

James' Story

Access Ranger (Upper Wensleydale).



James is an access ranger and his role is maintaining paths, stiles and tracks across the area. On the day of filming, he was working at the top of Cam Hill, on the Pennine Way repairing a track.

Growing up James didn't know what he wanted to do. He went along with what he thought he should be doing and studied art. He attended a course at art college, but quickly decided it wasn't for him. This choice made him realise he loved the area he grew up in and that he actually wanted to work outdoors.

Now he loves his work, the views and the countryside.

He enjoys being outside and looking after the environment.

James trained as an artist and is in a band

James still enjoys the arts. He is in a band but thinks there's not an awful lot in the Hawes/Leyburn area for young people. He believes the area needs more facilities like The Hub at Barnard Castle <https://www.tcrhub.co.uk/about-us/>

Pragmatic approach

James believes young people should do what they want to do. There are jobs and great opportunities in the Dales but he suggests young people may have to work a bit harder to find them.

James is an advocate of going away and coming back, if it means you find what it is you really want to do, and appreciate the area more as a result.