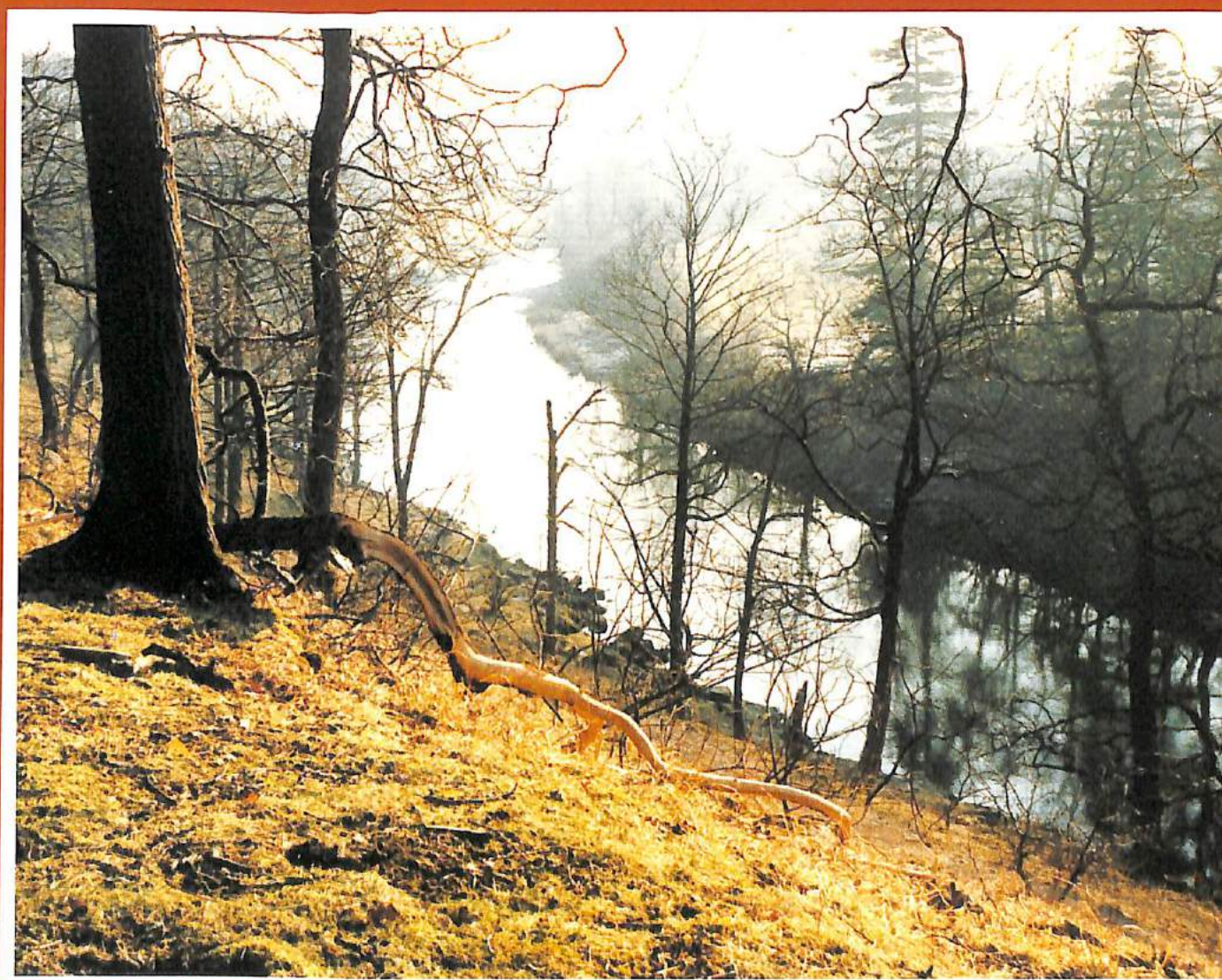


Yorkshire Dales Review



- *A Return to Swaledale*
- *When will it ever end? YDS lobbies Prime Minister and MPs*
- *Generosity brings hope to the Dales*
- *People in a landscape - Exhibition*



£1.50

A return to Swaledale

A perfect late summer day at the end of August. We took the Dalesbus from Skipton through Ribblesdale, to Hawes then over the Buttertubs Pass to Thwaite. From Thwaite the Pennine Way leads through the fields then up through the purple clumps of heather and bracken on the slopes of Kisdon.

A perfect place for lunch – sitting on the hillside enjoying that incomparably lovely view, a little stone barn in the foreground, the eccentric patterns of drystone walls enclosing scattered barns and small fields whose grass that day seemed an unusually intense shade of green; the line of trees along the beckside, the farmer with a tractor cutting hay in the bottom pasture. Above the valley bottom the brown, open moorland with its long straight lines of Enclosure walls, and further to the right, the narrow strip of tarmac above the fold in the hills which represented the road on which we had come over Buttertubs, miniscule cars now chasing a toy bus that slowly ascended the Pass.

It was a walk to remember – brilliant light shining off the limestone, scarlet rowan berries against the clear blue sky, the River Swale deep and brown as old ale, a couple of trout lazily swimming in a beckside pool.

Difficult to imagine that only a few weeks ago this was all closed off, as indeed most of the Yorkshire National Dales National Park still was that Bank Holiday weekend. In fact there were lots of other people around on the footpaths enjoying their newly rediscovered freedom. The lady in charge of the caravan site and little tea shop in Keld was run off her feet meeting the needs of thirsty visitors, running out of milk jugs and tea pots, saying she had sold more cups of tea that one sunny Sunday afternoon than she had during the whole of the summer.

Visitors, and the economic lifeblood of many Dales communities, returning, restoring the cash flow to small businesses, bringing back jobs and hope.

It was easy on that idyllic afternoon in Swaledale to imagine the Foot & Mouth epidemic that still ravaged the farming and business communities of most other parts of the Dales as some kind of elaborate fantasy or hoax.

The Yorkshire Dales, and Swaledale in particular, has suffered many catastrophes over the centuries that put the even the events of 2001 into perspective – invasions by punitive Norman militia, marauding Scots, plagues, in more recent times the collapse of the lead mining industry that led to the out-migration of two thirds of the population.

Compared with these disasters, F&M is a temporary blip, which hopefully when the last outbreak and its grisly culling are safely over, will become a memory, and the Dales return as lovely and unspoiled as ever.

Or will they? No yet knows the long term consequences for the farming community of what has happened, or the new financial regimes from DEFRA or Brussels which may follow in its wake. Hopefully, enlightened ways of farming which protect not destroy the environment will receive more support. This could include incentives to ensure traditional management of our magnificent but threatened heritage of herb-rich meadows, perhaps linked to organic farming, and variety of farm and village-based small business schemes linked to principles of sustainability, local culture and environmentally sensitive tourism.

