



ability first

AN OUTDOOR CENTRE WHERE EVERYONE MATTERS



discover your true potential

# Welcome to The Barn

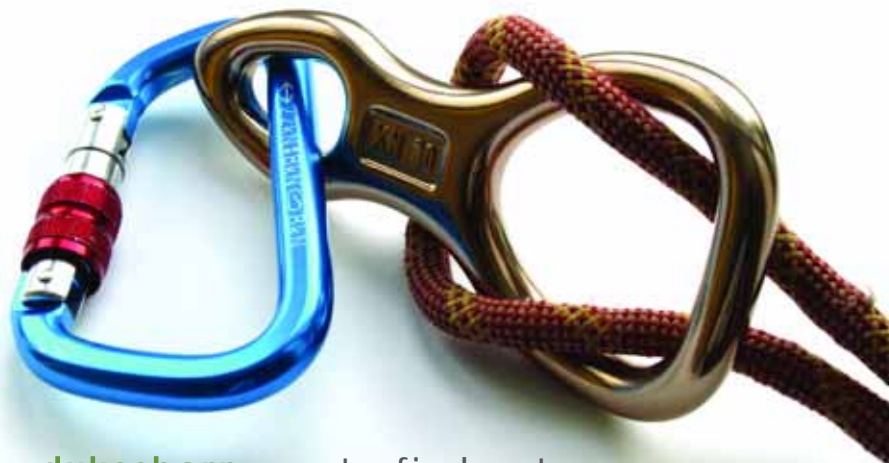
Dukes Barn is an Outdoor Education charity, based in Beeley, in the heart of the beautiful Derbyshire countryside, providing outdoor adventure activities for young people of all abilities.

Our aim is to ensure that all young people, regardless of ability, special need or disadvantage, are given the opportunity to experience quality outdoor education, in a safe environment, to improve not only their physical fitness but also their confidence and self esteem




to enable them to meet the challenges of everyday life, today and in the future.

Our main focus is children with specific needs such as Autism, Aspergers Syndrome, Downs Syndrome, children with hearing or sight impairment and those with physical disabilities including wheelchair users. We also run courses for primary and secondary school children and those from disadvantaged backgrounds or poor inner city areas ■



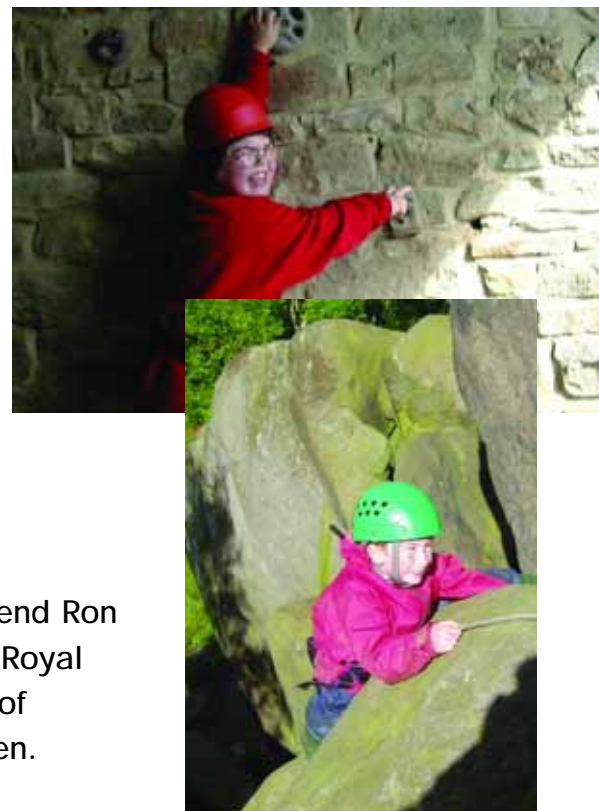
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face new challenges

From horse and cart  
**to climbing boots**

Built in 1791 Dukes Barn initially housed the horses and carts used to transport coal from the Cromford Canal to Chatsworth House and Baslow Gas Works. The building was converted into a dairy and cowsheds in the early twentieth century.



In 1987 it was restored through the efforts of the Reverend Ron Beddoes, local vicar and chair of the Governors of the Royal School for the Deaf in Derby and opened by the Duke of Devonshire as a Country Centre, for use by deaf children.

