

# Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services Ltd



## ANNUAL REPORT 2011

Registered Office:

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Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services Ltd: A Company Limited by Guarantee.

Registered in England and Wales, No. 06054331. A Registered Charity No. 1120120

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# **Patrons, Honorary Officers & Management Committee Trustees:**

## **Patrons:**

The Lord Barnard, T.D.  
The Reverend Rachel Benson DL  
Dr Patrick Lavery  
Sir Paul Nicholson  
Lady Nicholson  
The Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne  
The Rt Revd Dr N T Wright (former Bishop of Durham)

## **Voting Management Committee Trustees:**

Gary Bevan (Honorary Company Secretary until March 2011)  
Louise Dalton  
Bob Danby (Honorary Treasurer)  
Grace Hall  
Kay Hutchinson  
Dr Jonathan Nainby-Luxmoore (Honorary Chairperson)  
Alan Scott (Honorary Vice Chairperson)  
Ion Stoddart  
Ian Tallentire  
Sally Anne Teward  
Neville Turner (Honorary Secretary)

## UTASS Core and Project Staff:

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Ann Bell</b>             | - Office Systems, Monitoring and Administration Support Worker                     |
| <b>Richard Betton</b>       | - Local Farmers' Liaison Worker  |
| <b>Jan Butterfield</b>      | - Project Officer (Farmers of the Future) <b>until July 2011</b>                   |
| <b>Lucy Jenkins</b>         | - Project Officer (Funding)  |
| <b>Gordon A. Jones</b>      | - Administration & Support Worker (Children and Young People)                      |
| <b>Anne Scott</b>           | - Administration & Support Worker (Finance)  |
| <b>Jennifer Smurthwaite</b> | - Domestic Support Worker and sessional Children and Young People's Support Worker |
| <b>Diane Spark</b>          | - Project Manager (Company Secretary <b>since March 2011</b> )                     |
| <b>Julia Stephenson</b>     | - Training Co-ordinator and Administration Support Worker                          |
| <b>Wendy Watson</b>         | - Sessional Children and Young People's Support Worker <b>until May 2011</b>       |
| <b>Tessa Wigham</b>         | - Agricultural Secretary   |

## **Farmers of the Future Trainees at close of project on 30.6.11.**

**Joe Butterfield  
Michael Moralee  
Alex Pressley  
William Robinson  
Sam Robinson  
Andrew Robinson  
Lewis Ward  
Rachel Watson**

## **Other Associated Staff:**

**Jan Butterfield**

- Youth Worker  
Employed by Durham County Council  
Positive Activities for Young People

**Jennifer Smurthwaite**

- Youth Worker  
Employed by Durham County Council  
Positive Activities for Young People

**Tracey Wills**

- Advice Worker  
Employed by Barnard Castle Citizens Advice  
Bureau (CAB) funded by UTASS

## Chairperson's Report:

2011 saw my third year as Chairperson. I felt honoured to remain one of a team of 11 voluntary Trustees, all committed to embracing the challenges and opportunities faced in providing a range of support services tailored to the needs of the communities we serve.

A decade on from the horrific Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak UTASS is delighted to have a continued and growing presence within our Durham Dales communities. Despite the austere times 2011 was a steady year financially for UTASS, however, we are not complacent and have undertaken significant work this year in an attempt to try and ensure we can continue providing much needed services into 2013. **I would again ask that members consider additional ways to raise funds to help sustain us during the lean times ahead. We extend thanks to all donors for their valuable contributions.**

In May 2011 we were delighted to take delivery of a **new 4x4 mini bus funded by The ASDA Foundation**. Please see the photograph below. The mini bus was well utilised by a variety of community groups and it is used on Thursday evenings to bring children and young people from the most isolated farms into our youth club sessions. I must extend a huge thank you to all those Volunteers who give up their precious time to either drive the min bus or chaperone on journeys.



2011 saw the very successful completion of our **Farmers of the Future** project with all trainees progressing into employment, self employment or further education. More information about Farmers of the Future can be found at page 22 of this report.

