

People & the DALES

Diversity Access Learning Environment Sustainability

Winter 2012/13

newsletter



People and the DALES continue another year...

During the summer the People and the DALES (PaD) team heard the tremendous news that we have been awarded an extra year's funding by Natural England as part of their Access to Nature programme, funded by the Big Lottery's Changing Spaces programme.

The project was one of just a few to be awarded the full grant. Thank you to everyone who has made this project such a huge success. We look forward to further events enabling people from disadvantaged backgrounds to experience the Dales. The project will continue to be run by staff at the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust with the support of our fantastic partnership with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Field Studies Council, Natural England and Bradford District Council.

Liz Holdsworth of Natural England said: "I am really pleased that we are able to continue supporting this high achieving project and that I am able to carry on working with such a dedicated team. It will be great to see them deliver more activities with this additional funding and I hope it helps them to secure a sustainable future for the project."

At our Celebration event in Bradford last July we revealed that over 4,000 individuals had taken part in the project through 295 different events since the project began in 2009. This additional year's funding will mean we can run a further programme of events plus a training weekend. We will also develop a business model to sustain our work once the funding runs out, produce a website, handbook of walks and



promote this kind of work to other providers. We have already produced a short film which illustrates what the project is all about and can be found on our very own website www.peopleandthedales.org If you would like to organise an event with your community group please contact Judy or Gail.

What we can offer

- Day visits – nature walks, environmental activities, kite flying and farm visits
- Conservation work – tree planting, woodland management and path laying
- Training – to provide skills for individuals wanting to organise their own events
- Help with transport costs – up to £100 per visit
- Outdoor gear – walking boots and waterproofs for our typical English weather!!

Training weekends

Last year we ran our Community Leaders training event at Chapel le Dale. Fifteen Community Leaders took part in walks along Twistleton Scar, Ingleton waterfalls and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's nature reserve at Southerscales. Our next training weekend will be run at Malham Tarn from 22nd – 24th March 2013. If you are a Community Group Leader and would like to learn more about map reading, improve your group leader skills and find out about places to visit in the Dales come along.



COMMUNITY LEADERS TRAINING WEEKEND

22nd – 24th March 2013

Malham Tarn Field Study Centre

Places are limited so contact Gail or Judy on 015242 51002 to book your place



Refugees get hands dirty in the Yorkshire Dales

Five refugees now living in Blackburn joined Ingleborough Archaeology group on a dig in the Ingleborough area. The group dug a trench which we think was an entrance to an enclosure of a medieval farm. They were responsible for everything from de-turfing, photographing, surveying and back filling. For Samuel Yemane who worked in the National Museum in Eritrea as an archaeologist the experience brought back the joy and memories of his life in Africa.

Dr David Johnson, who led the dig said: *"They were good fun, good company, full of enthusiasm with a strong desire to learn and benefit from the experience, and jolly good workers to boot."* The visit was supported by Settle Quakers and funded by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) and supported by People and the DALES staff.

Settle Resource Centre on LAMBULANCE patrol

Members of SRC spent a day helping out local farmer Rodney Beresford during lambing time. Jobs included herding, tagging, marking new lambs and taking any poorly or injured lambs back to the barn in the recently refurbished 'LAMBULANCE'.

"Our days out lambing are some of the most rewarding events. Being in the outdoors lifts every ones moods and at the same time we can lend a hand." SRC



Green Links for the Dales

A series of residentials brought together urban and rural based groups from diverse backgrounds to live together for the weekend. One link involved Muslim and Christian women; another involved young people from Settle and Bradford and a third focused on local food growers. The links aimed to break down barriers between rural and urban communities, provide opportunities for groups to link, enable people to learn from each other and encourage equality, tolerance and mutual respect.

"I loved meeting people and I believe with every meeting such as this you become more learned, compassionate, well informed, reflective and spiritual." Riffat Nasser



Down in the Woods with Blenheim

A group of women from the Blenheim Project in Bradford worked alongside National Park Ranger Cat Kilner to cut back some trees in Cleatops Park Woods near Settle, to encourage flowers to grow again and remove non-native species. For many of the women, who have experienced homelessness, it was the first time to use a saw and certainly to cut down a tree.

“Not only were the women able to learn a new skill, whilst enjoying the outdoors, we were able to sample ‘Food for Free’ (lemon tasting sorrel) and learn about woodland management.” Susan Shaw, Blenheim Project



Taking it back home’ and ‘Volunteering in the Dales’

Don't forget to get hold of your copy of 'Taking it Back Home' full of ideas for getting involved in environmental activities back home (in Leeds or Bradford), and the Volunteering leaflet about organisations in the Dales which offer opportunities for you to come back.

Available to download from www.ydmt.org/resources

Meet the People and the DALES team



People & the DALES TEAM

Dave Tayler
Project Manager
david.tayler@ydmt.org



Judy Rogers
Community Worker
judy.rogers@ydmt.org



Gail Smith
Community Worker
gail.smith@ydmt.org

Contacts

People and the DALES
Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust,
Old Post Office, Main St, Clapham,
LA2 8DP

015242 51002

judy.rogers@ydmt.org
gail.smith@ydmt.org

www.ydmt.org

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