



Keep memories alive

If the Yorkshire Dales holds a special place in your heart, what better way to celebrate your happy memories and enjoyment of the Dales over the years than to allow future generations to share them?

As a charity we rely on gifts left to us in wills to look after some of the very best of England. Making a final gift to a favourite good cause can help you to leave the world a better place.

And, by remembering the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust in your will, you could also reduce your inheritance tax bill. From 6th April 2012, anyone who leaves at least 10% of their legacy to a charitable or cultural cause will have their inheritance tax bill reduced from 40% to 36%.

If you would like more information about leaving a legacy to the Trust and examples of what could be funded please call us on 015242 51002.

Thank you.

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Charity No. 1061687



A small charity doing big things to support the well-being of the Yorkshire Dales



The Devonshire's bonfire guys

Winter news

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2012 where we hope you'll enjoy reading about some of the wonderful successes that your support and generosity have helped bring about.

Over the last few months we've also received tremendous support from our business partners. **The Devonshire Arms Country House Hotel** at Bolton Abbey helped us raise £3,482 at their bonfire bonanza in November; **Sequel Fashions and Source** raised £515 with a fashion auction called 'Fashion Gives Back'; **Harrogate Ladies' College** raised £170 during their 'Go Green Week', and **Booths** kindly invited us to hold a collection in their Settle store raising £139 for the Trust. We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who made these things possible!

We are also delighted to welcome on board local IT and website development company **Skipton Systems** who have committed to planting one tree for every client taking out

a new 12 month 'BusinessCover' support contract, along with **MWA Promotional** who are also helping us to restore woodlands by planting a tree for every customer spending over £175 on promotional products and stationary. Huge thanks also go to the **Buck Inn** at Malham who have set themselves the challenge of raising a whopping £5,000 for YDMT this year, and to **Pheasant mail order** who are supporting our work through the sale of selected items in their 'Made in Yorkshire' product range.

There are lots of ways that you can support us too... By purchasing our Yorkshire-inspired cards and books, by dedicating a tree, by making a donation or by giving regularly to the Trust by direct debit. All these things are vital in helping us to continue our work safe-guarding the Dales for future generations. Together we can make a real difference.

Thank you for your support.

Do something extraordinary - dedicate a tree

With the support of individuals like you, we've been creating new native woodlands since 1996.

Working closely with key partners including Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and the Forestry Commission we've already helped to plant **over 1 million native broadleaf trees** to provide recreational areas for people to enjoy, important habitats for native mammals and birds, and also helping to absorb carbon.

There's still a long way to go though, as only around 2.5% of the Yorkshire Dales National Park is covered with native broadleaf trees compared with the national average of 4.8%.

If you'd like to improve the treescape of the Dales for future generations, you can get involved through our **Tree Dedication scheme** which gives you the opportunity

to have a native broadleaf tree planted on your behalf in the great outdoors. It's the perfect gift and a unique way to celebrate a birth, wedding or anniversary, or to remember the life of someone special.

Right now we're accepting dedications for **Harrison's Wood** – our 2011-12 Supporter Woodland which is set in the beautiful Nidderdale countryside **near Pateley Bridge**. Covering an area of 6.3 hectares, it is planted with a mixture of native broadleaf species, including large proportions of Hawthorn, Ash and Downy Birch to provide a crucial habitat for a variety of wildlife. You can even come and visit your tree and Harrison's Wood in June – see the 'Dates for Your Diary' section over the page.

Chris our Woodland Officer is already scouring the countryside on the look-out for our 2012-13 woodland, so watch this space!

To dedicate your tree today simply complete the enclosed form, visit www.ydmtd.org/dedicate-a-tree or call us on 015242 51002.



The sky's the limit!

We'd like to congratulate a group of six brave individuals who took to the sky to raise an incredible **£4,800** for YDMT by taking on the challenge of a **sponsored sky dive**.

The team of extreme fundraisers was made up of YDMT trustees David Shaw, Steve Macaré and Dorothy Fairburn, YDMT Director David Sharrod and his partner Helen Price, and Nicole Allan – one of our friends at **People's Postcode Lottery** – a charity lottery which has raised £225,332 for the Trust to date.

YDMT's David Sharrod says **"It's been a nerve-wracking and thrilling experience that I'll never forget. I know the rest of the sky dive team will join me in saying thank you to all our friends, family and colleagues for their generous sponsorship, and to Nicole at People's Postcode Lottery for taking part – the money raised really will make a huge difference to the work of YDMT."**

The team took to the sky above Grange-Over-Sands, reaching an altitude of 14,000ft (2.5 miles) before leaving the plane and free-falling over 10,000 feet in around 50 seconds before the parachutes opened to slow their descent.

