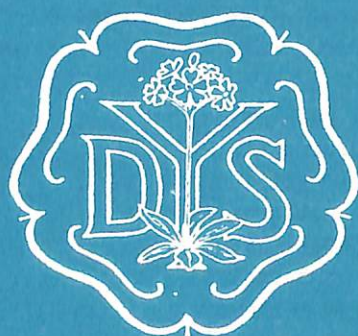


Y The Yorkshire Dales Review

No.26
Spring 1989



Wharfedale Bequest
Housing — A Yorkshire Dales Problem
A Call to Action — Membership
Dalesman Jubilee

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.

Paying for the Countryside

Like many people this winter, the Editor of the YDS and his family have been taking advantage of what has - at time of writing - been a most extraordinary mild and pleasant winter, with temperatures well into the 50s, identical, in January and February with last year's July and August. This has meant recreational patterns in the Dales have been different from usual winters.

On New Year's Day, for example, a mild, gloriously sunny day, by late morning the car park at Malham was not only full to capacity, but the overflows onto the Kirkby Malham road tailed back, on both sides of the road, a full quarter of a mile. Malham in January was suffering from traffic chaos.

Notwithstanding the thought that present laissez-faire traffic policies are going to prove increasingly inadequate to cope with the anticipated number of cars now flooding onto Britain's roads (significantly on this Bank Holiday weekend there was no bus service so anyone without a car or who wanted to leave their car at home was effectively barred from Malhamdale), such pressures on the countryside are clearly going to put an enormous strain on National Park resources. Sooner or later traffic management measures are going to be needed (emergency vehicles would have found it impossible to get in or out of Malham on New Year's Day), and increasing resources are going to have to be put into the maintenance of the fabric of the landscape - repairing paths, stiles, walls.

This isn't a problem caused by tourists. Tourists, as defined by the English Tourist Board, are people who stay away from home for at least one night. Probably less than 1% of the people in Malham on January 1st were tourists according to this definition and judging by "Vacancies" signs in at least one Bed and Breakfast establishment, Malham certainly wasn't at its capacity for staying visitors, who in any event contribute significantly to the local economy.

The problem was relatively local people. Car number plates would reveal towns like Burnley, Wigan, Keighley, Leeds, Sheffield, Harrogate, Ilkley very much in evidence. New road improvements, such as the Skipton by pass and the Airedale trunk road now allow you to get to the turn off for Malham, the first stretch of non-trunk road from either the West Yorkshire or East Lancashire conurbations, in a matter of minutes.

New roads, more cars, greater prosperity. Yet at the same time the Government is curbing public expenditure ever more tightly. Even National Parks are facing a squeeze. A recent meeting of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee considered serious shortfalls in income to meet anticipated levels of expenditure, and all kinds of ways of raising new income are being looked at. Income from car parking charges (when there's space!) and sales of literature and souvenirs at National Park Centres are already making a valuable contribution to National Park running costs.

A more radical idea comes from the Lake District where the Planning Board is considering a special levy of 50p per head for an overnight stay in the National Park. Such a policy is already well established in the Austrian Alpine regions where a "kurtax" on not only overnight stays but on all drinks, alcoholic and non-alcoholic pays for amenities visitors use including footpath repairs and conservation measures.

Such an idea in the UK will surely prove controversial, especially from local hoteliers who will see it as a tax on them. And whilst the Lake District has a far higher number of day visitors along its motorways, it also has a far higher proportion of staying visitors to tax. The vast majority of visitors to the Dales are day trippers who contribute relatively little to the local economy and would not be paying the tax.

What is the solution? Road tolls so that all no-locals coming into the National Park pay a levy? A special £1 "National Park Tax" with the car licence (that would raise around £16,000,000 for National parks)? Or simply the old fashioned notion of adequate central Government funding for the maintenance of our countryside, a resource which not only for millions of its citizens adds to the quality of their lives, but earns many hundreds of millions of pounds in overseas currency as visitors from overseas come to Britain to enjoy our greatest natural asset - our countryside.

