

Y The **Yorkshire Dales** **Review**

NO.2
SPRING 1983



FARMING AND THE LANDSCAPE
FLOWERS OF THE YORKSHIRE DALES
HOFFMAN KILN
NATIONAL TRUST ACQUIRES FOUNTAINS ABBEY

20p

Who's a Local?

A Swaledale man was chatting to a farmer from higher up the Dale.

"NAH THEN, LAD," said the farmer. "AH WERE BORN AN' BRED IN THIS DALE, THA' KNOWS. AND MI' FAATHER 'AFORE ME. WE'VE BIN IN THIS DALE SIN' THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY."

"AH KENN'D YER FER AN OFFCOMMER," replied our friend. "MY FAMILY CAME HERE IN THE 1670s"

That little, perfectly true story, illustrates an interesting, and complex, aspect of Dales life.

We think we know who's a local and who isn't.

But take any group of people living in a Dales village. A lot of them will have moved into the village over the last few years, perhaps to retire, or to set up a small business venture.

Does that mean there are really two kinds of locals, the "old" locals and the "new" ? Do you have to be born in the area to be a "true" local ?

Would that then mean that the child of a newly-married couple recently moved into a Dales village is more of a "local" than someone who has lived in the area for 30 years ?

And how about the many Dalesfolk, born and brought up in the Dales who have left, with their children, to seek employment in nearby cities or even abroad ? Telephone directories are full of Metcalfes, Fawcetts, Ivesons, Sedgwicks, some of whom have ancient roots in the villages and hamlets of the upper Dales.

Such distinction between people are meaningless. You can often meet people from Huddersfield, Bradford, Burnley, Middlesborough whose love and intimate knowledge of the Dales few people who were born in the Dales - who might seldom go outside their own valley - can match.

There's a complex, (and often subtle) inter-relationship between town and country in an area like the Dales. Many small businesses that create employment and keep the area, even in these harsh times, relatively prosperous, depend on the seasonal influx of tourists from nearby cities. Any small shopkeeper or garage owner in the Dales will tell you that it's the summer visitors who help keep their businesses afloat. Quarries supply industrial needs; even farmers depend on urban markets. The very beauty of the landscape, and its conservation, contribute to the economy of the Dales and motivate the tourist industry which in turn oils the wheels of Dales commerce.

Seen this way, the question of what is, or is not, the local interest becomes a difficult one. The truth is there isn't one Dales community - there are many.

Yet there is a genuine Dales identity; traditional values and attitudes survive, particularly among the farming community. There's still the language - dialect may still be heard on market days and in any Dales pub. There are also memories of a rich and vital world, not too far in the past to be beyond the recall of the oral historian or the collector of old photographs.

It isn't for anyone - least of all the Yorkshire Dales Society - to try and preserve a culture that has already changed. The Dales will always have its characters, if only because people who make a living from the hills need to have special qualities if they are to survive.

Being a part of Dales life is a dream for many people. Those who do come to live in the area, or indeed can only visit on occasion, can become part of the area every bit as fully as someone born under the shadow of Pen-y-Ghent or Pen Hill. If you've time to listen, to absorb, to perceive, the Dales are your own.

Maybe that's what the Yorkshire Dales Society is really all about. It doesn't matter whether we are "local" or not (though a substantial proportion of our membership consists of people who live and work in the Dales area). What really matters is that we are prepared to come together, to listen to each other's view, and work together to help, in however modest a way, not only to keep the Dales as lovely and unspoiled as they are, but to encourage support for welcome developments to improve quality of life for locals and visitors alike.

