

The Yorkshire Dales Review

No. 46 Spring 1994

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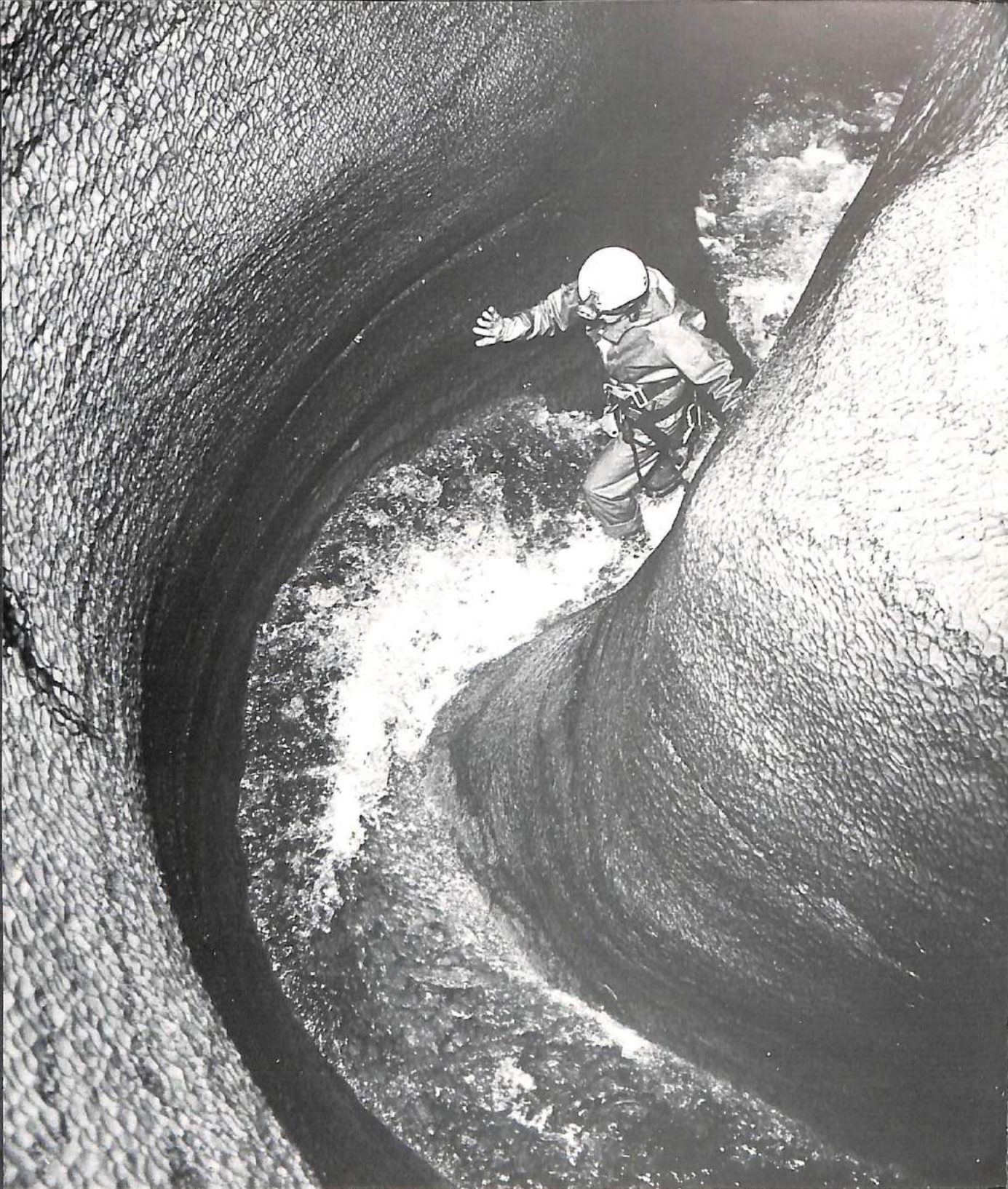
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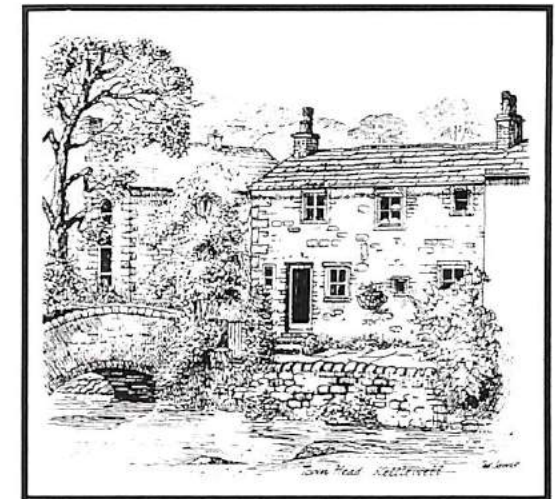




Deep Underground (*John & Eliza Forder*)

The Yorkshire Dales Review

No 46 Spring 1994



The Quarterly Magazine of the
Yorkshire Dales Society



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Front Cover: Fewston Church Washburndale in the new Nidderdale AONB (Colin Speakman)

Back Cover: The Buttertubs, near Hawes (John Fawcett Photography)

Inside Front Cover: Deep Underground (John & Eliza Forder)

KEEPING NIDDERDALE UNSPOILED

The news that the Secretary of State has confirmed that Nidderdale is to be Britain's 36th Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, has been warmly welcomed by the Yorkshire Dales Society.

We have long believed that much of this area is of National Park quality, but also that the area is at increasing risk from such developments as caravan sites, new roads (including the notorious Ilkley five-lane "bypass"), speculative commuter housing estates, and out-of-scale leisure or industrial development. At the same time, sensitive recreation management is urgently required to cope with pressure already building up significantly, and also to help reduce at least some of the pressures on the nearby Yorkshire Dales National Park.

To be known simply as Nidderdale AONB, the 630 square kilometre AONB includes Fountains Abbey and Brimham Rocks, Colsterdale west of Masham, Pateley Bridge and the whole of Central and Upper Nidderdale, as well as the series of lovely, wooded reservoirs along the Washburn Valley and, of critical importance, the fine unspoiled countryside and open moorland north of the Wharfe close to Otley, Burley and Ilkley, which is under constant threat from ever spreading suburbia and the thinly veiled machinations of the roads lobby.

Welcome as designation is, the story doesn't end there. We must ensure that adequate resources are available not only to prevent unsightly and destructive development, but to take the kind of positive management measures required to ensure that recreation pressures do not destroy this very special part of the Yorkshire Dales. It will need the active support not only of Harrogate District Council and such agencies as the Countryside Commission and English Nature, but major landowners and land managers in the area, among whom Yorkshire Water and the National Trust will have a major role to play and example to give to others. Harrogate Council have already shown commendable and timely initiative in planning a new park-and-ride Sunday bus service from Harrogate and Pateley Bridge into Upper Nidderdale starting on April 4th, as part of a wider traffic and visitor management strategy for the area, which is reported elsewhere in the Review.

It is vital, whatever the outcome of proposed local Government changes, which could lead to Harrogate Council becoming part of a larger "West Riding" Council, that resources for environmental protection and visitor management are increased, not subject to a myopic cost cutting exercise. Otherwise the new AONB will prove little more than a series of lines on a map, and a very special part of the Yorkshire Dales suffer an ever accelerating process of degradation.

A map of the Nidderdale AONB appears overleaf

A VICTORY FOR THE NATIONAL PARK

The decision by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee in February to refuse the application by Tilcon to extend and deepen the massive quarry at Swinden was an important milestone for the National Park.