COLIN SPEAKMAN

Cover: Along the Leeds-Liverpool Canal at East Marton, near Skipton (Christine Whitehead)

Thank You, Graham



Dame Jennifer Jenkins receives the title deeds of the Upper Wharfedale estate from Mr Graham Watson
(Photo: The National Trust)

5,200 acres of the finest landscape in Upper Wharfedale has been given to the National Trust by YDS founder-member Mr Graham Watson, of Bradford, in memory of his late brother David. It has long been the wish of both brothers that the land should pass into the care and ownership of the Trust. Most members of the Yorkshire Dales Society will be familiar with much of the land which includes the north eastern side of Old Cote Moor between Kettlewell and Buckden, part of the summit of Buckden Pike and Cray Gill and Cray Moss, an area from Scar House to Yockenthwaite and Deepdale, and an area around Beckermonds.

Graham has given a lifetime of work for the amenity movement in Britain, most notably as a member of both the Lake District Planning Board (of which he was Vice Chairman) and the West Riding section of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee, a Chairman of the Friends of the Lake District and a member of the Sandford Committee on National Parks. The gift makes the National Trust (who already own 4,300 acres at Malham Tarn) one of the largest landowners in the Yorkshire Dales. Given the pressures on Dales landscapes which increase all the time, protection by the National Trust can give no greater guarantee that future generations will be able to enjoy this superb landscape heritage.

The Yorkshire Dales Society can only add its gratitude to that of the National Trust in thanking Graham Watson for his generosity and his vision. We would like to hope that Graham's example is one that others might follow.

Housing — A Yorkshire Dales Problem

Alison Ravetz examines some of the key issues now facing local communities in the Yorkshire Dales whose need for low cost accommodation may be as acute as in the cities.

The recently passed Housing Act will create a revolution in Housing provision on the scale of the Government's revolution in Education and Social Security. The Act is pledged to preserve the owner occupied housing sector and to continue to encourage its extension down the social scale, but its main measures are directed towards a revival of rented housing. It proposes to address shortages and imbalances, such as the grotesque price difference that lead to the "north-south divide" by a return to free market forces.

Council housing, which until recently made up nearly one third of the national housing stock, has consequently, in the Government's view, to go. It has already lost over a sixth of its properties through the tenants' right to buy at a discount, and the selling off of estates to private developers. The new measures under the Act are the "pick a landlord" clause and the Housing Action Trust, which are intended to take further chunks out of public ownership. But whereas the right to buy was fairly popular, especially in high price areas like the Yorkshire Dales and for good properties, these new proposals have provoked opposition from many tenants who will lose their security of tenure and any remaining rent protection under new landlords.

It is obviously a difficult undertaking to revive rented housing when the private sector has been on the decline since rent controls were first imposed in 1915, and when there will be no increase in public ownership, which has been with us since 1919. Private landlords are being encouraged to return through tax incentives and the Business Expansion Scheme, and large institutions like Building Societies are beginning to come back into the market. It is hard to see how catering for the poor and the unemployed can ever be a good business proposition, and at the end of the day the bill will still be picked up by the Government through Housing Benefit. Thus it will still be subsidising housing through payments to landlords, but this will be consistent with their philosophy of targetting aid to individual tenants rather than creating general schemes of welfare.

It is, however, the housing associations that in the main are intended to take over the Councils' traditional housing role, both as landlords of existing estates and providers of new, low cost housing. Up to now, associations have catered for groups in special housing need with fairly generous Government grants, paid through the Housing Corporation. Charging "Fair Rents", they have managed and maintained well designed property to very high standards, catering for the old, the poor and even (in hostels) for the totally destitute. But they are now being told that the new schemes must be built with the help of finance from the private sector and the grants they previously received for hostels are being savagely pared. Last year, under a pilot funding scheme, £30 of grant money had to be backed with £70 of private funds. Not surprisingly, associations demonstrated that the sums would not work, and more generous grants of up to 75%, depending on area, are available in the current year.



An endangered species in the Yorkshire Dales ?

Local authority housing at Bainbridge, Wensleydale, built 1980.

(Richmondshire D.C.)

