



The Association of
TEESDALE DAY CLUBS

"Adding Some Sparkle to our Local Communities"

Registered Charity No. 1079248

Patron: Lady Barnard

CLUB ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR TO 31st DECEMBER 2019



Enjoyment

Barnard Castle - Cotherstone – Evenwood - Gainford – Mickleton – Middleton - Staindrop -
Stainton Grove – Winston – Woodland

The Association of Teesdale Day Clubs

Club Annual Report

Our Mission and Our Vision

OUR MISSION:

“We will strive to enhance the quality of life for socially isolated people living in Teesdale through their membership of Teesdale Day Clubs.”

OUR VISION:

“To increase the membership of Teesdale Day Clubs through an excellent service as perceived by our members and other key stakeholders”.

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Our People

Trustees in 2019

Peter Wood	Chair
Peter McGuinness	Vice-Chair
Gordon Thomson	Secretary
Annie Dolphin OBE	Treasurer
Sue Bainbridge	
Dave Bailey	
Gill Brodie	
Chris Davy	
Marion Hutchinson MBE	
Ian Ross	
Jill Starr	
Diana Wilks	
Dave Wilson	

Staff for 2019

Andrea Hobbs	Strategic Manager from April 2019
Madeleine Walton	Club and Community Services Manager
Pat Asquith	Financial Administrator
Tracy Taylor	Operational and Administrative Co-ordinator
Gill Ball	Club Leader, Mickleton – until October 2019
Michael Carr	Club Leader, Stainton Grove, Cotherstone
Dawn Gibson	Chef, Cotherstone and Mickleton
Mark Fromont LVO RVM	Club Leader, Winston, Woodland, Chef Barnard Castle
Carole Holliday	Club Leader, Middleton
Allison Sayer	Chef, Middleton, Stainton Grove and Woodland
Barbara Thompson	Chef, Gainford and Staindrop
Tracey Turnbull	Chef, Evenwood, Winston and Club Leader Barnard Castle
Carole Vayro	Club Leader, Evenwood, Gainford and Staindrop – until October 2019
Kim Weston	Club Leader, Evenwood, Staindrop and Mickleton – from October 2019

Volunteers for 2019

BARNARD CASTLE

Anne Alderson
Pat Asquith
Dave Bailey
Chris Davy
June Dent
Lynn Henderson
Margaret Hodgson
Anne Molloy
Paul McKitton
Fiona Swires
Malcolm Wilson

COTHERSTONE

Myra Atkinson
Peter Atkinson
Hilda Cleasby
Lesley Emery
Mary Hardy
Pauline Hicks
Angela Hunter
Jeff Lynn
Lyn Metcalfe
Debbie Newman
Sue Roberts
Audrey Siswick
Brenda Thwaites
Claire Williams
Dave & Gina Wilson
Peter Wood

EVENWOOD

Sheila Hadden
Gwen Petty
Mary Prince
Carole Sowerby
Gordon Thomson

GAINFORD

Gill Brodie
Judith Dyke
Kathy Hebdon
Jennifer Hindhaugh
Christine Spence
Pamela Simmons
Jill Starr

MICKLETON

Dave Bailey
Jean Chapman
Harry & Elizabeth Dick
Colin Entwistle
Sheree Entwistle
Sue Kelly
Freda Longstaff
Jane Roberts
Anne Routledge
Audrey Townsend
Valerie Walden
Ken Walton
Judi Whiting
Malcolm Wilson
Barbara & Terry Wilson

MIDDLETON

Muriel Goodman
Doreen Heyes
Jean Horn
Joyce Jackson
Anna Johnson
Yvonne Kidd
Eva Lowes
Christine Mason
Lynsey Pepall
Margaret Scott
Joan Staley
Rosemary Unsworth

STAINDROP

Joyce Braithwaite
Valerie Cambridge
Katherine Chicken
Valerie Fawcett
Dorothy Hull
Shereen McMullen
Carol Richards
Jill Smith
Carol Richards
Judith Thatcher

STANTON GROVE

Sue Bainbridge
Denise Morris
Denise Richmond
Jill Smith

WINSTON

Vera Featherstone
Carole Jones
Val Jones
Lynne Lobley
Dot Morris
Kate Proudfoot
Val Raper
Caroline Wilkins

WOODLAND

Allen Armstrong
Linda Cook
Sara Craven
Carole Elliott
Susan Giles
Pauline McGrath
Audrey Merone
Dorothy Peckett
June Wilson

Message from the Chair

2019 has been quite a year for the Association particularly as it was the year in which we celebrated our 25th year of providing our services to people in Teesdale. This major milestone was celebrated at four separate events. Three special lunches for all the clubs were held at Staindrop, Barnard Castle and Mickleton in August. Unfortunately I was not able to attend as these coincided with a short stay in James Cook hospital for surgery.



A further celebration was held at Raby Castle in the presence of HM Lord-Lieutenant of County Durham Mrs Sue Snowden, Lord Barnard and Lady Barnard, our patron, the Town Mayor and Mayoress of Barnard Castle, Mr John Blissett

and Mrs Karen Blissett. All events were very successful, mainly due to the efforts of the Working Party and all office staff. I did manage to get to this one!!



