

Yorkshire DALES review

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New from April 2013

Editor Fleur Speakman

Yorkshire DALES review

VULNERABILITY IN THE DALES: AND THE 'FEATHERY' ASH

The Yorkshire Dales, like many other areas of Britain, had a very difficult summer in 2012 – continuous heavy rain and unseasonable temperatures causing many problems, particularly for farming and tourism. For the farmer - rotting crops, poor yield, huge extra silage bills, and often a variety of additional diseases affecting their stock; the article on page 6 by Ribblesdale farmer, Anthony Bradley, *The Wet Cold Summer of 2012: A Farmer's View*, gives his personal account. Tourism too has been greatly affected by the bad weather, with many events like the Great Yorkshire Show, and even smaller Shows like Dentdale being cancelled. It has been estimated countrywide that flood damage alone has cost the rural economy up to one billion pounds. Colin Speakman's timely article *Tourism to Benefit the Dales*, pages 4-5, discusses the importance of the YDNPA's new Sustainable Strategy and Action Plan, emphasising how we can all help the Dales economy as visitors to the Dales - using accommodation, making greater use of public transport, visiting attractions, and for the more active: enjoying walking, cycling or horse-riding.

More recently a potentially more insidious threat has emerged for a truly iconic symbol of the Dales, the ash. Ash trees are an essential part of our landscape especially in the Upper Dales. The fungal disease, *Chalara fraxinea* or ash dieback, which has affected European ash sapling imports and mature woodland in various parts of the country, has now reached the north of England, including Yorkshire. Ash dieback affects both the crown and tree branches, usually killing 90% of the trees it attacks. 21 countries are already affected in mainland Europe: Denmark already losing up to 90% of its ash trees. The Forestry Commission put various measures in place to tackle the disease. The government stopped the import of European saplings in late October. However, already 100,000 ash trees have been destroyed in an attempt to curb the scourge. Concerns were raised that imports could have been stopped much earlier when the first signs of the fungus appeared in February/March 2012.

Geoff Garrett, Senior Trees and Woodland Officer, at the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, declared: *If the disease reached the Yorkshire Dales, a number of semi-natural woodlands would be significantly deprived of large forest trees.* As we go to press, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority have already put a number of strict bio-hygiene measures in place. Roger Coppock, Head of Analysts at the Forestry Commission, stated: *It is very difficult to deal with fungal pathogens like this... they can spread 20 km or so, carried by the wind.* Britain has 80 million ash trees – from mature woodlands to individual trees, either in public or private

ownership. This outbreak, reminiscent of the dire Dutch elm disease in the 1970s, which particularly affected southern England, is likely to be especially devastating for northern England where ash is especially common and a characteristic part of our woodlands.

A recent Swedish study has shown that there is scope to produce ash trees with greater resistance to an infection, and a Report from the Independent Panel on Forestry in July 2012 stated that: *Government should speed up delivery of the tree health and plant biosecurity action plan by additional investment in research on tree and woodland diseases, resilience and bio-security controls.*

Any YDS members with ash trees in their own gardens or woodlands, are asked to check first with the excellent Forestry Commission website for clear signs of the disease:

www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara

If you believe that a tree or trees are infected, either contact this Forestry Commission number **01904 448 778** for further professional advice or email them at this address:

yorkshirehumber.fce@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

Whether growing tall and stately in our woodlands or framing a sparkling little gill, the ash tree is a part of that special Dales identity. We need to sharpen our awareness that our precious Dales landscape is also a very vulnerable one, and do all we can to ensure it survives.

Fleur Speakman

TOURISM TO BENEFIT

Tourism is too often a *misunderstood concept. We are all tourists at various times in our lives. Though the classic definition of a tourist is someone who spends a night away from home on a leisure trip, people on business trips are often referred to as taking part in “business tourism”. Day visitors are also tourists.*

It's not always a matter of distance. Someone who lives in Wharfedale, but who spends a day in Wensleydale is also strictly speaking a visitor to that dale, a tourist. So as soon as you go out of your front door and away from your own village, you are a visitor.

Tourism like most human activity has its good and its bad side. The bad, as everyone knows, is about too many people in a limited number of places, resulting in congestion, especially that caused by motor traffic, pollution, erosion, the commercialisation of otherwise unspoiled landscapes or heritage features. The good side, however, relates to the fact that tourism is a key service industry, creates rural jobs and wealth, which in turn helps support infrastructure and services local communities need. Ultimately economic prosperity is the only way to support both the built environment and the natural landscape. Conservation costs money but also creates jobs. Without a vibrant economy and local community, the evocative cultural landscapes of the Dales would soon become scrub land and weed infested ruins.

A new study of Settle, which is a very typical Dales market town, and by no means a prime tourism honey pot compared with say

Grassington or Malham, indicates that 32% of local jobs depend directly on tourism. This makes it the biggest single source of local employment. This compares with just 2% for the local quarries.

But even this 32% doesn't fully reveal what economists call the multiplier effect – the degree to which tourism spending in a community finds its way through lots of other cash tills and other businesses – to the butcher, the garage, the baker, the grocer, the newsagent, the builder, the joiner. Tourism is a highly effective mechanism by which urban wealth from both surrounding and even distant towns and cities, works its way into and supports rural communities. Equally visitors benefit from opportunities for outdoor recreation, the educational value of heritage features which illuminate their own personal lives and family histories, and the emotional and spiritual experience of fine landscapes.

A problem lies in the overused word “sustainable” for tourism, which in many people's minds is easily confused with economic viability, not true environmentally sensitive activity. Sustainable is too often linked with the word development, especially by Government, to describe some activities which are anything but environmentally sustainable.

The original idea of sustainable tourism grew in the 1970s in the Alpine regions, especially by Swiss author Jos Krippendorf who defined what he termed “sanfter Tourismus”. Literally translated this means “soft” or “gentle” tourism. This term superbly defines forms of tourism which cause least damage to a fragile ecosystem or local communities whilst

maximising the benefits, compared with more abrasive “hard” or mass forms of tourism where far more damage is inflicted by visitor activity and by those who provide for such activities.

The two forms of tourism are not mutually exclusive, rather range over a spectrum starting from the most “gentle” kind where the lone visitor or couple, walk, ride or cycle in a landscape, respect local communities and their environments, enjoy and experience distinctive local culture, leaving nothing but their footprints, stay in locally owned accommodation, and consume local food, services and products. This means that their spending power is largely retained in the community rather than being sucked out into off-shore tax havens of multinational corporations. At the other end of the spectrum, “hard” tourism is likely to be based on heavy dependence on high energy consuming and polluting road transport causing congestion, noise and disturbance. Hard tourism also encourages the wrong kind of large scale developments such as large residential parks and theme parks, together with activities which are inappropriate to the area, in terms of noise and visual pollution. Such activities ignore the special, distinctive qualities of the Dales; its unique sense of place.

