

No. 87 Summer 2004

Yorkshire Dales Review



- *A New President*
- *Wind Farms - The Great Debate*
- *CNP's Vision for the Voluntary Sector*
- *Annual Report 2004*

Yorkshire Dales
Society



£1.50



A New President – and a New Chairman

When in the autumn, we lost our President Ken Willson, one of Yorkshire's great countryside campaigners, we knew there was a deep void to fill. A President is, or should be, an inspiring force, that helps keep an organisation focused on what it's all really about. That's something Ken, in sometimes a deceptively gentle way, could do so very well, based on rich experience combined with an almost intuitive feel for what should be done to protect the Dales. He spoke eloquently about what he described as "death by a thousand cuts" by which he meant how one planning concession here, one bit of permitted suburbanisation there, will, if we are not vigilant, gradually destroy the unique sense of place that makes the Yorkshire Dales so very special.

So when another great campaigner for the countryside, and for the Yorkshire Dales in particular, agreed to take over from Ken to give us that special kind of guidance, we were fortunate indeed. Mike Harding, entertainer, writer, folksinger, photographer, conservationist and many things beside, will bring different qualities to the role, including helping us to raise our profile. Mike is a busy man, who spends much of his year walking, cycling, writing, photographing in the many different landscapes and countries he loves. But he invariably comes back to his roots in the Pennine Dales. We look forward enormously to seeing him at the helm and giving us the kind of inspiration to take on the developers, exploiters and spoilers with renewed energy and passion.

But in 2004, we've also a new Chairman. The circumstances of Chris Wright leaving the post (after 10 years) and a role he had made very much his own, are very different and very much happier than the sad loss of Ken. Far from leaving us, Chris has agreed to be Vice Chairman, to give himself more time to focus on the work he most specially enjoys with the Society, which includes the social side, the popular programme of events, and helping to develop our Corporate membership. Our former Vice Chairman, Malcolm Petyt, an

Appointed Member of the National Park Authority and with an impressive record in national environmental work, will do much to strengthen the Society's work on policy and environmental campaigning. In the following pages we give a brief introduction to both Mike and Malcolm. We feel sure everyone will agree we are extremely fortunate in having such very high powered and talented people at the helm of the Society.

So what difference will this change of personnel at the top make to the work of the Society? Of course we have to wait and see, as both President and Chairman settle in and begin to define their new roles. The work of the Society will continue very much as before but there could be a new sharpness in the air. Bearing in mind the recent efforts by certain interest groups to secure fundamental changes to the National Park Plan to favour development in even the remotest locations, we need to ensure that we remain clear and focused on what has to be done.

In fact the election of both Mike and Malcolm might be seen as quite bad news for those elected and unelected anti-National Park lobbyists who claim, quite erroneously, a monopoly of local opinion. In some peoples' eyes, including many within Government, there is a perception there has been a worrying dilution of the national perspectives of the Yorkshire Dales National Park - a heritage equally important to all of us whether or not we are fortunate enough to live inside or outside that purely artificial National Park or AONB boundary. One vital role of the Yorkshire Dales Society is to ensure that the careful balance between local and national interests, between a healthy rural economy and the safeguarding of a precious natural and cultural environment, is properly maintained.

Our new President and our new Chairman are certain to ensure the Yorkshire Dales Society continues to play a key role in making this happen.

Colin Speakman

Windfarms – The Great Debate

There are few more divisive debates in the countryside at the present time than that about wind farms, where emotion and rhetoric quickly cloud rational arguments. Conservationists attack conservationists. Organisations who are usually allies denounce each other as NIMBYs. Former bitter enemies suddenly discover they have much in common.

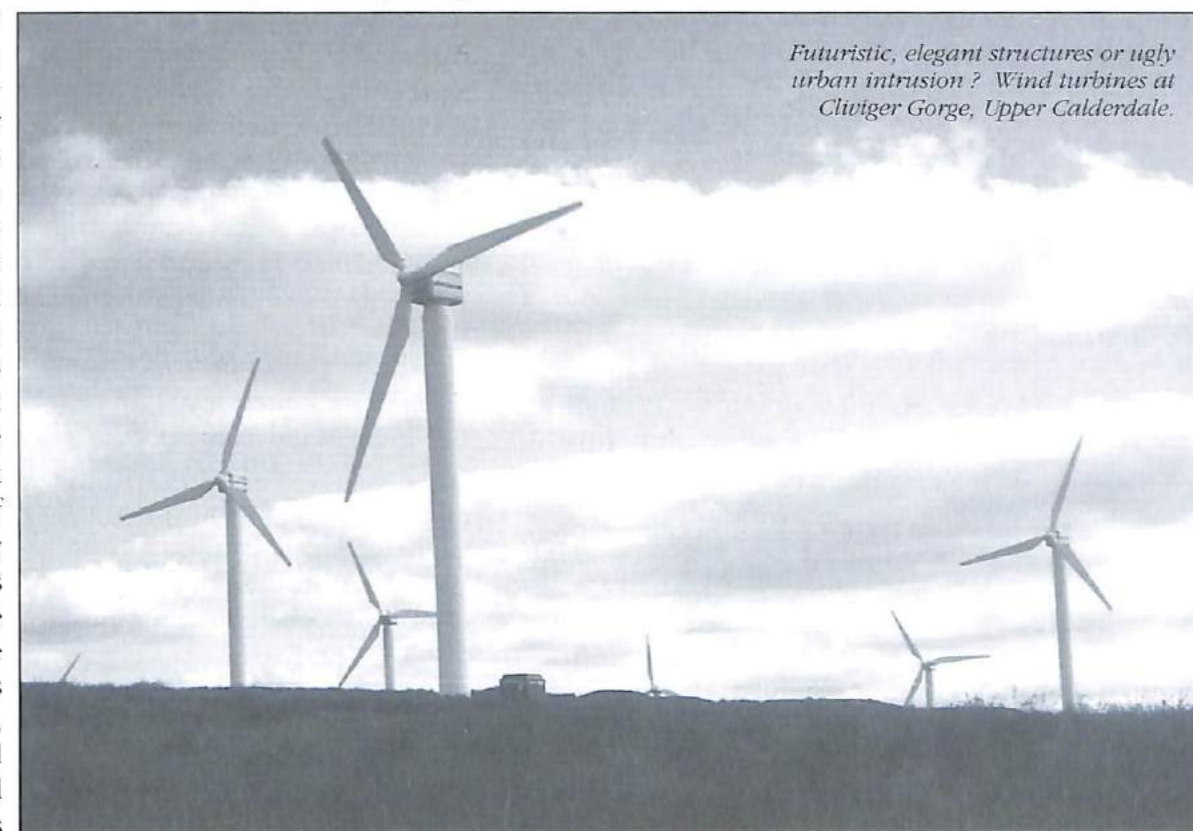
The issues are complex and the evidence is by no means conclusive on either side. Yet this is an issue that the Yorkshire Dales Society cannot ignore. But even to attempt a balanced argument is to risk angry letters and disgruntled comment.