We had yet another brilliant response from members to our Annual Service User Survey with incredibly high numbers stating how UTASS helps them cope and reduces some of their stress. It is most heart warming to hear how much UTASS is appreciated and valued by its members.

We launched the **"Friends of UTASS"** scheme in mid December 2011 and we were pleased with the initial uptake by **10 households raising £325**. As well as supporting the work of UTASS the benefits of becoming a Friend include entry into an annual prize draw with a minimum value of £100 and 20% discount on UTASS Christmas cards and room hire. In 2012 we plan to further promote the Friends of UTASS to a wider audience.

We encourage you to read our report in more depth to discover more about what UTASS is doing. We look forward to continuing our work with you for the benefit of our community.

On behalf of the UTASS Trustees can I say how enormously grateful we are to everyone who has provided support this year especially our Patrons and Funders. I also thank my fellow Trustees, our wonderful Staff and invaluable Volunteers for their unstinting dedication and commitment. We will move into 2012 with a positive approach and, as always, willingness to provide help wherever and whenever it is required.

**Dr Jonathan Nainby-Luxmoore**  
**UTASS Chairperson**

# Project Manager's Report:

On behalf of our dedicated, caring and hard working Staff, Trustees, Volunteers and Patrons I am again delighted to report on work we have been involved in for public benefit throughout 2011, 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 Trust and RABI.
- Support and training in setting up of sustainable methods of dealing with on-farm paperwork, including the computerisation of records.
- Quarterly Community Newsletters.
- Various training courses based on locally identified needs.
- Short term loan of ICT equipment (*try before you buy*)
- Advocacy and liaison work with local Landlords, Defra, Trading Standards & other agencies.
- Lamb Bank, Sales & Wants and Labour/Skills List development work.
- Organisation and delivery of social & community events.
- Topical presentations & awareness raising events.
- Requesting & receiving 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 & organisations including Citizens Advice Bureau, Durham Dales Action for Carers, Age Concern and Darlington MIND.
- Provision of facilities for pilates sessions, chiropody and community meetings/gatherings.



- Facilities for advertising local businesses/services.
- Internet access, photocopying & faxing facilities.
- Support with the organisation and provision of annual local agricultural shows and monthly Producers Markets.
- Teesdale Heritage Group and Wear & Tees Farmwatch operated under the umbrella of UTASS.

**Out of Office Help:** Thanks to our precious Volunteers we were able to continue offering year round, **24/7** out of office support for those with urgent needs. This amounted to **7264** hours in 2011 and when costed at the minimum wage of £6.08 per hour equates to a gift in kind contribution of **£44,165.12**. Other voluntary time given by UTASS Trustees and helpers amounted to **£60,669.16** making a fantastic grand total of **£104,834.28**

**Single Farm Payment Work:** March, April and early May were extremely busy due to the advice and support offered to members with the preparation and submission of the Single Payment Scheme (SPS) paperwork in time for the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) mid May deadline.

**Graziers Groups:** We have continued to support and develop 6 Graziers Groups with Cotherstone Moor Field Reeves generously donating their HLS administration fee of **£9,935.00** to UTASS. The 6 Graziers Groups will receive **£3,780,750.00** amongst them between 2011 - 2021.

**UTASS Membership:** Continued to be free of charge and increased to **1679 family members coming from 571 households in the Durham Dales (491 Farms & 80 other households/agencies/organisations)**. **UTASS remained the largest membership registered charity in the Durham Dales.**

## **Contact Monitoring Data:**

**20,432 contacts (3,793 or 22.8% more than last year).**

The most popular support areas were:

Administration support, including assistance with form filling, faxing, emails, photocopying etc. **(15,082 instances – 5,486 or 57% more than last year)**

Provision of advice and information **(11,299 instances – 1248 or 11% less than last year)**