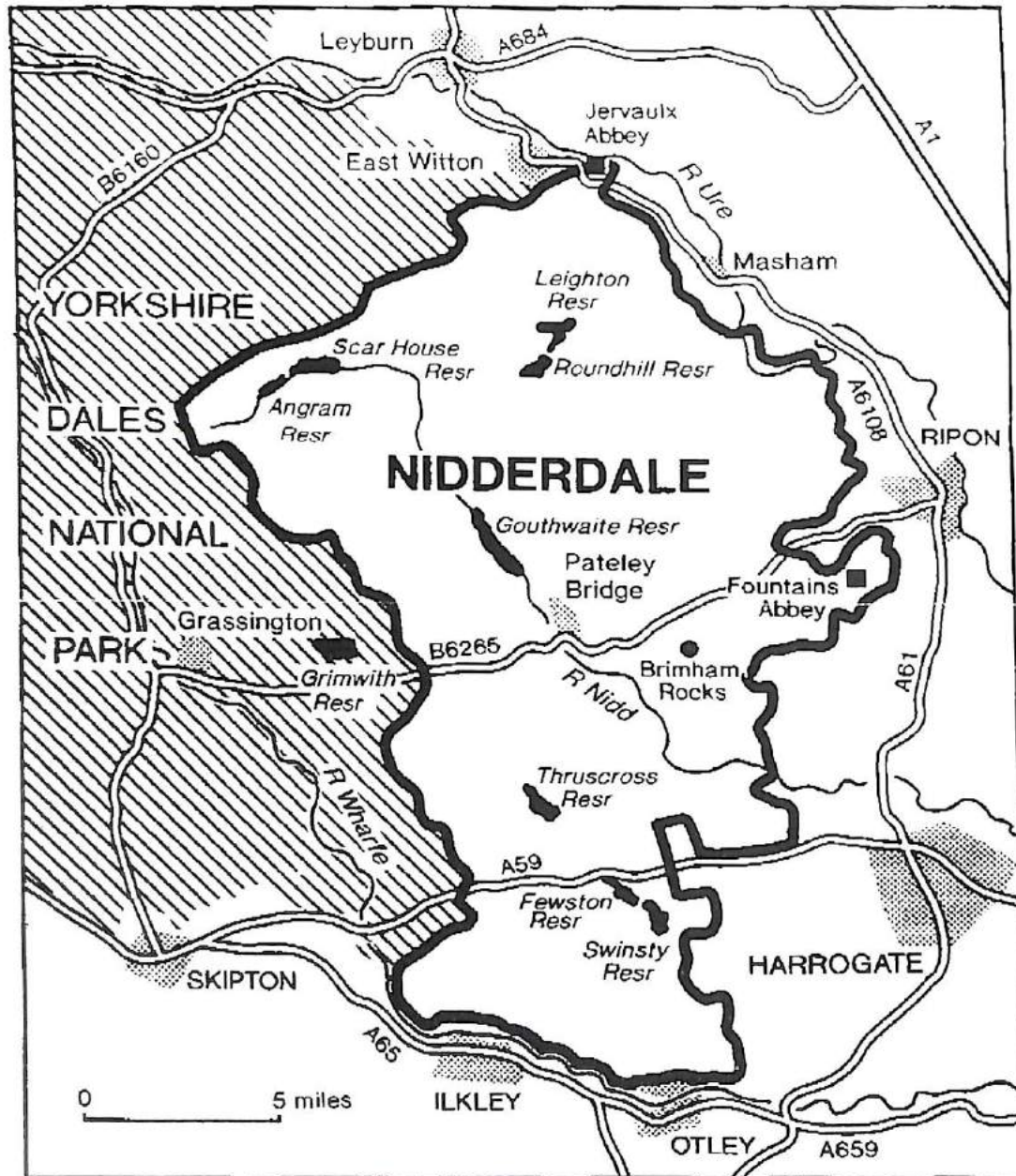
Much as the Yorkshire Dales Society welcome and support the decision, it wasn't an easy one. Tilcon, the quarry owners, had put an enormous amount of thought and effort into the application. In many respects Swinden is one of the best run of the Dales quarries, with demonstrable concern for the environment by its management, huge investment (with Government grants) in new rail facilities, stringent controls on road hauliers, for example insisting all loads are sheeted and that speed limits are respected. The application was claimed to reduce the environmental impact of the present operations even further and leave a carefully landscaped lake and nature reserve when the quarry was finally worked out in 30 years time.

The company argued strongly for the local jobs which would be safeguarded in the longer term if this application went ahead, both directly in the quarry and through road (and rail) transport and ancillary services. But such jobs would disappear anyhow in 30 years, or more likely simply be transferred elsewhere. What might also be argued is that for every job such quarries provide, another job or small business in tourism is threatened, as visitors and potential investors avoid blighted landscapes.

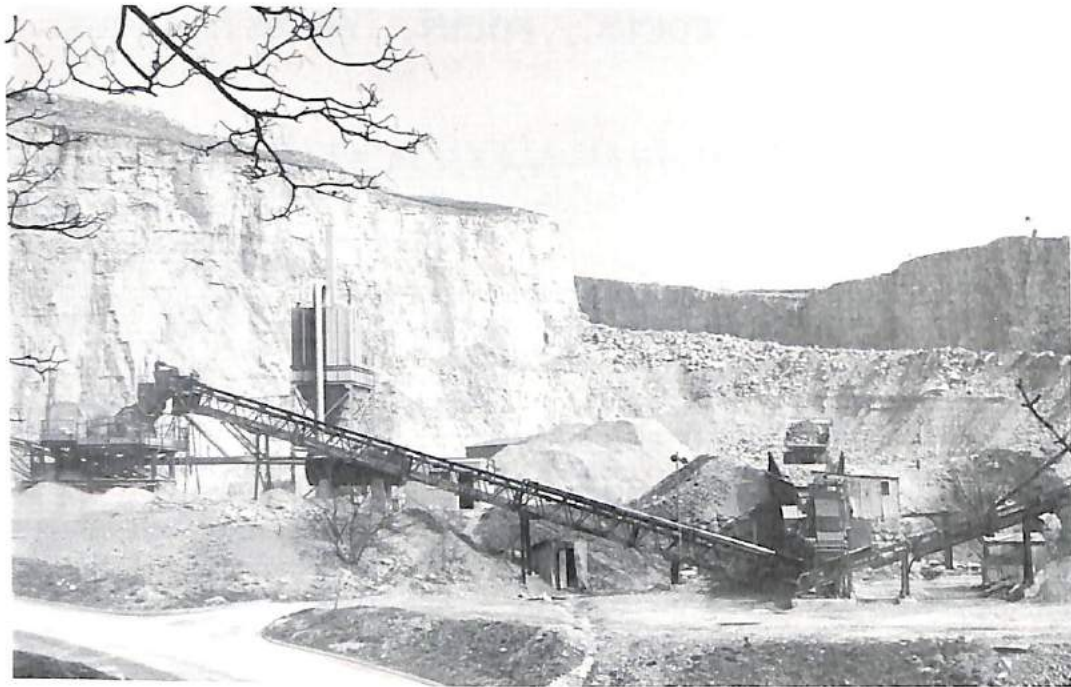
The reality, too, was that the application raised major issues about the future of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Current planning permission for Swinden Quarry will, at current rates of extraction, expire in around 8½ years time. The new application would extend the life of the quarry for another 22 years with all the environmental disruption and constant lorry movement that implies. But by granting the application the National Park Committee would have contradicted its own policies as stated in the National Park Local Plan, the County Council in its Structure Plan and central Government directives as outlined in Planning Guidance documents.

There is already a huge land-bank of available limestone subject to planning permission in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, which at current rates of extraction are expected to last another 40 years. This is a terrible indictment of ignorant and foolish policies of the past when, no doubt influenced by quarry operators of the time and ill-concealed hostility to National Parks, former Planning Committees gave away licences for environmental destruction which have returned to threaten our National Park a generation later. Limestone pavements which are Sites of Special Scientific Interest or, in one case in Upper Ribblesdale, contain the foundations of a rare Viking longhouse, and are situated in the centre of one of Britain's most highly prized scenic areas, can be ripped apart by vast earth movers and trucked away as dirt-cheap aggregate for the roadbuilding programme, merely because of the myopia and self interest of politicians 40 years ago.

Failure to oppose this application would have strengthened the case for several



The new Nidderdale AONB



Dales Quarry. (Simon Houston)

other quarries whose planning permission will soon be exhausted, to put in extension applications on the grounds of defending the status quo. The bottom line is that large scale mineral extraction has no place in a National Park,

Thankfully, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee, prompted by an exceptionally well researched and argued Committee Report of which Richard Harvey and his colleagues can be justly proud, stood firm.

It is worth noting too that the conservation movement in the Yorkshire Dales has worked exceptionally well together under the joint leadership of the Council for National Parks and the Yorkshire Dales Society to share information and ensure a united front. It was particularly pleasing to have the strong and well argued support of Linton Parish Council, and proves how effective we can be as a conservation movement when we work closely together - and also with the local community.

It seems almost inevitable that there will be an Appeal against the decision, but as John Gummer, Secretary of State for the Environment, has already indicated that this application is a matter to be resolved by the National Park Committee, it is difficult to see how such an Appeal can be upheld.

But this touches on another key issue. Given the existence of so many extant planning permissions for mineral extraction dating from the 1950s which still threaten this and other National Parks, our most precious landscape heritage, the time has come for a thorough and careful review of the situation with, if necessary, new legislation to prevent what many people believe is an abuse of the planning system, and the single most damaging industrial development in our National Parks.

Colin Speakman

AUX YORKSHIRE DALES TOUT DE SUITE

... or ... how to handle unexpected visitors from Europe; some tips from David Morgan Rees.

The telephone call from Paris was a pleasant surprise. My old friends Jean-Claude and Hortense finally wanted to take up my invitation to spend "un weekend dans le Yorkshire Dales." I had so often babbled about the delights of the Dales, only to be faced with polite tolerance and a distinct lack of interest, that I had put any possible visit out of my mind. Besides they were confirmed long-haul travellers, usually spending their holidays in Martinique or Tahiti.

What on earth had prompted this sudden wish to visit? Had the Yorkshire & Humberside Tourist Board had a publicity drive in France? Had Jean-Claude and Hortense taken to watching Herriot on French TV which apparently has a devoted following?