(Photo: Yorkshire Rural Community Council)

The bulk of Housing Associations are small, non-profitmaking bodies, many of them charities, run by voluntary committees of amateurs. The great majority have no more than a few hundred properties, and together they own only about 2½% of the national housing stock. About three quarters of their tenants receive Housing Benefit - a higher proportion than on council estates. It is not surprising that they feel apprehensive about the new role being forced on them and doubtful of their continuing ability to cater for the really needy. One of the first things they see going are Fair Rents, as well as security of tenure, and the high standards of design that they have been able to achieve up to now.

The Housing Association movement is, however, trying to rise to the challenge, and as we shall see in my next article, this is showing some results in rural areas. In other parts of the housing scene the outlook is frankly rather bleak. An estimated £20 billions are needed to repair and modernise the council sector, and a roughly equal sum for the ageing stock of owner-occupied housing. Homelessness is growing, notably among teenagers and home owners unable to repay their mortgage instalments. With the end of rent controls, rent levels will rise steeply in many places and Housing Benefit seems unlikely to compensate. In the remaining council estates the fear of housing experts is "residualisation" or a residue of the worst dwellings and worst poverty, resulting in social ghettos.

Those who are well housed and secure themselves may think this an exaggerated picture, or one where they are inclined to blame the problems on the victims. Several years ago, however, the Duke of Edinburgh's Inquiry into British Housing concluded that the housing system could only be reformed by more equal treatment between public and private sectors, and in particular reforming the special subsidy given to the latter through tax relief. Housing experts have been coming to the same conclusion ever since, but no politician has yet dared go down this road.

Readers of this piece may perhaps feel that the problems mentioned belong to urban areas rather than rural areas like the Yorkshire Dales. Certainly most policy is urban based. But rural areas are subject to the same policy and they do share the stresses, which may be all the worse for being ignored by city people. I shall hope to look at some problems and their prospective solution next time.

Alison Ravetz

Wensleydale Housing Forum Seeks Members

The WENSLEYDALE HOUSING FORUM would welcome anyone interested in tackling current housing problems in Wensleydale.

The Forum was set up in April 1988 by local people concerned at the lack of affordable housing. It is a voluntary body in which officers of statutory and housing organisations also take an active part. Its aim is to promote a united, informed and constructive view of housing needs and opportunities, and is able to accept donations of land and property. One of its first achievements will be a comprehensive housing needs survey of the Dale's villages, to be carried out by Lancaster Polytechnic early in 1989.

If you are interested, please contact:

Nigel Watson	or	Ian Bebbington
Hutton Hill		Black Horse Agencies
Constable Burton		Renton & Renton
Leyburn		Central Chambers
0677 50330		Leyburn
		0969 22936

Wanted — A Nut Brown Maid

An enquiry came through the YDS office from someone seeking a copy of the classic tales of the Yorkshire Dales The Nut Brown Maid and other stories - 13 traditional folk tales dating from Bronze times to the last century by Colin Speakman with illustrations by the artist Geoffrey Cowton. A few copies now remain and are available to YDS members for £8.95 (hardback) plus 70p post and packaging. Copies will be autographed and for every copy sold the YDS will receive a £1 donation. Apply via YDS office but make cheques to C. Speakman.

YDS BADGES - AND BACK REVIEWS

YDS embossed leather badges with the Birds' eye primrose are available from the YDS Office, 152 Main Street, Addingham, Ilkley, Yorkshire LS29 0LY, price £1.20p including postage. We often get enquiries for back numbers of the Review. Most issues are still available from the office price 30p - add 20p postage for the first copy then 10p for each additional magazine.

A Call to Action

500 MORE MEMBERS NEEDED IN 1989 !

The Society's Vice Chairman, David Morgan Rees makes an appeal to members to help put the Society on a sound basis for the 1990s.

The Yorkshire Dales Society's target membership for January 1st 1990 is 2,500.

Why we need to increase our total membership from 2,000 to 2,500:

* We have been supported by very generous grant aid from the Countryside Commission during recent years. This has now ceased. We have to stand on our own feet financially and are therefore now dependent on members' subscriptions and donations.

* By keeping our administration costs to a prudent level we have been able to plan our finances for current needs.

* But any healthy voluntary group which is playing an increasingly important part in helping to preserve the quality of Yorkshire Dales life, must look to the future.

* Though we could put up membership fees again, we have decided instead to recruit more members. We need more members to further the Society's work and be more widely representative of its aims, special interests and activities.

