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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 Paul Butler - Bishop of Durham

Voluntary Management Committee Trustees/Board:

<u>Trustee</u>	Date due for end of first term as Trustee and able to be re-elected at AGM in the year
Sally Ann Teward	2015
Kay Hutchinson	2016
Richard Matthews	2016
Carl Stephenson (Co-opted until 18 th March 2014 then full Trustee from 18 th March 2014)	2017
Roy Oxby from 18 th March 2014	2017
Rachel Watson from 18 th March 2014	2017
Robyn Peat from 9 th December 2014	2018
Dr Jonathan Nainby-Luxmoore (Honorary Chairperson)	Potential Chairperson until 2019
lan Tallentire (Honorary Vice Chairperson from 29 th April 2014)	Potential Vice-Chairperson until 2019
Bob Danby (Honorary Treasurer)	Potential Treasurer until 2019
Louise Dalton (Honorary Secretary)	Potential Secretary until 2019

Voluntary Management Committee Trustees/Board who retired in

2014: Gary Bevan until 18th March 2014

Alan Scott (Honorary Vice Chairperson -until retiring on 18th March 2014) Ion Stoddart until 29th April 2014

UTASS Core & Project Staff:

Stephen Beddard Caretaker/Cleaner at Mart/Aspire Building from July 2014

Ann Bell Administration & Support Worker (Monitoring & Office Systems)

Hayley Bell Middleton Hub Development Worker

Richard Betton Local Farmers' Liaison Worker

Theo Clapp Sessional Youth Worker

Lucy Jenkins Project Officer (Funding)

Gordon A. Jones Administration & Support Worker (Children & Young People)

Gina Richardson Sessional Youth Worker

Anne Scott Administration & Support Worker (Finance)

Jennifer Smurthwaite Domestic Support Worker (and Sessional Children & Young

People's Support Worker from April 2014)

Diane Spark Project Manager (Company Secretary)

Emma Spry Administration & Support Worker (Social Media)

Julia Stephenson Administration & Support Worker (Training Co-ordinator)

Tessa Wigham Agricultural Secretary

Other Associated Staff:

Zelda Heney Auxiliary Worker employed by Durham County Council Positive

Activities for Young People from September 2014

Andrew Robinson Auxiliary Worker employed by Durham County Council Positive

Activities for Young People from January 2014

Jennifer Smurthwaite Youth Worker employed by Durham County Council Positive

Activities for Young People

Rosie Thompson Auxiliary Worker employed by Durham County Council Positive

Activities for Young People until June 2014

Tracey Wills Advice Worker employed by Barnard Castle Citizens Advice

Bureau (CAB) funded by UTASS

Chairperson's Report:

2014 was a busy but productive year where our accomplishments again surpassed expectations. The weather throughout the year was better than in previous years – which greatly assisted all Farmers.

With hard work and good fortune we were able to secure funding from over 40 different grant providers to support the majority of our core and project work throughout the year. This is a major achievement in the current climate of austerity and a reflection of all our staff's great efforts.

The Friends of UTASS brought it an amazing £5,355 in 2014 which was £320 more than in 2013. The 2014 winner of the annual Friends of UTASS draw was W P Williamson, who very kindly gave the £100 prize money back to UTASS.



UTASS, along with Durham Dales Enterprise Community Interest Company (DDECIC) and Middleton in Teesdale Farmers Auction Mart, continued working in partnership on Rural Growth Network funded projects. August 2014 saw the official opening of the 4 new business development units (Yan, Tyan, Tethera & Methera) in the Aspire building at the Middleton Farmers Auction Mart site. David Yiend (Chair of The Prince's Rural Action Programme representing HRH The Prince of Wales) unveiled a plaque and cut the ribbon in the company of over 100 distinguished guests.



A fifth unit (Pip) was developed in October on the UTASS site simultaneously with office, training, meeting and reception facilities within the UTASS building itself. All 5 business units remain tenanted and the improved UTASS facilities are being well utilised by UTASS members as well as outside groups, organisations and individuals.

