



UTASS

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Supporting our Communities in the Durham Dales



LOTTERY FUNDED

Autumn 2015



Here's Your 'New Look' Newsletter

Hello everyone,
Welcome to the new look community newsletter.

Our aim is, to publish a newsletter four times a year, keeping you up to date with what's happening in the Durham dales, and further afield, with news from UTASS and various other organisations.

Over the summer, albeit not a summer to cheer about, there have been lots going on. There was the World War One exhibition held at UTASS, a glorious Middleton Carnival - with it's usual Treasure hunt and scarecrow trial, the fabulous Yves Saint

Laurent exhibition at the Bowes Museum and the Roof of England cycle race.

In this issue, we have details of training being organized by UTASS, a calendar of events happening over the coming months, details of outreach facilities & support groups, and also exciting opportunities of sponsorship and some news of new businesses operating from the dale.

Hope you enjoy the newsletter and if you have anything for the next one, which will cover December, January and February, please email details to me at emma@utass.org

Best Wishes,
Emma



World War One Exhibition held at UTASS in June.

Margaret Bradshaw, aged 89 3/4 years, completes the Great North Run for 2 Dales Charities

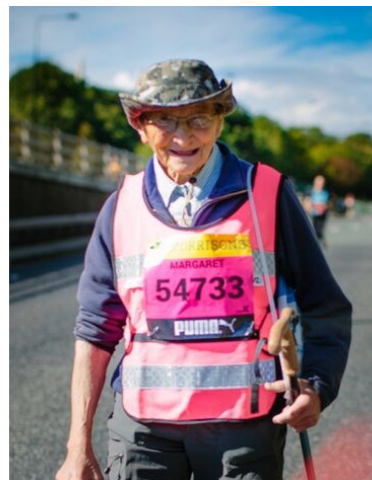


Photo taken by Jackie Parsons

Margaret Bradshaw, completed the 13.1 miles, from Newcastle to South Shields in the amazing time of 4 hours, 21 minute in aid of UTASS and the Teesdale & Weardale Search & Mountain Rescue.

Originally, she had set her sight on raising £2000, however, since reaching this target, she has raised it to £3000 ! At 89 years of age, she

crossed the finishing line, finishing 7th out of the over 80's females. You still have time to sponsor this amazing lady. You can visit the UTASS office and sign the sponsor form, or you can visit virginmoneygiving.com and search for Emma Spry (who set up the fundraising page on Margaret's behalf) .

Durham County Carers Support At UTASS

For well over a year now, Helen Fothergill, a carer support worker from Durham County Carers Support has been coming to UTASS every other Friday, supporting carers in our local community.



The support can vary from simply having someone to listen and talk to, help with getting carer related benefits, assistance to access grants and funding as well as training courses, and much, much more.

Support. The next is Friday 9th October and it is an ideal opportunity for people who are unpaid carers for family/friends/neighbours to pop in and have an informal chat.

Helen holds regular coffee mornings, for existing carers and also for any carers who have not already registered with the Carers

You can find out more information by visiting www.ddcarers.org or contact Helen on 01833 600 577.

2015 Durham Hedgelaying Competition

This year's Durham Hedgelaying competition is taking place on Friday 9th October, 2015 at Piercebridge Farm, The Green, Piercebridge, DL2 3SE.

Competitors & Spectators welcome. For full details & registration forms for the Durham Hedgelaying Competition contact:
T: 03000 267143

E: landscape@durham.gov.uk

Kind Regards

The Landscape Team

Sent on behalf of the Durham Hedgerow Partnership



Mobile Beauty Therapist Emma Richardson of Tranquil Treatments works from UTASS every Friday.

Her treatment menu and price list is on the UTASS website, www.utass.org.

Sheep & Goat Movement Reporting Service

Movement documents now need to be directed to:

Animal Reporting & Movement Service (ARAMS)
South Western, PO Box 6299, Milton Keynes, MK10 1ZQ

Helpline: 08445 730137 and FAX: 01908 664433 for the ARAMS forms

All Animal Health enquiries now need to be directed to:
Durham County Council, Environment, Health & Consumer Protection
EHCP [Animal Movements], PO Box 617, Durham, DH1 9HZ

General enquiries to -Tel 03000 261016

We'll be saving a spot in every newsletter for a poem written by our member Desmond Collinson...