One further cause for celebration was the winning the Teesdale Mercury Pride of Teesdale Volunteer of the Year Award recognising the value of our volunteers to the local community.

At the beginning of 2019 considerable effort went into seeking some funding to allow the Association to appoint a Strategic Manager with the main objective of working to secure the future of the Association and in particular to source the funding necessary to continue our work. This was

successful with a major contribution from a Growth and Resilience Fund administered by Tyne and Wear Community Foundation. Subsequently, Andrea Hobbs was appointed and started with us in May, she is working hard, actively supported by all the office staff and trustees, to achieve sustainability of the Day Clubs.

Both Andrea and our treasurer, Annie Dolphin, bring a wealth of experience of the charitable sector and in particular the requirements of funders. This experience has resulted in us updating some of our practices and you may see some changes in our reporting and the information we ask you to provide. These changes are essential if we are to continue to provide our tried and tested services to our members and continue to be a successful organisation.

Unfortunately, two of our long standing and highly valued Club Leaders Carole Vayro and Gill Ball left us at about the same time in September. We have now recruited a very able replacement, Kim Weston, to cover the three Clubs affected.

During the year, as well as securing funding for the Strategic Manager appointment and our celebrations from sponsors and supporters, we made successful funding applications to Scotto Trust, Phyllis Mewhort Trust, Teesdale Area Action partnership and Wellbeing4life for 2020. A list of supporters and funders is provided at the end of this report and my thanks to all of them on behalf of the trustees

Despite all the activity on funding and administration we have continued to deliver our services to our members largely thanks to the efforts of Madeleine, Tracy and Pat, our long serving office team.

Finally on behalf of the Trustees and members, I would thank all who have contributed to our work during 2019 in whatever way.

Dr Peter Wood - Chair 2019

Introducing our Strategic Manager



I joined the charity in May 2019 having previously worked in North Yorkshire supporting and managing charities with their development and funding. The changes to our economy over recent years, together with the unstable political climate currently, means that many charities nationally are struggling to secure funding to keep their services going and are having to be more creative about their approach to secure an income. The Day Clubs is no exception in this and coming to the end of a long run of very supportive National Lottery funding, through the Reaching Communities grants programme, in February 2020 is a challenge. However, we have a very strong and positive reputation locally which places us in a good position to attract funding. One of my early tasks in 2019 was to put together a funding strategy and an action plan with trustees and this is now in full swing.

Our strategy is to have a wider range of income streams in the future and not be as reliant on one source of funding as we have been in the past. It is very important that funding is a planned activity like anything else that we do, and that raising funds is not just limited to applying for grants. Everyone can help and influence fund-raising and some of the things that happened in 2019 are good examples of this.

Just shortly after I started, Kyle Travel in Barnard Castle came forward with an offer to adopt us as their Charity of the Year. This was purely based on our local profile and personal relationships built up over time in the community and is a real showcase for how local fund-raising can work successfully. The Kyle Travel team will continue to raise money for us into 2020.

Our 25th anniversary also gave us an opportunity to discover and expand new and existing funding relationships and we were very grateful and thrilled to receive such overwhelming support for what we wanted to do to celebrate our special year. Local businesses, local philanthropists and established funders contributed to our events with money, as well as professional skills and time, to make our events a success. Some of the relationships formed as a result are leading to further support opportunities in the future and we look forward to working with sponsors in 2020.

The Day Clubs has always been a leader in the area of working in partnership in Teesdale and our funding strategy reflects this. At the end of 2019, we were developing a new joint project idea with our close partners, the Wellbeing4Life team, and we hope to work even more closely with them in

the year ahead. Wider partnership ideas are being explored and developed and will be included in funding applications and our activity next year.

Work is underway to secure a range of medium and large sized grants, and in 2019 we were successful in being awarded a grant from the Teesdale Area Partnership to support our clubs and our free community service. Provided mainly through Madeleine's post, this service is of paramount importance and allows us to continue to offer one to one support to our members when they need it most. We are also working hard to progress new ways of gathering the evidence we need about the benefits of the day clubs to members. This is a vital for the success of our funding applications and how we communicate about what we do. The more we can talk about the difference we make to people's lives, and tell a story about this, the stronger our case for funding.

Of course, challenges in securing funding often means that change has to happen and sometimes this can feel uncomfortable, but it can also bring new activity and ideas that are exciting and fresh. Part of my role is to balance the new things that help us to continue to be a growing and developing charity, with the successful and highly valuable weekly day club community we support across Teesdale.

The incredible loyalty of our members together with our amazing volunteer team, is our strength and remains at the heart of everything that we do.

Andrea Hobbs – Strategic Manager

The view from Woodleigh

Club and Community Services Manager Report



We have had another exciting year and various celebrations to mark our 25th anniversary.

Our membership remains consistent and our dedication to the members is as strong as ever.

We work hard to meet the individual needs of our members by consulting with them and acknowledging that they have different needs from the clubs. For some of our members it is enough to be out and have the opportunity to meet others and socialise while others enjoy activities and entertainment. All of the members enjoy the trips.