So why have wind farms suddenly appeared on the countryside agenda? Government now recognises, that, for many reasons, including securing long term future

power supplies, a higher percentage of our energy needs to be renewable energy, that is energy that does not originate from finite supplies of fossil fuels. It is therefore proposed that by 2010 10% of all our energy requirements should come from renewable sources such as wind, wave, biomass and solar power and by 2020 this should reach 20%. This objective is supported by new planning guidance (PPS 22) which aims to simplify the planning process for wind generation schemes and make planning permission easier to obtain. In practice this means that though it is extremely unlikely that any wind farms will be built within the Yorkshire Dales National Park or Nidderdale AONB, in Pennine areas outside the designated protected landscape boundaries, the situation could be very different. Several major schemes of new super-turbines up to 100-130

metres (300-400 feet) high, are already being planned along the fells along the edge of the Lake District National Park, in the South Pennines or perhaps even closer to home, a current proposal is for eight 100 metre high turbines at Felliscliffe, close to Menwith Hill, (arguably already a futuristic landscape) and the A59 on the outskirts of Harrogate, but just outside the boundaries of Nidderdale AONB, and visible from many Dales hilltops.

This year alone 22 new wind farms will be built in the UK. More than £10 billion is to be invested over the next few years in wind power schemes. Fifteen giant off-shore wind farms are planned in the Thames estuary, the Wash, the Welsh coast each with around 500 turbines. But many hills in areas such as the North and South Pennines and the



Futuristic, elegant structures or ugly urban intrusion? Wind turbines at Clwiger Gorge, Upper Calderdale.

northern edge of the Howgills could be targeted as ideal locations to capture the strong prevailing winds of the Pennines.

Does it really matter if the views from our favourite hills are, in the next few years, likely to be crowded with the distinctive shape of slowly turning blades?

To some people these are things of beauty, tall, elegant structures which can enhance a landscape.

auguries of a sustainable, carbon free future. Others see them as abominations, urban intrusions in otherwise semi-natural, semi-wild landscapes which have remained unchanged for many centuries.

So how are the two sides composed? The pro-wind farm lobby include the Government keen to promote their green credentials and genuinely concerned about securing energy supplies in an uncertain future as oil reserves begin to run out. The industry lobby group, British Wind Energy Association and suppliers National Wind Power see important future economic benefits in tapping into this major source of pollution-free power, largely unused since the days of traditional windmills – which we now see as picturesque landscape features.

Supporting the wind farm builders are many of the country's leading conservation groups, including Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace and the World Wildlife Fund, who believe, with Tony Blair, that global warming is now the biggest single threat we face on the planet, with such evidence as the hottest day ever recorded in England during 2003, the 1990s being the warmest-ever decade, and substantial scientific data from the Arctic, the Alps and elsewhere that profound changes are happening to the earth's climate at a rate which is unprecedented in our history. Some scientists have even compared current changes with eco-catastrophes that overtook the planet in geological time, in one case wiping out something like 95% of life on earth.

The anti-wind farm lobby include a wide range of otherwise unlikely alliances, with high profile personalities such as Sir Bernard Ingham, Chairman of Country Guardian, an anti-windfarm coalition, the celebrated conservationist and broadcaster Dr David Bellamy, James Lovelock best known for his Gaia theory, and many other leading amenity societies such as the Ramblers Association, mountaineering groups and most National Park Societies.

The anti-wind farm groups do not deny the potential risks of global warming, but believe that simply covering our finest upland landscapes with wind turbines is irrelevant to solving the real problems of dramatic increases in fossil energy consumption, both in the UK and worldwide. They suggest that we in fact have no energy policy in Britain. We have consumed our own oil and gas reserves as quickly as possible, even creating "free market" conditions which have reduced prices, and therefore consumption, through competition. Transport energy consumption in Britain continues

to rise spectacularly as we drive longer distances in larger cars, and have a growing love affair with cheap if highly polluting, air travel. It is suggested that wind farms – even if they do supply 10% of our energy needs by 2010 – are an irrelevance, if our energy consumption led by gas-guzzling road and air transport, rises by more than that amount over the same period.

The pro-wind farm lobby accuse the antis of being Luddites, NIMBYS, or even part of the nuclear power lobby, as one argument for reducing use of carbon-rich fossil fuels is to revive the nuclear energy industry.

So who's right? In some ways both sides are right. Renewable energy – all forms – is now on the agenda but it needs to be part of an overall strategy which includes energy conservation – better insulation, more energy efficient cars and appliances, reducing the need to travel, better public transport, more walking and cycling. Wind, along with wave and solar power, and even new technologies such as the hydrogen fuel cell, needs to be part of the solution. Members may recall Martin Berry's fascinating article and lecture to the Yorkshire Dales Society, dealing with localised electricity production in an area like the Yorkshire Dales without the need for a National Grid, relying on small, carefully designed wind turbines, cleverly designed photovoltaic cells that cannot be readily distinguished from traditional stone slates, and new techniques of energy saving and insulation.

So where does the Yorkshire Dales Society stand? Should we come down on one side or the other in the great Wind Farm debate? Or by not having a "policy" for or against wind power, are we in fact able to adopt a more pragmatic position and judge each and every application on its merits in terms of its impact on the landscape and local communities, rather than claiming all wind farms are a "good" or a "bad" thing?

Maybe here's a situation where we need to know what our members think. If you have strong views one way or another, or think that we ought to have a neutral position, then why not drop us a line and let us know your views? There won't be space to publish all the letters, but we hope we might be able to give a flavour of what at least some of our members are thinking about one of the most controversial issues of our time, which, in the quite near future, could have a profound impact on the many of the landscapes we love.

C.S.

