

Yorkshire Dales Review

No. 79 Summer 2002



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Yorkshire Dales
Society



£1.50



Time to Rediscover Hostelling in the Dales

One of the many victims of the 2001 Foot & Mouth crisis and the closure of the countryside was one of the oldest and most highly respected voluntary organisations in the countryside, the Youth Hostels Association, which lost an estimated £5 million income from lost bednights and meals walkers were not able to take.

The YHA's resources have always been slender, and loss of such core income was catastrophic. Although help was given to the Association from a variety of sources, including Government and from splendid fund-raising efforts by its own members, there remains a serious financial gap between what is needed and what is available.

Given the age of some of the hostel buildings with escalating maintenance costs, let alone the cost of bringing them up to the standard visitors now expect, the logic of the situation is inescapable. Some much loved properties have had to be earmarked for closure, their assets disposed of to provide matching funds for restoration of the rest.

In our own region, three properties, Linton, Aysgarth and Kettlewell, faced the axe. Kettlewell was, after much heart-searching, reprieved.

Several members have asked the Yorkshire Dales Society to join in protests at the closures of Aysgarth and Linton. But the YHA is not a branch of Government or a local Authority. Writing letters of protest to a fellow charity is hardly helpful in the situation the Association is in.

The truth is that the calamity of Foot & Mouth has forced YHA to bring forward fundamental changes. Like it or not the traditional Youth Hostel with iron beds, spartan dormitories and basic facilities just doesn't have a future. The market has changed. People are looking for privacy, comfort, quality, all at a budget price. Big old, damp draughty hostels may evoke nostalgic memories among the over 50s, but they don't attract younger people nor even older ones, and declining bed

night figures at these properties tell their own story. As YHA national Chairman Chris Boulton remarked at a recent seminar at Dent Hostel, the YHA is in the people, not the property business. If tough decisions have to be taken to close hostels, but also open new, perhaps smaller ones with the facilities 21st century hostellers demand, then it is better such decisions are taken quickly and wisely, rather than seeing the Association's resources haemorrhage away with ever larger repair bills for damp, empty buildings.

An illustration of what can be done is at Grinton in Swaledale, where thanks to a financial support from a variety of sources, including the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, Grinton Lodge has been transformed to a superb education and accommodation centre which, as we describe on page 3 was formally reopened by Mike Harding in April. Of course loss of both Linton and Aysgarth is extremely sad. But it's good to know that, as we write, Wensleydale councillors are working with the YHA either to keep the hostel at Aysgarth or find an alternative, whilst there is even talk of finding a smaller hostel in Grassington to replace Linton.

The best way to avoid Dales hostels closing is to stay in one, to increase bed night income. There is, of course, no age limit - youth is a question of spirit, not years. You will be surprised how comfortable hostels now are, with family rooms, first class facilities, and excellent food, all for a bargain price. All are accessible by Dales Bus or by train, on foot and bike, as well as by car, so why not have a weekend or short mid week break with family or friends this summer at Grinton, Malham, Hawes, Ingleton, Stainforth, Dentdale, Ellingstring, Keld, or Kettlewell, not forgetting both Aysgarth and Linton which are still open for business. If you aren't yet a YHA member - no problem, just join as you arrive for your first night. And you'll be surprised what a warm welcome you'll receive.

Colin Speakman

The Rochdale Cowboy drops in to Grinton Lodge

Grinton Lodge Youth Hostel, a magnificent building resembling a medieval castle, was built in the 19th century as the centre of a large shooting estate. It stands high on a grouse moor and has impressive views across Swaledale. The Youth Hostel is very popular with walkers, families and school groups and is on the Coast-to-Coast and Herriot Way long distance footpaths as well as the Dales Cycleway.

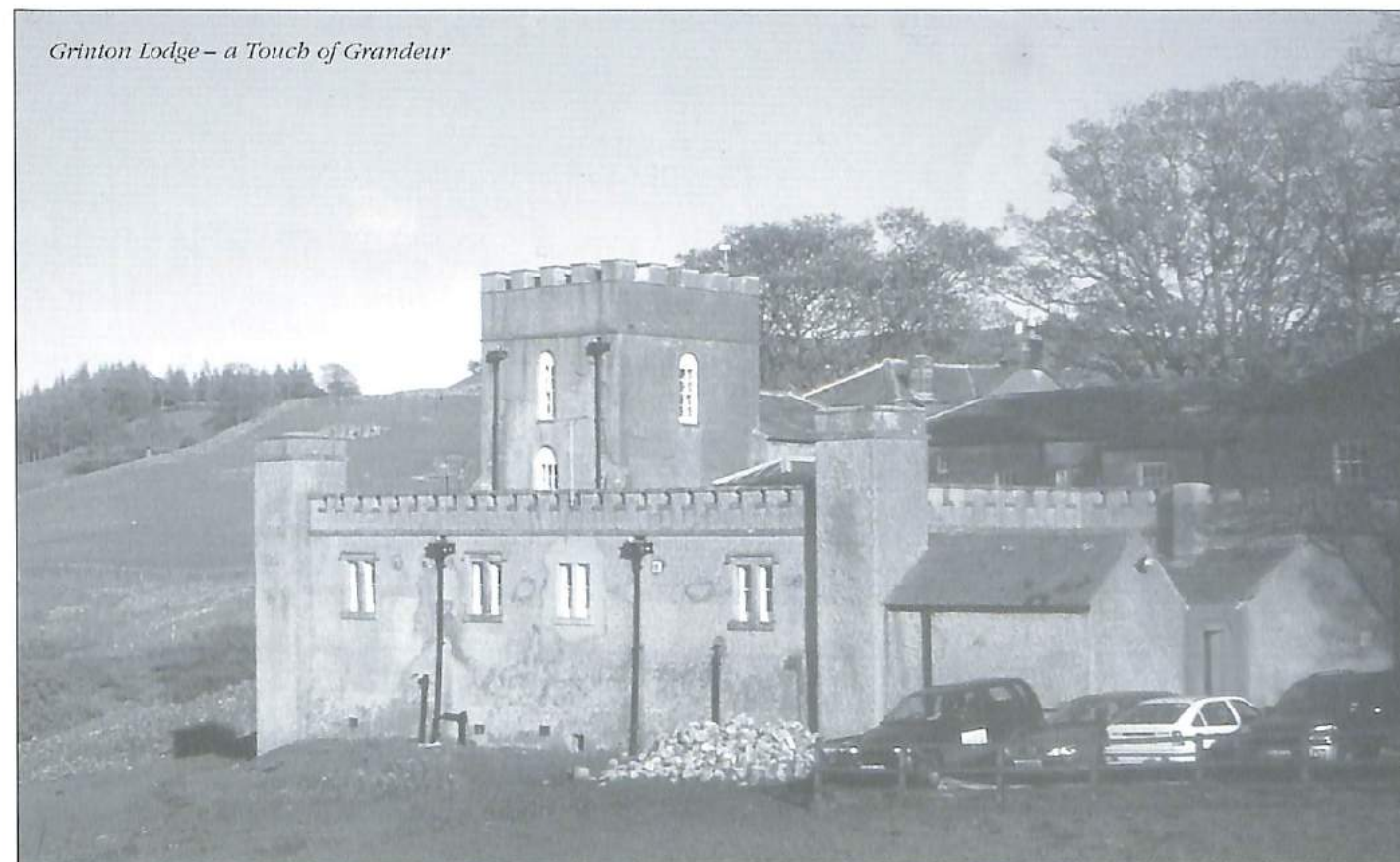
Work at the Youth Hostel to provide greatly improved accommodation and education facilities has been partly funded by the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust as one of its major "Environet" projects, as well as the European Regional Development Fund. This has resulted in high quality accommodation for visitors. Grinton has now received a four star rating from the English Tourism Council.

