

Yorkshire *Dales* Review



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Journal of the Yorkshire Dales Society

Editors Colin and Fleur Speakman

The Carperby Affair

At its meeting in July, members of the new National Park Authority were faced with what has emerged as the first test of their resolve to interpret the key requirements of the 1995 Environment Act.

Planning application A07 seemed innocuous enough, even worthy - two young people wishing to start a business at Low Lane, Carperby, Wensleydale, providing a recuperation facility for sick or injured race horses. Unfortunately it would also require the erection of a number of new buildings and the siting of a residential caravan in open countryside, as well as bringing additional traffic onto a quiet track. For these reasons, as the National Park Officer has pointed out, the application is in direct conflict with the Yorkshire Dales Local Plan and the North Yorkshire Structure Plan and should be refused.

Normally, that would be the end of the matter, but far from accepting the National Park Officer's recommendation, a heated debate has ensued, much of it in private session, leading to Counsel's advice being sought "on legal planning matters" - presumably on the question of to what extent the new Park Authority can take decisions directly contrary to the National Park Local Plan.

The problem centres on new powers given to Park Authorities in the 1995 Act which indicates (Section 62) that authorities "shall seek to foster the economic and social well being of local communities within the National Park". However the Act also makes it very clear that if it appears that there is a conflict between purposes, the Authority shall "attach greater weight to the purposes of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area comprised in the National Park".

As our Vice Chairman, Jim Burton, also a member of the National Park Committee, wrote so perceptively in the Summer YDS Review "misinterpretations of section 62 are already appearing". Put simply, anything which creates jobs - leisure centres, golf courses, riding stables, retail parks, a housing estate, a new quarry - can be argued to be of economic benefit to someone,

and may be perfectly acceptable outside a National Park. Normal planning conditions don't apply in a National Park. National Parks are landscapes of excellence, whose special qualities have been recognised by the nation. All members of the National Park Authority, whether appointed by the Secretary of State or elected onto District or County Councils, have a clear public duty, not to their voters, not to their village, not to their friends or business contacts, not to any organisation they may be a member or a close contact of - and that is equally true whether we are talking about the Yorkshire Dales Society, the Association of Rural Communities, the National Farmers Union or a political party - but to the nation. It is a matter of trust.

Public service can sometimes be a thankless task, and in the past, former Park Committees have had to endure much ignorant talk from those who would willingly abolish the National Park, for whom controls and planning regulations are an irksome nuisance. But such people are a tiny, if loud-mouthed, minority. There is overwhelming support among the people of Britain for the concept of protecting our finest landscapes as National Parks, and Parliament has given our Park Authorities special responsibility and considerable financial resources to ensure those unique landscape survive for future generations.

New stables and a caravan on open countryside near Carperby might not by itself be a disaster. But because it contravenes the Local Plan, the development would create a precedent for many more applications for sporadic building outside settlements, contradicting democratically agreed strategic policies. It would totally undermine the credibility of the National Park Authority itself, and raise fundamental questions about the future of the National Park. Let's hope all members of the National Park Authority will accept their responsibilities and support the clear recommendations of their Chief Officer.

The Yorkshire Dales deserve no less.

Colin Speakman

Fifty Years of Vigilance

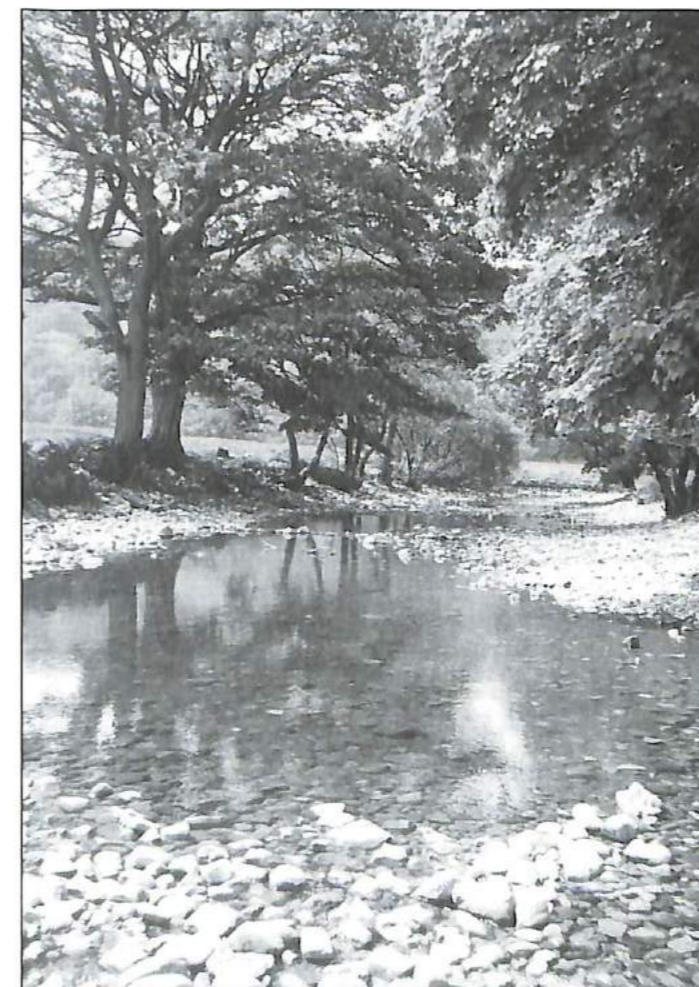
The Craven Branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) celebrates its golden jubilee this October. David Joy, its secretary since 1968, reflects on past achievements and challenges.

Be prepared! So ended the evocative words which in 1947 captured the spirit of the times:

"Not only to Yorkshiremen but to many in all parts of the country the Yorkshire Dales are simply 'The Dales'. This is evidence, if such be needed, of the importance of the Dales in the English landscape. The Dales have escaped most of the threats to the countryside which so many parts of the country have suffered during and since the War. All Dales lovers will hope that they may remain unspoiled and yet maintain a live and healthy existence. But threats may come. At a time when so many of the loveliest parts of the country are being taken for service training areas, water catchment schemes and new industrial undertakings, it is necessary to be prepared."