For all its vibrant beauty, that perfect Swaledale day had its darker shadow. Despite the lovely sunshine, the Dale and its communities seemed so utterly vulnerable. If that evil virus - dormant in some crevice or cranny, carried on boot or tyre, or bird's wing, or even the wind - should ever, ever reappear.....

Let's do all we can to ensure it never does.

Colin Speakman

When Will It Ever End?

When we forecast in the Summer Review, that F&M could continue in the Yorkshire Dales well until Autumn, many people thought we were exaggerating. In fact with recent outbreaks in Cumbria and Northumberland, it is difficult to be certain when the restriction of movement and blanket closure of access and footpaths will be lifted from areas such as Central and most of Upper Wharfedale, Malhamdale, Wensleydale and Dentdale. Even outside the restricted areas, certain footpaths have been closed, and whilst some areas are currently open (Swaledale, Ingleborough area, Upper Wharfedale above Kettlewell) events can overtake even the best forecasts. The best advice we can offer is either consult the National Park's own web site (www.Yorkshiredales.org) also accessible via the Yorkshire Dales Society's own site (www.Yorkshiredalesociety.org) or for up to the moment information ring Grassington National Park Centre on 01756 752774 or Hawes on 01969 667 450.

THE YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY WRITES TO TONY BLAIR

In order to help emphasise the plight of communities within the Yorkshire Dales resulting from the prolonged F&M outbreak, and to try and ensure effective government action to help these same communities, in June the Yorkshire Dales Society produced a Statement, approved by Council, which was sent to the Prime Minister, to Margaret Beckett newly appointed Secretary of State in charge of DEFRA, to all local MPS covering the Dales, and to Yorkshire Forward, the Countryside Agency, and the Yorkshire Tourist Board.

The statement made two major requests from Government:

- **Increased Financial Support for a Major Recovery Programme** This would include not only direct financial support and a range of interest free loans to affected businesses but "additional immediate action to develop a range of investment programmes and marketing

initiatives to help businesses to rebuild and to recapture markets which in many cases will have been lost to competition from countryside tourist areas in other regions of the UK and especially overseas".

- **A Full Commission of Inquiry** The YDS also asked for "a full, impartial investigation, as a matter of urgency, into every aspect of the 2001 Foot & Mouth outbreak, chaired by an individual of appropriate experience, stature and understanding, and supported by people from a wide range of disciplines.

Whilst almost all recipients, particularly our local MPs, responded in a very positive way to our requests, especially interesting was the eventual reply from the Prime Minister's Office, and from Rural Task Force Secretary Richard Crozier who in



Foot & Mouth Keep Out Sign Photo: Alan Sutcliffe

a detailed response indicated as well as a variety of other schemes including business rate relief that £2.5 million was allocated from the business Recovery Fund for the Yorkshire Region. Also there were to be no less than three "independent" inquiries:

- Inquiry into the lessons from the foot and mouth disease outbreak and the way the Government should handle any future major outbreaks of animal disease outbreak, to be chaired by Dr Iain Anderson, and reporting within six months of starting (start delayed until end of the outbreak)

- Scientific review by the Royal Society of questions relating to the transmissions, prevention and control of epidemic outbreaks of infectious disease in livestock, committee to be chaired by Sir Brian Follett, FRS and reporting by summer 2002 and
- Policy Commission on the Future of Farming and Food (as promised at the last election), to be chaired by Sir Don Curry, reporting by the end of the year.

Whilst most Dales people agree that the financial compensation offered to small businesses in the Dales is wholly inadequate, the three inquiries, whilst falling short of the major Public Inquiry many organisations have demanded (which to be far could be very bureaucratic and time consuming), could deal with many of the concerns the YDS has raised.

We will therefore be working closely with the Council for National Parks and other National Park Societies on a co-ordinated response to perhaps all three Inquiries, and also making our views known to DEFRA and the Countryside Agency. In particular we shall be almost certainly supporting the Countryside Agency and many farmers in the Dales for there to be immediate trials with vaccination programmes, especially in the light of revelations in the press suggesting that it was mainly pressure from multi-national food producers that led to mass vaccination being abandoned by the Government in the early stages of the outbreak.

Foot and mouth and its aftermath, including its

Christmas 2001

Do remember that you can give Yorkshire Dales Society membership to a friend or relative for a Christmas gift (or as a birthday or retirement present). Please ensure that you let us know by early December for Christmas and we will also include a gift card, YDS badge and bookmark free of charge. Your friend will receive the current magazine in time for Christmas plus 4 issues for 2002 as membership will officially start in the New Year. Please take advantage of this offer.

For small gifts which are always well received, our leather bookmarks in stylish, dark green, maroon and black to tone with our elegant leather badge are available at £1 each, post free. A discount can be arranged for larger quantities. Please send off to the YDS office with your order, cheques made out to the Yorkshire Dales Society, and mark your

divisive effects within many rural communities, engenders strong emotions in many people, including members of the Yorkshire Dales Society. Whatever your feelings about the way the crisis has been handled, if you feel you have issues you would like to raise which you believe could help the Government, the NFU and their advisers avoid a similar catastrophe in the future, you might like to write to DEFRA, Zone 3/B4, Eland House, Bressenden Place, London, SW1E 5DU asking that your letter is brought to the attention of the relevant committee.

What about the future? The Yorkshire Dales Society is already talking to upper Dales farmers who are not only campaigning against current inhuman and wasteful policies, but are working to develop new and innovative ways of marketing one of Yorkshire's most neglected culinary assets – real Dales Lamb. And there is much more which we believe that we can do to support the Dales. We hope to give fuller details in future issues of the Review.

In the meantime Society members can help by continuing to come to the Dales during the autumn and winter, and supporting Dales shops, restaurants, inns, attractions and other businesses, in order to help them to get through what could be a long winter season after such a financially disastrous summer. And please respond generously to the Craven Trust' Dales Recovery Appeal outlined in John Sheard's excellent article on the following page.

envelope: The Yorkshire Dales Society, Civic Centre, Cross Green, Otley, West Yorkshire, LS21 1HD.

Recruitment

We have had a dozen new members from our membership recruitment scheme which started in July. These are very difficult times for the Dales. We are campaigning strongly to help the Dales to recover. Every member counts and helps us to add muscle to the cause. Please try to enrol a new member or two by personal recommendation - by far the most effective method. If you need any more membership forms, please write to us at the above address and send us an sae in a foolscap or slightly larger envelope. Help us to reach the magic total of 2,000.

