

YDMT News Release

Date of issue: 30 October 2018

Support for moped scheme

Affordable moped hire is enabling people living in rural areas to access work, apprenticeships and training across North Yorkshire.

The [Wheels 2 Work](#) scheme, managed by Hambleton Community Action, has a fleet of 35 mopeds which are available on loan to local people who are unable to access other public or private transport.

Last year Wheels 2 Work received £8000 from Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT). It was one of 20 awards totalling £91,000 given by YDMT to celebrate the charity's 20th anniversary, recognising the important contribution of some of the inspirational groups, organisations and individuals whose work helps to sustain and celebrate the Yorkshire Dales.

Wheels 2 Work used their award to buy a new van to transport and deliver mopeds to customers living in remote rural areas, helping local people to stay in their home village or town rather than being forced to move out of the area to access training or employment.

Andy Reddick, Wheels 2 Work Coordinator, said: "Our customers can feel isolated, but the mopeds make it possible to not only access the workplace, but also to have a social life that is not restricted to within walking distance of their home. I'd like to thank Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust for the award - we are genuinely so grateful for this support which will guarantee the scheme for several years. It is fantastic for us and the community."

People who join the scheme are mainly, but not exclusively, young. In return for a small weekly contribution, customers have access to a moped for 6 months, during which time they are encouraged to budget and save for their own transport to maintain access to the workplace. One-to-one mentoring and support (for example, with CVs and job applications) is also provided.

Alicia, aged 19, lives near Reeth and has been involved in the scheme for just over a month, using her moped to get to work at the local pub, and to meet family and friends. Alicia said: "I mainly use the scooter for work, but it also means that I can visit my Mum and grandparents as well as going on day trips further afield. It's nice to have the freedom to get around. I would definitely recommend the scheme - it is great for helping people to get out and about."

Wheels 2 Work also provide free protective clothing and a helmet along with training opportunities, including the Compulsory Basic Training (CBT) before taking the moped out onto the road. Insurance, tax, servicing and 24/7 emergency rescue are also arranged and paid for by the scheme.

David Sharrod, YDMT Chief Executive, said: “Over the last twenty years YDMT has helped others to achieve a fantastic amount in this special corner of the world. In celebrating our 20th anniversary we wanted to recognise this excellent work. I am delighted that we have been able to support the Wheels 2 Work scheme which is opening up training and employment opportunities to many young people, as well as people living with health issues, financial crisis, and ex-offenders, providing a chance at a fresh start. The scheme has already made a huge difference.”

For more information about Wheels 2 Work and to apply, visit hambletoncommunityaction.org/our-services/wheels-2-work.

For details of all the YDMT 20 Year Award winners and their achievements visit www.ydmt.org/20Years.

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Images:

1. Andy & Alicia receive YDMT 20 Year Award and cheque for £8000 on behalf of Wheels 2 Work.

Alternative high res images available on request

NOTES TO THE NEWSDESK

For more information please contact Sarah Pettifer, Marketing & Communications Officer at Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, on 015242 51002 or email media@ydmt.org

About Wheels 2 Work

Wheels 2 Work is a not for profit moped loan scheme, that helps people get to work, apprenticeships, or training, where no other form of transport is available.

Eligible candidates receive a moped after they have completed the compulsory basic training (CBT).

Find out more at <https://hambletoncommunityaction.org/our-services/wheels-2-work/>

About Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT) is a small charity doing big things to support the people, landscape and wildlife of the Yorkshire Dales.

Since 1997 YDMT has helped to deliver inspirational projects worth around £28 million in the Yorkshire Dales and surrounding areas. These projects cover areas as diverse as countryside apprenticeships, supporting local businesses, education and outreach, restoring woodlands and wildlife habitats, and conserving heritage features.

The Trust has recruited over 50,000 supporters to date. Find out more at www.ydmt.org

About the YDMT 20 Year Awards

In October 2018 YDMT gave 20 awards totally £91,000 to recognise the important contribution of some of the groups, organisations and individuals whose work helps to sustain and celebrate the Yorkshire Dales.

Conservation, Heritage and Environment - Celebrating contributions to the natural landscape, environment and wildlife, as well as the built, scenic and cultural heritage features which make up the unique fabric of the area.

Award winners: W & H Blackwell & Son (Gold award), Howesyke Farm (Silver award), Marsden Agricultural and Environmental Services (Bronze award) and Thornton Rust Kennel Field Trust (Highly Commended).

Rural enterprise and employment - Celebrating rural entrepreneurship and those actively supporting communities to maintain a vibrant, sustainable and prosperous rural economy for the benefit of future generations.

Award winners: Wheels 2 Work (Gold award) and Clapham Community Shop (Gold award).

Access and Understanding - Recognising those who promote opportunities for a wider understanding of the Dales and its communities.

Award winners: Willow Young Carers (Gold award), Newby Head Farm (Silver award), Keasden Head Farm (Bronze award) and Yorkshire Film Archive (Highly Commended).

Sustainable Communities - Honouring the triumphs of community living, these awards recognise innovation, dedication and community spirit.

Award winners: BlueBoxt Productions (Gold award), Age UK North Craven volunteer team (Silver award), Cruse Bereavement Care (Bronze award), and Craven Mental Health & Wellbeing Forum (Highly Commended).

YDMT Champions - Individuals who go above and beyond the call of duty for the benefit or appreciation of the Dales.

Award winners - Alan Watkinson (awarded posthumously), Douglas Thomson, John East, Erica Sarney, Rachel & Mike Benson and Tom Lord.

Gold award winners each received £8000

Silver award winners each received £6000

Bronze award winners each received £5000

Highly Commended each received £4000

YDMT Champions each received £1000.

You can find out more about all the winners and their achievements at www.ydmt.org/20Years