The ceremony on Friday April 26th at Grinton Lodge Youth Hostel in Swaledale, to celebrate the hostel's re-opening, was performed by writer and entertainer Mike Harding (of Rochdale Cowboy fame) who has had a long and happy association with the YHA and especially hostels in the Dales

from his teenage years when he used to cycle into the Dales from his home in Lancashire - Mike's speech was a delightfully witty record of his own hostelling reminiscences, due to appear in the walking magazine *Great Outdoors*. Other keynote speakers included Chris Boulton, national YHA Chairman and Lord Shuttleworth, Chairman of the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. Speakers emphasised that although the YHA like many other organisations has had to change and adapt over the years, hostels like Grinton have made and will continue to make a very special contribution to the enjoyment of our countryside, enabling many people, both young and old, to share and appreciate its special qualities.

Locally produced food and beverages were a highlight of the grand re-opening event, the food, though prepared by YHA chefs, was sourced from Yorkshire Pantry members who presented a varied menu for guests including a splendid array of Yorkshire cheeses, some excellent beer, hotpot, sausages, pastries and cakes, many using traditional recipes, as well as a stunningly accurate representation of Grinton Lodge itself in highly

Grinton Lodge - a Touch of Grandeur



edible form by local cakemaker Rosemary Frankland.

Commenting on the Yorkshire Pantry Buffet, Simon Ainley, YHA's Regional Manager for Yorkshire and Humberside said: "We are really pleased to be offering guests attending our re-opening ceremony at Grinton Lodge Youth Hostel, a buffet sourced from Yorkshire food and beverage producers and suppliers. We wanted to support businesses across Yorkshire, especially after the difficult year that everyone had last year as a result of Foot and Mouth Disease and the lack of visitors to the region."

Good quality local food and beverages add to the visitor experience. There are many dishes and drinks that are identified with Yorkshire. The purchasing decisions we all make can have a major influence on the countryside. There are an increasing number of products that help to enhance or protect the landscape and wildlife and in turn bring benefits to the rural economy and local communities. Youth Hostels in Yorkshire will

continue to purchase and source products and produce from local suppliers where possible. The Yorkshire Pantry members have been extremely helpful and the guide and website has been an invaluable source of information when developing the buffet."

Several of the invited guests joined Mike Harding for a walk to Grinton's local lead mines in the late afternoon, fortunately after stormy weather, which had threatened the stability of the special marquee in which the event had been held, had yielded to bright sunshine. Celebrations concluded into the evening with informal folk music led by Mike and a team of local folk musicians together with some steaming plates of tasty meat and vegetarian hotpot. The event was a thoroughly enjoyable occasion, which demonstrated just a little of what the YHA has to offer a new generation of countrygoers in the twenty first century, as well as the enormous goodwill and support to be found in the Dales for this very special voluntary organisation.



The Yorkshire Dales Society Financial Report

for the year ended 31st March 2002 is on page 12. If you would like a complete version, please send a large A4 self-addressed envelope to the YDS office. The office address is:
The Yorkshire Dales Society, Civic Centre, Cross Green, Otley, West Yorkshire, LS21 1HD.

Profile: Hilary Baker

Born in Moshi by the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro, Hilary Baker returned to England in 1939 with her mother and older sister originally for a visit as World War II broke out. Too young to have any distinct memories of her birthplace in Tanganyika, present-day Tanzania, Hilary's war years were spent in London and Worcestershire. Her mother had formerly been in the Colonial Nursing Service and her father had worked as a shipping agent in Mombasa and Dar es Salaam. Sadly Hilary's father was killed while serving in the Kings African Rifles during the War.

After school years at the Alice Otley School in Worcester from 1945-55, Hilary trained as a domestic science teacher in Berridge House College, London, enjoying her course enormously, but marriage to Stanley, a teacher, in 1957 before the end of her course dictated its termination in those days. The couple then moved to Harwich in north east Essex where her husband became head of department and deputy head. Hilary was soon to have her hands full with one son and four daughters in fairly rapid succession, though a very supportive husband lightened the load.

When Hilary's youngest child was three, she decided to retrain as a primary school teacher at Clacton-on-Sea and then worked as a primary school teacher for twenty years at Dovercourt, specialising in juniors; a period she looks back on with great affection. The death of Hilary's husband in 1981, and later changes in the National Curriculum brought forward her retirement plans. In 1988, Hilary who loved walking and natural history, and had a keen interest in Richard III (with his strong northern connections), bought a cottage in Long Preston, and gradually spent longer and longer periods in the north, till she was able to settle there permanently in 1990.

