

# People & the DALES

Diversity Access Learning Environment Sustainability

2019

## newsletter

### People and the DALES continues another year...

This year People and the DALES (PaD) celebrates 10 years of welcoming diverse and disadvantaged groups into the glorious Yorkshire Dales. During the last decade we have welcomed almost 10,000 people from a range of groups into the Dales to enjoy the fresh air, beauty and therapeutic nature of the area, and have run in excess of 700 events. We are very grateful to all those who have made this happen.

We would like to dedicate this anniversary year to our dear friend and the brains behind the project, Dave Tayler, who sadly died last year. We know that Dave would be so proud of everything that the project has achieved.

2018 itself has been an exciting year of promotion and recognition. We ran almost 70 events and welcomed in excess of 1,000 people into the Dales. We walked, knitted, felted, lambled, flew kites, maintained gardens, built dry stone walls, planted trees, visited caves, and sometimes even stayed overnight. We welcomed new groups and old friends, we linked with local communities and visited the cities, we laughed, we cried, but above all whatever we did made us feel better. Better for getting out and about and better for being with friends in the glorious Yorkshire Dales. We hope to welcome you this year so please get in touch.



#### What we can offer

- Day visits – nature walks, environmental activities, kite flying, quarry and farm visits
- Conservation work – tree planting, woodland management and path laying
- Training – to provide skills for individuals wanting to organise their own events
- Help with transport costs
- Outdoor gear – walking boots and waterproofs for our typical English weather!!

PaD engages with disadvantaged members of communities from the urban areas surrounding the Yorkshire Dales to enable those that would otherwise not be able to get out of the city to enjoy the great outdoors and gain new experiences. Most beneficiaries come from West Yorkshire and North East Lancashire and include individuals with disabilities, those experiencing mental health problems, refugees and asylum seekers, and those disadvantaged through where they live. Activities are planned to inspire and enthuse and are tailor-made for the abilities of each group. Conservation and practical work is undertaken wherever possible to develop skills.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter which brings together some of the activities over the last year and hopefully inspires your group to take part in the coming year. We particularly welcome Rosie Russell-Cohen who joins the PaD team as our new outreach trainee. If you haven't already met Rosie we are sure you will meet her this year. She has already proved to be a huge asset to the team.

# Promotion and Recognition



## BBC Look North

In spring, local reporter Spencer Stokes from the BBC Look North team, spent the day out with a refugee group at Colt Park for a day's lambing. Spencer, himself a farmer's son, was very much at home and thoroughly enjoyed the day out of the city. He produced a fabulous video which was aired on BBC Look North that evening and then was on loop on the BBC 24-hour news channel. You can still find the e-video on line at [www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-york-north-yorkshire-43878185](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-york-north-yorkshire-43878185). Spencer said that his day out filming with us had been 'one of the most rewarding day's filming that I've ever done.' Subsequently we've had lots of interest from all around the country.

## UNHCR Filming

Then in June, the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) sent a crew to film members of DARE (Darwen Asylum and Refugee Enterprise) as they rebuilt a dry stone wall on the Ingleborough National Nature Reserve with the site manager Colin Newlands. This film is on the UN website to demonstrate what UK communities are doing to welcome refugees.

Shameen, who took part in the day, arrived as an asylum-seeker from Afghanistan in 2014 with her two daughters, "*It wasn't that difficult,*" she said of the experience, "*because I'm a strong woman. I was born in Afghanistan. Afghan women have to be very strong.*"



## Lakes and Dales with Paul Rose

A man at the front line of exploration and one of the world's most experienced divers, field science and polar experts, Paul Rose was the Base Commander of Antarctica, for the British Antarctic Survey for 10 years. He is a mountain and polar guide, and worked for the oil industry in the Middle East. Paul came along to film one of our groups working alongside Rodney Beresford for his next TV series, 'The Dales', which will be broadcast on BBC1 and BBC2 in spring 2019. Look out for us then.

## No2H8 Crime Award

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust are delighted to have been awarded The Sheikh Abdullah Award for Intercultural Dialogue as part of the National No2H8 Crime Awards. This a coalition of organisations that work on tackling hatred, intolerance and prejudice. Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah was himself an entrepreneur who arrived in Uganda, from India and became a very successful businessman. He was instrumental in providing philanthropic support to other faith communities in Uganda (<https://youtu.be/JjP31rEe0vg>). YDMT were given the award for enabling hundreds of refugees to experience lambing and other opportunities in the Yorkshire Dales. We are humbled by this honour.



## Highlights

### Himalayan Gardens

A group of willing planters from Meeting Point in Leeds were the first PaD group to visit the Himalayan Gardens in Grewlthorpe near Ripon. Crowned the winner of Yorkshire in Bloom Tourist Attractions in 2018, the garden is a real hidden gem. The group planted more than 1,000 bulbs in the borders before being given a tour by head gardener Phil. The group hope to visit again in the spring to see the bulbs in bloom.



