

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust

Impact Report

2025-26



YORKSHIRE DALES
MILLENNIUM TRUST



Welcome

2025-26 Impact Report

As spring rolls into summer and the meadows and woodlands of the Dales come alive with wildflowers, pollinators and birds, there's a real buzz in the air.

Looking back over the last 12 months, it's easy to see why. Thanks to your support, we've been able to deliver so much for the people, landscape and wildlife of this special area.

As we approach the Trust's 30th anniversary, I'm delighted that we are in a strong position to do more with our partners to tackle some of the major challenges the Dales face. Thanks to the unwavering backing of our supporters, communities and partners, we are looking forward to making an even bigger difference over the next 12 months.

Over the winter tree planting season, our woodlands team and a small army of volunteers managed to get more than 36,000 trees into the ground – increasing tree cover and enhancing habitats and biodiversity across the region.

It was great to get out and meet some of our supporters and volunteers at these events and truly inspiring to witness the sense of achievement that the simple act of tree planting can unlock.

The importance of our apprenticeship scheme was highlighted during National Apprenticeship Week. The scheme is one of our most ambitious projects – and it's only possible thanks to supporter donations. The jobs market is incredibly tough for young people with almost 1 million young people unemployed. This year's intake radiate an infectious positivity, commitment and enthusiasm, and we're committed to helping more young people in future.

Over the next few weeks, the wildflower meadows that we've helped restore across the Dales will be at their best. My personal favourites are the meadows at Muker, but we also have accessible wildflower pastures in Wensleydale, Wharfedale and Dentdale. As well as supporting pollinators and invertebrates, let's not forget these habitats also bring wider benefits for our birdlife: like the iconic house-nesting birds we're helping to protect through our *Homes for House Birds* project.

From meadow restoration, to creating homes for house birds to giving young people their first break in the world of work - everything we do is interconnected and designed to improve the landscapes of the Dales for people, communities and wildlife.

And we couldn't do any of it without your support. Thank you.

Michael Devlin, YDMT Chief Executive



Highlights



1,930 connections
made with people from marginalised
communities - at least 770 benefitted
from longer term support

£2.17 million
spent
on charitable work
and improving our
organisation



£67,800
granted to 20
community projects
through the YDMT
Grants scheme

**9 young
people**
joined our
apprenticeship and
trainee schemes
- we're on track to
reach our three
year target of 21

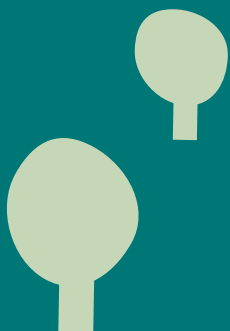
56
meadow
restoration and
enhancement
schemes delivered
- over half way
to our target of
100 by 2028



**27 plant
species**
on average were
found in meadows
we have restored!



36,474 native broadleaf
woodland and hedgerow trees planted
- over a third of the way to our 100,000 target!



What we want to achieve

Our vision is a Yorkshire Dales with thriving communities, resilient landscapes and abundant wildlife that provides a sense of belonging and inspiration to everyone. This year was the first year of our three year strategy 2025-28.

Our priorities

Inspire **people** to visit, live sustainably and care for this special area

- Tackle inequalities in access, with a focus on our most underrepresented communities.
- Create opportunities for young people to benefit from outdoor experiences and get jobs in the environment sector.
- Enable local community groups and supporters to develop new skills and contribute to the sustainable future of the area.

Conserve and celebrate the **landscape** and heritage of the Dales

- Increase tree cover to create a more wooded and resilient landscape.
- Enhance and expand species-rich grasslands.
- Support ecological systems, including providing nature based solutions to reduce flood risk in our major cities.
- Restore our rich built and cultural heritage.

Protect and enhance the environment and **wildlife** of the Dales

- Connect areas of habitat to create 'stepping stones' for wildlife.
- Enable people to take a lead role in creating nature-rich habitats for the future.
- Upskill and support volunteers to help monitor habitat biodiversity.
- Work with partners to support rare species.

How we work

Delivering projects



We deliver transformative projects for people and nature, and use our skills to enable other organisations to increase their impact.

Enabling others



We raise and distribute funds, providing flexible grants and support for innovative community led action where it's needed most.

Collaborative partnerships



We are firmly rooted in our communities and have a greater impact by joining forces with our partners.