She stresses that the best way to integrate into a local community is to make a tremendous effort, and join all sorts of local organisations and you will be rewarded by great warmth and friendliness. Those who have known Hilary for a number of years will know that the warmth and friendliness is richly deserved and she is an asset to

any organisation.

Hilary joined the Yorkshire Dales Society as a means of learning more about the Dales and to help her meet like-minded people. She feels that the Society helped to give her and others the opportunity to go to different parts of the Dales and the usually excellent talks and short walks provide both stimulation and a social function. Hilary has been a valued senior member of the Yorkshire Dales Society of Management for over ten years, where her judicious remarks and enthusiasm have helped to make Council meetings such useful and interesting occasions. She also looks after the team by providing our much needed coffee and biscuits prior to what are often quite intensive sessions. Hilary organised a memorable after tea for the commemoration of the Arthur Raistrick bench in August 2000 and is one of our stalwart behind the scenes helpers at numerous events and occasional walk leader.

Hilary's very real interest in the Yorkshire Dales is demonstrated by her commitment and frequent attendance at National Park Planning meetings which are open to the public and we have often been grateful for her guidance on what has occurred. Hilary says that it is always instructive to listen to the pros and cons, and is delighted that there is now some improvement as regards a rather too political

and sometimes too personal agenda. Similarly Hilary has shown continuous support and taken an active role in the annual Conference for National Park Societies, (the Yorkshire Dales Society is one of those), which are held each year in a different venue and will take place in the Broads this year in September. She is a member of the Parochial Church Council, membership secretary of the North Craven Heritage Trust, currently President of the local WI and is also actively involved in the formation of a U3A (University of the Third Age) in Settle. Most notably after three years as a co-opted member, she was elected to her Parish Council and is especially interested in planning applications. Fourteen grandchildren also ensure that she is very much in touch with the younger generation.

Fleur Speakman

We should not be doing it!

The Editors would like to thank all YDS members who wrote to us recently on a number of important issues, most notably on the damage caused by motor vehicles to Green Lanes. We print some of these which were also sent by the writers concerned to the relevant authorities – though we have yet to hear of any decision by the County Council.

Robert and Hilde Crookball of Dorchester, Dorset sent a copy of the following to the Chief Executive of North Yorkshire County Council.

"The Green Lanes of the National Park"

Although we have been unable to visit the Yorkshire Dales National Park for some years, our family knows and loves this splendid country where we have enjoyed one of its finest attractions - the ancient trackways - the Green Lanes.

It is not only in the Yorkshire Dales that we have seen the often irreparable damage done to ancient and unsurfaced tracks by motorcycles and four wheelers, but the threat in the Dales is by far the worst, not only because of their history, but also because they are a major part of the attraction which brings so many holiday makers to enjoy them.

We are so glad that your Council is proposing to take action under the 1984 Act. We hope the opposition of a minority, much of it promoted by the motor-industry, will not prevent the Council from acting on behalf of the far greater numbers of people and organisations which object to so sad (and so avoidable) a destruction of a heritage belonging to us all.

Will you kindly let me know when the four initial Orders have been publicised. Thank you."

E. Charles Simpson, of Burley in Wharfedale, well-known Dales artist and long-time YDS member sent his letter to Jon Avison, Deputy Chief Executive of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and to Michael Bartholemew, Chairman of the Green Lanes Alliance.

"Looking at the photograph of the very muddy and waterlogged tyre ruts on the front cover of the

Spring issue of the Yorkshire Dales Society Magazine, set me thinking once more about our problems in the countryside. The first thing I did was to guess, this must be Mastiles Lane.

I saw it like this some years ago, when the late Geoffrey Berry (writer, photographer and former Secretary of the Friends of the Lake District) had been looking at the quarry behind Kilnsey Crag and then at the state of Mastiles Lane. This was at a time when four wheeled drivers had started using it frequently.

We first walked Mastiles Lane in the 1930s when it was a beautiful, mostly green lane. We were members of the YHA in those days so imagine our joy when we heard that John Dower (author of the seminal report on National Parks) had designed a Youth Hostel for Malham. It opened in June 1938. This made it possible to use Mastiles Lane frequently as a walk when leaving Malham hostel.

What wonderful days they were, and the only sounds the curlew, the plover and the wind. I doubt very much I could walk Mastiles now; age and arthritis getting in the way.

Motorcars are destroying our green lanes and it is high time they were stopped. These lanes were never meant to be used by motorised vehicles, whatever they say. Sadly we have so few green lanes left. I well remember farm tractors using Mastiles lane, when farmers had to move about their land, but they never did the damage motorcars are doing.

I was very upset some years ago when they had surfaced "Shaking Moss" - the old Coal Road from Cowgill to Garsdale Head and the lovely old lane from Lofthouse to Colsterdale.

Sometimes you see in summertime several motors parked on the top of the old Coal Road and then the charm of the place has gone. I could go on about our countryside and green lanes.

Forty years ago, two friends and myself were walking over Pock Stones Moor from Wharfedale over to the Washburn Valley. On arriving at the top, we came across a motorist with his two back wheels up to the axle in deep mud ruts. We were prepared to leave him there, but he had a very old lady in the back seat.



Green Lane near Ingleton Photo by Tom Richardson

It took four of us to lift the car free of mud etc. In those days it said "Unfit for Motorcars" at each end of the Pock Stone Moor Lane.

Can I finish with my thoughts on the countryside? Whatever our activities in the countryside: climbing, walking, cycling, motoring or anything else, if any of these activities should "spoil" things in any way however little, then we should not be doing it."

C.R. Richardson of Ewhurst, Surrey, has written to Jon Avison of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and to the Chief Executive of North Yorkshire County Council. He has sent the Yorkshire Dales Society a very generous donation to assist the cause of the Green Lanes. This will be discussed at the next YDS Council of Management meeting.

"I am writing to add my voice to the many who want to keep so-called Green Lanes free from motorised vehicles in North Yorkshire. I have never written a letter of this nature before and I do hope that the views of the wider public will be listened to, not just the views of the organised lobby groups.