We continued to investigate the possibility of bringing the disused Field Studies Centre on Bridge Street back into community use while at the same time working with Upper Teesdale Community Association to explore the needs for and feasibility of a brand new community facility.

We welcomed new UTASS Trustees Roy Oxby, Rachel Watson and Robyn Peat. We were sorry to lose the expertise of Alan Scott who was one of the key founders of UTASS and Ion Stoddart who served as a Trustee for 13 years.

2015 will bring many challenges for our Farmers and UTASS - not least the additional stresses and workload associated with the government's "digital by default "agenda. Year on year more of our members appear to be embracing and effectively using information technology as an everyday part of farming. However for many being able to access the internet (especially at an acceptable speed) is still not an option available. UTASS will continue our efforts to provide a flexible and user friendly support service. This will ensure members are provided with appropriate information, advice, guidance and training to help them making informed decisions. Special thanks to all those who help make this possible.

Again this year the numbers of children and young people attending the youth work sessions increased. The UTASS minibus continues to provide a valuable service for those with limited or in most cases non-existent public transport provision.

In closing I again relay an enormous thanks to our amazing team of Patrons, Trustees, Staff and Volunteers – without whom we could not operate. Your generosity with your time and commitment is outstanding and I am truly grateful to one and all.

Dr Jonathan Nainby - Luxmoore

Project Manager's Report:

On behalf of our dedicated, caring and hardworking Staff, Trustees, Volunteers and Patrons I am again delighted to report on work we have been involved in for public benefit throughout 2014, 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 sustainable methods of dealing with on-farm paperwork, including the computerisation of records.
- Quarterly Community Newsletters.
- 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.
- Advocacy and liaison work with local Landlords, Defra & other agencies.
- Lamb Bank, Sales & Wants and Labour/Skills List development work.
- Organisation and delivery of social & community events.
- Topical presentations & awareness raising events (including educational visits).
- 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 & organisations including Citizens Advice Bureau.
- Provision of facilities for Pilates sessions, chiropody and community meetings.
- Facilities for advertising local businesses/services.
- Internet access, photocopying & faxing facilities.
- Support with the organisation and provision of annual local agricultural shows, monthly producers markets and car boot sales.

- Administration and collection point for the NEFirst Credit Union.
- Provision of minibus for community use and training.
- Teesdale Heritage Group and Wear & Tees Farm Watch 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.

Single Farm Payment Work: As usual March, April and early May were extremely busy due to the advice and support offered to Farmers with the preparation and submission of their Single Payment Scheme (SPS) applications in time for the Rural Payments Agency (RPA) 15th of May deadline. Persistent glitches with the RPA's online application system further compounded problems and stress. Farmers coming into UTASS early was much appreciated by the UTASS Staff who have their own lambing to manage. **71%** of assisted applications were submitted online which is an increase of **7%** on last year.

Graziers Groups: We have continued to support and develop 6 Graziers Groups. The 6 Graziers Groups are due to receive £3,780,750.00 amongst them between 2011 - 2021.

UTASS Membership: We completed the review of our membership and at the end of 2014 our member household mailing list stood at **375** addresses **(345** farms and **30** other households/agencies/organisations) totalling **1065** members. On average we receive **2** household membership applications per month.

Contact Monitoring Data: 23,215 contacts (**616** less than last year) resulting in **24,973** presenting issues.

