



Annual Report **2019**

Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services Ltd

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Photograph on the front cover courtesy of Becky Dobson

Patrons, Honorary Officers & Management Committee Trustees:

Patrons

12th Lord Barnard DL

The Reverend Rachel Benson DL

Professor Dr Patrick Lavery

Sir Paul Nicholson

Lady Nicholson

19th Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne

The Rt Revd Paul Butler - Bishop of Durham

Voluntary Management Committee Trustees/Board

Louise Dalton (*Honorary Secretary*)

Sarah Elizabeth Elton (*Appointed 3rd October 2019*)

Kay Hutchinson

Dr Chris Markwick

Richard Ian Matthews (*Honorary Chair*)

Michael Bernard McGarry

Dr Jonathan Nainby-Luxmoore

Roy Oxby

David Robyn Peat (Honorary Vice-Chair)

Lynn Amanda Simpson

Carl Stephenson *

Ian Tallentire *

UTASS Core & Project Staff

Ann Bell	Office Systems, Monitoring & Administration Support Worker (until 1 st May 2019)
Richard Betton	Local Farmers' Liaison Worker
Theo Clapp	Sessional Youth Worker
Robert Danby *	Project Manager (HR & Finance), & Company Secretary
Sheena Danby	Domestic Support Worker
Charlotte Fletcher	Administration Support Worker
Eve Galloway	Sessional Youth Worker (until 1 st May 2019)
Alison Greaves	Administration Support Worker
Zelda Heney	Sessional Youth Worker
Gina Richardson	Sessional Youth Worker
Lindsey Littlewood-Noble	Sessional Youth Worker
Andrew Robinson	Sessional Youth Worker (until 1 st September 2019)
Anne Scott	Administration Support Worker (Finance)
Jennifer Smurthwaite	Domestic Support Worker (until 1 st April 2019) & Sessional Youth Worker
Diane Spark *	Project Manager (Funding and Development)
Emma Spry	Administration Support Worker (Website & Social Media)
Julia Stephenson	Training Co-ordinator & Administration Support Worker
Tessa Wigham	Agricultural Secretary

*Denotes also DDECIC Director

Other Associated Staff

Alison Walker - Advice Worker employed by Citizens Advice County Durham and funded by UTASS.

Chairperson's Report 2019

2019 was another busy year for UTASS following on from our 25th anniversary year last year. Sustainability has been very much on our minds as we look to the future and the way that funding for UTASS is generated. With our current Big Lottery grant being tapered over four years and in the knowledge that this is the last funding we will receive from this source, we need to develop new income streams to cover our operational costs. We continue to work with Rose Regeneration and have recently appointed a new member of staff to help further this aim so that we can maintain the diversity of services we offer.

Our training services remain as busy as ever, ably organised by Julia Stephenson. This year has seen the delivery of a wealth of different training events from dry stone walling, through to canine first aid, chainsaw training courses, a getting ready for lambing course, sheep dip training, sheep shearing, Wellbeing for Life and many more. Some of the training this year has been delivered in Weardale, funded by the Weardale Action partnership.

Activities for the youngsters of Teesdale and Weardale remain a core part of UTASS' activities. This year has seen a sleep-over at UTASS for the girls' group, including a stargazing trip to Grassholme reservoir with members of the Bishop Auckland Astronomical Society. Back at UTASS premises the excitement continued into the early hours, rounded off by pancakes for breakfast in the morning.



The boys' group had a trip to Newcastle in March to see Newcastle Eagles play at their new arena and had the chance to meet some of the players afterwards.

A sailing and supper event at Grassholme reservoir in June was well attended and ended with singing round the campfire. As always we are indebted to our wonderful

team of Youth Workers, and also to our Trustee Professor Sarah Elton who continues to have such valuable input into our youth sessions including organising a "guess the animal bones" at our volunteer celebration night in



November, which was won by our Patron Lord Barnard. Health professionals from the Old Forge Surgery have also regularly attended the youth sessions.

It was wonderful to have the work of the Youth Team recognised by an award from the High Sheriff at the High Sheriff Youth Awards ceremony in April.

2019 saw a few changes to the staff at UTASS. We were very sorry to say goodbye to Ann Bell who left in April after 18 years of much-valued work. After 15 years Jen Smurthwaite has left her Domestic and Cree roles, but thankfully continues with her youth work. We are grateful to Sheena Danby for taking on the Domestic Support role. 2019 also saw Eve Galloway and Andy Robinson leave the Youth Team but we welcome Lyndsay Littlewood Noble into the fold. As mentioned earlier, Grace Crawford has been appointed to the new part-time role of Strategic Development Officer, with the aim of concentrating on the sustainability of funding at UTASS. Grace will take up her new role in February 2020. We were delighted to welcome Professor Sarah Elton onto the Board of Trustees and we congratulate Diane Spark on her appointment to a part time role with the Prince's Countryside Fund, alongside her continued and valuable work for UTASS as joint Project Manager

The postponement of Brexit has meant another period of uncertainty for the Dales' farmers whilst we wait to see what impact these changes will have on the agricultural sector. A visit in May by our then MP Helen Goodman and the Shadow Secretary of State Sue Hayman to hear firsthand of UTASS' work and the challenges facing farmers in the Dale resulted in UTASS being mentioned in the House of Commons. UTASS also hosted a visit from the new Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary, Jo Farrell, in September.

UTASS continues in its role of providing services to the wider community and these include, amongst others, Post Office facilities, Citizens Advice Bureau, Pilates and Yoga sessions, Chiropodist services, Music and Memory sessions and Cree lunches for retired farmers. This year also saw the start of Ladies who Lunch events for Ladies over 50 who enjoyed a trip to the Station Cinema in Richmond to watch the film 'Fisherman's Friends'.



The 7th Middleton Mart Christmas Fair was another roaring success and was blessed with near perfect weather. More than 60 stallholders were present, enabling everyone to stock up with Christmas goodies. Thanks must go to Emma Spry and Anne Scott for their input.

Our minibuses remain in demand for bussing young people to the youth sessions and taking others to their various outings. In July eight members of Barney YFC undertook the Three Peaks Challenge, climbing the highest three mountains in England, Scotland and Wales in under 24 hours. They were driven by Stuart Robson in one of UTASS' minibuses. Their aim was to raise awareness of mental health and funds for the Chester le Street charity "if U Care Share Foundation". We congratulate them on their fantastic achievement.

Many of you attended the Hefted to Hill event in November which followed on from the local photographic exhibition of seven local farmers at work which had been shown in the Dale. Some of the photos were available to view at UTASS and the evening was hosted by Ewan Allinson from Northern Heartlands.

Discussions in round table groups followed, allowing everyone to have their say. For many the highlight of the evening was a musical interlude by Michael Tarn and Andrew Bousfield who sang a couple of Teesdale songs including 'The High Force Agricultural Show',



a fine moral tale! The evening was rounded off by one of Gordon and Diane's delicious sausage casseroles, and we were entertained by Howard Petch CBE, former Principal of Bishop Burton Agricultural College, who gave another of his highly informative and entertaining speeches. Don't worry if you missed it as you'll have another chance to hear him tonight!

Richard Betton and Tessa Wigham, along with other staff members, have worked hard again to process Single Farm Payment applications- some 199 in 2019. Richard also provides support to members of the farming industry in financial difficulty or facing potential financial difficulties, in addition to providing a valued liason role with the Grazier groups. His farming expertise has recently been called upon by both our incoming and outgoing MPs.

UTASS continues to move with the times and 2019 has seen the adoption of GDPR legislation, the instigation of a client data management system which should enable us to save staff's time and the first digital Newsletter, beautifully produced by Emma.

All the staff at UTASS, including Joint Project Managers Diane Spark and Bob Danby, have been a tower of strength. In addition to her fundraising work, Diane has worked hard to diversify our income base over the last few years, so that almost a third of our running costs are now raised independently. Bob has been busy streamlining UTASS' working processes to ultimately free up staff time, as well as sorting out a multitude of day to day issues, ensuring that UTASS runs smoothly. We are indebted to all of our Staff members for their dedication and professionalism.

As always it remains for me to thank everyone involved in making UTASS the wonderful organisation that it is, and without whom it simply couldn't function. Space precludes an exhaustive list, but you know who you are- and so do we!

Staff, Trustees, Patrons, Volunteers and Members thank you for all that you have done and continue to do.