Nicole Allan, Events Manager at People's Postcode Lottery, added **"The players of People's Postcode Lottery are very happy to be supporting local charities like YDMT. When this opportunity arose for me to help to raise even more money for the Trust, I jumped – quite literally! – at the chance."**



Cash to conserve wildlife at wetland

The Long Preston Wet Grassland Project in the Ribble floodplain near Settle is set to receive an £18,000 boost to enhance its wildlife conservation value and to develop the educational and tourism benefits of the site.

We've been involved in the project since it started in 2004 and thanks to collaboration with farmers, the site is now of national importance as a habitat for wading birds and aquatic plants. At the peak of the season the area can be home to an impressive gathering of 2,500 birds including curlew, redshank, snipe and lapwing as well as other winter wildfowl species like teal, pintail and wigeon, along with the rare northern spike-rush.

Redshank by RSPB Images



Now we're delighted to confirm that the project is continuing after securing a grant of £18,347 from the Yorkshire Dales LEADER programme; a community-led rural development grant scheme. More than £4,000 has also been secured from the RSPB and Natural England.

The new phase will bring at least 60 acres into management and will improve access and encourage local people, visitors, school and university groups to enjoy the Long Preston floodplain's wildlife spectacle and landscape.

Project receives national recognition

YDMT's 'People and the DALES' project has received **national recognition** from Natural England¹ as one of the highest achieving initiatives in the field of 'Access to Nature' for disadvantaged groups.

Through the project, over 3,500 people from urban disadvantaged communities have taken part in 267 events across the Yorkshire Dales, enjoying the **health and well-being** benefits of the natural environment. Through practical activities such as walks, farm visits, crafts and conservation work, People and the DALES has helped to develop confidence in being in the great outdoors. It has inspired and encouraged many individuals to return to the countryside independently with family and friends in the future.

Dave Tayler, Deputy Director at YDMT commented **"I believe this is very important work. The experiences we have provided have been very powerful and even life-changing for some people."**

People and the DALES was awarded £197,000 in 2009 by Natural England as part of its Access to Nature programme, funded by the Big Lottery Fund.



School children experiencing the countryside with People and the Dales

¹Source: Natural England's recent 'Access to Nature' report regarding Minority Ethnic Communities and the Natural Environment.

Dates for your diary

2012

Flowers of the Dales Festival 2012

Back due to popular demand, our 2012 Festival is packed full of wildflower-inspired events taking place from **March to October** across the Dales.

The full programme will be available on our website within the next few weeks. With 80% of last year's 5,000 participants rating their overall experience as 'excellent', this is not to be missed!

Supporter Woodland Open Days

Thornbrook Wood, Thornton in Lonsdale
10am – 4pm on Sat 12th May

Planted in 2006, many of the trees in this wood are now over 5 feet tall and the site is starting to feel like an established woodland. Come and see how the trees are doing six years after planting.

Harrison's Wood, nr Pateley Bridge
10am – 4pm on Tues 26th June and Sat 30th June

This is your opportunity to visit our current supporter woodland and come and see what we've been able to achieve with your generous donations and dedications.

There is no charge to attend either of our Woodland Open Days.

Supporter Walks

Spring Meadows Walk
from Hubberholme to Yockenthwaite
-10am on Tues 17 April

The route passes through wildflower hay meadows, including two that we've helped to restore, which although not quite at their summer peak, should be full of early-flowering plants.

Summer Valley Walk from Lofthouse to Ramsgill-10am on Thurs 21 June

A lovely easy walk with great views of the valley and Gowthwaite reservoir.

Autumn Salmon Walk from Settle to Stainforth Foss-10am on Thurs 1 November

November is the perfect time to see the salmon jumping at Stainforth Foss – a breath-taking sight not to be missed!

Each of our Supporter Walks is approximately 5 miles in length over mainly flat land, with the occasional hill. There is no charge for joining the walks, but we do suggest a donation of £15.00 per person to go towards the work of the Trust. There will be an optional pub lunch after each walk.

Spring Choral Concert at Clapham Church – 7pm on Sat 19th May

An evening of song performed by St Paulinus Singers from Ripon, including pieces by Bach, Schubert, Britten and Handel (arr Gritton). Tickets are £10 or £7 for concessions, including a complimentary glass of wine or soft drink.

Kindly sponsored by Booths.

Murder Mystery Evening at Devonshire Arms, Bolton Abbey – 7pm on Thurs 15th March

Join us for a 1930's-style who-dunnit, kindly hosted by the Devonshire Arms County House Hotel, and help us unravel the deadly mystery. All we know is the butler definitely didn't do it! Tickets cost £25 per person and include a hot buffet of Beef Bourguignon or Potato & Aubergine Bake (v). The evening will end with a charity raffle, the killer being revealed, and trophies awarded to the top sleuths. 1930's fancy dress is optional! The evening's entertainment will be produced by www.afterdarkmurder.co.uk.



All profits will support the work of YDMT. To reserve your place at any of these events, or to request a copy of the Flowers of the Dales Festival programme, please complete the reply slip on the reverse of the enclosed letter. Or for more information please visit www.ydmt.org/get-involved or call us on 015242 51002.