

Yorkshire Dales Review

No.59 Summer 1997



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YORKSHIRE
DALES
SOCIETY

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Yorkshire Dales Review · No. 59 · Summer 1997

Journal of the Yorkshire Dales Society

Editors Colin and Fleur Speakman

Will Mr. Prescott bring back the buses?

What are the implications for the Yorkshire Dales of the change of national Government on May 1st?

There's not likely to be any more money for National Parks. The new Chancellor has made it abundantly clear that any additional resources are going to be as difficult to obtain for local authorities - which includes the new National Park Authorities - as they were under the last administration. Indeed, there could be less money if Government were to choose to prioritise inner city areas with whatever resources are available, rather than what might be perceived to be relatively prosperous rural areas such as National Parks.

Given that the Environment Act which established the new Park Authorities did receive all-Party support, is it likely therefore to be a question of "no change"?

Not exactly. One of the most interesting developments so far is the new "Super Ministry" for the Regions, the Environment and Transport headed by Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott. Already initial indications are that at least in towns and cities, integrated, "holistic" policies of planning, economic development and transport are likely to be revived, rather than ones based on market forces and minimum intervention. In particular public transport, which has suffered unremitting decline in most rural areas since the 1985 "Deregulating" Transport Act, may now be seen to be an instrument of environmental policy rather than a matter for the commercial freedom of operators, with local authorities only able to provide a minimal safety net when operators can no longer make a profit from a particular service.

As our Vice Chairman Jim Burton rightly points out in his Daleswatch article, given current traffic forecasts, developing alternative ways of visiting the Dales other than by car is going to be increasingly imperative in the years ahead. This isn't just true of visitor transport. One of the scandals of the Dales in recent years has been the inability of bus operators and the County Council

to get their act together in Wensleydale, Swaledale, Upper Wharfedale, or Malhamdale where local bus services are down to residual, token levels, sometimes only operating on one or two days a week, only used by a tiny handful of people who have absolutely no other choice of travelling. "Poor law" provision of this nature isn't going to attract a single motorist out of his or her car. On the other hand, if there were networks of well planned, well integrated train and bus services, at fares which were realistic (ie comparable with the marginal cost of driving - fares on some Dales bus routes are a massive deterrent to travel) not only would these services be of real value to local communities, but visitors could and would use them as well, providing important cross-subsidisation which would reduce the cost of provision. This is what is now happening in areas such as the Lake District, Snowdonia and the Peak District, whilst in Dartmoor, Exmoor and the North York Moors, well planned and promoted recreational services are enabling local people as well as visitors to travel at weekends and on new weekday cross-Park services.

In the Yorkshire Dales the situation remains unacceptably poor. The Wharfedale Wanderer bus between Ilkley and Buckden, operating on a few Summer Sundays, is a welcome start, but it is only a small first step. What is needed is a fundamental change of priorities over rural transport provision in the Dales, for local communities and visitors alike, for visitor and traffic management measures to go hand in hand with developing a truly sustainable alternative - walking, cycling and affordable, attractive public transport, encouraging people to stay longer in the Dales and contribute more to the local economy. If Mr Prescott's new Super Ministry helps to achieve that for the Dales, then it will have proved that May 1st really did make a difference.

Colin Speakman

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust – Update



I am delighted to have been offered the chance to update Yorkshire Dales Society members on the Trust's progress over the last few months. We are now fully operational, with nine staff managing the Dales EnviroNet project from our offices in the centre of Clapham. As members will know, the Dales EnviroNet project will provide grants to a wide selection of environmental and community improvements over the next four years. Projects will include planting new broadleaved woodlands, repairing important field barns and drystone walls, creating nature conservation areas, enhancing villages and undergrounding supply cables.

Although the Trust received confirmation of a £4 million grant (50% of the overall costs) from the Millennium Commission just before Christmas, another four months of patient (!) negotiation were needed to confirm all the details. The legal agreement confirming the conditions of the grant was finally signed on 25th April 1997.

As soon as that paperwork was completed, we were able to officially "open for business". We put out an immediate call for projects to encourage local people and groups to apply for grants. We ran public meetings, sent out press releases, gave radio interviews, and even ran a telephone hot-line! We printed and sent out hundreds of copies of the initial application form - known as the Simple Guide. The public meetings, held at Malham, Grassington, Sedbergh, Reeth, Hawes and Clapham were well attended (especially considering May is a very busy time of year for farmers), and gave us a great opportunity to explain the application process at first hand. All this publicity resulted in a huge amount of local interest, with dozens of projects being proposed.

In early June, the project team started work on the first year's projects. Each project must go through a rigorous selection process. Led by Project Manager Fiona Chalmers, the four Project Officers (Juliet Coates, Sue Manson, Dave Sharrod and Jo Wilkes) firstly check all the completed Simple Guides.

Strict selection criteria are used to ensure that all the Millennium Commission's requirements are met. For example, schemes must result in a real enhancement to the Dales landscape or community facilities, be supported by local people and be clearly visible to the public. The other conservation

agencies in YORKSHIRE DALES the Dales, MILLENNIUM TRUST such as the as the National Park Authority, English Nature and the Yorkshire Rural Community Council, play a key role in assessing projects.

The project team have been busy visiting potential projects, and working with staff from the partner agencies to prepare detailed reports showing the benefits and costs of each project. We also use a scoring system, so that only the highest quality projects go forward.

Potential projects are then considered by the eleven trustees via regular Project Sub Committee meetings (this crucial Sub Committee is chaired by Colin Speakman). Only projects which have unanimous support receive approval of grant in principle. Then, before work is authorised, detailed work programmes and contracts must be drawn up. Obviously, the bigger or more complicated the project, the longer it can take to get through the application process.