Desmonds Poem...

PRISCILLA THE PEEWIT

Priscilla was a hard working bird, there was no getting away from the fact
Yet life had dealt her a cruel blow, though determination she never lacked
Known at one time as a high flyer, but sadly those days are long gone
However she still flutters around Widdy Bank tweeting a plaintive song

She'd been restricted to low altitude flying, although she didn't appear to mind
But seeing her again in that pasture; was it necessary to be so unkind?
With nobody to fight her corner, not even a high flying brother
There she was weighted down by rings, one on one leg and two on the other

Take off and climbing were difficult for any kind of height to attain
Although quite quick, she could drop like a brick, putting any falcon to shame
Were the rings made especially for sitting, helping to keep the eggs warm?
No doubt they're been tried and tested by an environmentalist on top form

Would the rings not cause discomfort while turning on the nest?
I suppose it will have been studied by an expert, those who always know best
Will the little chicks if they hatch, sit and look around at each other
Then grow up under the impression that they have a half plastic mother

Is there a heaven for three ringed Peewits, or will St Peter at heaven's gate scoff
Saying "Priscilla you're not coming in here, hopped up with all that lot"
Today farmers are all hopped up with far too much bumf to mention
If they can't burn some shortly they'll be applying for a house extension

With advisors now hanging around every corner, mostly cluttering up the Dale
Farmers today are now carrying, more passengers than Virgin Rail
If farmers could sit down like Priscilla, perhaps in an easy chair
Then let the advisors and experts have a go, just to see how they fare.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to see them work up a sweat
Prise them out of their snug offices onto farms in the cold and wet
Then laughing, seeing them later, a miserable little packet
Staggering back into their cars, stressed out and totally knackered.

Desmond.

NE First Credit Union Opportunities at UTASS

Did you know you can join NE First Credit Union and pay in to your account via UTASS?

Adults can join the credit union for a £1 fee and can now apply immediately for a loan up to a maximum of £15,000. Loan interest rates are calculated daily on a reducing balance basis. There is also free life insurance with every loan. The insurance cover would pay off any outstanding loan as well as doubling the amount of savings for those aged up to 65. For those aged between 65 and 75 any outstanding loan would be paid off. The next 10 people aged between 18 and 25 years who open a credit union account via UTASS will benefit from a deposit of £4 from NE Credit Union.

Young people can also save with the credit union and they do not pay any joining fee. Young savers aged under 8 years also receive a free piggy bank.

Information about NE Credit Union and application packs are available from UTASS during office hours on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and the collection point service is available on Thursdays between 4pm and 5pm.

SUPPORTING UTASS

YOU CAN NOW SUPPORT UTASS VIA VIRGIN MONEY GIVING.

YOU CAN VISIT WWW.UTASS.ORG AND IN THE "SUPPORT US" TAB YOU'LL FIND A LINK TO OUR VIRGIN MONEY GIVING PAGE.

ALTERNATIVELY YOU CAN USE THE QR CODE BELOW.



CALL TO ALL VOLUNTEERS & VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS TO APPLY FOR... FULLY FUNDED MINIBUS TRAINING FOR THEIR VOLUNTEERS!

The aim is to overcome current barriers for ruraly isolated residents and by increasing minibus use, give greater access to a wide range of events, activities, facilities and services.

GO ...TALK TO UTASS

Julia Stephenson
e: julia@utass.org t: 01833 641010
Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services Limited
9-11 Chapel Row, Middleton-in-Teesdale, Barnard Castle DL12 0SN

healthwatch County Durham

Healthwatch is the new independent consumer champion created to gather and represent the views of the public. Healthwatch will play a role at both national and local level and will make sure that the views of the public and people who use services are taken into account.

We gather the views and experiences of local people and see what is good and what is not. We tell providers what

you think about their services. We tell commissioners what you say about the services they are paying for. We pass on our findings to the Care Quality Commission and Healthwatch England.