Richard Matthews
UTASS Chair

Project Manager's Report

On behalf of our dedicated, caring and hardworking Staff, Trustees, Volunteers and Patrons we are again delighted to report on work we have been involved in for public benefit throughout 2019, which included:

- Practical support with the completion and submission of complex forms and paperwork, including awareness raising.
- Production and dissemination of regular briefings consisting of essential information distilled and de-jargonised from Defra, EU etc. and predominantly pertinent to the running of livestock based farm businesses.
- In cases of severe hardship, acting as third party referrers to organisations which include ARC Addington Fund and RABI.
- Support and training in setting up of sustainable methods of dealing with on-farm paperwork, including the computerisation of records.
- Provision of social opportunities, fun activities and support for children and young people through three weekly engagement sessions.
- Development and distribution of quarterly Community Newsletters.
- Delivery of various training courses based on locally identified needs.
- Monthly Retired Farmers lunch & social sessions in Barnard Castle, Middleton-in-Teesdale and St John's Chapel.
- Monthly ladies social trips, providing transport and arranging visits to a wide range of places.
- Theatre Group organising trips to local theatre presentations.
- Advocacy and liaison work with local Landlords, Defra & other agencies.
- Lamb Bank, Sales & Wants and Labour/Skills List development work.
- Topical presentations & awareness raising events.
- Seeking feedback on consultations at local, regional & national levels.
- General drop in and telephone advice on a range of issues and signposting to other helper organisations & agencies.
- Provision of venue & outreach facilities for a range of agencies including Citizens Advice County Durham, Alzheimer's Society and Durham County Carers.
- Provision of facilities for Pilates and yoga sessions, chiropody and community meetings.
- Offering a network and advertising opportunities for local businesses/ services/ community activities and events.
- Provision of internet access, photocopying, faxing and laminating facilities for the community.

- Support with the organisation and provision of annual local agricultural shows.
- Administration and collection point for the NE First Credit Union.
- Provision of minibuses for community use and training.
- Reintroduction of Music & Memories Sessions courtesy of Teesdale Action Partnership Funding.
- Teesdale Heritage Group and Wear & Tees Farm Watch operated under the umbrella of UTASS.
- Provision of Post Office Services twice a week, with slightly extended hours later in the year
- Facilitation of an Oil Buying Group with 274 members who benefit from a discount of around 2.5p per litre.
- Hosting of drop-in surgeries, by the police, parish council and M.P. allowing residents direct access to discuss their issues.
- Acting as a collection point for donations to the Great North Air Ambulance, who collect donations on a bi-weekly basis.
- Partnership work with various agencies to develop a dementia friendly village.
- Supporting Middleton-in-Teesdale Christmas Lights and Carnival.
- Hosting the Witham/ Northern Arts Creative Age project.
- Provision of facilities for the local Diabetes Awareness Group.
- Hosting the Hefted to Hill Exhibition.
- Provision of transport to/from The Hush Art Installation.
- Distribution point for the Parish Council's dog poo bags.
- Book exchange.

In 2020 we hope to develop a client management system to help streamline our processes and help with monitoring. We also plan to look further and deeper into our sustainability.

With the uncertainty surrounding BREXIT we will be looking to work with external agencies to update our Emergency Response Plan.

Out of Office Help Thanks to Volunteers we were able to continue offering year round, **24/7** out of office support for those with urgent needs.

Basic Payment Scheme Work The online basic payment scheme application process worked well in 2019 with very little downtime or slow running and no long wait time on the helpline. Pre-populated forms were generally accurate although some members still had land parcels that were not associated to their business attached to their SBI. Once again there were mapping changes created by the RPA for members to

check for accuracy. Paper forms were once again available if necessary and the drop in centre at Carlisle was used to deliver forms and obtain receipts once again together with HLS claim forms and boundaries grant applications. The RPA has again made significant progress in processing the outstanding BPS Query forms that UTASS has submitted on behalf of its members over the last three years. Invariably this has led to the cancellation or reduction of penalties and additional payments to our members (by BACS straight into their bank accounts so we have little knowledge of the total amount). Some payment query forms submitted during the BPS application window where underpayments had been picked up from the previous year's claim statement have been resolved within several months. Our investment in training two additional members of staff has paid dividends by providing more resource at busy times as well as ensuring sustainability in the future.

Environmental Stewardship In 2018 the Technical Services element of Natural England was transferred to the RPA. This led to significant problems with two seemingly incompatible IT systems that could not make the necessary cross checks with the Rural Land Registry. Outstanding payments were eventually made by the treasury in July after the official payment window had closed.

Towards the end of the year we received quite a number of queries from the RPA as they completed the verification process. Many of these were where a BPS land use code was not compatible with the prescription.

HLS payments for 2019 are being made in full, rather than two instalments. Many members have already received these soon after the payment window opened in early December giving a welcome boost to cash flow for many.

Graziers Groups We continued to support and develop six Graziers Groups. The six Graziers Groups are due to receive £3,780,750.00 amongst them between 2011 and 2021. The focus now is on either securing an extension of the current HLS agreement or preparing for putting in a Countryside Stewardship application in the near future.

UTASS Membership At the end of 2019 our member household mailing list stood at **552** addresses which is an increase of **70** households from last year. This membership consists of **440** farms and **112** other households/agencies/organisations - totalling **1656 members**. On average we received five new membership applications every month (2018 average was one per month.)

Contact Monitoring Data **34,949** contacts (25,465 in 2018) resulting in **36,900** presenting issues (27,328 in 2018.)

Again in 2019 the most popular support area was administration support, including assistance with form filling, faxing, emails, photocopying etc. **24,299** instances (20,295 in 2018.)

Activities, Achievements and Outputs Included

Providing varying degrees
of direct
assistance to:



Economic Benefits Gained

Based on conservative assumptions of errors prevented and associated penalties avoided.

Quantifiable Economic Benefits Gained Included

- Direct assistance with BPS forms given to **199** farm businesses and the average basic payment given exchange rate fluctuations and increase in farm size we believe that the average payment in 2019 would be in the region of £22,000 which equates to £4,378,000.
- Direct assistance with BPS forms given to **199** farm businesses. Assume an average Basic Payment of £22,000. Assume 20% 'minor' mistakes with 10% penalties equates to **£87,560.00**. These penalties are also applied to all CAP payments which would affect many of our members who have environmental stewardship agreements. It would not be unreasonable to estimate this at **£40,000**.
- Support on cross compliance if based on 5% of our membership being inspected and receiving penalties equates to over **£43,780**.
- Farm businesses have received extra BPS payments in the region of **£34,000** as a result of support in the transfer of land and entitlements.
- Support given to numerous members with Environmental Stewardship Schemes (ELS, UELS & HLS) including applications equates to a minimum **£4,150.000** over the 10 year duration (2010 – 2020) of HLS with UELS.
- Support given with **25** Hedgerow & Boundary grant applications, average £8,000 each, equates to **£200,000**.
- Assistance to members with electronic applications for cattle passports, if assuming 5% of our membership would miss a deadline without our intervention, which would require them to pay for the dam and the calf to be DNA tested, would amount to a minimum of **£3,434**.
- Based on 50% of UTASS farming members being Farm Assured, each farm selling 200 new lambs, 50 old season lambs and 20 beef animals equates to a minimum of **£471,432**. Given the development of 'earned recognition' and the importance to the government of high production and environmental standards this could be important in the future.

- Using the Social Return on Investment Model (SROI) - previous work undertaken by Rose Regeneration giving an independent evaluation of the impact of the work of UTASS, shows the following returns for every **£1** invested:
 - ~ Basic Payment Scheme work **£7.47**.
 - ~ Young people's drop in **£8.97**
 - ~ Out of hour's service **£8.77**.
 - ~ Music & Memories activities **£12.11**.

UTASS Calendars and Cards

Once again we produced a calendar for 2020 and sold this along with Christmas cards making a useful contribution to the running costs of UTASS



We extended our range of general purpose cards, focusing on appealing animals which have proved to be the most popular.

We are looking to extend the range even further, if anyone has any cute animal photographs that we could use they would be very gratefully received.

On that subject once again a big thank you, both to all who donated the photographs for the cards and Calendars free of charge, and also to all of the kind sponsors who generously covered the production costs.

This meant that every penny made helped to fund the work of UTASS.