## **Activities, Achievements and Outputs Included:**

**Providing varying degrees of assistance to:**

- **210 members** with SPS applications
- **54 members** with SPS queries/problems
- **18 members** with SPS commons issues
- **7 members** with Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) forms
- **16 members** with their Entry Level Scheme Agreements
- **32 members** assisted with UELS applications
- **88 members** assisted with HLS applications/claim forms
- **26 members** with their ES Conservation Plans
- **5 members** with their Environment Agency Waste Exemptions
- **24 members** with their Sheep Annual Inventory
- **7 members** with Uplands Transitional Payment
- **1 member** with organic farming issues
- **10 members** with inspection assistance
- **40 members** with Farm Assurance applications/issues/compliance
- **43 members** with Soil Protection Reviews (SPR)
- **35 members** with mapping issues
- **5 members** with new Holding/Flock/Herd numbers
- **9 members** with RPA appeals
- **16 members** with VAT online assistance
- **1 member** assistance with sickness benefit

- **71 members** supported with British Cattle Movement Service (BCMS) requirements
- **11 members** assisted with BCMS/passport problems
- **14 members** assisted with Welfare in Transit forms
- **8 members** assisted with Dip Disposal Licences/Records
- **22 members** assisted with RPA Customer Registration queries
- **1** Footpath diversion application
- **376** Animal Movement License notifications sent for members

As well as sending important paperwork, forms etc. via our recorded delivery co-operative mailing system, **5** special journeys were made to the RPA by our Agricultural Secretary (Tessa Wigham) to hand deliver SPS applications and gain proof of submission.

## **Economic Benefits Gained:**

**Outcomes arising from most of the work undertaken by UTASS are unquantifiable** as, for example, we cannot accurately measure how many people would miss deadlines had they not received information/support from UTASS.

## **Quantifiable Economic Benefits Gained Included:**

- Based on an average Single Farm Payment of £13,680.00 , assisting **210** members equates to approximately **£2,872,800.00**
- Direct assistance with SPS forms given to **210** farm businesses. Assume an average Single Farm Payment of £13,680. Assume 20% 'minor' mistakes with 10% penalties equates to **£57,456.00**
- Support with UELS and HLS combined **88** members equates to a minimum of **£6,700,00.00** for the 10 year duration of the scheme.
- 17% automatic penalties for failure to maintain a Soil Protection Review (Cross Compliance) would equate to a minimum of **£57,000** if applied to 5% of our membership.

- Assistance to members with electronic applications for cattle passports, when 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 - this would amount to a minimum of **£4,000.00**
- 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 **£395,000.00**
- Value of training assistance to members amounted to over **£47,634.00**
- Value to local B&B's of **30** people staying overnight locally after attending events at UTASS (average 2 night each) = **60 overnight stays at £65 per night £3,900. These people also ate at local restaurants.**
- Average attendance of **500 visitors** at indoor (winter) local producers markets at UTASS. Some of which go on to spend in other open local shops and restaurants.

**Member Feedback:** As ever we received a fantastic response to our **Annual Service Users Survey**. Members again told us that UTASS support in dealing with 'authority' has continued to reduce stress and help them cope. They also stated the support received minimises the distraction from running a business and that this has significant health, economic and social benefits.

**Partnership Working:** In our efforts to ensure our members had the information and advice necessary to run their businesses efficiently and in compliance with the ever changing and increasingly complex legislation, UTASS continued to work with a wide range of partners, including:

- Durham County Council Trading Standards (animal movements)
- Citizens Advice Bureau

- National Farmers Union (NFU)
- Natural England
- Animal Health Office (animal welfare, movements & disease control)
- North Pennines AONB Partnership
- LANTRA LandSkills North East
- Castle Vets
- English Food and Farming Partnership (EFFP)
- Farm Crisis Network (FCN)
- Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institute (RABI)
- Middleton - in - Teesdale Mart (Development Project)
- North Pennine Dales LEADER
- Heart of Teesdale Project
- Teesdale Marketing (Love Food Project)
- Raby Estates
- South West Durham Enterprise Agency

**Briefings:** A key part of our service is our briefings to members, which aim to give as simply and concisely as possible the essential information distilled from the reams of publications and books emanating from DEFRA. 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. **6** briefings were produced amounting to almost **3,426 mailings**. Briefings covered a wide range of topics including Single Payment Scheme (SPS) issues, Sheep Movements, Bovine TB, Cattle Passports and the Shepherds Guide.