Profile: Malcolm Petyt

Dr. Malcolm Petyt, newly elected Yorkshire Dales Society Chairman, formerly its Vice-chairman for the last two years, and a member of its Council of Management since 2000, joined the Society in 1993 when he was still in exile from his native Yorkshire. But the Petyt family can trace their local ancestry back to the fifteenth century and have strong connections with Skipton and Bolton Abbey. For his 50th birthday year, typically, Malcolm set himself four challenges in order to prove his level of fitness: walking the Coast to Coast, canoeing the 155 miles of the Thames, cycling from Lands End to John o'Groats, and finally participating in the Tall Ships Race from Aberdeen to the Frisian Islands – all feats needing stamina and endurance.

Born in Bradford in 1941, Malcolm was educated at Bradford Grammar School and proved to be a high academic achiever, an Exhibitioner and later Scholar at St Catherine's College, Cambridge where he obtained his BA in the Classical Tripos in 1962, marrying his wife Anne two years later and obtaining his MA in 1966. A year at Oxford obtaining a Diploma in Public and Social Administration was followed by an MA, then PhD in 1977 at Reading University in Linguistic Science, and thereafter a spell at Cardiff University lecturing in the Classics, led to a series of academic posts, including a professorship at the University of Reading, culminating in work as Head of Centre in Continuing Education. Youth work has also played a prominent part in Malcolm's life. Initially involved with the Scouts in Bradford, later at the age of 40, during his years in Reading, starting from scratch, sailing became a highly absorbing interest as he took on the local Sea Scouts and over a period qualified as a canoe instructor, finally as Yacht Master, and then became Volunteer First Mate for the Ocean Youth Club, sailing cross-channel and further afield with his groups.

Malcolm's first clear memory of the Dales was as an eager seven year old, climbing Rylstone Fell; rather charmingly also the site of his father's marriage proposal. Another Dales memory, a year later, is setting out from Shipley to the Cow and Calf Rocks on Ilkley Moor in 1949 for a Rally to celebrate the passing of the 1949 Countryside Act, a historic occasion. A seminal influence on his love for the Dales was his Auntie Margaret, (Margaret Petyt) a diminutive, but redoubtable lady and seasoned rambler who introduced him to hostelling, initially at Kettlewell, followed by trips to Aysgarth and Grinton YHAs.

The Methodist Church is a deep and important strand in Malcolm's life, likewise his concept of



servicing the community and the environment. His position as Parish Representative of the Chiltern Society's Rights of Way Group lead to work as Footpath Secretary for the Ramblers in the Henley RDC area, then to the Council of the National Trust (a 25 year stint), and to

numerous of its key committees, and as Trust representative at CNP. From 2002 he was appointed by the Secretary of State as a Member of the National Park Authority, and most recently Chairman of the Public Rights of Way Committee. Taking early retirement, Malcolm settled in Killington, near Sedburgh, close to the Lake District where he is equally active as a member of the Friends of the Lake District Executive Committee, Chairman of their Personnel Committee, and a member of their Interim Local Access Forum.

With his varied background, (including work as a Probation Officer in 1963-4, then lecturer in Latin at University College of Cape Coast Ghana for a year), Malcolm feels that it is vital that there should be more understanding of the countryside among the urban population and more tolerance and acceptance of the townspeople among the rural population. He sees the Yorkshire Dales Society as both a support to the Yorkshire Dales National Park and also as its critic, when we feel it is not acting in the best interests of our Park, and that there is a need to remember exactly what our Parks were set up for nationally as well as more local interests.

Malcolm has published various books on dialect including *Emily Brontë and the Haworth Dialect*, in 1970 and had a successful series on Radio 4 in 1982 on *Dialect and Accent in industrial West Yorkshire*.

Walking in Garsdale, with its splendid views of the Howgills, and climbing Pen-y-Ghent which looks impressive from any angle, are favourite activities. Two sons, a daughter and two very young grandchildren, (Sean aged two recently tackled unaided the YDS Family Walk of over 2 miles, clearly a rambler in the making), give Malcolm some respite from the weight of committee papers and the cut and thrust of committee work which he clearly enjoys.

Fleur Speakman

“Local is the New Black”

The National Parks: the voluntary sector's role in a changing landscape.

(The article is both a brief account and commentary on the May 8th event.)

At the Yorkshire Dales Society's AGM on May 8th at Sedburgh Methodist Church Hall, Yorkshire Dales Society members were delighted to hear a bravura performance from Kathy Moore, the new Chief Executive of CNP. The theme was of particular relevance both to Council members and to the ordinary membership. Why when there are so many environmental organisations competing for attention, should people join the YDS? What is the special identity of an organisation like the Yorkshire Dales Society and its precise role? What are its strengths and how can it be even more effective?

National Park Societies have a watchdog role: they are there to support their national park, but are fully independent and free to criticise when they feel that key concerns and issues in the Park are not being addressed or are perhaps unhappy with some important decisions or policies. Local knowledge is of inestimable value and that is something that can come from either YDS Council Members, the rest of the membership, other organisations or members of the public, so that various local perspectives and sensibilities can be weighed in the balance with sometimes over-riding environmental imperatives. Local knowledge has now become “fashionable”!

National Park Societies have no top-heavy bureaucracy and are generally able to respond relatively speedily to major issues. In the case of the YDS, the fact that we draw our remit beyond the boundaries of our National Park, means that sometimes we can see the bigger picture, for example the potential threat of unsuitably sited wind farms beyond the Park boundaries, but still near to an area of outstanding natural beauty. (See Colin Speakman's article on Wind Farms – The Great Debate pp.2-3.) A wide-ranging membership with many different concerns and interests can help to bring all shades of opinion to our attention.

But with such responsibilities, how can we be most effective?

We must build on our strengths without complacency, and re-evaluate what we do, not just by monitoring our progress ourselves, but also by asking others for their perspective. Constructive, informed criticism is always welcome.

We need clarity of vision on the special needs of

our special area, and to be fully aware of what things are already being done. There is a need to define our particular niche, based on our strengths – what we can deliver. Duplicating what is being done elsewhere can be counter-productive. Our events programme and new category of corporate membership were singled out as ways to bring new contacts to the Park. And perhaps we need to define our portfolio of activity even more clearly. The YDS sees itself particularly as a facilitator, able to direct others as to where help or advice might be obtained. Two very successful YDS initiatives have been the formation of The Dales Public Transport Users Group (TDPTUG) and the Green Lanes Alliance, which are fully independent bodies, but maintain close links with the YDS and have been highly successful.

