaving people feeling lost and alone.

We have also visited and studied many retreats that attempt to bring something of change and spiritual growth to those who need it, but sadly fail in their task by creating something that is both too expensive and specific to appeal to those who are in need and actually becomes a pretentious destination to welcome only the wealthy spiritual junkie who needs to add to his achievements to settle his conscience of what he has achieved in his life, or not as the case may be.

We knew very early on that Greenpoint was sorely needed and that the model we must create needed to embrace all people in these difficult times.

### **What we are?**

Greenpoint is a different way of thinking and it will encourage us to think creatively about our surroundings and the way in which we live in our world today.

It will help us to embrace a vibrant future and to thrive and grow in unity during these times of stress.

We believe that creative pursuits and thought of all kinds are the fundamental key to a balanced society.

We are in fact, every single one of us, creative beings in some form or another.

As a team of people, all of our work is creatively based and we are all creative in our own way; from writing to painting to sculpture to music to moulding.

All of our work flows with a unique creative spirit that we value greatly.

We are passionate that Greenpoint will offer a service to all parts of society and we refuse to be confined to the normality of a 'retreat' that is only for the privileged few. For it is often these few that cannot afford to attend, and that need this change of view point and support through crisis the most.

We want people to be able to explore and to grow, allowing layers of stress and conditioning to slip away and reveal their true selves through experiencing many creative pursuits.

We intend to incorporate the teachings of Eco-Therapy; living and learning through being at one with nature, embracing spiritual diversity and understanding the ancient wisdoms of our landscape.

Greenpoint will offer support, integration, teaching and wellbeing.

It will be all things, to support all people, through all situations.

We have learned through our work that creativity encourages self-exploration giving time to reflect and embrace without judgement; thus bringing confidence and emotional stability to those most fragile in society.

Greenpoint will become a 'social prescription' that supports in times of need by allowing people to re-discover their lost self by peeling back the layers. We are passionate about teaching people that creative ventures and creative thought opens the mind bringing empathy, peace, vitality and hope to our fellow man.

### **Where are we going?**

So enough of why we do this and what we are, I think that may be obvious by now.

But what have we achieved thus far and where are we heading with this project, seeing that to those who know us we are merely a tiny team of people based in a High Street shop, for all intense and purpose.

It is our intension that Greenpoint has a permanent base so that people can drop by and enjoy the services for as little as an hour or as long as several weeks.

But we have no funds. After working constantly to expand and re-invest into the community over the past 12 years we are left without anything monetary to add to this project; just passion, vision, commitment and hard graft is all that we can bring.

However, we really needed to set the movement on course as time was a ticking and we could see the need growing. So without delay at The Summer Solstice 2017, the most powerful time of any year when the power of the sun and manifestation is at its strongest, we hired out some sacred woodland and held our first gathering of like-minded people to set our intensions.

As this was a solitary event we could only embrace a fraction of what Greenpoint will be but the passion was felt and heard by those loyal to our cause.

Since then we have sent out numerous enquiries to landowners regarding our needs for this project. And the response has been overwhelming.

After receiving positive encouragement from both Princes William and Charles we were contacted by a large estate in the Black Mountains and invited to discuss our plans for the future.

We sat with nervous excitement in the office as we poured our hearts out with passion to create the permanent Greenpoint. The response we could not have imagined as we were offered the opportunity to put forward plans for an 850 acre site of ancient forest surrounded by mountains, with four meadows, grazing and arable land including disused barns ready for conversion. The site is perfect!

So behind the Greenpoint scenes our small team now has the task of creating plans for an off-grid centre that will incorporate everything from permaculture to pottery, music to meditation; teaching and allowing people to thrive in this fabulous landscape.

We've also had an offer of a completely different kind at a sea front location in Wales; surrounded by dunes, a deserted beach and the fabulous Snowdonia mountain range. We are certain that we could deliver something wonderful to this area if we had the time to do everything. But at this stage we have an unsurmountable mountain to climb to deliver the Greenpoint vision as swiftly as possible.

If we feel we can undertake both projects then we certainly will.

There's a huge amount of work to put forward before we can receive funding but this is the beginning of Greenpoint and we will make sure that those who embraced and joined us at the very start will be rewarded and recognised for their loyalty. The whole journey will be filmed and documented so that others can watch this revolutionary project take shape and grow.

If you feel you can add something or wish to be a part of the Greenpoint Creative Community please do follow our news at [www.thegreenpointmovement.co.uk](http://www.thegreenpointmovement.co.uk) and get in touch to tell us your thoughts.

We would love to hear from you!

Keep in touch with the team at The Cave and follow our progress on our facebook page and on our website.