It was a mystery but their determination was all too obvious. They would fly to Manchester and spend Friday and Saturday nights with me. They wished to see "tous les Yorkshire Dales" - a tall order in little more than 48 hours. But I knew too well that my friends were alarmingly conscientious in their tourism. Jean-Claude and Hortense had spent a small fortune on equipping themselves and getting in training for almost everything from para-gliding to sub-aquatics. Their appetite, too, for getting fully briefed on each new destination was prodigious.

The initial telephone call was swiftly followed up by another from Jean-Claude, with Hortense heavily prompting by his side. "David, tous les informations, s'il te plait, sur les Yorkshire Dales, toute suite." And, almost as an after-thought, came the request for ideas on what clothes they would need for this lightning trip. I knew that half their pleasure on any trip was being dressed superbly for the part. This minute attention to detail was typical of the affluent French professional classes.

Panic set in. What had I let myself in for? But the honour of the Yorkshire Dales and English Tourism was at stake - as well as my friendship with Jean-Claude and Hortense.

My call to the regional tourist board disclosed the fact that no literature was available in French about the Yorkshire Dales. They offered me something in Japanese which was a kind gesture and an interesting suggestion. And when I thought about it, I had seen few French number-plates on cars in the Dales.

My own collection of books on Dales fact, lore and legend is rather eclectic and totally unsuitable for worldly-wise French travellers. Arthur Raistrick on Dry-stone Walling? A history of the Settle-Carlisle Railway? A profile of Muker and Reeth Silver and Brass bands? "Through Littondale in search of Fur and Feather"? "The Flora of Fountains Abbey"? A visit to local bookshops did not produce even the ghost of anything in French - not even the trace of a Gault and Miaux guide - the prestigious

publication which gives the low-down on hotels and restaurants with heart-stopping Gallic frankness.

So I bundled together a hybrid collection of maps, pamphlets and booklets in English from my admirable local tourist information office. But I also mailed a copy of the wonderful paperback on The Yorkshire Dales by my dear friends, Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby. The evocative line-drawings and the concise attention to detail would, I felt sure, impress my friends. I popped in a YDS leaflet for good measure, too.

That part was easy but what advice could I give about being properly dressed for the Dales? In off-duty moments Jean-Claude has a penchant for extremely loud checked sports jackets and aggressive technicoloured ties. Hortense has a preference for little Chanel numbers, but has also been seen in vaguely Laura Ashley-type ensembles.

I carefully consulted the advertisement pages of "The Dalesman" for help, realising that time was now running short before their departure. High fashion wear for the outdoors seemed in short supply. "The 'Midge master' veil and vest"?

I then had a long talk with Jean-Claude on the phone and assured him that being warm and dry was the paramount consideration. The practical should outweigh the fashionable. They were unlikely to be observed by Parisian friends so why go to vast



(Drawing Ted Gower)

expense merely to impress the natives? Perhaps that was a blow to his pride because with distinct coolness he then told me that they had already each bought "un Barbour et les Wellington verts." I congratulated him on their foresight, adding as a sop that they could certainly buy, while touring the Dales, some marvellous sweaters, handmade from local sheep which would be the envy of tout Paris. He gave a Maurice Chevalier-type chuckle and I knew I had hit the right note.

I used the new direct rail link to Manchester airport to meet them to avoid the horrors of the M62. The Air France flight was on time and my friends emerged from the

arrivals hall each with a trolley piled high with baggage. Amid the hugs and kisses and cries of joy, I wondered if Jean-Claude and Hortense had decided to stay a month.

By now I was slightly hysterical as we settled in the train with the vast pile of luggage. Jean-Claude buried himself in "The Times" and Hortense gazed out of the window as we rattled through the Pennines towards Leeds. She emitted a succession of little cries and squeaks. "Comme c'est jolie cette petite usine!" as we passed a derelict mill. "Quel grandeur!" as the full majesty of the fells unrolled and then a shriek of alarm as we went into a tunnel.

The whole weekend passed in a dazzle of hectic activity as we drove, walked, shopped, ate and drank our way around the Dales. Their energy was daunting, but their genuine enthusiasm and delight was touching. Jean-Claude and Hortense seemed to extract more of the essence of the villages and landscape than I had done in a dozen years' residence. The sun shone and the countryside looked its best. "Les Wellington verts" were put to excellent use as we tramped along many a muddy footpath.

Jean-Claude loved the Dales pub lunches, managing with his Gallic charm and picturesquely accented English to wrap the whole pub in his warm personality, taking an intense interest in the niceties of locally brewed beer. He leant proprietorially against the bar in his Barbour, a ridiculous tweed deerstalker perched on his head, as if he was an old Dales hand. He even picked up a few of the local phrases, roaring with laughter every time someone said, "How do?" or "See you later". Mais oui, mon ami, but when? Hortense ran the gamut of her extensive wardrobe, with something chic in wool for every occasion. But she also managed to accumulate all manner of locally made sweaters, caps, hats, socks and scarves.

When it was all over and we were back at Manchester Airport for their Paris flight, as I wished them "Bon voyage", I felt exhausted but also rather proud they had enjoyed themselves so much. Like a conjuror producing a rabbit from a hat, I had managed to present a perfect weekend for my friends, amply repaying the hospitality I had so often received in Paris. It was a true entente cordiale.

David Morgan Rees

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STILE NO. 2

John Richardson responds to Chris Hartley's article on "Stiles" from our Autumn Review 1993.

Many footpaths are very ancient indeed. People have moved from one settlement, be it cottage, farm, hamlet or village to another for all manner of everyday reasons and the routes they have taken have often remained unchanged for centuries. Many of the settlement sites are far older than the present field pattern and I have little doubt that very many footpaths are of great antiquity. If we take a typical path between two hamlets we may well find that it crosses:

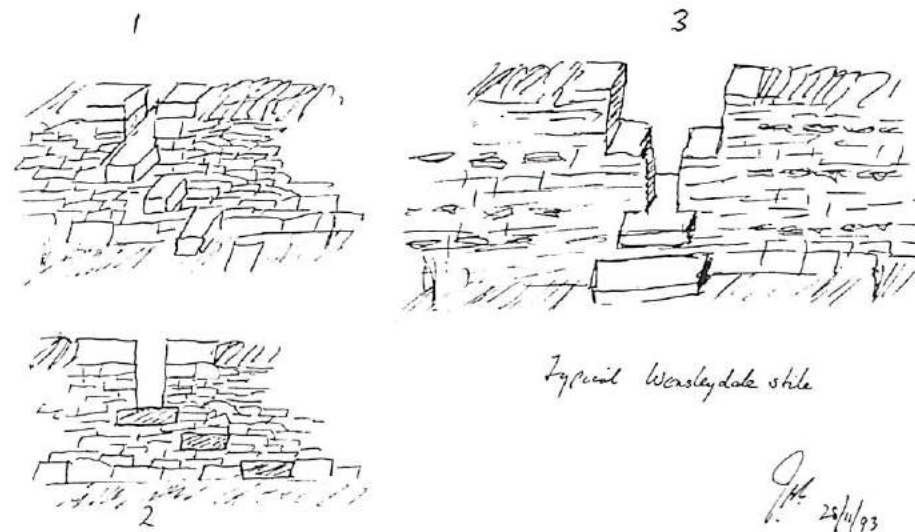
a) ancient enclosures b) former town fields which may have been enclosed at any time between the 15th and 19th centuries, identifiable because the ridges left by ancient ploughing are still present and the present enclosure pattern has clearly been superimposed c) former common or manorial waste which can be shown to have been enclosed by agreement or compulsorily under statute, usually between 1715 and c. 1870.

Sometimes b) and c) were accompanied by extensive 'rationalization' of paths, sometimes by the provision of new ones on specified lines. It follows that on any given stretch of path, there may be stiles erected by the actual occupiers of land, or by contractors or other 'imported' labour at widely differing periods.

Whilst a stone wall can have a very long life indeed, sometimes natural agencies cause a wall to fall. The most common factor is probably water getting into a wall bottom and undermining it or the action of frost; if water is held in a wall bottom for any reason, frost heaving will, over a period, do immense damage.

I suspect that the design of stiles has a good deal to do with availability of materials. If you have ever tried to manhandle a stone or concrete gatepost, you will recognise that moving and erecting the type of throughs used in the type of stile roughly sketched as figure 1, is not something to be undertaken lightly. In the past walling contractors were expected to dig and load their materials, and places where walling stone was extracted can often be seen close to the walls, notably on some of the high-lying allotments. There are, of course, some beds of Millstone Grit from which suitable slabs might have been obtained. However, I have come across lumps of red sandstone which I suspect may originally have been imported as a building material and subsequently re-used.