I'm sure you will have heard all the arguments from both sides in this debate and I very much doubt if I could add anything new. I am just one of the many tens of thousands of regular walkers in North Yorkshire whose enjoyment of the countryside is spoilt by 4 wheel drives and motorbikes causing noise, pollution and ground damage. As well as the obvious ruts, I see an increasing amount of oil in the water on boggy ground in North Yorkshire these days. As you will know, the farming community has a great concern in terms of the distress caused to animals.

Is there a possible solution? There are a growing number of tracks for these vehicles on private land and this may help. But we need the law to recognise that Green Lanes were never meant for modern vehicles and to prevent the selfish few spoiling the peaceful pleasure of the majority in these beautiful areas of our countryside."



Chairman's Report 2001-2002

Last year's AGM and report was overshadowed by the consequences of the foot and mouth epidemic. Little did we realise that the epidemic and its effects on all Dales life had only just started, and even though it has been at present resolved, it very much continues to affect our thinking.

Most of our programme of events for the summer had to be abandoned with some notable exceptions.

The first was a dinner to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Society. This was held in June at the Buck Inn at Malham and in spite of road closures for most of the day, was very successful and a positive effort to help out a Dales village. It was appreciated by all including nearly seventy people who enjoyed local meat and drink, as well as a wonderful presentation by Jerry Pearlman on some 'Environmental Legal Nutcases'. Your support was much appreciated by all at Malham, and our thanks are due to Peter Sharp who arranged the venue.

In September we visited one place clear of Foot and Mouth and that was underground! at the Stump Cross Caverns, again a most successful meeting full of surprises for many people.

The Society was honoured by the custody of the fabulous collection of photographs by the late Geoffrey Wright's family. In November we were delighted to host an exhibition of a selection of his black and white studies at the Dales Countryside Museum which was well received. We thank the staff of the Museum, as well as Fleur for arranging what was a very grand opening, which found wide publicity.

Our winter programme of walks and talks albeit with some amendments due to foot and mouth restrictions, was very well supported with key speakers on a variety of topics. In particular we heard about the Biodiversity Action Plan from Tim Thom and Developments in local archaeology from Robert White; both work for the National Park Authority. Colin's talk on Tales and Legends of the Dales put us all in a Christmas Mood. We are very grateful to all our speakers and walk leaders in a difficult year as well of course Rod and Judith Clough who man the tea urns of the Dales.

Beautiful weather was a bonus for our Return to Malhamdale linear bus walk last month, which attracted many members and guests.

These events represent some of the outdoor activities of the Society. Less publicised are the efforts of the Management Committee and its constituent members who give up much time and energy to the welfare of the Dales.

One example has been the continuing efforts to stop the serious damage done to green lanes and other tracks by recreational drivers and motor cyclists. We are a constituent member of the Green Alliance, which has received much publicity, and in the main, balanced comment in the press including at least two editorials.

All of us were concerned from the beginning with the ongoing foot and mouth epidemic with early correspondence to all our local members of Parliament stressing the need for a full public



Many Dales businesses suffered because of FMD

enquiry. We await the current deliberations and outcomes of the committees with concern. It may not be possible to avoid another outbreak of the disease which has been with us before many times over the years, but the policy of containment must acknowledge that the massive loss of income to the

wider community has been much greater than to farmers alone. Future support to agriculture must be directed in ways that fulfil the objectives of National Parks and acknowledge the essential component of visitors to the Dales as part of a viable economy. I do believe however that the commitment to overcome the epidemic has resulted in dialogue between all elements of the Dales communities, with a resolve to restore and invigorate the economy for the future. Your Society has played its part in this by participation in a Business Seminar at Clapham, organised with CNP and by providing representations to the current Anderson Inquiry.

Also of great relevance is our evidence to the Government's Review of the Administration of the National Park Authorities. Our submission was published in full in the *Winter Review*. We have continued to campaign for public transport for local people and visitors alike. Meetings have taken place with a view to establishing a Moors and Dales Rural Transport Partnership.

One project, which was overshadowed by last year's events, was the participation in the Multi-cultural Initiative organised by CNP in partnership with the Black Environmental Network. This is now named the Mosaic Project. The Yorkshire Dales have been selected as a possible trial area. Dr Jim Burton has put in much hard work both attending meetings and arranging with appropriate contacts so the Initiative can move forward to its next phase. Jim and Dawn have carried out a survey on five occasions of over three and a half thousand visitors to the southern dales which revealed that less than 0.6% of visitors appeared to be from ethnic minorities in spite of proximity to major centres like Leeds and Bradford. We see this as a further need for the Society's wider educational role. Jim will represent the Society as member of a National Park Working Party.

The Events and Membership Committee has

worked hard to arrange a programme of events as usual which we hope you will continue to support, some of which were held over from last year. A special sub - committee has looked at increasing our only asset, membership, and hopes to set up a number of initiatives including a possible corporate category. However personal contact and recommendation still provides the best option and I urge all of you to help us to recruit further members.

In conclusion I thank all who have helped the Society during the past difficult year, in particular the Council of Management and of course our secretariat, Colin and Fleur whose hard work and hospitality mean so much to the Society.

Several members are not standing for re-election this year. Colin Ginger has led from the front on matters of protection of green ways and is very active in all Upper Wharfedale matters. Ralph Atkinson from Bentham always a great source of inspiration is retiring for health reasons. Jim and Dawn Burton have indicated that do not wish to stand for Council but we are delighted that they will continue to support the Society. Dawn Burton provides a superb summary of the media's reporting of Dales activity in the *Dales Digest*; essential reading for all. *The Yorkshire Dales Review* goes from strength to strength with its varied and sometimes striking cover illustrations.

I must mention one group by name and that is the team who man our office in Otley every Monday morning with Fleur and they are Margaret Rhodes, Maurice Denton and Mike Johnston. Thank you for all your hard work to help the smooth-running of our administration.

Finally, May I thank you, the members, for your continuing support.