Members' needs have risen this year, which reflects our changing provision and I also think it reflects the awareness, by the members, of what we offer. In my role of community worker, I am offering a lot more pastoral care as well as my signposting role. I have also been fortunate to have had some training from Age UK to enable me to help the members fill in their Attendance Allowance. The information branch of Age UK offers a wonderful service when they make house visits as they have the time to assist the members with filling in the complex forms. As ever the main problem is people are sometimes reluctant to claim these benefits because "they are managing" or "there will be other people in greater need". I spend a lot of time encouraging people to apply because some of these benefits open the door for other benefit payments.

The leaders and I arranged a number of speakers for the clubs, some pure entertainment with some speakers and singers but also the opportunity for information and on occasions some gentle exercise. The key is to offer the members opportunities but realise that they may not take them up, as for many, the social interaction of the club is sufficient.

Through an idea from the chair, we host the TOPS meeting. This is an informal collection of local and some national partners where we meet and swap best practice and information. Following on from this we met with the Teesdale Mercury who will be running a couple of articles to encourage local volunteering. We are fortunate to have a strong band of volunteers who are the backbone of the service we provide.

We continue to work with partners to enhance the provision and opportunities for the members. I am proud to say that we continue to adapt our services and provision for the members as part of our commitment to enable people to live independently for as long as possible.

I am very fortunate to love my job, but it is made easier by the support I get from my friends in the office and the dedicated often unseen work of the Trustees.

Madeleine Walton – Club and Community Services Manager

Our finances for year ended 31 December 2019

We produce annual receipts and payments accounts that show receipts (mainly income from grants, member payments and donations) paid into the bank and payments (mainly staff costs and operational expenses) made from the bank. The accounts and records have been examined by the Independent Examiner who was appointed at the 2019 AGM and he has reported no areas of concern. Our full accounts have been approved by our Board of Trustees and will be sent to the Charity Commission after the Annual General Meeting. The accounts will be available on the Charity Commission website and copies are available from the TDC office.

This is a summary of our financial position for the year:

Association of Teesdale Day Clubs				
Accounts year ended 31 December 2019				
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	2018
Receipts				
Member payments		44573	44573	43074
Grants for charity activity	131340	5000	136340	112007
Donations/sponsorship	7277	3407	10684	496
Bank interest		818	818	1070
Inclusion of Friends Account		6806	6806	
Total receipts	138617	60604	199221	156647
Payments	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	2018
Staff costs	97804	5449	103253	86218
Office costs	5178	6039	11217	11697
Club costs	10040	39563	49603	54142
Total payments	113022	51051	164073	152057
Excess receipts over payments	25595	9553	35148	4590
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	
Funds held at 31 December 2018	41092	97727	138819	
Funds held at 31 December 2019	78998	94969	173967	
The 10 clubs each hold individual bank accounts for member and volunteer donations towards club trips etc. These are checked by the treasurer and financial administrator each year and have not been examined by the independent examiner. Funds held in these accounts at 31 December 2019 were £14196				

We are very grateful to our funders, sponsors and donors who have supported us through the year and enabled us to build up sufficient reserves to ensure that our charitable activities can continue whilst we secure further funding.

Around Our Clubs

Barnard Castle



Well here we are again; how times flies when you are enjoying yourself! We have had another lively year and the members are still as vibrant as ever.

We have welcomed some new members and said farewell to others but still we are running with a full membership.

We are pretty much creatures of habit and still run a raffle on the first Tuesday of the month that continues to generate monies which go towards trips out, entertainment and Christmas, as well as giving our members a little something for their birthdays.

Throughout the year we have had various speakers and entertainment. We had Ben Tinkler from the Durham Well Being service earlier in the year, some real fun had there, and we would have him back anytime! It's surprising how competitive some of our members can be.

Tim Viggars from NatWest bank talked about fraud and what to look out for. Veronica Lewis from Age UK, who gave information to our members about financial help they were entitled to. Very useful as this area is a minefield when you don't know what you are doing.

George Barber also from Age UK came with information and free recipe books for everyone, freebies are always well received!

Tracy Williams came out from the local health authority to chat informally to members about what was available and from where.

The end of May saw us on a trip to the Country Inn Hotel at Fir Tree where we enjoyed a lovely meal and were looked after very well.



In August we celebrated 25 years of the Association of Teesdale Day Clubs running. Happy Birthday to us! A lovely day, with friends from other clubs having the chance to mingle. A huge success.



We held a big celebration for sponsors and funders at Raby Castle (by kind permission of our Patron, Lady Barnard).

We were delighted that the eldest member from all the clubs was a Barnard Castle member and had the honour of being served the 250,000 lunch (in the form of afternoon tea).

The end of September we went to Woodham Golf and Country Club. A nice ride out for a good meal, pity I hadn't pre-ordered good weather!

We've also had Barneycles out to entertain us, they gave their time for free and they would be welcomed back anytime they could manage. So lovely to hear the members sing along.

December was a busy month as always. We had Ringtons in with their wares, our Christmas party, the children from Montalbo school into sing and on Christmas Eve Pamela Moody came and sang a variety of Christmas and non-festive songs. We were delighted to welcome a number of staff from S&A Builders Merchants who repeated their generosity from last year and brought every member a bag of goodies.