* The Society, in working very effectively alongside various formal bodies such as the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and the Yorkshire Rural Community Council, has a unique role to play as "the eyes and ears" as well as "the voice" of dedicated individuals who have a deep love and enthusiasm for the Dales whether they live within or near this very special region or further afield.

* We complement - but do not conflict with - the interests and activities of other specialist voluntary national and regional groups like the CPRE, RSPB or the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. But there is much more that the Society would like to do in response to increasing demands on our time, experience and resources. We must plan for this extra effort so that we can work with a stronger financial base for the future, confident that we can deliver what is wanted in a businesslike and stimulating way.

* We need to build on the highly respected work we are already doing to help the Dales. For example our vital "Daleswatch" service which monitors day-to-day events throughout the Dales and provides an "early warning" system against activities or developments which may threaten its heritage, landscape or quality of life, must be enhanced and its reports given wider circulation. We must offer members, potential members and others concerned with Dales life more special services such as a new lecture service, educational material for schools, and revive the popular seminars and workshops held in the past on topics of concern to Daleslovers in general such as rural transport, rural enterprise and tourism.

* The Yorkshire Dales Society, established in 1981, has come of age. As we look towards 1991 and beyond we have a number of exciting new ideas which need to be put into practice to build on our achievements and reputation. But to do these things we need new members.

What can we do to recruit 500 new members by the end of 1989 ?

* The task is simple - if we help ourselves. Each member can recruit friends, colleagues, business associates and social acquaintances.

* A Yorkshire Dales Society membership subscription makes an unusual and attractive present at any time of the year, bringing with it a lively quarterly magazine, membership discounts to Dales attractions as well as the satisfaction of supporting genuine effort to preserve the Dales themselves.

* We have an attractive new membership leaflet and application form a copy of which is circulated with this Review for your immediate use to recruit a friend. But further supplies are available at request from the Society's offices at 152 Main Street, Addingham, Ilkley LS29 0LY or ring 0943 607868. Please keep a good supply in bag or briefcase, pocket or rucksack not to miss an opportunity to recruit new members !

* Current membership subscription rates are as follows: Adult £6, Family £8, Retired Single £4, Retired Couple £6 but donations are always very welcome. The Yorkshire Dales Society is a registered charity and payment by covenant, if you are a taxpayer, increases the value of your subscription to us. Covenant forms will be sent on request.

* We are producing a new poster to promote the Society and are refurbishing our exhibition boards for display at shows, exhibitions and meetings.

* The Society offers a lecture service with a panel of experienced speakers who are prepared to give an illustrated talk to any seriously interested group in the region. For details please contact Gordon or Gwen Woolliscroft 2 Wrenbeck Drive, Otley, LS21 2BR tel Otley 463718.

* The Society's Council of Management is working hard to strengthen our links with many different organisations in the Yorkshire Dales which have, like ourselves, the future of the Dales at heart.

* The Society is actively seeking sponsorship with finance or other forms of practical support from sympathetic companies and organisations. If you are able to help we shall be delighted to hear from you.

Thank you for your support !

Slogan for 1989:

REMEMBER
TO WIN A NEW Y.D.S.MEMBER
BY DECEMBER

David Morgan Rees

+ + + + +



Above Ling Gill, Ribblesdale

(Photo: Caroline Forbes - from The Three Peaks of Yorkshire
Ree & Forbes - Wildwood House)

North Craven Heritage Trust 21st Birthday

The North Craven Heritage Trust is one of the organisations within the Yorkshire Dales with whom the Yorkshire Dales Society works closely. Brenda Capstick explains the origins of the Trust and some of its current activities.

The North Craven Heritage Trust will be celebrating its 21st birthday later this year and is arranging special activities and fund-raising events to mark the anniversary. The Trust started life as the Settle & District Civic Society and its catchment area, so to speak, is the former Settle Rural District, some 21 parishes extending in the north from the Three Peaks area and Burton-in-Lonsdale in the west to Tosside and Malham Moor in the south and east.