You can find us at www.healthwatchcountydurham.co.uk or there are comment cards and a box to post them in, in the reception at UTASS.

Durham Dales Enterprise CIC Hosts the 3rd **Middleton Mart Christmas Fair**

Saturday 28th November 2015
11.00 am to 2.00 pm

Middleton-in-Teesdale Farmers Mart, Station Road, County Durham, DL12 0NG
Parking and Cafe available

Why not come along before heading to the annual Christmas Lights switch on in the village at 4pm.

Contact Details:
Emma Hayley
emma@utass.org hayley@utass.org
07905004299 07857515727
or call 01833 641010

Colour your Life
learn create develop
Barnard Castle Hub

Family Puppet Making & Storytelling
The NeSt, 25 Newgate, Barnard Castle, DL12 8NJ

How to make a Puppet

1. make a cone, tape it.
2. do the head, be two 'fingers' sticks with wool.
3. do the body, use string, tape string through middle of cone.
4. do the arms, use string, tape string through middle of cone.
5. do the legs, use string, tape string through middle of cone.
6. do the feet, use string, tape string through middle of cone.

Wednesday 4PM - 5.30PM
Age 6 plus
September 30th till December 2nd 2015
10 Weeks

Come along - enjoy making your own puppets and watch them come to life.

NB: The session is FREE but a donation towards materials is requested
For more information or to book your place please call Stacey at Jack Drum Arts 01388 765002 or email stacey@jackdrum.co.uk www.colouryourlife.org.uk

Durham County Council

OUTREACH FACILITIES at UTASS, 9-11 Chapel Row

Teesdale Citizens Advice Bureau : Teresa McKnight

Fortnightly on Tuesdays - 10am – 1pm

Durham County Council : 3rd Tuesday of the month [10.30-11.30]

Environmental issues;
bus passes; any council services

Durham County Carers : Fortnightly on Fridays

Robyn Peat, Partner, George F White is available on the first Monday of every month for professional and business advice at UTASS.

Free appointments can be made through UTASS (01833 641010 or info@utass.org) or by phoning George F White's on 01388 527966

Music & Memories

UTASS will be offering fortnightly music and memories sessions between 2pm and 3pm starting Tuesday 13th October.

The aim of the session is to provide a warm, welcoming and caring setting where people can come together for a singalong, socialise, cup of tea and a cake.

The Monday Night Girls Group at UTASS will bake the cakes for participants to share, at the music and memories sessions.

The first session is free and only £1 per session thereafter. Transport to and from UTASS may also be available if required. If you want to come along please contact UTASS on 01833 641010.

SALES, WANTS & SERVICES

Here at UTASS we have a notice board, full of Sales, Wants & Services.

Feel free to pop into the office to view them, or you can see them all on our new website:

www.utass.org



The Friends of Middleton School

INVITE YOU
TO
THEIR ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS FAIR

AT MIDDLETON IN TEESDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL
6PM - 8PM 25TH NOVEMBER 2015



GIFTS
DECORATIONS
FOOD & DRINK
LOCAL CRAFTS
SANTAS
GROTTO

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS AND CHAPERONES NEEDED

Could you spare a couple of hours once every 2 months – particularly on a Thursday evening? If so we'd love to hear from you. Volunteer Drivers would need to be aged over 25 with a clean driving licence with D1 (mini bus) category held and appropriate Criminal Records Bureau checks will need to be undertaken. **Contact Jen at either 01833 641010 or jen@utass.org**

Events

- Citizens Advice are at UTASS every other Tuesday.
- Music & Memories at UTASS every other Tuesday.
- Pilates, UTASS every Wednesday (Except 21st)
- Durham County Council come to UTASS the 3rd Thursday on the month.
- Tranquil Treatments are at UTASS every Friday (Except 30th)
- Durham County Carers are at UTASS every other Friday.
- 9th - Durham County Carers Support Coffee Morning.
- 5th - Barnard Castle YFC meeting, Pre AGM & Games Night, 7.30pm Marwood Village Hall.
- 13th - Middleton in Teesdale Farmers Lunch.
- 15th - Barnard Castle Farmers Lunch.
- 19th - Barnard Castle YFC meeting, AGM, 7.30pm Marwood Village Hall.
- 21st - St Johns Chapel Farmers Lunch.
- **26th - UTASS Christmas Cards and Calendars ON SALE!**