The Yorkshire Dales Society perhaps needs to demonstrate its success stories more vocally to others. Over the last year or two media coverage for the YDS has been very successful, but there is always room to improve and expand this further.

It was suggested that we should be more pro-active in nurturing future Council Members and in training existing ones – both exceedingly valid points. Societies who don't yet employ professional staff might like to consider this option to help to increase capacity, while volunteers who tirelessly work for the cause need nurturing and rewarding.

Partnerships with either, private, statutory or voluntary organisations might be helpful to broaden a society's base and consulting other national park societies or similar organisations can be extremely helpful as our society has found either in advising others or in asking for advice.

Efforts to broaden out the YDS recently have included the second successful Family Walk, 5 children and 15 adults enjoyed delicious tea and cakes provided by YDS Council member Hilary Baker, after a highly successful walk in the Kilnsey area via Conistone Dib, led by young Daniel Ellison-Bates assisted by his mother Jane, YDS Council and Corporate member.

Kathy Moore's concluding message to the AGM was that the Society should blow its own trumpet rather more to increase awareness of who we are and what we do. In two years the YDS will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary. We hope to publish a “warts and all” account of the Society's history in 2006 - with its share of moments of great crisis, high drama and tension. Any other ideas will be warmly welcomed.

Fleur Speakman

Meet the President - Mike Harding

Here's a brief introduction to Mike Harding, taken from Mike's own web site, www.mike.harding.co.uk.

Mike Harding was born in Crumpsall, Manchester in 1944, into a working-class Irish-Catholic family. His father was killed returning from a bombing mission just 4 weeks before Mike was born. This had a profound effect on his childhood and later life, and provided the inspiration for his haunting song, ‘Bombers’ Moon’. Much of the inspiration for his writing comes from his early years growing up in post-war Manchester.

His ability to commit those memories vividly to paper was encouraged by his English teacher at St. Bede's School, Father ‘Foxy’ Reynolds, now sadly dead, but whose teaching Mike will never forget.

Throughout the early years Mike developed a love for music, playing in Skiffle and Rock bands in the 60s. He has fond memories of sharing the bill with The Beatles, Gerry and the Pacemakers, The Hollies, Wayne Fontana and the Mindbenders and the late Eric Spanner and the Rhythmaires.

Among his early musical influences, Mike lists Lonnie Donegan, Jesse Fuller and Lancashire folk-singer, the late Harry Boardman. Mike served his apprenticeship in the pubs and clubs of Great Britain and still joins in sessions in Manchester's Irish pubs if he gets half a chance!

After a chequered early career as dustman, bus conductor, road digger and carpet-fitter, Mike took a degree in Education, paying his way by working at night in Folk Clubs. Finally, the lure of the bright lights proved too much and he became a full-time entertainer instead of a teacher. His success as a live entertainer began in 1967 when, during a gig at

Leeds University with The Edison Bell Spasm Band, he began to tell jokes to fill in the awkward pauses while the band tuned up. The patter became part of the act and when the jokes dried up, he delved into his store of real-life stories for which he has become famous.

In 1975 the record ‘The Rochdale Cowboy’ flung him from folk music into the mainstream of live entertainment. Since then he has earned acclaim in all fields of his work including national concert tours, television and radio appearances, travel writing, comedy writing, poetry, playwriting, short story writing and photography.



A long-standing love of the countryside led to his realising a life-long dream, when, in 1971, he bought a cottage in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales. With this as his base, Mike walked and cycled and photographed and lived among the Dales farmers. He became President of The Ramblers for a 3 year

term and is now a lifetime Vice-President. He is in constant demand to speak on environmental and ecological issues and has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society.

Other accomplishments include an outstanding performance in his first ever acting role as Vladimir, in Beckett's “Waiting for Godot” at the Octagon Theatre, Bolton and a record-breaking role as Bottom in A Midsummer Night's Dream at Dent Village Hall 1995.

He still has ambitions to be a film star and would like to appear in Coronation Street as the natural son of Albert Tatlock, the outcome of a night of passion between the whiskered lollipop man and a lady air raid warden during the Salford Blitz.

THE YORKSHIRE DALES: A 50th Anniversary Celebration of the National Park

A sample of just some of the superb images used to illustrate the theme of the Yorkshire Dales – Then and Now in the handsomely produced book written by David Joy and other contributors.

Copies are available in local bookshops price £19.99 or by post £25.00 from Great Northern Books, PO Box 213 Ilkley, LS29 9WS.

1. Hay was wrapped round the horse as a means of taking it to the sheep in outlying fields, the practice was known as “jagging” even in the age of the early tractors. The farmer is Brian Fawcett of Greenses, near Keld in Swaledale. (page 18)

2. The village shop-cum-post-office at Thoralbly, many such shops have closed owing to the decline of a resident population or the advent of supermarkets and internet shopping. (page 41)



3. Peat cutting continued to the 1950s- hard labour which involved digging, stacking, drying and transportation. Cherry and Isabella Kearton plus daughter Martha are working at the peat diggings in remote Stock Dale west of Thwaite (Marie Hartley, YDS Honorary Member). (page 23)

4. Hand knitting in the Dales survived into the 1950s with Martha Dinsdale as one of its last exponents. She is seen with her family and geese (an additional source of income) at Appersett in Wensleydale. (page 22)

Yorkshire Dales Society Chairman's Report 2003 - 2004

Every year for a number of years we were welcomed to the AGM by our much loved President Ken Willson. Sadly Ken died in November 2004, only a few months ago.

Many have been the tributes to Ken, one of our founder members, and it is hoped soon to be able to bring forward plans for an appropriate memorial not only to his memory but also to his achievements. The countryside and the Dales and Lakes in particular have lost a good and valuable friend.

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Whilst its evolution has not always been uneventful, there can be no better summary than that of our editor, Colin Speakman, in the Spring *Review*. It was indeed recorded almost in its entirety in both the Yorkshire Post and the Craven Herald. The Yorkshire Dales Society was represented along with many other organisations at the launch of the 50th Anniversary on a cold wet day in late January, joining the walk from Ilkley to Bolton Abbey after a train ride from Leeds.

Following last year's AGM we had the opportunity to view the Wensleydale Railway at Leyburn and one of the highlights of the year has been its re-opening, which received widespread coverage, including a feature in a national radio programme. Later in the summer we introduced a new venture which was our Family Day at Stainforth, which included a visit to the Hoffman Kiln; a revelation to a number of people. The venture was an outstanding success much helped by the YHA hospitality at the end of the walk. The Family Walk is to be repeated this year from Kilnsey. Also to be repeated of course is Chris Hartley's Yorkshire Pudding Walk, this time using the Wensleydale area.