Applications for first year projects have now closed. The only exception is woodland projects - these can be proposed at any time, because we know how hard it is going to be to persuade landowners to commit land long term to trees, even with grants approaching 100%. And we have already set the general closing date for 1998 projects as the 31st August this year, to give us enough lead-in time.

Nine projects were approved by the Trust in May 1997 including:

- **Beckside Bridge, Cautley:** restoring a lost footbridge over the River Rawthey to enable people to cross the river safely and complete circular walks. The new bridge will be of traditional materials and design. Supported by the parish council.

- **Muker Meadows, Swaledale:** creating a traditional stone flagged path through meadows to the River Swale. Local people and visitors, including those with reduced mobility, will then be able to use this popular route throughout the year, without damaging the meadow (designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest). Proposed by the parish council.

● **Gordale Steps, Malham:** replacing unsightly wooden steps with large limestone boulders pitched to provide a "natural staircase". The new steps will fit in much better with the local environment and spectacular limestone scenery.

● **Dale House Stepping Stones, Chapel-le-Dale:** restoring lost stepping stones across the River Doe, using hand picked local stone to create a traditional crossing in keeping with the local environment. Will prevent unintentional trespass and provide a crossing point for circular walks. Supported by the parish council and local footpath committee.

For this first year, our main problem has been getting projects off the ground, at the same time as setting up the Trust and getting all the administration in place. Fortunately we were able to consider projects originally proposed last year, when the millennium bid was in the early stages. For example, lots of parishes put forward projects to improve local paths and river crossings.

However, we have to meet targets set by the Millennium Commission of the number of projects completed in each category. Overall this will represent about 20% of the total projects planned for the next four years, or around 90 projects in total for completion by next March.

For example, this year, we must grant aid the planting of 16 ha of new native woodland and the conservation of 32 ha of existing broadleaved woods. We plan to grant aid the repair of 6 km of drystone wall, 6 field barns, and around 25 historical features such as lime kilns, milestones and sheepfolds. We also must fund the creation of 3 otter habitat projects, and enhance 8 moors or grasslands with high nature conservation value. Other targets include stabilising riverbanks, restoring village features such as flagged areas and walls, and starting the programme of undergrounding services in villages. Around 7 village halls will also benefit from grant aid towards new heating or disabled access, for example, and the Trust anticipates contributing to the building of the new Cracoe Memorial Hall.

As I mentioned in my last article, we need to raise additional funds - around £100,000 per year - to actually carry out the Dales EnviroNet project. Colin Speakman kindly gave us the opportunity to publicise this appeal in your last newsletter, and we have been overwhelmed by the response from Society members! By the end of May, fifty members had donated a total of over £1600. Several members gave donations of £50, and we received individual contributions of £100, £250 and £500. This is a tremendous response at a time when we know there are many deserving calls on your

support. We will be advising donors of the location of the woodland planting they have supported later in the year.

By way of return, we hope to assist the Society by encouraging additional members. For example, we will be sending out YDS membership leaflets and literature to a selected group of our own supporters in the Yorkshire area. Hopefully this will result in new recruits to the Society.

We have also launched a Corporate Appeal, to encourage local and regional businesses to support our work. There are three levels of membership - Gold Hawthorn (£2,500 per year), Silver Hawthorn (£1,000 per year) and Bronze Hawthorn (£250 per year), each with a range of "benefits". If any members are associated with Yorkshire businesses, or can suggest companies to approach, please contact me at the Trust's offices.

Finally, any members who would like copies of either the Simple Guide (for applying for a grant), the Public Appeal leaflet (for making a personal donation), or the Corporate Appeal brochure, please just ring me on Clapham (015242 51002). Alternatively, I or my staff would be happy to chat to you if you are in the Clapham area and would like to call in.

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PO Box 2000, Clapham, LA2 8GD.
Telephone: 015242 51002. Fax: 015242 51150.
E mail: info@ydmtd.org.
Our website can be viewed at www.ydmtd.org.

Richard Witt (Director,
Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust)



Above: Butter Prints - see Book Reviews

Easy Riders

Since writing in the Spring Review, many developments have taken place with most seasonal services starting at the Spring Bank Holiday weekend.

Dalesbus 801 is joined by its sister services 800, which is running on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays, and also on Tuesdays and Fridays in the Summer school holidays, from Bradford to Hawes via Leeds, affording Bradford a through service to the Dales on all days of operation after a lapse of many years. Keighley & District are again running their service 200 Leeds- Settle - Morecambe on Saturdays until the end of August, giving, along with the 800 and 804 much improved links with the Western Dales. A new round trip is possible on Sundays and Bank Holidays from Leeds to Ribbleshead or Ingleton by Dalesbus 801 via Hawes, returning from Ribbleshead by the 804 via Malham. Also in the Western Dales, Sedbergh is now linked on Sundays by a Cumbria County Council supported service connecting with trains at both Dent and Kirkby Stephen stations.

Following pressure from the Society's Public Transport Users Group, the Yorkshire Dales National Park are supporting an improved Service 807 on Sundays from Garsdale to Hawes (with restoration of the connection with the 801) Keld, Reeth, Castle Bolton, Aysgarth and Askrigg. The Group will be seeking to divert the service to connect with trains at Ribbleshead in 1998, to afford visitors more time in the Northern Dales.

In Wharfedale the National Park are supporting an hourly Sunday service, the *Wharfedale Wanderer*, Keighley & District 805/806 between Ilkley, Grassington and Buckden, with occasional links with Skipton as service 808/809.

Over in the Eastern Dales I am pleased to say that the Group have persuaded Harrogate Council to award the contract for the *Fountains Flyer*, 802, Bradford - Leeds - Otley Pateley Bridge - Fountains Abbey - Ripon to Harrogate & District, along with *Nidderdale Rambler* from Pateley Bridge to How Stean Gorge after its absence in 1996. This is also run by Harrogate & District as service 25, and by agreement with the Council, the Group are providing a courier service on the 802 and 25 on certain dates. I am also pleased to say that Harrogate & District have agreed to divert the X97 over a more attractive route between Leyburn and Reeth via Redmire and Castle Bolton Lane End.

