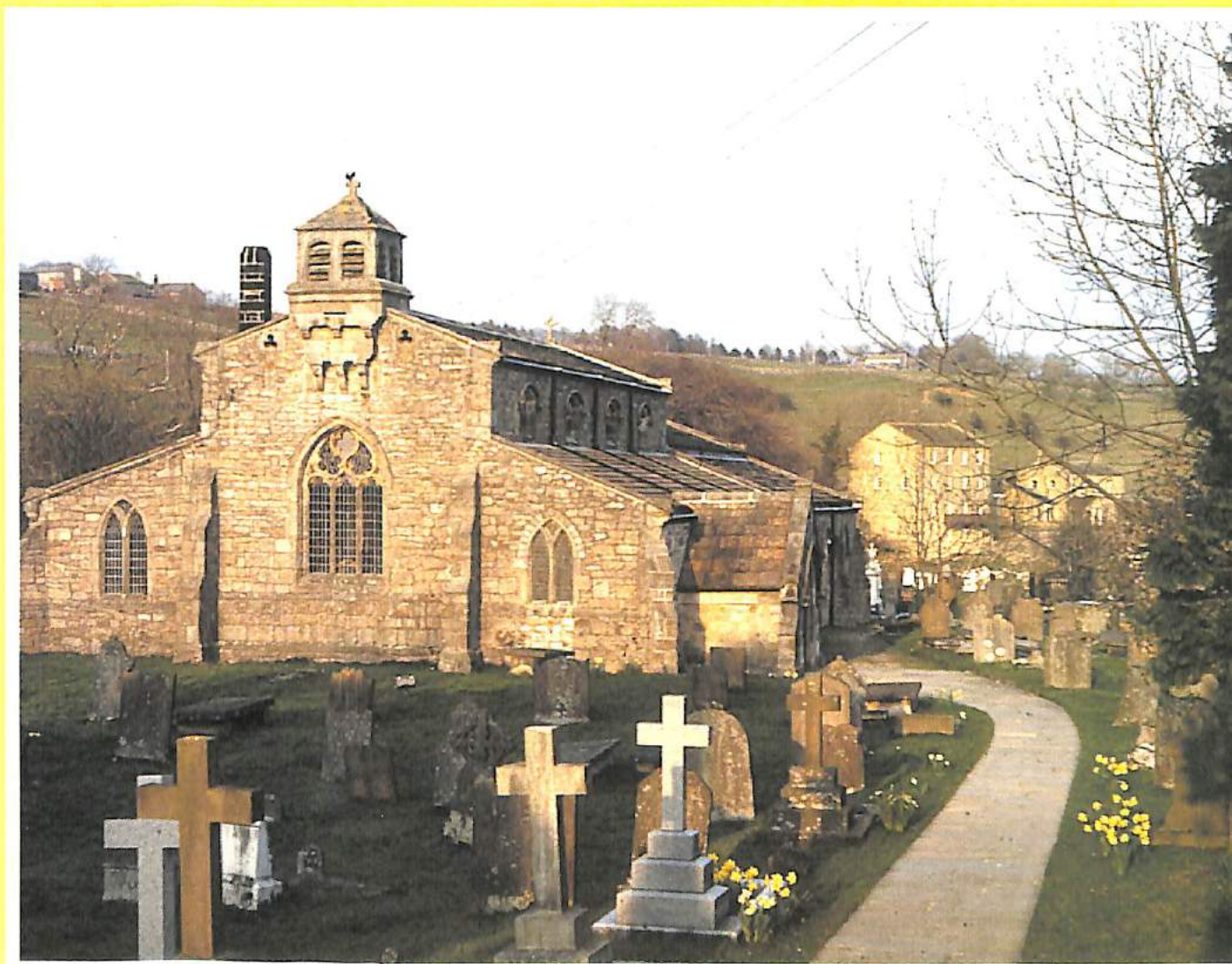


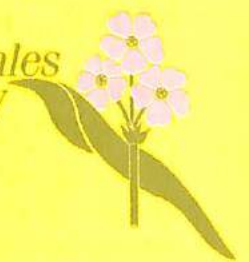
Yorkshire Dales Review



No. 74 Spring 2001

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- *Farming in Yorkshire – Part II*
- *Yorkshire Dales Society Profiles*
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Yorkshire Dales
Society



£1.50

Foot and Mouth - the Deepening Crisis

The Foot and Mouth disease outbreak, now affecting the whole of Britain, is the worst crisis to affect the Yorkshire Dales in a generation. It will take perhaps another generation for the Dales to fully recover from the devastation now being inflicted on the farming community, on the dairy industry, on small businesses, and on the tourism industry.

It is every farmer's worst nightmare. Newborn lambs carefully brought into the world and tenderly cared for one day, are being slaughtered on the next. Herds of fine pedigree cattle are turned into obscene funeral pyres. And on neighbouring farms, people live in a state of siege, prisoners on their own land, waiting in fear for the first terrible symptoms on their own animals.

Visitors, and walkers in particular, have supported the access ban in an exemplary fashion. Legal closure notices on all footpaths and bridleways have been universally respected, riverside and moorland are deserted and car parks are empty. Compared with what farming communities are having to suffer, the temporary loss of countryside access seems trivial.

But there is another, equally tragic side to the closures. Walkers bring with them immense spending power, in hotels, guest houses, self-catering cottages, pubs, restaurants, camp sites, craft centres and shops. Visitor spend generates secondary spend as landlords and shopkeepers buy supplies. Tourism is now every bit as vital to the Dales economy as farming. Pictures on national television of Malham village, looking like a 17th century plague village, with red warning notices and disinfectant mats to drive over, are about as strong a disincentive you can get to wanting to visit the Dales. Yorkshire Dales Closed Down - Keep Out is a terrifying message for anyone running a Dales tourism business, perhaps servicing a bank loan, and for the people they employ.

As we go to press, what we hoped would last a couple of weeks is according to MAFF and NUF spokesmen, likely to last some months, up to and past the critical period for the tourist industry of

Easter. There is no end yet in sight with more cases reported every day, including the devastating news of an outbreak in Raydale, near Hawes.

Why has this catastrophe happened? It's easy to look for scapegoats. Experts seem divided as to whether the virus is carried on feet, car tyres, wild life (a more extreme suggestion was the slaughter of all wild life including badgers, foxes and deer) or the wind. What does seem certain to be a major factor (and something that differs from previous outbreaks) is the huge scale of livestock movements up and down the motorways of the UK, with certain farms used as transit camps, in order to take advantage of price variations in different parts of the UK. And wasn't it some of these same livestock hauliers who were holding up the country to ransom only a few months ago, and threatening to bring down the government in order to get fuel taxes reduced to help them cope with the cut-throat competition of their industry? Unfortunately it is not bales of hay being transported and traded, but live creatures, and it was only a matter of time before a highly contagious virus such as foot and mouth would spread through the loosely regulated system.

Many people are now questioning the whole ethical issue of animal welfare and the "slaughter and contain" policy which may have worked in days before huge quantities of livestock were trundled nightly up and down the motorways, but clearly hasn't worked in 2001. The reason sheep, cattle and pigs are not vaccinated is, we are told, primarily economic. Foot and mouth, though it can cause severe distress, is rarely fatal, and animals would also eventually build up their own immune system. But even with immunisation there would be loss of weight and size, and UK exports (what little is left post-BSE) would be severely affected.

But if the reasons for the slaughter policy are primarily economic, what about the even greater economic devastation now being inflicted on the rural tourist industry, which is now an even more significant source of direct and indirect employment and earnings in the Dales than farming, including earnings from significant

numbers of overseas visitors who are now cancelling their visits to the UK? With many Dales businesses facing bankruptcy over the next few weeks through no fault of their own, and without any hope of compensation, many people in the Dales - and not just those with tourism businesses - are now questioning the wisdom of current agricultural and farming policies.