Travel is a fundamental aspect of all tourism. Reducing the impacts of travel by promoting walking, cycling, horse riding and increased use of public transport is therefore key. Equally there is a need to work with local communities and businesses to promote conservation in its fullest sense, to develop the Dales as a true Green Travel destination.



Cyclists in Littondale

THE YORKSHIRE DALES

For all these reasons the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's new Sustainable Tourism Strategy and Action Plan is timely and welcome. This is also in response to the need to review and renew the Authority's Europarc Charter for Sustainable Tourism. This approach basically endorses the core Krippendorff principles.

You can download the Strategy and Action Plan from the Authority's website by logging onto www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/livinghere/sustainabletourism/europarc/dalesourismstrategy

The Yorkshire Dales Society strongly supports this Strategy. Indeed it is a major contributor to its delivery through our subsidiary, the Dales & Bowland Community Interest Company. The CIC has now developed the Sunday DalesBus network into one of the best, fully integrated public transport networks in any UK National Park, achieving the YDNPA's own target of linking every major conurbation around the Yorkshire Dales on Sunday and Bank Holidays between April and October, with direct public transport links into the heartland of the National Park and Nidderdale AONB.

Members of the Society can help in a most practical way. The current recession, the deepest and longest in living memory, has inevitably hit Dales tourism hard, as people see their disposable incomes being cut by

rising costs and declining incomes. A trio of poor summers, including the dreadful deluges of 2012, didn't help. Many Dales businesses are having an especially tough time. But the Society, a group of people who know and love the Dales, can help by encouraging its members, many of whom are retired and to some degree cushioned from the worst impacts of the recession, to use their spending power to come to the Dales as "gentle" tourists; to walk, cycle, travel the Settle-Carlisle line, Wensleydale Railway or Dalesbus network, to stay in a local B&B, hostel, inn or country hotel, to enjoy Yorkshire hospitality with excellent food and drink (including several award winning local cheeses and Dales-brewed ales), to visit local visitor or heritage attractions.

The quieter Northern Dales, Wensleydale, Swaledale and Dentdale, because of their relatively long distances from larger centres of population, are probably most at risk in lean times. But what special areas they all are!

So what could be nicer, in Winter or early Spring, than a short cycle, walking or even horse riding break in one of these dales, or for that matter, the equally lovely Southern and Eastern dales such as Wharfedale, Malhamdale, Ribblesdale or Nidderdale. If you are looking for somewhere to stay, (and you can usually book on line), try the excellent Welcome to Yorkshire website on www.yorkshire.com/where-to-stay

But if you can't manage even a weekend break, your day visits will also do much to help keep the Dales alive. This is especially true if you can try and make sure that instead of rushing back home at the end of the afternoon, you can stay awhile to find time to have a meal, a drink, to visit a local shop or craft centre, many of which offer local produce or high quality Dales based artworks, whether for a bit of self indulgence or a future birthday gift. Every penny spent in a small business helps to keep that enterprise and local jobs going, and helps create that multiplier effect that will help Dales communities get through these difficult times.

Many enterprises in the Dales are Yorkshire Dales Society Business Members (see our website for details – www.yds.org.uk) and are therefore especially deserving of our support in return for their commitment to the Society's environmental objects.

In what other aspect of life can you spend money to enjoy yourself, to experience some of the finest landscapes in England, whilst at the same time helping to protect the economy, culture and ultimately that very priceless landscape we so enjoy?

Colin Speakman

Queen's Head, Litton

THE WET COLD SUMMER OF 2012

A farmer's view



Muckspreader at Walden

Anthony Bradley who farms at Mearbeck in Ribblesdale, reflects on the impacts of the wet summer of 2012 not just on visitors, but on farmers in the Yorkshire Dales.

The seemingly endless rain may be what we all remember about the non summer of 2012, but it started cold too. That cold spring meant very low grass growth and consequently lactating ewes had less milk and lambs grew more slowly. Then when it did warm up a little and we had some rain, the situation, briefly, looked better. But the rain came and came, also with lower than usual temperatures, and reduced the amount of grass that livestock had to eat: it was almost continually wet. So a grazing animal is eating lots of water with every mouthful of grass. This has the effect of diluting the amount of energy in each mouthful and they cannot physically eat enough to satisfy their requirements. So in trying to fatten lambs from grass, lambs have taken much longer, around three to four weeks, to reach a marketable weight, and for a given weight, they are carrying less flesh.

The market has compensated following the laws of supply and demand as usual. The slow growth of lambs early in the season meant smaller quantities being marketed so the price rose. This autumn it meant there was a larger than usual show of autumn lambs that were lighter and with less meat and so the price has dropped, both per lamb and per kilo. In short we have more extremes to the normal seasonal patterns. That is all right if you could market lambs early, but a bit of a trial if you have lots of them later in the season, which many have, because of the weather. Producers could compensate by feeding them cereals. These are currently at a historically high price, not least because of the drought in the USA. They may have a use tactically, but are often too expensive to use as a blanket approach.

The poor grass growth means we have produced 10% less silage for winter this year. There are some businesses that have not managed to

make any silage at all. So there are some very serious decisions being made about how to get livestock through the winter. This has meant doing things like ceasing milk production and selling cows. That may be relatively straight forward, with a poor milk price and high cost of bought-in feeds, but good cattle sale prices. It will nevertheless have been life changing and deeply worrying for many. We will probably have to purchase some silage and may shorten the winter by selling store stock earlier than originally planned. None of these options does any favours for the bottom line.

So how do we see the future? Are we seeing the beginnings of the impact of climate change? The honest answer is we really do not know. If we are to have wetter summers, then despite having lamented the problems of wet grass, we are likely to place increasing reliance on grass production. We could boost grass production by reseedling with modern varieties of grass and clovers – to reduce the need for both bought-in feed and fertilizer. We could also be more flexible with the marketing of stock to try and match their needs with the available grass and silage.

These issues are also being exacerbated by changes to agricultural support and the way commodities are traded. Some industry commentators reckon we have such low reserves, that another northern hemisphere summer like the last will impact on food security. I estimate we have lost a month's worth of grass this summer which probably equates to a sixth of our usual annual grass growth. Add in non-weather related factors and the future seems to suggest more volatility. In the end I suspect farmers will do what they have always done in the long run – adapt.

Anthony Bradley

HAPPY DALES DAYS

David Morgan Rees recalls the happiness of time spent over many years in a small Yorkshire Dales cottage and how much he gained from entering as fully as possible into the life of the community.

The thirty years spent with my partner tucked away in a tiny Swaledale cottage, attached to an old Methodist chapel, certainly count as the happiest in my life. Although it was a holiday cottage rather than a permanent home, it became, as the years went by, a special place which we used as often as possible throughout the whole year. Consisting of a living room, bedroom, bathroom and what the estate agent called an 'entrance kitchen', it was so small that we felt no guilt in owning it.

