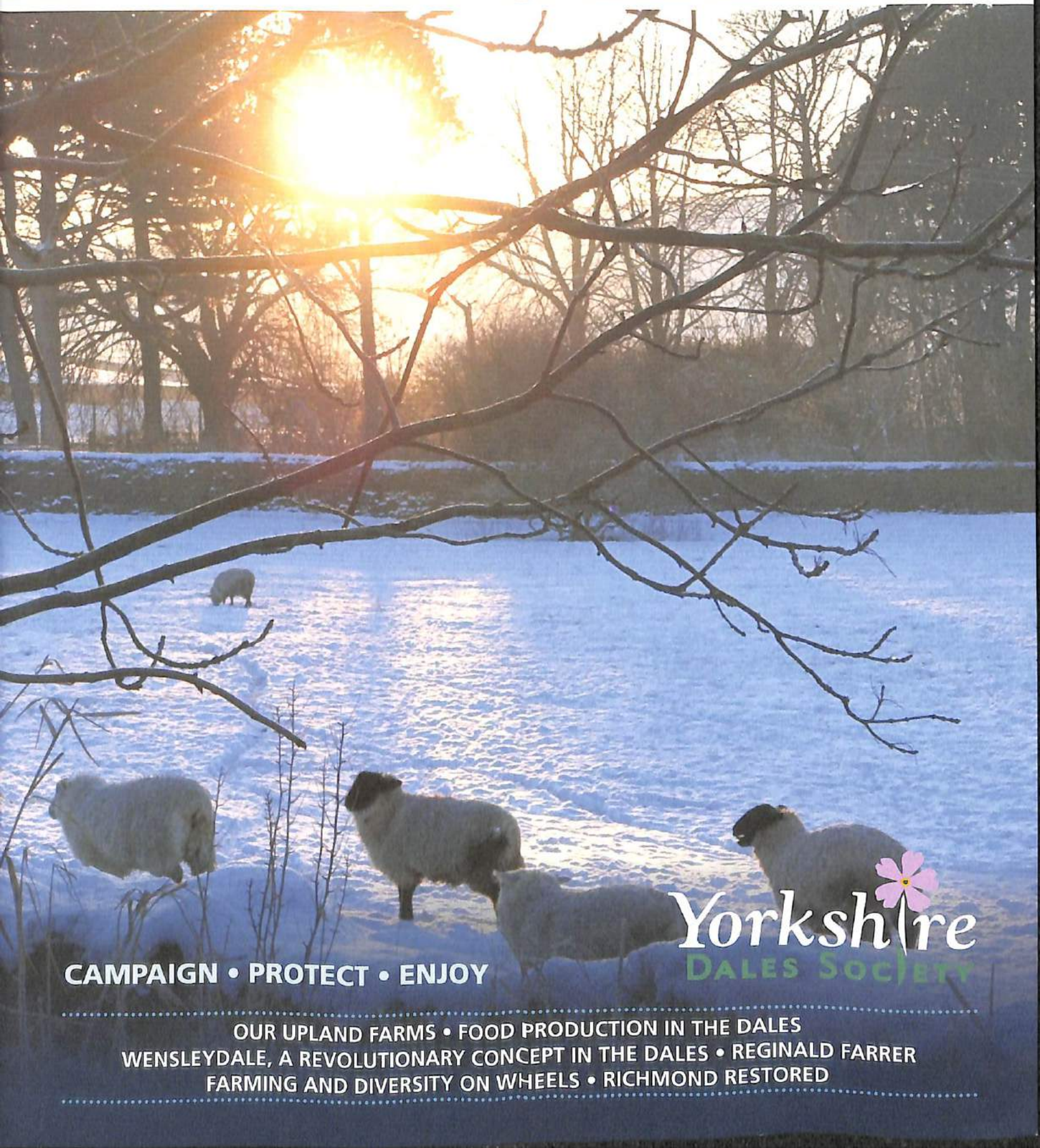


# Yorkshire DALES review

Winter 2011-2012 : Issue 117



**CAMPAIGN • PROTECT • ENJOY**

Yorkshire  
DALES SOCIETY

OUR UPLAND FARMS • FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE DALES  
WENSLEYDALE, A REVOLUTIONARY CONCEPT IN THE DALES • REGINALD FARRER  
FARMING AND DIVERSITY ON WHEELS • RICHMOND RESTORED

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Editor Fleur Speakman

Yorkshire  
DALES SOCIETY

# Yorkshire DALES review

## OUR UPLAND FARMS: MAINTAINING A DELICATE BALANCE

**W**e are indebted to Dales hill farmers, who over the centuries, have helped to shape the landscape of the Yorkshire Dales with all its many glories. They are custodians of that landscape. The terrain of the Dales Uplands is often difficult to cultivate, its weather uncertain; all calling for much dedication and farm management skills, often honed over generations - all to win an often modest livelihood. Foot and Mouth in 2001 devastated the Dales not only the farmlands, but also its key tourist industry and many associated businesses. It is fortunately recovering. (See farmer Anthony Bradley's article on pages 4-5 entitled Food Production in the Yorkshire Dales.) A greater global demand for meat, with recent higher prices for lamb are helping our hill farmers to make a profit, and may hopefully help to guarantee the industry's future. The average live weight farm price in the UK for lamb was £84.2 in 1999, rising steadily, with the price in 2010 reaching £173.5, and likely to continue its rise. Hill farming, by its very nature, is often sited in isolated and inhospitable areas, which do not easily lend themselves to diversification; farm shops and holiday cottages are not necessarily a solution in places where access can be difficult.

But there is cautious optimism that more young people seem to be attracted to a career in Upland Farming, though, as reported on the Countryfile website in October 2011, the average income of Upland farmers of £30,000 per annum, is only just over half the income of the lowland arable farm. Apprenticeship schemes such as the Upper Teesdale Support Series Ltd (UTASS) in Middleton, which ran from June 2010-11, has had great success for their young farmers.

Chris Lloyd, Industry Development Manager of Eblex, which looks after sheep farming interests, confirmed the rise in lamb prices, but explained the situation further:

*Producers have seen a steady rise in lamb prices over the past three years. But they have also seen increases in input for feed, fuel, labour and fertiliser, so whilst there is justification for an increase in confidence for the fortunes of upland farming, we should not get carried away. For the first time in over a decade, we are likely to see a halt in the decline of UK sheep numbers on the back of this confidence.*

Partly as a result of this price increase, according to some anecdotal evidence, some Dales hill farmers who received financial support for



conservation measures through Farm Stewardship schemes, have decided that this support is not enough, especially for those with upland hay meadows. Environmental Stewardship schemes, initiated by Natural England, have helped to deliver some very effective environmental land management. The result can be seen in some spectacularly beautiful flower-rich Dales hay meadows, which are at their best in June. Upland Entry Level Stewardship (Upland ELS) was launched in February 2010 by Natural England to support hill farmers with environmental payments. This replaced the Hill Farm Allowance, open to all farmers with land in Severely Disadvantaged Areas, regardless of size. Higher Level Stewardship (HLS), is a more complex type of management, with agreements tailored to local circumstances. It is assessed against specific targets, and agreements are made to meet these targets, which, according to Natural England, represent good value for money.

The matter is complex. There have been some very positive environmental gains under the Stewardship scheme. However, each farm needs to make an individual decision whether higher stocking rates on their land are possible, leading to potential increased productivity, and, if they wish, to opt out from the present Stewardship schemes. The various interests of profitable food production and sensitive management for a unique landscape heritage will need to be carefully balanced to ensure a prosperous future of the Dales.

Stats. from Eblex AHDB Market Intelligence.