The most popular support areas were: Administration support, including assistance with form filling, faxing, emails, photocopying etc. (12,572 instances – 682 more than last year). Provision of advice and information (7,359 instances – 106 less than last year)

Service users told us the main stressor causing them distress was: Keeping up to date with legislation & complex paperwork/IT requirements

Activities, Achievements and Outputs Included:

Providing varying				
degrees of direct/	227		132	
assistance to:	instances of	\ /	farmers with	
assistance to.	support with SPS		HLS	
			Applications /	
80 instances of	applications (162 online)	46 farmers	claim forms /	48
support	(102 online)	with their Entry	queries /	instances of
with SPS queries /	\rightarrow	and Upland Entry	\rightarrow	support with
problems /	76	Level Scheme	/_ \	sheep tagging, flock records
cross	instances of	Applications/	5 instances	and legislation
compliance	support	queries	of support	and registation
	with SPS	28 instances	Conservation	
23 people	Commons	of support	Plans	2 instances of
with Entitlement	issues	with their	T Idiis	support
checks and transfer	$\overline{}$	Environment	\rightarrow	with Agricultural
advice pre BPS	'	Agency Waste	51	Census forms
	35 farmers	Exemptions /	instances of	\
—	with their		support	
68 farmers	Sheep Annual	10	with Soil	
with inspection	Inventory	/ farmers	Protection	1 person
assistance	\ /	with Farm	Reviews /	with FFIS grant
(includes		Assurance	$\overline{}$	application &
Commons	4 instances of	applications/	28 instances	claim
Groups)		issues	20 Instances	\
(-,	support	155005	of cupport	
	vith new Holding	/	of support	
	The same of the sa	· >	with mapping	4 farmers
\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	rit <mark>h new Hold</mark> ing/	6 instances		4 farmers with Farm Business
24 online	vith new Holding/ Flock/Herd	6 instances of support	with mapping	4 farmers with Farm Business Plans / Tenancy
24 online VAT	vith new Holding, Flock/Herd numbers	6 instances of support with RPA	with mapping issues	with Farm Business
24 online	rith new Holding, Flock/Herd numbers 193 instances	6 instances of support	with mapping issues 1 instance of	with Farm Business Plans /Tenancy
24 online VAT	rith new Holding, Flock/Herd numbers 193 instances of support	6 instances of support with RPA	with mapping issues 1 instance of support	with Farm Business Plans / Tenancy Applications /
24 online VAT	rith new Holding, Flock/Herd numbers 193 instances of support with BCMS	6 instances of support with RPA appeals	with mapping issues 1 instance of support with probate	with Farm Business Plans / Tenancy Applications / New Registrations
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24 online VAT submissions 1 instance of support with feed regulations	rith new Holding, Flock/Herd numbers 193 instances of support with BCMS requirements/ issues 5 farmers	6 instances of support with RPA appeals 12 instances of support with RPA Customer Registration	with mapping issues 1 instance of support with probate issues & business transfer with RPA 5 instances of	with Farm Business Plans / Tenancy Applications / New Registrations 3 farmers with Stocking
24 online VAT submissions 1 instance of support with feed regulations	rith new Holding, Flock/Herd numbers 193 instances of support with BCMS requirements/ issues 5 farmers with Dip Dispose	6 instances of support with RPA appeals 12 instances of support with RPA Customer Registration	with mapping issues 1 instance of support with probate issues & business transfer with RPA 5 instances of support	with Farm Business Plans / Tenancy Applications / New Registrations 3 farmers with Stocking density
24 online VAT submissions 1 instance of support with feed regulations	rith new Holding, Flock/Herd numbers 193 instances of support with BCMS requirements/ issues 5 farmers with Dip Dispose Licences &	6 instances of support with RPA appeals 12 instances of support with RPA Customer Registration	with mapping issues 1 instance of support with probate issues & business transfer with RPA 5 instances of support with	with Farm Business Plans / Tenancy Applications / New Registrations 3 farmers with Stocking density
24 online VAT submissions 1 instance of support with feed regulations	rith new Holding, Flock/Herd numbers 193 instances of support with BCMS requirements/ issues 5 farmers with Dip Dispose	6 instances of support with RPA appeals 12 instances of support with RPA Customer Registration queries	with mapping issues 1 instance of support with probate issues & business transfer with RPA 5 instances of support with DEFRA	with Farm Business Plans / Tenancy Applications / New Registrations 3 farmers with Stocking density calculations
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24 online VAT submissions 1 instance of support with feed regulations 12 instances of support with Council Tax.	rith new Holding, Flock/Herd numbers 193 instances of support with BCMS requirements/ issues 5 farmers with Dip Dispose Licences & Records	6 instances of support with RPA appeals 12 instances of support with RPA Customer Registration queries 357 Animal Movement	with mapping issues 1 instance of support with probate issues & business transfer with RPA 5 instances of support with DEFRA Surveys	with Farm Business Plans / Tenancy Applications / New Registrations 3 farmers with Stocking density calculations 15 people
24 online VAT submissions 1 instance of support with feed regulations 12 instances of support with Council Tax. State Benefits &	rith new Holding, Flock/Herd numbers 193 instances of support with BCMS requirements/ issues 5 farmers with Dip Dispose Licences & Records	6 instances of support with RPA appeals 12 instances of support with RPA Customer Registration queries 357 Animal Movement Licence notifications	with mapping issues 1 instance of support with probate issues & business transfer with RPA 5 instances of support with DEFRA Surveys	with Farm Business Plans / Tenancy Applications / New Registrations 3 farmers with Stocking density calculations 15 people with driving/ firearms /shotgun
24 online VAT submissions 1 instance of support with feed regulations 12 instances of support with Council Tax.	rith new Holding, Flock/Herd numbers 193 instances of support with BCMS requirements/ issues 5 farmers with Dip Dispose Licences & Records	6 instances of support with RPA appeals 12 instances of support with RPA Customer Registration queries 357 Animal Movement Licence notifications sent for	with mapping issues 1 instance of support with probate issues & business transfer with RPA 5 instances of support with DEFRA Surveys	with Farm Business Plans / Tenancy Applications / New Registrations 3 farmers with Stocking density calculations 15 people with driving/ firearms /shotgun licence