Rather than being uninvolved week-enders, we got to know people in the village and participated in as many of the local activities as possible. Realistically, we knew we would always be regarded as "off-comdens". But the village made us feel so welcome as we attended Sunday Mattins in the little church, went on the parish walks, enjoyed the village summer tea-party or Christmas supper. Going down to post a letter in the village meant that you stopped to talk and catch up on events in the community. On our walks through and round the small dale with our dog, some of the most pleasant moments were spent talking to local farmers, listening and learning about the fascinating details of how they worked throughout the seasons.

We felt we made real friends there because we took an interest in all that went on – how a farmer's prize Swaledale tup had fared in the Autumn sales, felt glad if the hay harvest was sweet and good, and were concerned if an exceptionally heavy snow-fall prevented the milk tanker reaching the village. Major crises like Foot and Mouth, which came so near, but mercifully spared Swaledale, affected us too. We could not escape the worry and fear of the local farmers who saw the sinister funeral pyres burning in neighbouring Wensleydale. A summer-long drought turning the woods nearby to a dangerous tinder-box was just as much our problem as anyone else's.

After a time away, our hearts rose when we arrived and unlocked the front door. There were details which had a special meaning – the bootlaces hanging over the edge of the



Swaledale Cottage

bath to allow spiders to climb out, heavy rain at night heard through an open window, the sight of a cock pheasant perched in splendour on the wall below and his rattling screech as he flew off, the sound of Sunday services coming through the living room wall when the adjoining chapel was still in use, the bright colours of our traditional Swaledale quilt hanging on the wall, the crackling of the wood stove on a cold winter's night, the early post van tearing along the lane from the village as we lay in our beds.

Letting the dog out before breakfast was a simple pleasure whatever the weather. She would charge across the lawn, delightedly sniffing the multitude of night-time scents

before exploring the garden and small orchard, her paws crashing through the long grass, chasing away rabbits and birds. It sharpened the appetite for a hearty breakfast.

Long walks up and out of our little dale into the next, particularly in winter when the ground was frozen or snow-covered, were another rich experience. We would wrap up warmly and take a picnic snack. The dog shared our keen pleasure, nose pointed in the cold air and tail feathering. A walk when we had to battle against gale or rain was a delight, too.

The last walk on a warm summer evening into the woods with the dog was always a precious moment. The sky above was a rich blue deepening into indigo as the sun sank in the west. You passed into the woods through

a tunnel of branches and followed the track towards the old field gate at the end. From there you had a view of the broad flank of the fell across the dale etched with dry-stone walls. There was a sickle moon in the sky. Sheep and cattle moved quietly in the meadows below. Suddenly the day's warmth had gone, so you turned back into the wood's deep shadows. A breeze touched the foliage and a tawny owl rose and flapped away from you. A fox barked. Back in the cosiness of the cottage, you were ready for a good night's sleep.

I'm sad that many people who own holiday cottages in the Yorkshire Dales often live a life apart from the community. By not becoming involved, they miss so much. They can make a useful contribution to local life, too. Of course we never experienced the harshness of having to make a living off the land, but we enjoyed a simple reality. Now that the cottage has been sold and my partner has died, that time is over for ever. Yet so many memories remain as a previous part of my life which I was lucky and privileged to enjoy in a small Yorkshire community.

David Morgan Rees

Horton Housing Group at Gordale
Scar, Malham - photo courtesy of
Gary Staniforth, Hidden Homeless

PEOPLE AND THE DALES PROJECT

SUPPORTED BY THE
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Woodroyd Community centre, Bradford, at Janet's Foss, Malham. Photo: YDMT

People and the DALES is a community outreach project run by Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, bringing disadvantaged groups to the Yorkshire Dales to enjoy a range of activities including nature, landscape and discovery walks, practical conservation and creative activities.

The project began in 2009, supported by Natural England's Access to Nature grant scheme, funded by the Big Lottery Fund. Since then over 4,000 people have appreciated the health and well-being benefits associated with spending time outdoors in the countryside. The Access to Nature grant ran out in July 2012, but thanks to a timely £10,000 donation from the Yorkshire Dales Society, People and the DALES has been able to continue this pioneering work throughout the summer and into autumn.

Blackburn and Darwen Refugees taking part in an archaeological dig at Chapel le Dale. Photo: YDMT



A range of disadvantaged groups from urban areas bordering the south of the Dales have benefited from visits this summer, including:

- **A group of refugees from Blackburn took part in an archaeological dig in Chapel le Dale.**
- **An Asian women's group from a Community Centre in Bradford walked in Malham.**
- **A Bradford primary school, linked with Rathmell Primary school, walked from Winskill Stones to Settle to visit the Victoria Cave exhibition at The Folly.**
- **A group of homeless men from Bradford walked the Malham circuit.**
- **A refugee group from Bradford walked up the Nature Trail in Clapham to visit the show caves.**

As well as providing a leader for the day, the project also contributes towards the groups' transport costs and, through a partnership with Malham Tarn FSC, also loans boots and waterproofs to the participants.

The vital YDS funding also enabled the team to evaluate the impact of People and the DALES, highlighting the significant impact the project has had on people who often lead difficult lives. People report feeling:

- **LIBERATED** - by new experiences, from new knowledge, new skills, feeling free.
- **INSPIRED** - to get walking, build new relationships, visit the countryside for themselves.
- **REFRESHED** - peaceful, relaxed, mentally and physically refreshed.

Visits have a beneficial impact on the lives of those involved through:

- **enjoying being outdoors in the fresh air**
- **experiencing the natural environment**
- **learning from new experiences and visiting new places**
- **empowering individuals to try other activities**

Participants have been inspired and enthused by the visits and often want to return with family and friends. One young participant said: *I love it here and I'm definitely going to come back. I'm going to get my mum to bring us out here. I want to go up those big hills we saw today.*

65% of groups reported that individuals in their group have returned to the Dales independently, and 88% report that participants have subsequently visited local green spaces in their home area.

A support worker for a refugee group commented: *This kind of work is essential to the well-being... of our service users... Many organisations want to take their service users on trips in the countryside, but worry about expertise, health and safety, and equipment. This project breaks down these barriers and makes something incredibly important possible.*

Thanks to the support provided by YDS, People and the DALES has also successfully secured further funding to continue this pioneering work for another year. As well as working directly with disadvantaged groups during this time, the team will also share the lessons learnt and provide expertise and support to enable other organisations to undertake similar work.

For more information about People and the DALES and our work at YDMT please email gail.smith@ydmtd.org / judy.rogers@ydmtd.org or visit www.ydmtd.org

THE BAREFOOT SHEPHERDESS AND WOMEN OF THE DALES

by Yvette Huddleston and Walter Swan, published by **Scratching Shed Publications** at **£13.99** available from the *Grove Bookshop, Ilkley*, and post free from *Scratching Shed Publications*, 47 Street Lane, Leeds LS8 1AP. ISBN 978-0956478757.