Fleur Speakman



Mearbeck Farm

## FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES



New Saddleback Boar

**Anthony Bradley and his brother farm together at Low Mearbeck, Long Preston, near Settle, within the Yorkshire Dales National Park.**

This article should, perhaps, refer to how food production in the Dales comes into conflict with not only the National Park's policies, but also how it means the Park is at odds with other government policies. It is our experience that as food producers, we are trying to please more than one master. To illustrate what that means here is our story.

My brother and I farm 170 acres near Settle, mainly with 400 sheep producing fat lambs,

a dozen suckler cows producing store cattle, and 10 sows and their piglets all rare breed free range. All our pigs are reared and processed on farm to produce fresh pork, sausages and bacon and then marketed via our own business: The Blue Pig Company. In essence we are a traditional Dales farm with a modern diversification of adding value to our own produce. However, given that our grandparents used to make butter, put it on the train and send it to Bradford, perhaps not so modern.

Growing both our families and our business gave us both a problem and an opportunity. The farm has only one house and we were looking for further ways and more room to add value to our produce. Again in common with many Dales farms we had a redundant traditional barn, part of which used to be a cottage, that suggested a way to fix our problem. Getting planning permission to convert a barn into a live work space would provide the second house, bigger smoker, cold room and a commercial kitchen. Unfortunately the Park Authority did not agree with us.

Our proposal was turned down as being contrary to six of the Park's policies, but basically that can be boiled down to three themes. Firstly was visual impact, despite a lot

of care being taken to plan a scheme that left the external features as they presently exist. Secondly access across two fields would require a "new track", despite one already in place that we could "upgrade" at any time as good farm maintenance. Finally, the current method for determining essential farm workers calculated our farm business as only being 1.6 workers in size, essentially because processing our own produce is not "essential farm work" by the Park's existing definition.

Clearly there are some tensions here between the different strands of policy. Since the FMD outbreak of 2001 especially, farmers have been encouraged by central government to diversify, to put their assets to other revenue generating uses. The CAP has, and continues, to encourage agriculture to generate more of its income from the market. The Blue Pig Company has been our attempt to create a vertically integrated business and do just that. We are a "field-to-fork" process, and we like to think that ticks the boxes of both DEFRA and the EU. Given the National Park's emphasis on tradition, it seems a pity that adding value to your own produce in effect disqualifies an attempt to keep traditional mixed livestock agriculture, with added value (see our Granddad), alive. The cynic might say we

would have more success with the planners if we had invested our money in more livestock to get to livestock numbers that required two essential farm workers.

We also have the problem that the relatively low incomes of upland livestock farming, and the high price of property make purchase of a house away from the farm financially prohibitive. This also applies to a start-up business looking for premises to begin or moving onto its next stage of growth. This will lead to both human and financial capital leaving the Park. This must be at odds with the policy of encouraging social inclusion and fostering the economic well being of the Park, not to mention sustainability in all its forms.

So having done the critique, how can we find a positive way forward? The obvious first way would be a redefinition of what constitutes farm work. Perhaps to include the processing of/adding value to a farm's primary produce. Secondly the Park has, rightly, to preserve the landscape and the cultural heritage, including the built heritage. It seems counter intuitive not to find a contemporary use for structurally sound stone barns that is not necessarily tourist based, and perhaps foster some economic diversity. This would allow for traditional farms in a modern economy to continue in a way that respects the Park's special qualities. It would at the same time preserve some of that built heritage, remove barriers to business growth and help address the serious housing problems that exist. This would answer the question: if we cannot find new uses for redundant, barns what are we going to do to preserve them?

We all recognise and love the special qualities of the National Park. It is a food producing landscape with a food producing built heritage, and traditions that need to be preserved. When we consider the challenges to agriculture of post peak oil and a growing population, then food from grass based systems takes on an added importance. We can and should seek to foster that and retain the value in the Park. We should, I would suggest, preserve the very thing that is most special about the Park. That is that pastoral farming is the foundation that has always adapted and changed over time. Perhaps for the Park to meet its preservation targets, it needs to allow some evolution. Rather than "no", a little "yes, but with caveats" might be helpful.

Anthony Bradley

## HEDGEHOG STREET

*If I were to ask which of our native mammalian creatures you would like to place as a number one National Treasure, it might be a close run thing between the badger and the hedgehog. Both are well loved by most of the population of this country, indeed the badger is used as the symbol of the nationwide Wildlife Trusts, and there is widespread concern about the proposed cull owing to their alleged association with TB in our cattle herds. However, badgers are strong in numbers. But it may come as a shock to some people to learn that the population of hedgehogs, on the other hand, is in decline; down by 50% in some parts of the country or down by a quarter in the last decade.*

The Yorkshire Dales Society is a campaigning organisation which has recently been involved with a number of cases helping to fight some unwarranted developments which would harm our beloved Yorkshire Dales, and we have won some important battles. Beside them the plight of the humble hedgehog might seem relatively unimportant. Centuries of evolution, and a food chain stretching from the very largest organisms down to the smallest being, show us that small creatures like the hedgehog are essential components.

Hedgehog Street, a national campaign to save our hedgehogs and halt the decline in numbers, is a project developed by The British Hedgehog Preservation Society as part of the People's Trust for Endangered

Species, with funding from the BBC Wildlife Fund. A part of the campaign is the production of a special information pack with lots of tips on how anyone can help to promote a recovery in hedgehog numbers. For example, where there is a row of houses with matching gardens adjacent to one another, just leave a small hole in the fence or hedge big enough for a hedgehog, which hopefully, will avoid fairly certain death on the roads. Another suggestion is for gardeners to stop using slug pellets, though some may balk at this. However, as Nidderdale's gardening guru, Matthew Wilson, formerly of Harlow Carr, pointed out, when talking to the Friends of Nidderdale about everybody's favourite beetle, the ladybird, you cannot have ladybirds without aphids, their favourite food; thus providing us with an organic and sustainable control of these pests. The same can be said of hedgehogs who enjoy the slugs and snails in your garden. You can also attract hedgehogs by putting food out for them, such as dog food, or special hedgehog treats available from some pet and wildlife shops. The Hedgehog Street pack gives lots of easy tips for helping with the plight of hedgehog numbers, and there are cards for young children to pass on to their schools.

You can obtain the pack from [www.hedgehogstreet.org](http://www.hedgehogstreet.org) or contact Laura Bower Conservation Officer [hedgehog@ptes.org](mailto:hedgehog@ptes.org) - 0207498 4533.

Chris Hartley



European Hedgehog, photo by Gaudete

## WENSLEYDALE WELCOMES A REVOLUTIONARY NEW CONCEPT IN COUNTRY BUS TRAVEL

**The little market town from Hawes enjoys an enviable position near the head of Wensleydale, overlooked by a majestic line of fells, and countryside of legendary beauty. But the residents of Hawes and such stunning lovely nearby villages of Askrigg, Bainbridge, Carperby and Redmire pay a price in their distance from other major centres of population for services and facilities. It's a full 36 miles along the main A684 from Hawes to Northallerton, the nearest major service centre, county town and station on the East Coast main line.**

Since closure of the Northallerton-Hawes railway to passengers in 1954, a trip on local weekday bus service 156/157 from Hawes to Northallerton continues to take around one hour 45 minutes including changing buses at Bedale, not a lot of fun with heavy shopping or if one of the buses is running late and a connection is missed.

It's hardly surprising that the overwhelming majority of trips in Wensleydale are by car, bringing the journey from Hawes to Northallerton down to less than an hour. But for local people on low incomes unable to afford a car, and those unable to drive or too young to have a driving licence, even if there is a car in their household, the bus service is their only option. Latest statistics suggest a significant decline in the number of young people taking driving tests, because of student debt, youth unemployment and high insurance costs.

And with petrol prices at around 140p a litre in rural areas, the longer distances Dales people have to drive is an increasingly harsh financial penalty. With inflation now rising above 5% annually, pensions and salaries frozen, and interest on savings now derisory, keeping a car on the road is an increasing challenge for many Dales families and older couples. The bus service could be increasingly vital as times get tough.