C.J. Wright, Chairman

Yorkshire Dales Society Council of Management 2002/03

PRESIDENT KEN WILLSON (Addingham)

CHAIRMAN CHRIS WRIGHT (Gargrave) **VICE-CHAIRMAN** MALCOLM PETYT (Killington)

COMPANY SECRETARY ALAN PEASE (Bardsey) **TREASURER** DAVID SMITH (Ilkley)

COMMITTEE

HILARY BAKER (Long Preston)

JOHN CUMBERLAND (Ilkley)

JERRY PEARLMAN (Leeds)

JULIE BRADWELL (Leeds)

SIMON FERN (Calton)

PETER SHARP (Malham)

KEITH BUDD (Menston)

CHRIS HARTLEY (Ilkley)

ALAN WATKINSON (Hawes)

DENNIS CAIRNS (Barnoldswick)

CHARLES HEPWORTH (Muker)

GRACE CAIRNS (Barnoldswick)

JOHN HONE (Pateley Bridge)

SECRETARIAT: COLIN SPEAKMAN (policy) FLEUR SPEAKMAN (membership administration, etc.)

Candles, Hoofprints and Cultural Opportunities

Can a poet or a playwright bring fresh hope to a small farming community? Can artists and small designers create new markets for local crafts-based businesses? How can a family find realistic and sustainable diversification to provide extra income?

These questions now being asked in devastated and demoralised rural areas in Yorkshire and elsewhere need urgent answers. Last year's Foot and Mouth disease has exposed the interdependence and extreme vulnerability of both agriculture and tourism.

Just as major culture-led projects have helped to stimulate inner-city regeneration, more modest and disparate cultural initiatives can play a vital role in creating and supporting prosperity in the countryside. That was the premise of an important recent one-day conference, 'Investing in Rural Creativity', organised by the charity LITTORAL Arts and supported by Yorkshire Arts in association with the NFU and the Hill Farming Initiative.

The conference, attended by over a hundred delegates from arts organisations, DEFRA, local councils, farming, tourism and media groups, was held in the Skipton Auction Mart, an example itself of the ways in which traditional agricultural buildings can be put to new uses. It is the only auction mart in the UK also licensed as a theatre. The charismatic theatre company, Northern Broadside, has regularly presented Shakespeare and other drama there since 1996 and its director, Barry Rutter told how he has commissioned two new plays based in agriculture. One, 'The Breach in the Wall', about the 19th century Enclosure Acts, by which common land was taken for the benefit of the large landowners, will need five metres of drystone walling from local craftsmen at each location.

The whole emphasis of the conference was on the practical and creative with a fascinating series of case studies showing that bright ideas and new partnerships between farming and small businesses actually work. Ian Hunter, LITTORAL Arts' director, told how a farmer near Skipton, has abandoned cereal production for willow coppicing both for biomass fuel and for basket-making. In 1991 the price for the willow was £75 per tonne – today it is over £220; a clear case of changing direction to fill

a new market need as well as create added value.

Sally Robinson, a farmer's wife in the North York Moors, has built a lively mail order business from her farm supplying bras and other clothing for the 'fuller female figure' – her web-site is 'amplebosom.com.uk'. In a delightful presentation in verse, she proved that diversification is a lifeline if she and her family are to preserve their farm and income.

Chrysalis Arts, established in a chicken shed back in 1988, today is an enterprise with an office and training centre in Gargrave. Designing and carrying out imaginative public installations and art forms in city centres and elsewhere, the company is dedicated to using the skills of local artists and engineers. At one level Chrysalis' Rick Faulkner quoted the example of a new church gate for Gargrave designed and built entirely from local funds and resources and a special 'candle fold' built in a day and a half by local drystone wallers to display a hundred lit candles for one night on Gargrave village green as a morale boost for the community at the height of FMD. Major projects include decorative vandal-resistant fencing for urban parks and schools and the new Len Hutton Memorial gates at the Yorkshire Cricket Club grounds.

The resourcefulness and imagination of local groups and communities was displayed throughout the day in diverse and fascinating ways. Eden Arts, for example, set up a number of artists' residencies during the summer term in 2001 in primary schools in Cumbria to work through behavioural problems amongst children traumatised by FMD. One example was making a tiled panel for a school' reception area using the hoofprints of the types of animals slaughtered on local farms. Blaize Theatre Company produced a play, 'The Lie of the Land', which dwelt on the problems of a young publican whose business was facing ruin because of the closure of the countryside last year. Even civil servants have been involved. David Fine has been a poet-in-residence at DEFRA in Cumbria, translating into poetry the stress and anguish felt by its employees at the interface with stricken farmers.

It was simplistic of DEFRA's Margaret Beckett when publishing the Curry Report to declare that,

"Farming must change or die." Yet the logic is stark. 'Investing in Rural Creativity' proved that practical fresh thinking and new initiatives can help regenerate a countryside changed by the terrible plagues of BSE and FMD, but also deeply affected by the total crisis facing UK agriculture. Enterprise and creativity have the potential to develop the interdependent matrix of farming and businesses in the countryside in leisure, sport, food, heritage, the arts, media and tourism. As well as substantial

funds, there are immense reserves of goodwill and energy waiting to be tapped. But it needs the will and energy of all involved to make it all happen for the sake of our countryside's future.

David Morgan Rees

Further enquiries from LITTORAL ARTS, 42 Lodge Mill Lane, Turn Village, Ramsbottom, BL0 0RW. Telephone and fax 01706 827961.

Dales Bike Bus takes the strain from a trip to the Dales

Thanks to excellent co-operation by officers of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, North Yorkshire County Council, Metro, the Countryside Agency, the EU Target Programme, bus operators and the Yorkshire Dales Public Transport Users Group, summer 2002 Dales Bus services to the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Nidderdale AONB are now better they have been for many years. There's now a real choice of travel opportunity from West Yorkshire, York, Harrogate, East Lancashire and Greater Manchester to the Dales, with bargain fares that compete with the cost of motoring.