Generosity Brings Hope to the Heart of the Dales

The aftermath of foot and mouth has touched people throughout Britain – writes John Sheard, founder of the Pendulum Press, Skipton.

It came in from all parts of Britain, in cheques large and small, from wealthy individuals and trust funds to pensioners who pushed a fiver into the hands of committee members:

The DALES Recovery Fund, set up to help individuals, small businesses and voluntary groups ineligible for Government compensation for the foot and mouth disaster, has - at the time of writing - proved an immense success financially.

Now, however, comes the difficult task: of persuading proud Dalesfolk to apply for help from the fund which, in its first two months, raised £600,000 towards its £1 million target, partly due to matching funding on private donations from the Countryside Agency.

"We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of hundreds of people, many of them from the South of England," says the Appeal Chairman John Sheard, former agent at the Duke of Devonshire's Bolton Abbey estate (and no relation of the author).

"It shows that the Yorkshire Dales have a very special place in the hearts of people everywhere. With pound-for-pound matched funding from the Countryside Agency, we are now in a position to start making grants.

"Trouble is, Dalesfolk are a proud bunch and do not like the idea of taking charity. We desperately hope that people and organisations in trouble will overcome this reluctance because if they fail financially now, it would be a terrible loss both economically and socially to the Dales."

There are believed to be scores, if not hundreds, of small Dales businesses on the verge of collapse. Many small farmers whose animals have not been culled have been unable to sell their stock, but are

not entitled to compensation. Rural craftsman like dry-stone wallers and sheep rearers have seen their income decimated.

In the voluntary sector, the appeal has calculated that at least £80,000 has been lost to groups which were forced to cancel fund-raising events like village shows and crafts exhibitions.

"In some of these small communities, voluntary groups have lost virtually their entire income," says



Sheep in the snow, near Gayle (Photo: John Fawcett)

John Sheard. "Without them, life in the Dales would be much poorer. Our aim is to ensure that they survive."

The appeal is seeking applications for grants from people in the area of the Archdeaconry of Craven, which spreads from Sedbergh in Cumbria to Denholme, south of Keighley, and west into the Trough of Bowland and the Ribbles Valley.

Applications for grants - or donations of cheques made out to the Dales Recovery Fund - should be addressed to: The Appeal Office, 76 Main Street, Addingham, Ilkley, LS209 OPD. (phone 01943 831660).

Editors: Please use the enclosed leaflet to send any donations directly to the Appeal Fund at the above address in Addingham and NOT, please NOT, to the YDS office.

Daleswatch Report

FIGHT TO SAVE A VILLAGE PUB

A planning application to the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority for change of use of the Fox & Hounds Inn, Starbotton to become a private house has become a sudden cause celebre in Upper Wharfedale. A campaign by the local people to save their village pub is being supported by the Yorkshire Dales Society.

Starbotton is a community which reflects many of the problems of the Yorkshire Dales. Sky-high house prices means that many of the properties are second homes or weekend cottages bought by wealthy outsiders, so that facilities in the village are virtually nil – no post office, no shop, no village institute, nowhere for the remaining villagers to meet. The pub, a lovely old building probably

The Fox and Hounds Inn at Starbotton



dating from the 18th century, remains the only meeting place for local people. But it is also a popular facility for visitors, being on the busy main road to Buckden and Aysgarth, and on the popular Dales Way footpath, as well as bridleway routes to Walden, Littondale and beyond.

Lack of local residents in the village does mean that winters can be long and income low and if, as in summer 2001, visitors don't arrive because of F&M, then margins are cut. Nevertheless, this is a location where there is a lot of passing trade and a traditional Dales inn should do well. But the stark fact is that the property has been on the market for some time, and would actually sell for a higher price as a private house than as a pub, given the distorted economics of the housing market in the Dales.

Though it is too soon to predict the outcome of the application, if it remains a Dales inn, perhaps (as has happened elsewhere in similar rural locations) other local services such as a part time post office and shop, could be offered on the premises. But if planning permission is given, we can expect, after the dismal summer of 2001, quite a few other Dales landlords to be looking at a rather quicker way of making capital gains than pulling pints of Black Sheep.

THE YORKSHIRE DALES GREEN LANES ALLIANCE

Frustrated at the lack of progress in controlling the misuse of ancient green lanes by four wheeled drive, motorcycles and other motorised vehicles, the Yorkshire Dales Society is in the process of building up a powerful alliance of conservationists, non-motorised users, farmers, landowners and local residents. The aim is not necessarily to go for blanket bans, but to ensure that, where necessary, legal controls are imposed along green lanes within the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Nidderdale AONB which are being destroyed or where unrestricted motor use is seriously conflicting with quiet enjoyment of the countryside, protection of nature or good land management.

A formal launch of the Alliance is planned, (delayed because of F&M) but will probably be in November. If you support the Alliance's aims and you would like details of the meeting, please contact Mike Bartholomew, 9 Fern Bank, Otley, tel 01943 468459 e-mail bart.otley@virgin.net.

DALES BUS – BEST LOCAL NETWORK SINCE THE SEVENTIES

Congratulations to North Yorkshire County Council and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority in securing perhaps the best network of bus services we've had in the Dales for a long time. Credit is also due to the excellent Yorkshire Dales Public Transport Users Group – close partners of the Yorkshire Dales Society in much public transport

campaigning – for effective, well informed lobbying and help with promotion of the network.

Excellent news is further strengthening of the all-year Upper Wharfedale Pride of the Dales services 72 and 74, restoring much needed direct shopping services between Buckden, Kettlewell and Skipton, with a pre-booked taxi-bus link available to and

Keighley & District new bus service. Photo: Alan Sutcliffe



from Arneliffe. There are also better services between Ilkley and Grassington, giving a much better choice for walkers with a handy mid afternoon return bus – ideal for autumn and winter walks. In addition, local people and visitors (including people staying in Upper Wharfedale for the weekend) now have all the year round Sunday services from Keighley and Skipton to Grassington (67a) and from Skipton to Embsay and Bolton Abbey (75).

Most of the summer Dales Bus network continues until 28th October. The really good news this autumn is the provision of an all year winter Dales Bus Sunday service (800) between Wakefield, Bradford, Leeds, Ilkley, Bolton Abbey, Grassington, Buckden and Hawes (leaving Wakefield around 0820, Leeds 0940 and Ilkley 1025). Malham also has a much more useful Saturday service (804) from November, with the first morning bus starting back at Wakefield, Leeds, Bradford and Airedale before operating the Skipton-Malham service, the last bus returning to West Yorkshire late afternoon, making a day out to Malham by bus much easier and less expensive.