These carefully crafted sentences featured in a leaflet urging "all interested in the welfare of

High Summer on the River Wharfe at Buckden by John Fawcett



Craven" to form a local branch of CPRE. The move was timely. Reforming zeal and deep anxiety were both to the fore in the immediate post-war years. The White Paper on National Parks had just been published and hailed as "a fresh breeze from the fells breaking through the daily surfeit of depressing news." Yet there was frustration over the time taken to turn discussion into action and a real fear that legislation could come too late to prevent the worst excesses of rural vandalism.

In such a climate, local folk needed little urging to attend a public meeting at Skipton Town Hall. From it emerged a clear mandate to establish CPRE Craven Branch, the executive committee holding its first meeting in the town's Red Lion Hotel on 29th October 1947. The first president was Sir William Milner of Parcevall Hall and many of the names associated with forming the branch will be familiar to YDS members - Arthur Raistrick, Roland Wade, Graham Watson, Eric Lodge and Harry J. Scott (founder of the *Dalesman*) as well as artists Reginald Brundritt, Constance Pearson and Marmaduke Miller.

Bungalow at foot of Malham Cove!

Within a matter of months the Branch was advocating more amenity planting of trees, screening of unsightly rubbish tips and even the purchase of a wooden bungalow at the foot of Malham Cove so that it could be removed! Hundreds of handbills were displayed urging the preservation of wild flowers, but a call for 'phone kiosks in rural areas to be painted green or grey instead of bright red was ahead of its time and met with no success.

Conifer forests on Ingleborough!

The Branch quickly found its feet and down the years has gone on to engage in many major campaigns. It has never been and never will be an easy concept, but its greatest triumphs are what you don't see. To give just three examples, CPRE has played a major role in the fact that there is no conifer forest on the flanks of Ingleborough, large caravan sites do not in general disfigure the higher reaches of the Dales and the overwhelming majority of our meandering roads and have not been swept into oblivion by modern highways.

A catalogue of successes - and failures - over the last half century could soon become tedious. What is arguably more interesting, is to look back at the early years, long before there was a Yorkshire Dales Society or even a Yorkshire Dales National Park, when CPRE at times felt it was a lone voice crying in the wilderness.

Dramatic changes

It is easy to forget how different the Dales were then. Times were hard but less stressful with the pace of life still subject to the whims of the horse and the paraffin lamp. The advent of mains electricity was about to usher in one of the most dramatic changes the area has ever seen. Dales farmers hitherto struggling to hand-milk in near darkness would now have time to sit back and watch the Tiller Girls high-kick their way across the TV screen. An amenity organisation pontificating on the most suitable routes for the new overhead electricity cables was unlikely to find favour.

Yet that is exactly what CPRE did through the early 1950s, quietly putting forward reasoned argument until its views became more widely accepted. In 1950 improvements to the proposed routings at Linton Falls and Grassington Bridge were secured. This paved the way for more active consultation in 1954 with consequent changes in the planned wirescape around Storiths, Parcevall Hall and Buckden village.

About this time the North Western Electricity Board had voluntarily agreed to lay many miles of underground cable in Borrowdale. Great efforts were made to persuade the Yorkshire Board to follow this example in what was widely seen as the most sensitive area in Craven - the stretch of Upper Wharfedale beyond Hubberholme. These did not prove fruitful, but happily the Branch was able to fight a successful rearguard action after a far-from-ideal scheme had been approved by the new National Parks Commission. As a result, the wires were routed up the eastern slope of the dale midway between river and skyline and now pass unnoticed by the majority of visitors.

Quarrying

Other campaigns of the early years were waged against roadside advertising, dumped cars and most intriguingly, "outrages in the name of public service". Yet, looking back, the single issue which showed the Branch at its most resolute was the proposed quarrying of Butterhaw reef knoll between Cracoe and Thorpe.

The first ominous signs of trouble came in the summer of 1954 when it was noticed that an area of topsoil had been removed from the knoll to lay bare the limestone for inspection. This was an era of minimal statutory consultation, but enquiries

soon revealed that an application had been made by Halton East Quarries to extract stone from the site. There was immediate and widespread protest including a petition by local people containing over a thousand signatures. As the Craven Branch Annual Report rather quaintly noted: "Many Geologists and Ladies also registered objections."

So great was the furore that the application was withdrawn, only to be replaced by a new proposal to quarry Skelerton Hill, another reef knoll closer to Cracoe. The applicants pleaded that the knolls contained an "extremely rare" type of stone essential to meet the needs of the road programme. This spurious argument appears to have carried weight with the National Parks Commission which decided "with some reluctance" that it would not oppose consent. CPRE argued that quarrying at Skelerton would be just as damaging as at Butterhaw, but the omens did not look good. Fortunately there was a bizarre twist in the saga when it emerged that the Chatsworth Settlement, holders of the mineral rights, had failed to consult the landowner before deciding to grant a quarrying lease. The owner, a former Spitfire pilot, was not afraid to take on massive opposition and became extremely truculent.