**Training:** **1847** hours of training for **139** people was organised through UTASS. **15** people were referred onto other training providers, leading to **90** hours of training and our involvement with the Monitor Farm Project resulted in **861** training hours with **292** eligible attendances. Total value of all training **£46,624.00**. Please see **APPENDIX 1 at page 28**

## **Training undertaken by UTASS Staff included:**

**Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training** (All UTASS Staff)

**Promoting Wellbeing** (Julia Stephenson and Diane Spark)

**Coaching and Mentoring** (Richard Betton)

**Community Newsletters:** 4 were produced and distributed to members and other interested agencies & organisations. The Newsletters contained information on social, community, leisure, & educational/training opportunities as well as details of items for sale or required by members.

## **Consultation and Input at Local, National and International Levels Included:**

- Defra/NFU National Upland Working Group
- Regional meetings of Institute of Agricultural Secretaries
- NFU Council, Regional Board and North Riding & Durham County Groups
- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) including Haytime Project
- Farm Crisis Network Trustee Board and branch meetings
- Teesdale Learning Providers Forum
- DEFRA Cost Sharing consultation
- North East Rural Affairs Forum (NERAF)
- Animal Health Office Stakeholders meetings
- Radio Teesdale
- St Georges House, Windsor Castle
- Commission for Rural Communities
- The Korea LEADER Consultation
- Attendance at Hill Farm Matters event

## **Presentations given included:**

- Bovine TB
- Farm Assurance
- UTASS "how it all began up to where we are now"

## **Support for other Agencies & Organisations Included:**

Help with photocopying and in some cases collating newsletters and booklets for Middleton-in-Teesdale Churches and Eggleston Carnival Committee

## **Agricultural Shows:**

We provided assistance to Middleton - in - Teesdale Spring Show (High Force Show) and Langdon Beck Show Committee. Ann Bell, UTASS Office Systems, Monitoring and Admin Support Worker was the Secretary of Langdon Beck Show and Richard Betton was the License Holder and Bio-Security Officer for both the High Force and Langdon Beck Shows.



**ICT Support:** The use of the community computers in UTASS increased again this year - mainly due to job search activities and tourists. Our bank of short term loan ICT equipment was constantly utilised by eligible

members . Our PowerPoint projector and screen were also loaned out on numerous occasions for wider community benefit.

### **Computerised Farm Records and Agricultural Secretarial Work:**

Assistance with computerised farm records, to comply with current legislation, continued to be provided through our Agricultural Secretarial Support Services. This support for UTASS members minimises the chances of penalties being incurred during on-farm inspections.

### **Lamb Bank, Sales & Wants & Labour/Skills Lists:**

Lamb Bank, Skills & Services and Sales & Wants schemes continued to be very well used.

### **Presentations & Awareness Raising Events/Activities Included:**

15<sup>th</sup> February - Love Food Event

14<sup>th</sup> March - Bovine TB & Love Food Presentation Event

29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March - Anne Frank Exhibition

9<sup>th</sup> June - Shearwell Electronic Identification of Sheep Training Event

28<sup>th</sup> November - Churches Regional Commission Bovine TB Event



## **Comments and thanks received from users of UTASS in 2011 included:**

"UTASS is a valuable source of advice and information with very helpful & friendly staff"

"I don't know what we would do without UTASS - Stay as you are, you do a very good job"

"Having UTASS takes the worry & stress out of doing paperwork"

"Someone is always there to help, nothing is too much trouble. I would not know what to do if it wasn't for UTASS"

"UTASS provides answers to problems with paperwork or improving computer skills which enables us to return forms online"

"Very friendly well informed staff, always happy to help, if they don't know the answer they know someone who does"

"At UTASS the Staff are very pleasant and there's little turnover so you know who you're communicating with"

"A very friendly and helpful service, invaluable to farmers in the dale"

"Knowing that advice & help is at the end of a telephone call is priceless"

"We find UTASS offers a very important service to local farming families and other members of the community"

"UTASS provide an excellent service and I really want to relay that I really value the friendship and companionship offered along with the service"

## WORK WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE:

### Young Peoples' Drop In Facilities:

The Drop In continued to offer much needed facilities on weekday evenings, some weekends and during school holidays for local Young People. Many of those living on remote farms were transported to and from activities in the **new UTASS mini bus**.