Briefings

A key part of our service which continues year on year is our briefings to members; these aim to give the essential information distilled from the reams of publications and books emanating from Defra, as simply and concisely as possible.

In 2019, **six** briefings were produced (one more than in 2018) covering a wide range of topics including Brexit & ELMS (Environmental Land Management Scheme), Annual Sheep & Goat Inventory, BPS, Hedgerow and Boundaries Grant Scheme, Countryside & Environmental Stewardship, Countryside Productivity Small Grants, New Legislation from the Environment Agency & Mental Health & Wellbeing.

Failure to comply can be costly as support payments can then be subject to penalties. Our goal is to help our members to get all the support payments that they are entitled to.

Those who worked in partnership with us included

- Alzheimer's Society
- Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)
- Barbour
- Barnard Castle Young Farmers' Club
- Castle Vets
- Commons Foundation
- Cool Blue Training (Management Training)
- County Durham and Darlington NHS Trust
- County Durham and Darlington Police, Crime and Victims Commissioners Office
- Country Landowners Association
- DEFRA
- Durham Community Action
- Durham Constabulary
- Durham County Council (Digital Durham)
- Durham County Council Public Health
- Early Years Alliance
- Environment Agency
- Farm Safety Foundation
- Farming Advice Service
- Farming Community Network (FCN)
- Landmark Systems Limited
- Harrison & Hetherington
- Highlights (Rural Touring Scheme)
- Institute of Agricultural Secretaries and Administrators (IAgSA)
- John Warren ABP
- Langdon Beck, High Force and Eggleston Show Committees
- Macmillan "Joining the Dots"
- McGarry & Co Solicitors
- Middleton-in-Teesdale and Barnard Castle Farmers Auction Marts
- Middleton-in-Teesdale and Newbiggin Parish Council
- Middleton -in-Teesdale Co-op
- Middleton in Bloom



- National Farmers Union (NFU)
- Natural England
- North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership
- Northern Heartlands
- Northern High Nature Farming Farmers Panel
- Northern Upland Chain Local Nature Partnership
- Northumbrian Dry Stone Walling Association
- Durham County Council
- Old Forge Surgery
- Raby and Strathmore Estates
- Rare Breeds Survival Trust
- Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institute (RABI) and Addington
- Rural Payments Agency (RPA)
- SAI Global Farm Assurance Red Tractor
- St John's Show Weardale
- Swaledale Sheep Breeders Association
- The Farmer Network
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV)
- Teesdale and Weardale Area Action Partnerships
- Teesdale Mercury
- Teesdale Sailing Club
- Tees River Trust
- Tees Swale Project
- Tenant Farmers Association
- The Prince's Countryside Fund (PCF) Farm Resilience Programme
- Upland Alliance
- Wellbeing for Life
- Yorkshire Agricultural Society
- Yorkshire Rural Support Network
- Yorkshire Dales National Park

Training

Staff Training included	2 Day Mental Health First Aid	Bob Danby, Anne Scott, Julia Stephenson, Tessa Wigham, Charlotte Fletcher, Richard Betton
	BPS 2019 Update/Training	Richard Betton
	Communication & Active Listening Skills	Bob Danby, Jen Smurthwaite, Charlotte Fletcher, Julia Stephenson, Tessa Wigham, Ann Bell
	Dementia Friends	Charlotte Fletcher, Julia Stephenson, Tessa Wigham
	Farming Advice Webinar	Tessa Wigham
	GDPR Training	Bob Danby
	HR Law	Bob Danby
	Introduction to Mindfulness	Julia Stephenson
	Level 5 Diploma in Management & Leadership (ongoing)	Bob Danby
	Lone Working with Cattle	Richard Betton
	Peatland Tipping Point	Richard Betton
	PPCF Succession Planning	Tessa Wigham, Julia Stephenson Richard Betton
	Sphagnum Moss	Richard Betton
	BPS 2019 Update/Training	Richard Betton
	Lone Working with Cattle	Richard Betton
	PPCF Succession Planning	Tessa Wigham, Julia Stephenson Richard Betton
	Red Tractor Farm Assurance Webinar	Tessa Wigham
	Understanding Stress & Resilience	Bob Danby, Jen Smurthwaite, Julia Stephenson, Tessa Wigham, Emma Spry

Training Provided Responding to requests from community members we organised relevant training courses, delivering them locally and seeking funding on behalf of trainees wherever possible.

Please see a list of all training delivered in Appendix 1 (page 36) where we give details and express appreciation for the opportunities provided by the Wellesley Trust Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland, Weardale Area Action

Partnership and Teesdale Area Action Partnership. A massive total of 95 beneficiaries of varying ages from these three funders during 2019!

This year saw the introduction of some new training courses relating to Animal Welfare. We had a two hour Canine First Aid course, very ably delivered by Helen Ward, and two extremely popular sessions arranged by Fiona Lovatt of Flock Health Ltd. and sponsored by Mike Hutchinson of MSD, who were both joined by Castle Vets who also delivered a free Workshop. Fiona Lovatt & Richard Betton also prepared eight trainees for the NPTC Safe Use of Sheep Dip, which was sponsored by Bimeda, who also came along to help. As with last year the demand for Shearing training was such that four days of shearing training was planned with 19 trainees who actually attended over 5 days, due to bad weather. Thank you to everyone who helped with sponsorship and delivering these new courses.



Other new additions were the Durham Learn pilot project funded and delivered by Durham County Council, with online learning supported by sessions with the trainer in UTASS, as well as the Institute of Agricultural Secretaries' useful training 'Mind your Own Business' covering record and account keeping for agricultural businesses. Thanks to the Yorkshire Agricultural Society for funding towards the latter.

Wellbeing for Life also delivered a number of very useful courses relating to mental health, including the two Day Mental Health First Aid, which was attended by a number of our staff and other community members. Local trainer, June Wainwright also delivered an insightful Introduction to Mindfulness. Sessions relating to Child Development were available over five weeks delivered by the Early Years Alliance, with babies and toddlers attending alongside their parents. All of this fantastic training was fully funded, so many thanks to all those concerned. We plan to run a Paediatric First Aid course early next year following a request from young people attending the drop in sessions and a Level 2 Food Safety course has been arranged for February.

This year also saw two very enjoyable Tasters to Drystone Walling delivered by the Northumbria Drystone Walling Association, who sent along their tutor and trainees were also helped and encouraged by their enthusiastic members. Two more walling courses and an Introduction to Hedgelaying course have been booked for 2020.

Community Newsletters

In 2019, four community newsletters were produced and distributed to members and other interested agencies and organisations. The newsletters contained information on social, community, leisure, educational and training opportunities as well as details of items for sale or required by members. Comprehensive lists of sale dates for all five of our local Farmers Auction Marts also featured. The UTASS website continues to be maintained to offer electronic versions of the Newsletter.

Consultation and Input at Local, National & International Levels included:

- Board member Tees Swale project
- Presented at Barclays Mental Health conference in Cumbria
- Presented at the National Trust Land Agents training day
- Met with Michael Gove at Central Science Laboratory (York)
- Presented at Littoral Conference in Westminster
- Conducted farm walk for North Riding and Durham NFU
- Speaker at Teesdale Ramblers Association AGM
- Presented on stress in farming to Carnforth Primary Care Trust
- Conducted workshop at NSA Next Generation conference
- Part of NFU Environmental Land Management Task and Finish group
- On-going consultation with Defra on developing a Domestic Agricultural Policy
- Chair Teesdale Area Action Partnership
- Ongoing liaison with Helen Goodman MP and Paul Brannen MEP
- Regular attendance at NE 'Land Agents' briefing
- NFU Council, Regional Board, Upland Group and conference
- Attended NFU post-election reception for MPs in Westminster
- Attended NFU Tenants conference
- Meeting with Paul Caldwell RPA CEO
- Presented to Ripon Diocese Rural Panel
- Attended Campaign for the Farmed Environment upland launch at Malham
- Liaison with RPA Stress Team
- Attendance at FCN Branch meetings, national management team and conference
- Feedback to RPA on the BPS application process

- High Nature Value Farming (HNVF) development and chairing Farmers Panel
- North Pennines AONB partnership
- Northern Upland Chain Local Nature Partnership
- Member of RPA and Natural England Independent Appeals Panels (Public appointment)
- Attendance at Worshipful Company of Farmers and Fletchers - Health & Wellbeing Forum meetings
- Attendance and input at The Prince's Countryside Fund Annual Farmer Networks Conference
- Attendance and input at Professor Lea Bryant's "Farmer Suicides" lecture at Durham University
- Met Neil Parish Chair of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs select committee
- Meetings with Dehenna Davison as PPC

Other Agencies & Organisations Supported Included

Upper Teesdale Churches

Swaledale Sheep Breeders Association (SSBA)

Eggleston Parish Council

Middleton-in-Teesdale Fitness Suite

The Friends of Middleton-in-Teesdale Primary School

Wear and Tees Farmwatch

Teesdale Heritage Group

Highlights Rural Touring Scheme

Beaconsfield and Manor House Care Homes

Middleton-in-Teesdale and Newbiggin Parish Council

Middleton-in-Teesdale Carnival Committee

Upper Teesdale Botany Group

Investing in Children

Middleton Mums Play Area Working Group

Middleton-in-Teesdale Sports & Social Club Children's Events

North East Air Ambulance Service



Barbour Once again throughout the year, Barbour kindly donated a wide variety of garments including waxed jackets, jumpers and footwear for re-distribution to UTASS service users and volunteers.