Finally two "near misses"- North Yorkshire County Council recently imposed weight restrictions on Middleham Bridge and a railway bridge near Hellifield, proposing unacceptable diversions which could have led to the loss of the X97 and 804 respectively. However, Harrogate & District and Keighley & District are to be congratulated in the pressure they have put on the Council to agree to re-routings which will have a minimal effect, the only loss being that the X97 is not able to call at Middleham.

Once again details of all services to, from and in the Dales are included in *Dales Connections* which may be obtained at National Park Information Centres, TICs and Travel Offices, or in the case of difficulty, by post from the publishers, Elmtree Press and Distribution, the Elms, Exelby, Bedale, DA18 2HD, enclosing a cheque or stamps to the value of £1. In addition, the Isle of Wight Bus Company, Southern Vectis, have produced a new Guide, *Getting around Rural Yorkshire*, covering the Dales, Moors and other parts of the county. Copies may be obtained for £2 at the Harrogate & District, Keighley & District and Yorkshire Coastliner travel offices; the three companies have generously supported the venture.

So much has been achieved this year, and the Users Group will be pressing for more in future. Meanwhile I urge members and their friends to make use of the services whenever possible and help ensure their success.

Alan J. Sutcliffe

Congratulations

On behalf of the Council of Management of the Yorkshire Dales Society and its members, I would like to offer our warmest congratulations to Colin Speakman, Secretary of the Yorkshire Dales Society, on the occasion of the award of his honorary doctorate from Bradford University. Colin's many services to the environment are widely known. In addition, he has always brought his special brand of enthusiasm to his many books, writings, lectures and public pronouncements. I am thoroughly delighted that his many gifts have now been recognised.

Jerry Pearlman

Photography Competition

Our three judges for the recent Yorkshire Dales Society Photography Competition, John Hobson, David Joy, and Peter Sharpe are all well known photographers, and David and John are also long-time YDS members. The judges spent some time looking at the entries before making their decision which was particularly affected by what was suitable for publication. We had a relatively small number of entries, only 18 and all were colour prints with no black and white representation.

Peter Sharpe was able to be present for the official handing over of the prizes and made some helpful comments on how the various entries might have improved their standard. Often quite simple points like a group facing the camera instead of being photographed from behind would have made a more interesting picture. Peter Sharpe also made the point that a slightly larger format was often more helpful in competitions. Perhaps members may have felt a little constrained by being restricted to YDS events which inevitably limited those who could take part. Incidentally Peter Sharpe decided to stay for our AGM and was so impressed by what he heard that he joined the Yorkshire Dales Society as a result!

First prize in the YDS Photography Competition was awarded to Chris Wright for his photo "Christmas Event : Long Meg" - a splendid moody shot of Long Meg (*shown here*). Second Prize was gained by Sue Wright's "Bancroft Mill" a beautiful clear shot of the mill machinery (*see page 14*)



while Shirley Beer's "Walk in Swaledale" (*see page 9*) was an attractive shot of a YDS walk in July 1996.

We extend our thanks to Grace Cairns for organising the event so ably and for producing an attractive display at the AGM, which added to the interest. We also extend our gratitude to all three photographic judges and especially to Peter Sharpe for officiating at the prizegiving and giving us such clear guidelines.

FS.

Below: "Christmas Event : Long Meg". Photo: Chris Wright.

Yorkshire Dales Society: Statement of Accounts for Year ending 31st March 1997 Income and Expenditure Account



	1997	1996
Subscriptions	11,466	10,865
Donations	1,560	2,315
Bank Interest	770	1,016
Profit on Events	153	423
Retail Sales	576	350
Less Cost of Goods Sold	<u>434</u>	<u>115</u>
Tax Recovered on Covenants	643	347
Legacies	<u>—</u>	<u>1,000</u>
	14,734	16,201
Publicity	140	331
"Review"	4,280	4,350
Postage	2,443	1,974
Stationery	2,483	1,184
Administration	5,076	4,190
Office Rent	580	580
Telephone	222	197
Subscriptions & Donations made	344	172
Office Refurbishment	2,622	—
Depreciation	284	643
Travelling Expenses	117	74
Accountancy	382	353
Sundry Expenses	52	84
Bank Charges	<u>67</u>	<u>—</u>
	19,092	14,132
Excess (Shortfall) of Income to Expenditure	<u>(4,358)</u>	<u>2,069</u>

Balance Sheet

	1997	1996
FIXED ASSETS		1,201
CURRENT ASSETS		1,039
Cash at Bank	21,140	26,312
Cash in Hand	500	500
Stock: Goods for Resale	<u>246</u>	<u>299</u>
	21,886	27,111
CREDITORS AMOUNTS		
FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Accruals & Deferred Income	<u>783</u>	<u>1,488</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	21,103	25,623
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>22,304</u>	<u>26,662</u>
REPRESENTED BY		
Reserves	<u>22,304</u>	<u>26,662</u>

Copies of the full Statement of Accounts for the Year ended 31st March 1997 were available to those attending the Annual General Meeting. Additional copies may be obtained by contacting the Society office in Otley.

Yorkshire Dales Society: Chairman's Report 1997



This is my third annual report as your Chairman of the Yorkshire Dales Society.

Much of our interest has however been with the organisation of two other bodies.

First, as an eventual outcome of the Edwards Report, the new National Park Authority took over as the local authority of the Dales National Park from April 1st this year. At this stage we look forward to a close, though always independent working relationship with the Park, and we were delighted to hear that George Hallas has been given the role of Park Officer of the Authority.

It is appropriate again to thank Richard Harvey who retired as National Park Officer last year, for all his work over the years to support the Dales and we all send our good wishes for a well deserved retirement in the Dales.