The Young People continued to play their part in the management, development and financing of their project and the Drop In achieved **Investing in Children** status for the 6<sup>th</sup> year running.

A total of **148** Young People (**74 female and 74 male**) accessed Drop In and Youth Club at UTASS. This is a **26% increase** on last year.

Usually, sessions were delivered **3** nights per week. Thursday nights were the most popular with an average attendance of **65** Young People followed by Monday nights with an average attendance of **25** Young Girls.

Throughout the year some of our work with Children and Young People was funded through the **BBC Children in Need**. This complemented the work funded by **The Raby Charitable Trust, Durham County Council** and our fantastic team of **Volunteers**.

### Activities and facilities provided at Young Peoples' sessions included:

- Film & TV nights (including Sky TV)
- Arcade dance mats and car racing machines
- Arts & Crafts
- Takeaway nights included pizzas, Chinese and Indian
- Healthy eating nights
- Games nights including darts, table tennis, carpet bowls & pool competitions
- CV preparation sessions and job application support

- Computer driving tests (both theory and practical)
- Discussion nights (racism, sexism, disability, sexuality, homophobia, domestic violence, contraception, pregnancy, attitudes, values and decision making, illness, death & bereavement, bullying, relationships, health & safety, citizenship, drugs, alcohol, eating disorders, smoking, self harm, depression & mental health, lifestyle issues, exercise & healthy eating, politics, housing issues, careers, school issues, money, law & rights, parenting, crime, politics, school issues, transport, religion, compromise & negotiation skills and volunteering)
- C-Card condom distribution scheme and Chlamydia screening
- X Box, wii, play station and internet café



### **School holiday and offsite activities included:**

- Cook your own tea sessions
- Mixed crafts
- Paint balling
- Fishing
- Outings to Lightwater Valley and Flamingo Land
- Visits to the cinema and to see Joe McElderry
- Riot training with the police
- Sailing at Grassholme Reservoir
- Metro Centre visit



**Specialist Workers and Advisors from agencies and organisations provided information and advice for our Young People. These included:**

- Teresa Hutchinson (School Nurse Practitioner)
- James Deacon Brown (2D Your Choice Worker)
- Robert Fothergill (2D Children & Young Peoples' Participation Worker)
- Kaye Bramhalld (Sexual Health Outreach Worker with the Primary Care Trust - PCT)
- Billiejean Summerbell (DISC LGBT Health and Wellbeing Worker)
- Lewis Musunda (DISC Knife Crime Worker)

**Young People and parents/carers helped raise the necessary funds to operate their youth "Drop In" facilities. Events & activities organised included:**

- Family bingo nights
- Table top sales
- Tombolas

- Raffles
- Domino Drive

**Various Young People participated in community events & activities which included:**

- UTASS activities survey
- Children in Need support for Matt Baker at the Bowes Museum
- Museums Live arts and cultural activities
- Choosing winning photographs with Hannah Bayman and Pudsey Bear for the Children in Need calendar (**Please see photograph below**)



**Youth Work Staff & Volunteers training which included:**

- **Diploma in Youth Work Practice** (Jen Smurthwaite, Liz Bradley and Gina Richardson)
- **Promoting Wellbeing** (Jen Smurthwaite, Jan Butterfield, Beryl Banks and Gordon Jones)
- **Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training** (Jen Smurthwaite, Jan Butterfield, Wendy Watson and Gordon Jones)
- **First Aid** (Beryl Banks)
- **Planning and Evaluation** (Jen Smurthwaite and Gordon Jones)



## Farmers of the Future (FoF):

Throughout the year long project each trainee was placed on two or three farms. The farm placements were designed to provide practical “hands on” experience of livestock farming. In addition to the units outlined in **Appendix 2 at page 30** FOF was bespoke and tailored to the needs of the individual trainee (i.e., providing them with additional training in some areas, experiences of different farms etc.).