Highlights Rural Touring Scheme In February UTASS hosted a performance of “Where There’s Muck There’s Bra’s”, 48 people attended the stand-up show which highlighted “the way women are represented (or under represented) in ideas of ‘Northerness’.”

Unfortunately, there were no suitable shows available on acceptable dates at the end of 2019 and no further performances took place.

For 2020 we have two shows booked:

- In February, (which may have already taken place by the time you read this) Letters From the Front. Letters in a locked trunk are found and tell an unlikely Love Story from the First World War.
- Little Grimm Tales, a new adaptation of Grimms Fairy Tales

Coming to UTASS in 2020
highlights
rural touring scheme

Saturday 29th February, 7pm
Letters from the Front
By Glow Club
When Arthur discovered a locked wooden chest filled with letters, in the attic of his late mother's house, an unlikely tale of young love was uncovered...
Letters from the Front offers audiences a glimpse into the lives of two truly remarkable people during the First World War. Based on the book 'Thirty-odd Feet Below Belgium' by Arthur Stockwin
Adults - £10 Children - £5 Family Ticket - £25 (2 Adults, 2 Children)
Suitable for ages 12+

Wednesday 8th April, 6.30pm
Little Grimm Tales
By Box Tale Soup
What if wishes were granted? What if the magic were real? Beasts and breadcrumbs, wolves and witches, frogs and fairies all join the fun in a stunning new adaptation of Grimm's most magical tales. Head into the woods with Hansel & Gretel, help the little elves and watch a frog become a prince. Everyone knows even the wildest fairy tales hold a grain of truth...
Adults - £10 Children - £5 Family Ticket - £25 (2 Adults, 2 Children)
Suitable for ages 3+
Tickets for the two shows are available from UTASS by calling 01833 641010

Music & Memories

Music and Memories started again in March, with our friend Mike playing solo on his ukulele as Graham was unable to join him as previously, due to ill health. Sadly Graham died and has been very much missed by us all.

Once the sessions resumed the Manor House residents attended very regularly except for a spell over the summer months when they



were unable to come. We'd very much like to thank our regular volunteers for driving the minibuses and all those community members who come along to the sessions, join in with the singing of memorable old songs and enjoying refreshments and a chat afterwards. We would also like to thank Teesdale Area Action Partnership for providing the funding for these enjoyable sessions with an average of eight people attending.

Retired Farmers Social/Lunch Sessions

In 2020 the very popular lunches have continued to take place at Middleton-in-Teesdale Farmers Auction Mart, Barnard Castle Farmers Auction Mart and St John's Chapel Town Hall on a monthly basis. (2018 figures in red)

2019	Barnard Castle	Middleton-in-Teesdale	St Johns Chapel
Attendees	23 (20)	22 (18)	21(24)
Attendances	231 (185)	174 (167)	150 (169)
Sessions	12 (12)	12 (12)	12 (12)
Average Attendance per Session	19 (15)	14.5 (14)	12.5 (14)

In September Wideyed kindly toured their travelling 'Agri(culture)' exhibition of photographs from past agricultural shows around the three lunch sessions.

This generated a lot of interest and discussion among the farmers.



Ladies Outings

As a result of suggestions received from members in our annual survey we set up a Ladies Outing group in April 2019. We have visited Thornton Hall Gardens, Raby Castle, The Lakes Distillery,

Auckland
Castle and
Richmond
Cinema.

There are currently 61 ladies on our database, however our current funding only allows for 15 ladies at each outing. We are fortunate to be able to use our own minibus and rely on volunteer drivers.



Theatre Group

Trips to the theatre have continued to be very popular. In 2019 we have been to Sunderland Empire to see Calendar Girls, Motown the Musical and the Bodyguard. There are 53 people on our database and we never struggle to fill a 35 seater bus.



Agricultural Shows

UTASS again were pleased to be able to support Middleton-in-Teesdale Spring Show (High Force Show), Langdon Beck and Eggleston Show Committees with

administration. Richard Betton was the Licence Holder and Bio-Security Officer for both the High Force and Langdon Beck Shows.

This year we attended Weardale Show at St John's Chapel and our minibus was manned at 'Open Farm Sunday' at Raby Castle by Barnard Castle Young Farmers' Club members who did an excellent job of promoting farming to the wider community.



ICT Support

Once again we're pleased to report that the community computer in UTASS continues to be well used. Specific uses include job searches, visitors to the area checking emails and research into various topics.

Our projector and screen were again used by various groups for wider community benefit.

UTASS Rural Watch "What's App" Group

The group set up in 2018 has gone from strength to strength and other areas have used our model to set up their own groups. At the time of writing the group has 148 members and is moderated by Emma who has done a fantastic job in keeping the group on track.

It is now monitored by police 20 hours a day providing very useful live intelligence.

On occasion though, it can provide assurance and save police time, for example when a vehicle acting suspiciously was identified by another group member as being the postie's hire van!



Computerised Farm Records and Agricultural Secretarial Work

Farm records continued to be maintained on behalf of a number of businesses in the Teesdale area. New holding numbers were arranged plus temporary Land Association and Temporary Holding numbers. BPS entitlement applications for new starters were all successful saving the applicants in the region of £2600.

Once again the Countryside Stewardship boundaries grants were very popular with the upper limit being £10,000 and almost all applications were successfully even if members had existing agreements.

Lamb Bank, Sales & Wants & Labour/Skills Lists

Lamb Bank, Skills & Services and Sales & Wants schemes continued to operate in 2019; however the need wasn't as apparent as it had been in previous years.

Presentations & Awareness Raising Events/Activities Included:

- Emergency Planning including Brexit
- St John's Chapel – information stand
- Velo North East Public Meeting
- Presentation to Jo Farrell (new Police Chief Constable)
- Presentation to Sue Hayman (Shadow Environment Secretary)

UTASS Minibuses

Our community minibuses were used in 2019 by 23 local organisations on a not for profit basis. User groups included Middleton-in-Teesdale Primary School, Old Forge Surgery, St Mary's Parish Church Barnard Castle, Middleton-in-Teesdale Christmas Lights, the North Pennines AONB, Ladies Club, Music at the Heart of Teesdale, Winter Wellness, Aquafit and Barnard Castle Young Farmers.

The buses were used to transport people attending the Music & Memories sessions from local care homes.

They are regularly used to bring young people from the isolated Upper Dale to socialise with their friends at the weekly drop-in session. On seven occasions they were used to transport young people to offsite activities, such as sailing, paint balling and indoor climbing.

In July, eight members of the Barnard Castle Young Farmers Club borrowed the mini bus to complete the 3 Peaks Challenge, which they did in 23 hours and 40 minutes. They raised an amazing £6240 for a local mental health charity, If U Care Share Foundation.



Over three weekends in the summer the UTASS minibuses, driven by volunteers from the community, were used to take visitors from Bowlees carpark to the HUSH art installation nearby, carrying a total of 971 people.

Comments and thanks received from users of UTASS in 2019 included:

"Personally as far as I can see UTASS has done everything they can in forever changing times and try continually to make the surrounding Dales a better place."

"UTASS Staff! They have a fantastic attitude to their work. There is never a problem too big, or too small. The knowledge shared between them is immense. They are never 'off duty', and that gives huge relief to us members to know that there is always someone there to help."