Good bus services deserve good patronage, so have a day out without the car (chance to enjoy a decent pint at a Dales inn) or, as soon as the paths re-open, discover the

delights of a linear walk, along the Dales Way in Wharfedale or over the top between Malham and Wharfedale. Look out for local Metro or NYCC timetables, or for up-to-the minute details log onto the YDPTUG web-site on www.dalesbus.org.

The Style Factor – A New Grassington Bus Interchange

Congratulations to the Yorkshire Dales National Park and all concerned for a whole new design concept for a very glamorous yet practical bus shelter which is featured below. Waiting for the bus in the YDNP Interchange in Grassington will be a very positive experience. Built of local stone with large glass panels, the shelter has an inner section with seats and lighting for greater weather protection and comfort. The glass panels feature an imaginative and decorative recreation of Grassington's history with motifs of ancient limestone fossils, an Iron Age plough, and an entrance to an 18th/19th century leadmine. Key Grassington buildings such as Church House and Upper Wharfedale Museum are incorporated into the design while nearby Kilnsey Crag and Grass Wood also feature. Local stories of the Barguest, Pam the Fiddler and the notorious murderer Tom Lee are also not forgotten. At the apex, the conical roof of the shelter features some very attractive coloured stained glass. As we go to press, some finishing touches still remain to be completed. Our feature on Dalesbus will give you some ideas on how to make best use of some improved Dales bus services.



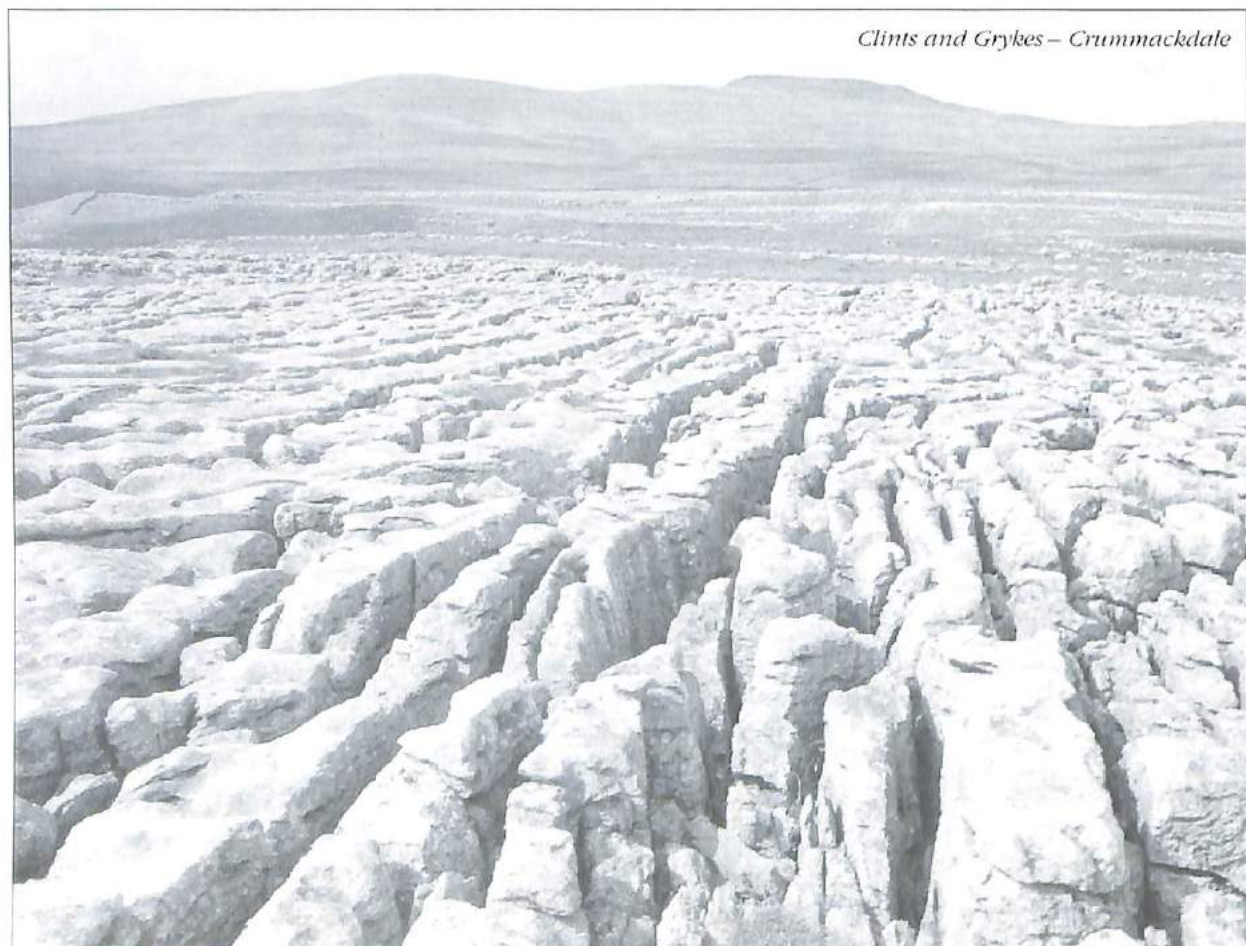
People in a Landscape: Tracks through the Dales – Geoffrey Wright Photographic Exhibition

To celebrate photographer and writer Geoffrey Wright's achievements in the Yorkshire Dales, the Yorkshire Dales Society with the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes, are presenting an exhibition of a selection of Geoffrey Wright's photographs. The exhibition entitled *People in a Landscape: Tracks Through the Dales* will run from **Tuesday 20th November - Sunday December 2nd inclusive** and will be opened by Geoffrey's widow, Jean, at 11am on Tuesday 20th, in front of some specially invited guests. Light refreshments of wine and cheese will be available.