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 £12,586 (an 8% decrease on last year), assisting 227 farm businesses equates to approximately £2,857,022 (an increase of 11.5% on last year)
- Direct assistance with SPS forms given to **227** farm businesses. Assume an average Single Farm Payment of £12,586. Assume 20% 'minor' mistakes with 10% penalties equates to **£57,104.44**. For those farmer members who have agri-environmental agreements cross compliance penalties would also apply.
- Support given to numerous members with Environmental Stewardship Schemes (ELS, UELS & HLS) including applications equates to a minimum £4,150,000.00 over the 10 year duration of HLS with UELS.
- 17% automatic penalties for failure to maintain a Soil Protection Review (Cross Compliance) would equate to a minimum of £147,633.78 if applied to 20% 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 £2,923.00.
- 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 £288,765.00

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. **7** briefings were produced covering a wide range of topics including Cross Compliance, Annual Sheep and Goat Inventory and Identification, Basic Payment Scheme 2015 updates and HLS Derogations.

Those who worked in partnership with us included:

- National Farmers Union (NFU)
- Natural England
- Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratory Agency (AHVLA)
- North Pennines AONB Partnership
- Castle Vets
- Farm Community Network (FCN)
- Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institute (RABI)
- Middleton in Teesdale Farmers' Auction Mart (Development Project)
- Raby Estates
- South West Durham Enterprise Agency
- Environment Agency
- Rural Payments Agency (RPA)
- Strathmore Estates
- Eblex
- Bishop Auckland College
- Northumberland and Durham County Councils
- Northern Upland Chain Local Nature Partnership
- CAPIS Digital Support Team
- John Warren ABP
- Rare Breeds Survival Trust
- Country Landowners Association
- Galloway Cattle Society
- Yorkshire Agricultural Show Society
- Weardale Community Transport
- Woodland Trust

Training undertaken by UTASS Staff included:

<u>Training</u> <u>Staff Members</u>

Get Mentoring in Farming Richard Betton

Mentoring Supervision Richard Betton

Cap Reform (Workshops & Training) Richard Betton, Tessa Wigham, Ann Bell,

Anne Scott, Julia Stephenson, Gordon

Jones & Emma Spry.

