



Thank you
for
supporting
woodland
creation.

**illuminet and
Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust
Quarterly Report
November 2019-January 2020**



Huge thanks for your continued support throughout another successful quarter of the partnership – bringing together tree planting and the environment with your work in IT management consultancy.

With the help of your generous donations this quarter totalling

£4,249

you have supported the planting of

607

trees in the Yorkshire Dales and surrounding areas

Tree planting season is now well under way with the final figures of trees to be planted now standing at 27,000, across 22 new woodlands.

We couldn't do this without you.

People Behind the Trees

David Harrison, at Howgill Side shares why he is *Together for Trees*

As well as illuminet and other partners, there are a large number of landowners behind our woodland creation work.

David first visited Howgill Side when he was 14, with his father in 1948. He still remembers the impact that first visit had on him and how he immediately fell in love with the land and was determined to return. The land fell in to David's ownership in 1990, and he wanted to create woodland – at that time, nearly all the land was agricultural. Initially the planting was undertaken to support pheasant shooting and provide more cover for the birds.



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Things changed when David's wife bought him a camcorder for his 60th birthday in 1994. Unable to manage a dog, gun and camcorder at the same time, David put his gun aside and took up a new hobby. His love of the countryside, the flowers and the birds, began to grow. David is hopeful that in the future farming and conservation can work hand in hand and he recently shared:

'I gain a great deal of satisfaction and pleasure now from walking the land and seeing the changes that have taken place.'

Removing plastic from the Dales...

We are excited about your upcoming 'Litter Sprint'. We can't wait to see how it goes. Huge thanks for choosing to support YDMT tree planting through this event.

Due to increasing interest YDMT are leading the way in discussions around the use of plastic tree guards. Carol, YDMT Woodland Officer, is facilitating discussions between national stakeholders, considering options around recycling tree guards, as well as looking at alternative guard materials, and the option of not using guards at all.

YDMT's 'Tree Guards – Do we need them?' conference was held in Leeds in November. It is clear that people want an alternative and want to recycle but admit that the tubes are a necessity. Some of the issues discussed include:

- the removal of the guards is incredibly time consuming; it is intensive work
- once removed the guards sit on site as they are bulky to transport
- it is currently difficult to get the guards recycled

In November, we held 'wombling' days to remove redundant tubes from a local woodland, and are now investigating the best way of recycling them with our partners.



Discussions will continue on this topic, as we continue to progress on what can be done with regards to removing plastic from our countryside.



2019/20 Tree Planting



To plant 27,000 trees this season, we enlist the help of contractors but also of volunteers from our supporter base and through our outreach programmes.

We've been joined by various groups this season, including refugees and asylum seekers. A day out in the countryside can be hugely beneficial for disadvantaged groups. Not only is it meaningful work to be involved with, but also it's the chance to make new friends and to bridge the divide between urban and rural communities.

In February, a group of refugees and asylum seekers joined us to plant trees in Malham. Almost 200 trees were planted, and all involved had a wonderful day out in the Dales.

Check out this video of a group of happy tree planters enjoying their day out, [click here](#).



“The pleasure people gain from spending a day out planting trees or undertaking woodland maintenance is usually very obvious. Together for Trees is about woodland creation and providing opportunities for people to get actively involved with trees and woodlands, bringing people together to enjoy the benefits they offer.”

Carol, Woodland Officer

**Thank you
from all at
YDMT**