The founding of the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust which has got off to a marvellous start with a £4 million grant from the Millennium Commission, is another body of potential great significance to the Dales. A full description of the organisation was given in the recent *Review*, but of greatest importance to the Society is the fact that Colin Speakman, our Secretary, is not only a trustee but has been invited to be Chairman of the Project sub-Committee. There is therefore a chance for the Society to have positive involvement in shaping an environmental future, helped by the fact that three other founder members of the YDS are also trustees. Your council was pleased to make a donation to the Trust in recognition of this and has had a handsome certificate in acknowledgement. We understand that the Trust has earmarked this donation for the development of some broadleaved woodland and we hoped our members would consider further contributions. Up to press there has in fact been a magnificent response from the YDS membership after the recent article in the *Review* and the total is now well over £1000.

The Society itself has continued with its active programme for members since last year's AGM in Nidderdale, following the highly successful Dinner to celebrate our first fifteen years with guests of honour, Bill and Freda Mitchell.

In the summer programme the emphasis was again on events accessible by public transport including crossing the border into Lancashire to see the Bancroft Mill engine in steam and to sample Grace and Dennis Cairns wonderful hospitality on a warm sunny day.

Our winter programme of walks and talks was again well supported with a variety of topics covered. I would like to thank all who helped with walks, particularly Chris Hartley who had to help out at short notice on more than one occasion. The walk and event leaders who are volunteers take their responsibilities seriously. I would like to remind members to keep in touch at all times with the leader and if they decide to leave or divert from the agreed route, to ensure the leader knows as much time and anxiety are expended in checking their whereabouts.

Rod and Judith Clough merit our grateful thanks for having bravely tackled the vagaries of village hall kitchens again to bring us welcome refreshments at our indoor meetings.

The Christmas break produced some nice unseasonable weather to enjoy Colin and Fleur's trip to Langwathby with a welcome meal at the Brief Encounter Restaurant at the station.

We are always interested to hear any ideas for speakers or particular topics any members think may be of interest, even if only to a minority of members.

A more practical event was a bitterly cold Sunday morning planting trees at Hartlington Raikes and later on Skipton Moor. A special thank you to members who braved the elements and we hope to see the fruits of our efforts in the years to come. We have held a Photography Competition organised by Grace Cairns and you can see the collected entries here today. We hope to have further photographs for the *Review* in due course.

The *Review* is of course the shop window of the Society, so ably edited by Colin and Fleur Speakman. We always welcome any contributions and have had some wonderful pieces contributed during the year. It is to our regret that even a modest increase in the size of the *Review* would lead to an exorbitant increase in postage.

Costs have indeed exercised the Council for many of its meetings. Our Treasurer will as usual give a full and concise report this afternoon.

Can I say how much support and help we have had over a difficult time from both David Smith and Alan Pease. I would also like to thank the members for their patience with the direct debit system. Many of the difficulties have resulted from mistakes by the various banks using their forms, but this has been a great and added burden for our

hard pressed team of volunteers in the office. Our team consists of Fleur, Brenda Parkin, John Blakeborough, Eric Jackson, Sheila Marks and joining us this year, Margaret Rhodes. We hope the extensive refurbishment of the office this year has helped make organisation easier. Eric Jackson who has helped us in the office for many years has been suffering from a long period of illness this year. We all hope for a swift return to good health for Eric.

I additionally would like to mention a particular contribution made by Sheila Marks who is always available at events to sell sweat shirts and other items from time to time. Sheila virtually single handed has raised nearly four hundred pounds for the Society over the last few years, which is a wonderful effort.

Your Council has met in various parts of the Dales though one popular venue, West Burton suffered a disastrous fire to the village hall, not I hasten to add after one of our meetings, but we understand a refurbished hall will soon stand proudly at the top of the green.

Mollie Marshall has retired from the Council this year and I would like to thank her for all her support and hard work in Upper Wharfedale.

Eric Jackson has also asked to step down from Council due to his recent illness. Eric is a tireless worker for the Society, as a key player in the YDS office, a member of the events committee, helping co-ordinate the walks and events, and

acting as walk leader as well as being on the Council for very many years. We all hope to see Eric back among us in good health once more.

One of the functions of the Society is to act as a monitor of any activity which affects those concerned with the Dales. This is a major function of the Daleswatch campaign organised so ably by Jim Burton with local conveners. Enthusiasm varies in different areas along with the practical difficulties of regular meetings so we are at present giving great thought to restructuring this very important aspect of our Society, with more emphasis on local conveners. Dawn Burton continues to edit our highly praised Dales Digest which is bought by increasing numbers of members.

We look forward to hosting the National Parks Societies' annual seminar this coming year in Malham, our theme of *employment* will look at opportunities for local employment in the National Parks.

May I conclude by thanking you all for your support, particularly fellow council members and also of course our joint secretariat Colin and Fleur and for their unfailing hospitality at Ilkley. Remember the strength of our Society is in the membership and I urge you all to make every endeavour by personal recommendation to try and increase our current membership base. Thank you.

C.J. Wright (Chairman YDS)



Left: Lunch break at Surrender Bridge in the old mining area of Swaledale during our walk from Reeth to Gunnerside, July 1996. Photo: Shirley Beer. (Third prize in the Photography Competition.)

Book Reviews

"THE MAKING...." series by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby, published by Smith, Settle Ltd.:

Six small scale books dealing with former everyday crafts, entitled: Backcan; Boots, Shoes and Clogs; Cartwheel; Stonework; Cheese and Butter; and Ironwork at £2.95 per book with 40 black and white photographs.