Colin Speakman

National Trust acquires Fountains Abbey

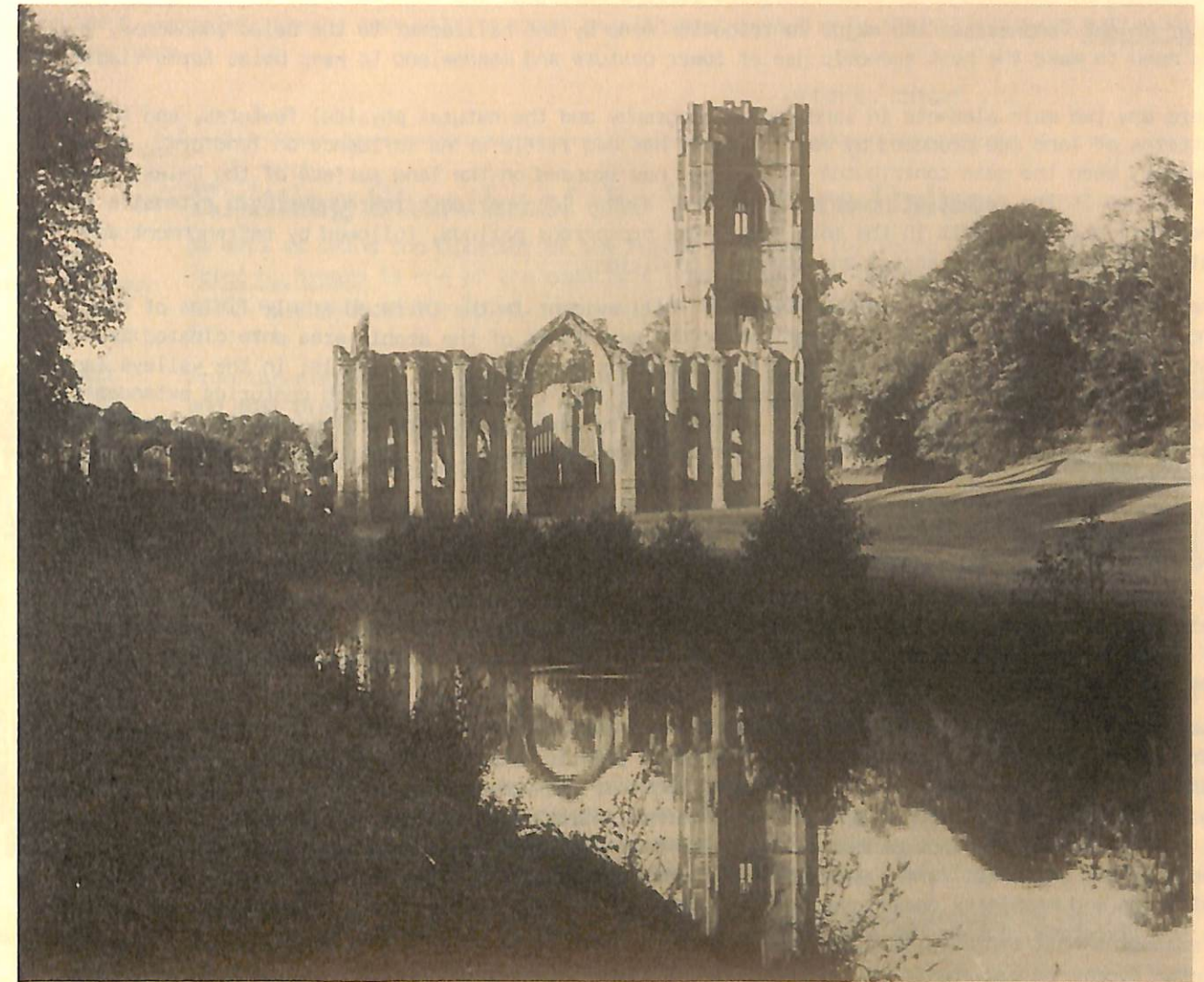


Photo: Geoffrey N. Wright

The Secretary of State for the Environment recently approved the sale, by North Yorkshire County Council, of Fountains Abbey and the Studley Royal Estate to the National Trust. This represents one of the Trust's major acquisitions in the north of England, for the Studley Royal Estate is of outstanding national, even international, importance, and the ruins of Fountains Abbey form the climax to one of the world's greatest designed landscapes.

Originally constructed over 800 years ago, after its founding in 1132, the ruins of Fountains Abbey are the most complete remains of any Cistercian monastery in Britain, possibly in Europe. After the Dissolution in 1540, the estate around the Abbey passed through various hands before being sold to the Aislebie family in 1674. In 1720 they began to plan and develop the park, and in 1767 William Aislebie and his son, John, conceived the park and the Fountains Abbey grounds as a single entity based on the wooded valley of the River Skell, which was converted into half garden, half park, with ornamental water features created by controlling the river. Classical temples, belvederes and pavilions were added to complete the scene of a civilised 18th century landscape.

Studley Park now covers about 300 acres, with 3 miles of fencing and high stone walls serving to keep in over 300 deer, of three species. The National Trust now faces the task of raising money, much of which is hoped to come from government funds, for restoration and repair work, replanting trees, and future running costs. Nevertheless, Yorkshire people should feel satisfied that the future of this important property is now safeguarded. If it is not within the Dales it is on the very edge, and in any case Fountains Abbey played an important part in the creation of the Dales landscape through its ownership of huge areas of farmland in Craven, as well as mines and quarries in Nidderdale and Calderdale.

GEOFFREY N. WRIGHT

Farming and the Landscape

Peter Knight emphasises the major contribution made by the hillfarmer to the Dales landscape, and the need to make the best economic use of lower pasture and meadowland to keep Dales farms viable.