The independent evaluation found that FOF involved **34 farmer-trainers and 21 placement farms**. In addition, **23 local farmers** loaned equipment and premises to the project. Over the 12 months that the project ran the trainees learned a diverse range of skills needed for upland farming and Farmers of the Future came to a highly successful end in June with all trainees having either gained employment, set themselves up as self employed contractors or going on to further education.

The support and involvement of local Farmer Trainers was invaluable and the project could not have happened without their passion to share skills, willingness to help others and a sprinkling of patience along the way!

## **A selection of some of the comments made about the Drop In and Youth Club in 2011:**

"I enjoy UTASS because you do good activities and loads of fun things"

"At UTASS you get the chance to meet your friends and lots of other people - I like everything about coming to UTASS"

"The people who run the sessions are easy to talk with and I know I can share my worries with them"

"You can get help with your problems and no one else gets to know your business"

"Coming to UTASS gives me the chance to meet my friends and gets me out of the house - I hate it when I can't go to UTASS"

"At UTASS there are lots of things to do and there's a tuck shop for when you get hungry"

"At UTASS we just get to be ourselves and see our friends"

"You never get bored at UTASS because there's always loads of activities and things to do"

"UTASS is fun and exciting and you get to meet new friends"

"If it wasn't for UTASS we wouldn't be able to go to places like the Metro Centre and Flamingo Land"

"I wouldn't be able to come to UTASS if the mini bus didn't bring me"

"We don't have broadband or a mobile signal up with us so I use the computers at UTASS whenever I can"

# OUTREACH FACILITIES AND SERVICES:

**Teesdale Citizens Advice Bureau:** In 2011 Teesdale Citizens Advice, funded through UTASS, delivered **40, 3 hr drop in advice sessions** in the UTASS building in Middleton-in-Teesdale . There were **67** client contacts, **47** of which were new enquiries and **20** were repeat visits to deal with ongoing enquiries. The main enquiry area was Welfare Benefits but we also had a range of other enquiries including debt, housing and employment. We had several enquiries due to clients being affected by the long delays caused by the re-organisation of the Housing Benefit section within Durham County Council. We helped clients by providing relevant information on their rights and responsibilities, making phone calls and writing letters on their behalf. This service continues to be well used by people who live in Middleton-in-Teesdale but also attracts people from further up the dale and outlying villages who find it more convenient to go to Middleton than the main CAB office in Barnard Castle.

**Durham Dales Action for Carers:** Complementary Therapist, Helen Bellas, provided monthly therapy sessions, including reflexology, Indian head massage and aromatherapy - providing a treat and some "time out" for Carers.

**2D:** Used UTASS as a Volunteer Centre and for meetings with clients as part of the "Your Choice" employment & volunteering support scheme.

**Durham County Council:** Community Support Staff held monthly drop-in advice surgeries.

**Age Concern:** Used the premises on a monthly basis for their drop-in advice sessions.



**George F White:** Farmer advice clinics.

**Teesdale Physiotherapy:** Pilates sessions on Tuesdays (pm) and Wednesdays (am).

**Darlington MIND:** Weekly complementary therapy sessions and computer Training until May 2011.

**Middleton Plus Development Trust:** Monthly indoor Farmers Markets (January, February, March, October and November).

**Chiropodist Services:** A visiting Chiropodist provided services for private patients on a 6 weekly basis.

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

- **Teesdale Communities of Interest (CoI) Group**
- **Durham County Council**
- **Teesdale Heritage Group**
- **Durham County Council Local Children's Delivery Group**
- **Farmwatch**
- **North Pennine Dales LEADER**
- **Friday Morning Group**
- **Middleton - in - Teesdale Mart Board**
- **2D**

## **Funders, Assisters & Advisors:**

Please see **APPENDIX 3 page 32** and beyond. It should be noted that the freely given donations we received from Patrons, Trustees, Staff, Members and Volunteers formed an invaluable and essential part of our funding package. Many thanks to everyone who supported our work. **Your contributions were/are truly appreciated.** We are very grateful for the wide range of lovely gifts given to Staff members and the generosity of those who donated prizes for raffles etc.

### **Volunteer Contributions:**

A fantastic amount of hours equating to **£104,834.28** was **given by our many valued Volunteers**. This tremendous goodwill once again significantly eased the workload.

