

Yorkshire Dales Review

No.58 Spring 1997



- *A New Future for the Dales*
- *How could they allow it?*
- *Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust*
- *Joshua Jackson and the tradition of the Yorkshire Fiddler*


YORKSHIRE
DALES
SOCIETY

£1

Yorkshire Dales Review · No. 58 · Spring 1997

Journal of the Yorkshire Dales Society

Editors Colin and Fleur Speakman

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust – A New Future for the Dales

When the Yorkshire Dales Society was established in 1981 as an educational charity, part of its vision was to develop into a facilitating organisation which, if necessary, could own and manage property, enable projects to be established, and be a mechanism for drawing in new funds from outside organisations.

In the event, the YDS became primarily a membership and campaigning organisation, building up an informed membership base to pursue our objectives of protecting the landscape and natural beauty of the Dales by raising awareness of the issues. With a small secretariat and a lively and committed Council of Management, the Society has made its presence felt in a number of important ways over the years, a strong and independent voice not only for conservation of the Dales, but in support of the economic and social well being of local communities. The National Park Authority in particular has benefited from knowing that on major and sometimes controversial issues, a group of people who care about the long-term future of this unique area of England are able to articulate that support.

But what about that other function of the Society, that of a facilitating organisation? One fundamental weakness of the British system of National Parks is that by their very nature much of their work is negative, especially development control which takes so much of the Park's time and energy. Development control is vital to prevent the rapid urbanisation of the Dales, yet because it prevents outsiders and local people from exploiting the landscape in unsympathetic ways it is unpopular - nobody likes controls, especially the strict controls necessary in a National Park, and anti-Park sentiment is easily whipped up by the unscrupulous and ill-informed.

When it comes to the more positive side of National Park's work - conservation work, educational and community projects, new visitor facilities, then it is always a question of resources. In recent years resources have got scarcer. News that there will be a shortfall of around £500,000 in the Park's budget for 1997-8 underlines the problem.

For some years, the Yorkshire Dales Society has discussed with the National Park Authority the idea of an "enabling charity" to bring new funding into the Park. The problems of the YDS setting up such a funding body were formidable and, it was felt, this could compromise our role as an independent, campaigning body. But it was agreed that the Society should give such a body full support. So over the last two years, the YDS has offered its support to the Park Authority who seconded two members of staff to set up an appropriate body, which has developed into the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, a new charity with the Prince of Wales as its Patron, which, as most YDS members will be aware, has secured a massive £4 million grant from the Millennium Commission.

Lottery money for the Dales? There may be members of the Yorkshire Dales Society who feel that National Parks should be funded from taxes not the "funny money" of National Lottery. But we have to accept the world as it is. No one imagines the present or a future Chancellor of the Exchequer being anything but rigorously tough on public sector expenditure, restricting the Park Authority's work. The Lottery will continue as a new way of raising substantial revenue for good causes. But unlocking this money depends on raising matching funds from us, the people who live in, visit and care for the Yorkshire Dales. And funds can be attracted to the Trust by other bodies to fund conservation work. Could there be a better cause in the Yorkshire Dales?

Will the Trust be in good hands and will the money be spent wisely and well? Suffice it to say that no less than four founder members of the Yorkshire Dales Society have agreed to serve as Trustees - Jerry Pearlman (a member of Council), Roger Stott, David Joy and myself. Richard Witt's article on pages 5 and 6 explains the work of the Trust more fully, and YDS members will be invited to donate, and perhaps covenant (to secure further tax income) to the Millennium Trust. Please think seriously about how you might help.

Colin Speakman

"How could they allow it?"

Julie Bradwell, YDS member and solicitor of Bradwell & Co Leeds looks at the planning system and how ordinary citizens and voluntary groups can help prevent environmentally damaging development in the countryside.

To observe a council planning meeting can be a truly horrifying experience!

Opencast coal mines, quarries, the destruction of woodlands and rare bird habitat. Nods of approval for each in rapid succession.

The excuse, they say, is the pressure to consider planning applications quickly. The result can be lack of proper attention to detail by officers and councillors, whom they advise, prior to the meeting. The community and wildlife then suffer grave environmental damage from development, by decision making reached at senseless speed, because of only cursory prior investigation into various matters of concern.

The following is a non exhaustive list to try to prevent environmental destruction - and some developers' tricks to avoid.

Before the Planning Application is Submitted

Do not take trees around you for granted. Contact the local tree preservation officer and lobby for a **Tree Preservation Order (TPO)** if they are currently unprotected. Persist if ignored and write to your councillor or MP. If a large building, possibly an old house or hospital possesses attractive woodland, this is particularly urgent as on a change of ownership, a developer may be waiting to demolish buildings and fell unprotected trees if planning permission is given. Look for likely development sites and try to protect the trees before it is too late. Approval may still be granted despite TPOs, but it may be relevant if seeking to challenge the decision. Especially valuable is a woodland tree preservation order.

During Planning Application Consultation Stage

We suffer a development led planning system so applications are generally passed. Quick action and hard work is required to protect land from development.

1. Keep a watching brief on planning applications advertised in the local paper. A very short time period exists in which to object in writing. Not all applications damaging their environment are advertised so it is important to

read site notices of applications.

2. Check the planning designation of the land affected. This is contained in the adopted or proposed Development Plan or Local Plan which sets out permitted changes. Do not feel bound by those documents if changes have made it out of date for future years.

3. Obtain a copy of the developer's plan and check for errors. I have known applicant's planning consultants miss out even large mature trees from plans. This may result in councillors approving development from ignorance of the real environmental impact of the application. I have also known tree preservation officers who have visited sites or planning officers fail to point out errors. Are there hedgerows or dry stone walls? Does the application include siting approval? Are there any practical objection points you can make based on common sense? Can the site reasonably accommodate the development?

4. Lobby Councillors well before the planning meeting. Familiarise yourself with their names and lobby hard. Councillors are elected to serve and it is irrelevant to their obligations that the development may not be in their ward. Their home address and telephone numbers are available and you are entitled to contact them. Make your comments briefly and to the point. A common tactic of developers is to submit an initial larger bogus planning application with the intention that it will be withdrawn and replaced by a smaller application which was their original intention. This can fool some councillors into believing that the applicant has listened to environmental concerns and is being reasonable.

5. It is essential to visit the site with the Planning Committee. Do not rely on the council officers or tree preservation officers to pass on discrepancies you have noted. You must submit objections in writing, but not all information is passed on to the councillors who make the decision. Councillors, unless they specifically request so, do not normally see your comments and rely largely on the officer's report summary to the committee and recommendation in deciding whether to approve or refuse development. Lobby councillors to request a site visit in good time. This can give a realistic picture which may be different from the impression provided by a planning officer orally and in writing to councillors when recommending approval. You cannot force councillors to attend even if the matter is adjourned for a site visit. If there is a committee site visit, be

prepared for the applicant's representative to attend to present the evidence as far as possible in a way which suits them. Some planning officers have even barred objectors from attending a site visit, although developers were present, so only one side is heard by the councillors, who are the decision makers.