Geoffrey Wright was a founder member of the Yorkshire Dales Society and a most valuable council member who was sorely missed when Jean's health made a move imperative from their beloved Wensleydale. Geoffrey first discovered the Dales through youth hostelling in the 1940s and qualified as a teacher at Durham university, moving south to Wiltshire where he became

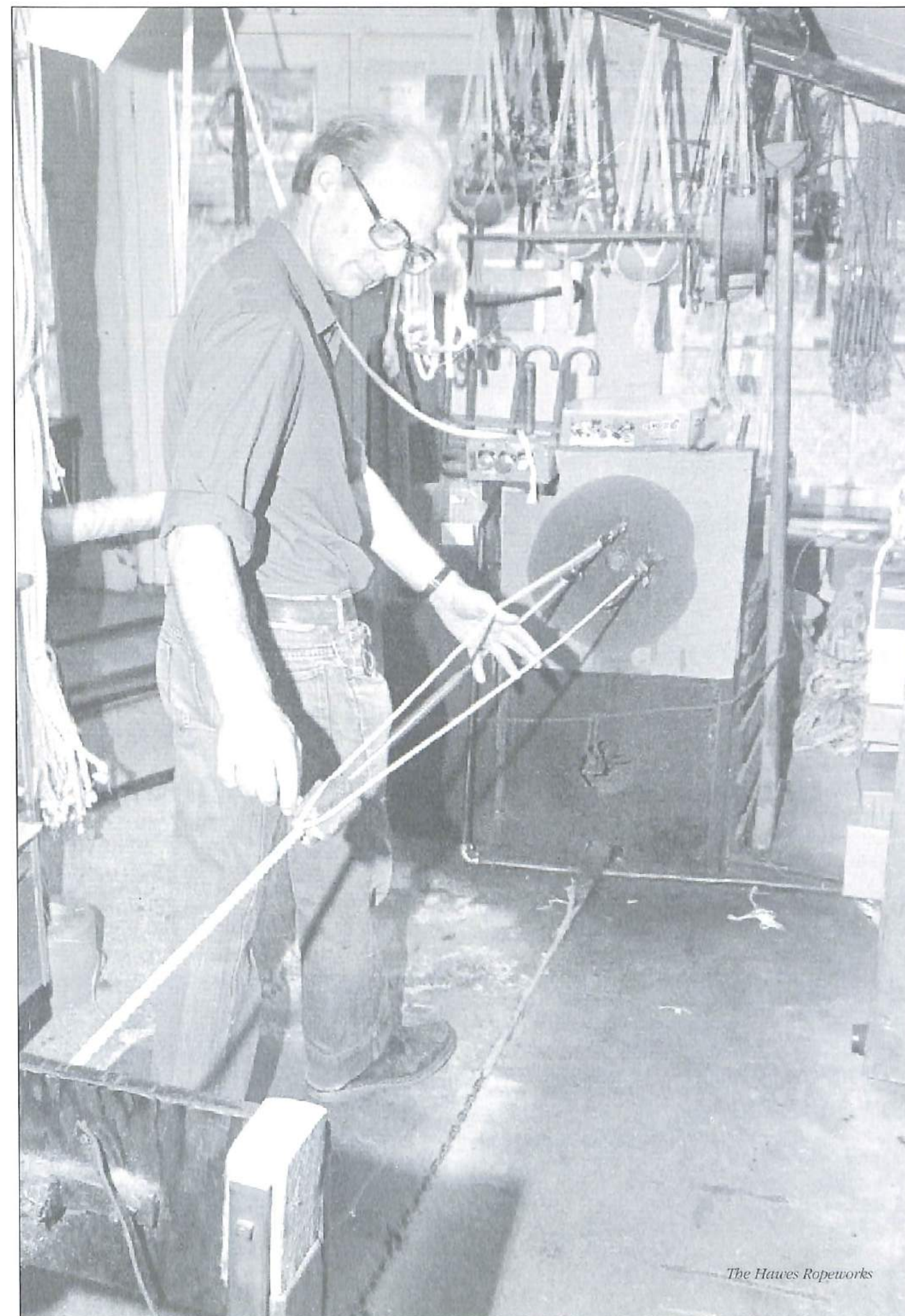
increasingly interested in local history, landscape history and buildings, but always spending many holidays in the Dales. He was soon to return to the north with Jean and his sons to concentrate on his photographic and writing interests, leaving teaching. In 1976 he moved to an eighteenth century former farmhouse in Askrigg and published regularly in a variety of periodicals: his published works include *Roads and Trackways of The Yorkshire Dales*, *Yorkshire (East Riding)*, *Northumbrian Uplands*, and *The Stone Villages of Britain* and many more.

The exhibition concentrates on Geoffrey's images in black and white which always give a strong sense of place and underline his deep understanding of the Dales landscape and its villages and people. The rest of the Geoffrey Wright collection (Geoffrey sadly died in 1994), is available as an archive resource in the Dales Countryside Museum.



Clints and Grykes – Crummockdale

We hope that YDS members and friends as well as the general public will be able to visit the exhibition which is open for virtually a fortnight and is free of charge. The exhibition can be visited during normal opening hours daily 10am-5pm.



The Hawes Ropeworks

Yorkshire Dales Society – 100th Committee Meeting

The Yorkshire Dales Society 100th meeting of the Council of Management took place in the splendid meeting room at Otley Civic Centre graced by a crystal chandelier and some stylish furnishings. To mark the occasion, after a packed agenda, in which a great many serious issues pertinent to the Dales



were discussed, council members enjoyed a light buffet provided by Hilary Baker and Grace Cairns which was much appreciated, followed by a toast to the Society and to the next 100 Council meetings, with a celebration cake, courtesy of Fleur Speakman, cut by President and Honorary Member Ken Willson MBE, aided by his wife and YDS Honorary Member Dot Willson.

Above: Dot and Ken Willson cutting the celebration cake for the YDS 100th Committee Meeting

Left: President Ken Willson and Chairman Chris Wright flanked by Joint Secretaries Fleur and Colin Speakman at the 100th Committee Meeting



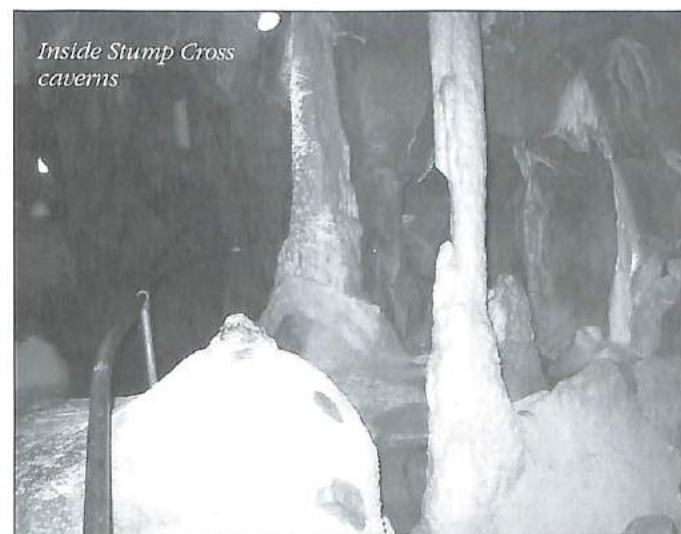
Stump Cross Caverns – The Hidden World

Very many people delight in the striking contours of a Dales landscape, its tumbling waterfalls, its drystone walls patterning the fields, but perhaps fewer have explored the atmospheric, imaginative and ancient world under the Dales. Limestone and water have combined here over the millennia to create something which is dramatic, tactile and ever evolving.