A further influence on stile design may be the practice of keeping dairy cattle in outbarns and milking cows either in the barns or fields nearby and carrying the milk back to the parent farmstead. In Wensleydale and elsewhere in the Dales, extensive use was made of back-cans for this purpose and when I was a boy, it was a common sight to see milk being carried about. Stiles of the pattern which I have sketched as figure 3 are particularly common in Wensleydale and of course much easier to cross



with a back-can than the figure 2 stile which is widespread around Tosside and elsewhere south of the A65. Incidentally, in my opinion, this stile is one of the most satisfactory patterns of all, although I have known of cases of the throughs being deliberately broken to obstruct the path. These truncated squeezers are widespread in Bowland and apart from durability have the great advantage that they show up well in silhouette from a distance, even if they are viewed at an angle and it is not possible to see through the gap.

The squeezer on the way from Gayle into Hawes seems to have been particularly well prepared and the components were obviously much more carefully tooled than would normally be the case with a field wall.

In this district much of the land is very light and it can be quite difficult to ensure that fence posts stay vertical. Where there are gates, they are often very wide and it is quite common to find the closing stile supported on a wheel.

Finally, the origin of stiles is lost in antiquity. The first use of the word in its modern form quoted in the original edition of the OED is from Chaucer, but in an earlier form there is a quotation from an eighth century document so that the word has been part of the English language for a very long time.

John B. Richardson

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NEDDY DICK AND THE MUSIC MAKERS

“The Yorkshire Dales is not a musical place”. It was a surprising statement, one with which I felt I had to disagree but I could not, on the spur of the moment, muster any powerful arguments. I could not recall any Dales folk song unless “On Ilka Moor Baht’at” qualifies and I scarcely thought that it did if the legend is true that it was written by visitors from foreign parts of Yorkshire. Nor could I recall any music written about Yorkshire. Why hadn’t Gordale Scar or Fountains Abbey inspired musicians as well as artists? Why hadn’t Elgar*, who used to visit the area, done for the Dales what he did for the Malvern Hills?

But the Dales is a musical place for all that. I suddenly recalled the great tradition of fiddlers, of choral music, of brass and silver bands, of music festivals, band contests and the like. The most famous of the band contests was perhaps that at Hardraw Force where some of the best bands in the country competed with local bands and where there was a simultaneous choral music contest held above the force, out of earshot. And can anyone who has lived in the Dales for more than a very brief time not be conscious of the immense output of church choral music? Not long ago it seemed as if every Methodist Chapel had its own version of Handel’s “Messiah”. In Skipton, it was Mount Hermon “Messiah” one week, Gargrave Road the next, Trinity the week after and so on. People would go week after week to hear their all time favourite and, as likely as not, sometime in this process, they would be singing it themselves.

No doubt in earlier times the parents and grandparents of these same people would be equally conscious of and just as much in love with the folk songs of the area. They did exist, and still do, in spite of the fact that few of us can now recall them. John Thwaite’s “Song of Wensleydale”, William Foster’s “Song of Upper Wharfedale” and Thomas Blackah’s “Nidderdale Rant” were doubtless sung just as frequently as the “Messiah”. Unfortunately you will have to be lucky to dance a Dales dance though they too still exist. “Buttered Peas” is one which I have danced though for the life of me I cannot remember what I did.* Another, if my memory serves me right, was danced to the tune of “Pop goes the weasel.”

It is sad that these dances and songs have become curiosities but for my money, the greatest musical curiosity of them all is Neddy Dick.* Neddy, whose real name was Richard Alderson lived at Keld and came from a farming family but he was always more interested in music than farming. His fame as a musician rests on his creation of two extraordinary musical instruments. One was a harmonium to which was fixed a frame supporting an array of bells. They were bells from old clocks which Neddy had acquired over the years until his set numbered 20, all ringing to the precise pitch that he sought. He played the keyboard with one hand while he struck the bells with a stick held in the other.

His other instrument was his musical stones which he played not only in his cottage but on a cart. It was, in effect a stone xylophone made of stones selected by Neddy

from the river bed. There were 24 stones, making an instrument about 9ft long, played with a wooden mallet.

Neddy died in 1926. His stones quickly disappeared but his harmonium lived on. It was left to the landlady of the “Cat Hole” inn at Keld and later went to a relative at Skipton. It would be wonderful to think that somewhere in someone’s junk room or loft, or perhaps even being played, it still existed. If you own a collection of 20 bells, you may be the owner of part of the musical heritage of the Dales, the pride and joy of that great musical eccentric, Neddy Dick.

John Ward

* Edward Elgar, the composer, has indeed a Dales connection - see the Walk along The Elgar Way in our events section. Elgar incidentally composed “Rosemary” while visiting Settle and completed “Salut d’amour”.

* John and anyone else who books for The Dales Music and Dance Event at the Robinson Institute, Timble held on Sunday April 17th at 2.30pm should have the opportunity to learn how to dance “Buttered Peas” and other local dances as well as listening to regional music.

* Neddy Dick is one of the characters mentioned in our book review on page 23 of “The North Riding of One Hundred Years Ago” which has some superb photographs.



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BEWITCHED

Northumberland National Park

Continuing our series of looking at the work of other National Park Societies, Angus Lunn, Chairman of the Northumberland National Parks Society, writes about the special qualities of Northumberland National Park.

When the Northumberland National Park was designated in 1956, towns and villages were excluded as far as possible, the boundary being drawn tightly around the moorlands which occupy much of the western part of the county. Consequently Northumberland has the lowest resident population of any UK National Park, and when to that is added the fact, that the only large population centre within easy reach is Tyneside, it is perhaps no wonder that this is the least visited National Park, and the one to seek out for wilderness experience.

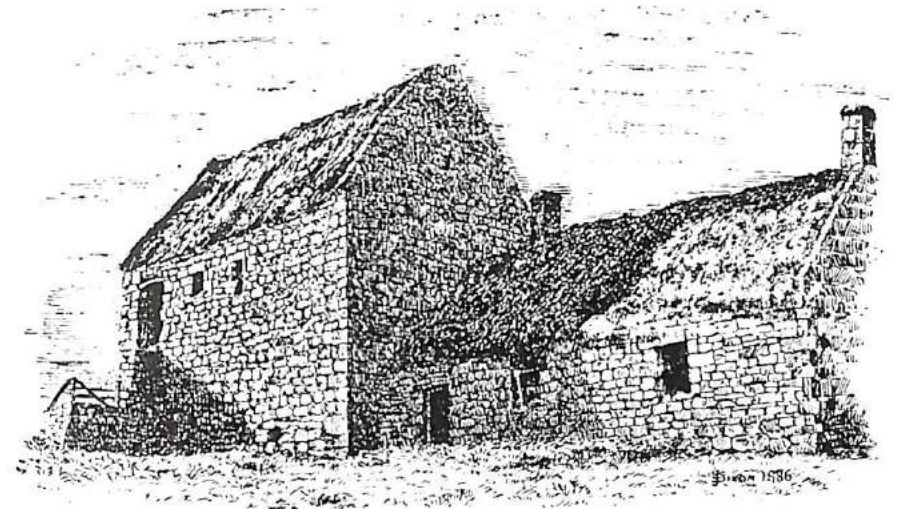
However, this absence of an indigenous population, and the fact that the park somewhat lacks the distinctive geographical coherence and perceived identity which all of our other parks possess (think of the Dales or the Lake District), perhaps explains the slowness in setting up a local support society and perhaps also there has been no very obvious threat. The lack of geographical coherence arises because a number of different upland units, from the country around Hadrian's Wall in the south to the Cheviot Hills in the north, were stitched together when the Park was designated to create an oddly shaped entity, whose silhouette remarkably resembles a witch on a broomstick!



Nonetheless, the Northumberland National Park includes superb moorland scenery, fully of national park quality and a density of archaeological and historic monuments unsurpassed in other parks. Much of the history relates to successive Roman and Scottish frontiers - the latter bequeathing castles, towers, and fortified farmhouses or bastles.

The main threats to the Park derive from these special characteristics. There is no great pressure for housing or time-share and other tourist developments and no strong threat from quarrying (given the lack of massive limestones) or for additional reservoirs. Main roads largely bypass the Park and the railways can only be closed once! Until recently, however, threats from both afforestation and agricultural improvement schemes to the characteristic moorland environment and its prehistoric landscapes, were considerable, and 19% of the Park is now afforested. Visitor pressure is severe in the Hadrian's Wall zone, requiring careful management.

But far and away the main issue in Northumberland is military training. The Otterburn Training Area, which the MoD regards as the other jewel in its crown apart



Woodhouses bastle (Fortified farmhouse)

from Salisbury Plain, occupies 22% of the Park. The Army claims that its presence has fended off afforestation, created employment, maintained traditional low-intensity hill farming use and conserved wildlife and historic buildings with minimal intrusion on landscape. The Park Committee claims that public access is effectively denied to a large part of the Park and that red flags, warning notices and prowling soldiers (in the Dry Training Area where the public is allowed access) are hardly part of a wilderness experience. So far there has been more or less peaceful coexistence between Park and military, but recent astonishingly ambitious proposals by the Army for increased use of the ranges have provoked much disquiet, particularly in view of the MoD's insistence on presenting the proposals to the Committee in secret. This the Committee has commendably rejected.