6. Consider applying to the court for a declaration that a site hedge or dry stone wall is protected under any historic local Enclosure award.

7. Organise mass letter writing to object to the Application. Some planning departments try to count standard letters of objection as not being a letter of objection at all. This is incorrect. If you hand in bundles of objection letters, keep a record of how many you have submitted as the figure in the report may downplay the true level of public concern. This may become important later. Remember certain matters are not relevant on planning grounds for consideration.

8. Attend the Planning Committee meeting. Take notes of comments made and obtain a copy of the committee list. This may be needed later.

After Refusal

This may not be the end of your hard work. Applicants have a right of appeal to an Inspector who may grant approval.

After Approval is Granted

Consider applying to the High Court to quash planning permission. This is now common. The scope of who can do this has widened recently and so too have grounds for the courts to overturn the decision to approve. Legal Aid may be available, possibly to a pensioner or unemployed person, so cost may not make this prohibitively expensive. Local campaign groups can limit liability for legal costs, if unsuccessful in court, by forming a limited company. Any application, known as a judicial review, must be commenced within three months of the date of outline approval. If you are considering mounting an action, get legal advice immediately, any delay in issuing proceedings even if within three months, may prejudice the case.

Remember an approved Development is not a defence to causing a nuisance by noise, or air pollution etc.

Compensation may be available to those who are affected and injunctions to restrict certain activities may be possible.

Above all, do not leave trying to safeguard the environment until the bulldozers arrive.

Julie Bradwell

Below: *Rain Clouds over Raydale, photographed from Stalling Busk by Ivan R. Heath.*



Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust

Many Yorkshire Dales Society members will be aware of the existence of the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust from a number of recent articles in the local press and, of course, in your own magazine.

I am delighted to have this opportunity of bringing you up to date with the development of the Trust and in particular with the Dales EnviroNet project. This £8 million scheme was successful in being offered a grant of £4 million by the Millennium Commission just before Christmas.

The Dales EnviroNet project is split into twelve categories, each with a four year target to achieve. The project categories and targets are summarised below:

- Planting 80 ha of new native woodland
- Regenerating 120 ha of existing broadleaved woodland
- Restoring 28 km of prominent drystone walls
- Renovating 32 traditional field barns
- Restoring 40 river crossings (lost bridges and stepping stones)
- Creating or enhancing over 40 wildlife conservation areas, including otter holts
- Enhancing 26 visitor sites or landscape schemes
- Improving 25 km of paths
- Upgrading 30 village halls and building new facilities
- Improving 39 village environments
- Restoring over 235 local historical features and 10 nationally important features
- Providing extra facilities at 3 environmental education centres
- Undergrounding electricity and telephone wires in around 30 villages

If members know of landowners who might have projects fitting into the above categories, please contact the Trust's offices. We will send you a "Simple Guide", which the landowner will need to complete as the first stage of the application process. Although we now have a short list of projects for the first 12 months, for most categories, we are still very keen to hear about any landowner or farmer who would be interested in the woodland schemes, as these sites are the most difficult to find. Any help from Yorkshire Dales Society members would be greatly appreciated.

In order to ensure that these schemes are carried out professionally and that we meet the targets, the Trust is now busy getting itself established. We are in the process of setting up our new offices at

Clapham and recruiting a team of Project Officers and Finance and Administration staff needed to



run the project. In addition, the Trust has already appointed three staff. Richard Witt has been seconded from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority to act as the director, Fiona Chalmers, from the National Park's area management service to act as the Project Manager and Ann Shadrake, the consultant who assisted Richard Witt with the application to the Millennium Commission, has been appointed as the Fundraising, Marketing and Promotions Officer.

Part of Ann's job includes raising £4 million to match the Millennium Commission's grant. Fortunately much of this has already been pledged by our key partners. These include the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, English Nature, the Forestry Authority, District and County Councils, The Yorkshire Rural Community Council, the National Trust and the Field Studies Council.

However, we still have to raise around £100,000 a year to pay for the Trust's running costs, including the cost of implementing projects. We have launched a public appeal which has already raised around £2,000, but there is still a long way to go! We hope that Society members may consider making a donation to the Trust to assist our work. There are tax efficient ways of making donations which enable us to increase the value of a gift by reclaiming the tax. For example, you could covenant a regular donation over the four year lifetime of the project, or consider using "Gift Aid" for donations over £250.

We have enclosed a leaflet with the newsletter giving information about the appeal. As a thank you, we will plant a tree in one of the Millennium Woods for every £5 donated, and enter the names in our Millennium Register and send you a special certificate.

We are also launching a Corporate Appeal in the summer to try to persuade Yorkshire companies to support the Dales EnviroNet project. In fact we have already received some corporate donations, including commitments from McCain Foods (£500 each year for 4 years), Shepherd Building Group (£2,000) and the Halifax Building Society (£1,000).

As you will see from our appeal leaflet, we are honoured to have His Royal Highness The Prince

of Wales as our Patron to support our appeal. We hope we may get the opportunity of showing His Royal Highness some of our projects on his future visits to the Dales.

The Trust is very grateful for the support already given by the Yorkshire Dales Society as one of the original supporters of our Millennium Bid. We are very aware that the Society has been campaigning to improve the landscape and environment of the Dales for a considerable time, and we see the potential relationship between the two charities as being one of symbiosis. This relationship is assisted by the fact that the Trust is very fortunate to have Colin Speakman as a Trustee. Colin has also agreed to consider becoming the Chairman of the Project Sub Committee. This important group assesses the project applications to ensure they meet the selection requirements of the Trust and the Millennium Commission.

We would like to see our relationship with the Society as reciprocal. For example, there may be opportunities to assist the Society to meet its objectives. We may be able to provide funding for projects identified by members or use our database to help the Society to recruit new members. Although the Trust will be recruiting corporate donors, we will not be running a membership scheme for individuals, as we would not wish to duplicate or affect the Yorkshire Dales Society's own membership scheme.

If members would like further information about the work of the Trust, please do feel free to contact us at our Clapham offices on 015242 51002.