### Malhamdale Welcomes

This autumn, for the fourth year running, the people of Malhamdale welcomed refugee and asylum seeking women and children into their homes. This is the highlight of a relationship that has evolved and developed between these two communities. Nearly 40 refugee and asylum seeking women and children, among them families from Eritrea, Iran, Pakistan, India, Sudan and Bolivia, participated in walking, ceilidh dancing and singing, as well as nature-based arts and crafts. Meals were prepared and shared together. Diako, initially from Zimbabwe, said:



*“Walking was so great, seeing the Dales makes us think of life. It made us feel loved, my spirit was so lifted. Meeting other people, we haven’t seen in ages made us appreciate the purpose of life.”*

## Upper Wharfedale Welcomes

Another link that is flourishing is in Upper Wharfedale. In September, 56 asylum seekers and refugees were warmly welcomed by the tiny community of Kettlewell and treated to a scrumptious lunch, walk along the river Wharfe, games in the local park and a scone-making demonstration. Everyone had a brilliant day and a huge thank you is deserved by the Upper Wharfedale community.



## Malham Safari

This year three groups visited Malham, on successive days, to take part in the annual Malham Safari. The theme was 'Around the world in 80 days', and the children thoroughly enjoyed doing the quiz trail and counting the hot air balloons that were to be found around the village. Women and their children from Leeds Maternity Stream, St Augustine's in Halifax and Community Works Bradford were welcomed into a local resident's garden for lunch and games before doing a spot of pond dipping and watching the duck race.

## TRAINING EVENT

Find out how to map read, where to go in the Yorkshire Dales and feel equipped to bring your own group out.

22nd – 24th March 2019

Broadrake Bunkhouse, Chapel le Dale

Places are limited so contact Judy on 015242 51002 to book your place

# Stories in Stone

## Ingleborough for All

Some of this work forms part of Stories in Stone, a four year programme of community and heritage projects led by YDMT and mainly funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, thanks to National Lottery players. Thanks to the incredible ongoing support from players of People's Postcode Lottery, through Postcode Earth Trust, our work can also continue across the wider area. We are very grateful to players for supporting this and many other projects that benefit the people, landscape and wildlife of the Yorkshire Dales.



## Lambing

Some of the best project days are when we go lambing up at Ribblesdale. This year we ran eight events where we helped to round up, tag, mark and castrate the lambs under expert tuition from farmer Rodney. For the first time YDMT staff members also lent a hand and found out what hard work it is working with livestock!!

## Flowerpot Festival

Each summer the streets of Settle are decorated with artistic sculptures created from flowerpots which delight locals and visitors alike. This year, friends from Meeting Point in Leeds joined us for a day to make their own flowerpot arrangement; ably assisted by festival organisers Dave Freer and Graham Cleverly. The end result was a 'Flock of Sheep', with their very own shepherd. They were initially allowed to graze in the Millennium Gardens but were then herded into the Friends Meeting House garden to graze fresh grass!

## DARE/CWM Weekend

Young people from the European region of the Council for World Mission (CWM) came together in bunkhouses near Ribblesdale with a group from Darwen to learn first-hand about migration. This truly multi-cultural gathering enjoyed a range of activities, including dry stone walling, thistle bashing, restoring paths at the red squirrel sanctuary and various crafts, culminating with a ceilidh in a field!!



*"The whole event was wonderful and amazing. Thank you so much for having me there, and gifting me some beautiful and unforgettable memories,"* said Najeeb from Afghanistan.



## Roshni Ghar - C Section

Groups often visit Keasden Head Farm near Clapham to meet farmer Sheila Mason, visit the cow sheds, walk over the grouse moorland and stop in at the shooting lodge. On the occasion when Roshni Ghar women from Keighley visited, there was a treat in store - one of the cows was in labour and needed a caesarean section. The women patiently stood and watched as the vet expertly performed a miracle. Mum and baby doing well. Another first for the project!



## Muslim Christian's Women's Retreat

Over a weekend in October, 19 women met, most for the first time, to enjoy each other's company and explore their faith journeys. It was an encounter between Muslim and Christian women which aimed to foster understanding, counter stereotypes and find solidarity. The weekend included walks and crafts, cooking and eating together, with a lot of conversation and laughter thrown in. We will be running a similar residential next October - if you are interested in taking part or running a workshop, please get in touch.



## Leather Making

A group from St Vincent's visited Settle to help tidy up the gardens in The Folly Museum and Zion Church. At the end of the day we popped into Dan Nelson's shoe making shop - inspired by the fact that one of the group had worked in leather before coming to the UK. On a second visit, Thomas from Eritrea was able to work side by side with Dan in his shoe shop all day, and at the end of the day Thomas proudly showed off his leatherwork. He said:



*"I worked in the shoe shop. I liked the history. I would like to preserve my history in my country in the same way."*

## Meet the People and the DALES team:



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## Refugee Voices

In addition to all the outdoor events that take place each year there are invitations to speak about People and the DALES. This year, we were invited into three schools (Upper Wharfedale, Settle College and Giggleswick School) to raise awareness about the plight of refugees and asylum seekers. On each occasion we had the pleasure of the company of Gulwali Passarilly who spoke with such passion about his own experiences fleeing from Afghanistan. We are looking forward to working with Upper Wharfedale School again when BIASAN will visit and spend the day making art in their studio. If other schools are interested in finding out about or working with refugees and asylum seekers, please get in touch. We are delighted to hear that both Glusburn Primary and Upper Wharfedale Schools have been given a School of Sanctuary award.