These books are an excellent new series which celebrates the skill of the traditional craftsman who supplied daily necessities in towns and villages. Fortunately for us, Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby, with their tremendous skill, patient research and eye for telling detail, were on hand to record many of these lost or dying arts both photographically and verbally, in order to explain to us the various processes in detail. The books' handy size and attractive format make them readily accessible to the casual reader and to those with more specialised interests. They are a mine of information and also an excellent aid for any potential project work. Perhaps a bibliography might have been useful.



Photo: Making up butter into long pounds and printing the top with a pattern with the butter bands – from the book "Making Cheese & Butter" by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby.

While writing their classic *Life and Tradition* series, Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby's many notes and sets of photographs have now formed the basis of these fascinating little books. They were obviously able to set up a tremendous rapport with the craftsmen they interviewed and their respect and

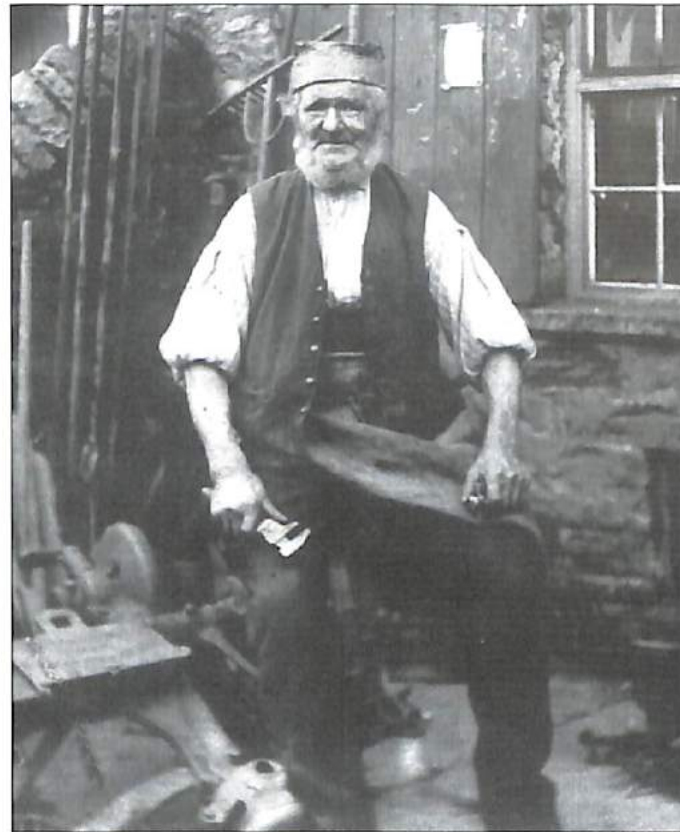


Photo: David Calvert (1819-1906), blacksmith of Gummerside. He is wearing a paper hat. – from the book "Making Ironwork" by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby.

deep interest in these labour intensive, but infinitely satisfying objects also communicates itself to the reader. An example of their informative style is a delightful piece of history in the following



Photo: Pitting off the rough stone with a pitting tool – from the book "Making Stonework" by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby.



Photo: J V Brown, clogger at Airton, Malhamdale, using a clogger's stiddy – from the book "Making Boots, Shoes and Clogs" by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby.

anecdote. In the 1930s the smith at Grassington remembered the job of shoeing the webbed feet of geese as flocks were brought down from the North by driving them through tar and sand.

Good to know in our own period that

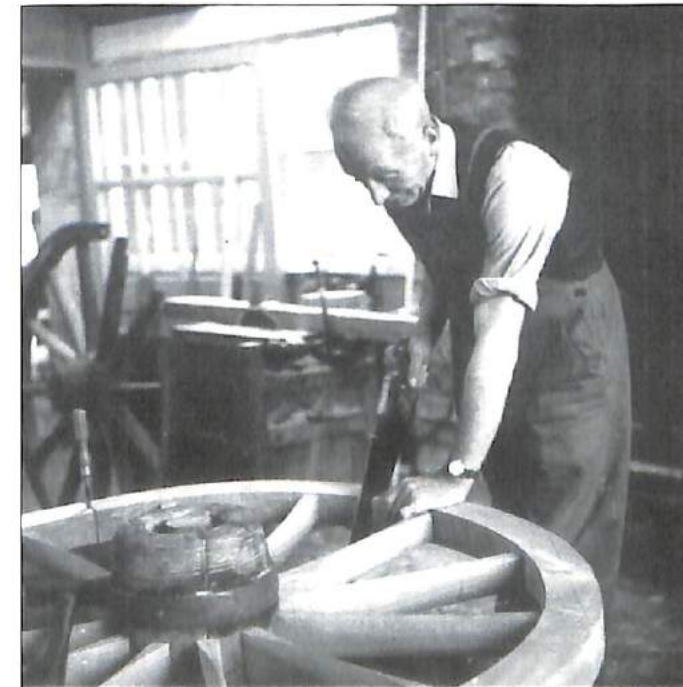


Photo: Inserting a saw to make spaces between each felloe of the wheel rim – from the book "Making a Cartwheel" by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby.

craftmanship, far from dying out in some cases is actually promoting itself such as at Settle and Malham where the smithies are run today as a family group with father in Malham and son and daughter-in-law in Settle, all working in ornamental wrought-iron work.