Richard Witt (Director,
Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust)

Let the Bus and Train take the strain

YDS puts on the pressure for more sustainable transport

The Yorkshire Dales National Park, being an authority in transition before becoming a new body independent of North Yorkshire County Council, have not yet finalised arrangements for supporting bus services this year in time for inclusion in the Dalesbus publicity which needs to be available by Easter. But following pressure from the Yorkshire Dales Society's Public Transport Users Group, they are hoping to improve service 807 Ribblesdale - Hawes - Swaledale, on account of the unsatisfactory arrangements in 1996 and also to sponsor additional buses in Wharfedale on Summer Sundays. I hope to report on these in the Summer Review.

Starting at Easter The Leeds- Settle-Carlisle and Morecambe train services will be similar to 1996 with the Carlisle Sunday trains and the Summer Sunday Leeds-Morecambe service of four trains each way starting at Easter, along with the additional Saturday 09 47 Leeds- Carlisle and 15 19 return. The Lancashire Dalesrail train Blackpool-Carlisle will run on Easter Sunday, May Day Sunday and all Sundays from Spring Bank to 19th October.

The long established Leeds-Hawes-Ingleton Sunday Dalesbus, renumbered from 800 to 801 this year will run on Easter Sunday/Monday, May Day Sunday/Monday and from then on all Sundays and Bank Holidays from Spring Bank to the end of October. The return bus will reach Ingleton at 16 15 instead of 15 30, allowing a longer stay and Hawes at 17 15 after a 20 minute break.

Also running on Easter Sunday and Monday is Harrogate & District X97 Leeds - Reeth - Richmond, now in its fifth season and doing well whilst the extension of service 24 Harrogate - Pateley Bridge to Grassington, new in 1996, will start on May Day Sunday. Both services will then run on May Day Sunday/Monday, Spring Bank Sunday/Monday then on Sundays and Bank Holidays until the end of September.

Enterprising Keighley & District

Keighley & District Service 804, Leeds - Malham - Settle- Hawes - Sedbergh, introduced successfully in 1996 which will run again on Sundays from Spring Bank to the end of September, in addition, as Pennine have now withdrawn their Saturday Malham service and in the likely absence of any National Park or NYCC supported service in the dale, the 804 will run on Saturdays also for a similar period. Congratulations to Keighley & District for stepping in to provide a service in a dale notorious for traffic congestion at summer weekends. The 804 will run to Sedbergh on Saturdays but on Sundays will be diverted to Keld. The loss of Harrogate & District 803, Leeds - Swaledale - Hawes removes a convenient return evening service from Swaledale but hopefully, the 807 may partly compensate. Finally, Harrogate council are still contemplating a service to Washburndale, Upper Nidderdale and Fountains Abbey, North Yorkshire County Council having indicated they do not wish to be involved this year.

Alan Sutcliffe

"A Marvellous Freedom from the Tumult of the World"

The words of St Ailred of Rievaulx Abbey are as moving today as they were in 1143. Little has changed, those vistas of sky and sweeps of purple moors which so stir the soul in late summer, the rugged coast and tiny fishing villages, the gentle dales, are the very essence of today's North York Moors National Park.

It was to keep an eye on the changes and developments in the North York Moors National Park and the North Yorkshire and Cleveland Heritage Coast, that the North Yorkshire Moors Association was founded in 1985. The striking central moorland landscape and the distinct Tabular Hill formation is a unique feature of the National Park that has been incorporated in the Association's logo.

The Association's aims are simple: "to protect and enhance the characteristic beauty of the North Yorkshire Moors for present and future generations." Through the work of its dedicated volunteers, the Association has raised an effective voice about important matters such as the proposed east coast motorway, power lines and quarrying. It has helped to foster good relations between farmers and the National Park Authority and sponsored repair work to ancient moorland trods.

As part of its charity status, which it received in 1986, the Association has an extensive education programme, organising talks and guided walks to help members and visitors enjoy and appreciate the moors and coast. And for those wanting to get their hands dirty, there are two archaeological projects where members can help in the restoration of a Bronze Age cemetery or carry out a survey of the grounds around a medieval castle.

The Association's quarterly magazine, "Voice of the Moors", is sent free to members and is a blend of factual articles on issues to do with the moors as well as more light-hearted, and sometimes even controversial pieces.

To extend its reach the Association joined the information super-highway last August with its own internet web site. The site has produced a steady flow of interest and has generated a number of enquiries. Web information explains the Association's aims, and includes graphics showing how to join, an events guide, details on the archaeological projects, as well as a 'shop window' where goods can be purchased.

The Association launched its first biennial Conservation Award Scheme in 1995. Local landowners, schools, organisations and businesses are eligible to take part. Projects or initiatives which can be seen to support, promote and enhance the park's

conservation objectives can be entered. Certificates, as well as cash prizes provided by the National Park Authority were awarded in 1996 to Peter and Jenney Woods of Danby, who took First Prize for the management of their 8 hectare small holding to benefit wildlife and enhance the local landscape. A Runners-Up prize went to the Goathland Exhibition Centre for the successful restoration and conversion of a traditional farm building to house displays for the public interpreting local activities, past and present, around Goathland.

The Association's Council meets quarterly and has representation from a wide cross section of interests including the farming community with three members of Council having their own farms, and conservation and small business interests are also well supported. Although the Association enjoys a good relationship with the Moors Park Authority, it is not beyond its remit to challenge the Park on points of difference, and it has done so on a number of occasions.

Chief among the Association's current problems are plans to expand the Boulby potash mine and the controversial application to extend the limestone quarry at Spaunton. Last year the Association challenged Northern Electric on their proposal to upgrade the unsightly power line that crosses the moors from Pickering to Whitby; an action which saw the Association demonstrating the cost effectiveness of local power generation using low cost CHP technology.

High on the Association's agenda is the mounting concern over traffic growth. Vehicle numbers have increased at an alarming rate over the last 10 years and are now predicted to reach saturation point in parts of the Park in the next 5 years. Through the Park Authority, the Association is seeking further integration of the very popular MoorsBus service, the North Yorkshire Moors Steam Railway and the Regional Railway's Esk Valley Line which runs between Middlesbrough and Whitby.

Although the North York Moors Association has its own special identity, we have common aims with the Yorkshire Dales Society through our shared Yorkshire heritage. Why not join us now and help us to protect a very special part of our county for present and future generations.

Kendrick Hutchinson (Publications Officer)



Joshua Jackson and the Tradition of the Yorkshire Fiddler

Joshua Jackson was born in the 18th century into a family of North Yorkshire corn millers and farmers who lived and worked around the Ripon, Masham, and Fewston area for centuries. He was christened in 1763 in Burton Leonard and buried there in 1839. Very little is known about him apart from him being the compiler of a remarkable manuscript containing a collection of more than 500 handwritten tunes, dance notations and songs in a 150 page leather bound book. Family tradition suggests that he was a fiddle player who played in some of the large houses in the neighbourhood. He may also have played in musical societies and in local hostleries like another fiddler, Blind Jack Metcalfe of Knaresborough.