Because of long distances and small numbers of total users, most buses services in the higher Dales are unable to operate

commercially. Unlike urban bus operators who can fill and refill seats on a half hour suburban journey many times on frequent outwards and return trips, a bus travelling nearly two hours through areas of scattered hamlets and small villages, can usually only fill those seats once. This means that in most deep rural areas such as Wensleydale, income from fares can never ever cover costs. Nor can taxis do the job cheaper as their limited capacity inevitably is hugely more expensive if more than two or three people want to travel. In every sense rural buses are a vital social service and unless we wish to witness massive rural depopulation, the public purse has to cover the provision of at least core basic services from outlying communities to main service centres, seven days per week. Anything less than this will damage rural life as we know it and contribute to younger people especially leaving the area to enjoy better lifestyle choices, resulting in the area becoming an exclusive sanctuary for the mainly middle aged and affluent.

North Yorkshire County Council has, commendably, prioritised the retention of most rural weekday bus services in areas such as Wensleydale. But the bus services are also vital for tourism. Many visitors to the Dale, without access to their own transport, including many overseas visitors, would also be denied access to some of the most magnificent areas of the National Park, making a complete mockery of any attempt to market the Dales as a "green" tourism destination as traffic congestion and pollution increases, with loss to Dales tourism enterprises as visitors take their badly needed spending to better served destinations elsewhere. Buses also facilitate linear walks, a wonderful way to enjoy the Dales.



Little White Bus, Hawes, and County Councillor John Blackie

Sundays and Bank Holidays are by far and away the most important days of the week for visitors, the day when roads are busiest and car parks most likely to be full, and demand for bus services highest in tourist areas like the Dales.

But it is not just visitors who need Sunday transport. Take the Sunday bus away, and many people are prisoners in their own home and village, unable to get away for the weekend, go shopping (and many shops and supermarkets now open on Sundays), visit friends or family, or take leisure trips. There is also ample evidence to prove that if you take away a Sunday service, weekday bus patronage also suffers as faced with weekend isolation, bus users buy a car, motor bike or simply leave the area, causing a spiral of decline.

In April 2011, faced with the loss of the core Wensleydale Sunday bus service, the Yorkshire Dales Society's Dales & Bowland Community Interest Company decided to act. Using its own slender resources the CIC provided a replacement single bus service to replace the two buses that used to operate. By speeding up the bus along the main A684, by not going through certain villages, travel times between Hawes and Northallerton were cut by around 20 minutes, making

the journey more attractive to existing and potential new users.

Despite the success of the service during the summer, and the fact that the majority of regular users are local people, particularly young people, including workers accessing catering and retail jobs, NYCC indicated that having passed a policy resolution in autumn 2010 to withdraw all Sunday bus services in the county, they could not make an exception and restore the Sunday service in Wensleydale. This was despite overwhelming evidence of need and extra finance being made available by Government. Thankfully the new **Dales Integrated Transport Alliance, (DITA)**, of which the Yorkshire Dales Society is an active member, has come to the rescue to help launch what could be an exciting new green travel concept. This approach could be relevant not only for Wensleydale, but for other more isolated parts of the Dales. Valuable financial help has also come from Wensleydale CPRE to help get the service off the ground. Working in close partnership with the Upper Wensleydale Community Partnership of Hawes, who operate the weekday **Little White Bus Community**

Transport network, a new service, the **Wensleydale Flyer 856** will make three faster journeys a day in each direction between Northallerton, Bedale, Leyburn and Hawes, serving Northallerton Railway Station, the Wensleydale Railway and villages along the A684. And thanks to **Upper Dales Connect**, a new "demand responsive" pre-bookable service, provided by Little White Bus, villagers off the main route in communities such as Askrigg, Carperby, West Burton or Redmire can now have a dedicated bus which will feed to and from the main 856 bus at Aysgarth, Wensley or Gayle.

In a really exciting additional development, Little White Bus will also provide a new Sunday shuttle service, the **855**, to and from Garsdale railway station to allow people from Wensleydale a day in Appleby or Carlisle on the Sunday Settle-Carlisle train. It will also collect visitors and walkers off the train from Skipton, Settle and West Yorkshire, in good time to connect with the Wensleydale Flyer bus from Hawes along the dale to Bainbridge, Aysgarth, Leyburn and other villages down the dale, in effect "ghosting" the old Garsdale-Northallerton railway - until such time as the

line is reopened, perhaps even if it is decades ahead.

Funding for this exciting pilot project, which offers a truly integrated transport opportunity for local people in Wensleydale and their visitors alike, has come from the Government's new Local Sustainable Transport Fund, via DITA's **Connect the Dales** project. Hopefully funding for the network can continue throughout summer 2012, pending the realisation of DITA's vision to roll out the concept to include weekday as well as Sunday bus services in the dale. It is hoped that by saving costs on other forms of publicly funded transport, in terms of social service, education and health service transport provision, it will be possible to maintain the network seven days a week; a model for best practice in the Yorkshire Dales and other rural areas of North Yorkshire.

To prove how important and valuable local bus services in Wensleydale are for visitors, two local writer-artists Diana Jolland and Mauram Burner of Leyburn, whose publishing company DinaMo won the 2008

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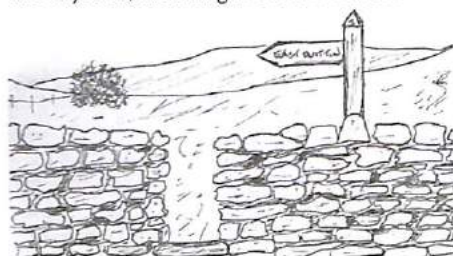


View across West Witton, Wensleydale

...Continued from page 7

Richmondshire Green Environment Award have produced a delightful series of simple walk leaflets all accessible by local bus services, including many accessible off the new 856 Sunday service. A series of 12 walks known as **Just the Ticket** offers ideas for linear walks using the local bus in Wensleydale and walking back (so no need to worry about missing that elusive bus at the end of a walk). Walk 6 for example offers a 2½ mile walk between Wensley and Leyburn; an ideal winter Sunday stroll which could be combined with

afternoon tea or a pub lunch in Leyburn, with plenty of time to catch your 856 at the start or end of your walk. DinaMo also publish an attractive booklet with ideas for short walks and days out, including five short walks in



the Dale with the title (and due apologies to Wallace & Gromit) of "A Grand Day Out". The booklet costs just £3 and leaflets a mere 50p each and are available at Leyburn and Bedale TICs, the Wensleydale Railway or the National Park Centre Aysgarth Falls. For further information ring **0781180230** or **07799415952** or you can order by post (catalogue available) from **DinaMo, 70 Dale Grove, Leyburn, DL8 5GA.**

Colin Speakman



## DALESWATCH OCTOBER 2011

### KEEPING YOU UP-TO-DATE WITH WHAT IS GOING ON IN AND AROUND THE YORKSHIRE DALES...

#### Food Production on Farms

Over the last fifteen years, a lot of public money has been invested in grants to help make redundant barns weatherproof in order to retain them as an important feature in the Dales landscape. With the current cuts in public budgets, however, it is unlikely that this kind of money will be available in the future. Viable uses for the barns will have to be found wherever possible, rather than just leaving them to deteriorate.

The National Park Planning Committee had to make a difficult decision a few months ago concerning an application to turn a former house and barn at Low Mearbeck, Long Preston, into a dwelling house with a commercial kitchen, to serve a retail meat business making sausages from stock reared on the farm (see article p.4-5). Looking at their existing planning policies, the decision was marginal, and the application was refused.