Our values guide everything we do



Enabling



Creative



Caring



Honest

Impact: People

The thread that connects all our work at YDMT is people. Our communities in the Dales, alongside those we connect with further afield, are central to bringing our projects to life on the ground and helping them go further.

A great example this year has been the development of our **Open Pathway** project. Working with grassroots community partners this year, we upskilled 11 group leaders, giving them the skills, confidence and qualifications to deliver inspiring nature experiences independently to people from their communities. Our focus on developing leaders means our impact goes further, embedding nature connection within communities over the long term.

In a year when youth unemployment topped 16%, our **Rural Apprenticeship Scheme** became more important than ever. 2025 marked 16 years of the scheme, and we're already looking forward to how we might provide more diverse routes into the green sector for young people who may not otherwise have the chance.

This year we continued to support extraordinary work by local people to support their communities and wildlife. £67,800 awarded through our **YDMT Grants** scheme has supported projects with a combined value of £500,000, enabling initiatives like a volunteer-led Community Shed in Leyburn, now a thriving social hub that brings people of all ages together.

Meanwhile, communities continue to play a vital role in our conservation projects. At our **community tree nurseries**, volunteers have been helping to propagate rarer species of willow for tree planting schemes. Elsewhere, seed gathering, surveying and plug planting by volunteers is helping to restore species rich wildflower meadows. And hundreds of people are now providing new homes for red-listed house birds – with bird boxes installed on their buildings.

Highlights

7,863 trees
and hedgerow trees
planted by volunteers

78% of young people
from marginalised communities
felt better after taking part in
our nature sessions

We celebrated
16 years of
Apprenticeships
and welcomed 8 new
rural apprentices & one trainee

11 grassroots
community group leaders
completed a qualification to
help them bring their groups
into the Dales independently



Pathway to diverse leadership in the Dales

Community is the driving force behind our Open Pathway programme. Developed with grassroots community partners, the project enables group leaders to confidently access and explore the Yorkshire Dales with the people they support.

During the first year of the project we worked with four community groups to deliver day visits, alongside a shared residential experience for all group leaders.

Community leaders learnt a variety of topics, ranging from map reading, activity and session ideas, to local knowledge and the logistics of group management. Groups leaders were then supported to plan and deliver their own sessions.

Sharing what the Dales has to offer

Accessing the Dales can present practical barriers – to address this, we identified sites reachable by public transport, suitable for families with pushchairs.

Sessions offered participants space to relax, connect and experience nature away from daily pressures. Activities ranged from exploring Brimham Rocks to lambing in Yockenthwaite.



One participant said, “I work nights, so it’s been many years since I’ve had the chance to come out to the countryside. I brought my family, and I couldn’t believe how green it is out here. Being in it, hearing the birds, seeing the hills... it does something to you. I didn’t realise how much I needed it.”

Leading groups in nature

As part of Open Pathway we have developed our own bespoke accreditation, *ITC First Level 1: Introduction to Leading Groups in Nature*. The qualification combines practical outdoor skills with facilitation, reflection and relationship building. This means that group leaders receive a tailor-made accreditation that reflects the wide range of skills they have learnt.

Community Leaders who have completed their first year of Open Pathway will continue to build confidence through further supported visits with their groups, as well as training, mentoring and networking. Over time, they will have the confidence and skills to bring groups to the Dales independently.

Alongside this, we offer support with costs such as transport. We are also developing a peer network of community leaders, where people can share knowledge and get ongoing support.

By investing in people and leadership, the project creates a ripple effect - enabling communities to continue accessing nature long into the future.

Highlights and Impact

- Developed and delivered an accredited ITC First qualification.
- 11 participants from four community groups successfully completed the qualification following a training residential.
- Community leaders led their own YDMT funded nature trips, with 193 people taking part.
- Leaders received tailored support including session planning and practical check-ins ahead of visits.

Rural Apprenticeships: A lifeline in the youth employment crisis



Youth unemployment in the UK has reached crisis levels. In 2025, 16% of young people were out of work - the highest rate in more than a decade. In rural communities, where opportunities are already limited, the challenge of finding employment and training can be even more acute.

Among 16–34-year-olds, two of the top reasons for leaving the Dales are a lack of education and training (56%) and career opportunities (33%). For many, leaving home feels like the only option.