In Joshua Jackson's time music and dancing were favourite pastimes, with informal and formal dances and suppers in houses and inns gradually supplanting the popularity of the Assembly Rooms. These events were enjoyed by both the landed gentry, their servants and tenants. A landowner would frequently provide his tenants with a supper and ball on the occasions when the rent were paid. A fiddler from among the servants would sometimes be called upon to play for a hastily arranged dance in the house and similarly some of the servants were also asked to complete a set in the dance.

Typical concert programmes at venues in Leeds, such as the Music Halls, Assembly Rooms and the Rose & Crown contained classical pieces from Corelli, Vivaldi and Handel, popular songs, favourite catches and glees with copies of the words handed out to the audience; frequently there was some form of theatrical and light entertainment in between parts of the concert, even a performance from a violinist on a tightrope! Invariably there was a ball to round off the evening.

English country dances, Scottish reels, Irish jigs, minuets, allemands, incidental music for the theatre and excerpts of classical music, are all included in the Jackson manuscript, giving an indication of the kind of occasions at which his musical skills would have been in demand. The titles of some of the tunes give an insight into preoccupations of the times - air balloons (Lunardies trip in the Air Ballon), wars with France (Down with the French, Battle of the Nile) for example. In fact the date at the beginning of the manuscript, 1798, is the date of Nelson's victory in Egypt over Napoleon's forces.

The great improvement in roads in Joshua Jackson's time led to easier and faster travel. A good road

surface enabled horses pulling coaches and carts to trot where they had previously walked. It has even been suggested that the new hornpipe rhythm popular for step dancing amongst 'travellers' was born from what had become the familiar rhythm of the trotting horse. Journeys of 12 to 15 miles to play for an evening dance would not have presented a problem to a miller who would have had access to cheap corn for his horse. Travel by stage coach was also relatively easy and fast. This improvement in road transport would have made it easy for the rich landowners in the region to commute to their town houses in Edinburgh and London with their entourage. This in turn would have resulted in music and dances from Scotland and other parts of the country becoming popular in Yorkshire.

Some of Jackson's tunes may be of local origin or like Boroughbridge Rant and Trip to Castle Howard, have Yorkshire connections. Most are local variants of tunes which were popular throughout England and Southern Scotland. There is an overlap for example with tunes in the manuscripts of the Northamptonshire poet and fiddler, John Clare, compiled in the 1830s and 40s, by Lawrence Leadley from nearby Helperby. By Leadley's time country dances had almost disappeared with the growing popularity of new dances from Europe such as quadrilles, the waltz and polka. Some of the older dance tunes have survived in regional folk traditions including those of Yorkshire. Many others have been forgotten, but are well worth reviving with their rich variety of melody, rhythm and moods, ranging from the boisterous and brisk to the elegant, haunting and



The illustration of Stanley Mill is a drawing by Rosalind Shepherd from her photograph of one of the Jackson family mills, south of Ripon

wistful. Contemporary eighteenth century writings on musical performance and interpretation, together with a familiarity with surviving folk traditions, provide musicians with a starting point for a lively and convincing performance of Joshua Jackson's music today.

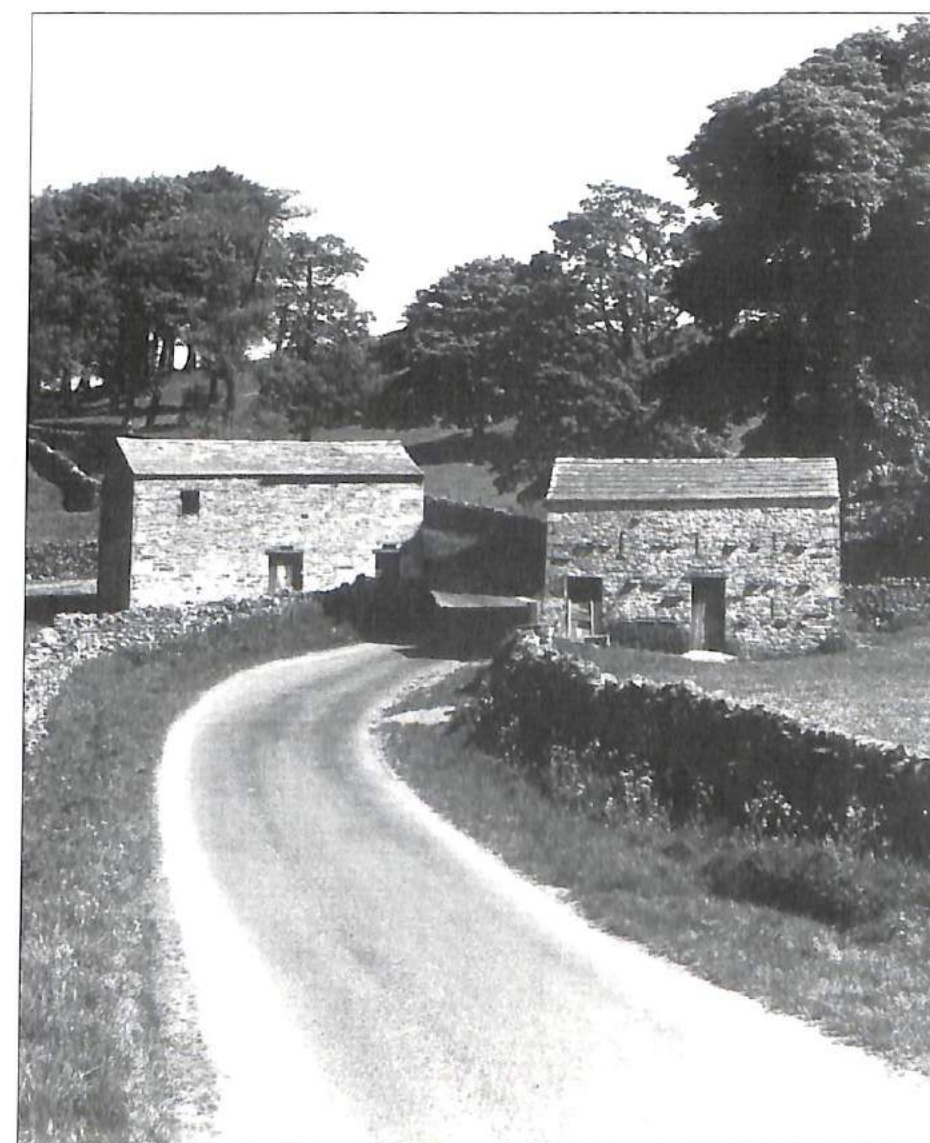
Two local musicians, Geoff Bowen and Robin Shepherd, with the help of Rosalind Shepherd and Liz Bowen, have spent the past few months researching the music and dances of Joshua Jackson as well as tracing the Jackson family tree. They will shortly be publishing a selection of some of the tunes and songs from the Jackson manuscript. Robin, Geoff and Liz, together with Gordon Tyrrall, comprise Yorkshire folk group Magnetic North and have a particular interest in Yorkshire music and dance. As part of the Joshua Jackson project, they will be playing a series of concerts, often with a chance to take part in a dance or two at the end of the concert. Their CD of Joshua's music, "The Miller's Jig" will be available in April from Yorkshire Dales Workshops in Folk Arts. (They gratefully make their acknowledgements to Gordon Jackson, the current owner of Joshua's book.)

