



Quarterly Newsletter

What's been happening: from September to December 2024

Over the last 18 months, Trustees have embarked on a period of fundraising to enable the Community Centre to become more sustainable for the future. Rising energy costs have made a big impact on the Centre's overall expenditure which Trustees needed to be able to manage more effectively. This meant that we needed to replace the existing old inefficient gas-fired boilers with a **heating system** more appropriate for the 21st century.

Although much time and expertise has been spent on the new heating system, we also wanted to hold a fun event for the community. Our successfully **Christmas Fayre** was held on 14 December from 12 noon to 4pm.

The centre hosted a post **Remembrance Day** event led by Framwellgate Moor Scouts on 10 November.

The **Tuesday Wellbeing Programme** continues to go from strength to strength.

Christmas Fayre – a fun day for everyone

attended by local Primary School choirs, Framwellgate Moor Scouts and many more



Festive stalls – Scouts



Festive stalls – Wellbeing group



Festive stalls – Glass making



Local history group information



PowerPoint slide show of events



Raffle prizes on display

Christmas Fayre – activities



Crafting was very popular



Food bank was well attended



Face painting, Hair braiding, popcorn and Candy floss



Cake stall proved tempting for some



Scout crafting – make a reindeer



Scout crafting – Christmas tree decorations



Tombola prizes -attracted a lot of interest



Live music -Santa playing and **Myah Rose** singing



Crafting – more young people involved

Our new heating system was created by initially applying for grants to support its implementation and building up a reserve heating budget over a number of years. We had to obtain the appropriate permission from our landlord (Durham County Council) and other organisations whilst planning it. We had the support of our local County Councillors and the Durham MP during these stages. As this required several steps it took many months before everything was in place. The installation of the project itself was managed by the Association Chair and the Centre Manager. There have been issues to solve along the way but thanks to everyone involved we are now the proud owners of an environmentally friendly heating system fit for the 21st century.

New heating system



Air sourced heat pumps were integrated



The heating system is a hybrid one which makes use of the recently installed **solar panel arrays**



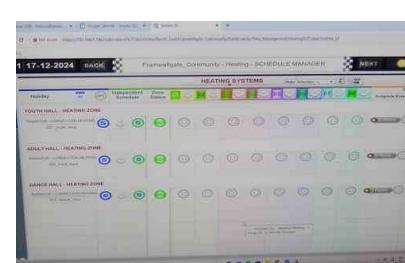
Gas- fired modern boilers – were fitted which can make use of hydrogen



The plant room is modern and effective for any heating adjustments needed



The plant room has been completely reorganised



Computer control – allows heating system components + individual areas of the Centre to be managed separately

The overall effect is the Centre now has an efficient, environmentally friendly heating system which will minimise energy costs and serve the Centre for decades. We are grateful to the **National Lottery Community Spaces** (and **Durham Community Action**), **Durham Energy Resilience Fund** and **Durham Area Action Partnership** for their generous funding of this important project.

Wellbeing Tuesdays



A lovely and inviting Wellbeing party All Wellbeing members enjoyed their was arranged Christmas party

Wellbeing group have been involved in many creative activities

There are always a number of fun, leisure, fitness and educational activities taking place at the centre. These are for all ages. Come along and try one – we can't guarantee you will instantly enjoy it but we hope you will and you will make new friends. Most activities are regular weekly events but please **check**.

Mon-Fri	TIN Arts morning and afternoons in the Dance Studio	
Monday	Art Class from 1000-1200	Yoga Class 0930-1030
	Durham Bridge Club 1900-2100	Durham Dance 1600-2100
	Blind Life in Durham 1300-1500	
Tuesday	Wellbeing Programme 1000-1400	
	Durham Bridge Club 1300-1600	Youth Club 1500-1900
	Durham Bridge Club 1900-2200	DCSG Exercise Group 1900-2000
Wednesday		
	Little Movers 0930-1130	Tai Chi 1030-1200
	Martial Arts 1330-1500	Spanish Class 1300-1500
	Durham Dance 1700-2130	Durham Dance 1600-2130
Thursday		
	Omnipod 0930-1300	French Class 0900-1200
	French Class 1500-1600	French Class 1930-2030
	Friendship Group -1300-1600	Diabetes UK 1915-2045
	Local History Group 1915-2045	
Friday		
	Hartbeeps 1000-1300	TIN Arts 1630-1815
	Durham Bridge Club 1300-1600	
	Martial Arts 1800-2000	English Folk Dancing 1930-2200
Saturday		
	Martial Arts 0930-1130	Dance Group 1000-1700
	Buddha Group 1000-1400	Children's parties (as requested)
Sunday		
	Indian Music-café area 0830-1030	Arabic Class 1100-1500

What's next?

We are already planning for 2025 – the local History group is a new activity - any ideas you have for activities can be passed on to our Centre Managers.