One factor was existing national policy, which states that "requirements arising from food processing, as opposed to agriculture, cannot be used to justify an agricultural dwelling". It used to be a traditional feature of dairy farms that butter and cheese was made on farm premises, and sold at market. Perhaps it is time for planning regulations to be amended to allow farms to process some of their own produce on site again.



#### Quarrying

Two recent applications to extend the life of quarries in Ribblesdale - at Dry Rigg and Arcow - have been approved. National planning policy is to avoid giving planning permissions for major quarrying within National Parks, unless there is an overriding national need and there are no alternative sources outside the Park. However, neither of these conditions applied in the case of these applications.

While the quarries do provide much-needed jobs, the heavy lorries pounding through Settle are having a bad effect, both on the environment and on the wider local economy.

#### Three things need to happen:

- the National Park should vigorously pursue its policy of moving quarried material off the roads and onto the railway;
- long-term planning should start now to replace the jobs that may be lost when the quarries eventually close; and
- there should be no more major quarrying applications approved in Ribblesdale.

However, cutting down the number of quarry lorries and sending the quarry material by train may not be straightforward. The cost of putting in rail facilities may mean that the quarry companies will ask for yet more extensions to their planning permissions to make the investment worthwhile. We shall have to see.

Hugh Thornton,  
Chairman Policy Committee

## DITA: SUCCESS

*In the last Review we reported that the Government had approved the DITA (Dales Integrated Transport Alliance) bid for money from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) aimed at protecting and improving all the bus services within the Dales (including the Nidderdale AONB).*

The Alliance has come about as the result of discussions between the Yorkshire Dales Society and the Little Red Bus Company of Harrogate. The Society's trading subsidiary, the Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company, has successfully built a network of Sunday and Bank Holiday services in the Dales over the last three years, increasing passenger numbers by a factor of four and reducing subsidy levels per trip by an average of two-thirds.

The intention is that DITA will build on this experience to maximise the community and economic benefits from available transport resources in the Dales on a seven-day-a-week basis - on weekdays, as well as at weekends.

DITA will be working in partnership with North Yorkshire County Council, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Metro (West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority) and Cumbria County Council, and with local communities, businesses and operators.

Funding of £1.1 million has been approved, covering the next three and a half years.

It will be used to help achieve the following objectives:

- to increase the use of public transport services
- to cut carbon emissions in the Dales (by more efficient use of transport resources, more use of e-business and home-working, and less traffic)
- to make effective use of developing information and communications technology (ICT) to increase people's awareness of public transport options for travel, and maximise their use of those options; and
- to identify the scope for achieving efficiencies in public and community transport, schools transport and health transport by maximising the degree of integration.

A separate bid for European funding has also been successful, and this will give DITA an additional £145,000 to be used specifically for the second of these objectives.



#### DENTDALE SATURDAY BUS SERVICE IS SAVED

Thanks to Dent Parish Council, helped by a number of local partners including the Dent Music and Beer Festival, Dentdale Show and Dales & Bowland CIC, the Saturday bus service between Dent Railway Station, Dent village, Sedbergh and Kendal will operate throughout the winter, enabling local people to enjoy shopping trips to Sedbergh and Kendal, as well collecting walkers from Settle-Carlisle trains at Dent Station. It is hoped that DITA may be able to support this service after April as part of the development of the Dent-Sedbergh Hub concept. For details of the winter service log onto [www.dalesbus.org](http://www.dalesbus.org).



Bus 564A arrives at Dent village with local shoppers and walkers.

In the short term, DITA has begun work on a number of pilot projects:

**Wensleydale** - an interim integrated Sunday service together with community transport replacement for the postbus (which has been discontinued) using a core service route linked to community feeders and community bus extensions, pending the preparation of longer term proposals.

**Nidderdale** - an experimental evening service on Fridays and Saturdays operating from late October to Christmas 2011, designed to offer Dales residents longer days or evenings out from the Dales, and for visitors to enjoy the evening hospitality of the Dale. The intention is to follow this in early 2012 by an integrated service package using similar 'core' and 'feeder' service elements to those in Wensleydale.

**Sedbergh** - where proposals are being developed for the integration of local scheduled and community bus services, including interchange with train services.

**Craven College** - following a survey of student travel in Spring 2011, further survey work is being done with the latest student intake, and to identify staff travel patterns and requirements. If deteriorating public transport means that students cannot get to College to attend their courses, this will have serious consequences both for them personally, and for the local economy.

At the time of writing, considerable thought is being given to securing the Sunday Dalesbus services from April 2012. DITA sees Dalesbus becoming part of its vision of a 7-day a week core network for the Dales. Assembling sufficient funding will be a challenge with North Yorkshire County Council and the Park Authority unable to offer any service support and Metro grappling with a 25% budget cut. However, DITA has had encouraging preliminary discussions with Metro and NYCC on a way forward with a contribution from LSTF - this will be challenging and we do need more passengers using the services (achieving such growth is where D&B CIC has a strong track record!) and non-public sector funders.

For more information, contact: [www.dalesconnect.net](http://www.dalesconnect.net)

Hugh Thornton



# Reginald Farrer

**D**uring my Dalesman years at Clapham, a subject of special local interest was Reginald Farrer. The older village folk had personal memories of this astonishing man, born and reared at Ingleborough Hall, who altered the course of gardening, taking it and transforming in particular the art of rock gardening.

Farrer's family presided over an estate that encompassed part of Ingleborough. He grew up surrounded by people who loved him, yet he was a solitary child. The reason? He had a hare-lip, which did not inhibit him physically, but made him self-conscious. In manhood he covered his upper lip with a bushy moustache.

In his writings, he may have taken a lead from James Farrer, his father, who among other subjects was the author of works on literary forgeries, the rights of women, also crimes and their punishment. James, a keen gardener, maintained a rock garden at the Hall. Reginald's mother had two great loves – Reginald, her son, and plants. While he was at Oxford, letters to his mum included details of gardening jobs she might do for him. If Reginald wanted a cliff-side plant, she would scramble up the nearest screes to obtain a specimen.

For a time I lodged at the Clapham home of Jack Winton, gardener at the Hall. Jack found that the great man's rock garden in what was now a wooded area had long been neglected. It was thick with weeds. I helped Jack, performing jobs that did not involve much gardening skill. One job was plucking out mare's-tails from the rocky terrain.

I admired the way Farrer arranged pieces of rock brought down from the heights of Ingleborough to resemble natural features. He was derisive about people who piled up earth and stuck stones in it, naming such creations Dogs' Graves or Almond Puddings.

Farrer loved to visit remote parts of Asia. In the gorge on Ingleborough estate – a gorge carved out by Fell Beck which eventually loses its character in a lake, were groves of bamboo and rhododendron, giving the impression – as intended by Farrer – of a Himalayan valley. Farrer made a "hanging garden" on the east side of the lake. Access was possible using an iron ladder.

Geoffrey Smith, superintendent of Harlow Car Gardens of the Northern Horticultural Society, talked, wrote and broadcast about Farrer, classifying him as a genius. I quizzed Geoff about Farrer. He observed that the things the great man wrote about enthusiastically in his book **A Yorkshire Garden**, he would dismiss in a couple of sentences in later years. He would have progressed to other aspects of gardening, such as producing a standard work on shrubs and trees.