Liz Bowen

The Miller's Jig and other Songs and Dances

The Yorkshire Dales Society are once again offering members from further afield a chance to enjoy a spring weekend in the Dales. This year it is centred on **Kettlewell** with the chance to explore Upper Wharfedale and maybe the opportunity to see at first hand our symbol, the bird's eye primrose, *primula farinosa*, a pretty purple pink flower with a yellow eye. Enjoy a pleasant walk of a few miles around Kettlewell on the morning of Saturday 10th May. Then meet us at the **Presentation of the Prizes for our Photography Competition** at 2.15pm and get to know your Council of Management at the **AGM** which follows straight on; a tea interval should make this more of a social occasion with the chance to look at our photographic display. A highlight of the afternoon, a lecture on **Medieval Villages in the Dales** from the well-known Dales author and landscape historian, **Dr Richard Muir**. All in all we should have a very stimulating afternoon.

Make the most of your stay with a delightful evening listening to some genuine Dales music from the Joshua Jackson manuscript with **Magnetic North** (see article on pages 8 and 9) and musicians Robin Shepherd (fiddle and melodeon), Gordon Tyrrall (flute, piccolo and whistle) and Geoff Bowen (fiddle) at our Dales Night. Refresh yourselves at a splendidly ample and mouth watering buffet with bar available, and then dance the rest of the evening away with Magnetic North or simply sit and watch more energetic members and friends if you prefer. Do remember you do not have to be YDS members to enjoy the walks and the evening social event. Please contact Fleur Speakman on 01943 607868 if you would like to donate prizes for our raffle at the Dales Night.



Left: Barns near Askrigg, photo. by Christine Whitehead

National Parks for Life – an Agenda for Action

(available from Council for National Parks, 246 Lavender Hill, London, SW11 1LJ price £22 post free; 25% special discount for YDS members - ie £16.50 - quote your YDS membership number when ordering)

This major new report from the Council for National Parks is the culmination of more than eighteen months' intensive work by Vicky Elcoate, Director of Projects for CNP. In some ways it is one of the most forward thinking and far reaching reports to be produced by the Council in its distinguished history.

Its starting point is the 1995 Environment Act and the challenges facing the new National Park Authorities. It examines National Park purposes - "pinnacles of environmental achievement, not islands of sustainability" - and suggests that there are seven major threats to their future:

- * demand for energy (producing climate change and acidification)
- * intensification and diversification of agriculture
- * increasing demand for aggregates;
- * road transport;
- * development, including associated activities like changes in recreational activity
- * degradation of water quality
- * demand for water

Each and every one of these, in differing degrees, can be demonstrated in the Yorkshire Dales. What the report does is examine these issues in depth, looking also at the vital question of the local community and local economic well-being, for, as the report points out, the environmental quality of National Parks is primarily dependent upon the local people who maintain and protect the

landscape, the wildlife habitats and the built environment. Resolution of the many problems facing our Parks will depend on many different organisations, bodies and individuals, including voluntary National Park Societies such as the Yorkshire Dales Society, who can influence the future both by campaigning and by their own good practice. This report, superbly researched, written and illustrated, is essential reading for anyone concerned about the future of National Parks in Britain.

Not Ours but Ours to Look After

(available from CNP, address as above, £13; also special 25% discount for YDS members)

This CNP document covers some of the same themes as the Agenda for Action, but is aimed at a slightly different audience - especially at companies and national agencies who for whatever reasons are active in National Parks and who should also be actively concerned and involved about the direct and indirect impact of their commercial activities and corporate policies on the environment of the National Park. There's lots of examples of good practice, case studies of how businesses, large and small, including tourism businesses, can make a positive contribution to the natural and cultural environment upon which their commercial activity and their long term future ultimately depends. CS

Yorkshire Dales Society Photography Competition

Calling All Photographers!

Last date for arrival of your YDS Photography Competition entries - Wednesday 30th April. Please send them marked "YDS Photography Competition" to Grace Cairns, 18 Pen-y-Ghent Way, Barnoldswick, Colne, Lancs, BB8 5PY.

Please check the Winter issue no 5, page 13, of the Yorkshire Dales Review for all the entry details. The winning photographs and other entries will be displayed at the Yorkshire Dales Society AGM on Saturday May 10th when the presentation will be made to the Prize winners.



Photo: *The Photographer's Art* by John Eaucett

Howgill Lodge Wins Award

Congratulations to Bernard and Ann Foster of Howgill Lodge, Barden, near Bolton Abbey whose Caravan and Camping Park recently achieved a thoroughly deserved silver medal in the "David Bellamy Conservation Awards". The award was partly on the strength of some detailed questionnaires sent in by visitors on Howgill Lodge's concern for the environment, partly on what Howgill Lodge itself reported on its own environmental policies and partly on an independent assessment by an environmental organisation: the Yorkshire Dales Society. Secretaries Colin and Fleur Speakman visited the site last autumn on behalf of the Yorkshire Dales Society, in order to determine whether they could recommend the Howgill Lodge Caravan and Camping Park for such an award.