### **UTASS Bankers:**

Barclays, Darlington and the Dales, 31 High Row, Darlington.  
Yorkshire Building Society, C/O Addison & Co, Ebor House, 91 Galgate, Barnard Castle, Co Durham, DL12 8ES

### **UTASS Accountants:**

Addison & Co, Ebor House, 91 Galgate, Barnard Castle, Co Durham, DL12 8ES

### **UTASS Advisors:**

2D, Unit 9, Crook Business Centre, New Road, Crook, Co Durham, DL15 8QX

**Durham Rural Community Council (DRCC)**, Park House, Station Road, Lanchester, Co Durham, DH7 0EX

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

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

**Registered Charity number: 1120120**

**Company Limited by Guarantee number: 06054331**

**Telephone:** 01833 641010

**Fax:** 01833 640872

**Email:** [info@utass.org](mailto:info@utass.org)

**Website:** [www.utass.org](http://www.utass.org)

**Face book:** Utass Upper Teesdale

**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**.....

**Dr Jonathan Nainby-Luxmoore**  
**UTASS Chairperson**

**Date**.....

## APPENDIX 1 - 2011 TRAINING COURSES

DATE	COURSE TITLE	NUMBERS ATTENDING TRAINED	LENGTH OF SESSION - Hrs	TOTAL HOURS TRAINING
Jan-April '11	Lantra LandSkills 1:1 ICT Training	33	6.8 average	225
Jan-April '11	Basic & Excel Training (NLDC)	19	8.9 average	170
24.2.11	Lantra 13-16 Tractor Driving (1YP, 1 Apprentice)	2	6.0	12
24.2.11	Pre-Test Tractor Driving	3	3.0	9
25.2.11	Lantra 13-16 Tractor Driving	2	6.0	12
23.3.11	Promoting Well Being	15	6.0	90
21.5.11	Lantra 13-16 Tractor Driving	2	6.0	12
25.6.11	UTASS BWMB Shearing Course	12	6.0	72
26.6.11	UTASS BWMB Shearing Course	12	6.0	72
25.6.11	Lantra 13-16 Tractor Driving	2	6.0	12
Up to 31.7.11	NLDC Funded Trailer Training	6	3.0	90
4+5 Aug '11	Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training	10	12.0	120
15.10.11	Killhope Drystone Walling Assoc Training	5	6.0	30
26.11.11	Lantra 13-16 Tractor Driving	2	6.0	12
3.12.11	Lantra 13-16 Tractor Driving	2	6.0	12
During 2011	E-safeguarding training	12	3.0	36
		139		986

**986 hours of training attended leading to 139 individuals trained**

### TRAINING REFERRALS VIA OTHER PROVIDERS

Various	Vicky Anderson - Trailer, LGV Class 1 & 2 + Spraying, etc	15	6.0	90
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## MONITOR FARM TRAINING

DATE	COURSE TITLE	NUMBERS ATTENDING TRAINED	LENGTH OF SESSION - Hrs	TOTAL HOURS TRAINING
31.1.11	Outwintering Cattle	21	3	63
7.2.11	Eblex Live to Dead Visit	8	3	24
9.2.11	Improving Grassland Production	35	3	105
21.2.11	Indoor Flock Health	31	3	93
22.3.11	EFFP - Herd Health Plan Training	7	3	21
9.6.11	Shearwell Sheep EID Training	15	2	30
29.6.11	Review + Update on Cobalt Trials	24	3	72
19.7.11	Maximising Grassland looking at soil health	38	3	114
2.8.11	Marginal Grassland comparisons	30	3	90
9.8.11	Satellite Meeting re Forage Crops	21	3	63
20.9.11	Growth Rate Trials + Selection	21	3	63
27.9.11	Satellite Meeting re Renewables + Seeds	24	3	72
5.12.11	Review of 2nd Year	17	3	51
		292	38	861