The rural opportunity gap

Apprenticeships play a vital role in addressing this gap, offering young people a route into skilled employment while earning and learning at the same time. However, for small rural businesses, the cost and complexity of administering apprenticeships can be a barrier.

YDMT's Rural Apprenticeship scheme supports employers to provide meaningful, paid training opportunities and enabling local young people to build sustainable careers without leaving their communities. In return, employers benefit from the energy, skills, and long-term commitment that apprentices bring to their teams.

“The scheme offers the opportunity for the apprentices to work in real conditions - not the ones you find in training manuals. Wind, rain, knee deep in peat - you name it, they do it,”

said Gareth Evans, Managing Director of conservation specialists Conservefor, one of YDMT's longest-standing apprenticeship employers.

Apprentices combine hands-on work experience with study towards a Level 2 Countryside Worker qualification at Craven College. Over 18 months, they develop practical skills in countryside management, project organisation, and the restoration and maintenance of green spaces - alongside essential 'soft skills' that prepare them for employment.

Sixteen years of proven impact

Since launching the Rural Apprenticeship scheme in 2009, YDMT has supported 78 young people to complete apprenticeships with respected organisations including the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Conservefor, PBA Ecology, Cumbria Wildlife Trust, and Swinton Estate.

The impact is long-lasting. 80% of graduates go on to secure full time roles in the environmental sector or progress into higher education. Some have started their own businesses, and others are now managing apprentices of their own.

Amelie began her apprenticeship with Cumbria Wildlife Trust in 2024, and now works for the RSPB. She said:

“It's hard to pick just one skill that's been the most valuable. More broadly, it's the soft skills - confidence, resilience, teamwork, and professionalism. Those are what have really helped me move forward into my next role.”

Rising youth unemployment means that programmes like YDMT's Rural Apprenticeship scheme have never been more vital. By supporting both young people and rural employers, the scheme is helping to build resilient communities, skilled workforces, and sustainable futures.

Impact: Landscape

Achieving real change across the Dales requires a joined-up, landscape-scale approach. By building strong partnerships, we're bringing together a wide range of people and organisations to work collectively and deliver lasting impact.

This year we continued to work closely with the National Park, National Landscapes and other partners to develop **landscape scale projects** that will increase the pace of nature recovery. Projects like *Jewels of the Dales*, a flagship nature recovery project to restore and expand species-rich wildflower grasslands and *Three Counties, One River*, supporting nature recovery in the Lune Valley covering 530 square km of rural Cumbria, Lancashire and North Yorkshire.

Over the last winter our **woodland grants programme** supported the planting of 36,474 trees across 46 sites. This includes 193 landscape trees, planted to replace iconic trees lost to disease, such as ash dieback. Our

work continues to focus on creating and connecting smaller areas of habitat, that in many cases would not be eligible for other sources of funding.

Beyond tree planting, we play an important role in ensuring smaller woodlands are well managed for biodiversity and long-term health. This year, 15 new **woodland management** plans were developed and work started to improve 7 woodlands for wildlife. We also remain a key contributor to UK-wide efforts to tackle plastic pollution in woodlands, promoting more sustainable approaches through our involvement in the Forest Plastics Working Group.

Working with land managers at **56 grassland sites** across the National Park, Forest of Bowland and Nidderdale we began restoration and enhancement through appropriate management or the addition of locally sourced, native wildflower seed and plug plants. This will contribute to better, bigger and more connected habitats for bees, butterflies, wading birds and other wildlife and will help to safeguard our most scarce native wildflowers.

Highlights

56 field-scale
restoration and enhancement
schemes delivered to establish
species-rich hay meadow

15 woodland
management plans
created to enhance the
biodiversity and health of
small woodlands

10 hectares
of native broadleaf
woodland created in
and around the
Yorkshire Dales

69,200
redundant plastic tree guards
recycled from hubs in the Dales
(129,600 UK-wide)

Beyond tree planting: Tackling forest plastic



As millions of trees are planted to meet climate and nature targets, a lesser known legacy continues to build beneath the canopy: plastic treeshelters that persist long after saplings have grown.

Treeshelters play a vital role in helping young trees establish, particularly in landscapes like the Dales where browsing pressure from deer, rabbits, voles and livestock is high. The challenge lies in what happens next. Between 14 and 24 million treeshelters are used across Britain each year, according to sector estimates, yet there is no consistent national system to ensure they are recovered, reused or recycled. As a result, plastic is left behind in soils, hedgerows and waterways.