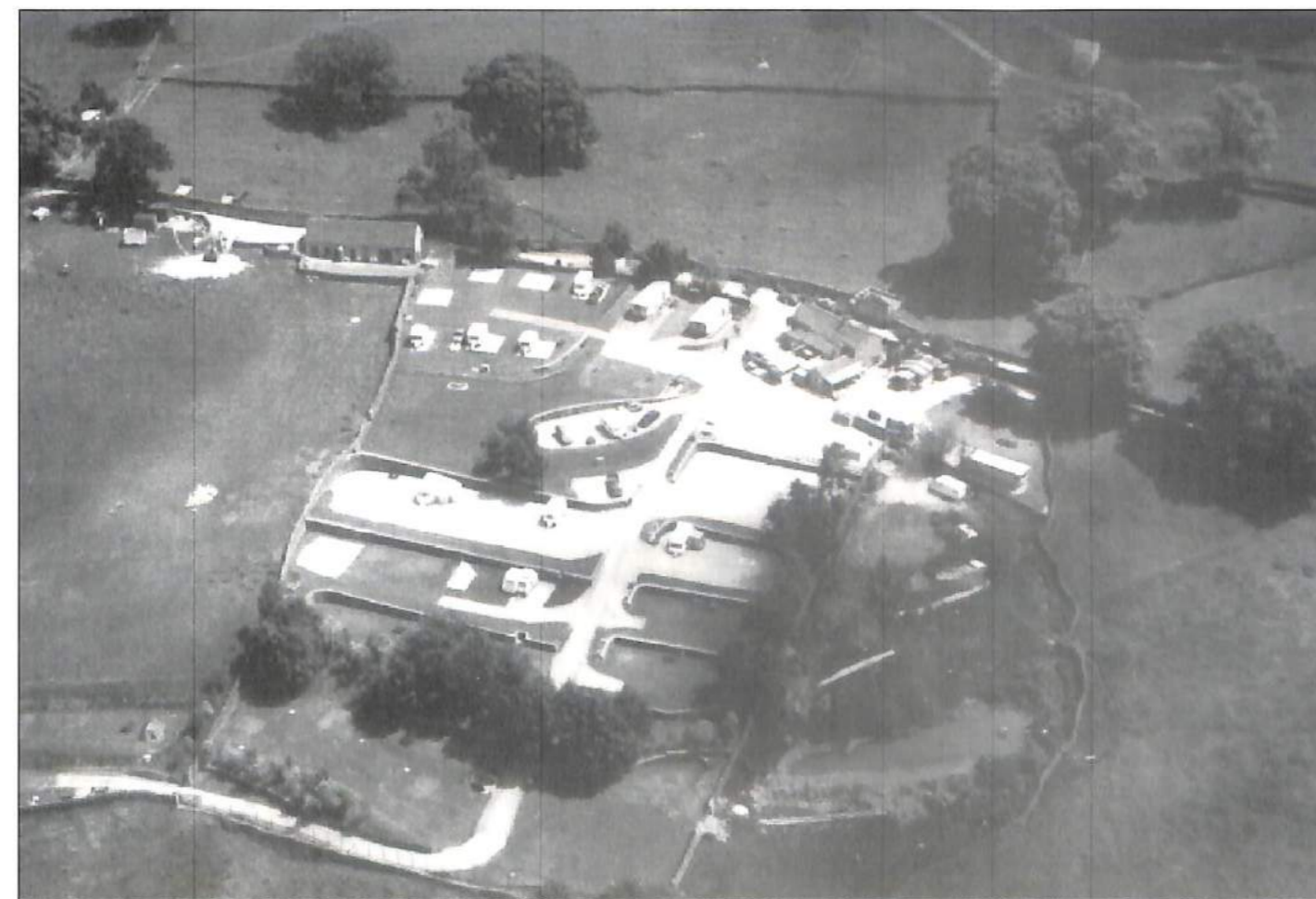
After spending some considerable time at the site, they wrote their report, being much impressed with the landscaping of the site, such attention to detail as low level lighting, and the way even more utilitarian buildings had been made into extremely attractive features. The site includes a small shop and cottage restaurant, a pond with wild life and for those who prefer not to camp, some charming bed and breakfast accommodation, carefully



converted from a former barn, with stunning views.

The Yorkshire Dales Society was proud to be asked for their assistance in this country-wide scheme. 96 awards in all were presented by Professor David Bellamy who described them as "the Green Olympics" for parks and hoped that in future the "David Bellamy Conservation Awards" will guide park holidaymakers to centres of environmental excellence throughout the UK.

Fleur Speakman



Book Reviews

GHOST-HUNTING IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES by **W. R. Mitchell**, published by Castleberg at £5.99, and available from local bookshops. ISBN 1 871064 84 8.

It is not surprising that in the long history of the Yorkshire Dales many so-called ghost stories or tales of the supernatural have taken firm root, and have provided us with some chilling and often highly evocative tales. Bill Mitchell's book takes us on a tour of many of the best known dales and retells many of these favourite stories with several newer ones and additional anecdotes. This entertainingly-written guide gives brief instructions how to get to these different venues and the opportunity or excuse for a dales excursion to find a particular haunted church, hamlet or cave and discover yet another aspect of our "enchanted" dales. *FS*

Illustration from "Ghost-Hunting in the Yorkshire Dales".



Please don't blame us ...

Although we spent a good deal of time and energy on checking all our paperwork with our bank in connection with direct debits, we have to report that a number of **your** own banks, though given all necessary information well ahead of time, have still failed to act on it and have persisted in paying your banker's order at the old rate. As soon as we receive details on our statement that the direct debit has also been paid, we will refund you any overpayment. This of course costs the Yorkshire Dales Society much time and expense and we are very sorry that our members suffer in this way. We do try to do our best.

Our second problem is that some members are still underpaying their subscription at the old rate when they have decided to keep their banker's order. Please check that you are paying the correct amount and arrange with your bank to make the necessary alterations. Again we have had to send out quite a stack of letters indicating that this is so.

In our last issue **WOOD ENGRAVINGS** by **Marie Hartley**, published by **Smith Settle** at **£7.95**, we felt that Marie Hartley's lovely wood engravings spoke for themselves and hardly needed a review. Their quality and style are a continual delight and source of pleasure and our space was at a premium.

We have since received a very charming letter from our two Honorary members, Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby, who say how much they enjoy the YDS Review, its layout and contents. Sadly Joan Ingilby at 85 is increasingly suffering from failing eye-sight, but finds the talking books an excellent compensation. We reproduce part of their letter as follows:

"... In the 1930s, as you know, Marie illustrated the three dale books written in partnership with Ella Pontefract with wood engravings. They were never very much commented on. Then Ken Smith of Smith Settle discovered and promoted them. Now Marie wears another hat from being an author. She is a member of the Society of Wood-engravers, and has had very favourable comments made in their Newsletter "Multiples". During the autumn and for Christmas 1995 she exhibited at a gallery in Cambridge, together with one or two other wood-engravers, one being Gwen Raverat who to our mind here is the most famous of all wood-engravers. Very many of Marie's engravings were sold, an astonishing number. Now she greatly regrets not having had time to continue with wood-engraving for which she obviously had special aptitude. Looking at them now, she realises how accomplished they were, and could not start again without plenty of time and a lot of practice."

Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby

Finally, if you are still renewing your subscription annually at the old rate and still haven't realised that **we changed our rates on January 1st 1997** or you have joined us recently using the old buff coloured membership form with the old rates, we reprint our new rates which started this year.