All in all, a busy year, here's to the next one being as successful.

Thanks, as always, to our volunteers without whom we wouldn't be able to run. To the office staff, meeting themselves coming back to ensure the clubs run safely and seamlessly, to Mark Fromont for your wonderful meals and quiet support and humour, to Dawn Gibson, Pat Asquith and Gill Ball for filling the gaps during holidays and most of all the members, you make doing this job so worthwhile-thank-you.

Tracey Turnbull - Club Leader

Cotherstone

Dawn has continued to delight us with some terrific meals throughout the year. To mark certain special occasions Dawn has created meals that match or reflect the occasion. Burns Night, The Chinese New Year, the Great British Breakfast and Game Week were all celebrated with menus to do the occasions justice.

We had four outings this year. Our first was a club first - to Thorpe farm in April, where members explored the shop and other attractions. Our next trip was another club first. This time we visited the very impressive Tennants Garden Rooms in Leyburn. Not only were we served some delicious food, we were able to view the marvellous William Morris exhibition. Our next lunch out was in September, and again a club first! This time we travelled north to The Punchbowl in Edmudbyers. What a revelation! Great food and the staff were lovely; I think we may go there again. Our final trip of the year was the Christmas shopping trip to Mainsgill Farm, where we all sat together for lunch before stocking up with Christmas goodies, or, in some cases (Arthur, Michael & Ian), having a quiet read of the papers! I would like to put on record my thanks to the drivers from Maudes who have driven us on our trips – Clint and (on three occasions) Johnny.

We began the year with 23 members and ended it with 27. We said goodbye to Michael and Audrey Hutton who have moved south, and hello to David Atkinson, Sheila Bayles, Lesley Emery and Dorothy Green. We also welcomed back Anne and Peter Webb.



As well as our celebration for the members we held an event at Raby Castle (kindly provided by our Patron, Lady Barnard) where Hilda Cleasby and Arthur Barker represented Cotherstone.

Arthur stole the show with a very witty speech about his first visit to Raby and the pleasure he gets from coming to the lunch club.

I want to say a massive thank you to our team of volunteers without whom we could not manage. The majority of our volunteers are also members, so here's to Myra Atkinson, Sue Roberts, Audrey Siswick, Brenda Thwaites, Gina & Dave Wilson, Pauline Hicks, Lesley Emery, Anne & Peter Webb, Hilda Cleasby, Claire Williams; to Jeff Lynn and Peter Wood who volunteer as drivers. From January we were joined once a month by Ben Tinkler from Well-being for Life who organised various activities for members. He did a cracking job, always cheerful and he engaged brilliantly with the members. Our Club has again received extremely generous donations from various Charities, and, along with other clubs, has benefited from financial support through the Association office for trip transport.



This year has been a special one for the Association and our members really enjoyed the 25th. Anniversary Lunch at Mickleton, along with members from Mickleton and Middleton. Our chefs did a brilliant job, supplying a three-course meal to over a 100 people. The members really enjoyed the opportunity not only to

celebrate but to catch up with friends from other clubs.

I would also like to put on record my thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Robinson from Cotherstone, who support us with wine and with financial donations. The kind donations from organisations like this enable us to continue subsidising trips and special events like our wonderful Christmas lunch.

This year yet again our Christmas lunch was terrific and enjoyed by nearly all our members and volunteers. As always, Dawn did us proud! I would also like to thank S & A Builders Merchants of Barnard Castle for donating generous gifts which they presented to members at our Christmas lunch. Cotherstone lunch club is always ready to welcome new members and volunteers.

Finally, I would like to thank Andrea, Madeleine, Pat and Tracy at the office who manage to keep us on the right track and are always very helpful and supportive of staff, members and volunteers. A word of thanks too to the board of trustees whose work is often unseen, but vital.

Michael Carr -Club Leader

Evenwood



We have had a busy year this year with some interesting talks from a number of people.

In October Carol, who has been our leader for many years announced that she was leaving which was sad news for us all. Carol has worked hard to support us over the years, and we will all miss her care and dedication.

Grateful thanks to Tracey and Barbara who stepped

up to fill the gap until we welcomed our new leader Kim in December.

In February Tim Viggars came from Nat West and gave the members a talk about how to avoid banking scams. We also had George from Age UK, who issued members with phone blockers to help avoid nuisance callers. This a very helpful service and George has been a good friend to the members and the association. Veronica also from Age UK information came and talked to the members about benefit claims and helped them if necessary. This was particularly useful as it is a complicated form to complete. As is often the case, it is difficult to get the people who should claim to claim. Those that did get help from Veronica were very pleased with the results.

In April we had a trip to the Fox and Hounds at Cotherstone, which the members loved – the members enjoy the actual journey as much as the delicious food. The drivers take the members there by one route and return by another to make the most of the stunning countryside. We were joined at the Fox and Hounds by Peter McGuinness, our new Club Trustee Representative.

We made our annual trip to the Golf Club at Woodham where we were very well looked after and enjoyed an excellent lunch. It is a lovely venue and the scenery is very attractive.

