

Open Country Newsletter January – March 2000

Open Country Membership Renewals are now Overdue!

Some people's Open Country memberships are overdue. The membership is £4 for individuals and £10 for care homes. It represents excellent value, as it lasts for a year and entitles you to priority bookings, and 10% discounts at several local outdoor shops. Even if you are not a regular Open Country user, it should be worth your while joining to receive the discounts alone.

Why not help the Environment and Open Country at the same time?

Open Country is recycling empty laser and ink jet cartridges. We will accept any cartridges you have and sort them ourselves. Please keep them in the original boxes packaging or they are of no use. Each cartridge we collect saves over 1.5 kg of plastic and metal. If you can help, please drop them into Community House, or bring them on an activity.

New Transport Hotline:

For public transport timetable information in North Yorkshire, you can now just pick up the 'phone and dial 0870 6082608. Calls cost a maximum of 8p a minute (peak), 3p a minute (off peak). Lines are open 8 am – 8 pm

Volunteers Wanted

Open Country relies heavily on the support of volunteers. Training is provided and includes MiDAS (Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme), First Aid and Disability Awareness. The amount of time put in is entirely up to the individual. If you would like to volunteer, or know someone who might be interested in volunteering, please give David a call.

ADVISORY GROUP

The advisory group meets three times a year; and was established to allow regular service users, volunteers and relevant organisations to help in the development of Open Country. The next meeting is at Community House on March 7th 2000, from 6.30 to 8.30pm at Community House.

CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS

The work is very varied, including tree planting, access work and bird box construction. The success of our group means that now we can expand the hours we work. From now on we will work from 10.00 am. until 4pm. on both Wednesdays and Saturdays. We will continue to meet at Community House, 46 East Parade, Harrogate, and can drop people home afterwards. Some jobs may be dirty, but all are suitable for most capabilities. Tools, training and transport are provided. Depending on weather conditions, work sites may have to differ from those advertised.

Volunteers Work Programme

Wednesdays: January 5th, February 2nd and March 22nd

These weekday tasks will all involve woodland work at Quarry Moor I near Ripon.

Saturday January 15th. A visit to Askham Bog, where we will be continuing our work scrub clearing.

Saturday February 12th. A day converting our new Tool shed. Bring a paint brush!

Saturday March 4th. Heathland restoration on Strensall Common