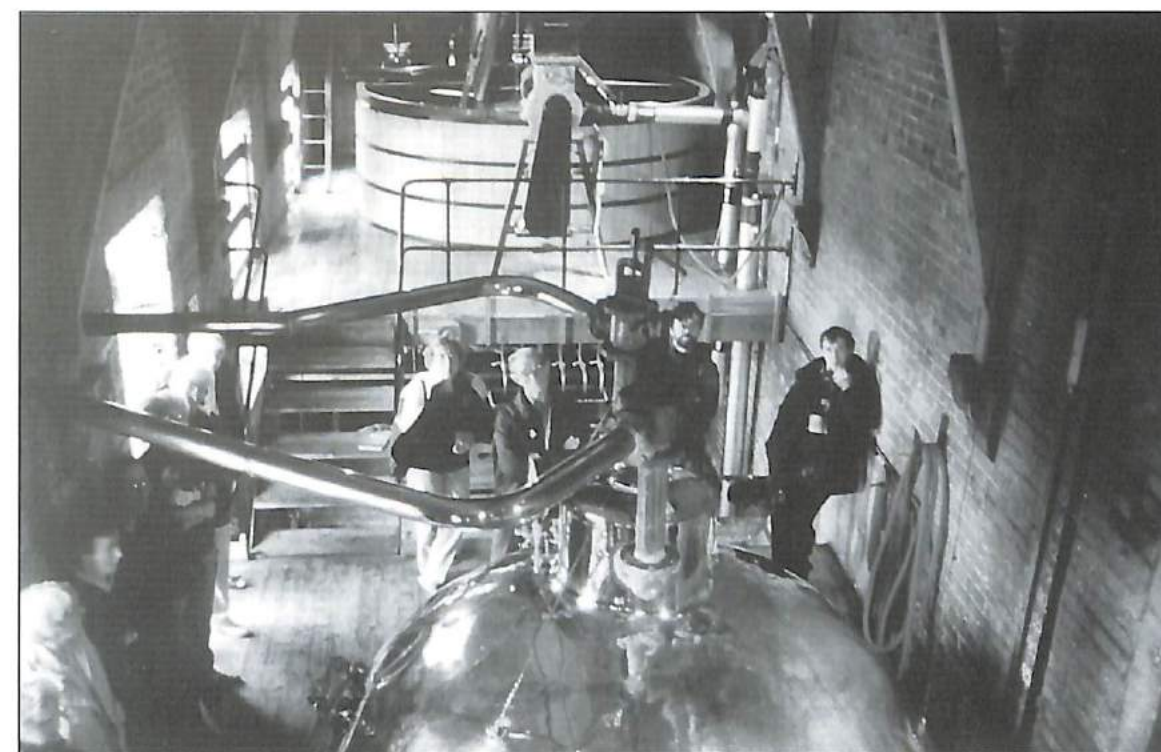
The upshot was a new application to quarry Butterhaw which immediately led to a lively public protest meeting at Grassington. CPRE continued to keep up the pressure on all fronts and was rewarded when the Ministry of Local Government & Planning decided to hold a Public Enquiry. Leading Counsel were briefed and expert witnesses summoned. This determined stance no doubt had a bearing on the events of August 1955 when the quarry company requested postponement of the Enquiry just one week before it was due to open. The long campaign had at last reached a successful conclusion, although it was early 1957 before the application was formally withdrawn.

The fight waged by our predecessors to save Butterhaw must never be forgotten. This exquisite green hill forms a striking contrast to the sad remnants of another nearby reef knoll we now know as Swinden Quarry. Shattering the hillside as well as visitors' expectations of a National Park, this great blemish is a stark reminder of what would have happened if the "Battle of Butterhaw" had gone the other way.

One hopes that no similar application will ever be contemplated, but the words that brought CPRE Craven Branch into being fifty years ago still hold good. Be prepared!

David Joy

Black Sheep Brewery, Masham



*The Brewing Hall at the Black Sheep Brewery, Masham.
Photo: Chris Wright*

to Masham on a June Saturday this year.

We were treated to a modern day example of how a return to traditional values can both excite the customer and accountant.

Black Sheep Brewery grew from a dream and

Why are we so easily seduced by such expressions as "Home Made", "Family Run" and "Farm Fresh"? The list is of course quite extensive. Our seduction may be due to our fascination and craving for all things natural and evocative of bygone times and standards of quality.

"Real Ale", a modern expression, born perhaps of a distaste with the chemical and clinical products of the recent past, is the starting point of our journey

a redundant brewery building. The building was Lightfoots Brewery which was absorbed by TR Theakstons in 1919, Theakstons being themselves taken over by Scottish and Newcastle Brewery in 1989.

Paul Theakstons' bold decision to "go it alone" and build his brewery in the old Lightfoots premises at Masham, (with fittings from a bankrupt brewery in the north west), resulted in marketable ale in 1992.

Our visit was enhanced by two wonderful guides, Pat and Pete. They showed us round and informed us. Their enthusiasm was infectious.

So many breweries have closed down over the years. Unable to fight off the giants, they roll onto their backs, legs in the air, and die.

The only thing on its back with its legs in the air in Masham, is the "incapacitated sheep" the logo lending its name to "Riggwelter" ale.

With two breweries again in Masham, this has to be good news both for employment and healthy competition. We celebrated the success of this fine enterprise with a well attended and enjoyable visit. It goes without saying in such a gathering as ours, no -one was in any way, shape or form "Riggweltered"!

Andrew Hamilton

PAINTINGS OF THE DALES

CPRE Craven Branch is marking its 50th anniversary with a special exhibition at The Folly, Settle, from October 30th to November 9th. Showing how the unique landscape of the Dales has been depicted over the last half century and more by leading artists, it will include work by Judith Bromley, Piers Broune, Jackie Denby, Marie Hartley, Fred and Sonia Lawson, Robert Nicholls, Constance Pearson and many others.

Paintings will be for sale in support of CPRE and the North Craven Building Preservation Trust, the new owners of The Folly. The exhibition will be open daily from 10am to 3pm, admission £2.50.

What is the "Cultural Heritage" of the Yorkshire Dales?

One of the most interesting aspects of the 1995 Environment Act was the insertion of the words "cultural heritage" - as part of one of the two prime purposes of National Parks:

"a] of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of (National Parks);

b] of promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of those areas by the public."

When the Yorkshire Dales Society was established in 1981, the National Park Authority saw its role almost entirely in planning, visitor management and landscape terms. The YDS constantly argued that local culture was every bit as important as the landscape, and indeed it argued that the Dales landscape was, by definition, a "cultural landscape" shaped and moulded by generations of human activity over millennia - agriculture, forestry, mining and other industry as well as leisure activities, including hunting, shooting and many forms of tourism.

So what exactly is "cultural heritage". It isn't easy to define. One working definition for Cultural Heritage I have used is "the total experience of a community expressed in a variety of forms - written and collective memory, language, custom, tradition and religion". It's a combination of many different things - dialect, traditions, folklore, oral and written literature, history, music, customs, religion, values, humour, a way of life. The whole is invariably greater than the sum of its parts.

Culture isn't fixed in time, in the past. It evolves, and is as much about the present and the future as well as the past, but it is firmly linked to the past. We are all shaped and determined not only by our personal and family history, but by the communities we grew up in, the values we share. Understanding and appreciating the many cultural forces that shaped the present are far more than mere nostalgia - sepia tinted photographs and wholemeal bread adverts - but a process of understanding the often powerful forces that determined the present and will continue to create the future. We are all, to some degree, prisoners of our history, but also individuals with the freedom to determine how we respond to and use that experience, and to contribute, albeit in perhaps infinitesimal ways, to the future of our children and others we influence, and to that of generations to come.

