



Lake District Mobility

Report for the Nineveh Trust

We would like to update you on the grant which you made to Lake District Mobility to help us make new opportunities for disabled people to get into the outdoors. If any of your Trustees would like to visit the scheme then please do get in touch so that we can arrange this.

The grant was spent – along with grants from three other funders – on the purchase of a new all-terrain mobility scooter – a ‘Tramper’ for use at Grizedale Forest, Cumbria, by people with restricted mobility.

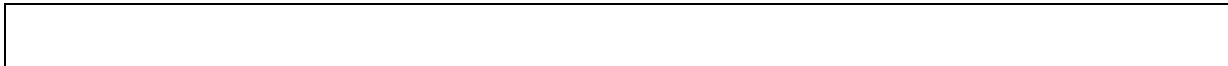
We are so grateful for your understanding over the past 18 months when growing our project was so difficult. Now that restrictions have eased, we are redoubling our efforts to increase access to the outdoors. We believe that this is now even more important than before the pandemic - for many people, especially those with long-term health conditions, activities in the fresh air such as our Tramper schemes are a great way to get together with friends and family in the lower-risk environment of the outdoors.

Grizedale Forest

Located south of Hawkshead amidst the fells, the Grizedale Forest Park offers a wilderness-like escape, as the Tramper takes you away from the hustle and bustle on a 5.5mile/9km route. Users can get up into the hills, overlooking fells and woodland over great distances, and enjoy the views over Wood Moss Tarn. They may also spot dragonflies, buzzards and other wildlife on their adventures here.

Over 180,000 people a year visit Grizedale Forest Park to walk, cycle, or play.

The Tramper was out being used almost as soon as it was delivered! Whilst we were cutting the ribbon for photos, the Bradburn family, who were visiting Grizedale, saw the new Tramper and came to ask when it could be hired. They booked the park’s very first available Tramper trip. The family (mum Lorraine, who uses a wheelchair; dad Nick; and daughter Samantha) took the scooter out on a spin in the woods later that very same week. Samantha told us afterwards that they had had a fabulous time and that it was lovely to be able to go out as a family.





Celebrating the new Tramper at Grizedale, from left to right: Jackie Lancaster from Langdale Estate (another Tramper hire site); Julia Walker, Charity Development Manager; Ilsa Swann, Lake District Mobility member; Becky from Grizedale Forest; and Nick Lancaster (LDM Trustee).

The Tramper can be booked by anyone with restricted mobility – whether a short or long term difficulty with walking – to enjoy the forest park. Membership of our scheme costs £10 for a year to cover our administration costs, or £2.50 for a two-week taster membership: meaning that visitors to the Lake District can enjoy the project on holiday in the area, whilst local residents can return again and again.

Demand for our Tramper scheme is rising – in 2021, by the end of September, there had been 205 first time Tramper users, compared to 209 in the whole of 2019! Considering that the Trampers could not be used during Government restrictions in the first part of the year, we think that this demonstrates that the project is meeting a real need.

Having this Tramper available – our third Tramper site in the Lake District – will give more people with limited mobility the chance to enjoy the outdoors with their family and friends. Thank you so much for helping us to make this happen.