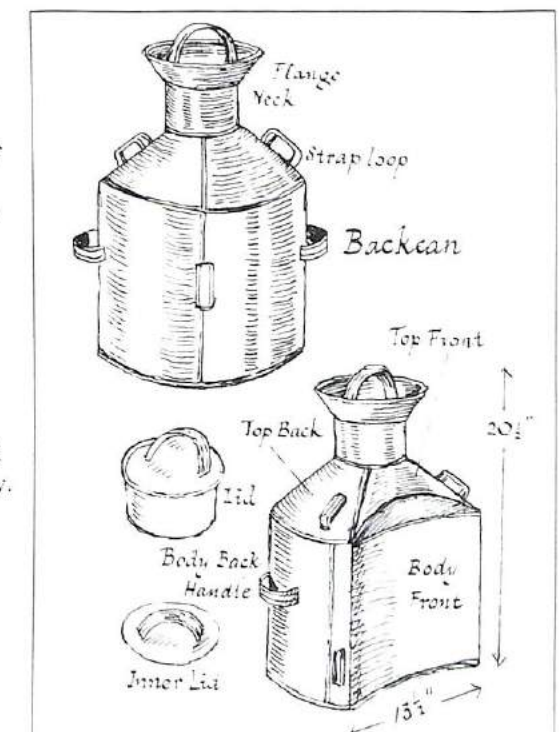
In October 1967 our two authors spent nearly three days watching a wheelwright at work, and taking meticulous photographs of each stage of the process; a pair of wheels would take a week. But a well-made wheel could last 30 years without repairs; something which gives us particular food for thought today when the accent is so often on a product with planned obsolescence and where it is often difficult to get it repaired in our throwaway society. The anthesis of these beautiful objects which are a joy in themselves and often so thoroughly convenient for the task in hand.

Who would have thought that in order to make a wax end for sewing in shoe-making that expensive wild boar bristles from the Black Forest were used formerly or that it took twenty eight hours to make a pair of shoes earlier in the century?

Cheese obviously played an important part in the diet of the monks at Fountains Abbey when we read that in 1537 the dairyhouse at Burthwaite in Nidderdale was contracted to dispatch 80 stone of cheese and 40 stone of butter to Fountains Abbey; certainly an early example of dairy making on a substantial scale. As in each of the little guides, we are able to follow each stage of cheese and buttermaking, labour intensive as it undoubtedly was, but with its most satisfying quality end product.

Fleur Speakman

Right: Drawing of the component parts of a Backcan – from the book "Making a Backcan" by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby.



Book Reviews - continued

YORKSHIRE DALES WALKS WITH CHILDREN by Stephen Rickerby, published by Sigma Leisure at £6.95.

Yorkshire Dales Walks with Children is a praiseworthy attempt to devise walks for young children with some suggestions of the sort of features that could be of interest to them. There are also helpful indications if a route is suitable for a pushchair and whether there are nappy changing facilities.

Inevitably the walks are circular, 21 in all, and less than 5 miles in length, and cover such areas as Swaledale, Bolton Abbey, Dentedale and Niddedale and are all well known routes. Having still quite clear memories of the sort of walks our own two children used to enjoy some time ago and now also

having the opportunity to enjoy walking with the next generation, I was less impressed with the sort of check-list of what can be seen on each walk and some of the other child directed information. Children's interests vary enormously. Although the lists and information are seen as a prompt, I think it would be a very precocious child who needs to know that the little island in the river at Bolton Abbey is called an "eyot". Again the words "stately home" are used a number of times in the child-centred descriptions, perhaps hardly the sort of words familiar to very young children.

A final point: some of the routes need greater thought. Perhaps taking small children to Aysgarth Falls, a route which is often slippery and muddy should not be recommended.

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CD Review

THE MILLER'S JIG CD YDW CD 005 - available from local shops or direct from Yorkshire Arts Workshops 14 Oakburn Rd, Ilkley, LS29 9NN tel 01943 609393 price £12. Add £1.50 for post and packing.

Everyone who enjoyed Liz Bowen's informative article on the music manuscript of Joshua Jackson, the miller-musician of Stainley Mill, near Ripon, or who came to our post-AGM evening in Kettlewell, should get hold of this excellent CD. *Magnetic North* - a trio of folk musicians closely linked to the Ilkley-based Yorkshire Arts Workshop - present a

selection of jigs, reels, hornpipes, airs and songs from this manuscript. Skill and effort has gone not only into reconstructing harmonies and accompaniments for the melodies which are close to how Jackson and his friends would have played them, but also in ways which are accessible to modern audiences familiar with modern folk music styles.

What is revealed by this selection is that there is no such thing as pure "Dales" music. There was a rich popular repertoire available to local musicians in England in 1798 when Jackson compiled his collection, (some of the songs are similar to those collected not long afterwards by the great Northamptonshire nature poet John Clare), with influences from Scotland (especially strong), Ireland and even Italy, suggesting a common West European folk culture, though no doubt with local colour and emphasis. These 22 tracks were - and are - tunes to dance to at the village hop or a wedding party, and perhaps even to sing, such as the piquant beauty of *Lovely Nancy* or the bawdy wit of *The Musical Lovers*. They are played and sung by *Magnetic North* with great brilliance and bravura, which prevents them from being mere museum pieces, but a living part of our Dales heritage. The recording quality on this CD is excellent.

C.S.



Daleswatch Report

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

1. What Are The National Park Purposes Now?

In the National Parks Act of 1949, the designated purposes invoked to justify creation of the Parks were expressed in terms of preservation and enhancement of natural beauty, and of their enjoyment by the public. The Park Authorities themselves were created over the period of 1951-1957, but the purposes remained effectively unchanged for over forty years, although some adjustments were made at the edges. In 1968, for example, came a requirement for the Authorities, in exercising their functions, to have regard to agriculture, forestry, and the social and economic interests of their areas; seventeen years later they were constrained to have regard to the interests of those who live and work in the Parks, a requirement that gave official sanction to what had become the practice.

In 1990 the National Parks Review Panel under Professor Ron Edwards suggested that these purposes be widened to encompass protection, maintenance and enhancement of scenic beauty, natural systems and land forms as well as wildlife and the cultural heritage plus the promotion of quiet enjoyment and understanding. Also that the Authorities should provide support for fostering the social and economic well-being of the Park communities in ways compatible with National Park purposes. And broadly, the government agreed.

