

Derwent Valley Car Club

Derwent Valley Car Club used community engagement and market research to establish where future expansion for their electric vehicles was needed.



Derwent Valley in Consett Magazine

KEY FACTS

- Rural
- Population: 9,708
- Region: North East
- Vehicles: 1
- Members: 16

Derwent Valley Car Club was formed in June 2013. It was set up with a National Lottery grant which allowed the car club to purchase a Nissan Leaf electric vehicle, three electric bikes and a set of photovoltaic cells. These solar panels were installed on the roof of the Village Hall and can supply enough power that charging the car and the bikes is effectively free.

The Club submitted a bid for funding to run a consultation to establish the feasibility of expanding into the surrounding areas. Once the bid was funded, the group delivered a survey flyer to 21,700 local homes. In addition to this they ran an online survey and advertising campaign on Facebook and attended local events.

The response to their activities was very positive – not just people who wanted to join the car club, but also new volunteer drivers to help elderly people access the mobility the Club offers and a business offering to provide a parking and charge point space.

Websites

Our Gateshead - <http://www.ourgateshead.org/derwent-valley-car-club>

Blackhall Mill - <http://www.ourgateshead.org/derwent-valley-car-club>

About Carplus and Bikeplus:

Carplus and Bikeplus promote accessible shared transport including car clubs, shared bikes and 2+ car sharing.

We work to change the way people travel to reduce the environmental impact of transport and improve access to transport for all. We support and encourage measures that promote car clubs, car sharing, bike sharing and other shared mobility schemes which complement public transport, cycling and walking to provide affordable and flexible travel.

www.carplus.org.uk