The Barefoot Shepherdess and Women of the Dales celebrates a diverse group of remarkable, creative women who have grasped the initiative of a new career or forged successfully ahead, unafraid to take risks. Living in beautiful, but sometimes less accessible places in the Dales can bring its own rewards and challenges. The women range in age from a young woman in her early twenties to women of more advanced years: single, young married with children, divorced or with a partner, and from a diversity of backgrounds.

Characteristic of these inspirational women is **Alison O'Neill**, the Barefoot Shepherdess of the title who decided to keep Rough Fell Sheep on a farm near Sedbergh. Alison who had always enjoyed walking, sometimes without footwear, finding it most therapeutic, decided to train as a guide, taking walking groups into such areas as the nearby Howgills, with accommodation available in two caravans at her farm or at a nearby B&B. Yorkshire Dales Society members will remember Alison who has won numerous awards, as an excellent communicator at one of the YDS Autumn Walks and Talks events, delighting us with her enthusiasm, as well as a key speaker at the Society's AGM in 2011, wearing her trademark hand-woven Scottish tweed walking outfits which she also designs, and are available to the public.

Amy Lucas is a young woman who works as a gamekeeper on an estate in Cotterdale in Wensleydale; her main job is protecting the grouse against predators and pests, but also helping to burn the heather, part of a necessary routine, and making sure that the grouse have access to grit for their digestion. She is unworried that the work often solitary, can involve unsocial hours, bad weather, and much legwork; though a quad bike and a land rover are available to cover some of the ground. Amy is totally responsible for the gun she is licensed to use, and has to be available for late night tracking against predators. Now in her third year, she feels she is really getting to grips with the work which she loves, and sees it as less of a job, more as a way of life.

Barefoot Shepherdess, photo of Alison O'Neill



Dianna Bowles with some of her Herdwick sheep in Nidderdale



Annabelle Bradley at her smithy in Malham



Vet Davinia Hinde in her surgery in Nidderdale

Annabelle Bradley, a married former accountant with two young children found that commuting from Malham where her husband worked, to Saltaire, became increasingly untenable. Originally with a hobby of jewelry-making, she decided to join forces with another blacksmith in Malham as an artisan blacksmith, producing craft work. Initially she kept on her accountancy job on a part-time basis, but then felt confident enough to embark on this new career full-time. Annabel says she has learnt enormously from other blacksmiths, particularly at craft demonstrations at such events as the great Yorkshire Show, and obtained some excellent advice. She has won awards there herself too. 70% of her work is now commissioned, and was crowned by an appearance with her chandeliers on TV some time ago.

Less unusual, but again totally committed, is **Davinia Hinde** who runs a vet's partnership with her husband which covers a large geographical area in Wensleydale. On call at all hours, when tricky weather conditions and difficult terrain can be par for the course, she is equally at home in dealing with the larger animals like sheep and cattle, which form 85% of the work, as well as the smaller pets. Davinia is undaunted by the fact that some of the prize Swaledale sheep she attends might sell for enormous sums of money - a tremendous responsibility - but she never feels pressurised by the farmers who are most appreciative of her skills. Davinia and her husband run regular farmer training courses

which have been much welcomed by the community; and she finds her work utterly satisfying.

Professor **Dianna Bowles** proves that living in Upper Nidderdale, in Middlesmoor, was no barrier to academic work in Leeds, and her daily commute meant she always felt part of the village. The scenery and the effects of the light never fail to thrill her. About twenty years ago she decided to keep some Herdwick sheep, but claimed it took her ten years to really understand their ways. Before she retired, Dianna had specialised in plant biochemistry, but finds her sheep equally fascinating and has made a fund of observations about their habits. She has regularly won prizes at the Great Yorkshire Show and during the Foot and Mouth epidemic in 2001 established the Heritage Gene Bank to save bloodlines and breeds of sheep at risk. Continuing to combine her academic expertise with her interest in benefiting society, Diana has set up a number of projects such as the Centre for Novel Agricultural Products at York, emphasising that scientists have a social responsibility to use their ideas and creativity to solve problems.

Other inspirational women in this group of fourteen include a consultant in Griesdale, who now specialises in advising on organisational

change, unfazed by long journeys. Another is a creative consultant in Richmond with great expertise in the arts. A vicar of Swaledale and Arkengarthdale has to cover four churches in rotation, combined with a very active role on numerous local committees, while a museum curator in Bainbridge has had strong previous links with the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. An ethical entrepreneur in Swaledale uses rare breed Swaledale and Shetland sheep to create luxury woollen garments, regularly featured in the more upmarket fashion magazines. The list concludes with a successful artist in Wensleydale, a letter carver in Dentedale who initially worked in a design studio and retrained, a community publican in Coverdale, who has made her pub very much the centre of village life, and a tea room owner in Upper Wharfedale who trained initially in hotel management, then ran a successful second-hand shop for children's and babies toys, clothing and equipment, before moving to her present premises.

The Barefoot Shepherdess and Women of the Dales enters the lives of each of the fourteen women, bringing out their essential qualities and personalities. It is quite a compulsive read, well illustrated and leaving a strong impression that we should celebrate more of these remarkable women, who are such tremendous role models.

Fleur Speakman



SETTLE'S HISTORIC FOLLY

AN ENIGMATIC STORY

People strolling round the corner from Settle Market Place and catching their first glimpse of The Folly have been known to stand stock-still in amazement. Just what is this building and why is it here? This response would have delighted Richard Preston who built The Folly back in 1679. Preston was the leading Settle lawyer of his generation and wanted to show off his wealth. His new house stood alongside what was then the main road into the town from the south, and its impressive frontage and size would have caught the immediate attention of travellers and prospective clients.

Richard Preston clearly had strong feelings about the type of house he wanted, resulting in a building which was described by Pevsner as 'capricious and wilful'. Long and short quoins (cornerstones) which were the height of fashion in the 1670s sit cheek-by-jowl with round headed windows typical of a century earlier. Interior delights include two large inglenook fireplaces and a splendid 'dog-leg' oak staircase contained in a tower with a hidden prospect room at the top.

Virtually nothing is known of Richard Preston's early life, but it is likely that he was

born in the 1640s during the Civil War period in the parish of Long Preston. He married his wife Lettice probably around 1672, but no record of the marriage or of Lettice's origins has yet come to light. They had three daughters who all married locally. Preston died intestate in 1695, a strange circumstance for a lawyer. His death was possibly sudden and from then onwards, The Folly was only occupied as a single dwelling for brief periods, which is most probably the reason for its name. The house passed to the Dawsons of Langcliffe in 1702 and from 1708 they leased it to a succession of tenants. In its time it has been a farmhouse, bakery, warehouse, furniture shop, refreshment rooms, fish-and-chip shop, bank and salvage business.