"What an excellent use of funding - the outings enable local people to go places they might not be able to visit on their own and they also have the company of other people.
UTASS are very good at organising visits/events and keeping in touch with the local community generally as well as being there for farmers and their families.
Thank You and Best Wishes."

"It's incredibly comforting just to know that UTASS is there!
In recent years it's become a one-stop-shop for so many people, not just farmers.
UTASS is a wonderful resource for the community.
We as a family thank UTASS wholeheartedly for everything it's done for us in the past, and we just hope it will be there for us and the rest of the community in the future."

"Someone at the end of the phone who normally can help with a problem in a calm and polite manner and give reassurance no matter what the issue is."

"Approachable staff who have a good understanding of the local area and people living here so understand the problems they face."

"It's on our doorstep. The staff are knowledgeable and friendly. Help with our paperwork is second to none."

"UTASS is such an amazing organisation. It branches to meet the needs of the whole community."

"Encouraging training for young people in farming.
Support on farming issues."

"Always prepared to help with anything and have the ability to find answers even if they don't have the knowledge in house. The outreach facilities are second to none, the community support is invaluable to young and old and those in between in such a large and diverse area."

"Everyone is welcome, the staff are knowledgeable and the organisation supports all elements of the community. It's vital in the isolated upper dale."

"Friendly, Kind, Confidentiality, always available, makes me smile!"

"Help to farmers in completing forms and completing paperwork which keeps changing all the time. Organises events such as youth club, retired farmers lunch clubs, ladies shopping trips etc.
Events that help everyone in the dales community."

"The help they offer is second to none. They are kind and compassionate, if the person you speak to does not have the answer you can feel assured someone will call you back to help."

"Friendly approachable helpful staff able to suggest a way forward - or just listen and make you feel better."

Work with Children & Young People

Young Peoples' Facilities: In 2019 we continued to provide three weekly sessions for young people: a girls group on Monday evenings and two sessions on Thursday evenings, one for 8-11 year olds and another for 12-19 year olds. As in previous years young people from outlying areas were collected by volunteers in the UTASS minibus and brought into the sessions.

In addition to the three weekly sessions, in the school holidays the young people benefitted from offsite trips which they chose by voting.

'Cook Your Own Tea' sessions were also held through school holidays in the cafe at UTASS. Some parents were astounded how their children's appetite improved when they did the cooking themselves!

A total of 117 Young People (64 females and 53 males) are registered at the Youth Club at UTASS.

	Monday Girls Group	Thursday 8-11	Thursday 12-19
Attendees	47	77	61
New Attendees	16	9	23
Attendances	545	603	654
Av. per session	17	16	17

2019 was a busy year with various internal and external activities taking place.

In addition to the trips mentioned in the Chairs report we held a summer barbeque on the school playing field. This was well attended and we were fortunate enough to have Dr Markwick oversee the cooking ensuring that no one suffered food poisoning!!!!

The valuable input made by Professor Sarah Elton has already been



mentioned, but the diverse and interesting range of activities she has brought to the youth club deserves another mention, these have included fossil hunting and a forensic

excavation where the white suits added a touch of glamour.

In November the young people joined other members of the community in paying their respects to the fallen in the wars, laying a wreath at the cenotaph on Remembrance Day.

The support given to the young people was supplemented by external visitors including:

- Chris Affleck – Investing in Children
- Police; Liz and Preet - Cyber bullying and safe use of internet and drugs awareness
- Dr Markwick & Sally Baker, Old Forge Surgery- informal health and wellbeing advice
- Kyle Swankie & Stuart Maughan (Sports Coach)
- Professor Sarah Elton (Durham University) Various Topics
- Leah Hobson, Fashion design
- Ladies from the Carlbeck Centre- bunting manufacture.
- Tony Jeffs- research for new Youth Work Book
- The High Sheriff Dr Stephen Michael Cronin
- Kate Halsall, Highlights Theatre
- Bishop Auckland Astronomical Society



Activities, facilities and equipment provided at Young Peoples' sessions included:

- TV nights
- Arcade dance mats and car racing machines
- Treadmill, cross trainers.
- Basketball, netball, scooter boards and boxing bag
- Arts & crafts
- Board games
- Healthy eating nights
- Games nights including darts and table tennis
- Support for CV preparation and job applications.
- Discussion nights (racism, sexism, disability, sexuality, homophobia, domestic violence, contraception, pregnancy, attitudes, values and decision making, illness, death & bereavement, bullying, relationships, health & safety, citizenship/virtues, drugs, alcohol, eating disorders, smoking, self-harm, depression & mental health,

lifestyle issues, exercise & healthy eating, housing issues, careers, money, law & rights, cyber bullying, parenting, crime, politics, school issues, transport, religion, compromise & negotiation skills and volunteering)

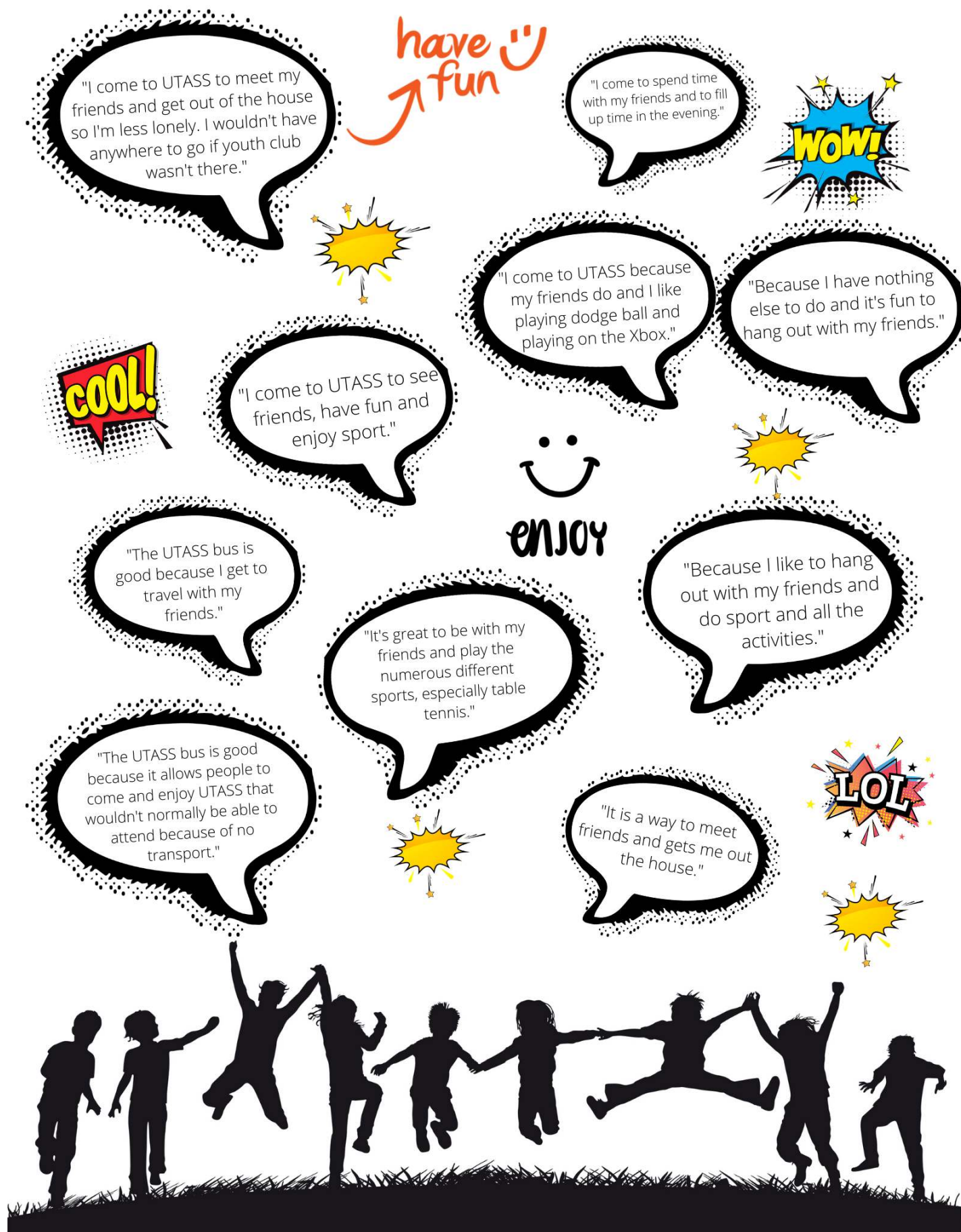
- C-Card condom distribution scheme and Chlamydia screening
- X Box, Wii and internet café
- Gymnastics
- Non-contact boxing training

School holiday and offsite activities included

- Girls Sleep over
- Basketball Match
- Mixed crafts
- Summer Barbeque
- Trampolining
- Bowling
- Sailing at Grassholme Reservoir
- Karting
- Climbing
- Health eating cook your own teas.
- Open evening



A selection of some of the comments made about the Drop-in and Youth Club in 2019



Durham Dales Enterprise Community Interest Company (DDECIC)

A VAT registered 'Special Purpose Vehicle' established in March 2013 by UTASS to facilitate the North East Rural Growth Network (NERGN) grant funding/investment offered for our locality. Registered office is 9-11 Chapel Row, DL12 0SN.

