



Newsletter - December 2019

Welcome to the fourth Beasley Back Dane Trust Newsletter¹. These updates are issued electronically every three months to summarise the Trust's activities during the previous quarter and give an update on news and events.

We now have 284 people following the Back Dane Trust's Facebook page. Please 'Like' and 'Follow' us.



Visitors

During the fourth quarter of 2019 we hosted groups from:

- The Just Drop In Centre in Macclesfield
- Cheshire East Eye Society
- Derby inner city children (shown right)*
- Northampton Scouts
- Burntwood & Lichfield Autism Support Together*
- The Williams Syndrome Foundation
- South West Peak Emotional Walking Group
- Wincle C of E Primary School
- Cheshire Young Carers*
- A 'leaving care' group from Derby*



Here is some feedback we received (from one of the Young Carers and from the Burntwood & Lichfield Autism Support Together group)

Event: Halloween Overnight Stay
Date: 27th - 29th October

Did you enjoy the Halloween Overnight Stay?
 Yes No

Have you stayed overnight with Cheshire Young Carers before?
 Yes No

Would you like to do an overnight stay again?
 Yes No

Have you learned something new during your stay?
 Yes No

Have you made a new friend?
 Yes No

What was your favourite thing about the stay?

m. y. same thing about this over night stay is (EVRETHING)

01/11/19 Had a very nice time at Back Dane and especially liked the tyre swing and the woods. I also loved making popcorn and roasting marshmallows on the campfire. It was also very fun to make the bird seed and go pond dipping with the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, also we did den building with them.
Daisy

1/11/19 Thankyou so much for working with us to provide this fantastic opportunity to the children we support at BLAST. Our families really need a safe supportive place where they can come to be themselves, free from judgment. These experiences are vital to re build confidence and self esteem and give our children a chance to have a break from the stressful challenges they face every day. Thank you so much Back Dane for giving us this amazing place to enable our children to be themselves

Volunteering

As usual a significant amount of time was spent volunteering at Back Dane (eg 'improvement weekends' and running holidays for groups in need, 4 of which are shown above marked with an *).

¹ This newsletter and other news is published on <http://backdane.co.uk/news.html>

Volunteers also run the Tuesday Club (a Derby club for adults with learning difficulties) and perform other ad hoc work eg grant submissions, handling bookings, maintenance, publicity and other project work.

If you would like to volunteer for The Back Dane Trust please contact info@backdane.co.uk. All are welcome, no experience necessary!

These photos show volunteer Keith Jones and daughter Emily at Back Dane around 25 years ago and more recently with Emily's own son (a potential future Back Dane volunteer?!) and one of the few dry days the volunteers had when developing the woodland path.



Fundraising

- The Ship Inn, Wincle ran more quiz nights in aid of Back Dane. In total they donated £326.
- An outdoor emergency box and swing seat have been purchased with money donated.
- Nearly £200 was donated by Wincle residents to buy Christmas food and gifts for a group of children who are leaving the care system. Other donations were food, crackers, chocolates etc.
- A £6,000 grant request was submitted to Brother International for further environmental work eg development of a raised boardwalk and bog garden
- We are currently seeking donations to fund two weekend visits by refugee groups (organised by City of Sanctuary UK). If you would like to donate to this worthwhile cause please email info@backdane.co.uk

Project work

A borehole was drilled in November and work will now start to link this new water supply into the building.

The defibrillator arrived and work is now underway to connect it up. The funds for this AED device have come from the British Heart Foundation, Morrison's and Wincle fete.

The sensory garden has been fenced off and work is starting on creating the flower beds ready for planting.



Sad News

Don Ault, a member and chairman of Derby IVS (now Back Dane Trust) between 1965-75 died in late November. He was instrumental in organising the very first outing for children in tents near Ashbourne. He became volunteer organiser at the then Aston Hall Hospital and organised many International work camps there.