It is thanks to this continuous ownership of nearly 300 years, that nearly all of The Folly's original features have survived intact. The Dawson family connection finally ceased in 1980. Over the next few years the house changed hands several times and in 1994, was divided into two. The larger part stood empty until it was bought in 1996 with a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund by North Craven Building Preservation Trust, with the aim of opening it to the public and providing an ideal setting for the Museum of North Craven Life. In 2010 the Trust bought the north range with a loan from the Architectural Heritage Fund and so re-united the two parts of the

house. A major appeal has been launched by the Trust's president, Alan Bennett, to repay the loans for the acquisition of both parts of the building and provide an endowment fund to secure its future. The Trust receives no grants towards the operation and maintenance of The Folly, which is run entirely by volunteers. We are always in need of more people to help with stewarding and behind-the-scenes activities which range from work on the museum collections, through enquiries and research, to managing events and providing administrative support.

This inspiring Grade I-listed house is one of very few in the Yorkshire Dales open to the public on a regular basis and makes a vital contribution to tourism by providing an important wet-weather attraction. The museum runs a lively programme of changing exhibitions, group visits, talks, workshops and family activities. The Folly also offers 5-star holiday accommodation and hire facilities for meetings and private events.

The building has survived the vagaries of nearly 350 years and we are committed to handing it over in good shape to those who follow us. To discover more, please visit www.ncbpt.org.uk/folly

Anne Read, Honorary Curator

YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY ARCHIVES AVAILABLE

This is the 31st year of the Yorkshire Dales Society's existence and I wonder how many of you are aware that we hold in our Gargrave office every back issue of the YDS Review (right back to the original first Winter 1982 edition), and a vast collection of photographs taken in the Dales.

We now have a directory listing of all back issues of the Review and their contents, plus a catalogue of all the photographs held here. Most of the photographs have



Going for Upland Hay - Geoffrey Wright, Photographer.



Early Lambs at Bedale – John Fawcett

actually appeared in the Yorkshire Dales Review over the years. Originally Mike Johnson, a long term volunteer at the Otley office, suggested a directory of all the major articles in the Yorkshire Dales Review, with a second listing of the authors. This hand-written version was kept up for many years, and proved a most useful resource, but sadly vanished a few years ago.

It has long been felt that this invaluable source of reference material should not only be organised using modern technology, but also be made available to all interested parties.

As you may imagine, going through 30 years worth of Reviews and photographs proved a considerable task, which required much of my time this year in the office. However much of the credit should be given to Jan Zootjens.

Her initial work regarding the layout and structure of this photo archive covered a lot of the ground. The Review Directory entailed going through our library of back issues, and recording all the main articles plus authors, in each issue. In doing this, it is apparent that recognition is due originally to Colin Speakman's and later to Fleur Speakman's incredible "labour of love" as editors of every issue of the Review.

The chronological listing of Reviews proved a fascinating task. I have put all articles and authors into an excel spreadsheet. This makes the searching for and locating of any particular subject, or author a simple matter. It is interesting to see the very first copy of the review (No 1 Winter 1982) bearing a front cover shot of Ivy Bentham and the offset-litho typescript,

alongside our very latest Yorkshire Dales Review (No 121 Winter 2012/13). This shows how far the Society has progressed since our inception, with new production methods and twenty first century design ideas. When cataloguing the photographs, I was delighted to come across all the original images in that very first Review.

The photographs have been sorted out into 19 broad topics; thumbnail contact sheets have been created for each topic and these will be viewable on line via our website. We do not hold original copies of all the images, but anyone seeking to use any of this material would be more than welcome to come to the office, (please telephone or email first), to view the photo archive.

Whether you are undertaking research into your family history or writing on a particular Dales topic, we may well hold a relevant article in the Review directory or image in the photo archive that could provide context, detail or an illustration. Everyone is welcome to quote articles or reproduce images, with the appropriate credit, and a small donation to the Society if wished. Contact Ann at the office for more details, (email address and phone number on the back cover).

Simon Houstoun



Loading hay bales on conveyor - Geoffrey Wright, Photographer.

**Yorkshire
DALES SOCIETY**

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP

This year has seen a fantastic response to the Society's Business Membership Scheme – we now have nearly 40 Business Members from within the Dales to much further afield. It's very encouraging that so many businesses are prepared to pay the annual membership fee of £30. All of them are joining because they want to show their support for the Society's work and our charitable objects.

Although we do not endorse individual companies as such, we do publicise their support on our website, Facebook pages, and in the Review. We also provide a special business logo for use on corporate stationery and business websites, a certificate to frame and display, and invitations to all the YDS events. Increasingly we are arranging events in partnership with Business Members, such as the pub walks with Individual Inns and a forthcoming Malhamdale walk in June 2013 with Tudor House B&B at Bell Busk.

Below is a list of current Business Members by broad category of business (the website carries the up to date list). If you visit or purchase from one of them, why not mention that you are a Member and thank them for their support? I am sure you will be warmly welcomed, and it will be great for the businesses to see their support recognised by you, the Members!

Dales pubs, accommodation and cafes:

The Angel (Hetton, Wharfedale), The Blue Bell Inn (Kettlewell), Dalesbridge Centre (Clapham), Dallowgill Estate (Moorhouse B&B and Guest House, Nidderdale), The Green Dragon & Hardraw Force (near Hawes), The Lion (Settle), Individual Inns (The Tempest Arms at Elslack, The Fountaine at Linton, and The Wheatley Arms, Ben Rhydding), Scargill Movement (Kettlewell), Tudor House B&B (Bell Busk), Town End Farm Shop & Tearooms (Airton), West Winds Yorkshire Tearooms (Buckden), Wood View Guest House (Austwick).

Other Dales tourism:

A S Coaches (Nidderdale), The Dales Way Association, Gayle Mill Trust (near Hawes), Horseless Carriage Services (Pride of the Dales, Threshfield), How Stean Gorge LLP (Nidderdale), JD Tandems (Gargrave).

We've found that personal approaches and a face-to-face chat are the best ways to encourage a business to join – some of our Trustees are particularly good at this, and I've been attending local business events to spread the word too. If you have a friend or relative running a business, would you be prepared to ask them to become a Business Member? Perhaps you could provide an introduction, and we'll do the "asking" if you prefer. Are you part of a local business network, such as a Chamber of Trade, that I could speak to about the work of the Society? Having a solid membership from the business community is a great demonstration of our key charitable object to "bring together people and organisations with a common interest in and love of the Yorkshire Dales".



VOLUNTEERS

I've been working closely with Craven Volunteer Centre who are helping me find some new volunteers. John Hewitt has been uploading event details into online "what's on" guides and into The Visitor newspaper (the National Park Authority's free publication). We hope this will encourage more non members to attend and sign up as Members. Barbara Bradburn has helped a lot in the office, though she now has to concentrate on her own business more. Martin Hall has been using his graphic design skills to create new event posters. Regular volunteer Karen Cowley has worked on website updating. You can read about Simon Houstoun's valuable work on the archives elsewhere in this Issue. Bernard Peel continues to be the keystone of our membership administration.