22 YDS members wearing white hard hats (a necessary precaution) enjoyed a very successful visit to Stump Cross Caverns, Greenhow near Grassington on Sunday September 9th. After an excellent introduction by owner Gordon Handley, and a highly informative video, also featuring YDS Secretary Colin Speakman opening the Reindeer Cave last summer, the party were off to discover the beautifully lit and atmospheric show caves, stooping at times or climbing up to a different level to admire the numerous stalactites and stalagmites, some an awesome 170,000 years old. The caves have been explored since 1858, and cover a 4 mile range while animal bones up to 90,000 years old have been found. These have included bison, wolf, reindeer and even wolverine. Imaginative names have been given to some of the formations, such as Snowdrift, Butcher's Shop or Sleeping Cat. Though

perhaps the most spectacular section is looking at the panorama into Reindeer Cavern from the viewing platform.

Wear some good non-slip shoes and some warmer clothing if you go, but otherwise no special clothing is needed. Two of our party were well into their eighties and managed the whole tour with no problems. There is an attractive cafe with a range of hot and cold food and snacks for before or after your visit and the caves are open daily March-October from 10am and at weekends in the winter.



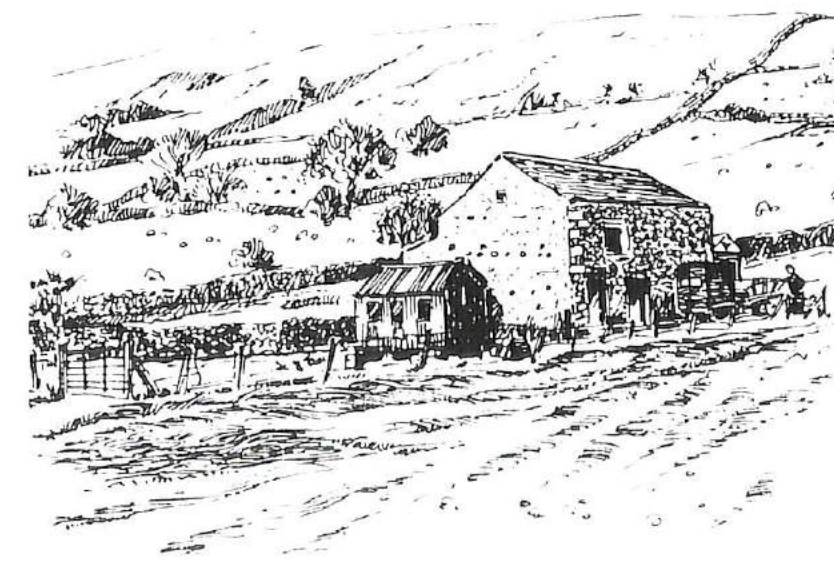
Inside Stump Cross caverns

Ilkley Moor – open for business once again after being closed for some time.



A typical Dales scene and a view of an attractive corner of the town of Settle

(A reminder of the beauty of Dales which many of us have been unable to see properly at first hand this year. Drawings by Richard Bancroft.)



The Millennium Trust – Crackpot Hall:



A building with a distinct sense of history

Crackpot Hall - a building with a highly intriguing name is situated in a lonely part of Swaledale, high above the riverside between Keld and Muker and was once a busy, lively Dales farm. The name Crackpot is said to derive from the Viking for a "deep hole or chasm that is the haunt of crows." Any visitor to this spot may well agree.

It is thought that there has been a building here since the 1500s when a hunting lodge was maintained for Thomas, the first Lord Wharton. Thomas used to visit the Dale "occasionally to shoot the red deer." Survey work by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority has shown that the building has changed many times over the years and at one time it even had a heather or "ling" thatched roof.

The building which is nowadays a ruin, being abandoned in the 1950s because of subsidence, has been saved from further decay by Gunnerside Estate with the aid of grants from the Millennium

Commission and European Union through the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. This is just one of several hundred Dales conservation projects supported by the Trust, thanks to generous donations by members of the public, including members of the Yorkshire Dales Society.

The farmhouse building we see today dates from the middle of the 1700s. It was an impressive two storey building with a stone slate roof and matching "shippons" or cow sheds at each end for the animals.

Intensive lead mining was also carried out around Crackpot Hall which was also the scene of violent disputes over lucrative mine boundaries in the eighteenth century; hence the subsidence.

A slate plaque with a delightful illustration from a wood engraving by Honorary YDS Member Marie Hartley MBE, in front of the Hall, indicates a little of its history.



Book Reviews

RIPON MARKETPLACE: The evolution of the centre of a historic Yorkshire market town, editor Mike Younge, published by Ripon Historical Society, ISBN 1 872618 20 0.

price £9 + postage, UK £1.20, overseas surface mail £1.90, airmail Europe £2.15, zone 1 £3.90, zone 2 £4.20. Orders to Ripon Historical society, c/o Aldergarth, Galphay, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 3NJ, with remittances in sterling drawn on a UK bank.