Of course the Yorkshire Dales Society fully supports Dales farming communities in their terrible plight. We have postponed our walks and outdoor events until we get the "all clear" from the National Park Authority and other agencies to enter the countryside again. But at the same time we would like to re-assure members that the Dales are not "closed". Even if you have to stay on the tarmac or in the villages, you will be warmly welcome in Dales inns, guest houses, shops, restaurants and those many attractions which are open (we hope to have up-to-date regular information on our web-site at yorkshiredalesociety.org.uk). In fact by coming and spending time and money in the Dales you will, as a Society member, be expressing our solidarity with Dales local communities and helping them to get through this dreadful crisis.

In the longer term, the Yorkshire Dales Society intends to work with the National Park Authority, Nidderdale JAC, the Countryside Agency, MAFF and other bodies including local farmers to help both the farming and tourism industry to recover from

the tragedy. But even when the crisis is over it cannot just be business as usual. We would want to see a new recognition of the importance of local produce from our farms being sold directly to local consumers and visitors, which will bring guarantees of the highest standards of animal welfare and quality that our Dales farmers represent, and a fair return for producers. We want to see our farmers sharing in the tasks and rewards of responsible countryside access and environmental protection that National Park and AONB status should truly mean. We want to see more sustainable forms of tourism being developed where people will stay longer in the area, enjoy a higher quality of experience and contribute more to the local economy.

No one, least of all the Yorkshire Dales Society, should minimise the impact the foot and mouth crisis is having on the Dales, and indeed on the rest of rural England, and on the lives of so many people. But even the worst crisis contains the seeds of hope. At very least, we now have a better understanding of the close, mutual inter-dependency between town and country, between urban and rural communities, between visitors and locals. Whether we live in the Dales, either as a resident or running a business, or visit the Dales regularly or occasionally, we all have a role in working together to help secure that recovery when it comes.

Colin Speakman

This charming letter was received from **Marie Hartley** by the editors after our obituary for Joan Ingilby appeared in the last YDS Review. We reproduce it with permission from Marie Hartley.

29th January 2001

Dear Chris & Fleur,

I write to thank you very much for sending me the winter number of 'Yorkshire Dales Review' with its appreciation of Joan Ingilby. She was struck down by that fatal disease, which I only mention because she said that she had lived longer than any other member of her family. I am glad that I sent you information about our work. We did work hard, scribbling one book & starting on another, plus art, gardening, home etc.

It was all enjoyable, & we have appreciated knowing so many of the older dalepeople - so many now gone, & an almost total change in the life of the dales. I have always told you that we enjoyed 'Yorkshire Dales Review', & now occasionally tried to contribute. I trust that you & your faithful band of followers will continue the good work & continue to publish news from the dales. There seem to be new breath in the Y.D. National Park - more positive, more open, more conciliatory. There is just a threat of too much commercialisation.

Thank you for sending such a good appreciation

Yours sincerely
Marie Hartley

Farming in the Yorkshire Dales: Part II

Embracing Change - a Strategic Approach for the Yorkshire Dales?

In the Winter issue of the Yorkshire Dales Review we published Part I of Andrew Humphries' article based on his earlier lecture for the Society on "Farming in the Yorkshire Dales." In this issue Part II highlights the ways in which a strategic approach to change might be helpful. (This was of course written well before the onslaught of "Foot and Mouth" disease in the Dales, which if anything, makes these views even more relevant.)

Context of Change

History may well judge the present time as a defining period in rural affairs. How that will be described will depend on what happens in the next few years. This is probably the third such period in modern history. The late 18th century is seen as the period of rapid enclosure and the emergence of "Improvers". The mid 19th century saw the farming communities produce more food with a static amount of enclosed land with many less people: in fact the farming population during 1850-1900 fell from 50% to 90%.

The early 21st century challenges the agricultural community to take on a multifunctional role for a society that values land more for its production characteristics, rightly or wrongly.

In this sense we are in new water and the UK is certainly in a unique situation having been the first industrial nation and having seen the rural urban divide at an earlier stage and in sharper focus than any other developed society.

Clearly ignoring change is not an option. The issues and questions relate to the form and pace of change and its relationship with farming communities.

It is about recognising and dealing with difficulties *at the same time as exploiting the opportunities.* Change has always been characterised by pain and opportunity simultaneously. **There will be no single remedy.** Inevitably change will be a blunt instrument and there will be casualties. But those who fail to learn the lessons of history will be condemned to relive them. Change means continuous readjustment not just now, but over a long period in what is a new set of conditions for the world's first industrial nation.

Messengers of change carry a heavy responsibility to give clear messages to the community about the future. History is not kind to ambiguous messengers. Poor King Cnut is almost invariably depicted as someone who tried unsuccessfully to hold back the tide. In fact the opposite was true - he was a visionary demonstrating the futility of trying to hold the tide at bay.

We must be clear about the underlying tide and ensure that the farming community looks for the benefits of "going with the flow". That is not to say that the flow needs no redirection, but energy must be used where the greatest response can be gained.

Whilst the issue of Genetically Modified Products, Food Safety and Animal Welfare among others are of significance, the fundamentals that will determine change in primary agriculture are :-

Low growth in product demand

Upward pressure on Costs

Downward pressure on prices

These economic pressures in the foreseeable future will be relentless and additive in their effect. Policies may hasten or delay their impact, disguise or divert them (and that may be vital), but in the end they will override any attempt to hold back the tide. Failure to recognise this will seriously hamper the industry in its attempts to adjust.

These underlying pressures taken in conjunction with structural characteristics of farms indicate changes of a radical nature for the long-term competitiveness of primary production. Radical change demands radical response. To quote an old Chinese proverb, "He who takes the middle of the road is in danger of being crushed by two rickshaws."

Principles of adjustment

If the future of our industry were about primary production and little else, then the outlook in the longer term would be much worse than bleak.

Fortunately society doesn't see it that way either - that is not to deny the crucial importance of primary production - it must remain at the heart of farming businesses - but on its own it will be inadequate and incapable of sustaining more than