Its formation was stimulated in 1968 by a letter from Alan Bennett, still its active President, to the Craven Herald about the loss of mountain steps in Settle market place and the demolition of shops and houses in the High Street. One of its first projects was a Facelift Scheme for Settle and among early campaigns was the initial fight to save the Settle-Carlisle railway from closure, followed by the organisation, in partnership with British Rail, of the 1976 Centenary Celebrations.

In 1976 it formed a Building Preservation Trust as a separate limited company with charitable status to purchase and restore property, and in the following year the Museum of North Craven Life opened in a restored building in Victoria Street, Settle. This rapidly ougrew its space and in 1985 moved to become part of a larger North Craven Heritage Centre in 6-8 Chapel Street, Settle. Its present building is 17th century and was formerly a shop and two dwellings. Many of the original features have been retained and include a separate wash-house in the cobbled back yard which incorporates a dates doorhead of 1685. It lies just a short distance from the Market Place and close to The Folly, an outstanding town house of 17th century date.

The Museum has a permanent display interpreting the North Craven area and how its landscape has influenced all aspects of life and settlement in the area. On its first floor a room has been furnished as an Edwardian bedroom and a Local Studies Room to house the Museum's photographic and documentary archive is being organised. Special exhibitions are mounted on features, anniversaries and personalities connected with the locality, and have included: Elgar in Craven; Sheep and Sheep Farming; The Total Eclipse of the Sun, from Giggleswick, 1927; Spinning and Knitting in the Dales. At the moment there is an exhibition on "Two Hundred Years of Education in North Craven" and later this summer it will be replaced by "One Hundred Years of Tourism". The Museum is seeking early souvenirs, handbills and photographs to illustrate this forthcoming exhibition.

The Trust has established a fund for the repair of Historic Churches and Chapels of North Craven, holding special concerts twice a year in churches around the area to raise monies for this purpose. It has an active publications programme, issues a twice-yearly Newsletter and arranges lectures and guided walks - on the first Sunday in every month. It has launched an oral history programme to record the memories of older inhabitants of North Craven. Recently it set up a special sub-committee to monitor planning issues int he area which hopes to work closely with YDS Daleswatch. During National Envrionment Week 1988 it ran an anti-litter campaign and hopes to repeat its success in 1989.



North Craven
Heritage Centre
and Museum of
North Craven Life

(6-8 Chapel Street
Settle)

Photo: Mary Farnell

The Trust has a membership of just under 500 and is administered by avoluntary committee, depending on members for fund-raising, manning the museum and arranging the programme of activities. It hopes to obtain the services of a part-time professional museum curator during 1989 with the help of grant aid from the local authority and the Area Museum Council and it has received generous contributions and assistance from MSC schemes, statutory bodies, charitable trusts and local firms over the years.

Annual subscription is individual members £5, family membership £7.50, institutions £25

Museum opening dates for 1989 (YDS members will be particularly welcome):