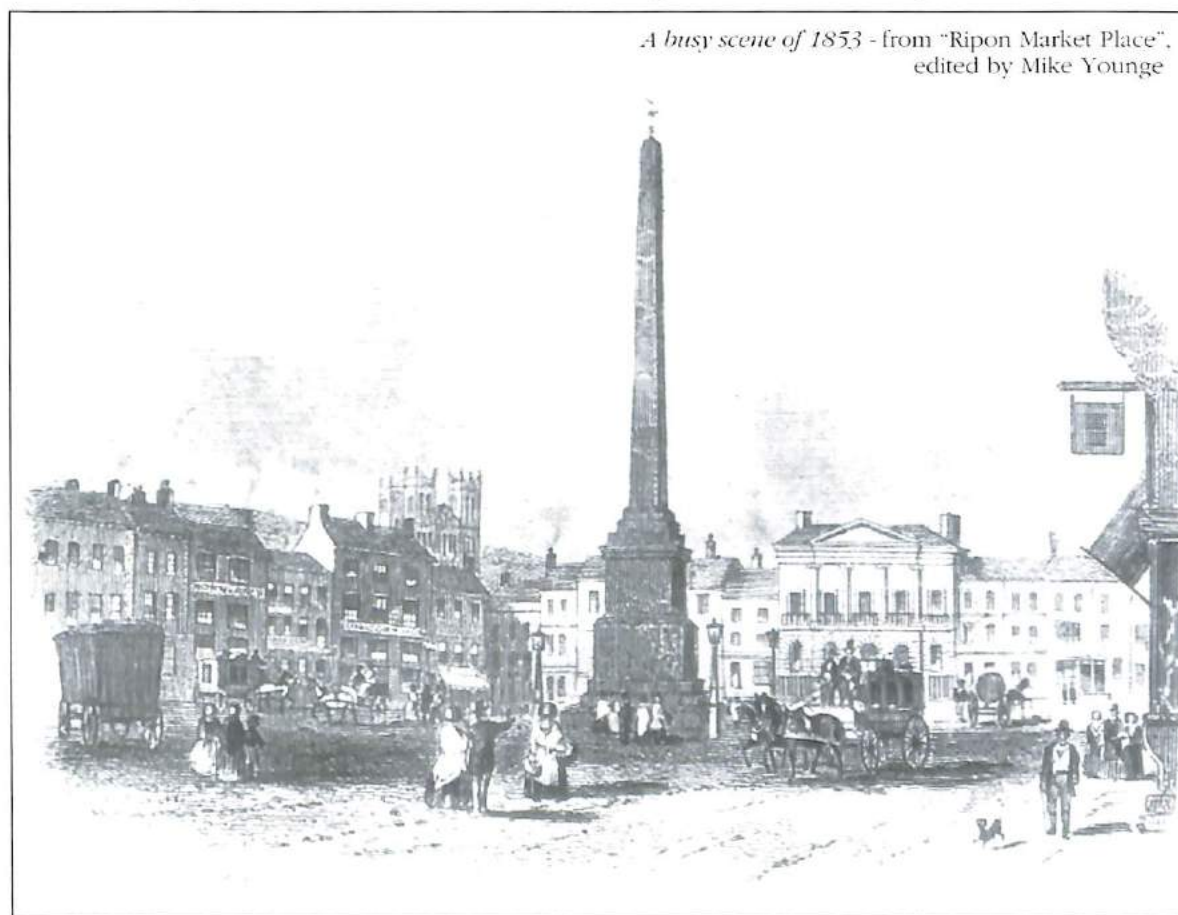
Ripon, famed for its Minster and Wakeman in the outside world, has another special site in the heart of the city; its still substantial Market Place, graced by its Town Hall and Obelisk, which deserves wider recognition. Over eight centuries of the Square's history has been traced by Ripon Historical Society, stress-

ing its importance to the town's economic and social life, and of individual properties. Although the research for this book had evolved over many years, it is particularly appropriate that its publication co-incides with the first really comprehensive refurbishment of the Square, enabled by a substantial Heritage Lottery grant as well as additional funding from Harrogate Borough Council and North Yorkshire County Councils.

Generously illustrated with archive photos, drawings and engravings, *Ripon Market Place* gives an overview of the Square's past, present and future, and deals section by section with the north, south, east and west sides of the Square. Though Ripon's market was not listed in the Domesday

Book, it was certainly claimed to have been flourishing in the thirteenth century. In later centuries a particularly interesting feature was its use not just for markets and fairs, but for parades and rallies up to World War II. Though in the 1970s, somewhat ingloriously, the Square became devoted to free car parking as Ripon's narrow streets became increasingly traffic clogged. Fortunately a welcome change of heart for this

A busy scene of 1853 - from "Ripon Market Place", edited by Mike Younge

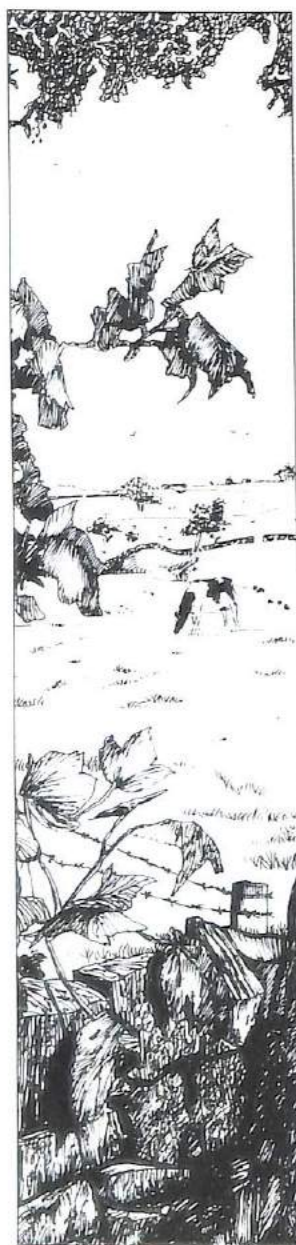


priceless asset, with the Borough Council working on a radical redesign of the area, and with car-parking kept to a minimum, re-paving in stone and the planting of an avenue of mature trees, suggests a far brighter future.

Take a copy of *Ripon Market Place* with you as you revisit the town, and as you stare at modern shop-fronts and fittings, you will enjoy retracing some of the history of its previous occupants. There is a useful index and street plan with a rather small inset map as a frontispiece, but all-in-all, it is a most worthwhile addition to the local history of the area.

F. S.

The reprint of the late Reverend James Alderson's volume of verse in authentic Northern Dales dialect, *When I Wer A Lad: Yorkshire Dialect Verse from Wensleydale*, is a timely reminder of the charm and sense of fun dialect poetry can awaken. His "Gayle Bannock" has become a classic piece of humorous verse while other poems celebrate local sports and activities, or the seasons and even mundane objects like "My Aad Dolly Stick." Brian Alderson, James' nephew, has reissued the volume in tribute to his uncle who died last year. Copies which include a useful glossary of dialect terms, are available from Brian Alderson, The Wynd, Gayle, near Hawes, DL8 3SD, price £4-50 (includes p&p). We present two of the poems.



A BIT OF LAND

Ah wez country boom, ah wez country bred,
Ah wez country reared, ah wez country fed:
Ah loved the land, the soil, the sod,
Ah thowt aw the land belenged to God.

Ah dug a gardin, ah kept some hens,
Ah take an allotmint, ah meead some pens:
But ah allis wanted some land to keep,
Ta caw mi aan, en hev some sheep.

Ah dreeamed of a field, knee deep i' grass,
But land was dear, and a had neea brass:
Ah wanted a coo ta git milk en cream,
But time rolled by, twas only a dream.

There's a lile bit o' of land av bin te buy,
Its all a man needs when he comes te die:
Its six feet lang en its five foot deep,
Its all I need en el git it cheap.

IT'S WINTER NOO

T'backend's gone by, it's bin wild en wet,
It's bin rough en clasy, it's nut done yet,
Ther'll bi sleet en hail, it's neea good te fret,
Fer it's winter noo.