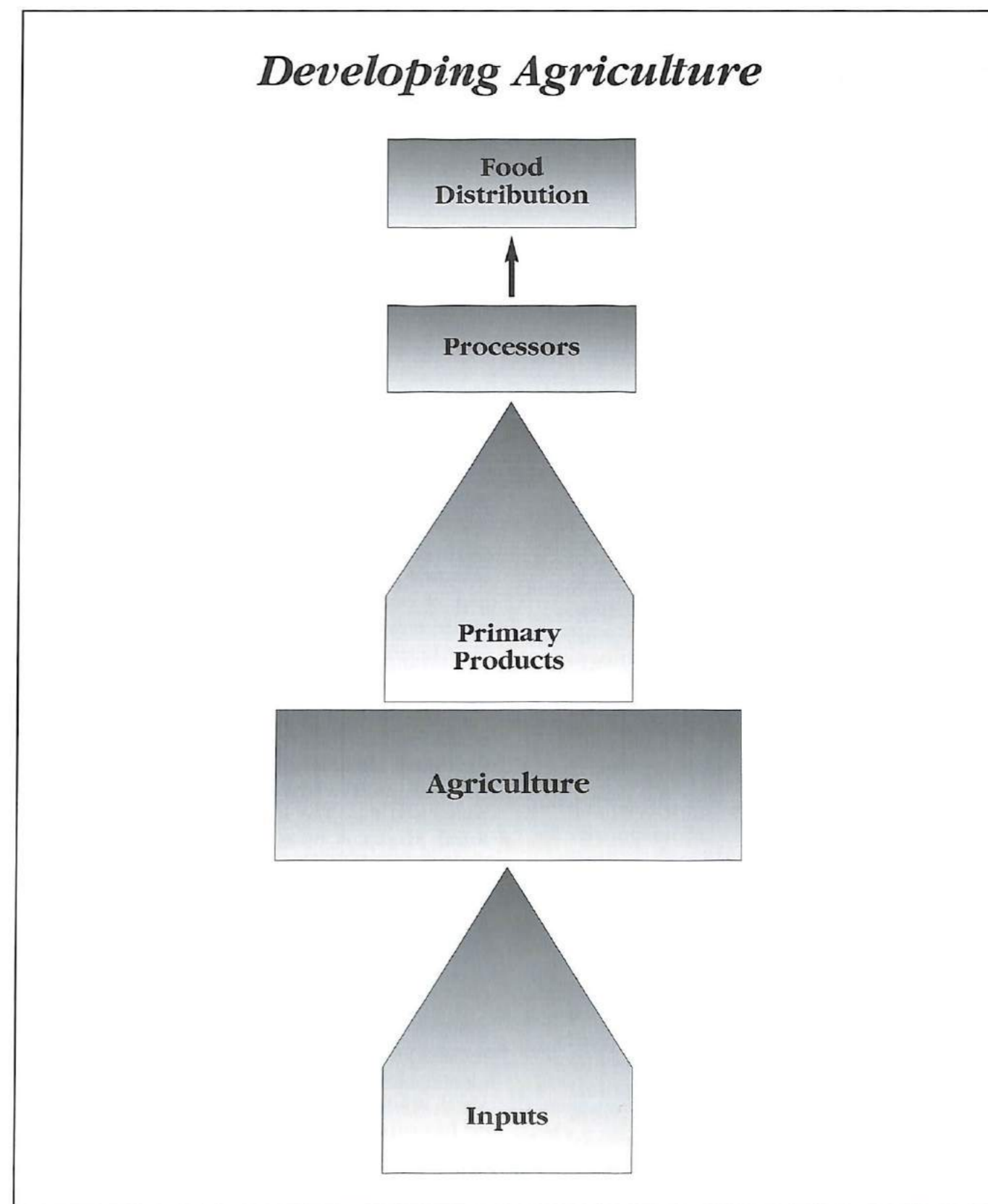
a fraction of the present agricultural community. It is perhaps arguable that we are not any more in the real sense food producers. A look into a grocer's or supermarket suggests that we are only the suppliers of raw materials. Conversely society needs to understand that primary production is at the heart of farming's sense of purpose and fulfilment. Both parties need to recognise reality.

Last summer I stood in Borrowdale one morning with a young farmer who I admire as a practitioner

and thinker. When I asked what worried him most, his reply was. "The thing that worries me most is that I am beginning to question why I get up in a morning." Maintaining that sense of purpose defines the nature and depth of the current crisis.

Agriculture is at the cross-roads, or is it?

The Diagram Developing Agriculture shows the present system.



The Multi-Functional Farming Economy

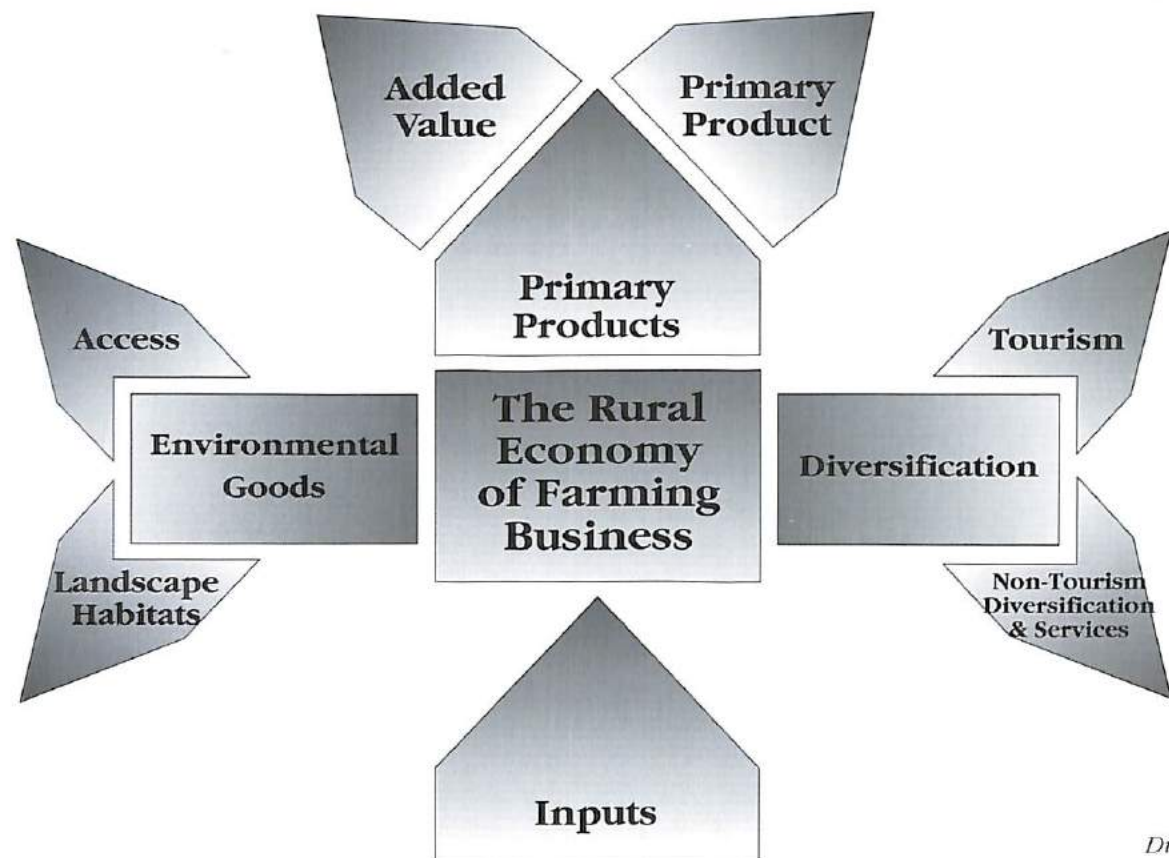


Diagram No.2

Agriculture - present, and not necessarily the past.

This is the economy of the banana republic and will produce the economy of a banana republic. Like a banana republic the road is a single track with one destination. Without cross-roads changing direction is difficult. Cross-roads imply choices of direction and these do exist though they may not all be easily accessed.

Diagram No.2 shows the Multi-Functional Farming Economy where the Rural Economy of the Farming Business can result in additional positive factors such as added value, environmental goods, landscape habitats and diversification leading to tourism.

This of course represents the future, the medium and the long term and I recognise that for many the priority is the short term - but as an industry we must ensure that there is a vision for the medium and long term, a vision which the industry can embrace. A multi-functional agriculture is surely a better prospect than a single purpose industry - that was the ultimate problem for miners and steelworkers.

If we are to successfully exploit the plural activities which may be identified, there must be a clear contract between urban and rural communities. Their needs and interests should be seen not as different, but as complementary. The time is right

but **effective partnership** is vital.

We need to work with the grain of government, and with the grain of informed public opinion. The efforts of a MAFF as a single government department cannot secure anything other than a part of our future. By definition multi-functional means new and more varied partnerships with both government and non-government organisations.

(Diagram No.3 - a similar diagram + additions)

The key to exploiting the potential of a multi-functional farming model is through partnership, we cannot afford to allow independence to equate with insularity. Government themselves have recognised this. The resistance to a department of Rural Affairs is born of a recognition that the multiplicity of factors in the rural sector cuts across most if not all departments of government, such as transport, housing and trade. This has been further emphasised in the PIU report which recognises the inter-relationship between farming, rural communities and the urban majority.

Inevitably there will be those unwilling or unable to adapt for whom solutions may not be identifiable. But for those seeking a real future, the watchwords are surely:

Awareness, Responsiveness, Innovation and Adaptability.