There are two main elements in landscape: topography and the natural physical features, and the patterns of land use produced by man. Farming has had little or no influence on landform. It has, however, been the main contributor to what man has imposed on the land surface of the Dales. What we see now is the result of human activity over a very long period. There have been extensive and imaginative developments in the more stable and prosperous periods, followed by retrenchment and deterioration in harder social and economic conditions.

The endeavour of the farmers of the Dales is still evident in the terraced arable fields of the Anglo Saxons and the plough lines indicating the extensions of the arable area onto cleared land higher up the slopes. On the higher grazings boundaries were marked by walls; in the valleys land was cleared and drained. The Enclosure Acts of the late 18th and early 19th centuries extended the field patterns to what we know today. In this period large areas were drained and farmsteads and barns constructed. High pastures were improved, lime was spread and controlled grazing systems were adopted.

With improvements in communication and agricultural techniques, the need to grow crops in unfavourable situation had declined. Grass became the crop: sheep, cattle and their products the output.

In the latter part of the 19th century, until 1939, there was a long, sorry state of decline. The farming industry in the hills found itself with a structure designed for a different age and much of the improved land had reverted to rough grazing. Farming had to move on once again; it had to come to terms with the 20th century.

The quest for making a living from the hills is no easier now than in the past. The demands of modern life have added costs which have to be covered by greater output if the farming family are to have a worthwhile living. Farm size has increased, together with the number of stock each man has to farm and the length of wall he has to maintain. Mechanisation is of limited help to a hill farmer as so much of his work cannot be mechanised. The farm buildings and out-barns, ideal in the days of cheap labour and small farms, need adaptation or replacement to allow for better stock management. Buildings and machinery demand capital, and capital is a scarce resource. The priority for capital is for livestock, but in the long harsh winters stock require shelter and fodder.

Winter fodder is invariably the limiting factor of the stock-carrying capacity of hill farms, so the valley meadows are of paramount importance. The acreage of mowable land can be increased to a limited extent by reclamation and reseeding; yield and feeding value can be improved by moving from hay to silage.

The lower pastures and meadows have an added importance for grazing stock. Ewes come down to the safety



Round-up at Ribbleshead

photo- Geoffrey N. Wright

of these fields during bad weather. The earlier and later growth on these favoured fields, their accessibility and the stock control that can be imposed, makes them invaluable at tugging and lambing times. It is imperative to the economy and the future of Dales farms that these better fields are fully utilised. Their effective use will not only result in better livestock management, it will also help to ensure that there is no significant change in the appearance

of the vast area of high grazing land.

Farming throughout the ages has made the landscape what it is today. The Dales continue to need a resident, on-going farming community to carry on with what is not only their livelihood but their heritage.

PETER E. KNIGHT

Knitting Sheaths of the Yorkshire Dales

As well as being the Director of the Museum of Leeds, Yorkshire Dales Society member Peter C. Brears is one of the country's leading authorities on the traditional knitting sheath of the Dales. He explains the significance of this major form of folk art.

From the sixteenth to late nineteenth centuries, hand knitting formed one of the staple and most profitable industries of the Yorkshire Dales. The story of the knitters was admirably told in Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby's book published some years ago, but recent research has added information on the associated craft of knitting sheath carving.

The knitting sheath was a short wooden stick or metal plate which supported the back end of the knitting needle at the right-hand side of the body, being held in place by means of a ribbon known as the "cow band". Although strictly utilitarian pieces of equipment they were often carved and decorated to a high standard to serve as love tokens given by the young men to their girl friends and fiancées, being the Northern equivalent of a Welsh love spoon.

Over the past five years, a survey of most museum collections has been made to trace those sheaths which have a well-established history. As a result, it has been possible to plot the original location of each style of sheath on a map of northern England, and in this way prove that each major dale had its own particular shape or type of decoration. In Clapham, for example, the sheaths were carved, as long, square, forked sticks; in Dentdale, the "goosewing" sheaths had a bold diagonal step across their shoulders, while in Lower Airedale they took the form of hearts cut out of tinplate.

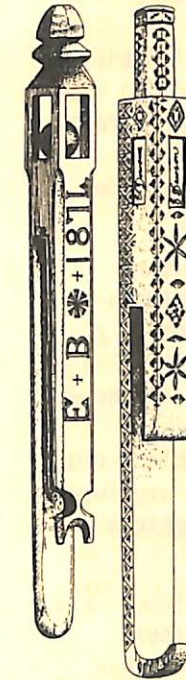
One of the most interesting aspects of the wooden sheaths is provided by their great range of decoration. The shape of the sheath itself could be enriched with elaborate finials, sometimes imitating the scrolled head of a violin, or carved to resemble lathe-turned balusters. As an alternative, the sheath could be hollowed out to leave a lantern-like framework containing a ball, or formed into chains, swivels, and ball-and-socket joints, all carved from the solid wood. Sheaths are also known which take the shape of legs, shoes, snakes, fishes, or hearts. The surface might then be decorated with chip-carved motifs including single and double hearts, "X" designs, rosettes, etc., or inlaid with contrasting woods, bone, wax or pewter.