What's this to do with the Yorkshire Dales? The landscape we know and love, those stone villages and farmhouses, drystone walls and scattered barns, meadows and heather moorland, vernacular architecture and industrial remains, are the result of constant inter-reaction of human beings and their often hostile environment. Not always was this purely for economic gain. Powerful spiritual forces have also shaped our environment, such as the monastic orders or Methodism. Leisure and forms of tourism have also had a powerful shaping hand, from the Norman hunting forests to the 19th century shooting estates and 20th century footpath trails and car parks. Painters and more recently photographers have helped shape and define our appreciation of the sometimes wild, sometimes human scale of the Dales landscape, and generations of guidebook writers and storytellers - from Thomas Gray and William Wordsworth to James Herriot and Alfred Wainwright - have taught us how to respond to what is loosely called "natural beauty". And it's important business, helping to sustain many jobs, services, homes and other facilities which would otherwise have long disappeared from the Dales when the last lead mines closed and last wool or cotton mills put up their shutters - just as the first charabancs of visitors were arriving.

There's more than one Dales culture. Ever since the times of the Angles and Vikings settling in the dalesheads, there have always been migrants into the Pennine uplands, each bringing different expectations and experience. Last century migrants workers came from Ireland and Devon to mow the summer hay or build the railways; this century villages buzz with prosperous newly retired from Watford or Guildford, who soon find themselves on the Parish Council as defenders of the "locals".

Yet constant changes of population, films, television and trans-atlantic pop culture, haven't yet been strong enough to totally destroy a distinctive strand of local culture in the Dales; a culture rooted in farming, and perhaps to some extent the building and quarrying industries, a network of long established families in the Dales whose names have been familiar in their own dale for a couple of centuries or more, and who keep at least some true local dialect alive - in pubs, auction marts and school playgrounds. Historians like Arthur Raistrick and our own distinguished Honorary Members Marie Hartley, Joan Ingilby and Bill Mitchell, have done much to record and chronicle their ways of life in a pre-motorised age, ways of life which have



A Dales Morris Group at Grassington

changed dramatically and yet which haven't entirely disappeared among local communities whose blunt wit, knowledge and understanding of the Dales are still a vital part of what the Yorkshire Dales are about.

In a deeply uncertain age, where most people live highly mobile lives, in faceless suburbs or traffic-dominated cities which have changed beyond all recognition, the Dales represent for most people something deeply rooted, rural, solid, enduring and understandable. Escapism? Perhaps. Or maybe a deeper recognition of all our own roots, in rural or semi-rural communities, three or four generations ago. Nobody pretends that we should try and keep old traditions artificially alive - mock peasants dancing in hand-embroidered smocks. The Dales have always been an area of often rapid economic and social change. But the powerful experiences of the past can become a source of emotional and spiritual renewal for present and future generations

- imagery for poets, painters, musicians, dancers, storytellers, architects.

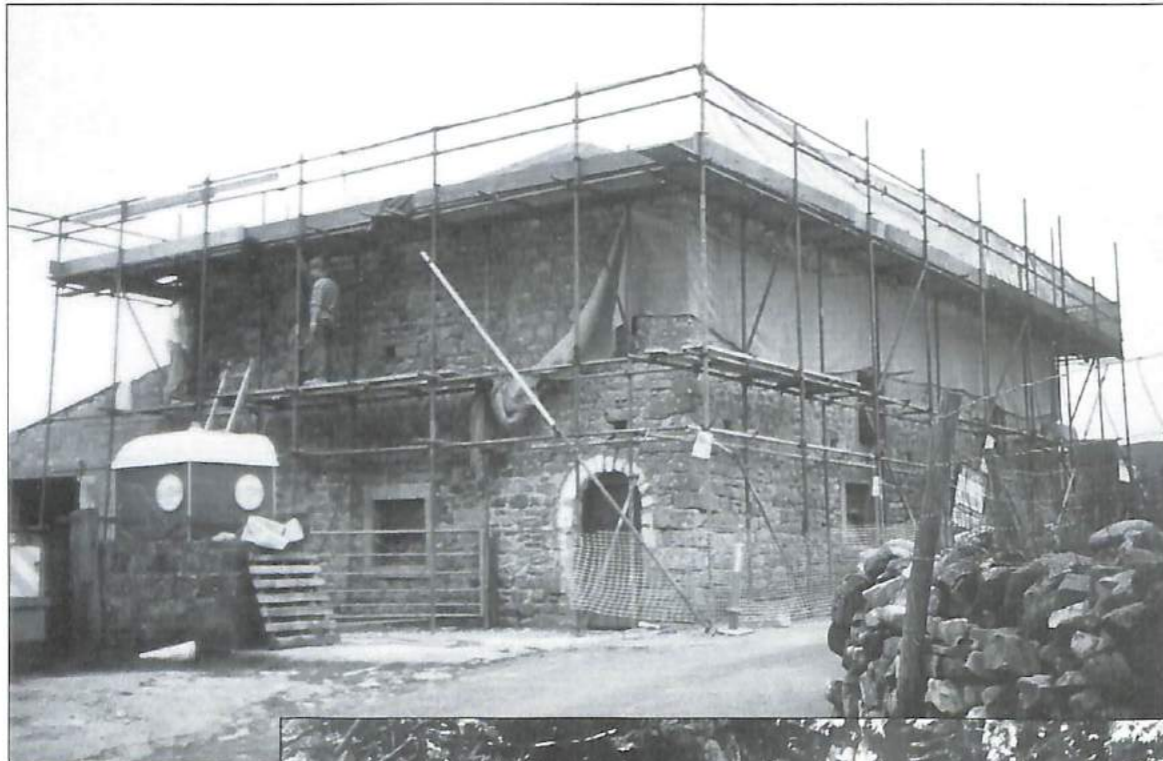
And there's an equally strong case for ensuring a fair and decent economic future for the real guardians of the landscape and its culture, the farming community, who work and manage the land. Balanced strategies for upland agriculture and conservation should allow them both to maintain the landscape and produce the wool, the cheese, the lamb which are as much part of the Dales cultural heritage as the folksong, the dialect or the carved knitting sheath. Cultural heritage is as much about the future as the past - about young people in the hills as well as the old.