Key elements in a rural urban partnership are well

The Multi-Functional Farming Economy

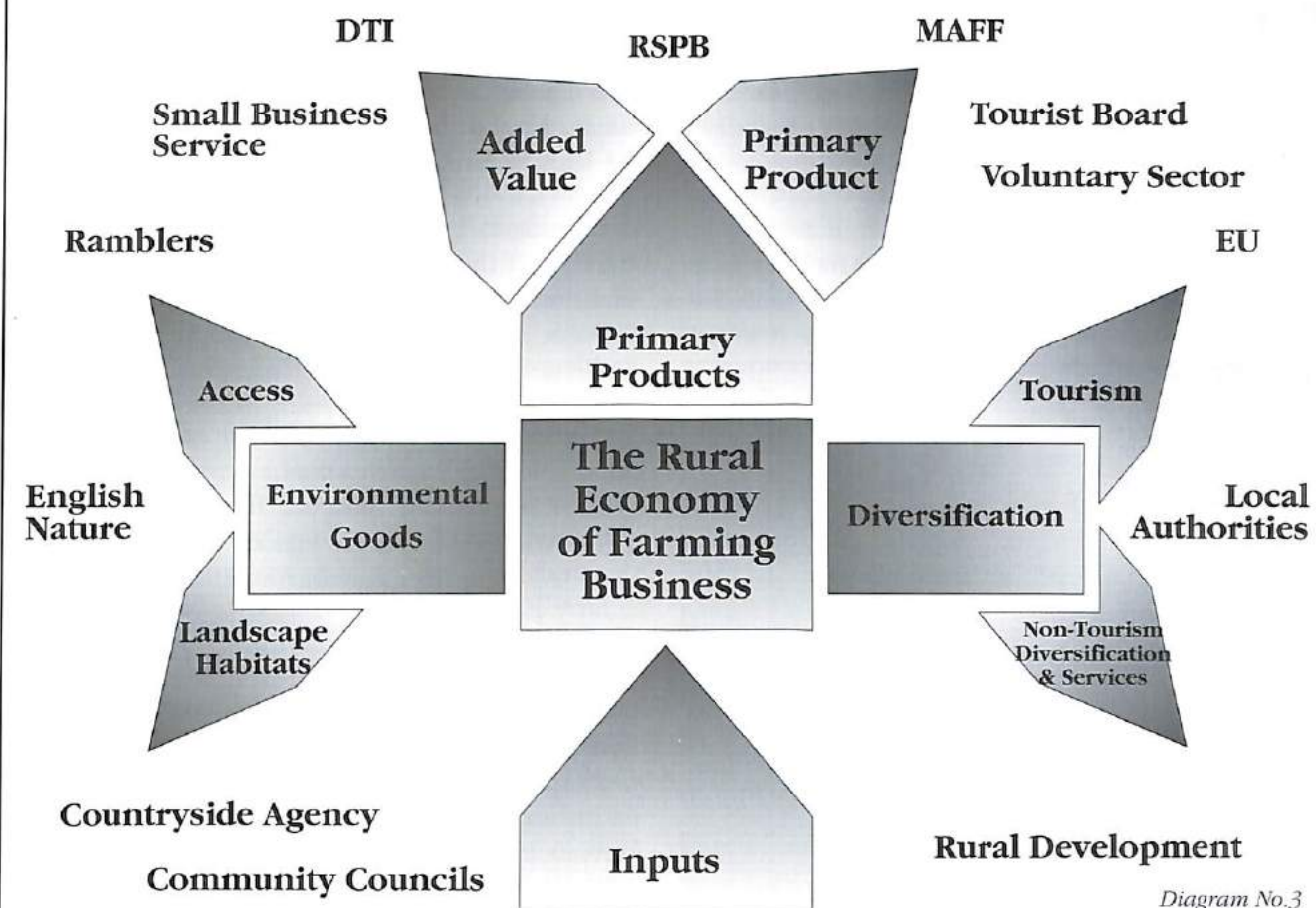


Diagram No.3

identified in the Rural Development Regulation and many of them imply the need for developing and enhancing skills, a welcome focus on people. Agri-Environment measures, Rural Enterprise, organic production and marketing are defined elements of the public agenda as expressed by government. The ability to gain the benefits of Information Technology in a heavily bureaucratized industry is self-evident. Food processing, market research, marketing and many other skills areas if addressed will bring confidence, and the ability to professionally exploit the potential, which is undeniable.

Perhaps the Question is not what needs to be done? but How do we begin?

What should be the strategy of local farmers? Of equal relevance is the question what should be the role of society? How is society adjusting its approach? What changes are acceptable or desirable given that change will take place? What partnerships do we envisage? Who holds the key in part at least to the realisation of our aims?

The conclusions which I offer in respect of the farming response, are relatively simple and concise.

- The opportunity to embrace a new contract

with non-farming interests offers significant potential.

- No one mechanism or solution can possibly address the diverse needs of individual farmers.
- New partnerships including those organisations which have been in tension with farmers, have the capacity to be mutually beneficial and allow access to funding not traditionally in the farming domain. Such funding is frequently competitive and depends in part on the quality of application.
- The potential for bureaucratic excess in such a complex situation needs to be carefully monitored.
- Co-ordinated small business advice linked to the agenda of individual farming families is vital.
- Increased need and opportunity at regional level to create and influence the agenda.
- Best Practice and success must be identified and promoted in a timely way.
- Multi-functional farming means delivery of multiple measurable benefits, [responsibility].

Andrew Humphries

Profile: Jerry Pearlman

Members of the Yorkshire Dales Society owe a particular debt of gratitude to founder-member Jerry Pearlman, who was not only instrumental in giving the Society key legal advice during its formative period of establishment as a non-profit distributing company, but in providing key professional expertise which has been at the service of the Society over the years whenever it



was needed, under a variety of circumstances.

But Jerry is also one of Britain's leading environmental lawyers, an expert on footpaths, rights of way and access matters who has played a leading role in achieving many important legal decisions on rights of way. He has made a major contribution to the new Countryside and Rights of Way Act now on the statute book.

Born in Redcar, in the historic North Riding of Yorkshire and therefore a true Yorkshireman, Jerry was educated at Keighley Boys Grammar School and King James Grammar School Bishop Auckland, took his law degree in London in 1954 and became a solicitor (with honours) in 1956. National Service intervened before he could start his professional career. From 1958-1991 he was a partner of Pearlman Grazin and Co and founder of the firm, now Brooke North, and married his wife Bernice in 1961.

Jerry's deep interest in the Dales and his flair for committee work opened the way for a number of key positions. He was appointed Member of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Committee by the Secretary of State for the Environment 1983-92 and from 1998 has been a member of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, being recently re-appointed for a further three years. Jerry served 1996-8 as Vice-Chairman for the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust and remains a Trustee. His

walking and access interests are further reflected in the number of additional bodies he sits on where his role is an extremely active one and includes being Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Member of the National Countryside Access Forum, Chairman of the Open Spaces Society, Honorary Solicitor to the Ramblers Association, Chairman of its West Riding Area 1977-91, and a member of its EC. Finally as a long-standing member of the Yorkshire Dales Society Council of Management, Jerry has made many valuable contributions. As a practised and witty speaker, he is able to delight and even provoke his audience whenever occasion demands.

Jerry is renowned nationally for his campaigning work on footpaths and access to the countryside for the Ramblers Association, and it was no surprise that his tireless industry for the environment was finally rewarded by the Queen with an MBE. In his professional field he was appointed Member of the Adjudication Committee Solicitors Complaints Bureau by the Master of the Rolls and from 1985-1986 he was President of the Law Society in Leeds. Other prestigious positions included 1977-1984 Public Relations Officer for the Leeds Law Society, and later Parliamentary Relations Officer. In addition he acts as Honorary Solicitor for the Etz Chaim Synagogue in Leeds as well as for the Leeds Sikh and Hindu Temples in the same capacity. He has also contributed a number of learned articles in legal journals.