New Environmental Land Management Scheme (NELMS) Richard Betton

National Sheep Association (EID & Sheep Movement) Tessa Wigham

Mental Health First Aid Ann Bell, Emma Spry & Julia Stephenson

Defibrillator training Ann Bell

Nutrient Management Tessa Wigham

Cross Compliance Tessa Wigham, Ann Bell & Julia

Stephenson

Farming Community Network training days Richard Betton

RPA Appeals Panel Training Tessa Wigham

Training: A wide and varied range of training took place in 2014 - **Please see APPENDIX 1 at page 25**



Community Newsletters:

4 were produced and distributed to members and other interested agencies and 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 & International Levels Included:

- Defra's ongoing meetings re: the Soil Protection Review
- Meeting with James Cross, CEO of Natural England
- Follow up with Ministers and local MP, Helen Goodman, on impact of CAP reform on Hill Farming
- Liaison with Anne Macintosh MP on CAP Reform
- Follow up meetings re: Natural England evidence review
- Regular attendance at NE 'Land Agents' briefing
- NFU Council, Regional Board and Upland Group
- FCN regional conference
- Liaison with RPA Stress Team
- Attendance at FCN Branch meetings and national management team
- Attendance at IAgSA meetings
- AONB partnership and North Pennine Chain Local Nature Partnership
- Member of RPA and Natural England Independent Appeals Panels
- Red Tape event at the House of Commons with Owen Patterson & Oliver Letwin

Agricultural Shows:

We provided assistance to Middleton - in - Teesdale Spring Show (High Force Show) and Langdon Beck Show Committees including preparing and printing the schedules and catalogues. Richard Betton was the Licence Holder and Bio-Security Officer for both the High Force and Langdon Beck Shows.

Support for other Agencies & Organisations Included:

Upper Teesdale Churches
Swaledale Sheep Breeders Association (SSBA)
Eggleston Parish Council
Eggleston Village Committee
Newbiggin WI
Teesdale Day Clubs
Middleton in Teesdale Fitness Suite
Dales Pony Society



Middleton's Magical Memories Exhibition:

We held 'A Decade of Carnivals' exhibition over Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th March displaying over 800 photographs, kindly donated by John Wilkinson. The exhibition paid tribute to carnivals held in Middleton in Teesdale between 1979 and 1988. Just over 300 people came to see the exhibition, many staying for 2 or 3 hours, and all leaving with nothing but positive comments which included "The best £1 I've ever spent", "Excellent display of photos and a lot of forgotten faces brought back to mind, well worth a visit", "Brilliant collection of photos it was definitely worth a drive to Middleton for a look." And "Fantastic. Lots of familiar faces, well worth a look!! Well done to the organisers".

ICT Support:

The use of the community computer in UTASS increased again this year – mainly due to job search activities and tourists. Our PowerPoint projector and screen were also loaned out on numerous occasions for wider community benefit.

Computerised Farm Records and Agricultural Secretarial Work:

Sheep Electronic Identification (EID) was, and continues to be, a big worry for many farming businesses. This is particularly so as hardy hill breeds of horned sheep are the only livestock (and their keepers and family) that can survive in the uplands on poor forage areas. We have seen a large increase in the number of requests for assistance with record keeping for sheep. As CAP reform is introduced in 2015 in the form of the Basic Payment Scheme, those with surplus single farm payment entitlements or areas less than 5 ha will lose these entitlements. UTASS has received many enquiries and supported businesses in 2014 and it is estimated that in 2015 there will be an input of at least £1,000.00 for every business we have helped with computerised records i.e. **23 businesses circa £23,000**.

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

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

Presentations & Awareness Raising Events/Activities Included:

- Presentation and farm visit for NFU Upland Group
- The Prince's Countryside Fund celebration of work in Wales event at the Welsh Office.
- Presentation to group from South Yorkshire interested in replicating some of the services UTASS offer.
- Presentation and farm visit for The Prince's Countryside Fund new staff members.
- "Seeing is Believing" Presentation and farm visit for The Prince of Wales's Business in the Community National Board.