Membership Rates from January 1st 1997:

Single Adult £11, Family/Couple £15, Single Retired £9, Retired Couple £12, Student/Unwaged £6. Please send your cheques made out to the Yorkshire Dales Society to: The Yorkshire Dales Society, Civic Centre, Cross Green, Otley, West Yorkshire. LS21 1HD.

(USE DIRECT DEBIT AND SAVE MONEY, £1 OFF NEW RATE NOW). You may still keep your Banker's Order sub, if you prefer - but please adjust the rate. Ordinary renewals now have tear-off slip to return to YDS office. *FS*.

Daleswatch Report

Current issues and topics of interest within the National Park from Jim Burton, Daleswatch Chairman.

1. THE PENNINE BRIDLEWAY

The Bridleway has been in the news since the Countryside Commission's somewhat premature announcement of its impending birth in a policy statement published in 1988. A feasibility study followed and this resulted in publication of a tentative route some two years later. By 1994 it was announced that the Commission had completed all necessary processes for determination and the Minister was minded to designate it as a National Trail. At this point the embryonic controversy built up a head of steam.

Foreseeably the horse riders were all in favour: whilst many walkers viewed the idea of sharing their excursions with increasing numbers of large animals, who would intrude on their tranquillity and churn up the ground, with some dismay - and were, understandably, more equivocal. Many local inhabitants were distinctly unenthusiastic: others could see an advantage in being close to a significant number of visitors requiring food and accommodation. Meanwhile the National Park was blamed, by those who wanted the Trail, for its lack of enthusiasm and by those who didn't, for promoting it too avidly, whilst the Park Committee itself sought urgent consultations with the Commission. Especial difficulties were noted in a number of places, and the arguments reached a peak around Selside, where problems concerning the road crossing as well as the proposed route were seen as being particularly acute.

Fortunately, and uncomfortably close to the eleventh hour, the representations by the National Park Committee were heeded by the Commission. The implementation process was consequently put on "hold" and it was agreed that alternative routes through the National Park should be investigated. The process has since been greatly assisted by the appointment of Sue Arnott, the Park's former Access and Recreation Officer, as a Project Officer with the difficult task of investigating the whole problem and coming up with an acceptable solution, although it has been complicated by the recent proposal to add a Pennine Cycleway to the routes through the Dales. However, with her close knowledge of the area, Sue has already identified possible alternative routes that may well prove acceptable to all parties. There are still a number of difficult problems to be solved, but it is hoped that the project can now find its way to a satisfactory

solution. We wish Sue and the Park's Area Management team well in their bid to solve this difficult and complex problem.

2. VALE (GOODBYE)

Tuesday, March 25th, County Hall, Northallerton, will see the last meeting of the present National Park Committee. It will be a sad occasion. The Committee has served the National Park and its inhabitants well - much better than it is usually given credit for, since 1974. During that time, and in common with every other body that has some measure of authority over others, it has been the object of criticism. Most has been based on ignorance (how many people living in the Park realize that planning regulations outside its borders are virtually the same as those within?); some has been based on prejudice (including deliberate, untruthful, statements in the letter columns of the press alleging that it carries on much of its work in secret). But a truer test can be made by going into the National Park and repeating the words of the valediction to Christopher Wren in St Paul's Cathedral, *if you seek a monument look about you* - because its legacy lies in the magnificence of the countryside that the Committee has striven to maintain. The incoming Committee of the new Authority has a hard act to follow. Fortunately half of its members will "carry forward" from the old, giving an essential thread of continuity. But the achievements of those who will no longer be serving must not be forgotten. The sound advice and commanding presence of vice-chairman and YDS member Councillor Ralph Atkinson will be missed. His voice has frequently been heard using persuasive and reasoned argument, urging the

Further information about Daleswatch Local Groups can be obtained from the individual convenors as listed below:

LIST OF DALESWATCH LOCAL CONVENORS

Dentdale	Judith Newsham (015396 25486)
Nidderdale	Jean Johnson (01943 880234)
Ribblesdale	Hilary Baker (01729 840609)
Airedale/Malhamdale	John Bell (01535 655418)
Swaledale	Charles Hepworth (01748 886397)
Wensleydale (Upper)	Alan Watkinson (01969 667785)
Wharfedale (Lower)	Peter Young (01943 466858)
Wharfedale (Upper)	Ken Lord (01756 753202)

Committee towards rational thinking on whatever topic happens to have been under discussion at the time. Not to have his counsel will inevitably weaken the level of debate. Whilst the longest serving member of all, Councillor Raven Frankland, also a member of the YDS and a Park Committee member since the day of its formation, will be quite irreplaceable. To hear one of his erudite contributions on, say, archaeology or forestry, is a pleasure in itself, irrespective of the strictly practical content that it always contains.

Nine other members will also be lost, all of whom have contributed much to what has been a Committee of considerable character and combined wisdom. In view of the fact that it is composed mostly of politicians, it is remarkable that party politics have never intruded in its deliberations, and its ethos has been one of serving the people and countryside of the Yorkshire Dales in the truest sense of that word. Much has been said of the advantages of having a committee composed entirely of members living within or closely adjacent to the Park boundaries. But it must not be forgotten that some of the most dedicated members have been those from well outside the Park. And it is vital that that wider interest is not lost by the new Committee. Fortunately it would appear to have been well chosen and there is probably little fear of that happening, but the new members must be aware of the danger. Indeed most of the money for financing the Park comes from outside its borders.

Round and About

May 10-11th, Settle Sheep Shambles Festival (In spite of a clash of dates with our own Kettlewell AGM mini-weekend, some members may like to patronise this event on Sunday May 11th while non members may have a free Saturday afternoon available during our AGM to join the fun). The programme includes a procession with community floats and street players led by a jazz band. Throughout the weekend, there will be a multitude of activities such as laser clay pigeon shooting, sheep dog trials, puppeteer workshop, tea dance, line dancing, stick making demonstration, and much more. For more information, contact Andy and Jean Kelsey (01729 822505).

May 23rd-8th June The 17th Annual Swaledale Festival with events in around Swaledale, Wensleydale, Arkengarthdale and Coverdale, here is a very varied programme to suit all tastes with some international artists, and classical music, folk, brass, jazz, theatre, crafts, exhibitions, walks, talks, film, workshops and children's events. Among the artists and musicians are the Brodsky Quartet, the Brighthouse and Rastrick Band, top Irish fiddler Kevin Burke, the Swale Valley Stompers and the

3. THE HOUSEHOLD PROJECTIONS

The recent Government Green Paper on household projections might seem remote from the Yorkshire Dales, but its ramifications could affect us directly in the longer term.