This problem is what the Forest Plastics Working Group (FPWG) and YDMT are working hard to address. The FPWG brings together more than 30 organisations from across forestry, conservation and policy. The group is calling for minimum recovery standards for publicly funded planting schemes, clearer procurement requirements that include end of life plans, and greater investment in collection and recycling infrastructure.

From local action to national leadership

What began as a local clean up effort in the Yorkshire Dales has become one of the most coordinated responses to this issue anywhere in the UK. In 2020, YDMT established one of the country's first dedicated collection hubs for redundant tree shelters- a model that has since been replicated across England, Scotland and Wales.

Last year alone, the network diverted nearly 129,600 redundant shelters from landfill or long term environmental harm. The material is recycled by manufacturers including Tubex into pellets that can be used in new products.

Mike Appleton, YDMT's Senior Grants and Woodland Officer, said,

“This is a truly circular option for this type of plastic pollution, but we know there is still a lot more to do. Most new tree planting schemes use tree shelters which means the legacy for this type of pollution will only increase.”

While we're working with partners to trial alternative approaches and encourage sustainable use of tree protection, no single solution yet matches the durability and protection plastic treeshelters provide across all conditions.

An invisible problem

For most people, the scale of the issue remains largely invisible. Treeshelters are often hidden by vegetation, buried in soil, or scattered across remote planting sites.

To help reveal the true picture, the FPWG developed a citizen science app, *Plot That Plastic*. Since 2024, it has recorded 1.9 million tree shelters across the UK.

“The *Plot That Plastic* app allows anyone to pinpoint where shelters may be left in the countryside. With this information, we can target clean-up events and make sure our recycling hubs are in the right place.”

Beyond tree planting: Managing woods for wildlife

Over the last 29 years YDMT has supported the planting of around 1.7 million native broadleaf trees, mostly in a scattered mosaic of woodlands, where farmers and landowners have sought help planting up field corners and ghylls, or to create habitat on unproductive areas of land.

“Smaller woodlands have the potential to be mighty marvels, forming a biodiverse patchwork quilt across the region, but we need to ensure they progress to full maturity, especially for biodiversity,” said Senior Woodland Officer Mike Appleton.

Our target is to bring 50 small woodlands into active management by 2028 – helping to enhance this patchwork mosaic across the Dales, Nidderdale, and beyond, into parts of Cumbria and the Forest of Bowland. This year, we developed 15 small woodland management plans for landowners, and supported work in seven woodlands, covering work like thinning, underplanting and repairing boundaries.

“The scheme is innovative,” said Mike. “Nobody else is focusing on smaller woodlands, which could otherwise be forgotten. Before this, there wasn’t funding to write a management plan. Now, landowners can access a service they’d otherwise have to seek expensive specialist contractors for. YDMT grants will enable the work and biodiversity enhancement to be done.”

This year, management work has continued at Thornbrook Wood, near Ingleton, one of the first woodlands we piloted as part of our scheme.

Thornbrook Wood, a native broadleaf woodland planted in 2006, was densely planted to protect the farm from the busy A65 as well as providing an important habitat for birds and other wildlife. It also links up a fragmented woodland landscape in the area.

Over the years, very little management has taken place, and the wood has become a victim of its own success. It has thrived beyond what was expected- so much so that very little light was reaching the woodland floor. This has resulting in a lack of regeneration, with



important native trees such as oak not having the space to mature. If unchecked, this would threaten the long-term future of the woodland.

After working with the owner to develop a plan, a grant from YDMT helped to fund work to thin the woodland and open up the dense canopy, encouraging natural regeneration. 150 trees were planted in early 2026 by volunteers to improve the woodland’s structure and make it more resilient to future challenges. YDMT will continue to monitor the wood throughout its 10-year management plan.

Sandra Hodkinson from Thornbrook, said:

“The support YDMT has provided, from funding to expert advice, makes woodland creation and management achievable. It’s great to see our woodland in its next stage of development and we’re excited about its future.”

Impact: Wildlife

As a trusted local charity, we work alongside communities to build understanding and inspire action for the wildlife and habitats on their doorstep. Our work focuses on connecting priority habitats and supporting nature recovery to strengthen biodiversity across our landscapes.