As indicated above, attempts to set up a National Park support society in Northumberland have previously been unsuccessful, so the Northumberland Wildlife Trust has recently assumed the role of Friends of the Northumberland National Park, in the expectation that a free-standing organisation will soon emerge. The military issue is the one the new Friends are particularly keen to get to grips with.

Angus Lunn

Please note that we are using Gayle Institute for our AGM on Saturday May 14th. (see article on p.18)

THE YORKSHIRE DALES CYCLE WAY

At last a real move towards more sustainable transport in the Yorkshire Dales, with this excellent new version of the 210 kilometre Yorkshire Dales Cycle Way which has been published by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

A Cycle Way isn't a car-free cycle path, but a selected route along lightly trafficked roads around the National Park. As Rae Lonsdale, the National Park's Access and Recreation Officer suggests: "The Cycle Route is suitable for all levels of cyclist and is a perfect way to explore the spectacular scenery of the Dales."

Each of six recommended sections is between 30 and 40 kilometres, well within the capabilities of most cyclists, though readers are warned that the hilly terrain of the Yorkshire Dales will make such sections seem longer than equivalent distance over flat terrain. Cycles with plenty of gears are also to be recommended. The National Park Authority hope this will encourage cycle touring, one of the greenest and most sustainable ways to enjoy the countryside, and draws attention in the leaflet not only to cycle hire facilities (all close to railway stations and bus termini in the Dales to allow people to arrive without a car), but to the National Park's own Yorkshire Dales Accommodation Guide to allow cyclists to prebook their bed and breakfast.

The Dales Cycle Way comes in a polythene pack, with each of the recommended day stages on individual laminated cards to make them weatherproof. It's excellent value for money at just £1.95 from Park Centres or local bookshops, or by post £2.35 (including p&p) from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Unit 1B, Cragg Hill Road, Horton-in-Ribblesdale, North Yorkshire BD24 0HN.



Spring Silhouette, Nr. Richmond (John Fawcett Collection)

THE ANATOMY OF A DALES VILLAGE

1 Church (heavily in debt). 1 Village Hall (also in debt). 1 Chapel. 2 Pubs + 1 Private Hotel. 1 School. 1 Shop & PO. 2 Snack Bars. 1 Police House - mostly unoccupied

Total Houses -63 Electorate 111.

3 Farms - there used to be 5.

34 Houses occupied by locals (14 are OAPs) 8 TNP.

2 OC TP

3 OC TNP

3 Long lets TNP

23 Holiday cotts. or flats TNP.

3 houses take B. & B.

KEY

TP take some part in village activities.

TNP take NO PART

OC Off comer

There is only one full-time young wage earner working locally (Farming). The pubs, shops, and cafes remain solvent by virtue of day trippers. They employ seasonal labour, local students etc... during the Summer.

8 salaried locals work outside the village.

3 wage earners work locally.

Only 5 local children attend the school. The rest come from surrounding villages.

A two-bedroomed house in Skipton, Silsden etc... costs about £30,000. Here it costs about £50,000.

Three bedroomed houses here cost £80- £100,000.

CONCLUSION

This village is bereft of young people and is dying fast. It will do so unless some effort is made to encourage young people to live and work locally.

Upper Wharfedale Daleswatch member, J.W. Daggett, produced this interesting document. You may be able to guess where this is, but much more important, is it typical of what is happening in a number of Dales villages today?

GAYLE INSTITUTE: LOCAL INITIATIVE

Gayle Institute was once a Sandemanian Chapel, named after a sect, who though originally an independent body, came to have close ties with the Scottish Presbyterian Church. When the building fell into disuse as a chapel in the 1920s, a village committee was formed to take over the redundant building and turn it into a village facility where Gayle residents might meet. A billiard table was purchased and rent paid twice yearly to Barclay's Bank in Hawes until the sixties. The bank, however, was unable to discover to whom the rent should be paid, but the village nevertheless made use of the premises fairly fully till about 1975 when membership and attendance began to decline due, it is said, to the competing attractions of television and licenced premises.

One or two public spirited local people tried to raise some enthusiasm for the repair of rotting windows and sagging walls, but local response was poor and by 1968 serious deterioration had set in.

Meanwhile the Parish council had received a number of complaints on the state of the adjacent graveyard and a partnership between the Parish Council, District Council and National Park was established with the District and Park funding essential repairs to gravestones and walls while the Parish accepted responsibility for grass cutting. Of particular interest is one grave which bears the date 1988, instead of 1918, the result of a mason's chisel slipping when he was distracted by children playing!

Gayle's residents now turned their attention to the former chapel, their institute and a listed building. After several meetings in Gayle Chapel Schoolroom, a committee was formed and a wide range of activities began to raise the necessary funds to enable restoration to take place. Even the children contributed by baking, holding domino drives in garages and organising discos, whist drives and bring and buy sales. With such infectious enthusiasm all round and grants from the Development Commission, Richmondshire District Council, the NRCC and the Yorkshire Dales National Park, the project was able to develop, while some of Gayle's builders and plumbers generously donated time and expertise.



Gayle Institute

Roger Stott

UNDER YORBER SCAR: A SELECTION OF DALES VERSE BY TERENCE M. CLUDERAY

REMEMBERING WINTER IN WENSLEYDALE 1947

Draggled and heavy-footed with sodden leaves
Winter worked gradually down the contours
From Drumaldrace to Gayle and Hawes, then, eastwards,
Scatched a Munchean scream of ice on Yorber Scar,
To Raydelside dominating bleak Semerwater
Cowering below.

Sykes all stilled, hags hard as unyielding steel,
Few ventured past intakes throng with flocks and herd.
Each night the drinking trays for birds froze hard,
Emboldened pipits joined robin and finch
For scraps and crumbs - fear overcome by famine.
And then came the snow !

Days on end snow crotcheted down, wet or dry
It mattered not - so low were temperatures.
Snow on top of snow, frail and feathery
Filled up the sheep-sheltering hollows
Each side of slowly lowering stone walls,
before the blow.

No tornado needed - accustomed winds
Blocked all communications out or in.
Only the trouble-making sky could bring
Hope for flocks beyond reach of fothering -
Desperately so.

Tales still go round at first snowfall each year
Woes long-forgotten, comradeship remains:
Memory lives in those not then born; legend grows
Softer rims as time inters vanquished fear.
For it was long ago.

Terence M. Cluderay

Terence Cluderay obviously knows his Dales intimately and as a keen walker is deeply involved with the landscape and its resonances. His main themes are the changing seasons and a particularly successful example is his dramatic account of the

intense winter of 1947, entitled "Remembering Winter in Wensleydale 1947" which evokes the energy and intense bite of the freezing cold. There is an elegiac quality about the tender "Aftermath" and a strong sense of history in the first canto of "Song of Yorber", while "Seekers" give us a definite sense of people together, sharing an experience, but unable to communicate. Finally "Sportsman" is a highly entertaining poem which nevertheless makes some rather serious points.

F.S.

Under Yorber Scar - A collection of Dales Verse is available at £3.50 in Dales bookshops and is available by post for £3.75 at Kit Calvert's Bookshop, Hawes. Cheques should be made out to T. Cluderay.



Lothersdale (Drawing Bill Pates)

BOOK REVIEWS

A DALES ODYSSEY THEN AND NOW

By Horace Pawson and Denis Cairns. How this book came to be written and published is an essential part of its fascinating story. It follows the adventures of six young men, members of a local Methodist Chapel, in Earby in 1920 who had all endured the horrors and rigours of the First World War and who had decided to spend their annual holiday in the Yorkshire Dales. Some time afterwards Horace Pawson, an amateur naturalist and enthusiastic walker, wrote an account of this occasion in several exercise books and almost three quarters of a century later Dennis Cairns and his wife, Grace, (Horace Pawson's niece) decided to retrace the route of "The Six Sturdy Tramps" as they called themselves. Though inevitably much had changed, a surprising amount of their route is still feasible.



Hawes, Mill Stream, 1920.

Much of the pleasure of "A Dales Odyssey" lies in the period style and charm complemented with some fascinating photographs (including a rare shot of Lofthouse station) and charming drawings, the latter by Peter Cairns, contrasted with the modern account of the route complete with sketch maps and distances by Dennis Cairns who was requested by the publisher to bring the account up to date in this way. The second section would make a very attractive basis for a holiday in easy stages of up to nine or ten days starting at Grassington, then on to Hawes, Muker, Richmond, Leyburn, West Burton, Pateley Bridge, and back to Grassington.

Pawson delights in giving us examples of inimitable Dales humour, the party soon discovering that "tiger" meant some good quality bacon! While Hawes, we find, was known as "Healthy Hawes" owing to its situation 800 feet above sea level. A great deal of the interest of the journey also lies in the different Dales personalities the Tramps encounter, the antics of the group who on their first holiday since the war, in fun give themselves military titles, and the telling occasional detail such as a tree blackened by fire which reminds them of Flanders.