Throughout 2019 four Directors; Bob Danby, Diane Spark, Carl Stephenson and Ian Tallentire, have overseen the Community Interest Company.

The Agreement with Middleton-in-Teesdale Farmers Auction Mart for the management of the business units at the Aspire Building on the Mart site expired in August 2019. The future arrangements for the management of the units are still under consideration, in the interim the management of the units is being undertaken by DDECIC with help from staff at UTASS.

DDECIC activities in 2019 included

- Management of 4 business units Yan, Tyan, Tethera & Methera at the Auction Mart and Pip at UTASS.
- Promotion of tenants/businesses occupying units.
- Assistance with Organisation of fundraising events including the Christmas Fair at Middleton Mart.

Tenants in Business Units at the end of 2019

- Yan – Fallbright Consulting
- Tyan – Simmi Performance
- Tethera – Farm Pet & Equine
- Methera – Simmi Performance
- Pip – Artist Steve Messam

Plans/priorities for 2020

- Finalise arrangements for the management of the Aspire Business Units.
- To monitor opportunities for the acquisition of premises and facilities to assist with small business development in and around Middleton-in-Teesdale.
- To co-ordinate and/or support community activities where appropriate.

Outreach Facilities and Services

Citizens Advice



Many thanks to the Teesdale Area Action Partnership who funded the fortnightly Citizens Advice Service. Alison has dealt with 25 clients, assisting with PIP claims, Universal Credit and employment issues. Over the year the assistance given, has generated an income gain of over £40,000.

The feedback is again positive about having this service locally so people can readily access advice. Without it, many people, and sadly those in greatest need, would have difficulty in accessing vital advice otherwise.

Teesdale Physiotherapy Pilates sessions on Wednesdays (am)

Chiropodist Services On a six weekly basis

Durham County Carers - Monthly drop in sessions

NE First Credit Union Membership and collection point

Alzheimer's Society Dementia Friendly Communities, Music & Memories and facilities audit

June Wainwright Yoga on Tuesdays

Post Office Tuesday mornings and Friday afternoons

UTASS premises/facilities were also used for meetings/events by various groups including

- Teesdale Heritage Group
- Friends of Middleton-in-Teesdale Primary School
- High Nature Value Farmer's Panel
- Upper Teesdale Churches Together
- Farmwatch
- Middleton Christmas Lights Group
- The Cameron Relief in Sickness Fund
- Citizens Advice Bureau,
- Durham Constabulary Drop In
- Sweet Tooth
- Durham County Council
- Upper Teesdale Botany Group
- Montalbo Primary School
- Newbiggin W.I.
- Romaldkirk W.I.
- Middleton-in-Teesdale Carnival Committee
- Walkers are Welcome Group
- Middleton Mums Play Area Working Group
- Middleton in Teesdale and Newbiggin Parish Council
- Helen Goodman MP Surgeries
- Diabetes Workshop
- Durham Learn (Computer Skills)
- Middleton-in-Teesdale Dementia Friendly Village Group
- Witham Creative Art Course
- Age UK Come Eat Together Event
- Melanie Danks Employability Durham
- Low Carb Teesdale

Funders, Assisters & Advisors

Please see APPENDIX 2, page 38. It should be noted that the freely given donations we received from Patrons, Trustees, Staff, Members, Volunteers and Supporters formed an invaluable and essential part of our funding package. Many thanks to **everyone** who supported our work. **Your contributions were/are truly appreciated.**

Volunteer Contributions

Once again this year a fantastic amount of gift in kind hours equating to £142,684 was given by our many valued Volunteers. This tremendous goodwill both significantly eased the workload and enabled UTASS to provide services to the community such as the Ladies Outings.

This brings the total value of volunteer time to £1,467,732

UTASS Bankers

Barclays, Darlington and the Dales, 31 High Row, Darlington. (to 15th March 2020)

Santander Corporate, Commercial and Business Banking, Bridle Road, Bootle, Merseyside, L30 4GB. (from 15th March 2020)

Virgin Money, Jubilee House, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 4PL.

UTASS Accountant

Jane Ascroft Accountancy Ltd. DL11 7HH.

UTASS Advisors

Durham Community Action. DL15 0BF

ACAS

Rose Regeneration

NCVO

**UPPER TEESDALE AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES LTD
(UTASS) REGISTERED OFFICE:**

9-11 Chapel Row
Middleton-in-Teesdale
Barnard Castle
County Durham
DL12 0SN

Registered Charity number: 1120120

Company Limited by Guarantee number: 06054331

Telephone: 01833 641010

Fax: 01833 640872

Email: info@utass.org

Website: www.utass.org

Facebook: Utass Upper Teesdale

Twitter: @UtassUpperTees

UTASS Objects/Mission Statement:

“To promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the community of the rural area of Upper Teesdale and the neighbourhood thereof through the provision of facilities in the interest of the social welfare for the recreation and other leisure time occupation with the objects of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants”.

UTASS Aim:

“Working with our community to help prevent problems from getting to the desperate stage”

Signed by.....

**Richard Matthews
UTASS Chair**

Date.....11th February 2020

APPENDIX 1 - Training 2019

Date	Training session	Attendees per day
17.1.19	Communication & Active Listening Skills	9 trainees x 3 hrs
22.1.19-2.7.19	Durham Learn – 17 support sessions for online course	4/5 trainees x 3hrs x 17
25.1.19	Understanding Stress & Resilience	10 trainees x 3 hrs
30.1.19	Getting Ready for Lambing & Responsible Use of Antibiotics	59 trainees x 3 hrs
31.1.19-1.2.19	2 Day Mental Health First Aid	14 trainees x 12 hrs
19.2.19	Emergency First Aid Course (St Johns Chapel)	10 trainees x 6 hrs
8.5.19-9.5.19	NPTC Rough Terrain Telescopic (exc Assessment hrs)	3 trainees x 12 hrs
16.5.19-17.5.19	NPTC Rough Terrain Telescopic (exc Assessment hrs)	3 trainees x 12 hrs
23.5.19	NPTC Cert of Comp for Transport of Livestock Assess	7 trainees x 1 hr
24.5.19	IAGSA “Mind your own Business” training	11 trainees x 6 hrs
8.5.19 -12.6.19	Early Years Alliance – 5 weeks “Learning through Play”	5 trainees x 1.5 hrs x 5
18.6.19-19.6.19	Lantra Chainsaw	3 trainees x 12 hrs
25.6.19-29.6.19	British Wool Shearing (2 x 2 day courses)	19 trainees x 12 hrs
12.8.19+13.8.19	Lantra 13-15 Tractor Driving (2 x 1 day courses)	4 trainees x 6hrs
19.8.19	Lantra 13-15 Tractor Driving	2 trainees x 6hrs
20.8.19	Northumbria Drystone Walling Association Taster	5 trainees x 6 hrs
23.8.19	Canine First Aid	6 trainees x 2 hrs
27.8.19	Quad Bike Training	2 trainees x 6 hrs
3.9.19	Introduction to Mindfulness	6 trainees x 1.5 hrs
Various dates	NPTC Safe Use of Pesticides (at Penrith)	6 trainees x 6 hrs
18.10.19	NPTC Cert of Comp for Transport of Livestock Assess	2 trainees x 1 hr
25.10.19	NPTC Cert of Comp for Transport of Livestock Assess	3 trainees x 1 hr
26.10.19	Northumbria Drystone Walling Association Taster	4 trainees x 6 hrs
26.10.19	Lantra 13-15 Tractor Driving	2 trainees x 6 hrs
2.11.19	Lantra 13-15 Tractor Driving	2 trainees x 6 hrs
Various dates	Emergency First Aid at Work (Hexham venue)	3 trainees x 6 hrs
12.11.19	Managing Sheep Lameness & Responsible Use of Medicines	40 trainees x 3 hrs
2.12.19-9.12.19	NPTC Safe Use of Sheep Dip (exc Assessments hrs x 2)	8 trainees x 6 hrs
3.12.19	NPTC Cert of Comp for Transport of Livestock Assess	2 trainees x 1 hr
Various dates	Trailer training lessons	7 trainees x 15 hrs
Various dates	Car driving lessons	4 trainees x 12 hrs

Enormous thanks once again to the Wellesley Trust Fund at the Community Foundation Tyne & Wear and Northumberland for their funding enabling 24 young people to achieve their vehicle driving ambitions, whether for car driving or trailer lessons, or for tractor driving or quad bike training. One successful applicant commented

“I would just like to express my sincere appreciation ... help to get me driving to improve my prospects of a career as well as many other benefits. ... there is no doubt that I would not have been able to get this far without your contribution which has been an invaluable lifeline to me.”