Classical music and concert-going is another of Jerry's particular interests which form a welcome relaxation to the rigours of committee work. For many years Jerry and his family have had a cottage in Stalling Busk near Semerwater which has proved a very welcome retreat from city life and a great base to enjoy the many beauties of the countryside. Jerry's two daughters have presented him with a grandson and granddaughter and he has been a joint contributor with his daughter Debbie to a book entitled "Right of Way".

We look forward to Jerry Pearlman's talk at the Celebration Dinner on the Society's Twentieth Anniversary on Thursday June 14th at the Buck Inn at Malham on "Some Environmental Legal Nutcases" where Jerry's eloquence and wit, and keen sense of the ridiculous, should make for a highly entertaining evening.

Fleur Speakman

Profile: Dennis Cairns

A Yorkshire Dales Society member since 1984, Dennis and his wife Grace have been valued members of the Yorkshire Dales Council of Management since 1994. He also serves on the Yorkshire Dales Society Events and Membership sub-committee and on each committee his considered responses and infectious enthusiasm have been great assets.

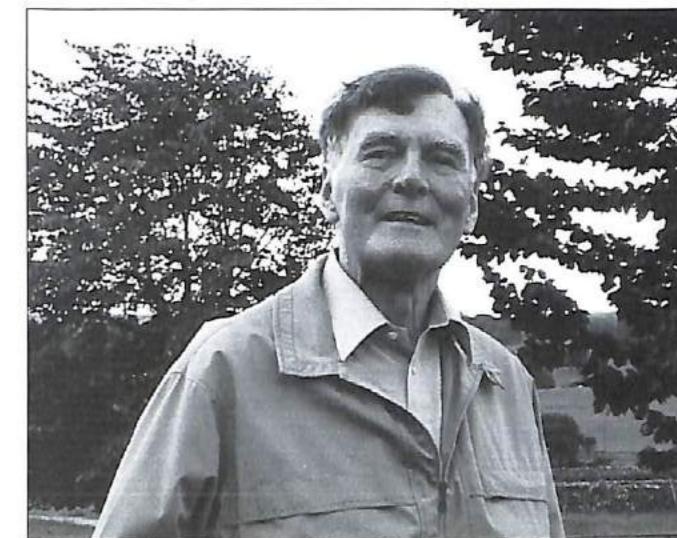
Born in Barnoldswick, Dennis attended Emysted's Grammar School in Skipton and spent the war years as a Radio Officer in the Merchant Navy. He then took a teacher training course at St John's College at York, married and became a teacher at the New Road Junior School in Earby, and after five years moved to a post in Shropshire. This was followed by headmasterships for three different schools in turn for Lancashire Education Authority while living at Feniscowles on the outskirts of Blackburn till his early retirement in 1983. In May 1984 he moved back to Barnoldswick, with both his sons now married and with one grand-daughter.

At this point Dennis started his long association with the Yorkshire Dales National Park as a voluntary warden which was inspired by a chance meeting with John Avison, then Area Warden, on Gordale Scar. In his capacity as Voluntary Warden Dennis led numerous groups through the *Walks with the Warden* scheme, as well as patrolling footpaths, limestone pavements and various other conservation sites, and giving many talks to school groups, averaging 40 days' work annually for the Park. More recently though he has admitted to cutting back a little, he is now occupied in passing on his skills and experience by training others.

Though leading walks was always an enjoyable experience, the bonus was also in the variety of people it enabled him to meet, while footpath survey work allowed Dennis to enjoy the Dales in more solitary mode. Dennis' main areas of Park responsibility were generally in the south-west towards Malham, Ingleton, the Three Peaks and Gargrave, but when pressed for a favourite Dale, he suggests that the more tranquil Littondale has much to offer by way of its scenic beauty, history and geology.

Dennis sees the future for the Dales as a balance between enjoyment of that special countryside and too much visitor pressure so that insufficient natural beauty remains to be enjoyed. For him the issue is how people access the National Park. The key is much better public transport enabling the visitor to make their journeys in a more environmental friendly way. As regards changes in the attitude

over the years of people coming to the Dales, he believes that there is often too much litigation nowadays and perhaps too strong a tendency to blame the National Park Authority for a chance fall or slip. People are still often inadequately shod and clothed, but a welcome improvement from the Voluntary Warden's point of view is that Wardens are now empowered to abort a walk should there



be particularly difficult conditions.

In recent years Dennis has been the author of three popular books with historic themes about the Dales, including his *Dales Odyssey* which was based on the post-World War I journal of a young man who enjoyed outings to the Dales with his friends. This was followed by *When Grandad was a Lad* and by a volume of photographs, *Earby and Witbwell: In Times Past*. Dennis has given several talks for the Yorkshire Dales Society and led a number of walks for our Events programme. He is also a well-known speaker in his local area on a variety of topics. His other interests include gardening, reading, Swiss philately, local history and looking after the archives of local Methodist churches. He has also held numerous posts within his local Church. His strong commitment to his home town is shown also by serving from 1987-1994 on the newly formed Barnoldswick Town Council, being Chairman 1990-1.

For Dennis, the proliferation of drystone walls and the great sense of place it engenders in him, makes the Dales unique. Many members of the public, and especially of the Society, who have joined him on one of his guided walks have reason to be grateful to him for sharing with us an understanding of those special qualities.

Fleur Speakman

Out and About with Mr. Paley

In 1815 William Lodge Paley, on holiday from his job as schoolmaster at Settle, walked up hill and down dale to look up his relatives in Wensleydale and Walden. To this Giggleswick schoolmaster, walking was as natural as breathing. William and Dorothy Wordsworth, who were contemporaries in the Lake District, thought nothing of plodding from Grasmere to look up their old friend Southey at Keswick.

Our Mr Paley, who was born in Walden in 1785, left a voluminous diary in which he noted that on May 13 he set out on foot by Stainforth to Foxup and dined at Cousin W Lodge's, then over Horse Head to Uncle Lodge at Scarrhouse where I slept." On the following day he heard "Mr Lindley (Rev Thomas Lindley) preach at Hubberholme and afterwards Sacrament at Mr Slinger's - 10 communicants, mainly old."

Part of May 15 was devoted to walking over Walden Moor to Brother Robert's, where he drunk tea. Thence to Brother Roger's, "who I fear is consumptive but hope he will obtain a manifestation of God's pardoning love 'ere he depart." They prayed together at bedtime. The restless feet of Paley now carried him to Burton, arriving at feast-time. "T Lawson sett me near to Thorlby where I slept at Brother John's.... Next day walked up to Wensleydale to sister's at Buttersett (sic)."

By this time he was ready to rest his limbs, which he did by catching the coach that ran from York to Lancaster "by means of 2 coaches which meet and change horses at Aysgarth 3 days a week." He was now on his way back to Giggleswick. On May 19, he set out from Hawes, "on new coach which set me down at Gearstones at 6." He walked through North Ribblesdale, arriving home three hours later.

Paley's sister writing in 1821 to tell him her husband was dangerously ill of rheumatic fever, the schoolmaster got special leave from school and rode William Wildman's pony to Gearstones (east of Ribbleshead) where bait was obtained. Thence to Hawes, using a road that had been torn up by a recent storm. At Buttersett he found his brother-in-law, "better than expected, but sweats uncommonly." Paley "left him a bottle of Gin having received 2s from Sister towards it." He then returned to Giggleswick.

That year, he attended the Christmas Eve market at Hawes on his way to Buttersett. "Bro. Dinsdale

being ill with a fall, milked two cows for him." He was next in Hawes on New Year's Day, 1822. There had been heavy snow. He spent a night at the home of Cousin D Lodge and returned home on foot, through a snowstorm, his route being via Foxup and Stainforth. Back in his natal area in May, with a Mr B, he notes that they set out for home early on May 28, ascending the Rake and crossing the Moor to Walden, where he lunched at the home of his sister.