So everything seemed good, and we sat back and waited for the relevant legislation to follow. But the actual reality - when it materialised in the 1995 Environment Act - had slipped a bit. Quietly (well they *tried* to do it quietly - some people made a bit of a noise about it) the quiet enjoyment was dropped - I think there was some sort of excuse about it being inherent in the rest - and there were some other alterations of doubtful origin and merit. But even then the actual words in the Act weren't too bad. The National Park purposes were defined (section 61) as: (i) to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Parks, and (ii) to promote opportunities for understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities [of the Parks] by the public, whilst a duty

was placed on the Authorities (section 62) to ensure that, in pursuing the Park purposes, they should seek to foster the economic and social well-being of the local communities.

As expressed in the Act, this was not in the least contentious, and as far as the Yorkshire Dales was concerned, merely codified what the Park Authority tried to do anyway. But mis-interpretations of section 62 are already appearing, and the essential caveat regarding the pursuit of Park purposes is in danger of being overlooked by potential developers. At worst this could lead to requests for development for employment purposes on open land within the National Park, with the prospect of local jobs being used as an incentive. And, if one such scheme were given permission, it would be more difficult to say no to the second, and the third - and it would take frighteningly few to alter the whole appearance of the countryside. The National Park Local Plan already contains strong policies aimed at protecting the significant number of premises allocated for employment purposes within the Park. It would be unfortunate if short-sighted attempts to exploit the new Act were to cause what would be permanent damage to the beauty of, the Yorkshire Dales.

2. Full Steam Ahead For A Car-free Park!

Bolton Abbey railway station is now all set to re-open, and should be going ahead at full steam. This is a wonderful success story in its own right, but it is to be hoped that it is only the start of what could become a revolution in the way we travel to and around the National Park. The Embsay Steam Railway is to be congratulated on the speed with which their dream of extending the line has come true. But it may not be too optimistic to see it as probably just the first instalment of what could become a comprehensive, integrated, public transport system linking the south of the National Park to Skipton and the whole of West Yorkshire. It is hoped that the new Wharfedale Wanderer bus service which is timed to co-ordinate with the train at Ilkley station, will also call at Bolton Abbey Station on its way to Grassington, with co-ordinated links thence onwards to Buckden. It is a pity that these services will be confined to a summer Sunday service in the first instance, due to financial constraints, but the need for such a service is considerable and almost anything is better than what we have.

And looking to the future, it is not too fanciful to anticipate the Embsay Railway extending the other way, into Skipton, nor to look forward to the eventual use of Swinden Quarry line by passenger traffic. And that line could easily be extended to Threshfield. With the prospects for re-instatement of the Wensleydale Railway becoming ever brighter, it is getting less and less fanciful to see the prospect of a truly integrated public transport system throughout the Dales, serving resident and visitor alike. The vogue for car travel will not go away overnight, but there are real signs that the new Government will be even more determined to reduce our dependency on the car than its predecessor in its latter days. It will be a few years yet, but the grounds for optimism get firmer by the minute.

3. The Park Committee

Inevitably the local elections have had their repercussions on the composition of the Committee of the Park Authority. To the surprise of many, and despite holding her seat on the County Council, Beth Graham has not retained her place on the Park Authority, and Bob King has retired whilst, following his success in the county council election, John Blackie will now represent North Yorkshire, thus leaving his old place as a District Councillor to be filled by Richmondshire. Unexpectedly, and contrary to the information

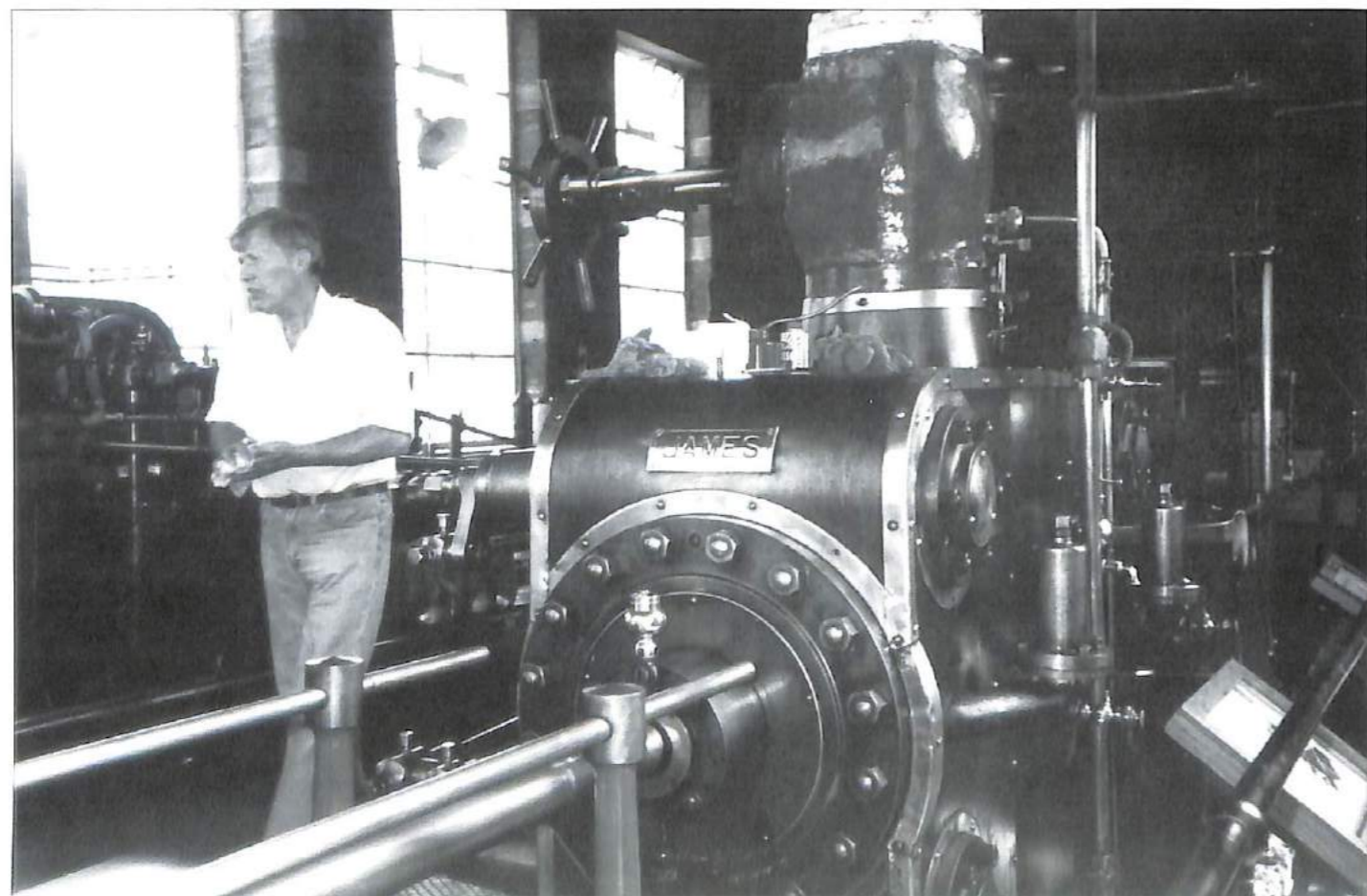
given in my last Report, we shall also be welcoming Ralph Atkinson back, a fact that is extremely welcome in itself, but the reasons are not less than tragic. Ralph had intended to stand down from his County Council seat of North Craven, but his intended successor died suddenly at the start of the campaign and Ralph was persuaded to stay on. But, if the reasons were unfortunate in the extreme, there is no doubt that the National Park gains considerably from the circumstance.