Carving skills of this type were passed on from one generation to another in most parts of Europe, especially in the sheep-pasturing regions such as the Yorkshire Dales, or even the mountains of Yugoslavia. This was because shepherds led a quiet and solitary life among their flocks, and found that intricate whittling with their knives provided an enjoyable way of passing the time.

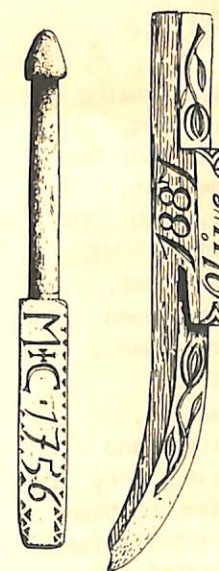
An exhibition on the history and techniques of knitting sheaths mounted by the Museum and Art Gallery Service for Yorkshire and Humberside is now touring the region, and will be advertised locally as it proceeds. See the local press for details. An illustrated 24-page booklet is also available, from Leeds City Museum, Calverley Street, Leeds, Leeds LS1 3AA, price 90p (+15p postage).

PETER C.D. BREARS

from Clapham from Middleton in Teesdale



from Middleton in Teesdale



from Tebay from Keighley

(illustrations by Mr Brears)



The Flowers of the Yorkshire Dales

Botanist Dr. Judith Allinson, of Malham Tarn Field Centre, looks at the rich heritage of our Dales flora, and suggests important scientific - as well as aesthetic - reasons for its conservation.

Eight hundred and ten species of wild flowers have been recorded in the Yorkshire Dales. Documentation of the Dales flora goes back to the 17th century. The Atlas of the Botanical Society of the British Isles shows that 15 species have been lost between 1930 and the present. The total diversity is great because we have a great variety of habitats. Factors such as rock type, drainage and management practices interact to produce the different habitats, and there are also climatic and historical components.

Let us consider rock type first. In limestone grassland the rock produces a soil which is "sweet" for plants, but one which is shallow and dries out easily so that only certain plants will grow - such a blue moor grass, quaking grass and fairy flax. On a sunny summer day you can pause on the short fescue grass, yellow with rock rose and birds-foot trefoil, to smell the pink wild thyme, and perhaps nibble a leaf of salad burnet. On more acid, peaty soil of millstone grit areas you find other plants; mat grass, bilberries and tormentil. Heather provides food for grouse and bees.

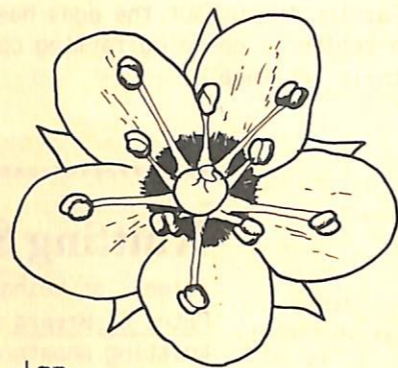
Drainage, or lack of it, is important. Bogs and fens provide some of the most magical places and interesting plants. (Yes, I was a bit doubtful when I first went "Bog flower hunting" with friends at college - but go with an expert and you will find many secret surprises). Fens are wetlands flushed with mineral rich ground water. Bogs are fed by mineral poor groundwater or just plain rainwater. In fen areas there is bog myrtle with its aromatic fragrance; waist high tussocky sedges with hazardous wet areas between; willows (once more widely used by man for building and basket work); marsh orchids; the delightful ragged-robin; the magnificent marsh cinquefoil - whose curious blood-red colour serves to attract flies. In more acid places there are rare sedges and perhaps if you are lucky the beautiful sundew - its round leaves clothed in red, glandular hairs holding glistening droplets - lethal to the insect which will land !

Management began with the coming of neolithic farmers around 5,000 years ago. Deciduous woodland - elm, ash, small leaved lime and oak would have been the natural vegetation here. Even in Norman times, parts of the Upper Dales were hunting forests with deer - and wolves. However now that the land has been cleared for stock rearing, extremely little natural woodland is left. Certain plants can be used as possible indicators of old woodland - woodruff, lily of the valley and baneberry. If woodland is replanted or regenerated naturally after an area has been cleared, it is termed secondary woodland. Even secondary deciduous woodland should be valued as a place where primroses, bluebells, wood anemones and other well-loved plants grow. The National Park is able to give grants to owners to help maintain or even to increase their woodland.

Now, instead of natural forest, we have meadows, grazing land, coniferous plantations, and in the lower areas, arable fields. Coniferous woodland is extremely poor for wild flowers because of the dense shade all the year. Meadow areas on the other hand can be extremely rich. In the Upper Dales some ancient meadows have survived. Here yellow rattle, meadow saxifrage, betony, salad burnet, wood and meadow cranesbills, even orchids may be found growing among the grasses. In the past farmers sowed a mixture of seven grasses and eight herbs for their meadows, and other plants soon spread in. Nowadays, farmers have a mixture of rye grass and red clover and in some places where enough fertiliser is applied, they can even miss out clover. Even in fields which have not been reseeded recently, the increased application of fertilizer and of manure (from our increasingly well fed cows) means that rye-grass grows so well that it tends to successfully oust the less competitive wild flowers. The change to siloing may also mean that many wild flowers will not have time to seed. So let us appreciate the wild flowers of



Bog Rosemary



Spring sandwort

the upper dales meadows whilst they are still there, and make some effort to conserve some of our meadows, for example by management agreements.

Not only the nature of the habitat determines the type of flowers which grow. History has its effect too. 15,000 years ago northern Britain was covered in ice. But 11,000 years ago after the ice melted, tundra vegetation covered our hills. In a few isolated spots in Britain some of the arctic-alpine plants have survived until today - for some reason. In those places they were not shaded out by trees. Teesdale and Ben Lawers (in Scotland) are the most noted sites, but there are some places in the Craven uplands where some of these very special plants can be found. The eight petalled mountain avens, hair sedge and alpine bartsia are such plants.

Conversely, some plants which disappeared during the last glaciation are only just finding their way back here, spreading northwards from the continent. Beech has only come back as far as the south of England, so all the beech trees up here owe their introduction to man. Field Maple is at its northern limit in the north of England.

It is interesting to look at the distribution maps for flowers in the British Isles. The Yorkshire Dales are a boundary for many plants, but in different ways. These maps are simplifications of those in the "Atlas of the British Flora" of the Botanical Society of the British Isles (modified with their kind permission):



Bird's-eye primrose - as in Yorkshire Dales Society logo !



Blue moor grass - so common in our limestone pastures - yet never seen by people in the south of England.



Alpine pennycress - we take it as an interesting plant which grows on lead-mine tips and indicates presence of high metal content - rare elsewhere in UK !



Field Maple



Crowberry

(Surprisingly, some plant photographers come up from the south especially to photograph our Alpine Pennycress Crowberry. It grows amongst heather and bilberry and has black, almost inedible berries).



Spring sandwort - has a similar distribution to

Bog Rosemary

Hollow circles indicate places where it was found before 1930. It is thus disappearing.



Hair Sedge - an arctic-alpine relict.

Why are some sites prized for particular flowers so that botanists value them highly? Usually it is because the soil and growing conditions are poor, so that no plants grow very well and the common ones do not grow at all. The plants that do grow are adapted to those extreme conditions.

These special plants are interesting not only because of their ability to grow in such places, but also because they were once much more widespread. They are relicts of our natural flora before the impact of man, and of the 20th century methods of improving the land in particular.

There are several reasons why it is important to conserve our native flora. One reason is because it constitutes a genetic resources which may one day be needed. Just as scientists have helped to produce new strains of fruit and vegetables based on plants once found in the wild, so there is now increased potential for more useful plants to be bred utilizing genes from wild species. In addition many flowers provide specific food for insects and birds which would also disappear if the plants did. Furthermore, the diversity and beauty of flowers add to the quality of life and we should not prevent our grandchildren from the chance of enjoying them also.

I have tried to express some of the delight I find in the flowers of the Yorkshire Dales. But we cannot take these flowers for granted - there must be concern that the land is managed in such a way that there is still a place for wild flowers left for future generations. Sensible management allowing for wild flowers is entirely compatible with the legitimate aspirations of good farming practice.

Anyone wishing to learn more about wild flowers is highly recommended to attend a Course on wild flowers or natural history at Malham Tarn Field Centre (telephone Airtown 331)

The Globeflower - once more widespread now very restricted, since so many meadows and woods have been drained and reseeded.

To support the work of conservation you can join your local branch of the Yorkshire Naturalists' Trust - Yorkshire Naturalists' Trust Head Office is in York, telephone York 59570

JUDITH ALLINSON

Woodland Visit



Last November a small group of Yorkshire Dales Society members visited this and other Wensleydale woodlands, with Val Kirby, Landscape Conservation Officer with the National Park Authority at Bainbridge. Picture shows group in Freeholders' Wood.

G. W.

Langcliffe's Lime Kiln

Griff Hollingshead, the Industrial Historian, writes about the unique Hoffman Kiln at Langcliffe, Ribblesdale, as a prelude to his guided tour of the Kiln for the Yorkshire Dales Society on March 19th.

By the mid 19th century, lime burning had become a major industry in the Yorkshire Dales. Large selling Kilns were built at Ingleton, Horton in Ribblesdale, Foredale, Giggleswick and Langcliffe. These provided work for many people in the Dales, as well as Irishmen staying on after the harvest. Such men as Delaney and Spencer were well known quarry owners.

Quarrying followed the usual practice, blasting away the rock and transporting it to the crushers and lime kilns by horse drawn narrow gauge tramways.

The Hoffman principle of burning lime was introduced at Ingleton when the first kiln of this type was built. It was a horizontal kiln designed for continuous burning. In 1873, with the construction of the Midland Railway to Carlisle, completed in 1875, the great Hoffman Kiln was built at Langcliffe. Some 400 feet long and 90 feet in width, it consisted of 22 "chambers" in two parallel tunnels, joined at either end by two semicircular sections, thus forming a continuous passage.

Twenty-two wicket or arches in the outer wall provided access to the chambers. In the centre of the Kiln was the long tunnel known as the smoke chamber which connected the chimney with various flues from the burning chamber. Bell type iron dampers controlled these flues from the top of the kiln.

The tall chimney was felled in 1952 owing to its unstable condition. At intervals of 6 to 9 feet along the roof of the firing chambers were rows of holes which allowed coal to be dropped from the firing floor above to fires between spaces allowed in the limestone. Wath Main Nuts were used for fuel, and this was brought by rail from South Yorkshire, unloaded into narrow gauge trucks which were lifted to the firing floor by a water balanced hoist.

Broken limestone was brought from the quarry by tramway and packed into the kiln, as in dry stone walling, to a set pattern allowing for draught flues and firing spaces. After two chambers were filled iron doors were fitted across the chamber to control the draught in one direction only.

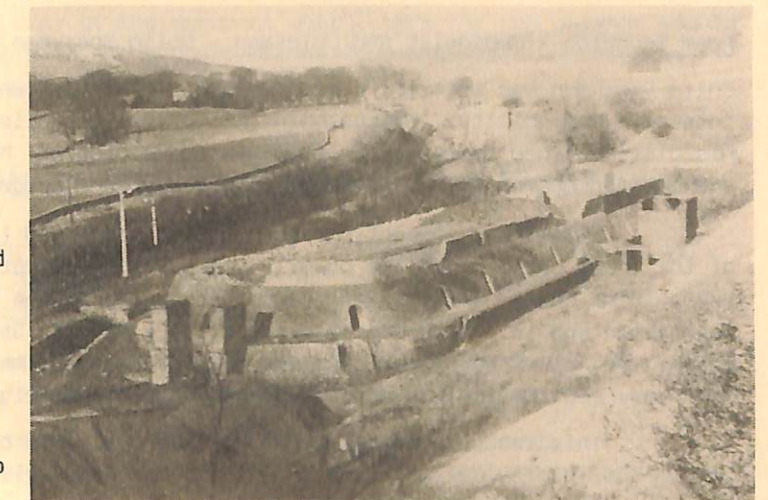
After a further two chambers had been filled, another set of doors were fitted across the chamber, the previous doors removed and the wicket sealed up. The dampers were then lifted to encourage the fires to travel forward. Meanwhile, at the other end of the section the burned limestone, now quicklime, was being drawn by wheelbarrow to the waiting railway waggons in the siding down each side of the kiln.

Two sections of the kiln were in use at the same time when in full production, one fire following the other, in an anticlockwise direction, taking some six weeks to complete the circuit. The fires preheated the packed limestone in the chambers ahead, and cold air required for combustion cooled the quicklime in the chambers behind before being emptied.

Up to the mid 1920s, a roof protected the men on the firing floor, but this was never replaced, and firemen had to take shelter in a small building at the base of the chimney in bad weather.

Since the Langcliffe Hoffman Kiln is now the only remaining example of its type in the country, it is hoped that further deterioration of the structure will be prevented. Work has been done by the Craven District Council in clearing the site, but financial help will have to be found for complete restoration.

Please note that the property is owned by the Council, and you are only allowed to visit the site by their permission. There are many dangerous and unsafe areas in and on the Kiln. Protective headgear and suitable clothing should be worn when visiting the site.



The Hoffman Kiln taken in 1954 after the chimney had been demolished in 1952; the older industrial field kilns can be seen in the background alongside the Settle-Carlisle Railway line. Photo: G. Hollingshead

New Books

A Dales Heritage Marie Hartley & Joan Ingilby (Dalesman Publishing Co. - £5.50)

Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby are among that rare and illustrious group of Dales writers whose work - with that of the late Ella Pontefract - has so deepened and enriched our knowledge of Dales life that it will find a permanent and honoured place in any Dales library. Their latest book A Dales Heritage combines detailed documentary research with oral history to give vivid insight into the life of Wensleydale and Swaledale farmers, miners, parson, gamekeeper, smith, miller, agent, and their families over many centuries. "Independence, self reliance, neighbourliness were the characteristics of this band of people used to a simple existence in a bleak environment."

This book, which explores the fascinating area where history and biography meet, is richly illustrated with photographs from many sources, and Dalesman are to be congratulated in producing a book in so attractive a format, a fitting tribute to the lifetime's work of two great Dales scholars and ladies.

C.S.

Tom Lee - The Grassington Murderer - Dr Geoffrey Rowley (Craven Herald £2.85)

The Skipton historian, Geoffrey Rowley has brilliantly unravelled truth from a mixture of myth, romance, fact and fantasy that surrounded the tale of Tom Lee, the Grassington blacksmith who murdered Dr Richard Petty in Grass Woods in 1766 - an absorbing piece of literary detective work. The book is available from the Craven Herald, 38 High Street, Skipton, Yorkshire. Add 50p postage.

C.S.

Adam Sedgwick - Geologist and Dalesman - Colin Speakman (Broadoak Press £5.75)

Colin Speakman has written "a biography in 12 themes" which indicates the range of Sedgwick's interests and ability. He was born into a long-established Dentedale family. During the years of his distinguished career as an academic and geologist, he "never lost contact with his own family and boyhood community and remained a generous benefactor."

Sedgwick's connections with royalty even led to intervention by Queen Victoria on behalf of the local chapel. Called Cowgill Chapel, the foundation stone was laid by Sedgwick in 1837. Thirty years later church authorities determined to change the name to Kirkthwaite. There was strong local opposition and in a sequence of extraordinary events, Sedgwick's pamphlet on the matter reached the Queen. An Act of Parliament was needed to remedy the matter: the Queen took an interest and so the necessary legislation was enacted to re-instate the original name.

This readable paperback is jointly published by Broad Oak Press, Geological Society of London and Trinity College Cambridge. (Copies available from the Secretary price £5.75 plus 50p postage, proceeds to the Yorkshire Dales Society).

R.A.

Hawes Town Trail (new edition) - Roger Stott

This short illustrated history of interesting features in Hawes, with photographs by J.C. Moore, is of equal interest to local people and visitors to Wensleydale. It provides information for those "who have time for a short stroll" in the market town of Hawes and nearby Gayle. The latter is familiar for its picturesque scene of ducks by the ford. A maximum walk of two and a half hours can be taken - or any section to suit the time available.

Hawes Town Trail is available locally or from Mrs B. Stott, Shawghyll Farm, Simonstone, Hawes, for 85p including postage and packing.

R.A.



Geese in Hawes Market Place c.1905

One of the photographs of old Dales life collected by Arthur Roberts of Middleton-in-Teesdale.

It is hoped to arrange an exhibition of some of this material during 1983.

Photograph reproduced by kind permission of Beamish North of England Open Air Museum (copyright)

TOPICS

What Future for the Uplands?

The Countryside Commission are engaged in a "major consultation programme" concerned with the uplands of England and Wales, to allow a wide cross-section of people and interests to comment on what should be future government policies for such areas. A thought-provoking "consultation" paper has been produced, and outlines a range of opportunities and possibilities, and meetings arranged.

The Yorkshire Dales Society has been consulted, and many of the issues raised will have to be fully explored.

In the meantime anyone who would like to see a copy of the document What Future for the Uplands should obtain a copy direct from the Countryside Commission, John Dower House, Crescent Place, Cheltenham Glos GL50 3RA price £2 including postage.



What future for the Country Bus The Yorkshire Dales Society plan to help establish a series of informal consultative groups to help support local bus services - groups planned for Wharfedale, Nidderdale, Wensleydale, Swaledale; see Opera Bus item below. Please contact Secretary if you can help.
- photo Geoffrey N. Wright

Small Business Co-operation in Dales Marketing Venture

The idea of shared advertising of tourist attractions is not new, but following initial discussions and the Yorkshire Dales Society Small Business Seminar in November 1981, a leaflet called Around and About in Wensleydale and Swaledale was produced for distribution last year.

This was immediately followed by a similar leaflet for the Dent and Sedbergh areas and both proved so successful that they are being revised and published again in 1983.

The purpose of these giveaway leaflets is to provide a simple and effective source of "wet-weather" and tourist information to visitors. Craft workshops and other places of interest are listed, together with an outline road map.

