

# Countryside Activities programme



**Open Country is a Yorkshire based charity that helps people with disabilities access and enjoy the countryside. Welcome to our activities programme for July to September 2025.**

We run 4 groups a week aimed at adults with learning disabilities or autism. These groups run between 10am - 4pm and are chargeable day services:

## **NATURE FORCE GROUP**

Every Tuesday we carry out important nature tasks around the district like tree and wildflower planting.

## **TRAILBLAZER GROUP**

Join in with helping make our district more accessible with path improvement, cutting back vegetation and conservation projects, every Wednesday.

## **WILD WALKERS**

Every Thursday we walk between 4 - 7 miles with lots of stops for nature study and to admire the views!

## **WILD THINGS**

Every Friday we spend time down at our polytunnel growing wildflowers and wood working, or visiting open gardens and nature reserves.

## **ADAPTED CYCLING**

Our Tandem Club runs between early April - mid October on Wednesday evenings.



## **WEEKEND OUTINGS & ADVENTURE CLUB**

Open first to anyone with a physical disability or sensory impairment, the outings visit a wide variety of wheelchair accessible locations.

There's a £10 booking fee for the trips and we have a wheelchair accessible minibus to get you there. We pick up from local homes, Wakefield bus station, Wakefield Westgate train station or Thornes Park.

We've chosen destinations with accessible toilets and a café, but please bring a packed lunch and a flask just in case the café closed.

**Cancellations within 72 hours of the event will be charged.**

## WEEKEND OUTINGS

### WILDLIFE WANDER @ ROTHER VALLEY COUNTRY PARK

**Sunday 13th July**

**Admission: FREE Trip: £10**

A gentle stroll, accessible for all around the lakes at Rother Valley Country Park. The area boasts a whopping 260 different species of birds and plenty of butterflies, mammals and insects to spot along the way.

### IT'S THYME FOR PONTEFRACT CASTLE—FIVE TOWNS OUTING

**Saturday 19th July**

**Admission: FREE Trip: £10**

We're going to join Pontefract Castle volunteer Carole for an exploration of the Medieval herb garden. We'll get to see unusual and familiar plants in a new light and find out how they were used throughout history. It's going to be herbsolutely fabulous!

### BRASSED OFF TO TEMPLE NEWSAM

**Saturday 20th July**

**Admission: FREE Trip: £10**

A summer stroll around the Temple Newsam estate with an afternoon of music from the York Concert Band.

### HAVE YOUR SAY

**Saturday 26th July**

**Admission: FREE Trip: FREE**

**(INCLUDES FREE LUNCH)**

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) is a new plan to protect and

restore nature across West Yorkshire. Street Space would like your feedback and insight on accessibility and your connection with nature. The perspectives of people living with disabilities are essential to shaping a strategy that truly works for everyone. We will be having an activity around Anglers country park in the morning, lunch and then workshop in the afternoon.

### SPECTACULAR SPOONBILLS

**Sunday 27th July**

**Admission: FREE Trip: £10**

A trip to Fairburn Ings to see if we can spot the spoonbills (and other wildlife) around this wonderful nature reserve.



### HAPPY YORKSHIRE DAY!

**Sunday 3rd August**

**Admission: FREE Trip: £10**

Oakwell Hall have invited Open Country to have a stall for their Yorkshire Day celebrations. Come and join us for this fun-filled day at this gorgeous location.



## **SPORT INCLUSION FESTIVAL**

**Saturday 16th August**

**Admission: FREE    Trip £10**

Come have a go at a range of sports - archery and adapted cycling, boccia to bowling and wheelchair basketball to walking football.

## **YORKSHIRE SCULPTURE PARK**

**Saturday 6th September**

**Admission: £9.50    Trip: £10**

Let's have a stroll around some of the famous works and sculptures of artists including Damien Hirst, Felicity Aylieff and Laura Ellen Bacon. Let's be inspired by art and nature as we explore the grounds.

## **EARTH & SKY WALK**

**Saturday 13th September**

**Admission: FREE    Trip: £10**

An immersive sound walk over the moors above Haworth. Bradford 2025 and Opera North have invited composers to create a dramatic soundscape inspired by the moors of Penistone Hill Country. As you walk the moors geolocation technology activates the music and poetry into your headphones. Sorry not suitable for wheelchairs or strollers.

## **THE GARDENS AT WENTWORTH WOODHOUSE**

**Sunday 14th September**

**Admission: £9.50    Trip: £10**

Formerly the site of open-cast mining, the Gardens are now a tranquil space encompassing ancient trees, shaded woodland copses and a peppering of follies and monuments across the landscape. Sounds glorious for a Sunday saunter!



## **HARROGATE AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW**

**Saturday 20th September**

**Admission: £23    Trip: £10**

Let's peruse the giant vegetables, judge the most impressive onions and soak up the flowery atmosphere of the Harrogate Autumn Flower Show at Newby Hall.

## **BRODSWORTH HALL AND GARDENS**

**Sunday 21st September**

**Admission: £15.85    Trip: £10**

Glorious gardens, a grand Victorian home and the possibility of some lazy afternoon music. There's plenty to enjoy at Brodsworth!



## ADVENTURE CLUB

### SURF'S UP

**Saturday 5th July**

**Admission: £54    Trip: £10**

The rearranged trip to Scarborough—A fully accessible, exciting surfing lesson in the sea at Scarborough with The Wave Project. Let's go and make a splash! Let's hope for some waves this time! They have lots of specialist equipment available.

### WATERSKIING

**Saturday 12th July**

**Admission: £25 for 1 ski, £35 for 2 skis, £40 for 3 skis    Trip: £10**

A range of adapted water-skiing and watersports to suit most abilities up at Calmwater Bay in Knaresborough.

### MICROLIGHT FLIGHTS

**Sunday 17th August**

**Admission: £85 for a 20min flight  
Trip: £10**

Nestled on a hilltop overlooking a large area of natural beauty, the Peak District, Darley Moor airfield is the perfect place for this Microlite experience. The views will be spectacular from way up there!



## ADVENTURE RESIDENTIAL

**Friday 22nd August to Sunday 24th August**

A selection of adventure activities over a fun filled weekend at Parson House Outdoor Pursuits Centre —£250.

The weekends activities will include:

- Canoeing
- Climbing
- Weaselling
- Obstacle Course
- Abseiling

Let us know if you want to join us on this fun-filled adventure weekend!

## SCOOTER SOCIAL GROUP

We have made the difficult decision to pause the scooter social group due to low attendance and whilst we are a member of staff down. If you were a scooter social group member please do come along to other outings—we have made sure that most of the venues we are going to have scooter hire, so if you let us know we will make sure to book them in advance.

## VOLUNTEER WEEKEND

### DRYSTONE WALLING

**Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th September**

We would like to offer our volunteers the chance to try something new, gain some new skills and have a bit of a social. Join us for a drystone walling taster weekend, where you will learn how to build a wall from scratch.

**A big thank you to all the National Lottery players for supporting our Wild about Wakefield project.**