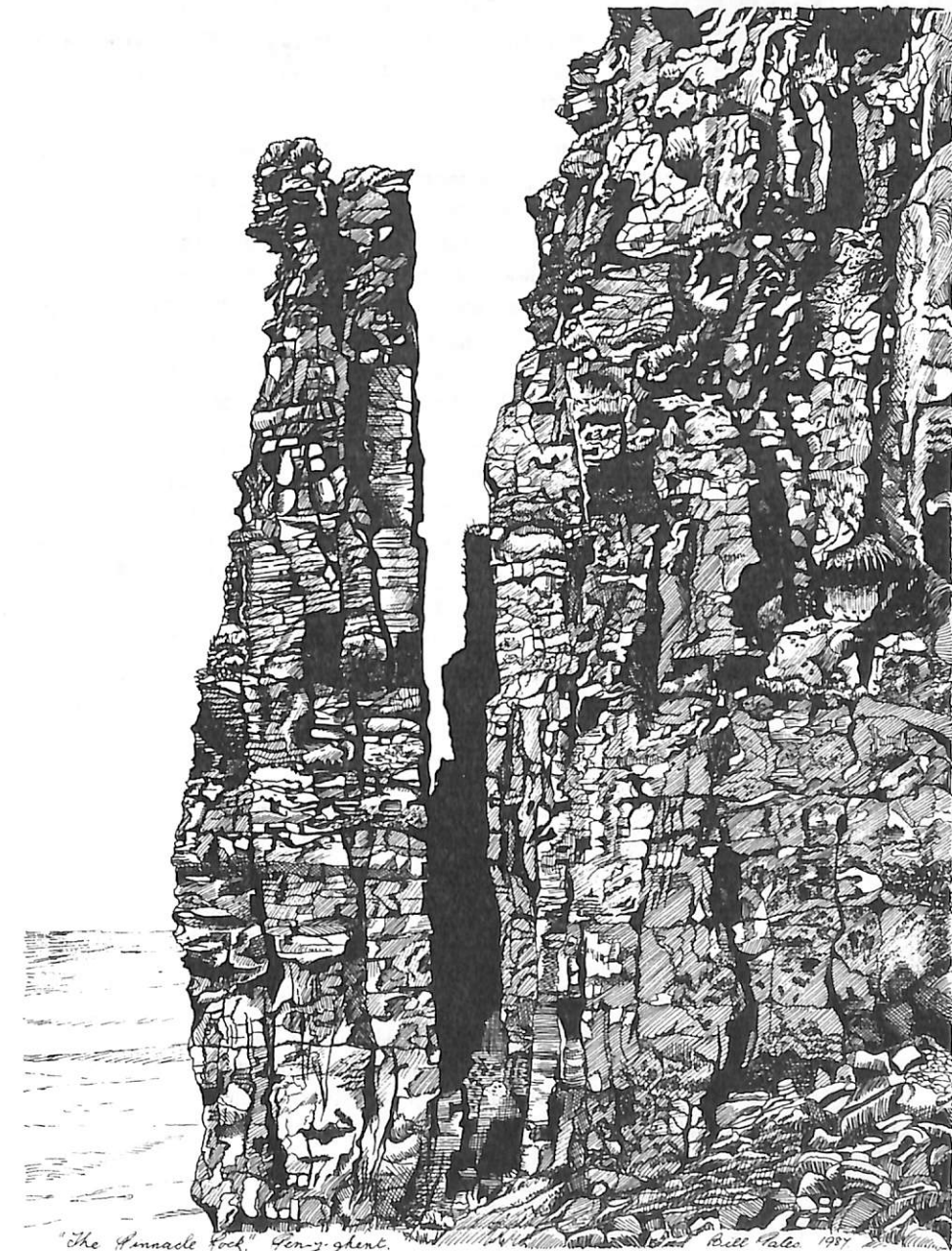
Easter-June; October-December (inclusive): Weekends only 2pm-5pm

July - September (inclusive): Daily except Mondays 2pm - 5pm

Contacts: Joe Shevelan - Horton-in-Ribblesdale (07296) 280
Mary Farnless - Clapham (0468) 400 (for Museum and walks)

Brenda Capstick

* * * * *



The Pinnacle Rock, Pen - Ghent

Line drawing by Bill Yates.

Reviews

A GOLDEN JUBILEE BEDSIDE BOOK

There's little doubt in this Reviewer's mind as to what is likely to win top of any poll for Yorkshire Dales Society members bedside reading for 1989 - a superbly produced anthology by David Joy, the present Editor of The Dalesman of The Dalesman - A Celebration of 50 years (Pelham Books/ Stephen Greene press £14.95).



You'll find many famous names in these pages - J. B. Priestley, Ella Pontefract, Phyllis Bentley, Marie Hartley, A.J. Brown, John Dower, Arthur Raistrick, but also many who are especially familiar to the pages of what must surely be Britain's favourite little magazine - names like Ted Gower, Fred Lawson, Ian Dewhurst, Dorothy Una Ratcliffe; Bertram Unne, Geoffrey Wright among the photographers, and artist Rowland Lindup better known as the creator of "Old Amos".

Some names are there but no longer with us, such as Kit Calvert whose last article is included, and J.C. Armitage, "Ionicus" whose entertaining cover pictures livened up new agents' counters for over 16 years.