The high spirits of these young men, ready to break into tuneful song as they are

'MEMBER TO MEMBER'

**FOR SALE WANTED
EXCHANGE**

FOR SALE. HAWKSWICK, Littondale. 5 miles Grassington, 14 miles Skipton. 7 year old 2-bedroom bungalow. Large garden plus field. 2.2 acres. E7 heating, D.G. Outside village - no neighbours. Fantastic uninterrupted views in all directions. £137,000 o.n.o. 0756-770-324

mostly members of their local Methodist church choir, are heart-warming and obviously much appreciated by the locals.

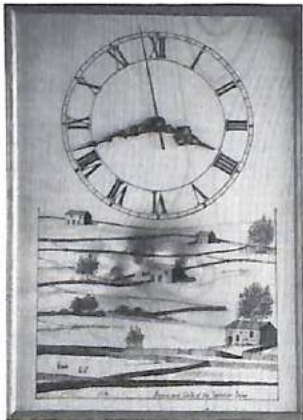
In the "Now" section, Denis Cairns is at pains to trace not only as much of Pawson's original route as possible, or give us some acceptable alternative, but he also gives us some excellent insights into the changes that have taken place over these seventy years and is also able generally to pin-point the accommodation they used. Perhaps nothing sums up the changes that have occurred over the years so well as Pawson's very atmospheric description of viewing Stump Cross Caverns early in the century and Cairns' rueful contrasting account of the amount of "conveniences" of all kinds that today's visitor expects to be offered.

This delightful and unusual book is published by Aurora Publishing of Bolton at £5.95 and can be obtained from Dennis Cairns direct at £6.95 to include postage and packing at 18, Pen-y-Ghent Way, Barnoldswick, Colne, BB8 5PY. Cheques should be made out to Denis Cairns. "A Dales Odyssey" is also available at local bookshops.

Fleur Speakman

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL PROFITS FROM THE BOOK ARE BEING GENEROUSLY DONATED TO THE YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY BY DENNIS CAIRNS who is a YDS Member. If you order your book through Dennis Cairns, the YDS gains the full amount of royalties.

BARNS AND WALLS OF THE YORKSHIRE DALES WALL CLOCK



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IAN WHITWORTH, WHITE HOUSE COTTAGE INDUSTRIES
The White House, Arkle Town, Arkengarthdale, Nr. Richmond,
North Yorkshire DL11 6RB

NORTH RIDING OF ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

By David Gerrard (Alan Sutton Publishing £17.99) As yet another Government "reform" plans to remove our present County Councils after a mere 20 years of existence, people look longingly at the historic counties which served Britain so well for almost 90 years, and which, in the case of the North, East and West Ridings of Yorkshire dated back to the ancient Saxon "thriddings" that divided England's largest county.

Timely, therefore, is this remarkable collection of photographs and prose of the old North Riding put together by David Gerrard. For those who don't remember, the Yorkshire Dales was divided equally between the North and West Ridings - Wensleydale, Bishopdale, Coverdale, Swaledale and Arkengarthdale all being North Riding. Whilst the collection covers the whole of the Riding, including the North York Moors, there is some superb Dales material here. What is immediately striking about late Victorian and Edwardian photographs is both lack of traffic and the narrowness of the roads. How much has the car-culture changed our way of seeing things!

A special feature is that this is not just a picture book, but also an anthology of writers contemporary with the photographers, making this a delightful bedside book. Some authors are familiar, others unknown. One such sparkling little cameo is the description by J. Sutcliffe Smith of his search to find Neddy Dick of Keld, who used pebbles collected from the riverbed to make a unique musical instrument.

A WHARFEDALE VILLAGE

This is a detailed, fully illustrated study of Burnsall and nearby Thorpe from earliest times down to the present day by Eric Lodge FRGS and YDS member and includes detailed maps, sketches and photographs. As well as tracing Burnsall's Anglian origins, there is a comprehensive account of St Wilfred's Church, the 17th century school, the rise of Methodism and the effect of the Enclosures and much more. This social history of a typical Dales village is marketed at cost as a Suscribed Edition with a Suscribers' List appearing in the book itself. The special price for Suscribers is £25, post publication at £30 per copy through local bookshops. CLOSING DATE FOR SUBSCRIBERS' COPIES APRIL 30th. Please send a stamped addressed envelope to the YDS Office for further details, but please do NOT send any money to the YDS for this book. Office address: The Yorkshire Dales Society, The Civic Centre, Cross Green, Otley LS21 1HD OR send direct to Eric Lodge, High Croft, Burnsall, Skipton, North Yorkshire. BD23 6BP. Tel: 0756 720668 for details.

WEST END - A SUNKEN VILLAGE

It's now nearly 30 years since a Dales village - West End - was literally wiped off the map, lost under the deep waters of the new lake. It wasn't the revenge of the Gods, as in the old Semerwater legend, which resulted in the community vanishing under a deluge, but the old Leeds Corporation Waterworks in the building of the new

Thruscross Reservoir to provide the citizens of Leeds with lots of fresh water for baths, showers and garden sprinklers.

Alistair Laurence's meticulously researched booklet traces the sad decline of this once busy textile village that lost its mills, its communities and finally its church and chapel as the water engineers moved in. It is now difficult to imagine the thriving community that once existed, and the familiar, human townscape which has gone forever, apart from a handful of photographs, plans and the memories of older people, some of which are recorded here.



A photograph from 'West End'

The booklet is published by Smith Settle, costs £3.95 and is available in local bookshops in the Otley area or in case of difficulty direct from Smith Settle.

CS/FS

DALES DIGEST - if you want to keep up with what is really happening in the Dales as regards essential issues, please send for our quarterly "Digest" at £6.00 per annum, addressed to the YDS office.

DALESWATCH NEWS

WELCOME BACK THE RIDINGS?

News that in the latest round of local Government re-organisation - barely 20 years after the last major overhaul - the old North, East and West Ridings will be back as new "unitary" authorities, has had mixed reactions in the Yorkshire Dales.

Many local politicians have expressed concern that a new West Riding extending from Goole on the Humber to the west of the Yorkshire Dales would be unmanageable, bringing together as it would areas with little in common. Equally a North Riding stretching from Keld to Filey, like the North Yorkshire it would replace, would cover vast distances and link places with very different loyalties.

Whilst the Yorkshire Dales Society has yet to express a view, it seems essential that whatever happens, the strategic view which only a larger, quasi-regional authority can give should not be lost, whilst there is an equal need to keep local authorities that reflect real and not artificial geographic loyalties. Essential too is the need to make adequate resources available for environmental protection and for recreational management in the countryside. Nor should current environmental policies be put at risk during a perhaps extended period of re-organisation.

COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION AND ENGLISH NATURE

Government suggestions that the Countryside Commission and English Nature, the two principal organisations concerned with the protection and management of the English countryside, should be merged, have caused concern among a number of countryside organisations, including the Council for National Parks.

Both organisations have different skills, the former to balance the needs of access with landscape conservation and management, the latter to look at the more narrow requirements of nature protection, site management and wildlife conservation. If what is proposed is merely a cost-cutting exercise, the countryside may suffer, and in particular farmers and landowners who in recent years have benefitted from the Countryside Commission's Stewardship and other schemes to enable conservation work to be done, to improve access and to support farming businesses. English Nature, on the other hand, has a much more restrictive approach which doesn't always reflect the fact that recreation and conservation are often two sides of the same coin, and that one without the other is usually self defeating.

Politicians who put such arrangements at risk could find themselves at the end of a pretty sharp backlash from the farming community as well as from conservationists and countryside user organisation.

REGISTER OF PERMISSIVE ACCESS

An example of the Commission's achievement in terms of balancing conservation and access in recent years includes the completion of a Register of Permissive Access

Land for our region. This is a map of permissive paths and areas of land to which the public now have access on a permissive basis, thanks to generous systems of grants and support for farmers and landholders from the Commission and other agencies.

Copies of the Register for Yorkshire and Humberside are available in the YDS office for any interested members to see by arrangement.

DALESBUS

Despite promises at the YDS Traffic and Transport seminar in January 1993, that there would be significant increases in support for public transport in 1994 in the Yorkshire Dales National Park as part of long-overdue wider transport strategies, financial support for public transport remains at 1993's derisory levels leaving many areas of the National Park where car parks are full and bursting, without any form of alternative public transport, especially during school holidays when schoolbuses don't operate.

The Yorkshire Dales National Park is now near the bottom of the league compared with other UK National Parks in terms of Sustainable Transport Policies. It seems the Authority merely pays lipservice to public transport provision, with financial support, in real terms, less than it was in the mid 1970s. As the Countryside Commission's recent *Position Paper on Sustainability* (CCP 432) emphasises, faced with a tidal wave of traffic in the near future, developing alternative means of getting around the countryside to the private car is a top priority. Clearly this concept has yet to reach the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. Perhaps YDNP Committee Members need to look at just how budgets are allocated and why such serious gaps are allowed to remain in the core public transport network, when they could be filled extremely cost effectively, and thereby encourage use and help enhance the financial viability of the network as a whole.