Grateful thanks too, to Weardale Area Action Partnership for providing funding from the Weardale Rural Skills Training to open up opportunities to support the farming community in a range of training courses. On offer is part funding for Sheep Shearing, Chainsaw, Drystone Walling, Safe Use of Pesticides, Telescopic Handler, Abrasive Wheel Machines, Safe Use of Sheep Dip, the Transport of Animals by Road and Vet & Med. During 2019, 46 trainees received part funding towards their qualifications, with those attending Emergency First Aid Courses being fully funded.



Also many thanks to Teesdale Area Action Partnership's, Upskilling, Employability & Discretionary Fund, managed by Bishop Auckland College. This has provided funding opportunities for the unemployed/those in low paid jobs, allowing them to acquire skills/qualifications, enabling them to gain employment or move up the career ladder, change direction or gain additional work in a new sector. UTASS has referred 25 clients to the project, who were successful with their applications.



Thanks too for the team effort to make all the training listed above possible, including all those in our Community & UTASS Members who have provided venues and/or equipment for training courses or helped in any way. We couldn't do it without everyone's help!



Pictured above (L-R) 13-15 Lantra Tractor Driving, 2019 Shearing Course (19 trainees), Quad Bike Training & Car & Trailer Training (Quad and trailer photos by kind permission of Teesdale Mercury)

APPENDIX 2

Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services Limited

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account)

Year Ended 31 December 2019

		Unrestricted funds	2019 Restricted funds	Total funds	2018 Total funds
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	5	37,603	193,387	230,990	215,706
Charitable activities	6	14,653	62,511	77,164	77,156
Investment income	7	2,051	2,390	4,441	1,729
Total income		<u>54,307</u>	<u>258,288</u>	<u>312,595</u>	<u>294,591</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on charitable activities	8,9	86,046	183,401	269,447	271,888
Total expenditure		<u>86,046</u>	<u>183,401</u>	<u>269,447</u>	<u>271,888</u>
Net income		<u>(31,739)</u>	<u>74,887</u>	<u>43,148</u>	<u>22,703</u>
Transfers between funds		33,991	(33,991)	–	–
Other recognised gains and losses					
Investment gains/(losses)		5,760	–	5,760	(3,384)
Net movement in funds		<u>8,012</u>	<u>40,896</u>	<u>48,908</u>	<u>19,319</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		168,510	56,330	224,840	205,521
Total funds carried forward		<u>176,522</u>	<u>97,226</u>	<u>273,748</u>	<u>224,840</u>

Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services Limited

Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2019

	Note	2019 £	£	2018 £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible fixed assets	15		43,081	59,037
Investments	16		24,240	18,480
			<u>67,321</u>	<u>77,517</u>
Current Assets				
Debtors	17	10,957		6,507
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>210,261</u>		<u>165,384</u>
		<u>221,218</u>		<u>171,891</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>14,791</u>		<u>24,568</u>
Net Current Assets			<u>206,427</u>	<u>147,323</u>
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			<u>273,748</u>	<u>224,840</u>
Net Assets			<u>273,748</u>	<u>224,840</u>
Funds of the Charity				
Restricted funds			97,226	56,330
Unrestricted funds			<u>176,522</u>	<u>168,510</u>
Total charity funds	20		<u>273,748</u>	<u>224,840</u>

Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Year Ended 31 December 2019

	2019 £	2018 £
Income and endowments		
Donations and legacies		
General donations	15,370	12,532
Friends Of UTASS	5,035	5,425
Hamsterley Hoppings	–	300
Sponsorship	4,560	4,570
HMRC Gift aid	3,238	3,521
Durham Shopping Extravaganza	8,400	–
Joan Drewe legacy	–	24,000
Big Lottery Fund	144,387	79,522
Durham County Council	–	1,000
Sheppard Trust	15,000	–
Ballinger Trust	15,000	15,000
Police Crime Commissioner	5,000	–
Dept. of Health - Places of Safety grant	–	13,900
R & H Woods Charitable Trust	1,000	1,000
Prince's Countryside Fund	10,000	50,813
Ingenious Darlington - Latimer Hinks	–	500
Cllr Bell & Henderson Neighbourhood Fund	–	1,430
Joseph Strong Frazer Trust	2,000	2,000
Stephen Mitchell Memorial Fund	–	193
Hadrian Trust	2,000	–
	<u>230,990</u>	<u>215,706</u>
Charitable activities		
Welfare Reform	20,000	–
Social Isolation	9,000	–
Cree project and retired farmers' lunches	9,000	11,600
Youth work	18,016	26,358
Minibus income	3,020	2,505
Rural training programme	6,840	10,000
Business and admin support	11,288	26,693
	<u>77,164</u>	<u>77,156</u>
Investment income		
Income from listed investments	1,340	1,252
Income from endowment fund	2,390	–
Bank interest receivable	711	477
	<u>4,441</u>	<u>1,729</u>
Total income	<u><u>312,595</u></u>	<u><u>294,591</u></u>

Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services Limited

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities *(continued)*

Year Ended 31 December 2019

	2019 £	2018 £
Expenditure		
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Wages	152,723	160,457
Employer's NIC	6,270	4,567
Pension costs	10,025	9,304
Rent	14,500	14,500
Light, heat and water	6,882	7,031
Repairs, renewals and maintenance	1,336	3,308
Licences and insurance	2,779	2,778
Legal and professional fees	6,447	4,614
Telephone and office costs	15,259	16,731
Depreciation	16,671	20,186
Sundry costs	435	331
Training, seminars and other project costs	29,292	22,181
Minibus costs	4,747	4,434
Staff travel and training	2,081	1,466
	<u>269,447</u>	<u>271,888</u>
Total expenditure	<u>269,447</u>	<u>271,888</u>
Net income	<u>43,148</u>	<u>22,703</u>

APPENDIX 3 – Members Users Survey Findings

There were 162 responses:

1. Does part of your household income come from farming?

[More Details](#)

● Yes	142
● No	20



2. What percentage of your household income comes from farming (approximately):

[More Details](#)

● 25%	55
● 50%	26
● 75%	28
● 100%	34



3. If not 100%, where does the other income come from? choose all that apply

[More Details](#)