Colin Speakman

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust – Action to Conserve our Dales Heritage

YORKSHIRE DALES
MILLENNIUM TRUST

Here are four examples of projects in the Yorkshire Dales now being undertaken, thanks to help from the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. Many YDS members have responded extremely generously to the Trust's appeal for matching funds, and these are just some examples of Dales "Environet" conservation projects now possible because of your continuing support. If you'd like to help, contact the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, PO Box 2000, Clapham, LA2 8GD. Telephone 015242 51002.



1. The first Barn restoration to be completed with a grant from the Millennium Trust was this one at Darnbrook Farm on Malham Moor. Owned by the National Trust, the restoration consisted of replacing the roof and repairing the walls at a cost of some £15,000.

2. Bridge over East Gill at East Stonesdale near Keld, Swaledale. Repairs to the masonry will see this traditional pack horse bridge over the river at East Stonesdale protected and restored to its former glory. The bridge carries a public bridleway and the popular long distance Coast to Coast footpath.



3. Dereliction of dry stone walls in the Dales is an increasing problem due to changes in farming practices over the last few decades. Stretches like this one at Grassington will be restored over the next four years. The first year's projects are being assessed at the moment and should result in around 6km of these key landscape features being restored with a further 22km by the end of the project.



4. Restoration of old woods like this one near Ingleborough are a high priority for the Trust. Ten woods have been identified already for the first year to receive grants to repair the boundary walls and fences to keep stock out and to carry out any necessary woodland management.

Three Dales Music-Makers

I've never been a fan of the Archers, but I do like the signature tune, which is entitled *Barwick Green*, being one of the four movements of *My Native Heath* by Arthur Wood. Whistling it gave my feet a special bounce as I set out on an early morning walk and choose music making as the topic for contemplation. By the time I returned home, an hour later, I had devised a book - *Music in the Yorkshire Dales* - though I hasten to admit that the title was first used by Dr J. Sutcliffe Smith of Harrogate in 1930. I could not think of a better one.

Excitedly I conjured up ideas for the book - songs and folk dances, brass bands and the fiddle-and-melodion accompaniment to dancing. I could include knitting songs and ballads of the Settle-Carlisle. There would also be comic songs, sacred music and the offerings of visiting celebrities like Edward Elgar and Roger Quilter. As I delved into the subject, and collected words and manuscript scores, I had some disappointments, such as having to concede that the ballad about the Sweet Lass of Richmond Hill might be associated with Richmond, Surrey, though the Lass was born at Leyburn and local people refer to the stretch of road between the market town and Bellerby as "Richmond Hill".

Here are some notes about three composers who loved the Dales:

Frederick Delius (1862-1934). He was born in Bradford and Delians like to think that much of his music has a Yorkshire Flavour. The composer used to say, in a broad accent he never lost despite living for thirty years in France: "Let the critics say the work breathes my native Yorkshire. I never heard sleigh bells..... in Bradford but plenty in Norway and Sweden, and actually the wind will 'sough' almost anywhere.....still it's a nice thought!" His friend Grieg whom he met in student days at Leipzig, described him as this "English-American, deeply musical, splendidly Hardangervidda-man. He is like us in nothing except feeling. But in the end that's everything."

Delius loved the Yorkshire moors, bird song (especially cuckoos!), the rustle of leaves and the ripple of water tumbling down a rocky staircase from the hills. His shimmering strains are evocative of sunlight falling on quiet landscapes. His niece, Margaret de Vesci, who wrote an article for me to use in *The Dalesman*, recalled that the boy Delius had ridden a pony across Ilkley Moor, had swum in the Wharfe and much later, with his sister Claire

who lived in the Bronte country, rode on horseback into Wharfedale where he had a special interest in the story of the Shepherd Lord (Clifford) and Barden Tower. Were Delius living today, he would be acutely aware of threats to the environment, for he wrote: "We are closely and deeply integrated and involved with Nature and her laws which we ignore at our peril."

Roger Quilter (1877-1953) He sprang from a Suffolk family and spent most of his life in London where he composed many fine songs, usually based on such classical sources as Shakespeare, Herrick and Tennyson. His stirring *Non Nobis Domine* was sung by a male voice choir who visited Settle in the summer of 1997. Few of those who heard the choir would know that Quilter had a valet and cook, Harry and Ada Heaton who were natives of the town and that just after the 1939-45 war, they brought him to North Ribblesdale for short holidays while they visited relatives.

Quilter at first lodged with Mr Pilkington in Stackhouse Lane. Subsequently he stayed at the Black Horse in Giggleswick. He became particularly friendly with the Brassington family who allowed him to use their piano. On his first visit, he was asked if he would like a cup of coffee, but requested instead "squashed banana and brown sugar". Quilter also got to know the Haygarth family and especially Annice and her husband. Annice who was to be described in a television film as "Voice of the Dales", had a fine soprano voice and was persuaded by the composer to sing some of his songs. In a letter he wrote to her from a nursing home in Northampton, he observed. "I have made such good friends through my music, that is always a great joy to me."

After Quilter's death in 1953, Harry and Ada lived at Bond End, a large detached house in Kirkgate, Settle, which incidentally was the birthplace of Dr C W Buck, a great friend of the composer Edward Elgar. Quilter left Harry £5000 and he also acquired most if not all of the contents of Quilter's flat in London. When Ada died, Harry moved to a small terraced house, where paintings, furniture and artefacts which had belonged to Roger Quilter had an incongruously cramped setting.

Arthur Wood (1875-1953) He was born in Heckmondwike. The Wood family moved to Harrogate in 1882. Mr Wood senior was a tailor during the day and played second viola in a theatre orchestra at night. Arthur inherited a love of music,

He left school at twelve, and became an errand boy with a hosier for five shillings a week.

Whenever possible and through the good offices of a friend of the family, he practised on the Bluthner piano in the Spa Concert Rooms, eventually securing a job as flautist with the Spa orchestra. From here his musical career developed via Bournemouth where he played under Sir Dan Godfrey and Terry's Theatre, London. In 1903 when he was twenty-eight, Arthur became the youngest musical director in London at Terry's Theatre.