UTASS Minibus:

Was very well used by a range of organisations including Middleton and Forest – in – Teesdale Primary Schools, Teesdale Day Clubs, North Pennines AONB Partnership as well as providing a regular Thursday evening service bringing in young people to UTASS from the most isolated parts of the upper dale and returning them home.



We also began a 2 year minibus driving training project which is funded through the Teesdale Action Partnership. This training is available for all voluntary organisations in Teesdale. The aim of the project is to increase the number of volunteer drivers available to these organistions.

Comments and thanks received from users of UTASS in 2014 included:

"The Staff are fantastic." "There's always a helping hand and a smile, whatever the situation"

"Nice people, very helpful."

"I couldn't survive

without UTASS."

"It is great to know we can have help at any time.

"The sprayer training last week was great, really enjoyed it and it saved me loads of money."

"My daughter has gained information & confidence in setting up her own small rural business.
The advice etc. was here in our

village & invaluable."

"We no longer farm but we would like to thank all of you for the

help & support that you have given us over the past 4 year's We hope you continue with your good work."

"UTASS does exceptionally good work and I am very keen that the organisation continues to thrive."

"UTASS is always my first phone call when I am unsure of anything.
Always helpful and friendly."

"UTASS has helped me a lot since the death of my father because I knew nothing about the farm. But UTASS has .

helped with all the paperwork and ______.

I am very thankful for their help."

"UTASS has been one of the best things for Teesdale farmers! Since 2004 I suddenly had to take on all farm related business, the help and advice I have received is fantastic. Brilliant staff, always willing to help. Long may it continue!"

Work with Children & Young People:

Young Peoples' Facilities:

Sessions provided much needed social facilities on weekday evenings, some weekends and during school holidays. Many of those living on remote farms were transported to and from activities in the **UTASS mini bus**.

The Young People continued to play their part in the management, development and financing of their project and we achieved **Investing in Children** for the **9**th year running.

A total of **204** Young People **(92 female and 112 male)** accessed the Drop In and Youth Club at UTASS. This is an **18% increase** on last year.

Sessions were delivered weekly throughout the year on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Thursday evenings were the most popular with an average attendance of **67** Young People. An average of **20** Young People aged 8-14 years attended the Monday Night Girls Group. Wednesday evening cookery sessions had an average attendance of **16**.

Activities and facilities provided at Young Peoples' sessions included:

- Film & TV nights
- Arcade dance mats and car racing machines
- Treadmill and cross trainer
- Arts & Crafts
- Specialist information nights (See photograph below showing Young People learning about resuscitation)
- Healthy eating nights
- Games nights including darts, table tennis, carpet bowls & pool competitions
- CV preparation sessions and job application support
- 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, play station and internet café

School holiday and offsite activities included:

- Mixed crafts
- Bowling, Ice Skating and Lazer Tag
- Work with Durham County Council to name the new units at the Mart
- Paintballing
- Visit to Diggerland
- Sailing at Grassholme Reservoir
- Young People's First Aid training
- ATV Safety training





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

- Police
- 4Real (Drug & Alcohol Advisory Service)
- Billiejean Summerbell (DISC LGBT Health and Wellbeing Worker)
- YMCA
- DLI World War One memorabilia visit



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

- Putting together food hampers for the Cameron Relief in Sickness Charity
- Sponsored walk organised by George F White Staff



Youth Work Staff & Volunteers training included:

Training	Staff/Volunteer member/s		
Emergency First Aid	Beryl Banks, Gina Richardson and Jen Smurthwaite		
C-Card update	Gordon Jones and Jen Smurthwaite		

Educational Visits:

Continued with a further **2** schools leading to **71** Young People benefitting. Julia Stephenson and Jennie Stafford provided sessions about the farming year and how it affects all that we see around us.