This walk took them up Bishopdale to the old house at Cray where his cousin, Ottewell Lodge, now lived. They had been so tired when walking over Horse Head Pass on the outward journey, the return was made by Greenfield. "The road is bad but got some good ale at Charnley's which went down well in spite of aching teeth." Two tired walkers had tea at the Golden Lion at Horton-in-Ribblesdale. Home was reached soon after 10.

A break of two weeks from teaching at Christmas was occupied by a visit to his Dales' relatives who provided him with free board and lodgings. Horse Head Pass, on the 23rd, was lashed by rain and snow. He attended Church at Aysgarth, rode to Leyburn on his brother's pony. Another day, at Carperby, he found Mr Metcalfe of Carperby was "tipsy". Paley, who was also a bookseller, off-loaded a volume of sermons on Mr Metcalfe, who provided him with a bed for the night. During the return to Horton, he had the wind in his face.

He varied his holiday venue to the Lake District. But that's another story ...

W.R. Mitchell

NOBBUT MIDLIN': LAUGH WITH THE DALESFOLK

BY W.R. MITCHELL,

published by Castleberg Press is the third part of Bill's humorous trilogy on the Dales, and costs £6.99. (Please add £1 for postage and packing per item). Bill's other two titles being **Summat and Nowt** and **Nowt's Same**. The books can be ordered direct from Castleberg Press, 18 Yealand Avenue, Giggleswick, near Settle, North Yorkshire, BD24 0AY. Cheques made out to Castleberg Press.

Millennium Trust: Conservation

When the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust completes its four-year £9m Dales EnviroNet project at the end of March, it will have distributed funds to over 350 projects, benefiting almost every parish.

The Trust became established as a Registered Charity in April 1997 after the Yorkshire Dales National Park set out to identify alternative sources of funding. Statutory agencies such as English Nature and the Environment Agency, did not have sufficient funding available from government sources to carry out all the necessary conservation work.



The establishment of a separate charitable trust would enable the access of funds from the national lottery, direct donations, trusts and businesses. At the same time, the Millennium Commission were considering making a major grant to the Yorkshire Dales, but required an independent organisation to distribute the funds.

With the help of the YDNPA and a £4m grant from the Millennium Commission, the Trust was born and began distributing money to Dales' schemes which would affect the landscape of the Dales and the everyday lives of the residents and visitors.

The Trust has assisted applicants to access appropriate funding, cut through the necessary red tape and has enabled local people to have a say in their own environment. It has utilised local contractors including drystone wallers, forestry contractors, fencing contractors, architects and builders, boosting the local economy.

A few diverse project examples include:

Marsett Barn, Semerwater, a traditional field barn, has been restored to provide a camping venue for disadvantaged children. The barn is

associated with Low Mill Outdoor Centre, Askrigg.

David Sharrod, **YORKSHIRE DALES**
Project Manager **MILLENNIUM TRUST**

stated: "It's very rewarding to support a project that has restored a building in such a wonderful setting. It has also been very gratifying to hear from teachers who have brought groups to Marsett Barn. The children talk about their trip every day, it has meant such a lot to them."

Phil Woodyer, Head of Centre, Low Mill added: "Marsett Barn has given a new dimension to Low Mill, providing a wilderness experience in a safe environment, with the convenience of warmth, proper toilets and cooking facilities. The building has been sympathetically restored and fitted out - but definitely with no electricity! Everyone who goes there falls for its charms. None of this would have been possible without the support of the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. They provided the means to fulfill our dreams!"

Ingleton Gardens restoration

Sue Manson, Project Officer commented: "This project highlighted the way in which different community groups can work together to achieve a common aim. Ingleton 2000 was established to look at the local community's ideas for village improvements to celebrate the millennium. In combination with the Parish Council and Ingleton Rural Community Association, they approached us to help implement their ideas. We enabled them to source and maximise available grants. The project has grown from £16,000 to £39,000 and has given



"Outdoor Classroom"
project at Kettlewell
Primary School

the community the impetus to source their own funding for further projects such as a mosaic for the gardens which has been made by the local school."

Carl Liss, Chairman, Ingleton Parish Council added: "This was the first real opportunity for Ingleton 2000, Ingleborough Rural Community

Association and the Parish Council, working together, to put forward a scheme which could then be put to the public. Funding nowadays is a minefield but the Millennium Trust was able to point us in the right direction. The centre of the village just looks marvellous. The work the Trust did for us was immeasurable. Examples of their help are apparent all over Ingleborough. The opportunity the Trust has brought to the Dales is wonderful."

The creation of a special "outdoor classroom" at Kettlewell School in Wharfedale. Alison Quigley, Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust's Community Environment Officer commented: "This project was a major topic for study during the autumn term of 1998. The children worked with artist Fiona Hudson doing a whole series of art projects to generate ideas for carving on four oak benches.

"In National Tree Week, the whole community participated in the planting of 200 trees and saw an exhibition of the children's artwork. Four different generations were present and every parent of every child in the school attended.

"A spin-off benefit was that other schools in the area were made aware of the Trust and became involved in similar ventures. This was a project which undoubtedly generated a great deal of goodwill and interest and would not have happened without funding from the Trust."

Looking to the future

Iain Oag, Director of Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, sums up by saying, "The future for the Trust is to deliver a programme of projects funded largely by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The established strengths of the Trust in brokering partner agencies' aspirations, and their funds, alongside the wishes of the Dales communities' wishes for improvements in their environment, will continue to be a driving force for the Trust's operation. The emphasis will shift very slightly in that the Heritage Lottery Fund's ideals are as their title suggests, directed at heritage. The Trust will concentrate on projects which restore and renovate features, whether they be wildlife, landscape or part of the built features which contribute so richly to the heritage of the Yorkshire Dales."

Hilary Gray

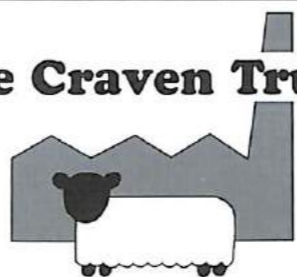
The Craven Trust: Local giving for local needs

The Craven Trust was established six years ago to support large and small community projects in the Craven area. This extends from Keighley in the south, to Sedbergh in the north, from the Trough of Bowland in the west, to Grassington in the east - the ancient archdeaconry boundary of Craven.

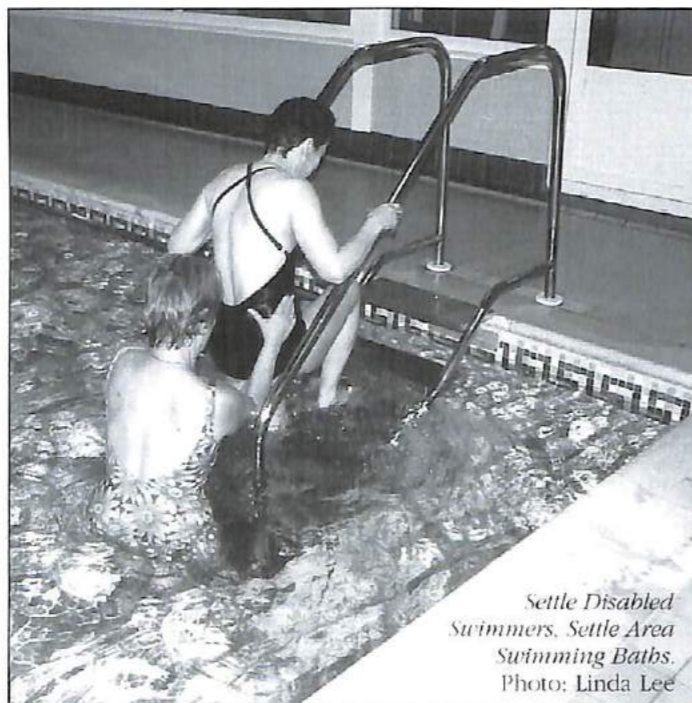
The Trust seeks to aid the rural and urban regeneration of Craven and tries to benefit those in most need, supporting a diverse range of groups, including people with disabilities, the elderly, children, victims of crime, and projects such as community buildings. Grants are not made to animal charities, students or for foreign travel, or national and medical charities (with some exceptions).