In 1997 further improvements provided facilities for disabled people before Dukes Barn became a fully independent charity in its own right in 2000. Today we run day and residential courses in outdoor adventure, team building and problem solving for people with a wide range of abilities. The small team of instructors, domestic and administrative staff are assisted by the trustees and volunteers who help out with practical support and fundraising ■



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# embark on a voyage of discovery



## Making it happen

Over the years we have worked hard to improve our facilities and equipment to accommodate people with multiple disabilities, fitting automatic wide entrance doors and push button bedroom doors, new accessible bathrooms and specialist bedroom furniture.

We have adapted canoes using hoists for wheelchair users, improved the overhead rail system on our wheelchair ropes course and upgraded the approach paths to our sensory garden and play area to allow wheelchair access. A recent addition is an all weather wheelchair friendly sports area.

### A big debt of thanks is owed to the following people and organisations for their support:

Kilworth Challenge	Beeley Parish Church
St James Place Foundation	Stratford Prep School
Midlands Co-op Community Fund	Awards for All
Open Gate	Mr Gilbert Hinckley
Derbyshire Dales DC Community Fund	Stancliffe Stone Matlock
The Hedley Foundation	Tarmac Ltd
Pets at Home	Markovitz
Kellogs	HSS Hire
Variety Club	Derbyshire Community Foundation
Heaton School	Derbyshire Building Society
West Bridgeford School	

Thanks are also due to everyone who took part in sponsored abseils, the people who helped to make the Chatsworth Opera Evenings a resounding success and to our many volunteers and supporters.

Special thanks to Lady Morris for her unfailing support and for helping us to set up and maintain the Morris Bursary Fund for those who would otherwise not have the opportunity to enjoy all that Dukes Barn has to offer ■

To support us today you can make a donation via  
[www.justgiving.com/dukesbaritrust](http://www.justgiving.com/dukesbaritrust)

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come to a place where everyone matters

# Dukes Barn is not just a building it is a life experience

From the peace and tranquillity of the sensory garden to the thrills and spills of the wheelchair friendly ropes course and sports area Dukes Barn offers something for everyone.

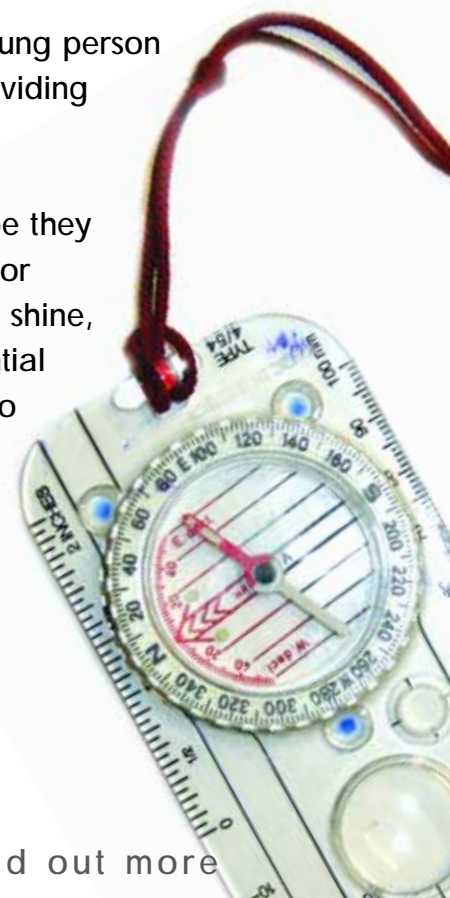
Whoever you are, a residential visit to the Barn will provide life changing moments. From the quiet village ambience to the spectacularly rugged scenery of the surrounding Derbyshire hills you will find something to move and inspire you.



All our staff are fully trained and committed to the values of the organisation and to the individual. We believe in looking beyond any disability to see the young person who wants to achieve.

It is our job to make sure that every young person succeeds, whatever their ability, by providing activities appropriate for them.

We encourage all our young people, be they able bodied or physically, emotionally or socially disadvantaged, to achieve and shine, to enable them to reach their full potential and to move forward with confidence to face the challenges of everyday life ■



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see life from a different perspective

## Adventure for all

Dukes Barn believes in providing exciting activities for young people of all abilities.

Our wheelchair accessible ramped adventure ropes course, opened in 2007 by David Blunket MP, is a unique facility. The specially designed overhead rail system enables disabled students to move around the course supported from above. Thanks to this, many have been challenged and stimulated in ways never previously considered possible.



In recent years newly adapted equipment, canoes and trailer, a specialist mobile quad hoist and new parachute type harnesses, have meant that many more young people with disabilities have been able to enjoy canoeing and climbing activities as well as abseiling from the viaduct at Millers Dale.

We are now seeking to extend the opportunities for young people with disabilities through a new climbing wall building with specific and unique provision for non ambulant youngsters ■



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