In 2025-26 our conservation community in the Dales has been a driving force for much of our work on the ground. This year was the first year of our *Homes for House Birds* project, and we've been inspired by the support from people across the Dales and beyond who are dedicated to securing the future of four red-listed, house nesting bird species. Together, we launched a community-wide effort to restore local habitat and nesting sites, installing 300 nest boxes and creating hedegrows, meadows and woods.

This year we've supported and upskilled our network of community tree growers to propagate rarer species of native willow, creating a sustainable local supply for willow scrub habitat creation across the Yorkshire Dales. These habitats will boost biodiversity, support declining birds, pollinators and invertebrates and create valuable microhabitats that increase ecological resilience.

In the summer volunteers helped carry out essential **botanical monitoring** of our meadow restoration sites. In total, volunteers recorded 706 individual species. Data collected is vital to inform our ongoing work, helping to identify donor sites for future projects and highlight meadows that would benefit from further enhancement.

We also planted **19,940 hedgerow trees** over the last winter, creating 3,898 metres of new hedgerow habitat.

Highlights

**300
bird boxes**

installed creating nesting sites for House Martins, House Sparrows, Starlings and Swifts

**19,940
hedgerow trees planted
= 3,898 metres
of new hedgerow
habitat**



**27 plant
species**
on average found in our restored Dales meadows, a strong indicator of healthy, species rich grassland

15,354 plug plants
planted and 137kg of seed spread to enhance the biodiversity of existing meadows

Building skills for meadow biodiversity

Around 40 volunteers support YDMT's work across the Dales, helping with everything from woodland management and plug planting to bumblebee surveys. One important role is botanical monitoring – checking how restored meadows are performing.

In May last year, volunteers took part in specialist training to build their plant identification skills, with a particular focus on wildflowers and grasses. “We’re always working to increase the skills of volunteers,” says Eva, Community Conservation Officer. “Last year that meant offering extra training in vegetative grass identification.” Soon after, volunteers put their new knowledge into practice, surveying restored meadow sites across the region.

Monitoring our meadows

During June and July 2025, volunteers surveyed 26 meadows, selected from more than 850 hectares of meadow habitat YDMT has created, restored or enhanced over the last 20 years. These meadows have been restored using a range of techniques, including green hay, locally harvested seed and plug planting. Surveys take place when plants are in flower and easiest to identify, before farmers cut hay in late July or August.



What the meadow surveys showed

- 73% of meadows contained key functional species such as yellow rattle, and red clover. These species make it easier for other plants to establish.
- Some meadows supported as many as 39 plant species.
- In total, volunteers recorded 706 individual species records.
- 65% of meadows contained five or more species typical of species rich grassland, a priority habitat - including common sorrel, eyebright and meadow vetchling.
- Later flowering plants such as wood crane's bill and great burnet were less frequent, supporting our continued focus on reintroducing these harder to establish species.

The data collected by volunteers plays a vital role in shaping future work. It helps us to refine restoration techniques, offer targeted management advice to landholders, identify donor sites for future projects and highlights meadows that would benefit from further enhancement. Data from qualifying sites will also be shared with Natural England for inclusion in the Priority Habitat Inventory.

Restoration All Year Round

Our work doesn't stop when the meadows stop flowering. In autumn, volunteers returned to sites to plant native meadow plug plants and sow seeds, continuing the restoration cycle. From seed gathering onwards, the local community plays a vital role.

With your support, we continue to train and equip volunteers - and harness the enthusiasm and commitment of local communities.

Homes for House Birds: protecting iconic species together

House Martins, House Sparrows, Starlings and Swifts were once a familiar sight. Today, the loss of suitable nesting sites has led to severe declines in their numbers, placing all four species on the UK Red List.

In the Yorkshire Dales, we're fortunate to still have healthy populations of these birds. Traditional farm buildings, barns and older houses provide the nooks and crannies they need to nest, while the surrounding landscape offers vital food sources. However, this balance is fragile. As land use changes, buildings are retrofitted or replaced, and nesting spaces disappear, these much loved birds risk being lost from our landscape.