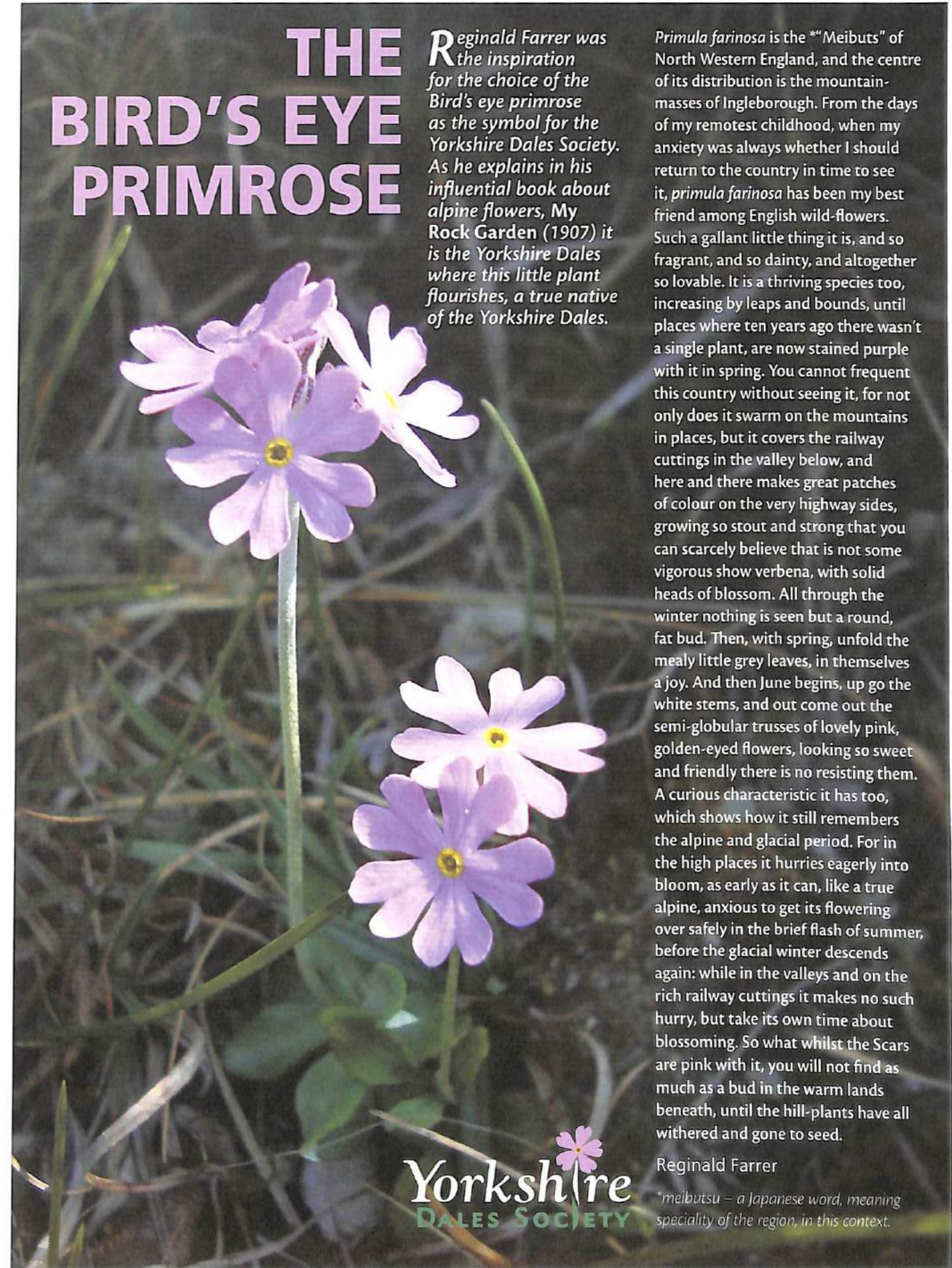
Farrer's prose reflects his emotional manner. It shows in the fine detail of his account of a rope-ladder descent in the main shaft of Gaping Gill. It is revealed in detailed accounts of his botanising in far-off places. His travel books record, meticulously, incidents in the often troubled areas of Asia. I have a special regard for his early classic, **My Rock Garden**, which has a text so lively, a reader shares his enthusiasm and is impelled to follow suit.

Farrer set off on his last expedition, to upper Burma, in 1919. He went to the Minsham Mountains, which tower at an elevation of from 15,000 to 17,000 feet above difficult terrain. It was bitterly cold. He contracted diphtheria and lacked sufficient medicine to arrest the illness. He was buried above a hill-fort. At Clapham, in Yorkshire, memories of this great man linger on.

Bill Mitchell

## THE BIRD'S EYE PRIMROSE

Reginald Farrer was the inspiration for the choice of the Bird's eye primrose as the symbol for the Yorkshire Dales Society. As he explains in his influential book about alpine flowers, *My Rock Garden* (1907) it is the Yorkshire Dales where this little plant flourishes, a true native of the Yorkshire Dales.



*Primula farinosa* is the "Meibuts" of North Western England, and the centre of its distribution is the mountain-masses of Ingleborough. From the days of my remotest childhood, when my anxiety was always whether I should return to the country in time to see it, *primula farinosa* has been my best friend among English wild-flowers. Such a gallant little thing it is, and so fragrant, and so dainty, and altogether so lovable. It is a thriving species too, increasing by leaps and bounds, until places where ten years ago there wasn't a single plant, are now stained purple with it in spring. You cannot frequent this country without seeing it, for not only does it swarm on the mountains in places, but it covers the railway cuttings in the valley below, and here and there makes great patches of colour on the very highway sides, growing so stout and strong that you can scarcely believe that is not some vigorous show verbena, with solid heads of blossom. All through the winter nothing is seen but a round, fat bud. Then, with spring, unfold the mealy little grey leaves, in themselves a joy. And then June begins, up go the white stems, and out come out the semi-globular trusses of lovely pink, golden-eyed flowers, looking so sweet and friendly there is no resisting them. A curious characteristic it has too, which shows how it still remembers the alpine and glacial period. For in the high places it hurries eagerly into bloom, as early as it can, like a true alpine, anxious to get its flowering over safely in the brief flash of summer, before the glacial winter descends again: while in the valleys and on the rich railway cuttings it makes no such hurry, but take its own time about blossoming. So what whilst the Scars are pink with it, you will not find as much as a bud in the warm lands beneath, until the hill-plants have all withered and gone to seed.

Reginald Farrer

*"meibutsu – a Japanese word, meaning speciality of the region, in this context."*



## FARMING AND DIVERSITY - ON WHEELS

**Steven and Amanda Burton, YDS Corporate Members, have a small livestock farm at Fellbeck near Pateley Bridge in Nidderdale. With the help of their family and excellent staff, they also run A S Coaches.**

When we started A S Coaches in 2006, it seemed a natural step to take, since both Steven and myself already had experience in the passenger transport industry. Steven's parents had a coach hire business for many years, and although they are now retired, Mum still drives for A S Coaches and Dad's mechanical skills are regularly needed! We both knew that the years ahead would involve many new challenges and lots of hard work.

The main motivation was and still is fundamental to our way of life – we need a business which works alongside our farm. Just like many of our friends and neighbours, we have had to diversify.

Initially we managed to tender successfully for four local school contracts and so A S Coaches came in to existence. We run a fleet

of six coaches, employ drivers locally and we both drive too. We keep busy, sometimes too busy with day trips, school visits, night work and wedding hire work. Though we happily leave the tour work and long distance work to those who enjoy it!

A mention in passing leads to our involvement with Colin Speakman and DalesBus. I am an ex-pat of Middlesmoor, and hope my local knowledge has proved useful for the Sunday 825 Service. Many readers will have met A S Coaches' driver - Charlie – as he drives up and down Nidderdale each Sunday during the summer months.

DalesBus organises a programme of volunteer led walks where bus users can get together and have a great day's walking. Over the last few years, I have led several of these walks - such a tremendous way to see the dale - and am looking forward to more walks in the next few months which fit in around the DalesBus winter timetable.

Living and working in such a beautiful area does allow us to mix business with pleasure.