Chris Hartley contributes really sterling work in booking our walk leaders, speakers and venues. But we do need more helpers on the day at the events, as the same few people are covering every event. Would you consider helping out by taking the register, being a "backmarker" on a walk, or arriving a bit early to help set up for a talk? Please do get in touch and I can explain more.

Ann Shadrake



• Please note that the YDS office will close for the Christmas period after December 20th 2012 and re-open on January 8th 2013 •



RAMBLERS HOLIDAYS AND THE WALKING PARTNERSHIP

The Yorkshire Dales Society has recently joined The Walking Partnership which is supported by Ramblers Worldwide Holidays. This scheme provides direct financial contributions to local walking groups to help with organising group walks, encouraging people to get out walking, and practical projects. Over the past 65 years, Ramblers Worldwide Holidays Charitable Trust has given many millions of pounds to assist walking charities and conservation projects in Britain, and the countries they visit on their worldwide holidays. Now the Society can benefit directly.

If you book a holiday with Ramblers Worldwide Holidays, just quote "the Yorkshire Dales Society" and we will then receive a contribution of £10 per person on UK holidays, £20 per person on short haul holidays, and £30 per person on long haul holidays. This extra funding would be a very welcome contribution. For more details, visit The Walking Partnership website at www.thewalkingpartnership.org.uk

Ramblers Worldwide Holidays operate group walking holidays in the UK and all around the world. Each holiday is accompanied by a qualified walks leader and holidays are graded in terms of difficulty. Their website has more information www.ramblersholidays.co.uk or you can order a brochure on 01707 331133.



YDS group, Richmond.
Photo by Gillian Harrison

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

Quarry Traffic in Ribblesdale

The Autumn edition of this column contained a note on the Settle Regeneration Study, which has identified one of the key issues as the need to stop quarry lorries going through the town centre. Subsequently, an action group (Friends of Upper Ribblesdale - FOUR) has been set up to promote the Upper Ribblesdale economy and its quality of life, preserve its special qualities and ensure a sustainable future. (See the website at f-o-u-r.org.uk).

On 24th October FOUR had a meeting with representatives from Hansons, who operate the quarry at Horton in Ribblesdale, to impress on them the impact of the lorries and the need to reduce it by switching from road to rail transport as far and as quickly as possible.

Hansons have been looking at the cost of putting in a railhead, but have been daunted by the cost quoted by Network Rail. However, Network Rail is a public body and is currently subject to a statutory duty to have regard to National Park purposes in the way it operates.

Based on that statutory duty, there appears to be the interesting possibility that FOUR might feel able to support Hansons in looking to negotiate a reduction in the cost of the rail head if Hansons were to commit to a significant reduction in the amount of rock being transported by road.

Hansons have also agreed to look at the implications of requiring hauliers to use the route to the Settle bypass via Buckhaw Brow rather than through the centre of Settle (though it would make their journeys longer).

A similar meeting on 7th November took place with representatives of Lafarge Ltd who operate Dry Rigg Quarry at Helwith Bridge.

Wind Farms

There continues to be a number of applications for wind farms on the margins of the National Park, and of the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

At Killington Lake, by Junction 37 on the M6, an application has recently been submitted for a development of three 135 metre high turbines. Combined with existing developments at Lambrigg and Armistead, the cumulative impact on the landscape would be dramatic. The YDS will be opposing this application.

The Society has objected to a proposal for 7 wind turbines (in addition to 8 existing) next to the AONB at Knabs Ridge, just west of Harrogate on the A59 – again because of their cumulative impact. Another application for 4 turbines has just been submitted, and the developers appear to be aiming at a total of around 35.

Timber Extraction via Cam High Road

In the Summer edition of the Review, we reported that a planning application had been submitted to upgrade Cam High Road, at the head of Ribblesdale, in order to extract timber from Cam Woodland. If approved, it would destroy the unique 'wilderness' quality of the area – one of the key reasons why the National Park was designated.

Recently, that application was withdrawn and Cam Woodland has been sold to new owners, who appear more sympathetic to the need for sensitive management. However, the basic threat remains.

The website and the Facebook pages carry regular updates on the Society's policy and campaign work, as well as copies of the Society's objections on how members can support campaigns.

Hugh Thornton,
Chairman YDS Policy Committee

WIND TURBINES IN THE COMMUNITY



This article is very much the writer's personal view. Please use the YDS website or Facebook (details on the back cover) if you wish to comment on the subject.

As the amount of wind turbines increase, not just as wind farms, but as individual turbines on private land, should we start getting accustomed to the new views of the landscape? Or should we question what motives are behind such a drastic change to people's landscapes, lives, and communities?

Is wind power an unpleasant necessity? Wind power is not the only alternative form of energy, and it is also not the most effective. Yet many look towards the renewable nature of wind power, and feel that the need for it outweighs the potential intrusiveness of the structures. Some people also believe they are quite attractive to look at once we get used to them.

But, is there a valid case for potentially 36 turbines up to 125m in height at Knabs Ridge on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales? (See Daleswatch on Wind Farms page 15.) This wind farm, potentially the biggest in England so far, is via three separate applications from Kelda (plus one from TAPAR). The campaign against this – www.savethedales.co.uk – states how the three applications gather strength together, in the hope that one gets passed so that the landscape will become sufficiently “degraded” to allow the others, in a knock-on effect.

How effective is wind power? Wind turbines currently produce up to 2%* of the country's energy demand, meaning that the cost of building them is not met with great economic or environmental benefit (big turbines cost in the region of £350,000). They do not minimise CO² as much as other less costly green options, and for turbines to generate the amount of power the country needs, a place the size of Wales would have to be entirely covered by them. Even then, wind is not a constant source of energy, and turbines already installed produce just under 1GW (gigawatt) of their maximum 8GW capacity.

Turbine developers – green at heart? Developers receive large government subsidies on top of the amount of electricity they sell to the national grid. These subsidies are funded by payments on our energy bills, meaning the idea that wind generated electricity is free, is a common misconception. Developers pay the owners to allow turbines on their land, but this amount can be extremely small in comparison to the great profits that can be made.

Often these small-scale land owners are living in rural communities, struggling to make ends meet. A local lady who has lived in the same farmhouse for twenty years, cannot forgive her neighbour's decision to erect two 46m turbines. This has resulted in the breakdown of a previously strong friendship, along with others in the community. She is happy to be quoted: [they] “have their eyes fixed on the money”.

The developer, DC21, is targeting many individual farms in the area. An account has appeared in the Craven Herald about the tactics of EnergieKontor on the residents of Ash Tree Farm, in relation to the application for three 100m turbines on Brightenber Hill. In this case, there might appear to be evidence to suggest that DC21 were perhaps not acting sufficiently honestly, as the farm was not indicated on the initial plans submitted to the local area committee.

Living with wind turbines People's physical and mental health may be damaged by the mere presence of the structures, and their noise and shadow flicker can blight their daily lives. Wildlife such as birds and bats can also be affected by the low frequencies produced.

