







Tees-Swale news November 2023



News and events from the **Tees-Swale**: *naturally connected* programme. Keep up to date with our posts on social media using the hashtag **#TeesSwale**. Join the **Tees-Swale Facebook group here**.



Welcome to the November newsletter. This autumn we have been celebrating the links between farming and nature through a series of evening talks. These culminate in the final talk of the series by Nic Rennison followed by the award ceremony to announce the winners of the Tees-Swale: Naturally Connected High Nature Value Farming Awards. We are also highlighting volunteer opportunities and introducing the first of a series of regular blogs from this year's Tees-Swale trainees.

High Nature Value Farming Awards



We are presenting the Tees-Swale: Naturally Connected High Nature Value Awards after our farming and nature evening talk on Wednesday 29 November at the Moorcock Inn in Eggleston.

The talk, 'What we didn't know', by Nic Rennison will cover her farming journey, from dairy farming, working within the industry, moving to an upland sheep and beef farm in the Pennines in 2012. Realising the

conventional system wasn't going to pay the mortgage, big changes have happened over the last ten years at the farm Cannerheugh, both between the ears and in the field.

Everyone is welcome. The hour-long talk will commence at 7.30pm, followed by a half hour discussion, with the awards presentation from 9 to 10pm.

Find out more and book

Volunteer opportunities



Plug planting in Teesdale Join us planting wildflower plugs into upland hay meadows on 21 November. Sign-

up here



Tree seed sowing at Bowlees Help us to sow seeds collected from local trees at in Teesdale on 29 November. <u>Sign up</u> here



Volunteer at
Bowlees nursery
Help us on the last
Wednesday of each
month growing trees
and wildflowers. Signup here

Hedge and tree planting



Join us at farms in Teesdale planting hedges and trees for nature recovery on Friday 8 and Saturday 9 December, Thursday 11, Sunday 21, Monday 22 and Wednesday 31 January 2024, 10am to 3.30pm. All are welcome, children must be supervised by adult. A general level of fitness is needed.

Find out more and sign-up

Eller Beck improvements for biodiversity



Tees Rivers Trust, working with the North Pennines AONB Partnership through the Farming in Protected Landscapes and Tees-Swale: Naturally Connected programmes, has completed work on Eller Beck to remove a weir and concrete crossing at Rutherford Bridge, and build a steel section bailey bridge.

The project will have a positive impact on local biodiversity, removing a major barrier to fish migration, and also reducing the flood risk at this location as the beck becomes more naturalised.

Read more here

Pendlebury Award



The North Pennines AONB Partnership has opened nominations for its annual Pendlebury Award, which recognises those who go the extra mile to look after the globally important North Pennines landscape. The award is open to groups and individuals involved in conservation in the area, or in helping people understand and enjoy nature and heritage. The award is inspired by the late Bob Pendlebury, the first chair of the North Pennines AONB Partnership, and also a local councillor, who was a great campaigner for the area, promoting its beauty at every opportunity.

The AONB Partnership would like to hear from anyone who wants to make a nomination, by the closing date of Friday 18 November 2023. The winner of the award will be announced at the AONB Partnership's Annual Forum online event on 13 December.

Read more here

Event updates and trainee blogs









Wild Wednesdays

explore Teesdale

A group of Middleton scouts, cubs and leaders used Low Way Farm bunk barn as a base.

Read more



Getting a wiggle on in Swaledale

Three days of earthworm sampling and identification with the Biological Recording Company.

Read more

EUROPARC Conference 2023

A trainee visits the Netherlands for the 50th anniversary of EUROPARC.

Read more



Improving rights of way

A trainee helps to maintain rights of way in Teesdale and learns drystone walling techniques.

Read more

Read more

at Bowlees

series of Wild

During the summer

holidays we held a

Wednesday naturebased activities.



Stories and stars at Hannah's meadow

An evening of astronomy and myths as part of the North Pennines Stargazing Festival.

Read more

Events for farmers and land managers



Meadow assessment 2022 (NPAONBP)

We run events for farmers and land managers. Email our Farming and Nature Officers for more details: **Ruth Starr-Keddle**, **Patrick Oulton** and

Christa Nelson.



Join us on Facebook

We have a Facebook group where team members are posting images and updates from their work across Swaledale and Teesdale. Join us and keep up to date with the project.

Facebook Group



Made possible with

Heritage Fund

Funding for Tees-Swale: naturally connected predominantly comes from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, thanks to National Lottery

players.

Funders (alphabetical)

Arts Council England

Environment Agency/The Coal Authority

Natural England via the Countryside Stewardship Facilitation Fund

Northumbrian Water

Richmondshire District Council

The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

The National Lottery Heritage Fund

The North Pennines AONB Partnership

The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust

Yorkshire Water

Delivery partners

The North Pennines AONB Partnership The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority **Environment Agency** Yorkshire Peat Partnership

Tees Rivers Trust

Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust

RSPB

The Coal Authority

In kind contributions come from a range of partners including the Tees Rivers Trust, Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust, RSPB, the Environment Agency, the Coal Authority, Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, Visit County Durham and Welcome to Yorkshire.

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