Although we seem to work long hours, the perks are good! The best time of year for me is early spring – lambing time – days and nights dealing with new born lambs is such a pleasure; a time I always look forward to and enjoy. The idea that I can mix business with pleasure also led to the launch of our first walking challenge. I find walking in the Dales such a good way to keep fit and help cope with the stresses of day-to-day life. I arranged a series of walks from Nidderdale to the East Coast. Walks were advertised and well supported locally. Leading the walks did test my map reading skills at times, but I think this became part of the challenge as we became a team! The high point being the euphoric moment when we finally made our way along the cliff tops to Whitby. Even the very unsummery weather didn't dampen our spirits. Next year will see another walking challenge, details will be available soon, please use the contact form on [www.ascoaches.co.uk](http://www.ascoaches.co.uk) to get this information.

**Amanda Burton**



Amanda of A S Coaches leads a walking group in Nidderdale

## BOOK REVIEW

### SONIA WILKINSON'S, KILNSEY: A DALES TOWNSHIP

*It is possible to pass the present hamlet of Kilnsey on the way from Grassington and Long Ashes to Kettlewell, with just a glance at its dramatic cliff, Kilnsey Crag jutting into the sky-line, oblivious of the numerous fascinating relics of its long history: Sonia Wilkinson's, Kilnsey: A Dales Township, should go a long way to rectify this neglect.*

In 1998, Sonia and her husband purchased Kilnsey Old Hall (a Grade II listed building) and immediately set about organising the restoration of this basically 17th century structure, formerly owned by the Wade family. The property went through a number of alterations, eventually becoming an agricultural building complete with shippens (part of a barn used to house cows). Fortunately some attractive plaster work, fireplaces and the dove-cot are still original, and its sensitive restoration was to win a Millennium Award as the best scheme of its kind in the Yorkshire Dales in 2004. Sonia, eager to know more about her home, uncovered a wealth of documents, including wills and an earlier YDNPA building survey, making contact with various highly respected local historians such as the late Kate Mason from Addingham: the result of all this research led to eventual publication in book form.



Illustration by Jason Anderson



Long Building at rear of Hall

The area has an ancient history. Kilnsey, dated back to mesolithic times (10,000-4,000 BC), was mentioned in Domesday, and has an ancient route via Mastiles Lane to Malham Tarn and Ribblesdale, part of an old track used by the Romans. From the 12th- mid 14th century, Kilnsey became an important grange of wealthy Fountains Abbey; its Kilnsey hostel so successful, that in 1336, the Abbot petitioned for Kilnsey to be turned into a vill or township, as the abbey could not keep up with the demands on its hospitality from travellers. Families could now move into the area and the township flourished, continuing to do so even after the Dissolution of the Monasteries of 1536, when the area was restructured. The quality of its wool which had enriched Fountains Abbey, led to the erection of a substantial earlier building for the abbey courts in Kilnsey and a place for the abbot's administrators to inspect the accounts. By the 14th century cloth was also produced, necessitating fullers, weavers and tailors in the area. A water driven corn mill is also on record in this thriving community, and a fulling mill which was later used as a lead smelting mill in the early 18th century. From 1750 onwards a series of enclosures was to alter the field patterns; odd shapes were often dictated by the necessity for stock to have access to water.

Behind Kilnsey Old Hall, rears Kilnsey's nearby quarry at Cool Scar, with agricultural lime its main output till 1960. Soon afterwards it was to focus on aggregate stone for the building industry. When, in 1981, the quarry

applied for extension plans to Craven District Council - this was refused. The National Park also refused the same scheme, but then gave conditional planning for a second scheme. The newly formed Yorkshire Dales Society was very concerned about the environment, but also conscious of local opinion, as sufficient numbers of local people depended on the quarry for their livelihood. At stake was also some very high quality limestone, virtually unavailable elsewhere, against the likelihood of further noise and pollution in a national park. Finally, the Secretary of State gave planning permission for both schemes, but the quarry owners from 1988 put measures in place to emphasise their care for the environment. The quarry is now closed.

**Kilnsey A Dales Township** is a detailed, thoroughly researched, highly readable and well illustrated book, including sections on agriculture, early industrialisation and the built environment. A very impressive piece of work; local history at its best!

**Fleur Speakman**

**Kilnsey A Dales Township** can be obtained from local bookshops at £12, ISBN: 978-0-9570218-0-8, or directly from Kilnsey Old Hall, Kilnsey, Skipton, BD23 5PS for £12. Sonia Wilkinson also offers an informative tour of Kilnsey, a 2 mile trail, on Sunday 15th January and Wednesday 8th of February. Cost £2. Stout shoes & waterproofs. Please bring own packed lunch, booking essential. Please ring 01756 753887 to confirm availability.



Hardraw Force

## RENOVATION OF AN ICONIC PART OF THE DALES

### HARDRAW FORCE AND ITS GROUNDS

*The Green Dragon inn at Hardraw controls access to Hardraw Force. Over the years, the estate had become sadly neglected. Under the guidance of Mark Thompson, its new owner, initiatives were set in place to restore the area. The Green Dragon has recently become one of the Yorkshire Dales Society's Corporate members.*

In July 2001 I had just sold a lease on my Reeth hotel, and was planning a long trip to India, but a cursory visit to Hardraw and its waterfall was to change all that.

The Green Dragon Inn, together with its fifteen acres of wooded walks, encompassing Hardraw Force, said to be England's highest unbroken waterfall at 100 feet, had been on the market for almost five years. The site was in a moribund state, trade minimal, with the area reeling from the onslaught of foot and mouth disease. In December Yvonne and I became the new custodians, having purchased the property in August.

My objective was clear, initial years were spent "ring-fencing" the entire premises, dealing with immediate problems: structure, grounds and access, followed by in depth work on the specific areas that time and money would allow. I personally worked on the Inn's interior, removing concrete, boxing, fittings; indeed all the trappings of seventies' architectural mismanagement. Those so-called "renovations" were often completed with sincerity of purpose, yet lacked true consideration or understanding of what a building actually meant and felt.

Now the Parlour bar looked and felt like a traditional dales inn once more, we concentrated on the waterfall pathways. I designed four bridges based to some extent on Monet's at Giverny. Two were to be replacements for structures long gone, the third a new "Bride's Bridge", will open up a photo opportunity some distance before the waterfall, the fourth will be built above

the waterfall to replace one that was dismantled in the 1960s. Plans were also submitted for the reinstatement of the wooden bandstand, demolished in 1936, and to rebuild the old tea bothy by the beck-side.

The hexagonal bandstand will be rebuilt on its original stone base using local green oak, and can be provided with a sustainable shingle roof. With the ever increasing interest in our annual revived Brass Band Contest, (always the second Sunday in September), this development is eagerly awaited as are its future uses as a theatre /performance and wedding venue. It is hoped to reinstate the tiered stone seating on both sides of the beck, thus providing the Dales with its own Minack Theatre – bring a fleece! The bothy will provide studio opportunity for artists in residence, and the pathways once restored, access to our Northern Dales Sculpture park.

So far it has been difficult to obtain funding (with the exception of a £15,000 Sustainable Development Fund Award from the Millennium Trust), and I have coped by reinvesting as much of the waterfall income as possible. However, notwithstanding some problems, much has been accomplished. We now have two bridges built and the third planned for Spring 2012.

Six carefully hidden rolled and curved steel girders carry two local green oak structures, built at a total cost of £18,500 each by local craftsman, Tony Fawcett of Middleham.

Each year sees the steady restoration of bank-side erosion. This year we have completed the first stage of the largest of our paths, which climbs to the eastern boundary, before looping through the woods, crossing Hearne Beck and rejoining the beck-side path to the west. All steps, railings and even the lime kiln have been restored. On a larger scale, after two years construction, again by local contractors, R and B Construction, from Newbiggin, 2010 saw the external completion of the New Heritage Centre which we hope will open in 2012 - funding permitting. This will provide information to enhance visitor experience, host exhibitions as well as offer studio/workshop space, to allow those who live in or visit our Dales, to experience a hands on relationship with all that Hardraw has to offer.

