



## 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



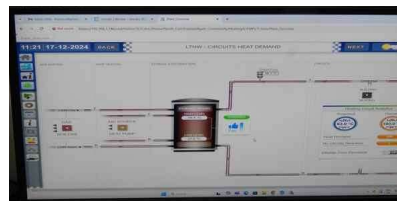
The heating system is a hybrid one which makes use of the recently installed **solar panel arrays**



**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 system is **computer controlled**



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



The plant room has been completely reorganised

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 was arranged**



**All Wellbeing members enjoyed their 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**.

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