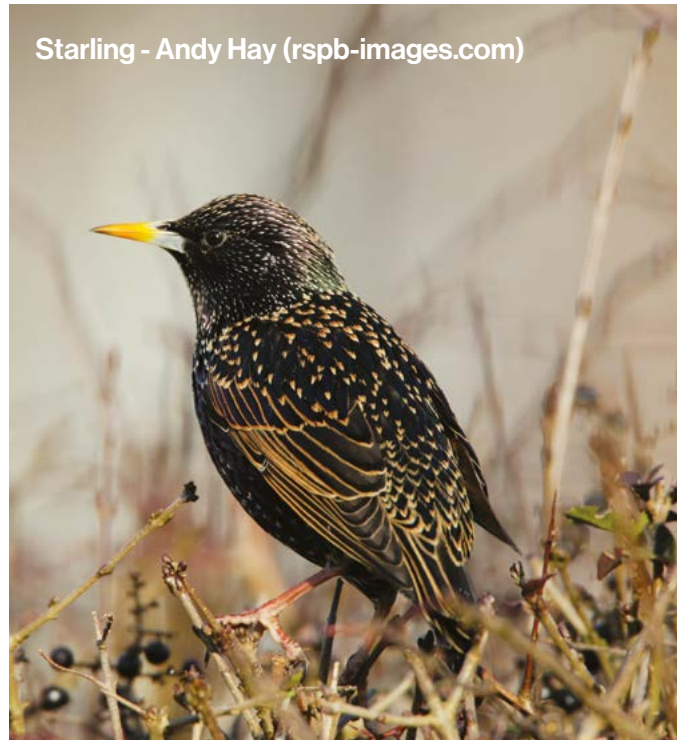
These species are identified as Category 1 in the Yorkshire Dales Nature Recovery Plan, meaning bespoke action - beyond general habitat management - is required to secure their future. Their survival needs a community-wide effort.

Communities at the heart of conservation

Homes for House Birds puts people at the centre of conservation, focusing on settlements where strong populations remain. The project supports communities to create long lasting nesting sites and improve habitats, helping house birds continue to thrive across the Dales.

Launched in 2025, the project is a partnership between Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT), the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and the RSPB, supported by a £250,000 grant from The National Lottery Heritage Fund. During the first year of the project, we've worked closely with communities to:

- Install over 300 nest boxes, creating secure, long lasting nesting sites
- Begin habitat improvements at 16 sites, including plug planting and seed spreading to create wildflower meadows, hedgerow creation and woodland management.
- Deliver workshops and Walk, Talk and Watch events, helping people learn more about house birds and get involved locally



Starling - Andy Hay (rspb-images.com)

We're looking forward to expanding this work in the year ahead, including projects with local schools, further habitat improvements, and a citizen science programme to better understand current house bird populations.

How you can help house birds thrive

- **Avoid garden chemicals - pesticides kill insects that house birds rely on for food.**
- **Boost insect life with ponds, wildflowers or longer grass.**
- **Choose natural surfaces - bare soil and mud help birds build nests.**
- **Protect existing nest sites and avoid building work between March and July.**
- **Install nest boxes to provide safe places to raise young.**

Together, these actions can help ensure house birds remain a living part of the Yorkshire Dales landscape for generations to come.

Impact: Organisation

Underpinning everything we do at YDMT, is a well governed, well managed organisation that is respected and understood, where staff feel valued and equipped to deliver our aims.

To ensure we can deliver the maximum charitable benefits to the region we have been working on a number of key areas this year.

Our strategy is centred around building partnerships that increase the scale and pace of nature recovery.

We know that we cannot tackle the challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss and a lack of access to nature alone.

Our new Dales Outreach Forum brings together key partners to create more opportunities for people to access nature, share best practice and provide a space to further develop monitoring and evaluation. A new Northern Meadow Forum has also been established to share skills and knowledge across organisations working to improve our grasslands - boosting biodiversity in the Dales and benefitting conservation across the North.

All of our woodland work at YDMT is undertaken in partnership, whether with landowners, community groups or partners. We are especially grateful for the support of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Nidderdale National Landscape, Forest of Bowland National Landscape, Woodland Trust, Natural England, Forestry Commission and The Ribble Rivers Trust for enabling us to deliver so much for this special area.

Improve how we Monitor, Evaluate and Learn from our work to ensure maximum impact.

This year, we have made important improvements in how we monitor and measure our work. We have developed a new woodland condition survey, enabling us to measure increases in biodiversity across our woodlands, while insights from our meadow surveying season have reinforced that our restoration work is vital for wildlife. Data and case studies from our engagement work continue to highlight the multiple benefits of

accessing nature. As part of strengthening how we capture and manage this information, we have also developed our QGIS system (geographic mapping data), with support from the University of Leeds, School of Earth and Environment, enabling us to map all of our meadow and woodland sites.