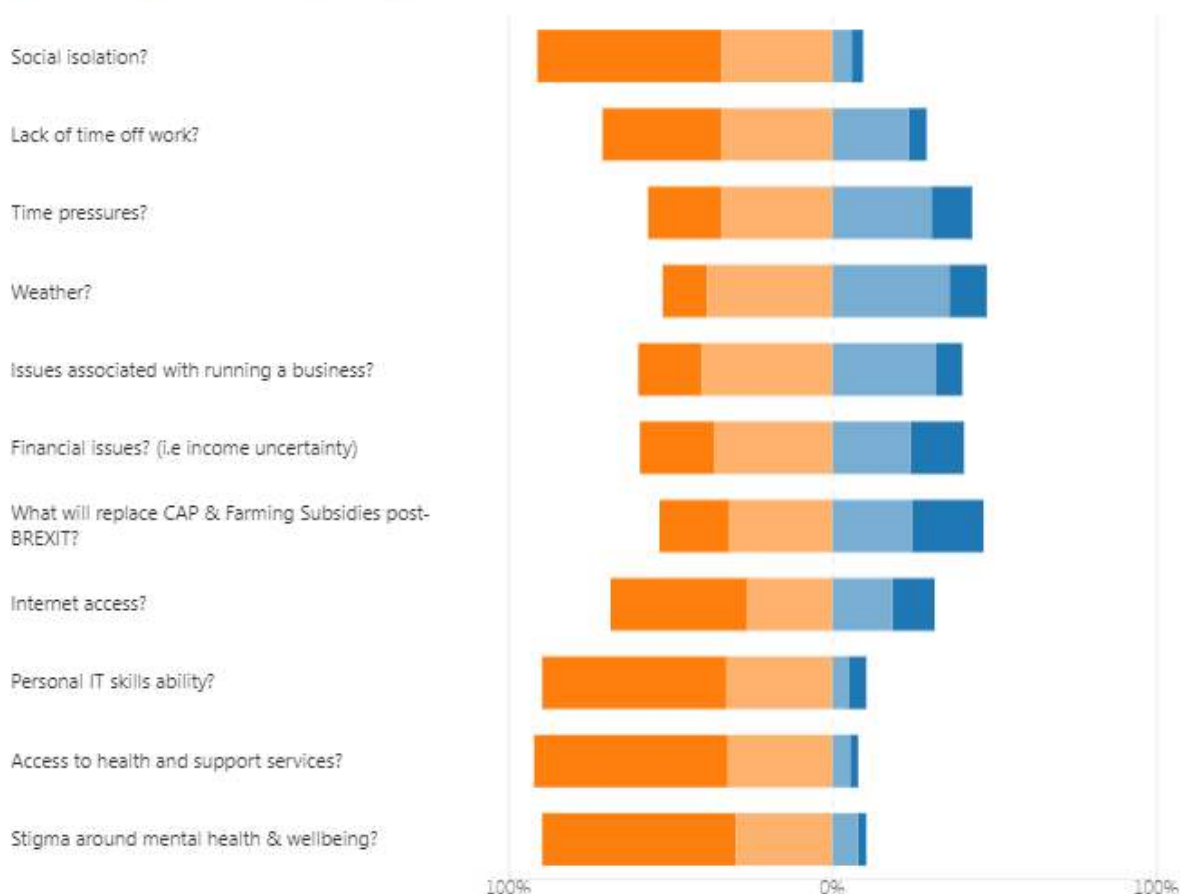
● Person mainly responsible for ...	35
● Partner has an off-farm job.	51
● Diversification.	23
● Other	42



4. Thinking about yourself or anyone else in your household; Over the last year (2019), what issues have caused you stress / worry / anxiety? You may choose more than one:

[More Details](#)

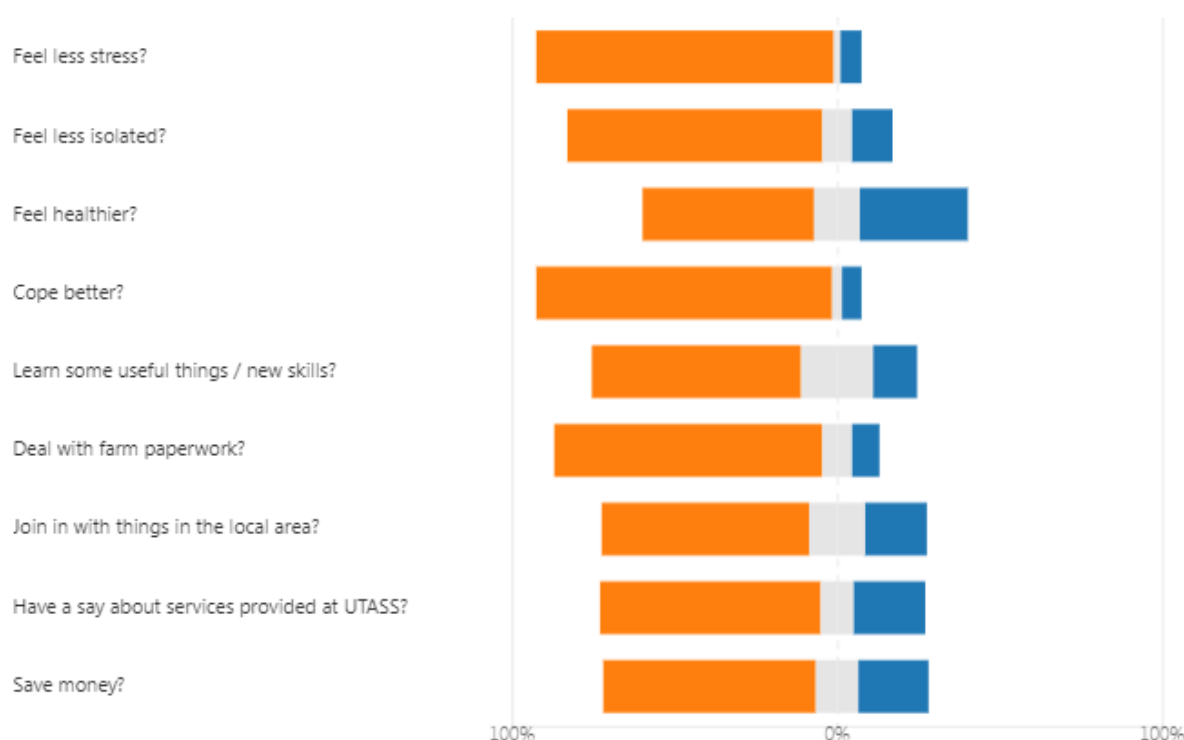
■ No Stress ■ Slight Stress ■ Stress ■ High Stress



5. Thinking about yourself or anyone else in your household; Over the last year (2019) would you say that the services, assistance or opportunities offered through UTASS has helped people to:

[More Details](#)

■ Yes ■ No ■ Don't Know



6. How often do you, or anyone else in your household, use UTASS?

[More Details](#)

More than once a week	9
Once a Week	23
Once a Month	36
Four times a year	71
Once a year	23



7. If UTASS was no longer here, where else would you get the same support from?

[More Details](#)

Don't know where I could get ...	148
Other Organisations, please lis...	14



12. How confident are you with IT?

[More Details](#)

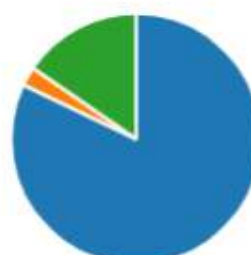
Not at all confident	38
A little confident	53
Confident	50
Very confident	21



13. Do you have access to a computer?

[More Details](#)

Yes, at home,	133
Yes, but I have to travel to use ...	4
No	25



14. Have you had help from UTASS or agencies working out of UTASS to access new benefits or grants?

[More Details](#)

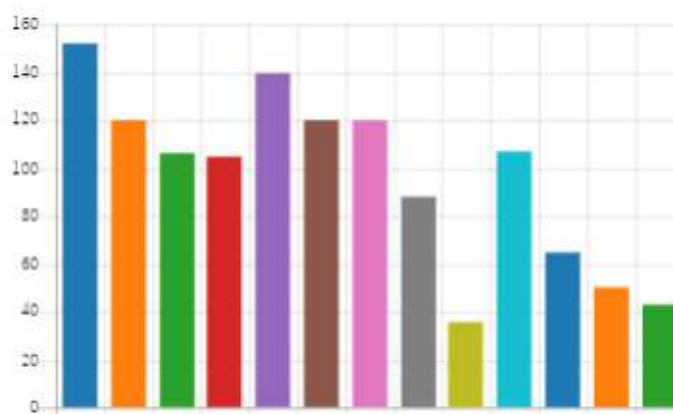
Yes	58
No	99



15. Which of the services below do you feel are important?

[More Details](#)

Advice & guidance for farmer...	152
Activities for young people	120
Community events	106
Outreach services, such as Citi...	105
Training	140
Rural-Watch	120
Support for older people	120
Minibus	88
Credit Union	36
Post Office	107
Oil Buying Group	65
Theatre Club	50
Yoga & Pilates	43



17. In the future do you think the support/assistance you need from UTASS will...

[More Details](#)

Decrease	0
Remain the same	61
Increase	74
Not Sure	27



18. Do you currently receive information from UTASS via email?

[More Details](#)

Yes	92
No	70

