



HEART OF TEESDALE

Landscape Partnership

NEWSLETTER

March 2015



PROJECT UPDATE: Teesdale Viewmarkers

Our new project to create 12 "viewmarkers" is getting underway in Teesdale. This projects forms part of our Teesdale Views Project and is being delivered by arts charity ARTworks in Teesdale with additional funding from Arts Council England.

The project's aim is to identify and celebrate some of the iconic views around Teesdale – particularly those that inspired great artists in the past, such as Turner, Cotman and Sir Walter Scott. "It was our idea to get artists involved and to get some really creative alternatives to signs or plastic maps or explanation boards" said Judy Caplin, co-manager at ARTworks in Teesdale. "The aim is to create something that will be sympathetic to the landscape, and enhance the view without intruding upon it."

The project will be a competitive commission. ARTworks in Teesdale have asked for interested creatives to fill in an application form. There will be an interview and up to 3 artists will be asked to develop plans which will go out to public consultation in the summer.

ARTworks in Teesdale have deliberately not defined what a "viewmarker" might be, to allow artists to be as creative as they can. They could involve signs, seating or shelters or something completely different.

PROJECT UPDATE: Gainford Church Local History Display

Part funded through our Community Initiatives Fund, this project is led by St Mary's Church, Gainford. It will see the church host a permanent display of the natural, social, and spiritual history of Gainford. One of the advantages of placing the display in the church is that Gainford church is in itself a building of great historic interest. Final installation of the display is due to take place in the next few months.

Keep up to date with the Heart of Teesdale's activities!

Website: www.heartofteesdale.net

Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/heartofteesdale](https://www.facebook.com/heartofteesdale)

Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/heartofteesdale



PROJECT UPDATE:

Trails through Teesdale

The first of our monthly guided walks took place in February around Bowes. The weather was fantastic and everyone who came had a great time! See above!

These walks will be taking place throughout the Heart of Teesdale area during 2015 so please join us! For further information, please see our events listings overleaf or visit our website.



PROJECT UPDATE:

Kennedy's Ponds, Cotherstone

This project is funded through our Community Initiatives Fund and aims to maintain this special area and develop a long term conservation plan. Several ecological surveys have been carried out over the past 18 months by volunteers. Contractors carried out pond clearance works during the Autumn and wildflower seeds will be sown this Spring. Volunteer tasks are ongoing. If you would like to volunteer, please contact: Karen Collins
Karen.collins@durham.gov.uk
03000 260835

The Heart of Teesdale Landscape Partnership is supported by Durham County Council/Barnard Castle Vision/The National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund

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PROJECT UPDATE: Woodland Wonders!

Groundwork NE & Cumbria have been working to engage pre-school and Key Stage 1 aged children in the Barnard Castle area with their local landscape and deliver a programme of fun activities that will enable them to explore and learn more about their surroundings. The project will also provide training to local early years practitioners, primary school teaching staff and early years students to introduce to them the principles of outdoor education and how to successfully engage pre-school children with their environment.

So far the project has been working with St Mary's Primary School, Green Lane Primary School, Montalbo Primary School, Staindrop Primary School, Ducklings Nursery, Bowes Pre-school, YMCA and Bishop Auckland College.

If you are interested in getting involved with the project please contact **Karen Collins at Karen.collins@groundwork.org.uk 01207 524803**

PROJECT UPDATE: InvesTEESgate

This project seeks to build capacity for practical enhancement and understanding waterways at a community level. The scheme focuses on the smaller tributaries that enter the Tees through the project area.

The Tees River Trust has trained seven volunteers in the safe use of backpack electrofishing equipment and the principles behind its use. It is planned to present the survey data to the relevant communities. Two of these volunteers have also been trained in the Riverfly Partnership's Invertebrate Monitoring Scheme.

The project is planning to train and equip further volunteers to carry out Riverfly monitoring to a national standard and to help with electrofishing and data recording. The project also plans to establish regular monitoring points and facilitate practical habitat project work at some sites.

Event: EASTER FUN FAMILY EVENT Wednesday 8th April, 12.30pm-3pm Scar Top, Barnard Castle

Join us for an afternoon of Easter and Spring fun! There will be a number of different crafts, such as Easter egg painting and making wooden lambs. There will also be a nature trail set around Scar Top.

Event: BAT SURVEY TRAINING Wednesday 8th April, 7.30pm – 10pm Barnard Castle

Led by Tricia Snaith, from Durham Bat Group this evening course will cover the basics of surveying bats using a bat detector. Families welcome.

Event: TRAILS THROUGH TEESDALE Guided Walks Sunday 12th April and 10th May, Starting at 12.30pm. 12th April – Barnard Castle and Lartington Circular (5 miles) 10th May – Egglestone Abbey and Boldron Circular (4 miles) Please wear appropriate footwear and clothing.

EVENT: SOCIAL MEDIA CAFÉ with Emma Hignett First Thursday of every month! The Witham 10am-11am

An opportunity to have your social media queries answered and network with others. Businesses, community groups and individuals all welcome.

Event: AN INTRODUCTION TO WOODLAND FLOWERS Saturday 9th May Time and Venue to be confirmed.

This course will teach participants how to identify woodland flowers and will be led by the Darlington and Teesdale Naturalist Field Club.

All events are FREE however a returnable deposit may be required.

For more information and to book please contact Susie Lane on 03000 264903 or susanne.lane@durham.gov.uk



PROJECT UPDATE: Landscape Discovery

Over the last few months, this project has held numerous courses. The latest was the Woodland Management Course, pictured above. All courses have been well attended and received. Courses coming up are Bat Survey Training and an Introduction to Woodland Flowers. If you are interested in learning a new skill, keep an eye on our events!



PROJECT UPDATE: Riverlab

The Trout in the Classroom project is now underway for the second year running, led by the Tees River Trust. Some of the eggs have already hatched (see above)! The project is working with Teesdale School and Barnard Castle School to hatch and rear trout in the classroom. The fish will later be released into local waterways.



**PROJECT UPDATE:
Barnard Castle Bulb Planting**
This project was funded through our Community Initiatives Fund and led by Barnard Castle Town Council. Last year, volunteers planted just under 10,000 daffodil bulbs around the Castle walls. The remaining bulbs will be planted this Spring. Keep a look out for that spring colour!