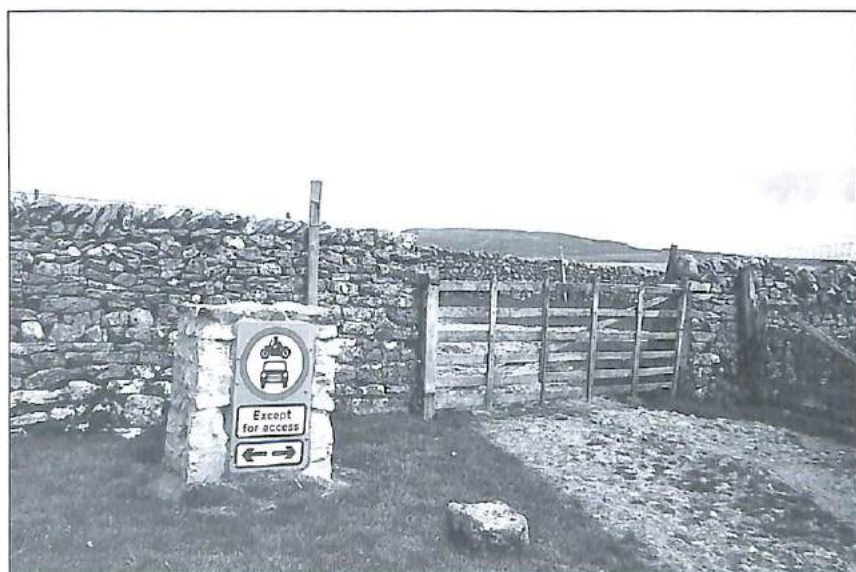
The winter season of events has been very well supported in venues across the Dales with a variety of very different subjects. A packed Victoria Hall in Settle heard Tom Lord's follow up to our visit to his farm at Lower Winskill to hear all about the history of our Dales walls. At Harewood we heard about the successful introduction of the red kite. All of our events have been enhanced both by the speaker's mastery of modern computer technology and our new sound system purchased

last year. I would like to thank both the speakers and walk leaders for such a successful programme. This is always made complete by our refreshments provided by Rod and Judith Clough wherever the venue.

The Council of Management meet about six times a year at different venues to conduct the central work of the Society, giving up valuable weekend time to discuss sometimes rather weighty matters and issues affecting the Dales. One such was the National Park Local Plan Second Deposit to which the Society has registered as an objector to Policy H3 dealing with barn conversions in isolated hamlets.

A continuing concern is that of damage done to non metalled roads and green lanes by motorised recreational vehicles. At last we saw some positive action from authority, with four of the most affected routes closed for an experimental period of one year in the first instance by North Yorkshire County Council.

It is vital that we liaise with both authorities and other organisations to discuss matters of common interest. These include other amenity organisations and other National Park Societies with the Council for National Parks acting as a powerful presence on a national scale. The annual meeting of national park societies held this autumn at Wyedale Hall



Birdsong instead of exhaust fumes. New Traffic Regulation Order signs at Mastiles Lane, Malhamdale. The removal of motorcyclists and 4x4 vehicles under the current traffic experiment is allowing walkers and cyclists to rediscover peace and tranquillity in the heartland of the National Park, with heavily eroded surfaces now showing signs of recovery.

and hosted by the North York Moors Association, was again a most enjoyable opportunity to share mutual concerns and interests, and dealt particularly with the theme of social inclusion.

We were very pleased to support the Friends of the Lake District in the appointment of Frank Lee as a temporary Joint Project Officer. Frank is involved with investigating the potential for a review of Park Boundaries between the Lake District and the Yorkshire Dales.

Our project to invite Corporate Membership of the Society has progressed steadily and we held an event for our Corporate Members and other interested bodies, to introduce the Integrated Rural Development Project, at the Sunhill Centre, The Fleets near Rylstone, on a theme about how to increase the sustainability of small businesses. This was a most stimulating occasion for those who were able to attend and we hope the precursor of similar events.

The attempts by the hard working Events and

Membership Committee to increase the general membership have been less successful however and more input from the general membership would be very welcome.

At present there is a little spare capacity to increase the size of the Council of Management and it is vital that we maintain representation from all areas of the Dales to ensure survival of the Society. For those who would like to involve themselves in the Dales constructively, this provides the ideal opportunity.

Dawn Burton continued to provide a splendid summary of the media's reporting of Dales activity in the *Dales Digest*, and after twelve years, she is taking a well-earned rest. *The Review* under the editorship of Fleur and Colin, with attractive new colours, continues to maintain a balance between presenting more serious issues with occasional more light-hearted pieces, and is often the main link between members and also the outside world,

/ continued over

Yorkshire Dales Society Income & Expenditure Account for year ended 31st March, 2004

	2004	2003
Grant from HBOS	5,000	-
Subscriptions	13,753	13,913
Donations	3,074	1,988
Bank Interest	393	459
Legacies	-	-
Profit on Events	457	165
Retail Sales	149	128
Less Cost of Goods Sold	25	106
Tax Recovered on Gift Aid	3,338	6,356
	26,139	22,903
"Review"	5,040	5,005
Postage	2,143	1,994
Stationery	475	775
Administration	5,915	5,715
Office Rent	1,397	970
Telephone	264	265
Subscriptions & Donations Made	737	165
Depreciation	588	404
Travelling Expenses	335	137
Accountancy	438	415
Sundry Expenses	73	72
Bank Charges	318	142
Printing & Publicity	451	1,874
Repairs	-	-
	18,174	17,933
Excess of Income over Expenditure	7,965	4,970

judging by many extracts quoted approvingly in the press. The editors thank all their contributors, and would be delighted to accept any appropriate items, and suitable pictures for the cover.

The dedicated team of Margaret Rhodes, Maurice Denton and Mike Johnston under Fleur Speakman, run the YDS office and help to keep our affairs running smoothly. A possible cloud on the horizon is that the fabric of the Civic Centre, a listed building, is badly in need of renovation, and it may be that the Society could be forced to seek

alternative accommodation at much greater cost.

Finally, I would like to thank those officers whose hard work means so much to the society, my vice chairman Malcolm Petyt, our Secretariat Colin and Fleur, our Honorary Treasurer David Smith and Company Secretary Alan Pease who handle our financial affairs with tremendous efficiency.