But though 1994 is "standstill year", most of the Dalesbus services and bus links from the Settle-Carlisle line which ran in 1993 will still operate this summer - details in the excellent *Dales Connections Public Transport Guide*, available free of charge (6" x 9" SAE please) from Elm Tree Press, The Elms, Exelby, Bedale, North Yorkshire, DL8 2HD. 50p in stamps will also bring the similar Moors Connection Guide to the North York Moors, where the Park Authority is adopting a very much higher profile towards the development of their Moorsbus network.

UPPER NIDDERDALE DALES BUS SERVICE

As reported elsewhere, Harrogate Council are launching a Sunday and Bank Holiday park-and-ride bus service from Harrogate and Pateley Bridge to Ramsgill, Lofthouse and Middlesmoor, which will operate from April, to the end of September. Expected times of departure from Harrogate Victoria Avenue bus stop are 0915 and 1400, and from Pateley Bridge at 1020, 1130, 1505. It will be operated by Harrogate & District Bus Company and hopefully will form part of the Dalesbus network with Explorer tickets valid. Guided walks are also being arranged - probably with help from the YDS. Look out for the new timetable leaflet or in case of difficulty write to Harrogate Council, Department of Technical Services, Knapping Mount, West Grove Road, Harrogate.

LOCAL DALESWATCH GROUP NEWS

Upper Wharfedale

Swinden Quarry has dominated discussion over the winter months, with members reporting strong opposition to the extension of planning permission - excepting, of course, those who work at the quarry. Other issues discussed have included uncontrolled parking over the new footpath in Grassington Square, the purchase of Bolton Abbey Station by Embsay Steam Railway, the problems of a typical Dales village, the future of the Linton school site, changes in Upper Wharfedale bus services (outside school times and when DALESBUS operates, services from Grassington to Buckden and Bolton Abbey to Grassington are now "ring-and-ride").

Contact: Ken Lord (0756 753202) or Mollie Marshall (0756 752604)

Lower Wharfedale

Roads and their impact on the Lower Wharfedale environment dominated the Group's meeting in Otley in early February, members noting the Ramblers concern for the loss of footpath resulting from the series of new by-passes. Other issues included the problems of Pool and attempts of developers to use the cover of the Unitary Development Plan to derestrict the Green Belt, and the lack of care and maintenance to trees on the Addingham bypass.

The YDS Council have offered Ilkley Friends of the Earth up to £100 towards a proposed traffic management study of Ilkley and its surrounding countryside, pending the by-pass proposals.

Contact: Peter Young (0943 466858)

Nidderdale

Apart from news of the new AONB, Nidderdale Group have been concerned about a number of issues in the area, including the possible de-registering of Dallowgill Moor Common, the continued saga of the controversial Otter Trust proposal at Padside, the impact of a motor cycle trail in Guise Cliff Wood, and claims by motor groups that the road through the National Trust's Studley Royal Estate might be public.

Contact: Jean Johnson (0943 880234)

Ribblesdale

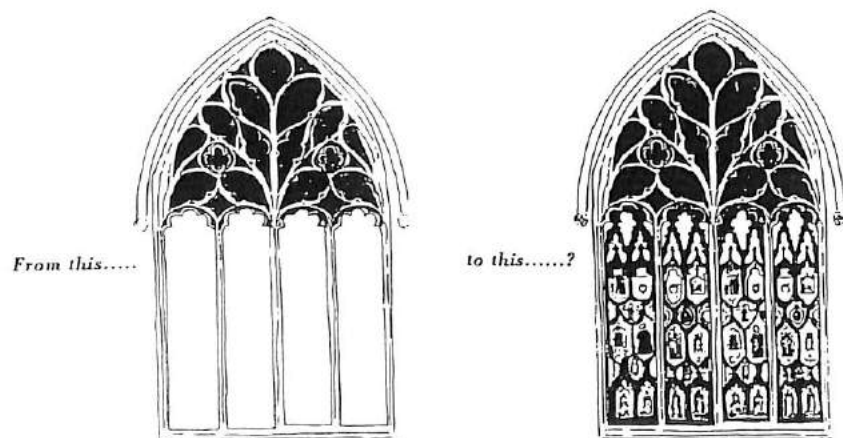
For news of the next meeting of the group contact Hilary Baker (0729 840609)

OUT & ABOUT

HISTORY STUDY DAY: RIBBLEHEAD Vikings, Turnpike Travellers and Navvies, organised by June Hall for the Friends of the Dales Countryside Museum on SATURDAY 16th APRIL 1994 at Horton In Ribblesdale. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL.** Tickets £8.50. Please write to June Hall c/o Dales Countryside Museum, Station Yard, Hawes. North Yorks. DL8 3NT. for details.

RICHMONDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL has produced a an exceedingly attractive and informative leaflet for their Turner Trail called "Turner in the Dales", and the Trail has strategically placed benches to enjoy the Turner views. A fully illustrated account of Turner's tour in 1816 is given in David Hill's book "In Turner's Footsteps through the Hills and Dales of Northern England" published by John Murray and reviewed in the *Yorkshire Dales Review* no 44. Copies of the leaflet and accommodation guide are available from Richmondshire District Council, The Tourism Officer Swale House, Frenchgate, Richmond North Yorkshire DI10 4JE. (Please mention the Yorkshire Dales Society). It is hoped to have a lecture on Turner based on David Hill's book in the next series of YDS lectures.

MALHAM TARN FIELD CENTRE are running a number of new courses as well their usual popular series, among these are Pennine Railways 1st - 5th April, Underground Adventure April 1st-4th and July 15th-18th Underground Understanding, Exploring the Settle- Carlisle Railway 28th August - 4th September and 22nd-27th August Stained Glass Techniques for Beginners. For further information contact Jackie Ellis, Malham Tarn Field Centre, Settle, North Yorkshire BD24 9PU or tel: 0729 830331.



Course in Stained Glass Techniques - see Malham Tarn Field Centre above.

SWALEDALE FESTIVAL takes place on 27th May until 12th June and has a packed programme of varied events lasting just over a fortnight and includes music to suit all tastes, drama, dance and exhibitions. For further information contact Elizabeth Carter, Festival director at The Festival Office, Thornborough Hall, Leyburn, North Yorks. DL8 5AB.

GRASSINGTON FESTIVAL starts on the 17th June and ends Sat 2nd July and includes Julian Lloyd Webber in a cello concert, the winner of the International String Quartet competition, Piano music, Country and Western, Jazz, Gilbert and Sullivan, poetry and some noted lecturers such as the explorer Ralph Fiennes. Drama is catered for by Janet Suzman and Bill Homewood in "An Agreeable Blunder". Details from Judith Joy, Publicity, Holebottom Farm, Hebden, Skipton, BD23 5DL or tickets from Myra Boyce, Festival Tickets, Threshfield, Skipton BD23 5HR. Tel: 0756 752096. Full programme and booking form available from April 1994.

STUDIO COURSES AND DALES TOURS at the OLD SCHOOL ARTS WORKSHOP, Middleham, including Richard III tour, Dales tours, sculpture, picture framing, drawing and painting and calligraphy. The courses are available from March to late November. Contact Old School Arts Workshop, Middleham, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 4QG. or tel: 0969 23056 for further information.

SETTLE COMMUNITY PLAY 18th- 23rd July will use fragments from the lives of real people and will be performed in the market square on the last three evenings of the festival. Other activities include choral singing, film shows and a street market. Contact either Margaret Holgate or Margaret Cowling (07292) 822451 (daytime) or Margaret H. (0729) 840250 (evening) or Margaret C. (05242) 61764 (evening).

WEEK-END DRY-STONE WALLING COURSES are available at weekends in August, October and November and cater both for the inexperienced and the experienced. Further details from Peter Fish or Alex Barbour at the YORKSHIRE DALES FIELD CENTRE, Square House, 17 Church Street, Giggleswick, Settle, North Yorks. BD24 OBE. Tel : 0729 822965.

THE YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK 40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS will take place on Friday August 19th and Saturday August 20th at Hawes, Station Yard next to the Dales Countryside Museum. Activities and displays will include traditional food and crafts and a number of events related to Dales culture. Fuller details in the next issue of the YDS magazine.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

The Arthur Raistrick Lecture 1994 has been postponed owing to the illness of the speaker Dr. Marjorie Sweeting. We apologise on behalf of the Upper Wharfedale Field Society for any disappointment. It is hoped to re-schedule the lecture "From the Yorkshire Dales to China" on November 28th of this year. (Wilfred Anderson will talk instead on "The Canal in Craven" as part of the Society's usual programme.)