The three most important names of course are the

those whose editorship has spanned those fifty years, founder Harry J. Scott who founded the magazine at what with hindsight must have seemed a most unlikely time - a few months before the outbreak of a most catastrophic War, and built it from his Clapham home to a substantial circulation before he handed over to W.R. ("Bill") Mitchell in 1968 who continued the remarkable blend of wit, insight and a real concern for Dales culture and character which is what makes the Dalesman what it is. David Joy, a distinguished journalist, conservationist and railway historian in his own right has only been editor for one year of the half century, but if previous stewardships of this little magazine are anything to go by he'll be at the helm well into the second decade of next century.

The selections, as David explains, are inevitably highly personal, but the material is organised in twelve themes which reflect many of the pre-occupations of the magazines. The quality of the photographs, and the drawings, is simply superb. Creating an anthology of this nature is a real art, to achieve balance and wide representation yet variety to carry the reader forward and have a unity. This is a book to be read and reread, a perfect gift or excuse to indulge yourself, and yet in its way an important social document, a part of our Dales literary heritage. If for no other reasons the accounts of how it all started, or how they came to be involved, by Messrs. Scott, Mitchell and Joy (with a delightful contribution by Ted Gower) are both entertaining and human, if modestly belying the professionalism behind the regular production of such a beautifully written and produced periodical.

* * * * *

A PENNINE SOCIAL HISTORY

Those of us who know, however superficially, Dr. Raistrick's work never cease to be astounded by the range and diversity of his scholarship - geology, archaeology, industrial archaeology, social history. The re-issuing of one of his major works is therefore always an event, and not withstanding the fact he is now in his ninetythird year he remains actively at work and has added some new material, including some new illustrations to what is the third edition of Two Centuries of Industrial welfare. This is a detailed study of the London lead Company who were active in the Yorkshire Dales and the Northern Pennines between 1692 and 1905 and practiced what were remarkably enlightened social policies towards their workforce. This included the provision of schools, shops, provisions when times were hard. There are fascinating sections on transport and on technical aspects of lead smelting mainly in Upper Weardale and on Alston Moor, but also some insights into the links with Quaker families one branch of which established a well known bank - Barclays. The book isn't likely to be seen in many bookshops being a limited edition but can be obtained price £16 plus £1 post and packaging from George Kelsall, Bookseller and Publisher, 22 Church Street, Littleborough, Lancashire.

* * * * *

FAMOUS DALES GARDENS. Throughout May, June, July and August a number of famous gardens in and around the Yorkshire Dales are being opened to the public in aid of the Northern Horticultural Society. For full details please send SAE to Mrs Georgina Ryott, Northern Horticultural Society, Harlow Car Gardens, Harrogate North Yorkshire HG3 1QB.

A New Dalesbus Service

YDS Transport correspondent Alan J. Sutcliffe writes of interesting public transport developments in the Yorkshire Dales:

Although West Yorkshire RCC has been divided into three companies - West Yorkshire, Harrogate & District and York City and District, they will be working together in the operation of the traditional Summer Dalesbus network commencing at Easter. Information will be included in the Summer Review but members should look out for local publicity towards Easter.

West Yorkshire have been successful in winning a contract with North Yorkshire County Council for the operation, during the whole of 1989, of the Saturday service of four trips each day between Settle and Horton-in-Ribblesdale, hitherto operated by Donny Whaites of Settle.

Running as Dalesbus 805, the first journey of the day starts at Keighley at 0830 and afford a convenient direct link with Langcliffe, Stainforth and Helwith Bridge for the benefit of visitors or those starting walks at these points. The last return journey at 1700 runs through to Keighley.

Explorer unlimited travel tickets are available on the new service, which between Keighley and Skipton will stop at Steeton Top and Crosshills (Fieldhead Drive) only, but north of Skipton will stop anywhere on being hailed, providing it is safe to do so.

* * * * *

We're Losing Money

We would like to draw the attention of members who pay by Bankers' Order to the fact that there is still a substantial number of households who pay less than they should for their 1989 subscriptions. This might simply be because of genuine oversight - or that the Bank has not obeyed instructions.

Please, please check your bank statements and make sure that the amounts are right. The amounts should be as follows: Single Adult £16, Adult couple (family) £8, Retired Couple £6 and single retired £4. If this is incorrect, please alert your Bank immediately so that the correct amount can be inserted.

It may well be that with computerisation etc at the bank it will be impossible to rectify the situation for the current year. We are happy to receive the extra as a small donation if you have underpaid - or indeed at any time.

