

UPPER TEESDALE AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES LTD

(Supporting our Communities in the Durham Dales)

Best Agricultural Community Support Initiative (North East England) in the Farming & Agricultural Awards 2017 - Industry Insight Monthly



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Patrons: The Lord Barnard, DL, The Reverend Rachel Benson, DL, The Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne, Dr Patrick Lavery, Sir Paul and Lady Nicholson and The Rt Revd Paul Butler - Bishop of Durham

Dear Member

Three months ago, I don't think we could have foreseen the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic, and the uncertainty and anxiety coping with it has brought.

Dealing with that is difficult and we here at UTASS would like to help you to get through the uncertainty.

Please, if you need help, whether that is technical advice or just someone to talk to, pick up the phone and speak to one of our staff. Whatever your problem we will try and find the answer.

We have increased our opening times, the emergency phone is staffed 24 hrs a day 7 days a week, and we now have access to free counselling services, kindly provided by qualified volunteers.

Richard's latest briefing is attached, also a leaflet about forward planning in case you must self-isolate. I would love to think that won't happen to any of us, but just in case it would be foolish not to plan. If you want help with this, the team are here to advise.

The outbreak has forced training to grind to a halt, only online training remains. There are some snippets of information regarding that overleaf.

From all of the staff at UTASS, keep yourselves safe and well, remember we are here to help.

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Training

Julia is looking at ways online training such as Lantra "E-Learning" rodent control, can be accessed and is preparing a list of online training courses for community members.

We've also had enquiries relating to Tractor Tests, licensing entitlements and how Critical Workers can apply for Emergency Tests, including Theory Tests. For information, here is a link to the gov.uk website

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-driving-tests-and-theory-tests>

The National Proficiency & Training Council are still taking registrations, training and assessments will continue once we are able.

John Jones Training will be running an NPTC Safe Use of Sheep Dip training and assessment at Penrith as soon as they resume training if anyone wants to attend. Their contact number is 01768 898731.