SOCIETY SPRING AND EARLY SUMMER EVENTS

SUNDAY APRIL 17th A CONCERT OF DALES MUSIC AND DANCE AT THE ROBINSON INSTITUTE, TIMBLE at 2.30pm with a concert of music and song, followed by a Long Sword Team demonstration and the opportunity to learn traditional dances or simply watch. There are still some seats left at time of going to press. Please pre-book your tickets with cheques made out to the Yorkshire Dales Society at £4.00 per person on the booking form enclosed in the previous *YDS Review*, (if possible) **to arrive not later than April 10th**. Light refreshments available.

Please remember to park at the Yorkshire Water Company car park south of Fewston Bridge if you can and allow 20 minutes walk at least.

SUNDAY MAY 1st DALESBUS WALK TO ARNCLIFFE. From Skirfare Bridge through Littondale to Arncliffe then over Old Cote Moor to Starbotton and along the Dalesway to Buckden. 8 miles moderate, but short steep climb from Arncliffe onto Old Cote Moor. Dalesbus 800 at 09.15 from Leeds Central Bus Station, Ilkley Brook Street 09.55 to Skirfare Bridge. Book Explorer Ticket. Lunch at Arncliffe, pub or packed lunch. Return by Dalesbus 800 at 5 or 6 pm from Buckden. Leader Alan Sutcliffe tel:0444 483326.

SATURDAY MAY 7th VISIT TO Highbatts Nature Reserve at 2pm. Please park in the layby south of North Stainley, north of Lightwater Valley on A6108. (Map ref. SE 287764). The tour should finish at 5pm. Advance booking essential, (maximum number 20) a £2 fee **must** accompany your booking via The Yorkshire Dales Society Office by April 25th. The tour will be led by Colin Slater, tel. Chris Hartley 0943 872511 for further details.

SATURDAY MAY 14th VISIT TO WENSLEYDALE CREAMERY. Meet Gayle Lane, Hawes at the Creamery where there is a car park for 10.30 am. for a tour of the award winning re-opened creamery. The tour should finish around 12.30pm. Advance booking essential with cheque for £2 per person **to arrive by April 25th** via the YDS office.

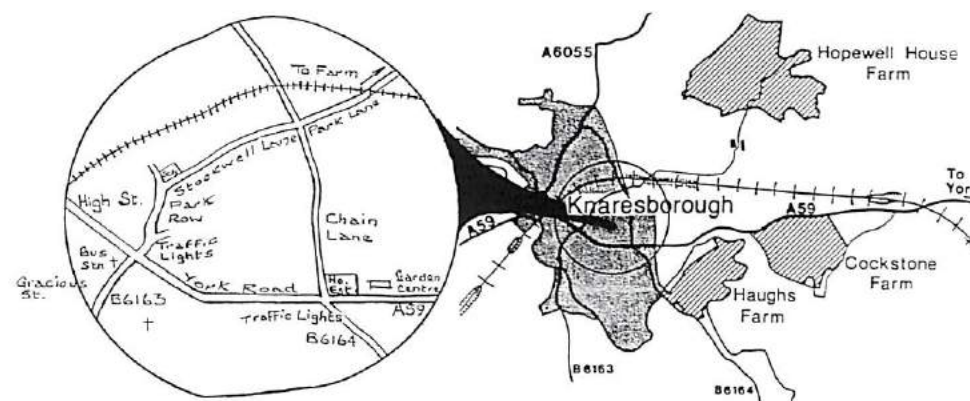
SATURDAY MAY 14th YDS AGM AT GAYLE INSTITUTE near Hawes, at 2.15pm. Refreshments will follow after the AGM, then SPEAKER DR. CHRIS WOOD'S LECTURE "LEGACY FOR TOMORROW: 40 YEARS OF HERITAGE CONSERVATION IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES".

SATURDAY MAY 14th LECTURE SPEAKER RUTH ANNISON "THE WENSLEYDALE RAILWAY - NOW OR NEVER?" This will be a more light-hearted look at the effect of the railway on the people and the environment. Gayle Institute at 8pm. Light refreshments available.

SUNDAY MAY 15th WALK lasting about 2 hours. Meet 10.30 am at Hawes National Park Centre. Details to be arranged.

FRIDAY MAY 20th CELEBRATION DINNER IN HONOUR OF CHAIRMAN KEN WILLSON'S 80th BIRTHDAY & MANY YEARS AS CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN, ON "WATERPRINCE" CANAL BOAT CRUISER AT SHIPLEY (CRUISE INCLUDED). The dinner has been organised by the present Council of Management for past and present members of Council and regular helpers of the YDS. They would warmly welcome representation from the YDS membership and have some places available for what should prove to be a very enjoyable occasion. Please contact Fleur Speakman for details on (0943) 607868 **as a soon as possible** or send an sae to Fleur Speakman at 67, Grove Road, Ilkley LS29 9PQ for further information.

SATURDAY JUNE 11th VISIT TO HOPEWELL HALL EXPERIMENTAL FARM belonging to the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) near Knaresborough. Meet at 2pm at the Farm entrance. (See map.) Hopewell House Farm is a working arable farm with a programme of practical conservation and improvements including woodland management and planting, wetland management and pond creation, traditional grassland management and hedgerow planting and improvement. Light refreshments available for small donation.



THURSDAY JUNE 23rd GUIDED WALK ROUND RIPON. Advanced booking essential, maximum 30. Tour by Maurice H. Taylor for an easy 2 miles, meet at Obelisk in Town Square Ripon, at 7pm. Tour to finish about 9.15pm. Please send £2 per person by June 13th to the Otley office. Tel: Chris Hartley 0943 872511 for further details.

SATURDAY JULY 9th WALK ALONG THE ELGAR WAY for a moderate 13 miles with alternative options of approximately 6 miles or 9 mile routes. Walkers opting for the complete circuit will walk ahead of the other groups. All 3 routes finish at Settle Station. The walk is based on references found in correspondence between the composer Edward Elgar and his friend Dr Buck who lived in Settle which Elgar visited on a number of occasions. They enjoyed walks together in the limestone countryside and the YDS walks will follow Bill Mitchell's leaflet "The Elgar Way"

which takes in a number of associated sites. (Bill Mitchell's books which deal in greater detail with Elgar and Dr Buck are "Elgar in the Yorkshire Dales" and "Mr Elgar and Dr Buck - a musical friendship", are published by Dalesman. Meet Settle station at 10.00am* and bring a packed lunch. Leaders Ron and Vanessa Stone tel: 0706 818588.

The Yorkshire Dales Society has already outlined its programme of lectures for 1994/5 in committee and would very much like some volunteer walk leaders for these short morning pre-lecture walks. These include leaders for the Dacre Banks area, Long Preston, Bolton Abbey, Addingham and Timble. Please contact Fleur Speakman on 0943 607868 or write to the YDS office, address below if you can help, **as soon as possible**.

We are also keen to recruit new leaders for **full day walks** during the longer daylight hours. Once again contact us with your suggestions if you can help.

THE YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY ADDRESS: The Yorkshire Dales Society, The Civic Centre, Cross Green, Otley, West Yorkshire, LS21 1HD. Do remember that the YDS Office is only manned on a regular basis on Monday mornings, we are there at other times on an occasional basis so please allow for this when leaving Answerphone messages or when booking for an event. Answerphone 0943 461938.

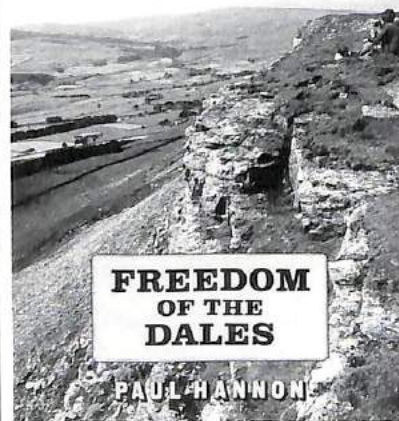
We would also welcome help at any of our indoor events and particularly in Gayle (Hawes) for our mini-weekend May 14th & 15th. Please let us know **as soon as possible** if you can be available on those dates.

* Please ring 0943 607868 to check train time changes.

A Special Offer to YDS Members - £14.95 post free

A major new title for all who walk the Yorkshire Dales

EXPLORING THE YORKSHIRE DALES ON FOOT



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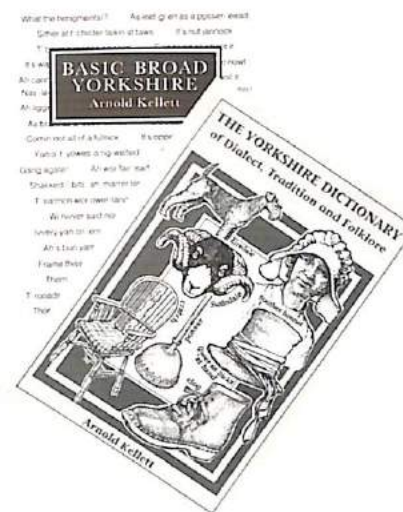
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