In August the Association celebrated our 25th anniversary. At various celebrations over the dale we joined with other clubs for a three-course meal provided by all our cooks. It was a lovely celebration and the members enjoyed the opportunity to see members and friends from other clubs. We also had a large event at Raby Castle (courtesy of our patron, Lady Barnard) which was for funders and sponsors and where we sent representative members and volunteers.



We were represented at this event by one of our founding members Mary Prince and one of our longest serving and most dedicated volunteers Sheila Hadden. These two ladies have been wonderful supporters of the club and the members for many years.

Our annual trip to Woodham Golf Club was in September where, as usual we were well fed and well looked after. The members enjoy the lovely scenery at the club as well as the food.

On the run up to Christmas, Madeleine organised for the children from Evenwood Primary School to come and sing – this is always a delight for both the members and the children.

At the end of November, we welcomed Kim as our new Lunch Club Leader. Kim joined us at the busiest time of the year and, along with Barbara gave us a wonderful Christmas party - which was literally throwing her in at the deep end. It was a great success and we all really enjoyed ourselves.

Once again, this year we welcomed staff from S & A Builders Merchants who visited the lunch club with a very thoughtful bag of goodies for each of the members. These are a very welcome treat which the members appreciate.

A special thanks to Barbara for her excellent food throughout the year.

I would like to extend a big thank you to Gordon, Gwen and Avril for parachuting in as volunteers over the last few months when we were desperately short of help.

Finally, on behalf of all the members and the various staff who have covered this year, I would like to thank our amazing band of volunteers, who turn up regularly to support the staff and the membership. Without this group of dedicated people, we could not function.

A special thank you to the office staff and to the trustees who carry the responsibility for ensuring we continue.

Kim Weston/Madeleine Walton - Club Leader

Gainford



We have seen some changes of staff this year: we sadly said goodbye to Carole after many very dedicated years with us and welcomed Tracey as our new leader. We were very fortunate to get Tracey as many of the members knew her when she had been a relief cook.

Gainford is one of our smaller clubs, but no less vibrant than some of the other clubs, there is a solid membership of people from the village and a couple from Ingleton as well.

We are still trying to encourage new members and are working hard to get new faces through the doors. We have welcomed two new volunteers this year.

This year we have had a talk from the Nat West Community Banker, Tim Viggers who advised members about scamming and how to access help when they need it.

George Barber from Age UK gave another interesting talk about how to keep safe, warm and also how to avoid nuisance calls. He was able to supply and fit call blockers for the members – which have been a huge success.

In April we had a very enjoyable trip to the Fox and Hounds at Cotherstone. The food was excellent (especially for those of us who had the “whale” and chips) and the members enjoyed the ride up the dale. After a fairly quiet summer, we enjoyed a trip to Eggleston Hall Gardens in September, where the food was very good, and the members took the opportunity to look around the shop.

In August we joined with other clubs to celebrate 25 years of Teesdale Day clubs – this was a huge adventure, which involved a lot of time and money but was really enjoyed by everyone – and gave the members chance to meet people from other clubs.

We had a lovely time Christmas shopping when we went on a trip to Strikes Garden Centre at Northallerton. This was the members’ choice and it gives them a great opportunity to do their own shopping and see what is available. This is very important for people to maintain their own independence and make their own decisions instead of relying on other people to do things for them. We also had some delicious food.

We have enjoyed hearing the Barneycles – a local music group who were very entertaining and talented. They played popular music from the 1950s to the 1980s and the members were singing along and tapping their feet – which was lovely to see.

Thank you to James Dykes and his colleagues for giving up their time and for providing first class entertainment.



Every year we look forward to the children from Gainford Primary school who are a wonderful entertainment. The members really enjoy hearing them and I would like to thank their teachers for bringing them out at such a busy time of year. I am pleased to say that the children enjoy it every bit as much as the members.

We have also had a singer, Pamela Moody, who came to entertain us and was appreciated by everyone.

I would like to thank our small band of dedicated volunteers, who help me run the club. They have kept me right during the transition period and we could not

run without them.

Special thanks to Barbara, our cook – who manages to provide great meals on a small budget and for her excellent Christmas lunch.

We have settled in as a strong team and I look forward to taking the Club into the New Year, enjoying new challenges and encouraging new members.

Tracey Turnbull - Club Leader

Mickleton



We have enjoyed another great year Mickleton with numbers at 25 by the end of 2019.

We keep busy every month with our customised raffle and quizzes, from Play Your Cards Right to General Knowledge to picture quizzes, we even had a European picture quiz to celebrate the European elections!! All of these activities keep our brains 'ticking over'!!

Steve and Liz (PCSOs from Barnard Castle Police) continue to call, Steve gave us a talk about 'cold callers' which started a very interesting question and answer session. Steve is a regular caller and has become a friend to many.

Alison has brought her homemade cakes and biscuits along and Ringtons call in once a fortnight. We continue to hold our community lunch at the end of every month and this is attended by those people who are unable to come along every week, it's a great way of our local community being able to join in and meet other people.