However, the impact of turbines is also felt in a much broader sense than just by the few kilometres described as “impact zones”. A local area could mean a few miles, 20 miles, or a large area such as the Dales, which many people hold close to their hearts.

The effects of turbines do not just end in potential landscape degradation and loss of residential amenity, but can cause the breakdown of communities who act as guardians of a countryside, which is there for all to enjoy. Not surprisingly, a number of local groups are being set up to give the community a voice; hopefully they will be listened to.

**Main source www.ukenergywatch.org/Electricity/Realtime*

Sarah Smout

Editor's note: Skipton & Ripon MP Julian Smith is encouraging his constituents to let the Government know their views on onshore wind farms. The Department of Energy and Climate Change is undertaking a Call for Evidence to examine how communities can have more of a say over potential wind farms in their communities.

MOORS DIARY – 1995-2012 A TIME OF CHANGE

Derek Statham (North York Moors Association, ISBN 978-0-9565779-1-7 hardback price £14.00).

Derek Statham was, between 1974 and 1995, the distinguished National Park Officer of the North York Moors National Park. Over the next 17 years he has been both Honorary Secretary and President of the North York Moors Association. He is also a highly influential figure in the Campaign for National Parks, reflecting both his professional and voluntary sector experience.

As President of the NYMA, Derek contributed a series of thought-provoking leading articles to its newsletter, **Voice of the Moors** under the pseudonym "Sundew". As Derek suggests in his Introduction to this collection of 62 essays, the years between 1995 and the present have been a period of quite dramatic

change, not just in National Parks. Years of unprecedented prosperity allowed the National Park Authority to grow in stature and influence, but more recently, through a time of deep recession, it has suffered swingeing cuts.

The essays, all beautifully written with sharp insights and an engaging wit, deal with themes with relevance not just for the Moors, but for the whole UK National Park movement. These include threats to our unique landscapes, the importance of the national dimension in their conservation, and issues such as climate change, energy, affordable housing, access and rights of way, planning and local issues, the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) and its need for reform, but above all the essential spiritual values which underlie the

whole National Park, conservation and open air movement in Britain. Not only are these issues familiar at YDS meetings, but they have powerful resonance, as relevant for today and tomorrow, as when they were written. These essays are important reading for anyone who cares not only for the North York Moors and the Yorkshire Dales, but for all our National Parks. There is also a very appreciative Foreword by no less a figure than Dame Fiona Reynolds, till recently National Trust Director.

Copies can be ordered direct from **Derek Statham at Greenways, The Green, Maunby, Thirsk, North Yorkshire, YO7 4HG. price £17.49 inclusive of postage and packing – cheques should be payable to D.C.Statham.**

Colin Speakman

SIXTY MILES THROUGH WENSLEYDALE

The Shawl looking back to Leyburn illustrated by David Nash



Diana Jolland is a Yorkshire Dales Society member, living in Leyburn who is a keen walker and user of public transport, especially DalesBus. She is also a very good writer. Over the last year or so she has authored or co-authored several short guides to walks in Wensleydale, all fully accessible by local buses and trains.

Her latest publication **A Sixty Mile Walk around Wensleydale** is a beautifully written and illustrated guide (with delightful line drawings and maps by David Nash) to a 60 mile walk around Wensleydale, to coincide, appropriately enough, with the 60th anniversary of the Wensleydale Society. The walk starts and finishes at Leyburn, but also forms a series of eight 5 – 10 mile long linear walks, all accessible by regular public transport, seven days a week – the Settle-Carlisle line, the Wensleydale Railway and Dalesbus. Each full or half day stage has an accurate route description with points of interest and detailed maps. This is a superb idea for a short break holiday in Wensleydale, perhaps based in Leyburn or Hawes, each day using a bus or train to the start of the walk, a truly green guide. **It costs just £4 (proceeds in aid of Yorkshire Air Ambulance) and is available at Leyburn Tourist Information Centre, or The Walking Shop in Leyburn, or £5 by post from Diana Jolland, 25 Park View, Leyburn, DL8 5HN (cheques payable to The Wensleydale Society).**

Colin Speakman

RIDE2STRIDE 2013

THE SETTLE-CARLISLE WALKING FESTIVAL

Tuesday 30th April 2013 – Monday 6th May 2013

Once again the Yorkshire Dales Society is proud to be part of RIDE2STRIDE: the Settle to Carlisle Walking Festival.

Ride2Stride ran for the very first time in 2012. It was organised by a small group of volunteers who brought together a programme of walks, talks and music, all put on by organisations active in the Yorkshire Dales. Some, like YDS, were responsible for a number of events and activities. Others led just one walk, but together the Festival was a showcase of the wealth of volunteer-led activity that goes on along the line.

The same format is being followed for **Ride2stride 2013**. YDS will top and tail proceedings with Chairman Colin Speakman leading the first walk on Tuesday April 30th to the Hoffmann Kiln and Lower Winskill, Tom Lord's Ribblesdale hill farm. In the evening Council Member Tom will give an illustrated talk about the butterflies to be found on his farm and the important role their habitat plays in the management of traditional wildflower-rich hay meadows.

Later in the week YDS President and former editor of the Dalesman, Bill Mitchell, will give a talk called "Thunder in the Mountains" about the building of the Ribblesdale Viaduct and life in the settlement at Batty Green. We're sure to get some intriguing tales from raconteur Bill.

For anyone wishing to enjoy a less strenuous outing, YDS Treasurer Rhona Thornton will take a group around the fascinating Settle Town Trail on Tuesday April 30th and on Sunday May 3rd, Settle Storyteller and YDS Council Member Sita Brand will lead a family friendly story walk.

Ride2stride 2013 will close with a walk led by Council Member Chris Hartley, entitled "Following in Elgar's Footsteps". It's a circular route from Settle to Giggleswick, Feizor and Little Stainforth, returning on the Ribble Way.

Details of the full Ride2stride programme can be found at:

www.ride2stride.org.uk



In My Opinion...

Mike Harding, well-known writer, broadcaster, musician and folk singer offers some personal comments on the present state of mineral extraction in the Dales and the associated transport problems. Though the present day extraction industry has made enormous progress as regards its attitude to the environment, Mike, a keen environmentalist himself, explains his concept of "soulscapes" which strongly conflicts with industrial noise pollution. He is also a member of the newly formed Friends of Upper Ribblesdale (FOUR) who recently met Hansons, the Ribblesdale quarry operators in October (see Daleswatch page 15 for more details.)

We all tend to respond to wide vistas, clean air, high hills, clear rivers. We value and feel deeply about the open landscapes, the mountains and the forests - everything from a dales hay meadow to a high beck springing on a fell side. Doctors and psychiatrists have understood the prime importance of "getting out into the country". We feel better for it, more human, stress levels go down, health improves, our minds are clearer. The creators of the National Parks knew this *, they designated them as areas where people from the great industrial cities could go for quiet relaxation, to re-invigorate tired bones, to get away from the ear-splitting clamour of machines in mill, forge and factory, to heal frayed nerves. Therefore such areas as the Yorkshire Dales National Park, like all the other great National Parks [and AONBs], have a tremendously important role to play in the mental and physical health of the nation.