During this initial period

The Craven Trust



of growth over sixty community projects, in association with The BEAMSLEY TRUST forty of which are in the Yorkshire Dales area, have benefitted from grants, generally in the region of £100 to £1,000 in order to support as many groups as possible. Settle Disabled Swimmers received a grant to purchase a special step system to assist disabled swimmers to enter and exit the water, and this widened the range of disabilities catered for. A grant to Firbank Church Hall near Sedbergh meant that the water supply, which had failed Public Health Regulations, could be fitted with an appropriate filter. This provided a safe water supply and also enabled the hall to be more widely used by the community.



Settle Disabled Swimmers, Settle Area Swimming Baths. Photo: Linda Lee

The Craven Trust is supported entirely by donations from people, organisations and businesses from within Craven. Money donated is invested to build a permanent endowment fund, which enables grants to be made now and in the future. The Trust is run by experienced trustees with a good local knowledge of the area and its needs.

For further information, either as a donor or an applicant, please contact Linda Lee, Secretary, 4 Halsteads Way, Steeton, Keighley, BD20 6SN.



Firbank Church Hall, near Sedbergh

Wharfedale Bus 'n' Boots

Wharfedale Bus 'n' Boots is a new flexible recreational public-transport service devised and developed by members of the Voluntary Warden service of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, and will be introduced into their programme of guided events to be offered in 2001. The basic concept of the project is to use Community Transport mini buses driven by Voluntary Wardens, to offer guided events to visitors arriving in Grassington by bus or parking at the car park. The service will be centred on the new transport interchange at the National Park car park.

Wharfedale Bus'n'Boots walks aim to offer guided events in areas of Wharfedale not easily reached by public transport and are aimed primarily, but not exclusively, at people visiting Wharfedale by bus. The start is timed to connect with the arrival in Grassington of proposed Dalesbus services from Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford, Keighley Ilkley and Skipton. At the time of writing the exact times have not been finalised. Public Transport information can be obtained by telephoning 0870 608 2 608, or Leeds Metro on (0113) 2457676 A mini bus will leave Grassington NP car park at 11.30 to take the participants to the starting point of the walk and will return them to Grassington by 1730 to catch their bus home. Adults pay £3.00, children under 12 go free. These are long, full day walks and are not suitable for young children.

The service (current access restrictions permitting) will start on Sunday 24 June and then operate every fortnight until 2nd September, offering a walk of between 6 and 8 miles. In the middle of the day the same buses will be used to offer guided tours to more senior, or less energetic, visitors, giving them the chance to explore various aspects of Wharfedale with an informative guide. Each tour will involve a little walking over firm and level ground. The mini bus will leave Grassington at 1300 and return by 16.00. Prices as above. Full

details of all the walks are available from the National Park Visitor Centre at Grassington (01756 752774).

Numbers taking part in these events is limited by the carrying capacity of the mini bus used: 14 places for the walks and 15 places for the tours. We therefore advise that, to avoid disappointment, any one wishing to participate pre-book their seat at the National Park Visitors Centre in Grassington, enclosing the fee payable. Any empty places will be available on the day of the event.

Bernard Lynch (Bernard is contactable by e-mail on bernard.lyncb@btinternet.com)

DALESBUS 2001

After the remarkable success of the winter Dalesbus in December, January and February, with buses full to standing, the March and early April programme had to be cancelled because of foot and mouth. Look out for notices in the press for details or see the YDS website.

At time of writing details of the 2001 Dalesbus network have not been finalised, but is expected to follow a similar pattern to 2001, with through Sunday and Bank Holiday services to the Dales from Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford, York, Harrogate and Manchester, through there may be alterations to the less well supported Lancaster service.

An important new development expected for April is the extension of the hourly Keighley & District Service 66 Keighley-Skipton service on Sundays to provide a two hourly service (on each alternative hour) to Grassington and Bolton Abbey/Embsay respectively. This will create an important new all-year facility in the Dales, for local communities as well as visitors, giving a shopping service to Skipton and Keighley as well as a service to Airedale Hospital for afternoon visiting.

Easby River Restoration Project

Brian Robertshaw describes a short three mile riverside walk to demonstrate the problem of the flooded and eroded banks along the River Swale.

The village of Easby lies one and a half miles from Richmond, North Yorkshire, just off the Brompton-on Swale-road (B6271), but by far the best way of reaching Easby is to follow the path from Richmond along the northern bank of the generally bubbling River Swale. Start at the former railway station (Richmond Garden Centre).

Over the centuries: Saxons, Romans, Vikings and Normans used this path. One section is said to follow the route of a legendary tunnel connecting Richmond Castle to Easby Abbey; the Drummer Boy's Tunnel. The beating of the boy's drum was said to allow people on the surface to map the tunnel's route. At the Richmond end of the riverside walk, a stone marks the site where the boy's drumming ceased and he was never heard of again. Interestingly enough, the Tunnel has never been found.

At the Drummer Boy's stone, the path divides and you can decide to walk along the river bank proper, or on a slightly elevated pathway. About a hundred and fifty yards from the Abbey Mill the riverside and upper level paths rejoin at the ruins of the Premonstratensian Abbey, St Agatha's (dating from 1132AD) lies in the bottom of a natural amphitheatre at Easby. Its Saxon origins are very evident. Do not miss the recently restored frescoes, though sadly several old gravestones have been vandalised. In spite of this, it is an idyllic setting, well-kept and maintained by English Heritage. Though they do seem to be reluctant to become involved with efforts to finance the building of a protective wall to ward off the flood waters. Walkers are now re-routed away from the river as the river has gouged away a large section of the northern bank, and informed opinion forecasts the

river flooding into the Abbey site within ten years. Efforts are being made by a group of volunteers to raise funds to restore the bank and prevent this happening.

In June 2000, following exceptional rainfall, the Swale as at many times in the past, lived up to its Norse name, Sualua - meaning whirling rush of water. A section of the river bank close to the Abbey has been washed away no less than six times in the past seven years. Now the Riverside

Walk has been declared unsafe and has been closed. Please do not go too close, the bank is badly undercut and apparently no one will accept responsibility for its repair.

Continue past the Abbey and follow the river. You will come to an old railway bridge. Cross the bridge and follow the old

railway bed in order to return to Richmond Station, your starting point.

Brian Robertshaw

If you would like to make a donation to the Easby Riverside Restoration Project or would like additional information, write to Easby Riverside Restoration Project c/o The Town Hall, Market Place, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL10 4QL. (Cheques should be payable to Easby Riverside Restoration Project.) £10 will buy 1 tonne of stone for bank reinforcement and £20 will not only buy the same quantity of stone, but also pay for its riverside delivery.)

THE DALES DIGEST

is available quarterly for £6 a year. 16 pages from the local and regional press, packed with information on the economy, transport, housing, employment and other issues of concern to anyone living, working or interested in the Yorkshire Dales.

Spring Events

In the light of the present outbreak of "foot and mouth" disease we have been forced to cancel our April walk and there is some uncertainty regarding other walk-style events in the immediate future. Please note that all indoor events will go ahead as planned, but a decision will be taken on outdoor events in the light of current circumstances and advice from the National Park Authority. We will keep the YDS website (www.yorkshiredalesociety.org.uk) up-to-date and since the YDS office tends to be only manned generally on Monday mornings, please make use of any additional phone numbers that you are given in the YDS Review. If in doubt, please check with Fleur Speakman on 01943 607868 some time before an event for the latest information.

We are very sorry if we do have to cancel any events not only for the sake of our members, but also for the sake of Dales' businesses which depend so much on visitors.

SATURDAY MAY 19TH YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY AGM AT REETH MEMORIAL HALL.

Members who would like to make full use of their time in the Dales might like to take the Town Trail round Reeth in the morning, allowing about an hour. The leaflet of the Town Trail can be purchased at the local Tourist Information Centre in Reeth.