A selection of some of the comments made about the Drop In and Youth Club in 2014:

"Nowt to do at home "We get a choice of and I live miles away where we want to go from my mates." on a trip." "I like to do the cooking as we get to make and eat different things." "I like to annoy the boys and some of my friends go to a different school so I only see them when I come here." "I feel confident talking to the people that work there they listen to my problems and try and sort them out." "Lots and lots of fun like different games and the tread mill and cross "UTASS is great because you trainer help me keep fit." get to run around and make orsome stuff." "I like UTASS because I make "UTASS is cool." new friends."

Durham Dales Enterprise Community Interest Company (DDECIC):

Was established in March 2013 as a vehicle to access significant Rural Growth Network (RGN) resources to develop "Middleton Hub". DDECIC manages the Middleton Hub in partnership with UTASS and in 2014 has played an integral role in developments at UTASS and Middleton Farmers Mart.

Middleton Hub offers a range of facilities/services based on the two sites:

- New business incubator units
- Business support/advice
- Flexible office space
- Co-working opportunities
- Meeting Rooms
- Communal Space
- Training Facilities



DEVELOPMENTS AT MIDDLETON FARMERS MART: A new building, housing four brand new business units, opened in July 2014. The building and units were named by local young people to acknowledge the history and tradition of the area; Yan, Tyan, Tethera and Methera in the Aspire Building. The building and units, which were designed and built to complement the new kitchen and meeting room facilities which were opened in 2012, are due to be managed by DDECIC for 5 years.



DEVELOPMENTS AT UTASS: Completed refurbishment in January 2015. There is a self-contained fifth business unit; 'Pip', nine co-working spaces, two individual meeting rooms/office space and a large conference/training room. A refurbished reception area accompanies the UTASS site of Middleton Hub.

Middleton Hub held a selection of workshops and training throughout the year for business and agricultural purposes. These included Enterprising Creative Mums and Make the most of Middleton Workshops, and a Hub Development Open Day.

Outreach Facilities and Services:

<u>Citizens Advice Bureau</u>: The service was delivered fortnightly. Sessions were held from 9.00 am to 1.00pm every other Monday, provided on a no appointment dropin basis.

In 2014 Teesdale CAB combined with all the other bureaux throughout Co Durham to become one large bureau.

The outreach session, which UTASS has generously supported for many years, was able to continue to provide a vital service to people living in Middleton-in-Teesdale and the surrounding area.

This outreach advice service has provide **23 fortnightly sessions.** We helped **37 clients** and although numbers are healthy, there is capacity to see more.

Many of the clients we see have difficulty getting into the office at Barnard Castle due to poor bus links and find the local CAB service a welcome addition to the advice and many other activities provided by UTASS.

<u>2D</u>: Used UTASS for Information, Advice and Guidance meetings with Clients.

<u>Durham County Council:</u> Monthly - Community Support Staff offering drop in advice surgeries.

George F White: Monthly- Farmer advice clinics.

Teesdale Physiotherapy: Pilates sessions on Wednesdays (am).

<u>Middleton Plus Development Trust:</u> Monthly indoor Farmers Markets during winter months.

<u>Chiropodist Services:</u> A visiting Chiropodist provided services for private patients on a 6 weekly basis.

Durham County Carers: Fortnightly - drop in sessions and carers coffee mornings

South Durham Enterprise Agency: Weekly - Rural Enterprise Development Officer

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

- Teesdale Heritage Group (social events, storage of artefacts and archiving)
- Farmwatch (meetings)
- Middleton Christmas Lights Group (storage of Christmas lights)
- The Cameron Relief in Sickness Fund (meetings and administration)

Funders, Assisters & Advisors:

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.

Volunteer Contributions:

A fantastic amount of gift in kind hours equating to £106,271.00 (a 12% increase on last year) 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.

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

UTASS Accountant:

Jane Ascroft Accountancy Ltd. DL11 7HH.