Steve and Alison from S & A were invited for lunch in January following on from the success of the Christmas presents received from them and this is our way of saying thank you for their generosity.

We have had a busy year which have included a variety of very useful presentations and visits from local services:

Tim Viggars who is from our local Nat West bank gave important information and guidance on scamming and fraud.

Richard Brown a firefighter from our local Fire Brigade came for lunch and discussed fire and safety in the home. A lot of our members asked for home visits to have a look at their fire alarms etc.

George Barber from Age UK talked about 'keeping warm'.

Victoria Perkins, Podiatrist, gave an interesting talk about 'feet', not sure the pictures of athlete's foot went down just after lunch!!

Ben Tinkler from Wellbeing for Life has been to visit and will continue to do so in the future.

Cynthia Robson Mackenzie brought her lovely old photos along. All taken in Upper Teesdale from the past, lots of nostalgia and it got everyone thinking back in time.

We had some delightful poetry read to us from Malcolm Barnes.

A favourite with our members is the new age curling which can be quite competitive!



We have celebrated Burns Night, Chinese New Year, Easter, Halloween and Christmas – all fantastically themed lunches created by Dawn, along with lots of lovely cakes for birthdays and anniversaries.



celebrate the fantastic milestone.

Our biggest celebrations were of course the 25th Anniversary parties, we held our own 'in-house'



party with lots of fun, good food and wine and then we joined our neighbouring lunch clubs from Cotherstone and Middleton-in-Teesdale to further

We have all come together to visit some lovely venues for lunch, in Spring we had a fabulous meal at Headlam Hall where the surroundings and gardens were just beautiful. Our Summer trip wasn't that far away where we went to Thorpe Farm, we were treated very well and couldn't eat all the food!!

Closer to home we visited Harry and Elizabeth Dick's garden in Romaldkirk for tea and scones which was, as ever, a lovely afternoon.



Sadly, in October I decided that my time at Mickleton had come to an end due to my own personal reasons and we had a very sad last day together, after 13 years of love, fun, laughter and tears, I could go on. There were lots of tears on the day, mostly mine! I shall miss everyone.

Once again Dawn and the volunteers have been a joy to work with. It has been a pleasure being part of a lovely group of people, the volunteers work very hard each week and we are supported by the wonderful staff in the office.

Finally, we have received generous donations from our local community which has really complemented a lovely year.

Gill Ball - Club Leader

Middleton



The 2nd January 2019 was welcomed by all our members after the festivities, with much chatter, laughter and finishing off the last of the Quality Street.

In February we had a lovely celebration for Jean & Alan Allsopp's Blue Sapphire Wedding Anniversary (65 Years), a true milestone!

We've been very lucky to have three club trips this year. The first to Thorpe Farm, unlucky with the weather but it did not dampen our day.

The second and third trips were both to Headlam Hall. The first was during the summer and the last was in December for our Christmas party. Silver service is such a treat. We are fortunate to receive funding from two generous trust funds which enables the day club to visit such places.

We have had two new volunteers join us this year: Lindsay Pepall & Jean Horn who have proved to be great assets to our current brilliant ladies, who are: Muriel Goodman, Doreen Heyes, Joan Staley, Christine Mason, Anna Johnson, Eva Lowes, Margaret Scott, Yvonne Kidd and Rosie Unsworth. All worth their weight in gold.

Throughout the year we had visits from, Victoria Perkins (Podiatrist) who gave a short slide show and a talk of the importance of looking after your feet followed by a question and answer session. Victoria was very well received.

Next was a visit by Age UK (Beat the scammers) presented by George Barber. He gave us a very informative talk and discussion about recognising the importance of never disclosing your bank details over the phone. Our final visit was from Middleton-in-Teesdale Primary School children who came two weeks before Christmas to entertain us by singing Christmas Carols and seasonal songs. Everyone present joined in and thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.



Special milestone birthdays: Joan Lynch 85 years, Alan Allsopp 90 years, Stan Walton 95 yrs. Teesdale Day Club celebrated their 25th Anniversary during 2019 and Middleton-in-Teesdale members & volunteers thoroughly enjoyed their well organised day at Mickleton Village Hall.



Raby Castle was the venue for all Day Club staff & chosen members to enjoy an afternoon tea. The invited members from each Day Club gave a short personal account of what the Day Club means to them and it was quite moving to recognise the importance of the organisation.

Many thanks to Alison Sayer (Our resident Cook) and Tracey Turnbull who has acted as both stand in Cook and Leader throughout 2019.



This year we again welcomed staff from S & Builders Merchants who brought all the members a gift bag containing a variety of different items. The members really enjoy the opportunity to chat to the staff.

To Alan Thompson & Ian Tallentire a big thank you for all your hard work as caretakers at the venues we use.

Early in December we welcomed the pupils from Middleton-in-Teesdale Primary School who came and performed Christmas carols for the members.

This is always a huge success and in a small community like ours a number of the children are singing to their own family members. It is nice to see that the children get as much pleasure from this as the members.

To John & Neil, our lovely taxi drivers from Hodgson's Taxi service, many thanks for all your care.