We look forward to hearing your ideas on working to maintain a sustainable environment, and receiving your support over the years to come.

Mark Thompson



Green Dragon (see Corporate Members)

## RECENT CORPORATE MEMBERS

### Ecovril

Ecovril provides building design, planning consultancy, project advice and research for rural property conversion restoration and new development where sustainable; green building and renewable energy systems are also included. The firm, which has worked on planning and design issues throughout the UK, has some experience in the restoration of stone dales' properties and national park planning. Ecovril can provide clear and precise pictorial plans, 3D visuals, and attractive plan presentation packages. Currently the company are overseeing the construction of a barn at Arkleside in the Dales, and another planning and design project is taking shape near Greenhow. With engineering specialists, Ecovril can design and install renewable energy technology, especially where visual challenges are involved.

Contact: [www.ecovril.com](http://www.ecovril.com)

### The Green Dragon Inn

The Green Dragon Inn, Hardraw, near Hawes, in Upper Wensleydale, is a traditional country inn dating from the 13th century. It is also the setting of nearby celebrated Hardraw Force, England's highest unbroken waterfall, with 15 acres of grounds, and a spectacular gorge. The name Hardraw means shepherd's dwelling and once was part of the land owned by the Cistercian monks who initially settled there. Later early Yorkist kings would rally their troops by the banner of the green dragon. The Green Dragon offers varied accommodation, including a camp-site. Welcoming traditional ales and good home-cooked food are served by Mark, Yvonne, and their team.

Contact: [www.greendragonhardraw.com](http://www.greendragonhardraw.com)



## CALLING FOR YDS VOLUNTEERS THE BACK-BONE OF THE SOCIETY

By the time you receive this copy of the Review, I will have completed a full year working for the Society as the part-time Administrator. Highlights have definitely been working alongside key volunteers like Bernard Peel and Simon Houston (who regularly visits the office on his trips north), as well as the many folk who help with stuffing the Review into the thousand or so envelopes each quarter. Volunteers are the life blood of a membership charity like the Society, and although we have attracted new people such as Robert Hutchinson (who spent time with us before starting a Master's Degree), we have a desperate need for more help in the office. So if you have a few hours spare each week (or even each month!) do get in touch – I am sure we can find an activity you will enjoy tackling.

Working on the stand at the Nidderdale Show in September was another personal highlight. This gave me a great opportunity to gauge the awareness and interest from people living or working over in Nidderdale, which the Society regards as very much part of the "Yorkshire Dales". Together with Chris Hartley (long term Trustee and stalwart on Events organisation) and Dr Tony Smith (Chair of the Events, Communication and Membership Committee) we discovered that the new format Review really caught people's

attention. The new strap-line of Campaign Protect Enjoy proved an excellent way to start a conversation about our crucial campaigning work. Between us we spoke to well over 100 visitors to the stand, an exhausting but very rewarding day. During the Show, I also had the privilege of handing out the winners' rosettes and prize money for the Children's Pet Classes – one small but engaging way to show the Society's support for the Dales-people of the future.

We've been working hard to bring the new website fully up to date, to keep the Society fresh and forward-looking and hopefully attract more members. If you are an internet-aware Member, please bookmark the site (at [www.yds.org.uk](http://www.yds.org.uk)) and email it on to friends and contacts with an encouragement to come to an event or download the membership form. This type of "word of mouth" recommendation by Members, the Society's best ambassadors, is undoubtedly a tremendously effective way to encourage new people to join.

As I write this piece in the glorious autumn colours of early November, the permanence of our office base at Settle Town Hall lies somewhat in the balance. As many of you will know, Craven District Council is selling off this Grade II listed building, and we



Ellie Wain, overall winner of Children's Pet Class, with Ann Shadrake

wait to see whether our future lies here or elsewhere. If we do move base, we plan to still be reachable by bus or train (ideally both) and within a Dales village or town so we can keep contributing to the local economy whilst offering an accessible and welcoming experience for Members.

Finally a reminder that the Society will complete the process of bringing retired membership rates in line with ordinary rates (announced in Review 113 Winter 2011), by raising these by £1 (single retired) and £2 (couple retired) in April 2012. As a safeguard, pensioners who cannot afford to pay the extra few pounds can ask to remain on the current rate. Please see the back cover for all current membership rates.

Ann Shadrake, YDS Administrator

## "I HAD A FABULOUS DAY"

**Student Michael Carter who is visually impaired, is enthusiastic about the National Park's new Sensory Trail at Malham.**

Volunteers from Henshaws College have been helping to test a pilot scheme created by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority for people with sensory impairments. The students, two of whom are sight-impaired, and their teachers, spent the day at the Malham National Park Centre outlining what they would need to help them and others like them to enjoy, explore and experience the area more easily. And they had a chance to try out a range of interpretation equipment being developed, including Braille labels and Pen Friends – audio tools that allow

people with a visual impairment to listen independently to the interpretation around them in the National Park Centre.

The students tested a new Sensory Audio Trail, written by Interpretation Officer Karen Griffiths, that took them through the village and along the Pennine Way to Malham Cove – one of the most popular and accessible routes in the National Park. Malcolm Petyt, the YDNPA's Member Champion for Recreation Management and YDS Council Member, said:

"National Parks are for everyone to experience and appreciate, so it is important that we are helping groups of people to gain better understanding and enjoyment of the Dales."



Listening to interesting facts at the exhibitions in the National Park Centres, and the achievement of testing the route, made a truly "fabulous day" for the youngsters.

## RICHMOND'S HISTORIC TOWN CENTRE RESTORED



**The historic town centre of Richmond has been transformed over the past few years through a pioneering new grant scheme. The scheme has not only restored many fine buildings and replaced inappropriate shop fronts to recreate the Georgian character of the old town, it has also brought back into commercial life several redundant upper floor offices. The scheme was the brain child of the Richmond Swale Valley Community Initiative and the Richmondshire District Council, working together with the support of Yorkshire Forward and English Heritage and was the first of its kind in the region.**

*We realised that most owners were quite content with the rents from the ground floor shops. Unless there was some incentive to encourage them to invest, it was clear that upper floors would remain empty. The best way to protect the historic fabric of the buildings, and to help the vitality of the town centre was to get the upper floors back into use: said town manager Colin Grant. In addition several inappropriate shop fronts and poor shop signs were spoiling the character of the town centre.*

The Richmond Heritage Partnership Scheme was launched in the Autumn of 2006 and since then over £1.7m has been spent on improving 63 historic commercial buildings in the town centre.

To help owners and tenants, grants of up to 70% were offered, provided properties were restored under the guidance of the scheme Design Guide. The guide was produced by Maddison James Associates and was adopted as supplementary planning guidance.

The scheme has won several awards, from Action for Market Towns (best project in the region), English Heritage (most improved Conservation Area), from the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and in 2009 helped Richmond to achieve the accolade of 'Great Town of the Year' from the Academy of Urbanism.

As well as bringing a great deal of building work for local firms and new office space for about 65 employees, the scheme has also helped to revitalise the retail fortunes in the town. In the aftermath of Foot and Mouth, the town suffered from many empty shops. New shops and restaurants have opened and this summer, despite the economic downturn, the last empty shop was taken and the town centre boasted 100% occupancy.

With the cuts in public spending, the scheme has now come to an end. But the legacy of this painstaking programme of restoration that has helped to breathe new life into the historic market town of Richmond, will be felt for many years to come.

Colin Grant, Town Manager Richmond

## TWO WRITERS IN WENSLEYDALE

The Yorkshire Dales have for generations inspired artists and writers. Two very different writers here recall a very special moment they both experienced in Wensleydale,



**D**orothy Wordsworth, sister of the poet, was a keen walker and author of some remarkable Journals, perceptively describing her experiences when travelling with her brother on foot and by carriage. In 1802 she travelled through Wensleydale with William and her sister-in-law Mary Hutchinson by Post Chaise - the 1802 equivalent of DalesBus - to enjoy the special magic of the Dales landscape, before walking down to Aysgarth Falls and being both disturbed and moved by the power and majesty of the Falls.