Unfortunately the mineral extraction industry and its associated transport demands can run entirely counter to social and "soulscapes" needs of the country. The stress caused by noise levels has been well studied and researched. But the psychological effect of massive movements of 40 ton trucks on National Park roads, and worry caused by negotiating narrow pavements in a small town, especially for the elderly or a young mother with a buggy, are less definable. The roar of heavy haulage trucks can be constant, at times drowning out bird song and other natural sounds of the Dales. However, moving freight to rail would go a long way towards re-introducing some of the calm and quiet that the Park was originally created to supply. I would urge that this become a major priority for the sake of all the millions who come from all over the country for its very special place in the "soulscapes".

Mike Harding

**Ed. Octavia Hill, one of the key founders of our National Parks movement, campaigned in the 1880s for "fair and free open spaces for the poor".*

WINTER EVENTS IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES 2012/13

All events are free of charge to YDS members unless otherwise indicated. Boots and warm waterproof outdoor clothing on all walks essential. Bring drink and refreshment. Visit the YDS website for full details of all events. Post your photos and comments on the website or our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/YorkshireDalesSociety



Why not bring a guest to the walks (free for everyone) or to a talk - if they join on the day, their entrance fee will be refunded. Springtime bonus – new members benefit from current membership rates and Direct Debit special offer (3 months extra free) if joining before 1 April 2013.

Saturday 5 January

Walk:

A walk through Skipton Woods

Regular office volunteer Bernard Peel will brush off his walking boots to lead this cracking walk around the beautiful and ancient Skipton Woods, under the Castle walls and along the historic Springs Branch of the Leeds Liverpool Canal. Walk back across the fields for panoramic views of Skipton. Easy walking, one steep ascent.

Meet 10:30 at Freddie Trueman's Statue, Canal Basin, Skipton, BD23 1LQ. Pay & Display Parking. Train Airedale line d. Leeds 09:26; Bus X84 d. Ilkley 09:10.

Saturday 5 January

Talk:

The Making of the Leeds Liverpool Canal

David Calverley, YDS Member, will describe how the rivalries between the textile industries of Yorkshire and Lancashire, and opposition to the Canal itself, threw up continual challenges to the construction of the Leeds Liverpool Canal.

Starts 14:15 at St Andrew's Church Hall, Newmarket Street, Skipton, BD23 2JE.

Limited free parking at the Hall. Train: Airedale Line d. Leeds 12:56.

Members £3 / Non Members £5.
Hot drink and biscuits included.

Saturday 2 February

Walk:

Scenic Wharfedale & Riffa Woods

Join experienced YDS Council Member Chris Hartley on a scenic walk from Pool Village through the local countryside to Riffa Woods, with views along the River Wharfe. You'll hear about ancient trackways, the Italian POW camp and the intriguing carved "Indian" stone, and maybe glimpse sightings of re-introduced Red Kite. Generally easy going with one steep climb up through the woods.

Meet 10:30 Pool in Wharfedale Village Hall, Arthington Lane, Pool in Wharfedale LS21 1LG. Parking at the Village Hall. Buses 737, 923, 967 X52, X53 all serve Pool. For times log onto www.metro.com/bus travel.

Saturday 2 February

Talk:

Birds of the Washburn Valley

A fantastic opportunity to hear about the wonderful birdlife of the Washburn Valley from experienced ornithologist Peter Riley, President of the Wharfedale Naturalists Society.

Starts 14:15 Pool in Wharfedale Village Hall, Arthington Lane, Pool in Wharfedale LS21 1LG. Members £3/Non Members £5. Hot Drink/Biscuits included. Parking and public transport as above.

Saturday 9 March

Walk:

Early Spring in Long Preston

Delightful walk, open to everyone, exploring the beautiful and historic Dales village of Long Preston. Visit the churchyard for glimpses of snowdrops and yellow aconite, and explore the green lanes around the village. Led by Dr Chris Wright, Yorkshire Dales Society Council Member. Approx 4 miles, easy walking with one or two stiles.

Meet 10:30 at the village maypole, in front of the Maypole Inn, Long Preston BD23 4PH. Park with consideration on village roads. Train Leeds d. 08:46, Skipton 09:26 ; Bus 580 d. Skipton 08:35.

Saturday 9 March

Talk:

The Birtwhistles of Craven and Galloway

Dr Tony Stephens, author of the excellent book "The Birtwhistles of Craven & Galloway – Drovers, Industrialists, a Spy and a Poetess" will explore the fascinating history of the cattle drover John Birtwhistle and his three sons. Descendants of the family were the 18th century spy, John Vardill, and the noted Regency writer Anna Jane Vardill.

Starts at 14:15 at Long Preston Village Institute, Long Preston, BD23 4NU. Members £3/Non Members £5. Hot Drink/Biscuits included. Park with consideration on village roads. Bus 580 d. Skipton 12:45.

Saturday 6 April

Visit: Arkleside Moor

Our third annual visit to a grouse moor. "Behind the scenes" tour of a moorland estate in Coverdale, led by Adrian Blackmore, Moorlands Director of the Countryside Alliance, by kind permission of the estate owner Martin Vallance (YDS Member). Insight into moorland management for sheep grazing, grouse shooting and wildlife. Visit to converted barn, restored by expert Andy Singleton of Ecovril Ltd (Business Member of the Yorkshire Dales Society). No dogs. Limited numbers, phone or email Ann Shadrake to book. Meeting point in Coverdale and further details of tour advised on booking.

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Ash tree in parkland

CAMPAIGN • PROTECT • ENJOY

Brief up-to-date news stories from all our Members are always welcome via the website or Face Book. Please contact the YDS Editor for longer articles.



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 see below.

Ann Shadrake – Administrator
The Yorkshire Dales Society
Canal Wharf
Eshton Road
Gargrave
North Yorkshire
BD23 3PN

Please note it would be extremely helpful if you could email ann.shadrake@yds.org.uk when possible rather than the telephone, to facilitate the smooth-running of the YDS office. Phone 01756 749 400.

Information about the Society can be found on www.yds.org.uk

Information about the Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company can be accessed on www.dalesandbowland.com

Membership and Subscription...

Subscriptions will rise in April 2013

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Single | £20 |
| Joint/Family | £28 |
| Single Life membership (Under 60) | £400 |
| Joint Life membership (Under 60) | £550 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Single Life Membership (Over 60) | £300 |
| Joint Life membership (Over 60) | £450 |

Depending on when your renewal falls, you may not see any increase in your membership fee until the very end of 2013.

*Please Note:
Single Retired and Retired Couple Membership ceased 1st April 2012.*

Business Membership £30

www.yds.org.uk

www.facebook.com/YorkshireDalesSociety