Finally, I would like to thank you, the members, for your continuing support.

C. J. Wright, Chairman

Yorkshire Dales Society Council of Management 2004/05

PRESIDENT MIKE HARDING (Dent)

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

COMPANY SECRETARY* ALAN PEASE (Bardsey) **TREASURER** DAVID SMITH (Ben Rhydding)

COMMITTEE

HILARY BAKER (Long Preston)	SIMON FERN (Embsay)	JERRY PEARLMAN (Leeds and Stalling Busk)
JANE ELLISON-BATES (Kilnsey)	CHRIS HARTLEY (Menston)	
JULIE BRADWELL (Leeds)	CHARLES HEPWORTH (Muker)	RHONA THORNTON (Leeds)
DENNIS CAIRNS (Barnoldswick)	JOHN HONE (Pateley Bridge)	ALAN WATKINSON (Hawes)
JOHN CUMBERLAND (Ilkley)	PETER SHARP (Malham)	NORMAN WORDSWORTH (Eastby)

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

* The Company secretary is a legal requirement and involves YDS Company status.

Daleswatch

THE YORKSHIRE DALES LOCAL PLAN

A Major Public Inquiry took place in Middleham during April, at which a Planning Inspector examined in detail the Second Deposit Yorkshire Dales Local Plan. When approved by the Secretary of State, this becomes the legally binding document on key development matters within the National Park.

In general the Yorkshire Dales Society strongly supports the Plan, which provides a carefully thought through framework of reference for future development within the Park. However, a highly contentious area has been changes to Policy H3 of the Plan which allows the conversion of barns in certain isolated settlements provided these are for local residential use "in perpetuity" (though who would or could enforce this requirement is not made clear).

The Yorkshire Dales Society was joined by other organisations, including Council for National Parks, in opposing the very large number of new "settlements" which were added to the list by Members of the Authority, against its own officers'

advice. Though the Society and local kindred bodies were not able to fund legal or professional representation at the Inquiry, the position closely reflected those of the Council for National Parks whose Deputy Director, Ruth Chambers, made an admirable representation. We quote from her written representation to the Inspector which explains exactly why converting isolated barns, with all the suburbanising effects this will have, is not a long term or sustainable solution to meeting affordable housing needs in the Yorkshire Dales.

"Accommodating local needs in small villages is at odds with the principles of sustainable development and we would question whether it is a cost effective means of meeting local need at an affordable price. Some of the 'small villages' listed have few if any facilities or services and therefore any increase in housing in such locations would not be consistent with the principles or practice of sustainable development.

Circular 6/98 (Planning & Affordable Housing) emphasises that local planning authorities should:

ensure that planning policies for affordable housing

are in line with the strategic planning objectives of the development plan. For instance, objectives to make the most effective use of land within existing urban areas, reduce the need to travel particularly by car. (para 14).

The provision of affordable housing in those 'small villages' with minimal or no services or facilities would not be consistent with this sustainable approach to development."

It will be some weeks before the Inspector's report is published and the Secretary of State's decision on these and other contentious matters is announced. We hope the wisdom of CNP will prevail.

TAKE A DALES BUS FOR A DALES WALK

When a small group of Yorkshire Dales Society members decided, a few years ago, to set up the Yorkshire Dales Public Transport Users Group to try to prevent proposed service cuts, they had little idea how the organisation would flourish (it now has 350 members) and developed to become a major partner of the National Park Authority, North Yorkshire County Council and Metro in developing new, more sustainable ways of enjoying the National Park.

Thanks to pressure from the Group, cuts in service proposed in 2003 are not as savage as first proposed, and though there have been some service losses, there have been some gains, such as the excellent new Malham Tarn Shuttle (804) which as well as being a welcome extra service from Keighley to Malham, provides a much appreciated park and ride service for drivers between Malham car park and Malham Tarn.

But perhaps one of the Group's most remarkable achievements is to create a superb programme of bus-based public guided walks, using the flexibility offered by Dales Bus for a huge variety of linear or point to point walks across and through the heartland of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Nidderdale AONB.

This means you can cross a ridge between dales or walk the length of a valley without having to retrace your steps to a parked car, because there's a bus to take you home – or back to your park-and-ride car park. On most weekends experienced guides from the Group will be on the bus to take you on a walk in Wharfedale, Wensleydale, Nidderdale, Malhamdale or Swaledale.

Full details are in the informative Summer Walks in the Yorkshire Dales leaflet published by the group with help from the TARGET project. Copies are available at Tourist Information and National Parks Centres, or why not join YDPTUG for a mere £4 per annum – details from YDPTUG, 29 Somerville, Peterborough, PE4 5BB, or look on the website www.dalesbus.org.

Don't forget there's also a full programme of guided walks, also free of charge, from the Settle-Carlisle Line, lead by members of the Friends of the Settle-Carlisle line and Friends of Dales Rail. This year is the 30th Anniversary of regular guided walks from the line, celebrated in June, but events continue all summer. For details of the current programme contact Ruth Evans, Walks Co-ordinator, FSCL, 49 Kings Mill, Settle, BD24 9FD.

SHARING THE DALES

When the Halifax Bank offered the Yorkshire Dales Society a "Yorkshire Dales" grant of £5,000 as a deserving Yorkshire Charity to help fund a specific Dales project, the Council of Management thought long and hard about how the money should be used. Tree planting or conservation schemes would be super, but with many such schemes happening in the Dales, would this make a difference? And then we thought that as 2004 was the Yorkshire Dales National Park 50th Anniversary Year with the theme of "Reaching Out – A National Park for All", we should use the money to support the work of TARGET and Social Inclusion Officers within the Park to help encourage people who otherwise would not have a chance to come and enjoy the Golden Jubilee of the National Park.

We've called the project **Sharing the Dales** and recognise that for many people the most urgently needed help is with transport. Already four double deck buses will be taking children from deprived parts of urban Keighley for a day at Bolton Abbey, and there are plans for other groups of children and adults, including some from ethnic minorities, from areas such as Skipton, Keighley and Bradford to go to Malham and other destinations. The buses will "ghost" regular service buses into the Park and there will be packs of travel and information about walking and what to see to give people the inspiration, skill and confidence to repeat their trips. Some cash will be used to offer bus or train tickets for people who rarely or ever have had opportunity to the Dales. Evidence is that once people are encouraged to come to the Dales and realise that, even without a car, how easy it is, many will repeat the experience. We hope that **Sharing the Dales** will allow many such individuals and groups to share enjoyment of what is equally a part of their heritage – and to repeat that experience and appreciation in years to come.