October 2015

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | | | | Tranquil Treatments | | |
| 5 Barnard Castle YFC | 6 CAB | 7 Pilates | 8 | 9 Tranquil Treatments | 10 DC Carers Support Coffee morn. | 11 |
| 12 | 13 MT Farmers Lunch Music & Memories | 14 Pilates | 15 Barnard Castle Farmers Lunch | 16 Tranquil Treatments | 17 | 18 |
| 19 Barnard Castle YFC | 20 CAB | 21 St Johns Chapel Farmers Lunch | 22 DCC | 23 Tranquil Treatments DC Carers Support | 24 | 25 Farmers market & Craft Fair |
| 26 | 27 Music & Memories | 28 Pilates | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

**The
Aspire
Building**

Middleton-in-Teesdale

**Business Unit
TO LET**

250 sqft / 23sqm

£250 inc VAT per calendar month
which includes phone & broadband*

Call 01833 641010

Durham Dales
Enterprise
C.I.C.

* up to defined limits

Durham Dales Enterprise CIC

WOULD YOU LIKE
TO EXHIBIT
AT
Our 3rd
Middleton Mart
Christmas Fair?
Saturday 28th November 2015
11.00 am to 2.00 pm

Middleton-in-Teesdale Farmers Mart, Station Road,
County Durham, DL12 0NG
Parking and Cafe available

We have timed the event so that it is
before the annual Christmas Lights
switch on in the village at 4pm.

Closing date for stallholders is
Friday 30th October

Contact Details:
Emma Hayley
emma@utass.org hayley@utass.org
07905004299 07857515727
or call 01833 641010

November 2015

| Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| 30 | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| YFC annual bonfire | CAB | Pilates | | Tranquil Treatments DC Carers Support | | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| | Chiroprapist Music & Memories | St Johns Chapel Farmers Pilates | | Tranquil Treatments | | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| | MiT Farmers Lunch CAB | Pilates | DCC Barnard Castle Farmers Lunch | Tranquil Treatments DC Carers Support | | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| | | Pilates | | | Christmas fair & lights switch on | Farmers market |
| UTASS CLOSED | | | | | | |

Events

- Citizens Advice are at UTASS every other Tuesday.
- Music & Memories at UTASS every other Tuesday.
- Pilates, UTASS every Wednesday
- Durham County Council come to UTASS the 3rd Thursday on the month.
- Tranquil Treatments are at UTASS every Friday (Except 27th)
- Durham County Carers are at UTASS every other Friday.
- 2nd - YFC annual bonfire, hosted by Staindrop YFC, watch the UTASS Website for further details.
- 10th - Rachel Logan - Chiroprapist at UTASS.
- 11th - St Johns Chapel Farmers Lunch
- 17th - Middleton in Teesdale Farmers Lunch
- 19th - Barnard Castle Farmers Lunch
- UTASS Office is closed 23rd - 27th (all ARAMS & BCMS will be done on a daily basis.)
- 28th - Middleton Mart Christmas Fair, & Christmas Lights Switch On.

Farmers Lunches:

UTASS manages men's CREE lunch sessions for retired / semi-retired farmers or men associated with agriculture:

The **Middleton-in-Teesdale** CREE lunch, at Middleton-in-Teesdale Farmers Auction Mart.

The **Barnard Castle** CREE lunch, at Barnard Castle Farmers Auction Mart.

The **St John's Chapel** CREE lunch, at St John's Chapel Town Hall.

If you would like to attend, please call UTASS (Mondays/Thursdays/Fridays) on 01833 641010 and speak to Anne Scott

UTASS Youth Sessions

Monday's

Girls Group
6pm til 8pm
8 - 14 year olds

Wednesday's

Boys Group
6pm til 8pm
8 - 16 year olds

Thursday's

Youth Club
6pm til 7.30pm 8 - 11 year olds
7.30pm til 9pm 12 - 19 year olds

All Sessions 50p per child per session

Provision on a Wednesday evening will be going under review in the coming weeks.