Winskill Stones

What an atmosphere of anticipation there was, as I, as the Yorkshire Dales Society representative, along with many others, arrived at the official opening of Winskill Stones (situated between Langcliffe and Malham); an internationally important habitat of limestone pavement and enclosed areas of grassland. More and more people congregated on the blustery fellsides, with groups sheltering in the natural amphitheatre that was to form an auditorium for the opening speeches and dedication to the late Geoff Hamilton.

Everyone was talking in congratulatory terms about the success of *Plantlife*, the wild plant conservation charity's campaign to save Winskill Stones from complete destruction, following 30 years of licensed commercial desecration, caused by the removal of tens of thousands of tons of limestone pavement to meet the demands of landscape gardeners.

Enormity of the Task

The Reserve was then formally dedicated to the late Geoff Hamilton who had led the appeal and whose enthusiasm and influence made it so successful. Professor David Bellamy OBE, President of *Plantlife*, gave a rousing speech which put the enormity of the conservationist task into

He left a legacy of tuneful music. His Three Yorkshire Dale Dances were first performed on the family's upright piano with Arthur adding orchestral effects by voice. The suite *My Native Heath* was written in London but based on vivid memories of the north country. The four movements are *Barwick Green* (a Maypole dance which became the Archer's signature tune), *Knaresborough* (inspired by the hiring fair), *Ilkley Tarn and Bolton Abbey*. Lyn Arnold, his daughter, told *Dalesman* readers in 1963: "My father was a Yorkshireman first and last."

Bill Mitchell

perspective, when he placed the saving of Winskill Stones in a world context, linking it to his own international work, and warmly congratulated us all. He emphasised that Geoff Hamilton's unfailing insistence on the use of peat alternatives by gardeners had made great impact, while Geoff's formidable reputation had inspired great support both for conservation and for this particular campaign.

Guided Tours

Despite the weather, groups of people were taken to see the quality of the limestone pavements and the enclosed areas of grassland which had survived and contained an internationally important plant community (already benefitting from the controlled grazing). Where limestone blocks had been removed and exposed to the weather, they were now bereft of vegetation, and made us realise what the outcome would have been had the destruction of the whole 64 acres continued. We felt proud that one more important habitat of breathtaking beauty had been saved not just for the Yorkshire Dales, but for our planet.

Alan Pease

Book Reviews

WHEN GRANDAD WAS A LAD Dennis Cairns, published by Lamberts Printers, Settle at £4.80, available at the Craven Herald bookshop and other local bookshops **or direct from the author.** Please add postage & packing 75p and send to Dennis Cairns, 18 Pen-y-Ghent Way, Barnoldswick, Colne, Lancs, BB8 5PY.

Given a set of diaries kept by Richard Dugdale, a Barnoldswick cotton weaver, over a period of six years in the 1870s, this book is the fruit of Yorkshire Dales Society member Dennis Cairns' researches. It was also the period when Dennis' own grandfather Joseph, whom he had been close to in his own childhood, would have been approaching his early teens, so giving him valuable insight into the sort of life his grandparent would have lived.

Barnoldswick today is a small town of 10,500 inhabitants on the Lancashire-North Yorkshire

border, situated a few miles from Skipton and Colne. But Barlick as it was more familiarly known, had till boundary changes, been part of the West Riding of Yorkshire for centuries and had grown from a village of less than three and a half thousand to a population of over 11,000 in grandfather Joseph's day. Inevitably it was a time of great changes, especially as regards such public utilities as gas, water and electricity.

Dennis supplements Richard Dugdale's rather laconic style by tracing and amplifying many of his wider references to the outside world with reports and summaries from the *Craven Herald and Pioneer* (today's *Craven Herald* newspaper) as well as supplementing more local events, and though unfortunately the diary for 1874 is missing, again he is able to bridge the gap with the help of his researches.

Births, deaths, marriages, Church teas, outings and entertainments, local controversies, interesting lectures, the coming of the railway, royal events, and even international happenings are all briefly chronicled and fleshed out by Dennis, though inevitably there are many unanswered questions. Fascinating to hear of Salmon Sunday in November when there was the greatest chance of seeing salmon swimming upstream to the river Ribble, while a reference to the annual Taper Supper at the Seven Stars, reminds us of old skills needed in the manufacture of cotton. Tapers were the men who operated the huge machinery through which cotton threads from sets of beams were passed and strengthened prior to being placed in the looms as warps.

Richard also records an inventory of what he expended on furniture in 1873, a goldmine for the local historian, and such facts as that trains ran for the first time on the Barlick line on Sundays in April of the same year. He mentions the introduction of tinned Australian meat in one of his early diaries while a letter in the *Craven Herald & Pioneer* makes it clear how useful this cheaper alternative was for the many struggling on low wages. Accidents and deaths are recorded with great fatalism irrespective of whether they were of strangers or known to Richard himself.

Throughout Dennis Cairns is able to convey a good deal of the flavour of the period in his interesting and admirable book. There is just one question. Would "When Grandad *were* a Lad" perhaps have reflected the idiom more accurately?

Proceeds from the sale of this book will be donated to Coates Lane Primary School, Barnoldswick, and to other Primary Schools in the locality.

Fleur Speakman

FROM HACKNEY TO HILL FARM: A TAPESTRY THREE SCORE YEARS AND TEN Mary E. Hartshorne published by Country Books, Derbyshire at £10.50 ISBN 1 898941 07 6. Available from author, price includes postage & packing, cheques to Mary Hartshorne, Hardwick House Farm, Addingham Moorside, Ilkley, LS29 9JY.

A somewhat cumbersome title for a moving and entertaining auto-biography by Mary Hartshorne, who with her twin sister Alice, was born illegitimately in the London borough of Hackney in the early 1920s to a young grocery assistant, and sent for adoption to a Dr Barnado's Home. From there the girls were legally adopted by an elderly Birmingham Quaker, William Littleboy, who was also warden of Woodbrooke College, and brought up in Bourneville. Heartening to read that their adopted parents loved them as dearly as if they had been their own children and were repaid with affection in full measure.

After a basically happy childhood, though sadly with her adopted parents dead when she was ten years old, Mary eventually went on to Oaklands, Hertfordshire County Farm College to study farming, and met her future husband there. After farming in a number of areas in England including the Yorkshire Dales and even venturing to Australia, she eventually returned to the dales to Hardwick Farm near Ilkley in 1960 where she and her husband still farm.