We hope to carry a detailed report of the project in the Autumn 2004 Review, but if you are aware of any groups or individuals living close to the National Park – or even within the Park – who you think could benefit from this kind of help, contact Catharine Kemp in the National Park Office on 01756 752748.

A Dales Festival of Magic and Myth

The weekend 8-9th of May saw the usually tranquil village of Clapham transformed into a land of magic, fairies and folklore.

Clapham's Magic, Myths and Legends Festival was one of the highlights of the Yorkshire Dales National Park's ongoing 50th Anniversary celebrations. Organised by the Clapham Development Association, one of the main (if controversial) features of the Festival, sited on a hillside on the slopes of Ingleborough above Trow Gill, was a large multi-coloured Luminarium, powered by electric fans to create a series of domes and tunnels, through which visitors walked to a cacophony of mystical sounds and strident colours. In splendid contrast, nearby, was a specially created Stone Age settlement.

Meanwhile not far away in Ingleborough Cave, story-telling based on Dales myths, legends and magic took place at intervals throughout both days, whilst the limestone cavern alongside the nature

trail between the village and cave was adapted as a witch's grotto.

The village played host to a bustling street market, Morris dancing, music from at least three bands, workshops in sculpture, woodcraft and other traditional skills and many other varied activities.

A highlight on Saturday evening was a lantern procession through the haunted woods on the nature trail, where visitors watched out for trolls, white lions, knights in armour and a Viking ship on the lake.

Many months of planning by various volunteers, performers, businesses and organisations had reached a successful conclusion, with special thanks to Dr John Farrer, the owner of the Ingleborough Estate, who gave permission and facilities for the Festival to take place.

A J Sutcliffe

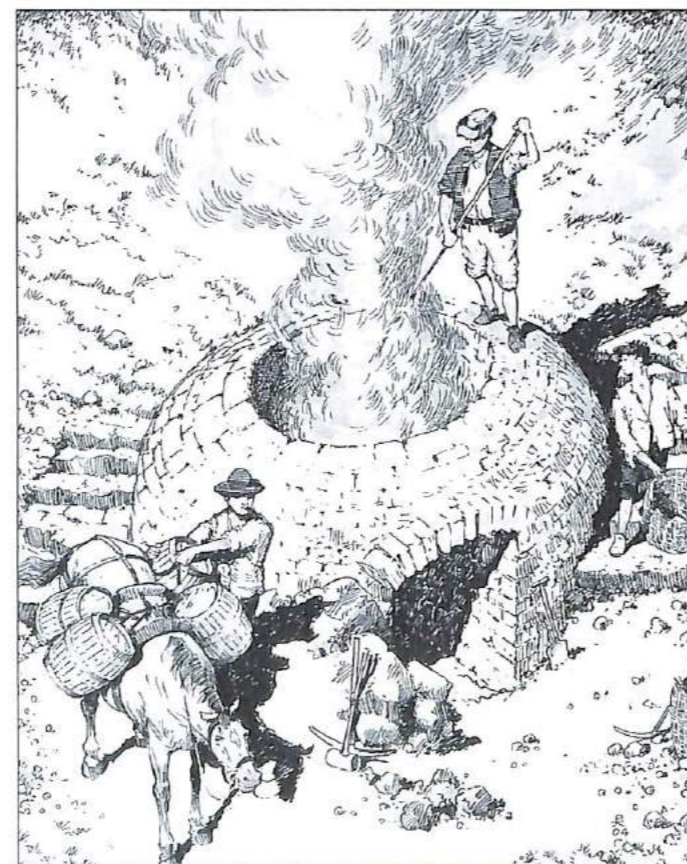
Book Review

HERITAGE ON FOOT: Eight themed trails in the Yorkshire Dales. published by the Heritage Regeneration Officer on behalf Craven District Council, Yorkshire Dales National Park, Yorkshire Forward and the Joint Promotions Initiative at £2.50 and available locally at tourist information centres.

Even if you missed the Festival (see above) of Magic, Myths and Legends, the townships of Clapham, Settle and Ingleton can be enjoyed at many other times of year. Make the most of your visit with this book which sets the scene for each of the three villages, and gives insights into their earlier history and industry, as well as the nature of their landscapes, with colourful sketch maps to pinpoint the routes of the trails and location of particular sites. Charming "retro" illustrations and up to date colour photos enliven the text, which reminds us that though set in these beautiful landscapes, Settle, Ingleton, Austwick and Clapham were formerly busy bustling centres, known for such activities as quarrying, cloth-making, snuff making, leather tanning, and lime burning as well as more traditional agricultural pursuits.

Funding support for the book was provided by the Sustainable Development Fund and the Integrated

Rural Development Project, enabling this most attractive guide to be excellent value for money.



Summer Events



Join us this summer on our special Summer walks with a theme, starting with a guided tour around the fascinating Dales village of Hebden, A Yorkshire Day Pudding Walk in Wensleydale, and a visit to Ilkley Moor to look at historic cup and ring stones. But please note several of these events require advance booking to ensure that numbers are the right size for the guide to be heard, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

SATURDAY JULY 10TH A GUIDED WALK ROUND HISTORIC HEBDEN WITH LOCAL HISTORIAN HEATHER BEAUMONT, who will be lecturing to the Society on her research on November 13th. Meet outside the Post Office at 2.45 pm for an exploration around the village, with a short walk lasting about one and half hours. Bus 72 from Skipton bus station d. 1305. Tea and biscuits are included at Hebden Village Hall after the walk. Numbers strictly limited to ensure a manageable party size. Please book early - send £1.50 per head with a cheque made out to the Yorkshire Dales Society to The Yorkshire Dales Society, Civic Centre, Cross Green, Otley, LS21 1HD.

SUNDAY AUGUST 1ST YORKSHIRE DAY PUDDING WALK IN WENSLEYDALE LED BY CHRIS HARTLEY. A 3 mile walk from Leyburn to Middleham with lunch at the White Swan, Middleham of roast beef, Yorkshire Pudding and vegetables costing £5.95 per head. Vegetarian option also available at same price. Booking essential - limited accommodation. We hope to



The photograph of the grotto on the Ingleborough Estate (above) and the drawing of the field lime kiln in operation (left) are taken from the book 'Heritage on Foot', reviewed on page 14, opposite.

combine the walk with a ride from Leeming Bar on the recently re-opened Wensleydale Railway. Cheques for the Yorkshire Puddings should be made out to the Yorkshire Dales Society, and sent to the Society's office as above by Monday July 19th at the latest. The walk is moderate, about six miles and should end about 4.30pm. Meeting times will be confirmed with booking, but the event will be timed to fit in with Dales Bus 803 from Leeds and Harrogate.