If you have any suggestions, please do get in touch.

We champion ourselves upon the youth sessions working, because they are what the young people want.

There are two organised trips for those registered with the UTASS youth groups to the Blue Reef Aquarium, Riot Training and the Metro Centre.

More information can be found on the UTASS website:

TRAINING UPDATE 2015

| Sir Tom Cowie Charitable Trust Funding (details below & criteria opposite) | Funding for young people to increase knowledge of health & safety, improve confidence and help achieve qualifications, in preparation for employment. Completed application form needed to apply by 16.10.15. Open to County Durham residents. | DATES |
|--|--|--------------------|
| Lantra Tractor Training (13-16) | 6 hr x 2 trainees x 5 days – (10 trainees) | From August 15 |
| Pre-Test Tractor driving (16) | 1.5 hr group session + 1 hr individual (4 trainees) | From August 15 |
| ATV Training | 6 hr x 2 trainees (2 trainees) | From August 15 |
| Car & Trailer Lessons | 3 hr x 3 individual lessons x 5 trainees | From August 15 |
| Car Driving Lessons | 2 hr x 5 individual lessons x 4 trainees | From August 15 |
| Other Training | | |
| NPTC Level 2 Award in Safe Use of Sheep Dips | Training (2x1hr) (Theory Practical Assessments (7.10.15) | 2Oct (eve)+6.10.15 |
| TAP funded MiDAS minibus training (free) | UTASS & Middleton Mart for D1 licence holders | 12+13 Oct 15 |
| Educational Visit to Middleton Mart | Cockfield Primary School to Middleton Mart | 15 October 15 |
| Educational Visit to Middleton Mart | Butterknowle Primary School to Middleton Mart | 20 October 15 |
| Barclays Digital Training | UTASS | 20 October 15 |
| Level 2 Award in Safe Use of Pesticides replacing Grandfather Rights (post 31.12.64) NEEDED TO APPLY PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS AFTER 26.11.15 | Mandatory Unit – Unit 1: The principles of safe handling and application of pesticides on own land Training, registration & assessment | 21 October 15 |
| NPTC Certificate of Competence for the Transport of Livestock – Short Journeys | Assessments at UTASS – approx. cost £75 | 21 October 15 |
| PA6/Unit 2 Hand Held Sprayer (practical) | Training, registration & assessment at Middleton Mart | 22/23/26 Oct 15 |
| PA2/Unit 3 Mounted Sprayer (practical) | Training, registration & assessment at Middleton Mart | 22/23/26 Oct 15 |
| Lantra 13-16 Tractor Driving | 2 trainees – accredited course at Middleton Mart | 14 November 15 |
| Essential First Aid | UTASS – St John's Ambulance 3hr non accredited course | 3 Nov (9.30-12.30) |
| Training for volunteers (free) | Pilot Course may be held at UTASS | TBA? |
| TAP Funded Minibus Training | D1 Test where needed / Minibus Driver Awareness Training | Until June 16 |
| Visit to British Wool Marketing Board | Wool Process Tour at Bradford for Shearing Trainees | 18 Feb 2016 |

For further information please contact Julia Stephenson – julia@utass.org or on 01833 641010 (REMINDER - we close on Wednesdays!)

UTASS disclaimer

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Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services Ltd [UTASS] is a Registered Charity 1120120 and Company Limited by Guarantee 6054331.

UTASS gratefully acknowledges the support and financial contributions from Volunteers, The R H Woods Charitable Trust, Esmee Fairbairn North East and the Community Foundation serving Tyne & Wear and Northumberland, Durham County Council, The ASDA Foundation, The Sir Tom Cowie Charitable Trust, The Andrew Martell Fund, The Ernest Cook Trust, The Lloyd's Bank Foundation for England and Wales, The Barbour Foundation, East Durham Community Trust, The Sir James Knott Charitable Trust, HSBC Agriculture, County Durham Community Foundation, The Heart of Teesdale, Sponsors and Service Users.