The most exciting new development for 2002 is the Dales Bike Bus. This is a bus with a specially

quieter lanes within the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Running every Sunday and Bank Holiday until August 26th, the service 810 leaves Wakefield (rear of bus station) at 0800, Leeds Eastgate at 0835, Headingley Arndale Centre at 0852, Shipley Market at 0935, Bingley Station 0935, Keighley Leisure Centre at 1005 and Skipton bus Station at 1025 for Grassington, returning from Grassington at 1715. There is also a mid day service from Ilkley Rail Station to Bolton Abbey and Grassington at 1300 and 1510. Return fares to Grassington are £6 from Wakefield and £4 from Leeds, Skipton and Ilkley, but there are also single fares available for cyclists

who want to take the bus one way and return by cycle or vice versa. A bike ticket, valid all day, costs just £1.

Full details of the Dales Bike Bus and other Dales Bus services for summer 2002 are available in attractive Dales Bus leaflets available from Visitor Centres and Metro information points, or in case of difficulty from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Hebden

Road, Grassington, DL8 3BP tel 01756 752774. Details are also available on the YDPTUG website www.dalesbus.org.



designed trailer able to carry up to 24 cycles in safety. The idea is to encourage cyclists to use the bus to avoid the busy main roads out of West Yorkshire cities, to enjoy freedom to cycle along

Yorkshire Dales Society – Financial Report

Balance Sheet as at 31st March, 2002

	2002	2001
FIXED ASSETS	807	1,300
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at Bank	29,594	28,404
Cash in Hand	600	600
Stock: Goods for Resale	131	191
	<u>30,325</u>	<u>29,195</u>
CREDITORS AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Accruals and Deferred Income	435	435
	<u>435</u>	<u>435</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	29,890	28,760
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>30,697</u>	<u>30,060</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Reserves	<u>30,697</u>	<u>30,060</u>

Income & Expenditure Account for year ended 31st March, 2002

	2002	2001
Subscriptions	14,123	13,962
Donations	2,448	2,525
Bank Interest	707	856
Legacies	—	1,000
Profit on Events	52	243
Retail Sales	124	209
Less Cost of Goods Sold	<u>60</u>	<u>153</u>
Tax Recovered on Covenants	—	1,418
	<u>17,394</u>	<u>20,060</u>
“Review”	4,900	5,160
Postage	2,109	3,009
Stationery	1,088	638
Administration	5,730	5,260
Office Rent	924	840
Telephone	272	256
Subscriptions & Donations Made	240	255
Depreciation	493	493
Travelling Expenses	168	68
Accountancy	396	447
Sundry Expenses	12	61
Bank Charges	150	211
Printing & Publicity	275	271
Repairs	<u>—</u>	<u>35</u>
	<u>16,757</u>	<u>17,004</u>
Excess of Income over Expenditure	<u>637</u>	<u>3,056</u>

Book Reviews

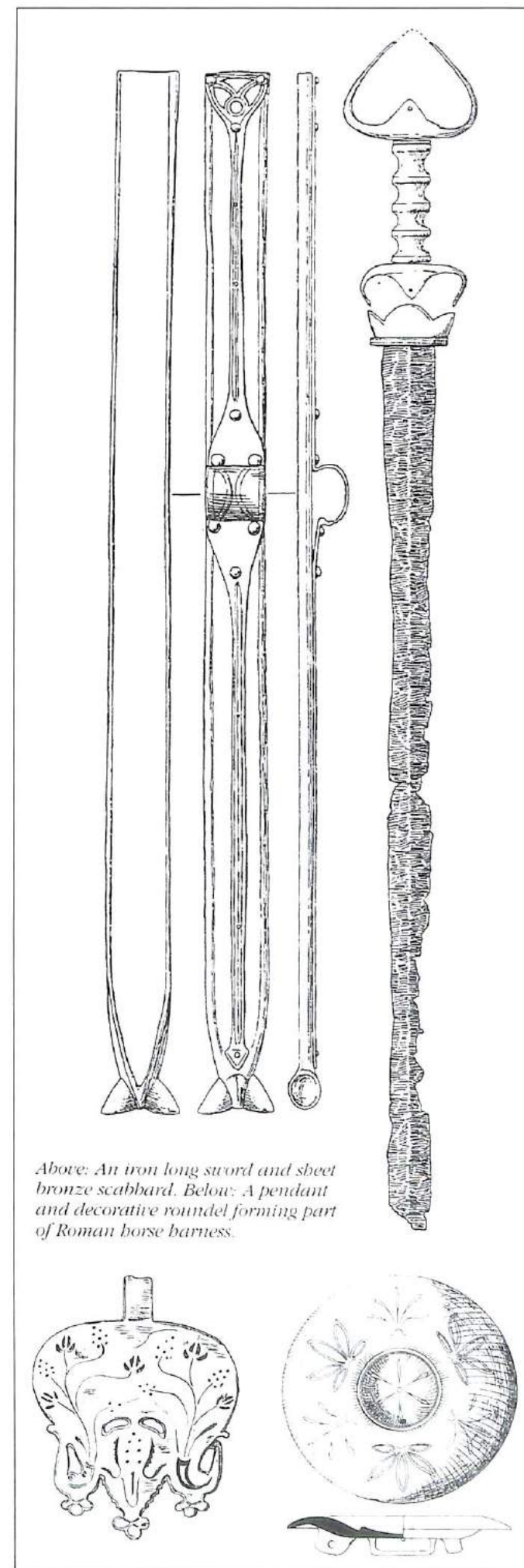
THE YORKSHIRE DALES: A LANDSCAPE THROUGH TIME by Robert White, published by Great Northern Books, price £14.99 and available in local bookshops or from Yorkshire Dales National Park Centres.

Robert White's "The Yorkshire Dales: A Landscape through Time" is a beautifully written book aimed at the general reader which clearly and lucidly sets out the ancient geology of the Dales and the archaeological impact centuries of human habitation have made on its very special landscape. The book though originally issued by Batsford in 1997, has much new material and an excellent format enhanced by clear photographs, maps, illustrations and a most useful index complete with grid references. We are delighted that the Yorkshire Dales Society played a seminal role in the re-issue of this important work.