It can snaa awt' neet en day efter day,
"Ther plucken geese i' Scotland," the say,
Ah mun buy a new shool te clear it way,
Fer it's winter noo.

"As t'days lengthen, t' cowl strengthens," seea the' say,
Ther's a keen hard frost, it's a sharpin today,
Aw's slape az glass, it's nut seeaf doon oor way,
Fer it's winter noo.

T'taps git frozen, these er te thaa oot,
Cleeas el freeze on t' line, when the' peg out,
Ther'll bi lots a dead stock ah hev'n't a doot,
Fer it's winter noo.

T'farmers el sune bi off laten ther sheep,
It stoovers bi t'waus whar it ligs varra deep,
Ther'll fother some hay fer the git short a' keep,
Fer it's winter noo.

T'rooad el bi blocked up Greensit way,
T'snaa cutters el bi off te clear it away,
Fer fooaks mun git throo on t'markit day,
Fer it's winter noo.

Farmers git hauf starved en near pined te death,
The dooat allis lap up weel when gaaen t' leacath,
Warm cleas on a good fire the' need, nut yan' but beeath,
Fer it's winter noo.

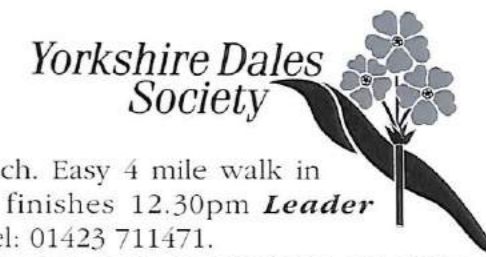
Fooaks gilt cowl hands, th' git cowl feet,
Some er aw of a shivver wi' gaaen doon t' street,
Some er nobbut middlin en just i' queer street,
Fer it's winter noo.

Lads like winter when ther's ice en snaa,
The mak shirls on t' beck when t' watters laa,
The ride ther boggies doon t'hill ya knaa,
Fer it's winter noo.

Ther's snizy days en lazy winds, it's true,
Days er short en dark, it's a darley do,
T'best spot's i' bed with a bottle er two,
Fer it's winter noo.

Ther'll bi graveyard coughs en fooak wi' flu,
Ther's plenty a free medicine te pull ya throo,
Thers breeter days ahead fer beeath me en you,
Tho' it's winter noo.

Autumn & Winter Events



There may still unfortunately be some problems regarding our planned walks which tie-in with our current Lecture series, owing to the further possible outbreaks of Foot and Mouth disease. Please either call the YDS office number nearer the event on Monday mornings on 01943 461938 or call the named walk leader (evenings) for October, November and December and January walks. Or check with Fleur Speakman on 01943 607868. Alternatively check the YDS web-site before each walk on : www.yorkshiredalesociety.org.uk

SATURDAY OCTOBER 6th 2001 WALK: A SCENIC STROLL IN NIDDERDALE. Meet Dacre Banks Village Hall (park at Hall) at 10.30am for an easy 4½ mile walk, finishing at 12.30pm. Packed, pub or cafe lunch. Bus 24. Note just one steady climb, but some nice views. Route up Cabin Lane via Harwell Hall farm, down & across river, up to smelt houses & return along river to Dacre Banks. **Leader Chris Hartley:** tel: 01943 873197.

LECTURE: SANCTUARY IN THE NORTH: A LICENCE TO KILL? by Maurice Taylor on Yorkshire churches which offered sanctuary to malefactors & other privileges, at 2.15pm at Dacre Banks Village Hall.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10TH 2001 WALK: L'AVENUE DES HIRONDELLES, CALEY CRAGS AND BRAMHOPE PURITAN CHAPEL. A 3½ mile walk with some steepish ascents. Meet Pool in Wharfedale Village Hall 10.30am (bus 780), back 12.30 for pub or packed lunch. **Leader: Colin Speakman:** tel: 01943 607868.

LECTURE: PLAGUES AND POTIONS: MEDIEVAL MEDICINE by Eric Houlder at Pool in Wharfedale Village Hall at 2.15pm.

TUESDAY 20TH NOVEMBER - SUNDAY DECEMBER 2ND PEOPLE IN A LANDSCAPE: TRACKS THROUGH THE DALES - GEOFFREY WRIGHT PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION at the Dales Countryside Museum. Official opening for invited guests 11am Tuesday November 20th. Admission free. Opening hours 10am - 5pm.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 8TH 2001 WALK: ROUND AND ABOUT CRACOE . Meet at at Cracoe Village Hall car park at 10.30am (bus 72), pub, cafe

or packed lunch. Easy 4 mile walk in Hetton area, finishes 12.30pm **Leader John Hone:** tel: 01423 711471. **LECTURE: TALES AND LEGENDS OF THE DALES by Colin Speakman** at Cracoe Village Hall at 2.15pm.

SUNDAY DECEMBER 16TH CHRISTMAS EVENT.VISIT TO GAYLE MILL. (Instead of our usual Christmas Walk, we have arranged a visit to take advantage of the Dalesbus and short winter hours of daylight.) Take the Dalesbus 800 from Leeds 0935 or Ilkley at 1025 which arrives at Hawes at 12.40. Members should make their own lunch arrangements and meet at Gayle Institute, not far from the Hawes Creamery at 1.30pm for a **short talk on Gayle Mill by Brian Alderson.** This will be followed by a tour of the mill itself before returning on the Dalesbus at 3.15pm. (Please check bus times.) Please book through the YDS Office, £1.50 per person, by Monday December 3rd. Cheques to the Yorkshire Dales Society, Civic Centre, Cross Green, Otley, LS21 1HD.

SATURDAY JANUARY 12TH 2002 WALK: WONDERFUL WHARFEDAILE. Leader Jim Burton: tel: 01943 602918. THE LEADER REQUESTS NOT TO PARK IN (CONGESTED) ILKLEY BUT AT ADDINGHAM MEMORIAL VILLAGE HALL and take the 762 bus from Addingham Fleece at 9.45 to Ilkley Station, or come all the way by public transport (trains to Ilkley leave Leeds at 0932, Bradford 0919). The walk starts at Ilkley station at 10am. This is a moderate walk, the route goes over open moor and woodland, climbing and descending. Pub, cafe or packed lunch. Finishing time 12.45pm. **LECTURE: NATURE IN THE DALES: THE BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN by Tim Thom,** YDNP ecologist, at Addingham Village Hall at 2.15pm.

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.

For news and events update see the Yorkshire Dales Society Website – www.yorkshiredalesociety.org.uk



A Corner of Addingham.

Front Cover picture: *Wharfedale near Grass Woods*
(Photo by John Fawcett).

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