UTASS Advisors:

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

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: Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services

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 preven	t problems from getting
to the desperate stage"	

Signed by	Date	
Dr Jonathan Nainby-Luxmoore		

UTASS Chairperson

APPENDIX 1

DATE	TRAINING SESSION OFFERED	ATTENDEES
4.1.14	Pre-Test Tractor Training (1 hour session)	1
11.1.14	Pre-Test Tractor Training (1 hour session)	2
27.1.14	Cash Flow Training (3 hrs)	8
3.2.14	Cash Flow Training (3 hrs)	8
10.2.14	Cash Flow Training (3 hrs)	8
13.2.14 & 14.2.14	Mental Health First Aid attended by UTASS staff	4 x 2 days
17.2.14	Visit to Newton Rigg by UTASS staff and YP Drop In	7
22.2.14	Pre-Test Tractor Training	2
25.2.14	Level 2 Award in Food Safety	14
4.3.14	Defibrillator Training at UTASS	12
5.3.14	Educational Visit at Evenwood School	33
7.3.14	Animal Health & Topical Diseases, Middleton Mart	25
11.3.14	Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid	10
11.3.14	Defibrillator Training at Langdon Beck	19
23.5.14	Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid	10
29.5.14	Lantra 13-16 Tractor Driving	2
21.6.14	Lantra 13-16 Tractor Driving	2
28.6.14 + 29.6.14	BWMB 2 Day Shearing Course	7 x 2 days
28.6.14	Lantra 13-16 Tractor Driving	2
1.7.14	Educational Visit by Bowes Hutchinson Primary School	38
3.7.14	Pre Test Tractor Training	1
23.7.14	Young Lifesaver	10
27.8.14	NPTC Spray Theory Training & Assessment	17*
27.8.14	NPTC Cert. of Comp. for the Transport of Livestock Assess	4*
29.8.14 + 1.9.14	NPTC Spray Practical Training — Hand Held Sprayer	6 x 2 days*
28.8.14 + 3.9.14	NPTC Spray Practical Training – Mounted/Hand Held	6 x 2 days*
4.9.14	NPTC Spray Practical Training – Mounted Sprayer	4*
23.10.14	Farm & Quad Bike Safety for UTASS Drop In	11
11.12.14 & 12.12.14	MiDAS Minibus Training funded by TAP	7
Various dates	Other Sir Tom Cowie funded Car & Trailer trainees	5

^{*}NPTC Assessments also arranged for all trainees

With grateful thanks to The Sir Tom Cowie Charitable Trust, The Ernest Cook Trust, The Heart of Teesdale Landscape Partnership, Castle Vets, Teesdale Area Partnership and other funders for providing funding for training or visits. Thanks too to Middleton Mart, H&H Staff and to all those members and staff who have generously helped with requests for help or to provide equipment for training courses.

APPENDIX 2

Statement of Financial Activities (Incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account) Year Ended 31 December 2014

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2014	Total Funds 2013
	Note	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources					
Incoming resources from generating funds:					
Voluntary income	2	28,767	112,156	140,923	161,495
Investment income	3	1,817	-	1,817	650
Incoming resources from charitable activities	4	20,339	128,377	148,716	144,934
Total Incoming Resource	es	50,923	240,533	291,456	307,079
Resources Expended					
Charitable activities	5	(82,511)	(214,237)	(296,748)	(271,369)
Governance costs	6	-	(1,764)	(1,764)	(1,320)
Total Resources Expen	ded	(82,511)	(216,001)	(298,512)	(272,689)
Net (Outgoing)/Incoming Resources Before	7	(24 500)	04 520	(7.056)	24 200
Transfers	7	(31,588)	24,532	(7,056)	34,390
Transfer between funds	8	14,663	(14,663)		
Net (Expenditure)/Incon the Year	ne for	(16,925)	9,869	(7,056)	34,390
Reconciliation of Funds	;				
Total funds brought forwa	ırd	129,773	48,522	178,295	143,905
Total Funds Carried For	ward	112,848	58,391	171,239	178,295

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

THE FULL ACCOUNTS (21 PAGES) ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST