

Y The Yorkshire Dales Review

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Autumn 1988



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50p.

 THE YORKSHIRE DALES REVIEW is the quarterly journal of the Yorkshire Dales Society and is published by the Society with the help and support of the Countryside Commission who contribute to the development and work of the Society. Views expressed in The Review are those of individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Society.

Destruction by Degrees

Perhaps the most frightening thing about the loss of rural England is that it is such a gradual process. Apart from a few massive environmental disasters such as a new motorway here, a nuclear power station there, a vast quarry (an especial Dales problem) eating into the skyline, the process is so slow that you hardly notice what's happening.

But then suddenly, realisation dawns. Perhaps it's an old photograph, or an older person on a return visit, or indeed someone who remembers, with a deep sense of loss, what has been destroyed.

One of the most moving letters to reach us in the YDS office recently came from Mr. Alderson, a native of the village of Wensley for many years who mourns the "drastic effects" on the local environment near his home of modern urban development in this tiny village on the edge of the National Park.

"It has caused us great unhappiness and will do so for the foreseeable future," he writes, "in the so-called interests of development as sanctioned by the planners. Nature has been ravished and it will never be the same as we have remembered it for 30 years and has been similar since the early 1900s - according to a photograph I possess of that period. Fortunately I have what one could term a photographic record of the area, since arriving here, more so since the start of the activities of woodcutters and builders.

"Bird-life has been greatly affected since the activity and many are no longer regularly seen, as they once were. Regular visitors were fly catchers, warblers, tits, finches, woodpecker, tree-creeper, nut-hatch, heron, dipper, duck and all the usual common birds which over the years neighbours and ourselves have encouraged - it has been virtually a small sanctuary enjoyed by us, by ramblers and walkers, as the lane is part of a walk recommended for tourists. A large part of a lovely country lane has been affected and perhaps will never recover."

What chance has Mr Alderson and his neighbours against the property developers, the builders, the estate agents, the highway engineers - all following their legitimate self interest? Sadly neither woodpeckers nor warblers carry any cash value in a modern acquisitive society, and planners seem helpless when faced with the powerful financial and political pressures of the developers.

Nor are things much better in the National Park itself, where, in spite of apparently stringent systems of controls, villages such as Threshfield and Grassington have been engulfed in suburbia, and new development seems to be springing up wherever you turn. But the pressure the planners are under can be gauged from the fact that on a typical month, the Park Office receive over 50 applications for new development in some form. Always behind the planners' mind is the awareness that the applicant if his application is turned down will appeal - and increasingly London inspectors are sustaining those appeals, with the Park having to face legal and other costs. The Government has already made it clear that it wants planning applications "speeded up" and in this case it means siding with the developers. The richer and more powerful a developer is, the more chance he has of forcing his wishes through on appeal.

So it's a new housing development here, a barn conversion there, an old lane widened to contain the residents' twin garaged cars. Each year a little more - nothing outrageous in itself, perhaps, but building up towards a pretty massive process of change.

Nothing wrong with change, perhaps - the Dales are after all not a museum and some change, and new building is desirable and inevitable. But once the change is on such a scale and of such a nature that it fundamentally changes the character of an area, turns it into something like the pleasant but totally artificial suburban landscape of our larger towns, then something important and precious, the very character of the Dales themselves has been lost. In certain parts of the Dales, both within and outside the National Park, this has already happened. Within the next decade it could happen in many other places.

So Mr. Alderson's deep sense of loss is our loss too. Despite what we are told are some of the best planning laws in the world, it's difficult not to feel that something has gone fundamentally wrong. Perhaps the British love of compromise in the final analysis, has betrayed us more than we know.

Cover: "The Little House" Todds Wood, Wharfedale (John Potter)

Colin Speakman

Settle/Carlisle — A Question for the North

The battle to retain the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle railway - surely the most bitterly protracted in railway history - has taken another bizarre turn when the new Minister of State for Transport, Mr Michael Portillo announced a "reprieve" for the line until May 1989 to give time for a buyer of the line to be found. The retiring Minister who relinquished his post for personal reasons and a knighthood had indicated that he was "so minded" to close the line if a private buyer or no substantial new evidence emerged. And now a prospectus has been issued by British Rail's agents, Lazard Bros., to offer track, signals, stations and even some old trains to the highest bidder. British Rail and the Government clearly "want rid" at the earliest opportunity.

Meantime, behind the scenes, the English Tourist Board, Cumbria Tourist Board and the local authorities are working on a Business Plan for the line which might find a formula whereby private and public initiatives can come together so that the social and tourist railway can continue on an all-the-year basis in co-operation with British Rail rather than the line operate as a summer-only detached section.

Some idea of the economic importance of the line not only to the Yorkshire Dales but to the North of England as a whole can be gauged from the fact that tourist chiefs in the City of Carlisle, following detailed surveys, calculate that the crowded trains bring between £1 - and £1½ million per annum into the City's economy - at a cautious estimate. That represents a substantial number of jobs in the area.

Opinion in Cumbria and Yorkshire is united in wanting to keep the railway and develop it for the benefit of rural communities and as one of the greatest tourist assets and opportunities in the region. All our local Members of Parliament, both Government and Opposition, and most local authority elected representatives support the retention of the line. Yet a London-based Government, firmly and myopically concerned with the affairs of the all-too-properous South East, has indicated that it will soon close down our railway line unless a private philanthropist can be found to accept liability for this great but crumbling piece of Northern heritage.

To ignore so many widely-based representations gives strong and potent ammunition for those who are now beginning to argue for some form of regionalisation, as exists in most European countries, to be applied to Britain. In whose interests and by whom should such strategic decisions be taken?

Such a view is eloquently expressed in Michael Bradford's carefully researched book The Fight for Yorkshire (Hutton Press, Beverley, £5.25) which details - particularly since 1974 - various ways in which the identity of Yorkshire has been eroded and undermined mainly by bureaucrats. Witness, for example, the vigorous campaign by Sedbergh people to return to their native County. But as Michael Bradford points out, "Yorkshire" is a real place, and Yorkshire people have their own identity. It is a Province like Normandy or Brittany, like the Federal states of Germany which, as Bradford points out are not dominated politically, culturally and economically by Bonn as Yorkshire is by London.

Yet changes could be in the wind. Already there are stirrings afoot. In 1988, a "Council for the North" met in York for the first time since 1641. Rumours (The Time 15.3.88) that County Councils may be abolished in the next decade could lead to ever stronger calls for real power to be given back to the Regions.



What has this to do with Settle-Carlisle and the Yorkshire Dales? Simply this. Settle-Carlisle is a major regional issue. Though the Yorkshire Dales Society is a strictly non-political organisation (and S&C is not a party political matter) the final outcome will depend on politicians feeling that enough people both within and outside the region care about what is happening - and what should happen. Support the Friends of Settle-Carlisle. Get that letter off to your MP and to the bureaucrats at Whitehall as soon as you can.

The Yorkshire Dales needs the Settle-Carlisle !

CS

What could happen if British Rail has its way. The abandoned Trackbed of the Wensledale Branch, near Garsdale (photo: Pete Shaw)

Looking at Barns

Barns are fashionable: fashionable because they are currently much sought after for conversion into highly desirable residences and also fashionable because of present concern for their conservation. The campaign initiated by the Dales Park Committee for barns in the Dales has had much publicity.

At first sight, conversion and conservation are mutually exclusive, but in fact they need not be. There are plenty of barns for all, thousands upon thousands of them in the Dales and by and large those suitable for conversion are not those that are prime candidates for conversion. The former tend to be in villages or on the fringes of villages, whereas the latter tend to be in field barns which are such an important constituent of that mix of man-made and natural environment which makes up our glorious Dales landscapes. Many of those who love the Dales absorb the scene, barns and all, but how many look at barns as objects of interest, of great interest, in their own right.

Recent farming practice has changed radically, and the purposes for which most barns were built no longer exist, although it is surprising how many are still in use to provide occasional shelter for livestock or permanent winter housing for young cattle. Their origins are obscure, though some kind of barns must have existed as long as settled agriculture. A writer of the fourth century B.C. related how the natives of Britain "collect the sheaves in great barns and thresh out the corn there, because they have so little sunshine that our open threshing places would be of little use in that land of cloud and rain." He was, I assume, writing about the South of England, but he might equally well be writing about the Dales in the 17th and 18th centuries when so many barns were built. They have that combination of massive double doors with flag floor behind leading to a usually smaller door at the rear which are the hallmarks of barns used for threshing and winnowing. Quite often the doors were sheltered by a large porch which would not only help to create the draught needed for winnowing but would provide standing for a cart when the barn was full of unthreshed grain or hay or was otherwise in use. In the higher reaches of the Dales there are barns whose doors are much smaller and which never could have been entered by a cart loaded with grain or hay. They were built for sledges and coops.

Of course, barns were not only used for storage of grain or hay. They were used for livestock, particularly cattle. Many such barns were in effect self-sufficient units storing the hay from the field in which they stood (and perhaps the neighbouring fields) and sufficient cattle to consume that hay. Its products were manure for the same fields and milk collected and taken to the farm. This was the traditional use of the field barn all over the Dales.

Many Dales barns, commonly called laithes, were of more or less standard plan. The depth was about 16 feet and the length 3 or 4 units of each 10 feet, that being the distance between roof trusses or between gables and truss. Each unit is called a bay and its dimensions are said to be ancient, particularly those near farm houses, have been enlarged. Porches were added where they were not built originally and bays were added. Outshuts were added either at the back or the front but especially in the right angled area at each side of the porch to create calf houses or stables. It is often possible to see a change in the masonry where the roof has been raised and the line of that change in



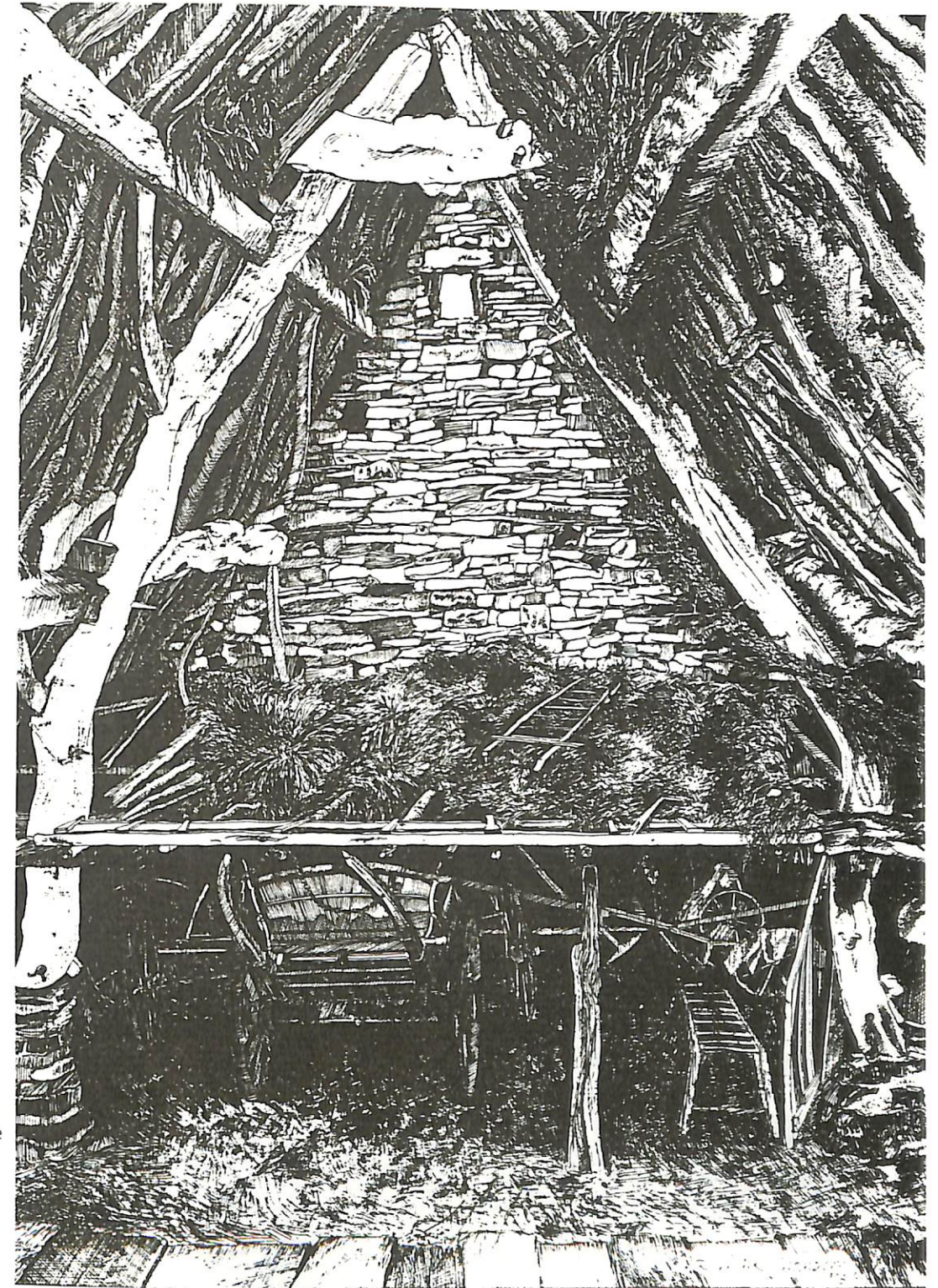
Barns near Askrigg (Christine Whitehead)

in the gable quite often indicates that the old steeply pitched roof must have been thatched. Thatched roofs were very common, the usual thatching material being ling. Old ling grown long and straggly was used and stems likely to have come from special moorland areas; on the First Edition One Inch Ordnance Survey map an area near Round Hill on Beamsley Moor is labelled "Thatch Ling."

So far as I am aware, there are no thatched barns remaining in the Dales (though some remnants of thatch remain), except for a barn re-erected and re-thatched not long ago at Grimwith. That is a small barn which also happens to be of cruck (to be precise, raised cruck) construction. Only a few now remain in Wharfedale (as well as one house) and these are concentrated in the Bolton Abbey and Barden area. No doubt the concentration is due to the presence in that area of good large timber long after it disappeared elsewhere.

Another common kind of barn is the bank barn, perhaps not so common in the southern as the northern Dales. These are barns which are built into the slope of a hill. Down the slope, on the lower floor, is the shippon and up the slope is access, by door and for pitching-in hole, to hay storage which extends over the shippon. A feeding system which was at least part gravitational was possible.

Barns did not only accommodate animals. From early times, oxherds had lived with their oxen and it was still probably common in the 17th century for the herd to be housed in part of the large barn of a farm. Even in very recent times labourers hired for haytime have also lived in barns, but that was a temporary matter. In earlier times there was often what we would call purpose built accommodation. It is a feature which can sometimes be seen in 17th century barns and not long ago I was delighted to find a similar arrangement in a much more modern bank barn. There was the usual low level shippon and the upper level access for hay, but over most of the shippon there was a two room (one up, one down) dwelling. The lower end of the barn was, in effect, of three floors, the lowest being for cattle, the next a kind of living room with fireplace and the top a bedroom. The structure was, in my experience, unique; one of the delights of barn watching.



A Wharfedale cruck barn (Drawing by D. Mark Thompson)

Farm houses and barns are often integrated into a single long range of buildings. Such buildings are largely of a kind called "laithe houses" in which the barn and house, although under the same roof, are quite separate. Older, and much rarer are "long houses" in which the door to the house was originally through the barn. Alterations obscure the evidence but if you have a keen eye you might spot examples. Also watch for houses, usually 17th century, which have been converted into barns when the owner built himself a better house.

What else can you look for? Well, the architectural details are often fascinating. Look at kneelers and finials, at pigeon holes and owl holes; look at loop holes (ventilation holes) which can be anything from simple rough holes to beautifully fashioned crosses splayed to the interior. Look for carefully structured water shot coursing (each course of masonry tilted so as to throw off water); look for recesses in the cheeks of porches that might have been dog kennels. Look at the various and fascinating ways in which the vast span of the great doors has been bridged, whether it be by timber of limestone or sandstone and look at the smaller doors for carved lintels and dates, though dates might be found in other places as well.

The list of things to observe is almost endless - and so is the fascination.

JOHN WARD

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Not Ours, but Ours to Look After

"The National Parks are the most beautiful parts of England and Wales. There are many other areas of outstanding natural beauty but none more beautiful. That is why National Parks were chosen. They are neither State-owned nor fenced off. They are an inheritance not an invention. And they are there to be enjoyed."

These words, from Brian Redhead's address at the National Parks Day Rally at Chatsworth, just over a year ago, form part of what might be described as paragraphs of dedication, set out like a poem at the start of The National Parks of England and Wales (Oxford Illustrated Press £14.95) by Brian Redhead. The first part of the book, "A Celebration" looks at the ten National Parks of England and Wales plus the Broads ("A National Park except in name") and through Chris Swan's evocative photographs, shares the delight to be experienced in some of our greatest landscapes. But the second part of the book, using the text of Brian's speech as touchstone, looks more closely at the Vision of National Parks

and how that vision has become clouded by developers, quarrymen, commercial afforestation investment, oil refineries, nuclear power stations, modern industrial highways.

Such horrors are kept in perspective, and the book, written with the assistance of Amanda Nobbs and Frances Rowe of the Council for National Park, also seeks balanced solutions - the need to balance local against national interests, to encourage local employment and protect services, to seek active conservation measures, to come to terms with tourism.

Proceeds from the sale of the book will go to assist the Council for National Parks, and all Yorkshire Dales Society members will find it a stimulating and thought-provoking addition to their



bookshelf, and an ideal gift.

Brian Redhead, familiar to most members of YDS as the laconic and entertaining voice on BBC Radio Four's Today programme is the President of the Council for National Parks, and has already proved an outspoken and vigorous champion of the National Park cause, not afraid to speak out on major issues affecting the National Park. On a recent visit to the Yorkshire Dales when he joined YDS Council members in Wensleydale, Ribblesdale and Wharfedale, he declared himself truly enchanted with the spectacular beauty of the landscape - but horrified at a planning system which (in the past) has allowed those mighty quarries to gouge out those massive limestone canyons in Ribblesdale and Wharfedale and (in the present) seems helpless to prevent large scale environmental destruction from continuing, nor even ensures that rail transport is used to carry the astronomic tonnage of stone now thundering in lorries along Dales roads.

But as Daleswatch members have confirmed, perhaps the most serious current threat to the integrity of the Dales landscape comes from the large scale "leisure developments" or "Tourist complexes" that now threaten so many National Parks, the Yorkshire Dales included. CNP have done the Yorkshire Dales a real service in a dist urbing, carefully researched Discussion Paper on what is happening in our National Parks as the "multi-million pound leisure operator" whose advertisements flood the National Parks' free newspapers begin to change the nature of the areas within which they operate. Luxury accommodation, saunas, gourmet restaurants. The paper is not anti-tourism, far from it. But as it points out: "At a time when farmers are seeking to diversify into farm-based tourism, the future of small businesses in countryside tourism is critical. What hope would National Park farmers have if tourism were being increasingly monopolised by the leisure complex?"

The Lake District in particular is quoted as being under particular pressure, but schemes already exist for the Dales. What chance have National Park Committees, themselves subject to the political and financial pressures of their constituent County Councils, to resist the pressures? Can National Parks be truly "National" unless long term conservation objectives have priority? As CNP argue, "National Parks need a special brand of tourism which puts National Parks first". One the one hand this may require a more positive and informed understanding of tourism by Park authorities, and on the other a greater awareness by the Department of the Environment and Tourist Boards of the need for small scale, locally based tourism which reflects and respects the unique qualities of rural environments and communities.

Copies of CNP's paper Tourist Complexes in National Parks, written by Amanda Nobbs can be obtained free of charge from the Council for National Parks, 45 Shelton Street, London WC2H 9HJ, but it is suggested that a donation of at least £1 to cover costs would be most welcome. Comments on the paper are welcomed by CNP.

The Yorkshire Dales Society work closely with CNP at a local and national level, CNP being able to develop many of our concerns at a national level and with central Government. But CNP is also desperately short of funds. You can help in two ways - by sending a donation or becoming an individual Friend of the National Parks. Membership is £7.50 per annum, £10 Joint. Full details and further information

from Council for National Parks
45 Shelton Street, London
WC2H 9HJ.



Coping with Recreational Pressures in a National Park

A helicopter carries timbers onto The Three Peaks Path, on Pen y Ghent to provide new emergency boardwalk to relieve the severe erosion problems exacerbated by the wet summer of 1988 - pending a permanent solution by the Three Peaks Project.

photo: Barry Wilkinson

The Photographic Treasures of Yorkshire's Past



A glimpse of the Past - working horses in the yorkshire countryside from the cover of Yorkshire Album

The latest book, Yorkshire Album - Photographs of Everyday Life 1900-1950 by the indefatigable and remarkable Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby, is a box of delights to savour and treasure. From their own photography over many years and from their archives as well as culling from many other sources, they have selected 300 photographs which show how the life and landscape, the work and leisure of Yorkshire have changed over fifty years.

Yet how great has the change been visually? The smoke has gone from the towns, the working horses have disappeared from the farm. But throughout so many of the photographs they have chosen there is a special character which seems timeless, particularly in the images of the Yorkshire Dales and the North York Moors. Country faces and clothes display pride and character which are just as evident today as in the first half of the century. The photographs are all in black and white and this uniformity adds an element which colour, however imaginatively used, cannot provide.

Miss Hartley and Miss Ingilby have captured in this delightful book so much of the richness and diversity of Yorkshire which, hopefully, may preserve the essential qualities of this particular part of Northern England no matter what future changes may come as a result of the sometimes alarming new pressures of tourism or the effects of a Europe sans economic frontiers in 1992.

What is particularly interesting about their choice of images is that most photographs are bursting with human life, even where groups of people are posed in still formality. This is a contrast to the spate of Yorkshire books usually with moody, lonely, empty landscapes by today's photographers. It is a delight to see people living their lives - working in the factory, on the land and at sea, going to market, on picnics, to the seaside, weddings, carnivals, dances, plays, cricket matches. The details often in very sharp focus despite the age of the photographs, can be studied and enjoyed, adding to our understanding of a slice of local history when so much drama and tragedy was happening elsewhere in the world.

Miss Hartley and Miss Ingilby have short commentaries which introduce each of the book's five sections. Inevitably there is a pervading sadness in their words because of their deep knowledge and understanding of so much of Yorkshire's history and ecology - particularly as shown in their remarkable Life and Tradition series of books on the Dales, the Moorlands and the West Yorkshire Pennines - gives them a

perception of change during their own lifetime which is perhaps more sensitive than the average reader's. But their deep affection for a Yorkshire not "mutilated by boundary changes" has allowed them to create a unique pattern of the past.

What they have presented in A Yorkshire Album (Dent, £14.95p) is a heritage which must serve to remind people living in and concerned with today's Yorkshire that there is a greater responsibility than ever before to preserve and conserve what still makes our Northern world special when international and national and political and economic "realities" threaten to pressure us into making sweeping changes towards greater (and much less interesting) uniformity.

DAVID MORGAN REES

Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby have kindly agreed to give Yorkshire Dales Society members a special tour of the Upper Dales Folk Museum at Hawes in Wensleydale, which displays their own extensive collection of farming, domestic and craft tools and other artefacts. The lecture visit will be on Saturday October 8th 1988, starting at 2.30pm sharp. The fee for YDS members will be 45p each, payable on the day. The Upper Dales Folk Museum is located in the old station yard at Hawes where there is also a car park. There is a cafe nearby; the Harvest Moon which is open until 5.30pm

Pennine Futures

A stimulating one-day conference "Pennine Futures", organised by the Yorkshire Rural Community Council, took place at Clay House Countryside Centre at West Vale in Halifax in June. It was timed to coincide with a number of initiatives locally and to mark the end of the Council of Europe's "Campaign for the Countryside". It was chaired by Dr. Nigel Roome, chairman of the Yorkshire Rural Community Council and a member of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee.

The focus was on the area of the Southern Pennines broadly encompassed by the Pennine Rural Development Area established in 1984 under the aegis of Calderdale MBC and Kirkstiles MC and including the Upper Calder, Ryburn and Colne Valleys. This is a unique "industrial" rural area but the parallels with the Yorkshire Dales are obvious. The decline in the traditional economy is gradually being reversed by a variety of initiatives designed to promote positive attitudes and attributes and encourage sensible diversification. But the attraction of the area, particularly to commuters and people from the south-east, is resulting in new pressure for homes, leisure and access to the countryside.

The main speakers were Gordon Kingston, Soci-economic Adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture, on Agricultural Change, and Michal Dower, National Park Officer of the Peak District and former Chairman of Rural Voice, on Pennine communities and a strategy for change in a national context. These were followed by highly participative workshops which covered such areas as rural enterprise schemes and new initiatives to finance rural housing schemes such as the Trust promoted by the National Agricultural Centre.

It is hoped to repeat a similar event in the Yorkshire Dales in the near future. YDS members will be advised of this at the earliest opportunity.

The Yorkshire Rural Community Council, established in 1934 as a registered charity, supports local initiatives, encourages self-help and provides a range of resources and advisory services throughout Yorkshire. This work has included support of the growing importance of Parish Councils and ways of ensuring the viability of village schools. The YRCC's Director, Ian Strong, made an excellent presentation of the Council's work at the YDS's last Annual General Meeting.

Rural Voice is a national alliance, set up in 1987 of ten voluntary organisations, including the NFU and Young Farmers' Clubs, the WI and the CPRE, providing a strong network of those organisations primarily concerned with the social and economic wellbeing of people living in rural communities.

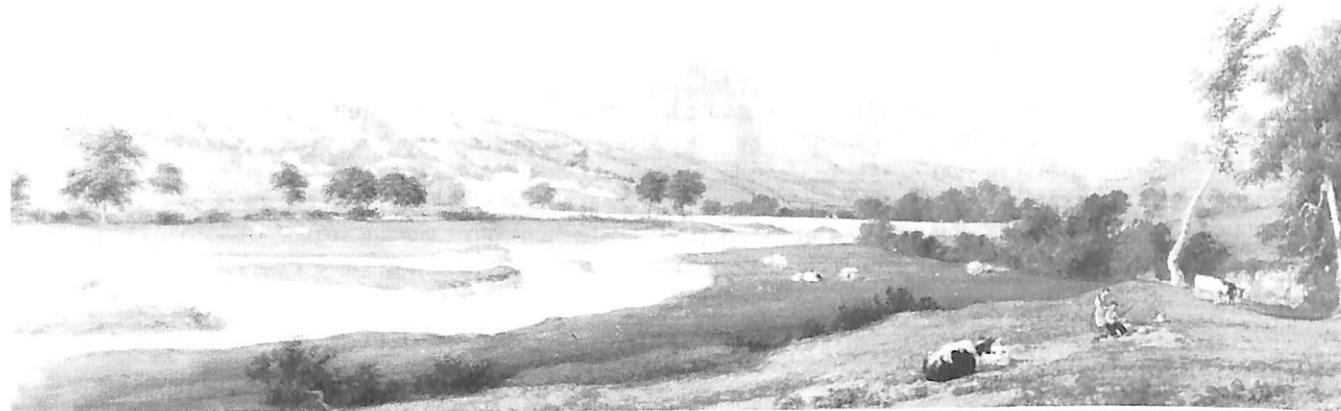
DMS

Shanty Life on the Settle-Carlisle Railway

Yet another remarkable little paperback from Dales writer/publisher W.R. (Bill) Mitchell, Shanty Life on the Settle-Carlisle (Castleberg Publications, 18 Yealand Ave., Giggleswick, Settle, BD24 0AY price £2.70 including postage) reminds us that the S&C isn't just about trains, but a heroic story of human musclepower, suffering and misery, vividly told with many unique photographs of navvies and their extraordinary "hut villages" at Ribbleshead with such names as Sebastapol, Belgravia and Jericho rich with incident, plague, fights. This is as much a part of the S&C heritage as the viaducts, the steam trains, the landscape.



Hope on Hope Ever



This exquisite and hitherto unpublished Westall print of Dentdale forms the dust-jacket 8in full colour) of a reprint by Dales Historical Monographs of Mary Howitt's classic Dentdale novel Hope on, Hope Ever ! This has for many years been an extremely rare, much sought after book (this reviewer has a frail original copy almost too fragile to read) and was based on Mary and William Howitt's visit to Dentdale in 1836. The Howitts, energetic writers and topographers, are probably best remembered for Mary's popularisation of Hans Andersen and William's Rural Life of England. Though not a literary masterpiece, Mary's novel has considerable period charm and gives vivid first-hand insight into life in Dentdale in the first part of last century.

In this new edition, published to commemorate the centenary of Mary's death in 1888, David Boulton provides an admirable, scholarly introduction, putting both authoress and novel into perspective. It is handsomely bound, hardback, and is an important addition to any collection of Dales literature. Available from local bookshops price £9.95 or direct from Dales Historical Monographs, Hobsons Farm, Dent Sedbergh, Cumbria, LA10 5RF, adding £1 to cover postage and packing.

Grassington One Hundred

One Hundred things to see on a walk through Grassington is the title of a fascinating pamphlet produced by YDS member Ian Goldthorpe on behalf of Grassington One Hundred, a charity "to promote the better understanding of the history and buildings of Grassington and its immediate neighbourhood". The proceeds from the sale of the pamphlet will go to help local charities, including health and old peoples' welfare schemes - a very practical way of using village interpretation to help the local community. Researched, written, designed and printed in the village, it contains detailed information and insight which will considerably increase awareness of one of Wharfedale's most historic townships. Available from local shops and galleries price 50p or 70p to include postage (cheque payable to Grassington One Hundred) from Ian Goldthorpe, Rylstone View Cottage, Moody Sty Lane, Grassington, Nr. Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 5LX.

Walking around Bentham

Bentham, in the south west corner of the Yorkshire Dales, is a village often overlooked compared with its more famous neighbours of Ingleton and Kirby Lonsdale. Centred on the River Wenning, and looking towards both the Forest of Bowland ANOB and the Dales National Park, the area offers some superb walking, much of it far less crowded than other areas. Double welcome then, is Bentham Footpath Group's Walks Around Bentham (Mewith Publications, Fairfield Barn, Bentham, Lancaster LA2 7DL price £2.50, £2.80 by post) containing as it does 25 walks from three to 18 miles, some circular, some using public transport. Excellent, clear maps, clear text, and useful public transport and accommodation information to tempt any lover of the Dales away for a Bentham-based walking weekend this autumn.

BADGES

By popular demand, we've had to get extra supplies of the hand-made embossed leather Yorkshire Dales Society "Bird's Eye Primrose" badge. Price £1.20 to include postage.

Attention All Members!

The Events and Publications Sub-Committee of the YDS Council are anxious to ascertain how they may best serve the interests of all members whilst at the same time increasing the awareness of the Society within the Yorkshire Dales. In an attempt to do this, we are seeking information from emmbers so that the programme provided is likely to be of interest to them and also receive members' support.

WHAT SORT OF EVENTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE ? For example - walks, talks, or visits ? Have you ideas or suggestions for leaders/speakers/topics ?

WHERE SHOULD THE EVENTS TAKE PLACE ? Do YOU know of halls, available in your area ? Do you feel an event could be held there and would be supported in your area ?

WHAT SKILLS HAVE YOU TO OFFER ? For example, can you give a talk, lead a walk, organise an event of Dales interest, or even help make tea for an event ?

CAN YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE EVENTS PROGRAMME OR HELP PUBLICISE EVENTS IN ANY WAY ? For example help in publicising the Society at Shows or in local car parks during the main visitor season, help distribute leaflets or recruit new members ?

If you can help in ANY way, please contact us NOW either by letter or telephone

JOAN PIPES
95 Stonefall Avenue
Starbeck, Harrogate HG2 7NS Telephone: Harrogate 889872

This will then allow the Sub-Committee to produce a stimulating and interesting programme for members for 1989/1990.

Treasured Landscapes

The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority has produced a 1989 Diary to mark the 40th Anniversary of the passing of the 1949 National Parks Act. This "Treasured Landscapes" is illustrated throughout with superb photographs of National Parks of England and Wales which seem to capture the very heart and essence of our varied landscapes, yet at the same time revealing the fragile nature of our inheritance. This is not a collection of cliches, rather it is an attempt to provide a glimpse of those hidden corners and images which so often reveal the true nature of a landscape. With additional maps of the Parks, and an informative introduction, this useful "page a week" diary can only add to our appreciation of the countryside.

To complement the Diary, a large format Calendar has been produced with photographs from the four northern National Parks, which in turn provides an almost poetic journey through the seasons.

Both items make ideal Christmas presents for anyone who treasures and values the many varied National Park landscapes of the British Isles. They are available from National Park Centres, or by post from the Information Service, Yorkshire Dales National Park, Hebdon Road, Grassington Grassington, Nr Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 5LX price £4 (£4.50 by post) for the calendar, £5.95 for the Diary (£6.50 by post), cheques payable to North Yorkshire County Council.

LYDIA SPEAKMAN

Upper Wharfedale Gift

Members will be delighted to hear of the magnificent gift of 5,200 acres of land in Upper Wharfedale, including land above Kettlewell and Starbotton, part of Buckden Pike, Yockenthwite, Cray, Deepdale, Beckermonds to the National Trust. The gift by Mr Graham Watson (a founder member of the Yorkshire Dales Society) gives permanent protection to some of the most hauntingly lovely landscape of the Dales. A fuller report of the gift and Mr Watson's generosity, will appear in the next issue of The Review.

Autumn Events

Saturday October 8th A Visit to the Upper Dales Folk Museum with Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby whose latest book "Yorkshire Album" has just appeared (see page 8) Meet Hawes Station Yard/Museum entrance 2.30pm. Admission 45p.

Sunday October 16th Studley Royal Deer Walk A rare opportunity to accompany deer expert Ernest Kemp to observe Studley Royal deer at the start of the rutting season. Meet at the Studley Royal Entrance to Fountains Abbey, by the lake at 2pm. No charge. Outdoor clothing advised.

Friday November 11th Pete Shaw , Secretary of the Friends of Settle-Carlisle Line, will present an evening of photographs of the Settle-Carlisle Railway and explain the latest situation as BR take a final decision on the line's future. Clarke-Foley Centre, Ilkley (opposite car park) at 8pm. Admission £1.50p. A Joint meeting with FOSCLA.

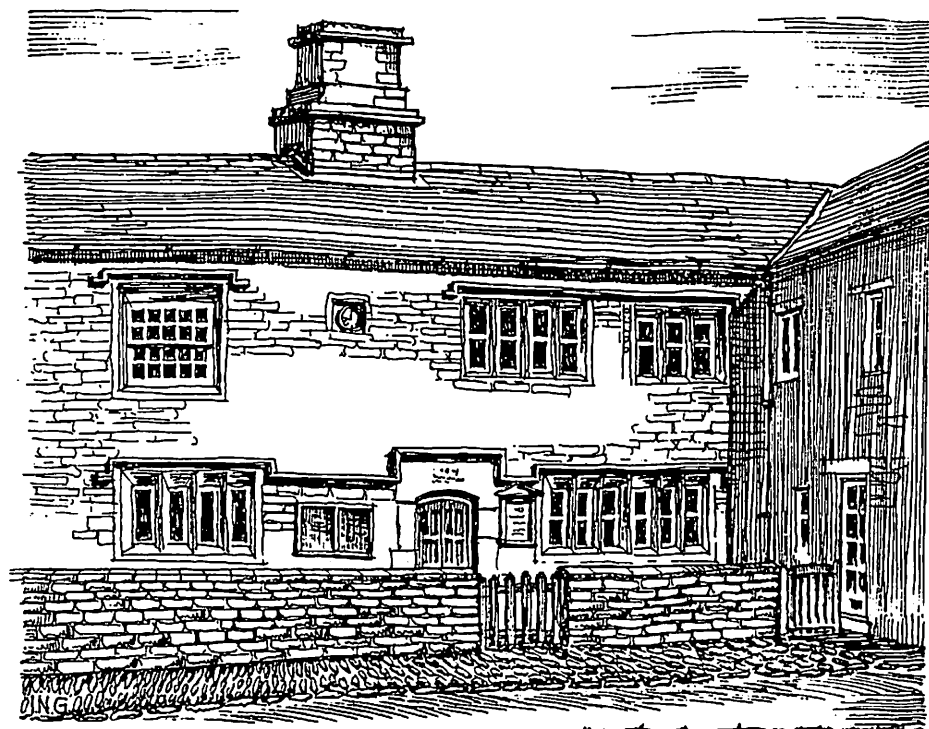
Friday November 18th Flowers in and out of Dales Gardens Television's Geoffrey Smith who lives on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales presents an evening looking at flowers to be seen in - and out - of gardens in the Yorkshire Dales. Grassington Town Hall at 7.30pm. Admission £2 (YDS members £1.50)

Saturday December 10th Linton Church and Thorpe-in -the Hollow. A day of three possible parts. In the morning, Mr John Wright of Grassington will take members around this famous old church of the Dales and talk about Christianity in the Dales and Dales church architecture. Meet 10.30am at the entrance to Linton Church (park at Church Car Park in the lane).

The group will have lunch at The Fountain Inn, Linton around 12 noon, then meet at 1pm for a short walk to Thorpe in the Hollow and Burnsall.

If you intend to join the group for an (informal) pub lunch, please phone Anne Halloran, who will lead the afternoon walk, on Leeds 430398 No later than 8pm on the previous evening so Anne can forewarn The Fountain of likely numbers. Join any part of the day you can !

The Yorkshire Dales Society
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Church House, Grassington

- an illustration from
One Hundred Things
to see on a walk
through Grassington

by Ian Goldthorpe