Many thanks !

Fleur Speakman

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Museums Alive!

Congratulations to the Yorkshire & Humberside Tourist Board and to the Yorkshire & Humberside Museums Council for the production of a first rate, comprehensive guide to all the Museums in our region, including all those in the Yorkshire Dales, including addresses, telephonenumber, details of collections and whereabouts. This is something the YDS pioneered in the form of a small poster as long ago as 1982, but this is far more comprehensive. It is free of charge from Museums and TICs in the region, or in case of difficulty from the YHTB, 312 Tadcaster Road, YORK YO2 3HF. There is also a "Museums Alive" competition based on visiting any six museums in the region - entry forms on the booklet. Details of various events and competitions can be obtained from Delma Tomlin, Museums Alive ! YH Museums Council, Farnley Hall, Farnley Hall Lane, Leeds LS12 5HA (SAE please).

* * * * *

The 1989 Guest Card

Members will find the new edition of the popular YDS GUEST CARD with this issue of The Review. We are delighted to note that though the National Park concessions on Guided Walks and Car Parking were due to end this year, through the generosity of the National Park Committee the concession is being extended to assist our membership campaign. So please note that on production of a valid YDS membership or Guest card, members can park in National Park Car Parks and join in National Park Guided Walks free of charge. This is a major concession and we are grateful. However the discount on publications have had to be withdrawn because of the difficulties it was creating with the computerised stock control system. Don't forget what a good selling point Guest Card concessions are when you are persuading friends to join the YDS - it's easy to save your membership fee with just a few purchases.

* * * * *

Spring Events

A choice of events in different parts of the Yorkshire Dales to make the most of Springtime.

22nd April Bolton Castle and Wensleydale A visit to Bolton Castle - where Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned followed by a short walk in Wensleydale - bring a packed lunch if you are joining the walk and suitable footwear/rainwear. Small admission charge. Car park in Castle Bolton village. Meet 11am by Castle entrance.

26th April The Geology of the Yorkshire Dales - an illustrated lecture by Dr. Varker on the fascinating geological story of our region. Tea and biscuits available. Grassington Town Hall 8pm - Admission £1 (YDS members 80p).

19th May A Washburndale Bird Walk. An ornithological walk with Jack Watson around Lindley Wood Reservoir. Meet at Lindley Bridge (Fish Farm) which is at the lower end of the reservoir. This is on the Pateley Bridge road from Otley - turn right at Farnley School - please arrive in good time for parking. 7-30 pm.

June 4th Nidderdale access threat An invitation from the West Riding Area of the Ramblers' Association to debate the loss of access to Water Authority land in Upper Nidderdale which water privatisation could bring - and the unwillingness of the Yorkshire Water Authority to act on a long-standing request for an access route above Scar House Reservoir. Meet Lofthouse Village Hall at 12 noon to be followed by a walk in Upper Nidderdale.

7th June The Fight for Yorkshire Should Yorkshire have a greater say in its own affairs? Whatever happened to the old Ridings? Yorkshire author and campaigner Michael Bradford looks at Yorkshire's struggle for identity - see the Autumn Review. Grassington Town Hall 8pm - Admission £1 (YDS members 80p)

10th June THE YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to be held in the Anderton Institute, Linton-in-Craven at 2.30pm (For full details see separate notice circulated with this edition of The Review)

11th June The Natural History and Geology of Sutton Bank. A Joint meeting with our sister organisation the North York Moors Association who return our invitation from last September. Meet at Sutton Bank Information Centre (on A170 Thirsk-Helmsley road) at 11am.

24th June The Mills and Bridges of Ripon Another opportunity to look at the architecture of this most fascinating of small cities on the edge of the eastern Dales. Meet on "the Green" opposite Ripon Cathedral at 2pm.

The YDS Council of Management welcome suggestions or requests for events in the coming months. Please contact John or Joan Pipes 95 Stonefall Avenue, Starbeck, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG2 7NS tel Harrogate 889872. Our social evening postponed from winter should be in the summer programme to enable more members to attend.



The Yorkshire Dales Society
152 Main Street
Addingham
Ilkley
Yorkshire LS29 0LY
(0943) 607868