**861 hrs of training attended leading to 292 attendances**

**TOTAL VALUE OF TRAINING ACCESSED £47,634**

## APPENDIX 2

### Farmers of the Future (FoF)

#### Training/Learning Areas

Unit	Courses	Learning Outcomes
1. Induction & basic farming skills	Induction Basic Animal Care and Handling Health and Safety – working safely in agriculture – LANTRA Manual Handling Emergency First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe and practice the basic skills for upland livestock farm work.</li> <li>• Demonstrate manual handling of sheep and cattle.</li> <li>• Evaluate the health and safety risks associated with upland livestock farming and how to reduce and manage those risks.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how to lift objects safely.</li> <li>• Demonstrate first aid procedures for a range of injuries.</li> </ul>
2. Animal Health	Promoting livestock health and welfare National Scrapie Plan and vet-med Sheep Shearing Sheep Dipping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the ways in which farmers care for animal health.</li> <li>• Evaluate the need for grazing rotation to maintain animal health.</li> <li>• Administer basic animal medicines.</li> <li>• Practice sheep shearing and dipping.</li> </ul>
3. Farm Machinery	Tractor Driving ATV (quad bike) Driving Fork Lift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drive a tractor and an ATV competently and safely.</li> <li>• Demonstrate appropriate and safe use of a fork lift.</li> </ul>
4. Farm Habitat Management	Upland Habitat Management Farming in Protected Landscapes Grassland Production and Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List and define the habitats on your farm.</li> <li>• Describe how moorland is managed for grouse shooting and the role of livestock.</li> <li>• Describe the Biodiversity Action Plan habitats and species found in the North Pennines.</li> <li>• Evaluate how farmers can accommodate wildlife and still maintain their business.</li> <li>• Assess grassland maintenance options, including muck-spreading, harrowing and chemical fertilizer applications.</li> </ul>
5. Basic Farming Skills 2	Trailer Use – Lantra Awards Dog Handling Presentation of sheep and Eblex 'better lamb' selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate competent and safe use of trailers.</li> <li>• Practice working with a sheep dog to manage livestock.</li> <li>• Demonstrate monitoring and managing of livestock outdoors.</li> <li>• Demonstrate how to prepare and market livestock for back end sales.</li> </ul>
6. Animal Health	Animals in Transit – NPTC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess and prepare livestock for transfer.</li> </ul>

	Cattle Foot Trimming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess cattle health and demonstrate cattle foot trimming.</li> </ul>
7. Animal Breeding	Calving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe calving procedures and possible complications</li> <li>• Practice assisting with calving</li> </ul>
8. Skills for Life	C&G literacy and numeracy – level 1 or 2 ICT skills and farm record keeping – level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply reading, writing and number skills to farm work issues on your farm.</li> <li>• Demonstrate farm record keeping using computerised systems.</li> </ul>
9. Farm Maintenance	Dry stone walling – Lantra Fencing – Lantra Machinery and tractor maintenance – Lantra Pesticides - NPTC Mole and rabbit control - Lantra Hedge laying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe and demonstrate how to construct, maintain and repair structures, surfaces and equipment</li> <li>• Describe the problems caused by weeds, moles and rabbits, recognise field evidence for these and safely demonstrate their control</li> </ul>
10. Business issues in upland livestock farming	Basic introduction to business issues in upland livestock farming Agri-environment and other grant schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe how farmers operate the financial side of their businesses and the role of subsidies.</li> <li>• Assess the business case for organic production.</li> <li>• Describe how to market local produce and Farm Assurance schemes.</li> <li>• Evaluate the role of farm diversification.</li> <li>• Evaluate whether agri-environmental schemes offer farmers an incentive to farm with the environment and wildlife in mind.</li> </ul>
11. Animal breeding	Lambing techniques Lamb hypothermia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe lambing procedures and possible complications.</li> <li>• Practice assisting with lambing.</li> </ul>
12. Preparation for your farming career	Enterprise Essentials Final course workshop: Your future in farming and job seeking skills One-to-one next steps counselling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe how to become self-employed and assess whether this is something you would like to do.</li> <li>• Design and produce your CV.</li> <li>• Practice informal job interviews.</li> <li>• Plan your next steps in farming.</li> </ul>

# **APPENDIX 3**

## **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**