The book's subtitle "A Landscape through Time" is particularly apposite, tracing as it does the early hunter-gatherers of pre-historic times who have left much evidence in stone and a plethora of early tools, while intriguingly in some later settlements such as the fire-cracked stones and bowl-like depressions in Wensleydale and Swaledale, usually recognised as cooking hearths, have now been suggested as possible sweat houses, an early form of sauna - "The steam being contained in a tent set over the trough." It has also been suggested that the high proportion of Roman brooches in Victoria Cave may have indicated there were workshops for such artefacts in the area. Field patterns, pollen counts, aerial photographs, stone carvings, post holes, spoil heaps and the like reveal much to the trained eye about agriculture, styles of building and earlier industry. History is brought up to date with the tale of crucial Dales industries from lead mining to quarrying and the Dales woollen industry, while the book concludes with the designation of part of the Yorkshire Dales in 1954 as a National Park. The Dales' highly important tourist industry draws visitors by the outstanding quality of its landscape, and the wealth of human activity which, over millennia, has not only produced its great castles and monasteries and grander buildings, but left, etched into the landscape, evidence of more ordinary yet equally fascinating lives.

F.S.

Right: Illustrations of archaeological finds shown in "The Yorkshire Dales: A Landscape through Time" by Robert White.



Above: An iron long sword and sheet bronze scabbard. Below: A pendant and decorative roundel forming part of Roman horse harness.

SIX BOOKS IN THE MAKING SERIES BY JOHN BOAKES INCLUDE : Making a Rag Rug, a Milking Stool, a Shepherd's Crook, A Hedge, a Barrel, and a Woven Hurdle, published by Smith Settle, Ilkley Road, Otley, West Yorkshire LS21 3JP, at £2.95 and locally available. (Inquire direct for postage rates (01943 467958).

These small handy books are uniform with some similar titles on Yorkshire crafts by Marie Hartley and the late Joan Ingilby and are a photographic record of the different processes needed to create particular artefacts. There is a useful introduction in each case.



Clockwise from top right: Illustrations from "Making a Rag Rug", "Making a Milking Stool", and "Making a Barrel", each by John Boakes in the "Making a ..." series.



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.yorkshiredalessociety.org.uk

ERIC JACKSON

It is with great sadness that we report the death of former YDS Council member Eric Jackson on May 16th of kidney failure, after nearly six years of a debilitating illness which severely curtailed his quality of life. The funeral took at Burley Parish Church on Wednesday May 22nd, with the Yorkshire Dales Society represented by Council Member Chris Hartley; many mourners had travelled some considerable distance to be present. Eric had spent the last three years of his life in care at Burley Hall, (with his wife Audrey in constant attendance), and though completely physically disabled, Eric had a tremendously active mind and was still greatly interested in the activities of the Yorkshire Dales Society and kept up his YDS membership. The Society owes a great debt to a very modest man who had considerable scientific knowledge and interests, and who gave so much of his time, so generously, and in so many ways, for our Society. He leaves a widow, Audrey in Otley, a son Richard, in Menston, and daughter Hilary in Gloucestershire plus four grandchildren to whom we all extend our sincere condolences.

Summer Events

Our summer events programme gives you the opportunity for some interesting walks and visits, or the chance to eat Yorkshire Pudding in a dales pub while October sees the start of our annual Walks and Lecture series.

Please note that after many years we are slightly increasing the cost of lecture admissions to take account of rising costs of our hall bookings and for our lecturers' fees. Admission for YDS members will now be £2 and £3 for non-members, a rise of only 50p.

SUNDAY JULY 14TH JOHN BELL MEMORIAL WALK

A repeat visit to Mirk Pot Nature Reserve where trees have been planted in tribute to former YDS Council member John Bell. Hugh and Jane Kemp, owners of Mirk Pot, have invited the Society back to learn about progress – this Reserve has also been recently colonised by the native red squirrel. If you want to join the full walk, catch the train to Dent which leaves Leeds at 0900, Shipley 0913, Keighley 0923, Skipton 0939, Settle 0957 for a seven mile walk, (some steep sections). Bring packed lunch. Alight at Dent station at 1025. For those not able to join the walk, there is limited parking along the lane to Mirk Pot (GR 828 871 – park by gates and walk down to farm) where we shall meet at approximately 2pm. To return, a bus link will be provided from Snaizholme Bridge to Ribblesdale Station – cost £2.

We needed numbers for the bus and for light refreshments (at Mirk Pot), and asked you to ring 01943 461938 or 01943 607868 by Monday July 7th. In the event of you changing your plans, please ring 01943 607868 as soon as possible.

SUNDAY AUGUST 4TH YORKSHIRE PUDDING WALK. (This is a purely bus-based walk.)

Catch the 0750 Arriva Dales Bus from Wakefield, 0815 from Leeds City Bus Station, Ilkley 0905 to Kettlewell. Meet in Kettlewell off the bus at 1012. This is an easy to moderate walk for a belated Yorkshire Day celebration and to support the new owner of the Fox and Hounds pub at Starbotton. There should be some splendid views of Wharfedale on the tops and easy level walking, with a leisurely stroll by the river on our return. One steep climb up Top Mere Road out of Kettlewell, then steep descent to Starbotton. (All dogs on leads, please.) Public loos at Kettlewell are available at the start and finish of the walk. Please book with YDS office by Monday July 22nd, earlier if possible so we can order our Yorkshire puddings with fillings in advance, and reserve space at the pub. Please specify type of pudding required. No



money to the YDS office, but we expect cost of puddings to be £4.90 for onion gravy, £6.90 for old English sausages and £5.25 for a vegetable filling. Leader Chris Hartley tel: 01943 873197 or mobile 0787 6343675, who says bring your white rose badges!

SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER VISIT TO FOXGLOVE COVERT NATURE RESERVE.