The Vale looked beautiful each way. To the left the bright silver stream inlaid the flat and very green meadows, winding like a serpent. To the right we did not see it so far, it was lost among trees and little hills. I could not help observing as we went along how much more varied the prospects of Wensleydale are in summer time than I could have thought possible in winter. This seemed to me in great measure owing to the trees being in leaf, and forming groves, and screens, hence little openings upon recesses and concealed retreats which in winter only made part of one great vale. The beauty of the summer time here as much excels that of the winter as the variety, owing to excessive greenness of the fields, and the trees in leaf half concealing, and where they do not conceal, softening the hard bareness of the limey white roofs.

We had a sweet ride till we came to a public house on the side of a hill where we walked

down to the waterfalls. The sun was not set, and the woods and fields were spread over with the yellow light of evening, which made their greenness a thousand times greener. There was too much water in the river for the beauty of the falls, and even the banks were less interesting than in winter. Nature had entirely got the better in her struggles against the giants who first cast the mould of these works; for indeed it is a place that did not in winter remind one of God, but one could not help feeling as if there had been the agency of some Mortal Instruments which Nature had been struggling against without making a perfect conquest. There was something so wild and new in this feeling, knowing as we did in the inner man that God alone had laid his hand upon it, that I could not help regretting the want of it, besides it is a pleasure to a real lover of Nature to give winter all the glory he can, for summer will make its own way and speak of its own praises. We saw the pathway that William and I took at the close of Evening, the pathway leading to the rabbit warren where we lost ourselves. The farm with its holly hedges was lost among the green hills and hedgerows in general, but we found it out and were glad to look at it again. When William had left us to seek the waterfalls, Mary and I were frightened by a cow. At our return to the Inn we found new horses and a driver, and we went on nicely to Hawes where we arrived before it was quite dark. Mary and I got tea, and William had a partridge and mutton chops and tarts for his supper.



Lower Falls, Aysgarth, photo by Kasia Szczerbinska



**O**ne of Victorian novelist George Gissing's (1857-1903) last works was a rather strange collection of autobiographical essays, *The Private Papers of Henry Ryecroft* (1903), in which he gives a series of brief sketches of parts of the England where he had once enjoyed moments of sudden insight, in this instance in Wensleydale:

I am in Wensleydale, climbing from the rocky river that leaps amid broad pastures up to the rolling moor. Up and up, till my feet brush through heather, and the grouse whirrs away before me. Under a glowing sky of summer, this air of the uplands has a still life which spurs to movement, which makes the heart bound. The dale is hidden; I see only the brown and purple wilderness, cutting against the blue with great round shoulders, and far away to the west, an horizon of sombre heights...

# Yorkshire DALES review

## YDS WINTER EVENTS IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES : 2012

Events Cost **£5:00** : YDS Members **£3:00** unless otherwise stated

**Enjoy some leisurely walks, find out more about the Mosaic Project, experience a fascinating farm visit and hear about its diversification strategy, discover how a National Park Ranger interacts with farmers and visitors, and hear and view some entertaining images from the unique Meander Project in the Yorkshire Dales. Bring warm and waterproof clothing, stout footwear (preferably boots) on all winter walks. Entry to all YDS lectures is £3 for members, £5 for non-members - but £2 will be returned to non members if they join on the day, so bring a friend!**

### Saturday, 7th January : Celebrating Mosaic!

**Walk to Linton Falls.** Members of Campaign for National Park's Mosaic Project in the Yorkshire Dales invite YDS members to join them for a short walk in the Linton area.

**Meet at Anderton Institute,** (on Grassington Road) Linton in Craven 10.30am. Car parking available at Institute. Bus 72 departs Skipton 10.05am, Bus 74 Ilkley departs 09.35am...

**Lecture: The Mosaic Project.** A view of the Yorkshire Dales from an urban dwellers's perspective.

Nurjahan Ali Arabi, YDS Council Member and Mosaic Champion, will explain how Mosaic has

encouraged hundreds of city dwellers to enjoy the National Park and will lead a discussion on future plans for Mosaic in the Dales.

**Anderton Memorial Institute,** Linton-in-Craven 2.15pm.

### Saturday, 18th February : Blue Pigs in the Dales Farm Visit

Join Anthony Bradley, Dales farmer, for an informative walk around his innovative farm, raising Blue Pig outdoor-bred pork at Mearbeck Farm.

**Meet at Long Preston village hall 10.15am** for car-share to farm. Train departs Leeds 08.49am and 09.26am from Skipton. Packed or pub lunch on return to Long Preston before afternoon lecture.

**Lecture: Footpaths and Farmers**

Cat Kilner, National Park Ranger for Malhamdale, will give a fascinating insight into her work with farmers and the public in the National Park.

**Long Preston Village Hall at 2.15pm.**

### Saturday, March 3rd : Walk round Gargrave Village

Join Chris Wright, YDS Council Member, for an informative and easy walk around this pretty Dales village, visiting the canal and other attractions.

**Meet outside Village Hall 10.30am,** distance less than 4 miles. Lunch available in cafe or pub, or village hall open from 1.00pm to eat packed lunch. Train departs Leeds 08.49am and Skipton 09.26am.

**Lecture: Meander - a 21st century view of the Dales**

Rick Faulkner of Chrysalis Arts, (YDS Corporate member), will describe and show video footage from the unique high-tec Meander Project which captured a special view of the Dales. The Meander Project offers pairs of walkers the chance to wear head mounted video cameras, to record every part of their joint experience of a Dales walk.

**Gargrave Village Hall 2.15pm.**

### Note for your diary : A Visit to Dallowgill Grouse Moor

Please note that full details of this special YDS April Grouse Moor visit which will take place on **Saturday April 21st 2012 from 2.00pm until 4.00pm** will be published in the Spring issue of the **YDS Review**.

## RIDE2STRIDE THE SETTLE TO CARLISLE WALKING FESTIVAL

**Takes place from May 1st to May 7th 2012.**

A programme of walks, talks and music is being put together to celebrate the landscape and culture along this wonderful railway line. There will be guided walks, both easy and strenuous, from stations along the line; music

in pubs and other venues and lively talks about the area. YDS is proud to be a supporter of Ride2Stride and will be organising both walks and talks during the Festival.

See: [www.ride2stride.org.uk](http://www.ride2stride.org.uk) for details.

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**CAMPAIGN • PROTECT • ENJOY**



Views expressed in the YDS Review are not necessarily those of the Yorkshire Dales Society. Any contributions should be sent to the Society's address below.

**Ann Shadrake - Administrator  
The Yorkshire Dales Society  
The Town Hall  
Cheapside  
Settle BD24 9EJ**

Please note it would be extremely helpful if you could email [ann.shadrake@yds.org.uk](mailto:ann.shadrake@yds.org.uk) when possible rather than the telephone, to facilitate the smooth-running of the YDS office. Telephone: **01729 825600**. Information about the Society can be found on [www.yds.org.uk](http://www.yds.org.uk)

Information about the Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company can be accessed on [www.dalesandbowland.com](http://www.dalesandbowland.com)

**Membership and Subscription...**

Single Retired	£14
Couple Retired	£18
Single Adult	£15
Couple/Family	£20
Single Life membership	£300
Joint Life membership	£500

**Life Membership 60 years & over...**

Single Life Membership	£200
Joint Life membership	£300

*Please note that the Single Retired and Retired membership rate will cease from April 1st 2012.*

**For Corporate Rates see website.**  
[www.yds.org.uk](http://www.yds.org.uk)