



HEART OF TEESDALE

Landscape Partnership

NEWSLETTER July 2013

URGENT MESSAGE!!

Please note that the telephone numbers 01833 696211 and 01833 696217 are no longer in use. If you wish to contact one of the team, please use the following:

Charlotte Hursey, Partnership Manager 03000 260 842
Sarah Smith, Community Officer 03000 260 843
Honja Devlin, Volunteering Officer 03000 260 830
Karen Collins, Volunteering Officer 03000 260 835

Please note that the volunteering officers only work part time and may not respond immediately.

Staff Changes

Charlotte Hursey, Partnership Manager will be leaving the Partnership mid August and recruitment will start soon for a replacement to take works forward into 2016.

Sarah Smith, Community Officer is due to go on maternity leave in the autumn and a temporary full time replacement will be covering her absence. Further details will be available nearer the time.

PROJECT UPDATE: Community Initiatives Fund

We are pleased to announce that a further seven projects have been funded through our Community Initiatives Fund from the 2013 round.

These are:

- Castle Walls Bulb Planting Scheme led by Barnard Castle Town Council
- From Fleece to Fabric led by Teesdale YMCA
- Tees Tales led by Kando Arts Foundation
- Romalldkirk Restoration of Historical Assets led by Romalldkirk Parish Council
- Hutton Magna Heritage Trail led by Hutton Magna Parish Meeting
- A History of Winston Parish led by St Andrew's Parochial Church Council, Winston
- Gainford Local History Display led by St Mary's Church, Gainford

Further details of these can be found on the website and will feature in forthcoming editions of the newsletter.

PROJECT UPDATE: A History of Winston Parish – 'Sweet Winston'

A detailed guide to the history of Winston parish is now available to purchase. Cost of £8 and all proceeds go towards Winston Community Groups.

If you would like a copy please contact Mr Brian Clarke on 01325 730434 or BandS.clarke@zen.co.uk

PROJECT UPDATE: Storytelling and Tales

Event: Sunday 28th July at 2pm, Organised by Play@Cotherstone

Leading North East storyteller Pat Renton will be leading a guided walk round Cotherstone on. The walk will start and finish at Cotherstone Park and Playground, Moor Road, Cotherstone and will be followed by refreshments in the Park. The walk of about an hour and a half will appeal to all ages. Children under 12 should be accompanied by an adult.



PROJECT UPDATE: Castle and Scar Top

Work is now almost complete and includes a new play area, mini golf course and kiosk, flagpole, entrance feature and small performance space.

There are also resurfaced paths, new and refurbished benches, new street furniture and improved views to the river.

Wherever possible materials have been re-used or recycled.

Final works include planting, final installation of railings, and path surfacing.



PROJECT UPDATE: Flatts Wood and Tees Banks

This project is led by Emma Ashton-Wickett, the Paths for All Officer.

Discussions are taking place with key parties and it is hoped that minor drainage and surfacing works can be completed in the Autumn, with improvements works to the bridges also being considered. The second phase will look at signage through the woods, the location and restoration of benches, and replacement of interpretation boards. **Do you know the history behind the bench pictured above, which has now disappeared? Please contact the team.**

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: Upper Demenses Hay Meadow

This project, led by Barnard Castle Town Council, has seen species such as yellow rattle, red clover, eye bright and meadow saxifrage increasing in the field. This Summer the field will be cut for hay, spread with seed rich grass from a suitable local site and grazed in the Autumn. There are plans to graze the field in the early spring giving the more delicate plants less competition from the grasses.

PROJECT UPDATE: Riverlab



RiverLAB led by the Tees River Trust is designed to introduce children to the ecology of their local stream/river through first hand experience and observation, whilst encouraging creative expression of their understanding. The project began in March this year, and has worked with 8 local primary schools.

The children discovered 14 species in Percy Beck, and 13 in Moor Beck, Staindrop, created 360 prints using recycled materials, and 180 wire sculptures using just over 1 km of black iron wire.

'Thank you so much. The children loved this project and got a lot out of it. We would love to be involved again if ever this is possible' **Montalbo**

'It was fun and I liked fishing around with the net and looking at the creatures with the magnifying glass' **Child**

The project hopes to extend the project to engage with local secondary schools.

PROJECT UPDATE: WildTees

The project led by Durham Wildlife Trust now have some great videos of badgers in Lartington and otters in Gainford, and have linked Bowes Hutchinson's Primary School with a camera too. To see the latest footage please visit their www.youtube.com/durhamwildlifetrust

Also....

Event: Dragonfly & Butterfly Day
Tuesday 20 August, 11am-3pm

Thorpe Farm Centre off A66, near Barnard Castle

Free dragonfly and butterfly walks at 12 noon and 2pm; dragonfly and butterfly craft activities.

Suitable for all ages, children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information call Durham Wildlife Trust on 0191 584 3112.

PROJECT UPDATE: Amen Corner

Work has started on Amen Corner to enhance this important site within the centre of the town. The project will improve the visual and amenity impacts on the Buttermarket and Newgate corner, provide a more suitable and practical entrance to the Church and both revive and extend the green and floral settings. St Mary's Parochial Church Council is leading the project with support from Heart of Teesdale.

Works include new landscaping, improvements to car parking and the entrance way, better seating and refurbishment of paving and walls. There will be a change in layout for central and corner flower beds, and the white roses will be replaced with similar varieties associated with the White Rose of York, as the area has strong historical associations with Richard III. There will also be new signage for the church. A significant development will be the improved floodlighting of the tower which will draw attention to the church from along the market place and from afar. Work is scheduled to be completed by the autumn. Regular updates will be available on site, inside the church and from our website!

We now have an additional newsletter aimed at volunteers! Please ask for details or to be added to the volunteer mailing list. It is also available to download from our website.



PROJECT UPDATE:

Banner Festival

Barnard Castle Business Guild is reviving the Banner Festival supported by the Community Initiatives Fund.

The theme for the banner designs is the natural and built environment with new banners being created to reflect this and many of the old banners refurbished for the event this year.

Local artist Gillian Tallentire, from Bowes, has worked with five local primary schools to create new banners. The children's drawings have been incorporated into 10 new banners.



PROJECT UPDATE: Wildlife Past and Present

This project is led by Durham Wildlife Trust and the aim is to foster community engagement with wildlife across the Heart of Teesdale Partnership area by focussing on a selected group of species that have historically been present in the area, but for which there have been few or no recent recorded sightings.

The species that will be targeted are the dormouse *Muscardinus avellanarius*; the water vole *Arvicola amphibious*; the otter *Lutra* and the Birds Eye Primrose *Urocystis primulicoides*.

The project ran a dormouse conservation and survey training day in Barnard Castle in June and has put up dormouse nesting boxes out in the woods near Abbey Bridge, Egglestone.

If you would like to get involved, please contact one of the volunteering officers.