Mary Hartshorne brings vividly to life such characters as the redoubtable Aunt Anna who though in her seventies, arrived from London to take them on an annual outing to the Lickey Hills. When they were older, their visits to her in London, would be heightened by the old lady indulging in fearless dashes across the London streets with a sublime disregard for motor cars which were latecomers on the scene as far as she was concerned.

Mary Hartshorne also gives some useful insights into life in a Quaker family of the period, later herself becoming a pupil at The Mount, a well-known Quaker boarding school in York. It is clear from her comments that it can sometimes benefit twins to actually be educated at different establishments.

Mary starts her married life on a farm in Bishopsdale and reminds us of the acute postwar shortages when she mentions their delight in finding a few white cups (cups were then unobtainable) in a shop in Leyburn and two grey army blankets, without coupons being demanded.

(continued on page 14)

Daleswatch Report

1. CARAVAN RALLYING

Caravans have many advantages as I know from first-hand experience. They are a means of opening up the countryside, are relatively economical to use and retain much of the convenience of home living.

There are two main types. Those that move and those that don't. The touring caravan enables the town dweller to move about the country from time to time and place to place, spending a couple of nights here and there, perhaps a week or so somewhere else, and to explore new areas. The static variety provides a sort of flat in the countryside that is easy to maintain, cheap to use and is capable of forming a comfortable home for periods ranging from a few days to several years. The occupants help towards the prosperity of places where they are sited, contributing to the local economy by their use of the local shops and facilities. And, naturally enough, those who stay in an area for more than the odd night or two are likely to spend more money than the day visitor.

But there are several downsides. For one thing they clog the roads up and, especially in country areas where roads can be narrow and forward visibility restricted, they form something of an obstacle to the free flow of traffic and, at worst, can become a very real hazard. They are also something of a blot on the landscape, especially where they are parked in large numbers. Whilst in National Parks, their presence can be seen as breaching the first National Park Purpose, that requiring the Authorities to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the countryside.

The problem is exacerbated by the practice of holding most caravan rallies in summer, when leisure traffic is at its busiest, mainly in the countryside, and frequently in the National Parks. The very nature of a caravan rally means that they could scarcely be better designed to cause maximum disruption on roads serving the rally site during the initial and closing phases of the rally, and the greatest landscape impact whilst in progress. The rallies are not subject to planning control, and the National Park Authority has very limited powers to do anything about them, although organising bodies do consult the Authority on a voluntary basis regarding their annual rally programmes.

Last year 52 rallies were held in the Yorkshire Dales National Park with some 2,105 units taking part.

This year 66 rallies with 2,556 units have been asked for. The National Park Authority will negotiate this down a bit, but the implications for future growth are obvious. The situation is gradually becoming one where the second National Park Purpose, that of promoting opportunities for the enjoyment of the special qualities of the Park, is becoming lost in a welter of traffic jams and avoidable landscape despoilation. Without further powers, the Park Authority has no means of preventing this happening. Those powers should be granted before the whole thing gets completely out of hand.

2. FLYING OVER THE DALES.

Every visitor to the Yorkshire Dales is left in no doubt that our present military authorities deem it essential to the future security of the realm for our military aviators to be well experienced in flying at what is colloquially known as *zero zero feet*. There are cogent arguments that regard this tactic as non-optimal, but since the authorities are by definition, in authority, that is what the young men who fly the fighting machines have to practice doing, and they do it very well and it is exciting to see them do it. However, there is a snag for low flying causes an awful lot of noise and disturbance in those places over which it takes place. So it is reasonable that this is likely to be where it will affect the least number of people. Unfortunately this means the places where our countryside is at its best. And, not surprisingly, these coincide very closely with our National Parks. So we get a lot of low flying over the Yorkshire Dales.

For many of us this is no more than a temporary nuisance. Indeed we may get a thrill of excitement at watching the skill of the pilots. But, apart from the temporary resultant desecration of the concept of tranquillity, there are serious aspects that should be kept in mind. Amongst these is the serious effect that could result from an inexperienced horse rider who is thrown and seriously injured as a result of their mount shying. At worst, it is not inconceivable that such an injury could prove fatal. The military can be hard to move, but in these days of easy communication across the world, it is difficult to believe that an adequate notification system cannot be devised.

3. RAVEN FRANKLAND

Raven Frankland, who died on the 20th June, is sadly no longer with us. A Member of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee from its inception

in 1974 until it was replaced by the new Authority in April this year, and a member of the Yorkshire Dales Society, Raven can best be described as a *gentleman* in the truest sense of the word. He originally joined the Park Committee as a Secretary of State Appointed Member, but so liked the job that when his term expired, he got himself elected to Cumbria County Council so that he could continue to serve the Park in the way he had done until a few months ago. He will be much missed and it was indeed a privilege to have worked with him.

Jim Burton

Book Reviews *(continued)*

Another venture was High Woods Farm near Brimham Rocks, overlooking Nidderdale, when with six pedigree Ayrshire cows, the Hartshornes started to sell milk, but with no coupons for bagged animal food as they had not farmed before the war. Silage was then a very new idea and necessity made them try it out; cutting the grass and tipping it into a ruined roofless building, then covering it with molasses from a watering can and treading it down firmly. It made a very succulent feed in the winter and was covered with tarpaulin so it would not blow away.

Now having lived in their "twenty seven less favoured acres" for getting on for 40 years, they have made some attractive fish-stocked ponds, put many tons of stone on what was originally a track

Windfarm Victory

The proposed windfarm on Barningham High Moor, near Arkengarthdale, outside the National Park but in an area of Special Landscape Value and noted for its archaeology, was turned down by Teesdale Council. The YDS was an objector, supporting local conservation groups.

to take the heavy farm vehicles of today and done some major roof repairs, and they have also been notified that *their* moor is now an SSI or "Site of Special Scientific Interest".

Adaptable, with a great interest in and enjoyment of all she encounters, this generously illustrated book, is a pleasure to read.

Fleur Speakman



Autumn Events

We have an interesting and varied programme of Society autumn and winter walks and lectures for 1997/8, starting with our October lecture, an all day event with a lead mining walk linked to an afternoon lecture, and visits to Wensleydale, Lower Wharfedale and Ribblesdale.

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. Bus service 24 0930 from Harrogate Bus Station direct to Dacre Banks. Packed lunch needed.