Continuously learning from our work, alongside listening to our communities, volunteers, and those with lived experience, is key to evolving what we do.

Develop a flexible, 'unrestricted' grants scheme that helps to increase our capacity with partners.

A key challenge for YDMT is how to increase our impact sustainably whilst remaining agile and innovative.

This year, we've supported 20 projects through our small grants scheme, increasing the number of collaborative, strategic and grassroots projects that we are engaged with. This innovative approach has grown the capacity of our partners to deliver our shared aims, while inspiring more communities to take positive action.

Develop our Trustee Board, ensuring we have the right balance of skills, knowledge and experience needed to govern and lead the charity effectively.

This year we said goodbye to our Chair and Trustee Tom Pratt after five years at YDMT. Tom's leadership of the board and support of the team has seen YDMT increase its impact and grow, including restructuring and creating our new senior leadership team, helping to develop YDMT's strategic direction and recruiting a dynamic mix of skills to the board. We are delighted that our Deputy Chair William Downs, who has served on the YDMT board since 2021, will become our acting Chair of Trustees. William said,

“We have a lot of talent and great experience around the board and all trustees are passionate about getting things done. It's an honour to Chair YDMT and I am very much looking forward to delivering more good outcomes for people, nature and landscapes across the Yorkshire Dales.”

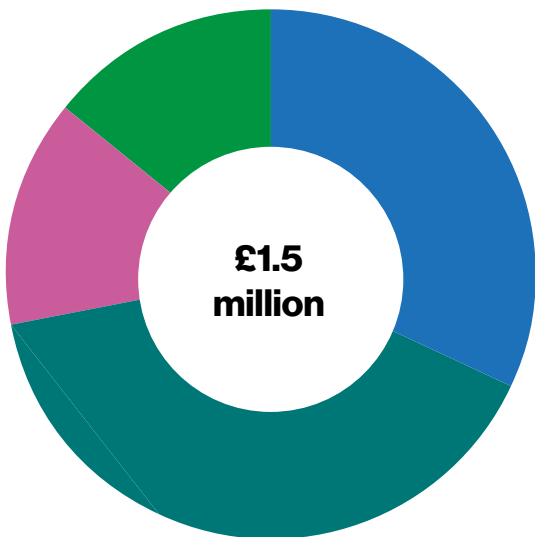
How we are funded and what your support means

The work we've delivered for people, landscape and wildlife across the Dales - and the lasting impact it delivers - is only possible thanks to the support of people like you.

In 2025–26, £1.5 million was raised in voluntary donations- made possible by your generosity through tree dedications, corporate partnerships, support from charitable trusts, gifts left in Wills, and contributions from Postcode Lottery players.

You supported us in many different ways: through financial contributions, by volunteering, and by helping bring our projects to life on the ground through local groups. We couldn't do it without you.

We raised £1.5 million from April 2025 to March 2026 from donations & legacies.



- Companies & Charitable Trusts
- Postcode Lottery
- Individual donations
- Legacies

We received **£500,000** thanks to players of **Postcode Lottery** - whose flexible, unrestricted support adds up to a phenomenal £5 million since 2009. This strengthens our entire organisation, enabling us to deliver greater impact across all our work.

14% came from donations, tree dedications and income from our shop. Our Homes for House Birds fundraising appeal raised £20,000. A huge thanks to everyone who contributed.

14% came from legacies. We never take for granted the trust shown by those who choose to leave us a gift in their Will. We are truly grateful to those individuals, and to their families, for this lasting support. It is through contributions like these that we can continue working towards a Yorkshire Dales rich in nature, strong in community, and open to all.

Over £620,000 was raised through our partnerships with companies and charitable trusts. As part of these partnerships, 262 volunteers from 16 businesses supported our work on the ground - planting 3,965 trees, 3,500 wildflower plug plants, and helping to restore 44.8 hectares of meadow.



Get in touch

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust is a charity doing big things to support people, landscape and wildlife in the Yorkshire Dales and surrounding areas.

This special area inspires us to be ambitious and we have always prided ourselves on being an organisation that makes a practical difference and 'gets stuff done.'

As a local charity we've got an important job to do delivering local solutions to our biggest challenges yet - climate change, biodiversity loss and inequality in access to nature.

We can only do that with your continued support. Thank you.

www.ydmt.org

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