To Andrea, Madeleine, Tracy, Pat & all the Trustees, many thanks for all your support and understanding throughout the year. I would like to wish you all a Happy & Healthy New Year.

Carole Holliday - Club Leader

Staindrop



We have had a busy year this year with some interesting talks from a number of people.

In October Carol, who has been our leader for many years, announced that she was leaving which was sad news for us all. Carol has worked hard to support us over the years, and we thank her for her dedication.

Grateful thanks to Michael, Tracey and Barbara who stepped up to fill in the gap until we welcomed our new leader Kim Weston in December.

In February Tim Viggars came from Nat West and gave the members a talk about how to avoid banking scams. We also had George from Age UK, who issued members with phone blockers to help avoid nuisance callers and Veronica also from Age UK information came and talked to the members about benefit claims and helped them if necessary. This was particularly useful as it is a complicated form to complete. As is often the case, it is difficult to get the people who should claim to claim. Those that did get help from Veronica were very pleased with the results.

In April we had a trip to the Fox and Hounds at Cotherstone, which the members loved – the ride out as much as the delicious food. Trips are important to the members as it gives them an opportunity to mingle and see something different. Many often comment that it is lovely to go out to something apart from a doctors or Hospital visit.

In August the Association celebrated our 25th anniversary. At various celebration over the dale we joined with other clubs for a three-course meal provided by all our cooks. It was a lovely celebration and the members enjoyed the opportunity to see members and friends from other clubs. We also had a large event at Raby Castle (courtesy of our patron, Lady Barnard) which was for funders and sponsors and where we sent representative members and volunteers. Ginny Trotter, one of our founding members gave a short speech explaining all about the clubs.

In September we had a trip to Woodham Golf Club where, as usual we were well fed and well looked after.

On the run up to Christmas, Madeleine organised for the children from Staindrop Primary School to come and sing – this is always a delight for both the members and the children. Particular thanks to the staff who manage to bring the children out to perform to such a high standard at their busiest time of year! We also enjoyed another lovely visit from the children of a local child minder, who brings the little one to the club and they give the members a gift. This is part of their teaching the children about giving to others rather than just receiving. We all benefit from these visits and being such a small community most of the children are singing to their grandparents or aunts and uncles!

Kim joined us at the busiest time of the year and, along with Barbara gave us a wonderful Christmas party - -which was literally throwing her in at the deep end. It was a great success and we all really enjoyed ourselves.

This year, S and A Builders Merchants, once again came and donated their bags of goodies – which were really appreciated. The staff take the time to stay and chat to the members which is also a bonus for everyone. People learn a lot from each other on these occasions and I am always surprised at how much both their staff and our members get from it.

A special thanks to Barbara for her excellent food throughout the year.

Finally, on behalf of all the members and the various staff who have covered this year, I would like to thank our amazing band of volunteers, who turn up regularly to support the staff and the membership. Without this group of dedicated people, we could not function.

A special thank you to the office staff and to the trustees who carry the responsibility for ensuring we continue.

Kim Weston - Club Leader

Stainton Grove



2019 has been a year of change for Stainton Grove Lunch Club. During the course of the year we have increased our membership.

We have been joined by several new members and we hope they continue to enjoy their weekly visits. One of the most satisfying elements of this year has been the fabulous activities provided by Ben Tinkler from Wellbeing UK. He has engaged our members in a range of physical activities including kurling and

skittles, which our male members approach highly competitively! Our own Sue Bainbridge too, has led a number of armchair Zumba sessions and, again, these have been very well received.

Our trips out this year total four. Our first at the end of March was to the Fox and Hounds in Cotherstone, followed at the end of April by our second visit to the Teesdale Hotel in Middleton. No year at Stainton Grove would be complete without at least one trip to the Country Teashop in Staindrop and it was to our members' favourite establishment that we travelled for our third trip out in August. Our final lunch out was on a very wet and windy day at the end of September when we went for our second visit to the Saxon Inn at Escomb. At each of the establishments we visited we were very well looked after by the staff there. No doubt we shall revisit them all at some point.

2019, of course, was a very special year for the Association and our members greatly appreciated the wonderful lunch that we shared with Barnard Castle, Woodland and Evenwood in July at Barnard Castle Cricket Club. Equally it was a great pleasure to accompany Bob Hamilton and Muriel Bailey to the 25 Year Celebration event at Raby Castle in October.

Autumn brought more changes. I was inducting our new Staindrop Leader during November and the



members were served ably by Denise Morris who agreed to cover me to enable our new leader at Staindrop to hit the ground running. Denise is a star!

On the 26th November we had our last lunch at Stainton Grove Community Centre and on the 3rd December had the first lunch at our new venue, Bowes Lyon House in Barnard Castle.

Our Christmas lunch, as ever, was brilliant. Alison did us proud and the 'two Denises' organised the Christmas tombola.

We are especially grateful to S & A Builders Merchants who, again, have very generously donated gift bags to our members.



I would also like to thank the staff from Kyle Travel for their fantastic help on Christmas Eve.

Finally, a heartfelt thanks to Denise Morris, Denise Richmond, Sue Bainbridge and Jill Smith for the help, advice and friendship they give to staff and members. We could not run without you! A big thanks, too, to the folk in the office and to the Board of Trustees whose work is often unseen but vital.