Jim Burton

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)



Summer Events

Enjoy the Dales this summer by joining one of our guided walks or booking for one of our visits round a place of historic interest, a modern craftsshop or a small scale industry.

Two of our events in September and October are linked walks and lectures so the topic becomes in each case fully meaningful when you attend both a morning and afternoon session.

THURSDAY JULY 24TH - EVENING GUIDED TOUR OF VICTORIAN ILKLEY. Meet at 7.30 pm Manor House Yard (adjacent to Parish Church) for a half-hour tour of Victorian Ilkley (MetroTrain Wharfedale Line 1838 from Leeds, 1827 from Bradford). Booking essential by July 11th, please send £1 per person to the YDS office, The Yorkshire Dales Society, Civic Centre, Cross Green, Otley, West Yorkshire LS21 1HD, with cheques payable to the YDS.

FRIDAY 1ST AUGUST - EVENING WALK TO BEAVER DYKE. Meet 7pm at the Sun Inn, Norwood Edge on the Otley Road for a moderate 5 mile walk. Leader Chris Hartley 01943 873197. (Lifts can be arranged from Otley for those without transport).

SATURDAY AUGUST 16TH - VISIT TO VIOLIN MAKER AT LEYBURN. Meet at the workshop entrance on the outskirts of Leyburn. Directions: leave the town from the market square on the A684 to Bedale, follow the road for about a 1/4 mile before turning left into Leyburn Business Park.



Above: Corn grinding stones, dated 1673, used at Beckwith Farm, Cautley, near Sedburgh. Photo: John Fawcett

Left: Mrs S. H. Wright's photograph of Bancroft Mill, Barnoldswick which was placed second in the YDS Photography Competition (see page 6).



Booking essential with cash at £1.60 per head and must be received at the YDS office by August 4th.

SUNDAY AUGUST 31ST - DALESBUS WALK TO WENSLEYDALE. Meet on the bus or at Aysgarth Falls Corner bus stop (opposite youth hostel) at 11.48 for an easy 5-6 mile walk by the River Ure and alongside the trackbed of the former Wensleydale Railway to Nappa Hall, Askrigg and Bainbridge. Pub, cafe or packed lunch at Aysgarth before start of walk. Dalesbus 801 from Leeds City Bus Station 0920. Ilkley Brook Street 1000. Return 800/801 at 1622 or 1722 from Bainbridge Green (bus calls at Aysgarth). Leader Alan Sutcliffe 01444 483326.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH - LECTURE THE WORK OF THE WOODLAND TRUST by Leonard Ratcliffe at 10.30am at Grantley Village Hall. PLEASE NOTE THAT LECTURE AND WALK FORM A COMPLETE UNIT.

After the lecture, a plan will be shown giving the location of the afternoon site, details of alternative parking etc...Packed lunch needed.

WALK - the group to meet at 2pm at the main entrance to Hackfall Woods on the Masham road out of Grewelthorpe - Map reference S 99. SE 231775. Limited parking see note on parking above. In all probability we shall be met in Hackfall Woods by the Regional Woodland Officer of the National Trust. Short moderate walk.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11TH - WALK IN AREA OF STONY GROOVES MINES with John Hobson THIS WALK AND TALK FORMS A COMPLETE UNIT. Meet at 10.30am for a moderate 3 mile walk. Please park at Dacre Banks and we will arrange for a limited number of cars to park at the mines. Car sharing essential. Packed lunch needed. **LECTURE LEADMINING IN THE DALES by John Hobson**, Dacre Banks Village Hall, 2.15pm.

Cost of a lecture is £1.50 to YDS members and £2.50 to NON YDS members, including tea and biscuits. IF you need transport for any event not served by public transport, and would like a lift from the nearest bus stop or railhead, you should contact the YDS office as soon as possible in advance of the event. Similarly, if you are able to offer a lift, please let us know well in advance so we can make arrangements.

Members are also asked to keep their dogs under control on a lead on all YDS walks.



Front Cover picture: Malbam Cove;
photo. Christine Whitehead

Back Cover picture: Sailor Hotel, Addingham
by the late Bill Pates.

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