LECTURE LEADMINING IN THE DALES by John Hobson, Dacre Village Hall, 2.15pm.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 1ST - WALK IN REDMIRE AREA 3-4 miles, moderate, packed lunch, Leader Alan Watkinson 01969 667785. Meet at Redmire Village Hall at 10.30am.

LECTURE - WENSLEYDALE BY WAY OF ITS CHURCHES, PART 2 by Kenneth Waghorne, Redmire Village Hall at 2.15pm.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 13th - WALK IN THE ADDINGHAM AREA. Meet at Addingham Memorial Hall at 10.30am. Metrotrain Wharfedale Line train,



Leeds dep 0908, Bradford F. Sq. 0927. To catch X84 Skipton bus from Ilkley station at 10.10am (Day Rover ticket recommended). 762 Ilkley bus from Keighley at 09.10. Packed lunch (or pub/cafe available) for moderate 4-5 mile walk. Leaders Jean Dobson 01943 601749 and Margaret Rhodes 01943 602194.

LECTURE - YORKSHIRE IN WORDS AND MUSIC by YDS President Ken Willson, Addingham Memorial Hall 2.15pm.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 30TH - END OF YEAR WALK TO SCALEBER FORCE AND HELLIFIELD

A 6 mile moderate walk from Settle to Hellifield (some steep bits), with afternoon tea at the newly restored Hellifield Station buffet and Victorian gallery. Bring packed lunch. Catch 1047 train to Settle from Leeds (Shipley 1101, Keighley 1109, Skipton 1123); return from Hellifield on 1610 train. Leader Colin Speakman 01943 607868.

SATURDAY JANUARY 10TH - WALK IN THE BARDSEY AREA. Moderate 3-4 mile walk. Packed lunch. Leader Alan Pease 01937 573669 Meet at Bardsey Village Hall 10.30am. Bus service 98 d. Leeds Infirmary Street 0935 alight Bardsey Lane End, East Rigton.

LECTURE - COACHING MEMORIES by Eric Houlder at Bardsey Village Hall at 2.15pm.

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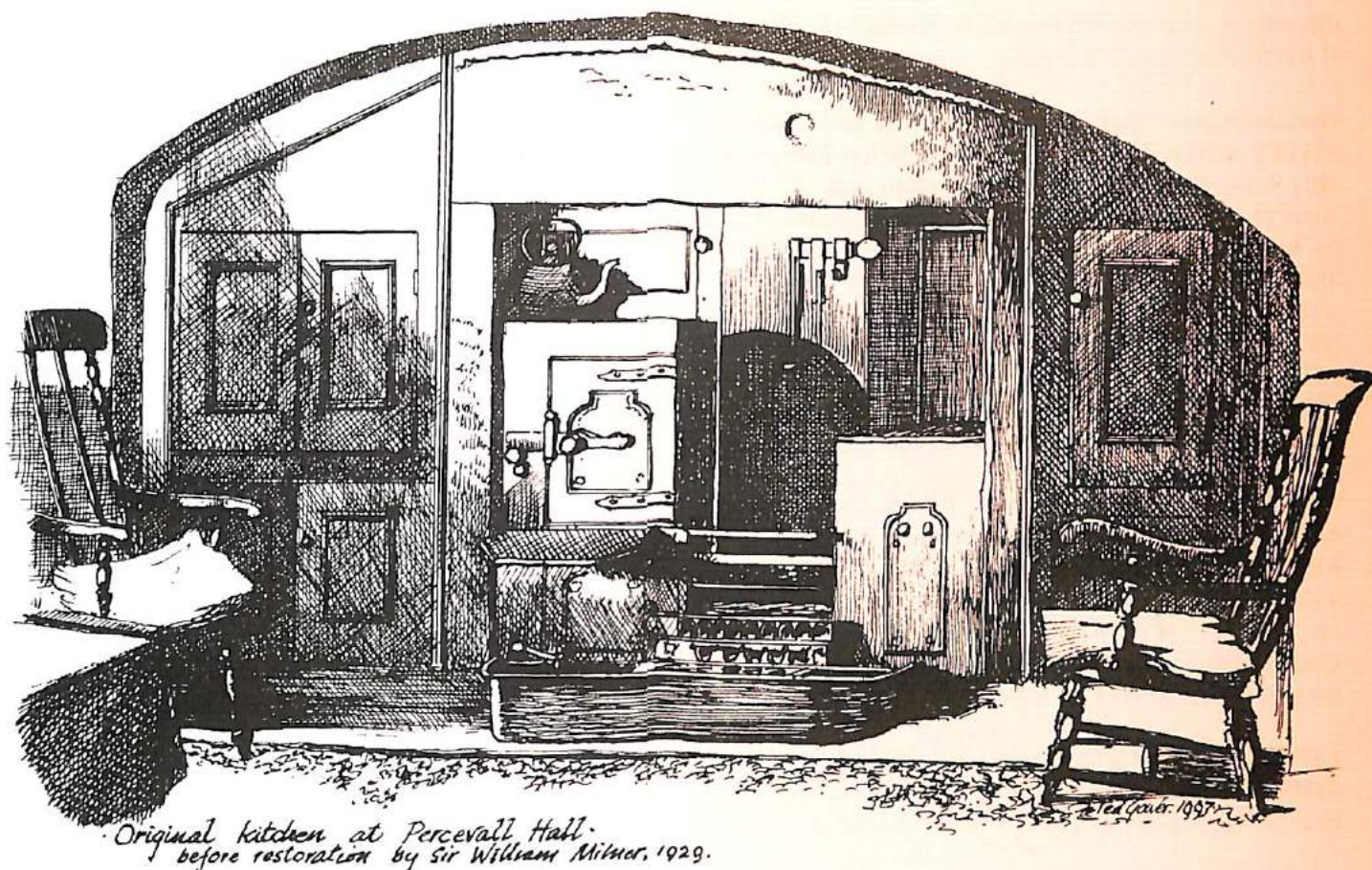
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*Original kitchen at Percevall Hall.
before restoration by Sir William Milner, 1929.*

Front Cover picture: November Morning, Swinsty Reservoir in the Wasbourn Valley; photo. John Fawcett

Back Cover picture: The Original Kitchen at Percevall Hall; line drawing by Ted Gower.

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