Michael Carr - Club Leader

Winston



We have enjoyed another lovely year at Winston and have managed to enrol three new members during 2019. Two ladies from the village and another lady from Ingleton. We also have a former member who comes along as a guest on a regular basis.

During 2019 we have enjoyed a number of delightful trips. One of which had to be

organised at very short notice as the village hall was required for a polling station.

On that occasion we went to the Spotted Dog Inn at High Coniscliffe and the trip was enjoyed by all. The food was very good, surroundings were pleasant, and the staff were very helpful and understanding.

We also visited the Country Hotel at Fir Tree and the Country Tea Room at Staindrop.

Throughout the year our members have enjoyed a variety of games, card bingo, quizzes and we also hold a raffle on the first Thursday of each month. We were very kindly donated several prizes from Barnard Castle School, for which we were very grateful.

We have received a number of important presentations one from a representative of a local bank where he gave excellent advice and information on scams and we have also had our local police call in several times to see and reassure members.

In August there was a change in the usual club routine. This was due to the 25th Anniversary of the Association of Teesdale Day Clubs. Winston joined Gainford and Staindrop at the Scarth Hall in Staindrop.

The members and volunteers had a wonderful day and really enjoyed meeting and chatting to members from our clubs. During the event Vera Featherstone who was a former Chef at Winston, volunteer and now a regular member, was asked to cut the anniversary cake. This was a very proud moment for Vera and everyone at our club was still talking about the event the following Thursday.

At Christmas we had a fantastic in-house lunch cooked by our chef Tracey. We had a full house of both members and volunteers and some volunteers brought their husbands as guests.

We have so many people who contribute to the successful running of the club and I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks. A huge thank you to all of our volunteers who turn up week in and week out in all weathers, mostly rain this year!

A special thank you to Peter Morris who has very kindly helped us with transport throughout 2019, collecting our Gainford members along to Winston each week.

Last but by no means least, thank you to Alison Sayer who has covered cooking at Winston whilst Tracey helped lead Mickleton lunch club for several weeks and to Michael Carr who has stepped in as a Club Leader on many occasions to cover for holidays.



Mark Fromont - Club Leader

Woodland



As we start 2020 Woodland Lunch Club can look back on 2019 with mixed fortunes. Some of our long standing members have had to move away from windy and wild Woodland, to the sunnier climate of Barnard Castle.

We have however managed to gain three new members over the past 12 months, but as always, we are still trying to recruit more.

Even though January 2019 started off cold and windy with ice at times, the club members continued to attend.

In February we had a very useful presentation and discussion on fire safety from officers from our local Fire Station. All members thoroughly enjoyed this, and several members took up the fire brigades offer of having their home smoke detectors checked or replaced.

We have also enjoyed talks on different types of scams and how to deal with them and from Age UK.

Throughout the year we have had quizzes, bingo and even a band. 'The Barneycles come to play for us and got the members singing along, also several of the members recognized James the lead singer and enjoyed talking to him about the good old days.

In June we had a trip out to Headlam Hall. Everyone had a fantastic time. The food was excellent, very tasty and plentiful. The venue itself is absolutely charming.

August saw a change to the usual club routines. This was due to Association celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Woodland Club attended the anniversary lunch at Barnard Castle Cricket Club along with Stainton Grove, Evenwood and of course Barnard Castle Club.

All members and volunteers had a fantastic time, they all thoroughly enjoyed their meals and liked being waited on by all the Trustees and members of the office staff.

As you can imagine when Woodland Club met up on the following Monday all the chat was about the anniversary lunch, people they had seen and how much they had enjoyed the whole event.



We had a lovely December trip to the Teesdale Hotel in Middleton. As usual we were looked after extremely well with everyone departing very full and very happy!

At Christmas we will be holding Christmas lunch in house. Alison always cooks us a wonderful meal. This will be followed by entertainment and carol singing by the pupils of Woodland Primary School which is always a firm favourite with the members.

I would like to say a very big thank you to all the club volunteers and to Steve the taxi driver. They are an amazing group of people and without them we would not be able to operate. They are hardworking, very caring and turn out in all types of weather so that the club can function.

Last but not least I would like to say another very big thank you to the Trustees, office staff, all staff members for making the 25th anniversary celebrations happen and making them a very special event for all clubs and their volunteers.

Mark Fromont - Club Leader

Our Supporters in 2019

Our major supporters in 2019 were:

Big Lottery Reaching Communities Fund
Phyllis Mewhort Trust
GSC Grays
Glaxo Care Committee
Kyle Travel
Barnard Castle Preparatory School
Morrisons, Barnard Castle

County Durham Community Foundation
Tyne & Wear Community Foundation
Newcastle Building Society
S&A Builders Merchants
DCC/TAP (Teesdale Action Partnership)
Wilson Art
Durham Shopping Extravaganza

In addition to our major funders and sponsors we received very generous funding and support during the year from many organisations and individuals including local councillors and the numerous supporters who contributed to our 25th year celebrations



County Durham
Community Foundation



Community
Foundation

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