



*Patron HRH The Prince of Wales*

Registered Charity No. 1061687

## News Release

Date of issue: 7 June 2010

### **DALES FIRMS BACK NEW YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME**

A major new scheme providing work-based training opportunities for young people in the Yorkshire Dales has been enthusiastically received by local employers.

Young people aged between 16 and 24 are being invited to apply for the Dales Countryside Trainee Scheme, offering 12 young people the chance to train for a career in environmental and countryside management across the Dales.

The scheme, which has been set up by the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT) and is backed by many well-known organisations and businesses, will help to meet the urgent needs of young people in the area. It will also help bridge the gap in local skills and knowledge required to manage our landscape sustainably into the future.

As well as studying for qualifications at Craven College, trainees will work alongside experienced and skilled staff at local businesses for 22 months initially, potentially going on to full time careers. Organisations offering placements include the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Natural England, The National Trust, Dinsdale Moorland Services, Swinton Estate and Coniston Estate.

Dinsdale Moorland Services (DMS) has experienced the benefits of working with trainees first-hand. One of their current employees James Holgate took part in YDMT's Apprenticeship Scheme in 2007, where he worked with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and gained qualifications in Environment Conservation at the same time. James' current role with DMS involves all aspects of countryside management, and has even included testing mountain bike trails, like one the firm has just completed in Blackburn.



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Gareth Evans, Managing Director of Dinsdale Moorland Services, says: "The Countryside Trainee Scheme enables young people the opportunity to gain 'real life' experience and a valuable Countryside Management qualification. Having first-hand experience of the scheme and the good fortune to work with a number of apprentices over the years DMS are thrilled to be able to offer a position within our company."

The Countryside Trainee Scheme was established by the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, and has been made possible through grant awards of £95,000 from the Yorkshire Dales LEADER programme, £45,000 from Rural Access to Opportunities and £25,000 from the Yorkshire Dales national Park Authority via the Sustainable Development Fund.

Dave Tayler of YDMT said: "YDMT is here to support the Dales - the place, the people living here, as well as small and major businesses working in the area. We are delighted to be able to offer a Trainee Scheme that has the potential to transform the future of 12 young people. We are very much looking forward to working with all the employers and young people."

YDMT are now keen to hear from people who are interested in applying for the scheme. Please contact David Tayler by email: [david.tayler@ydmtd.org](mailto:david.tayler@ydmtd.org) or telephone 015242 51002.

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## Notes to Editor

For further information please contact: Lindsay Tonge, Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. Tel: 015242 51002. Email: [lindsay.tonge@ydmtd.org](mailto:lindsay.tonge@ydmtd.org)

1. “Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT) works to support the natural and built environment, and the social and economic well-being of this special area”

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust has undertaken more than 700 conservation, heritage and education projects worth £17 million, which have been completed throughout these distinctive and much loved areas. The Trust has recruited over 35,000 supporters.

[www.ydmt.org](http://www.ydmt.org)