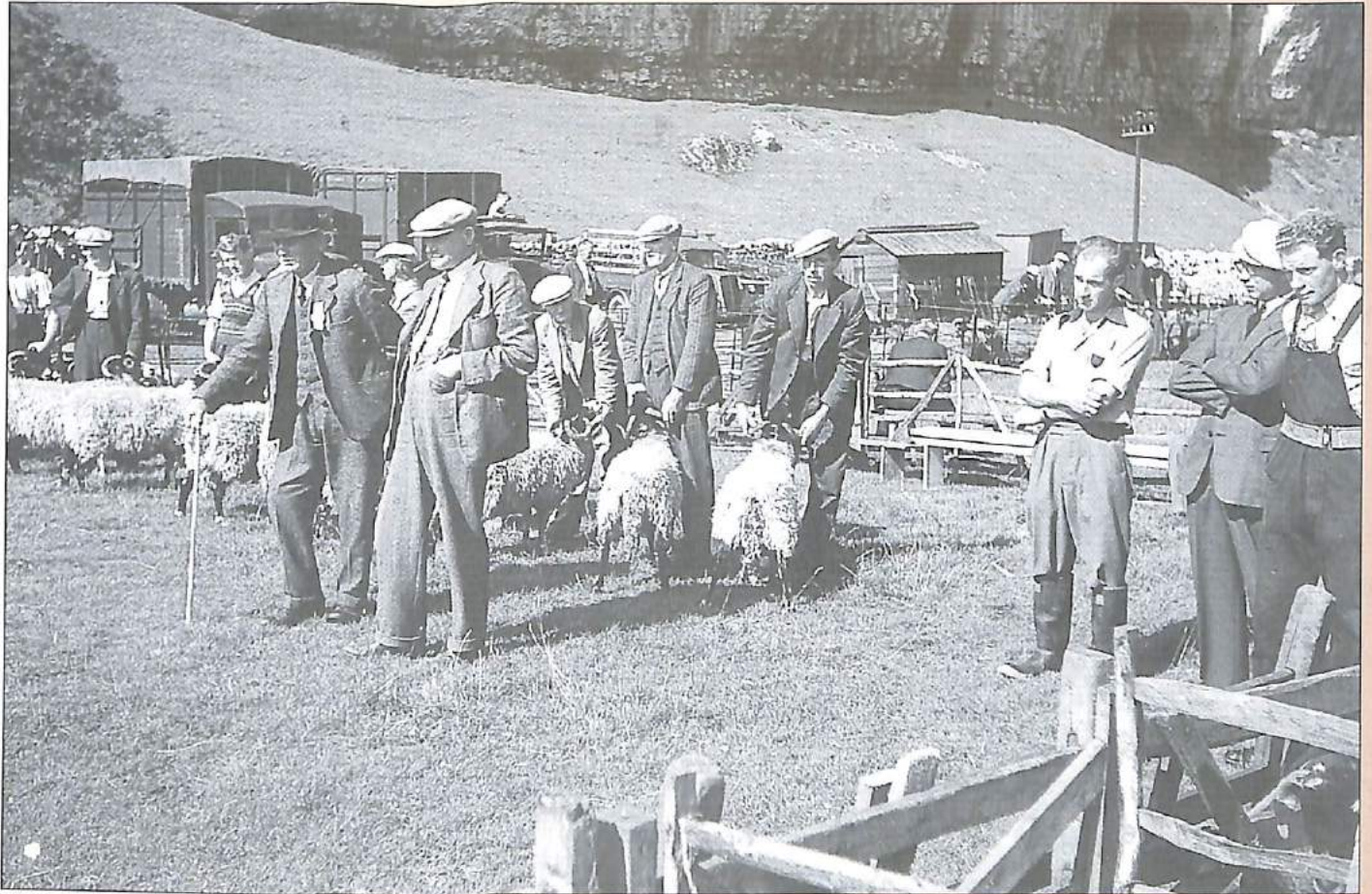
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH CUP AND RING STONES AND EARLY ROCK ART - A GUIDED TOUR TO SOME EXAMPLES ON ILKLEY MOOR LED BY KEITH BOUGHEY who will be lecturing to the Society in February 2005 about these fascinating prehistoric features. Meet at the Cow and Calf Rocks car park at 10.30am. The Cow & Calf is about 30 minutes' walk from Ilkley Rail Station - frequent bus and rail services available to Ilkley. Please bring a packed lunch. The walk will finish between 3.30-4 pm. Advance booking essential as party size is limited. Please book via the YDS office (address above), cost per person £1.50, the speaker will provide some hand-out literature.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 16TH WALK IN THE BRIMHAM ROCKS: LEGENDS OF THE ROCKS BY CHRIS HARTLEY tel: 01943 873197 or mobile: 07876 343675. A moderate walk with no real steep sections. Meet at Brimham Rocks car park at 10.30am. Bus 24 0930 from Harrogate - alight Summerbridge (1 1/4 mile walk). Estimated time of walk finish 12.30pm. Packed or pub lunch. The walk will focus on the property of the National Trust estate and will look at the various folk stories and legends about the area.

LECTURE : BRIMHAM ROCKS: SOME DRAMATIC FORMATIONS BY JEREMY TUCK. Property Manager at Brimham Rocks, venue Grantley Village Hall at 2.15pm.

DALES DIGEST

We need anyone who is prepared to send suitable cuttings from the Ripon Gazette and from the Ripon edition of the Darlington and Stockton newspaper to contact Rhona Thornton on 0113 2751359 as soon as possible.



Front Cover picture: *Vintage tractors entering the ring at Malham Show in the present day* – from 'The Yorkshire Dales: A 50th Anniversary Celebration of the National Park'. See additional photographs above and on pages 8 and 9 of the Review.

Back Cover picture: *The serious business of judging the Swaledale sheep at Kilnsey Show in 1953 or 1954* – again, from 'The Yorkshire Dales: A 50th Anniversary Celebration of the National Park'.

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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.

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