This year the Wensleydale and Swaledale leaflet will also include information about petrol, police and public telephones, as well as details of craft workshops, museums, pony-trekking, morning coffee etc.; it's really a things to see and do list with addresses and telephone numbers. Details of a competition with a local flavour and a £25 prize are also included.

The Dent and Sedbergh leaflet covers a wider area than last year and includes accommodation addresses, pubs etc as well as craft workshops and other "special interest" places that welcome visitors.

Not to be outdone, Upper Wharfedale now produce the V.I.P., a coloured newspaper of local information.

To obtain copies call or send a SAE (essential - letter post for 1-5 copies; 25p for 6-18 copies) to the Craft Workshops that have undertaken to distribute on behalf of the rest:

Wensleydale and Swaledale leaflet from W.R. Outhwaite & Son, Ropemakers, Town Foot, Hawes, North Yorkshire, DL8 3NT

Dent and Sedbergh from Dent Craft Centre, Dent, via Sedbergh, Cumbria

Upper Wharfedale The Mountaineer, Pletts Barn, Grassington, Via Skipton, North Yorkshire.

Catch the Y.D.S. Opera Bus

Another initiative arising from a Y.D.S. Seminar, this time on Public Transport, is a direct collaboration between the Society and West Yorkshire Road Car Co (National Bus) in Upper Wharfedale, with a special Opera and Theatre bus service to give Dalesfolk access to live entertainment. A monthly programme to Opera North, Leeds Grand, Leeds Playhouse, Concerts, is now established, and it is hoped a similar venture will soon start from Wensleydale and Sedbergh areas. There is also interest in Ribblesdale. Full details from the Secretary.

A Yorkshire Dales Diary

- Saturday March 19th Dales Museums Workshop Terry Suthers, Peter Brears. Linton Court Gallery, Settle 10.15am. Details from YDS Secretary
- The Hoffman Kiln - Industrial Historian Griff Hollingshead takes Society members to this extraordinary industrial monument. Wear old clothes. Meet Settle Market Place 2pm.
- Saturday March 26th Sedbergh Historical Society - Cheese & Wine/AGM; Danson Room, Sedbergh School. 7.30pm.
- March 26th - 10th April Buildings of Settle - exhibition by North Craven Heritage Trust, Linton Court Gallery, Duke Street, Settle (tel 2695). Summer season at Gallery from 16th April
- Wednesday April 13th Stump Cross Cave and Visitor Centre Gordon Hanley and Barbara Gill introduce Society members to this extended Show Cave and new Visitor Centre, which open daily (from 10am) on Good Friday. Meet Stump Cross, Greenhow, 7.15pm.
- May 7th & 8th A Dentedale Weekend A chance for all members, especially those living farther afield, to come to lovely Dentedale for a day or weekend. Travel by Dales Rail or own transport, stay for a day or weekend. Based on Whernside Cave and Fell Centre; lectures on local history, Settle-Carlisle line; folk night, walks, pothole trip. See leaflet or ask Secretary for details. See photo below.
- Sunday May 22nd Dales Traverse - 25 mile sponsored walk in aid of Wheatfields Hospice. Details from Simon Townson, 18 Victoria Street, Wetherby, West Yorkshire tel 61403.
- Wednesday June 1st Opera Bus from Wharfedale and Skipton to Berlioz's Beatrice and Benedict (Opera North). Details from Y.D.S. Secretary - SAE please.
- Wednesday June 8th In search of the Bird's eye primrose. Summer evening walk in Grass Woods. Meet Grassington Square, 7.15pm

YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY EVENTS OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS - BRING A FRIEND WITH YOU !

- June 25th - July 9th The Third Grassington Festival - Fitzwilliam String Quartet, Opera North, Northern Camerata, Nicholas Reah etc. Details from Secretary.
- Saturday June 25th Flowers at the Tarn - a repeat visit, by popular request, to Malham Tarn Field Centre where Dr Disney and his staff explain the summer flora. 1.30pm at Centre.
- Tuesday June 28th Anna Adams - well known Dales poet and sculptress, from Horton-in-Ribblesdale presents some of her work (Grassington Festival event). Grassington Town Hall 8pm.
- Extra ! Until May 15th, British Rail "Saver" ticket from Skipton to Carlisle over historic Settle-Carlisle line through Yorkshire Dales available at £4, children £2.50. Train departs 0933, returns from Carlisle 1537. Closure announcement forecast for May - use it before we lose it !

Next issue of Yorkshire Dales Review due out early June. Items for inclusion (including Diary)

to reach Secretary by early May. Views and opinions expressed in the Review are not necessarily those of the Society.

Colin Speakman
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SAE appreciated with enquiries.

Dentedale
(see May 7th/8th above)

photo: Simon Warner

Cover Photo: Arthur Beresford
of Langstrothdale
David Clough &
Enid Pyrah