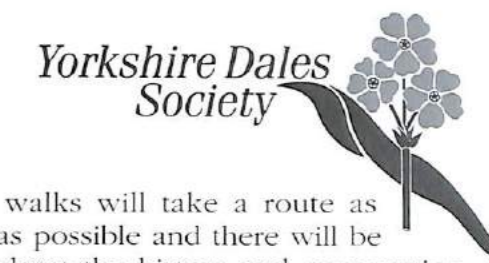
The AGM will be followed by David Butterworth, Chief Executive of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority who will talk on *The Forthcoming Review of the National Parks*, after a break for light refreshments. Members are invited to meet informally at a local pub to socialise in the evening.

SUNDAY MAY 20TH WALK IN SWALEDALE

Leader Chris Hartley tel: 01943 873197. A moderate 4/5 mile walk. Meet 10.15am outside the Reeth Memorial Hall for a walk via Shelgate and Healaugh and back via the river to Reeth for approx. 12.30pm. Take a packed lunch for close of walk or pub lunches available. **(Please check nearer the event that this walk is taking place.)**

TUESDAY MAY 1ST - SATURDAY JULY 14TH

The Friends of Settle-Carlisle Railway are celebrating 125 years of the Settle-Carlisle Railway with special steam trains, Station Open days, Exhibitions and Walks. There will be six short five mile walks with many stops to talk about the history and construction of the line. There will also be a series of walks, the first starting at Skipton to Hellifield, and then a linear walk from every station until



Carlisle. The walks will take a route as near the line as possible and there will be stops to talk about the history and construction of the line. A special 125th Anniversary Walks leaflet can be obtained from TICs and railway stations or by sending an sae to Ruth Evans16, Pickard Court, Leeds, LS15 9AY.

THURSDAY JUNE 14TH YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY DINNER AT THE BUCK HOTEL, MALHAM.

The booking details of the dinner are included in the YDS Review and should be returned as soon as possible with your booking fees. Do come along and support what was and will continue to be a thriving Dales business and hear about some of the highlights of our first 20 years from senior YDS Council member Jerry Pearlman who will also entertain us with his anecdotes on "Some Environmental Legal Nutcases."

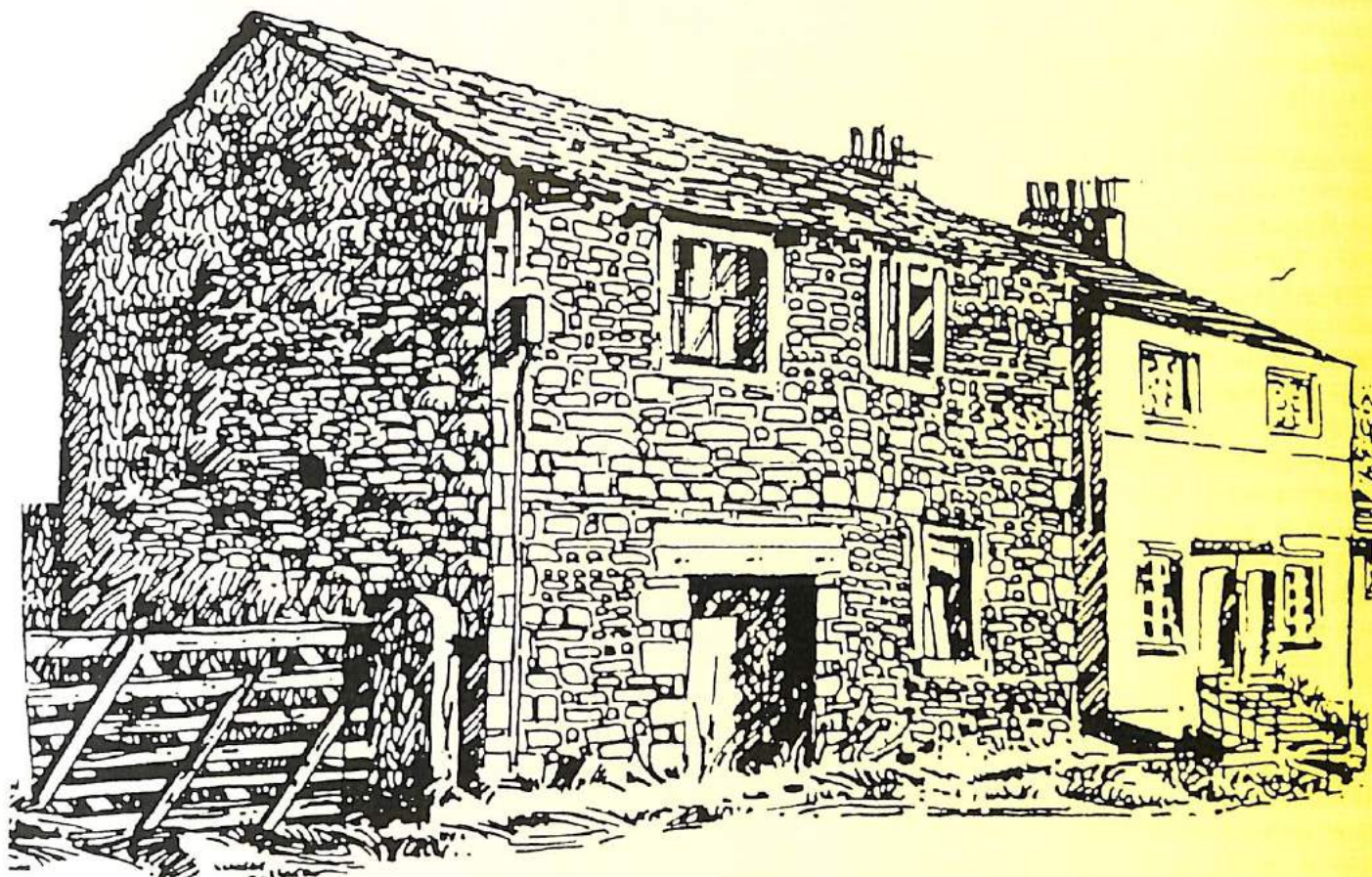
SUNDAY JUNE 17TH - WALK TO MIRKPOT, SNAIZEHOLME (JOHN BELL MEMORIAL WALK) PLUS TOUR OF HUGH KEMP'S FORESTRY ESTATE.

As a celebration of the contribution made by John to the Yorkshire Dales Society. Catch the 0900 train from Leeds, 0940 from Skipton 0955 from Settle to Dent for 8 mile walk (return on linking bus to Ribbleshead - details on the day).

For non-walkers, please park on the lane to Snaizeholme as parking is very limited. Leave time to walk up and meet at the entrance to Hugh Kemp's forestry estate at 1pm. **Please help us by pre-booking this tour by June 10th**, Jane Kemp will offer light refreshments at Mirkpot (donations to Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust), and there will be an opportunity to see the trees planted in John Bell's memory. Hugh Kemp will discuss the development of the red squirrel population of his estate and the roe deer, also the development of the shelter belt near the river, the restoration of the pond and the creation of diverse habitats in a marshy area.

SATURDAY JULY 21ST JOINT WALK IN GARSDALE-GRISEDALE AREA

with Friends of the Lake District. Leader Malcolm Petyt, tel: 015396 21574. Take Settle-Carlisle train via to Garsdale for a 6 mile moderate walk. Please bring packed lunch. Parking at Garsdale for FLD. Meet at 10.45am. Please check train times, these are only approximate at present. Train from Leeds 09.00, Skipton, 09.40, 10.04 Settle, arrive Garsdale 10.45. Return train times in next YDS Review.



Front Cover picture: *Linton Church at Easter, near Grassington.*
(Photo by Colin Speakman).

Back Cover Drawing: *A Dales Farm* by Richard Bancroft, from
W.R. Mitchell's "Nobbut Middlin" - see page 10.

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