The projections represent a forecast of the number of houses that is expected to be needed in Britain in 20 years time. They are based on a survey of the population forecasts using 1991 census figures and on the way households are formed. Unfortunately (at least for the purposes of the survey) we are living longer, marrying later and divorcing more often, whilst more of us are living singly and our age distribution is becoming skewed. The result is a startling expectation that there will be some 4.4 million more households in 2016 than in 1991. And they will need houses.

The Green Paper acknowledges that the method used to produce projections is ... *essentially mechanical, based on assumptions about social and demographic trends which may or may not materialize* ... but, effectively, uses them nevertheless.

Housing projections are fed into the planning system via Regional Planning Guidance documents and each authority (including North Yorkshire) will be expected to take its "quota". So even protected areas like National Parks will not necessarily be immune, although they should receive "less worse" treatment than most. We await developments (perhaps literally) with some unease.

Jim Burton

well-known British writer Alan Sillitoe (author of Saturday Night and Sunday Morning and The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner). Further information from Festival Officer, Thornborough Hall, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 5AB. Tel and fax 01969 622217.

June 13th -28th Grassington Festival, once again an ambitious programme with a strong international flavour. It features a fortnight of blues music, barbershop harmony, lectures, classical music, flamenco dancing, bands, a folk night and Gilbert and Sullivan's Mikado. All events take place in Grassington Town Hall at 8pm unless otherwise specified. Special events feature Tony Benn MP in a show with folksinger Roy Bailey, a lecture by Lucinda Lambton on "Curious Houses", Marisa Robles, the celebrated harpist in a talk on her life, the New Fitzwilliam String Quartet, an Opera North Quartet, a Dutch Brass Quintet and a young finalist from the Leeds International Piano Competition plus a violinist, the BBC Young Musician of the Year 1996.

For further information contact Wendy Birdsall, Festival Tickets, Grassington, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 5LU.

Tel: 01756 753093. Fax 01756 753370.

Spring Events

Enjoy the Dales in Springtime with our series of walks and visits. Lectures start at 2.15pm unless otherwise indicated and you are reminded that all dogs should be kept on a lead under control. Lecture admission is £1.50 for members, £2.50 for non-members. Please try to share transport if you need to drive to an event. For events not served by public transport, members without access to a car who would like a lift from the nearest bus stop or railhead should contact the YDS office as soon as possible in advance of the event.

SUNDAY APRIL 20TH 1997 - JOINT EVENT WITH NORTH YORK MOORS ASSOCIATION - FARM SCHEME AND FARNDALE DAFFODIL WALK.

A splendid opportunity to get into the North York Moors National Park and enjoy the daffodils. No need to drive, sample the highly praised MoorsBus network and let the bus take the strain. We have arranged for a bus at 09.05 from York Railway Station forecourt which will take you direct to Hutton-le-Hole where the MoorsBus can take you onward. A £4 ticket covers all your return travel from York and all MoorsBuses. (Connecting train service from Huddersfield 0723, Leeds 0754 to York a. 0823). If you prefer to drive to Sutton Bank (free car park), a MoorsBus will leave from Sutton Bank at 10.00am for Hutton le-Hole and arrive at 11am. Cost of this alternative, £2 for all day travel. Return from Hutton-le-Hole about 4pm. Please bring a packed lunch.

Below: Farndale Daffodils by Geoffrey Wright



PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE FOR NEXT EVENT

SUNDAY APRIL 27TH - CIRCULAR WALK IN THE JERVAULX ABBEY AREA. An easy low level walk of 7½ miles through pleasant parkland and along quiet lanes and riverside paths. Meet at Jervaulx Abbey car park at 10.30am; grid reference 168 857. Packed lunch. Leader Rod Clough 01274 725092.

SATURDAY MAY 10TH AND SUNDAY MAY 11TH. AGM MINI-WEEKEND IN KETTLEWELL IN WHARFEDALE

SATURDAY MAY 11th. Morning moderate walk of a few miles in Kettlewell area. Packed or pub lunch. Meet in Kettlewell carpark at 10.30am

Presentation to Photography Prizewinners at Kettlewell Village Hall at 2.15am, followed by AGM at 2.30pm prompt. Tea and biscuits in the interval, followed by landscape historian and well-known author **Dr Richard Muir on Medieval Villages in the Dales**. Dales Night and evening of Dales music from 7-11pm from **Magnetic North** who delighted us at Timble at the Robinson Institute a few years ago. A concert style first half, followed by ample buffet supper, dancing, socialising and raffle. Dalesbus 801 serves Kettlewell in time for AGM. Lifts can be arranged for those without cars from Skipton or Grassington if pre-arranged with YDS office.

SUNDAY MAY 11th. Meet car park 10.30 am for another short moderate walk in the Kettlewell area to finish in time for lunch. Please make your own lunch arrangements.

SATURDAY JUNE 21ST - VISIT TO BLACK SHEEP BREWERY MASHAM with a guided tour and optional short walk in the Masham area. Booking essential. Please send £3 per person to the YDS office, cheques payable to the Yorkshire Dales Society by June 2nd. Lunches available in Masham pubs or cafes or packed lunch. Please arrive at the Brewery by 10.45am.

THURSDAY JULY 24TH - EVENING GUIDED TOUR OF ILKLEY. Meet at 7.30pm Manor House Yard (adjacent to Parish Church) for a 1½ hour tour of Victorian Ilkley. (MetroTrain Wharfedale Line 1838 from Leeds, 1827 from Bradford). Booking essential, please send £1 per person to the YDS office, address as above with cheques payable to the YDS.



A Corner of Addingham.

*Front Cover picture: Early Springtime in the Dales;
photo. Colin Speakman*

*Back Cover picture: A Corner of Addingham Village by the late
Bill Pates.*

(It is with great regret that we have learned recently of the death of Bill Pates whose beautiful drawings have given members immense pleasure over the years.)

Published by the Yorkshire Dales Society.

Views expressed in the YDS Review are not necessarily those of the Yorkshire Dales Society.

Printed by John Mason Printers, Park Avenue, Skipton.

*Any contributions should be sent to the Editors,
The Yorkshire Dales Society The Civic Centre, Cross Green,
Otley, West Yorkshire LS21 1HD.
Telephone/Answerphone 01943 461938.*

The Society is a Registered Charity No. 515384.

*Membership subscription - NEW RATES:
Single Adult £11; Family/Couple £15;
Single Retired £9; Retired Couple £12;
Student/Unwaged £6.*

*USE DIRECT DEBIT AND SAVE YOURSELF SOME MONEY -
£1 OFF NEW RATE NOW.*

*You may still keep your Banker's Order subscription if you wish.
Ordinary renewals now have a tear-off slip to be returned to the
YDS office.*