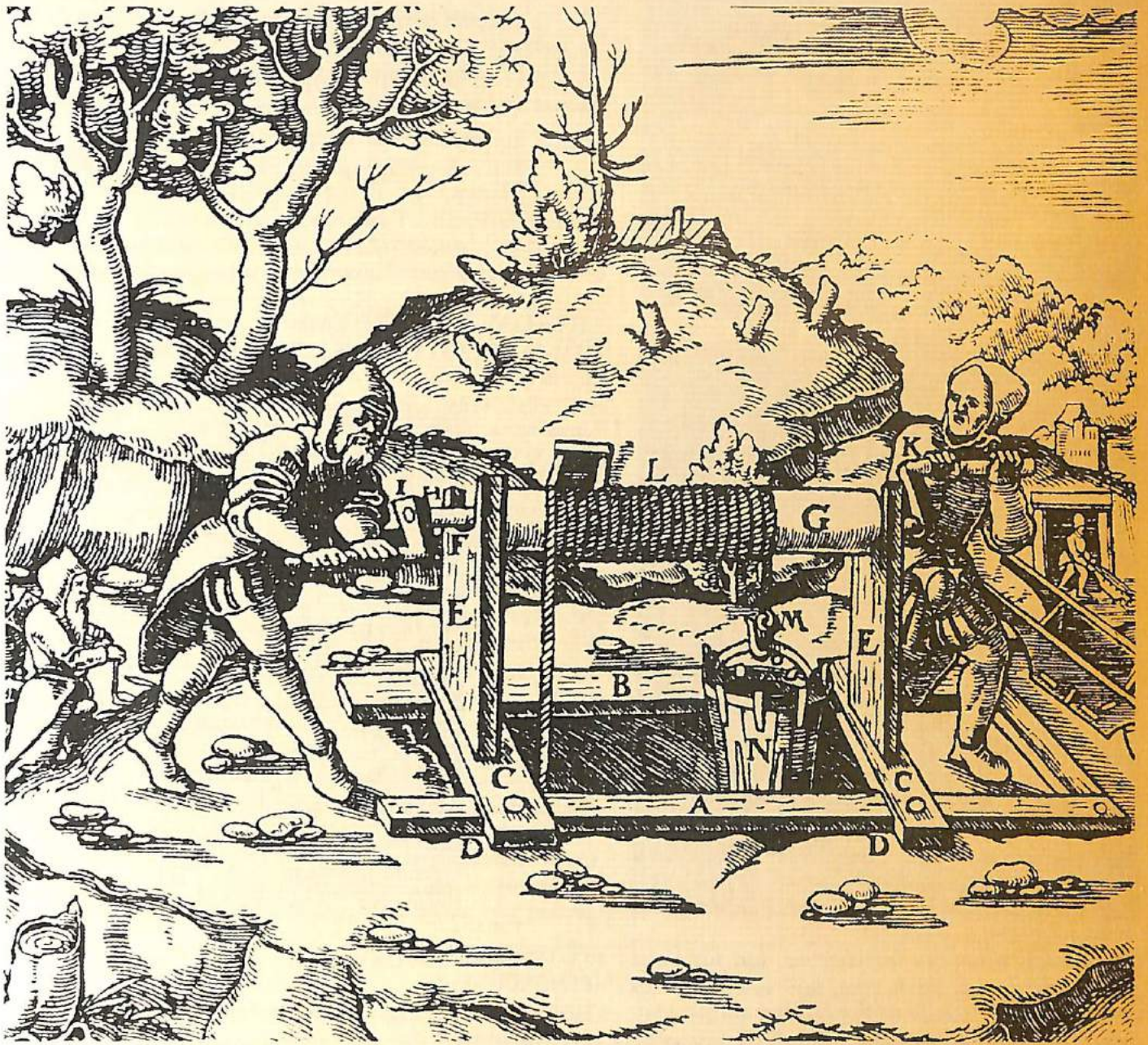
This is an afternoon visit to a small, but attractive Reserve, located four miles from the A1 at Catterick Garrison near Richmond, North Yorkshire. From the A1 take the A6136 signed for Catterick Garrison. The Reserve is adjacent to Cambrai Barracks. Arriva Bus 27 leaves outside Darlington Rail station for Catterick Garrison via Richmond at 1235 - alight Ladysmith Road end, passed by the bus along Alva Road, a short walk to Cambrai Barracks. Meet at the entrance at 2pm where our guide to the Trail will greet us and take us round the site. Please be aware that the land belongs to the MOD and access is only available with a guide. The Trail at Foxglove Covert is a circular walk of 1 1/2 miles and will take approximately 1 1/2 hours including stops with the chance to examine hazel coppicing, some interesting pond life, various bird species and flora, heathland and much more. Spend the morning exploring the interesting old market town of Richmond with its splendid castle and attractive market place.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 5th A WALK IN RIBBLESDALE.

Meet outside Settle Station at 1030, (drivers please park in one of the town centre car parks not at station); train from Leeds 0849, Skipton 0926 arrives in Settle at 0949. This is a moderate 4 mile walk with one steep section approximately half a mile from the River Ribble above Langcliffe. The walk is planned to finish between 12.30 - 1pm. There is a choice of pubs and cafes in Settle for lunch. Return train times after lecture either 1604 or 1801. Leaders: Ron & Vanessa Stone tel: 01729 840451.

LECTURE: OUT OF THE DALES AND INTO AFRICA BY CHRIS HALL, an Airtion farmer (near Skipton) who had first-hand experience of Foot and Mouth disease in Malhamdale last summer, and who went with his wife on a fact-finding trip to discover how another farmer and her family in Africa coped with the loss of her traditional market. Venue Victoria Hall, Settle at 2.15pm.

We look forward to welcoming members of the Friends of National Parks who will be visiting the Yorkshire Dales that weekend and who will be joining us for the day's walk and the lecture.



Front Cover picture: *Mike Harding celebrates the opening of Grinton Lodge youth hostel by cutting a replica cake.* Photo by courtesy of Bruce Greer Photography.

Back Cover Drawing: *A jack roller as illustrated in De Re metallica, a textbook on mining and smelting by Georgius Agricola, 1556.* (See book review on page 13 of "The Yorkshire Dales: A Landscape through Time" by Robert White.

Published by the Yorkshire Dales Society.

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

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

The Society is a Registered Charity No 515384.

Membership Subscription Rates

*Single Adult £11, Family/Couple £15
Single Retired £9, Retired Couple £12.
Student/Unwaged £6.*

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