

Yorkshire DALES review




Yorkshire
DALES SOCIETY

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Editor Fleur Speakman

Yorkshire DALES review

AN EXPANDED NATIONAL PARK

A HISTORIC DAY AND A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY

Warmly greeted by a great crowd of well-wishers, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority celebrated in style at Orton on August 1st this year, with a variety of activities for various age groups, as a welcome for an expanded Yorkshire Dales National Park - achieved after six long years. The Park has now officially increased by 24%, with its new areas in Cumbria and Lancashire adding on 417 sq km (161 sq miles) to protected landscape.

Lord Gardiner, Defra's Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, declared: *This is an exceptional achievement, making one of the jewels in the crown of British countryside even bigger and brighter.* Tellingly, he continued: *I want to acknowledge the stewardship of farmers, landowners and countryside managers and the enormous contribution they have made to the landscape we see today.* He pointed out, that the Dales and Lakes National Parks between them attracted a combined 20 million visits a year, providing income for local small businesses, jobs for local people and also much-needed investment in infrastructure. But the gain was not just economic: other likely benefits from national parks were improved mental and physical health, the opportunity to taste and buy some excellent local food and to ensure that havens were created for a variety of plants and animals.

Many people had worked tirelessly to bring about the expanded National Park so that some very special and beautiful landscape could be appreciated and more easily accessed by more people, but at the same time, conserved for future generations. When the YDNP was originally established in 1954, administrative and political concerns caused some very distinctive areas to miss the protection they so richly deserved. Tribute must be paid not just to the two National Parks themselves, that campaigned for so long for this territory, but also to both the Friends of the Lake District who initiated the idea and the Yorkshire Dales Society, by lobbying so consistently and eloquently; YDS members Malcolm Petyt and Colin Speakman particularly deserve our thanks.

As ninety people sat down to an excellent lunch and appropriate speeches of congratulation, it was notable that the local people most affected by the Park expansion had very positive views in the Park's

favour. A pity that some of the media later felt they had to give air time to some professional and ill-informed nay-sayers. Funding was not a major issue; as the 2015 Spending Review had brought the welcome news that: *Funding for national parks has been protected and that additional monies are being made available, so that the Authority could carry out its responsibilities in the extension area.*

Carl Lis, Chairman of the YDNPA, emphasised: *Today is a truly historic day ... but the real work starts now. There is a lot to do to ensure the future growth and vitality of this area and all our objectives... I have been encouraged by the huge enthusiasm that we have received from so many organisations, communities and individuals and I look forward to working together to achieve those objectives.*

Representation on the Park's Board will now be increased by three new members from Eden District Council, City of Lancaster and Lancashire County Council, following a Government consultation on future governance arrangements. The Park had already held several drop-in sessions for members of the public and met with parish council representatives, landowners, farmers and local businesses to explain what they do and how they each might be able to help each other.

The *Yorkshire Dales Review* has also introduced the Park's new expanded territory to our members through its last two issues plus the current issue of the magazine (page 4-5) with a double page spread of text and some scenic photos. We hope that it will encourage people to visit those areas and perhaps stay on to explore further in such places as Orton Fells, the northern Howgills, Wild Boar Fell and Mallerstang.

As Natural England's Liz Newton, Director Landscape, Access & Geodiversity, stated: *For as long as I can remember, this has been referred to as "unfinished business" for Natural England, and today is the culmination of a lot of hard work by many, that will ensure that these special places are given the care and attention they deserve.*

This truly historic and significant event is also the occasion of a fantastic opportunity for the future.

Fleur Speakman

WALKING THE LIMESTONE



Mark with Oscar at Orton Cross

I've done a lot of walking in the Dales, but I have to admit to never having explored the renowned Scars above Orton. The great news of the extension of the National Park to include this area provided me with the incentive to put this right and in February this year I headed for Orton and got my boots on.

Whilst waiting for my walking buddy I had a look around Orton, which Wainwright aptly described as one of Westmorland's loveliest villages. Incidentally, his 'Coast to Coast walk', which I did many moons ago, passes through the village. Orton, established in the 13th century enjoys an idyllic rural location and is blessed with fine amenities, including 'The George Hotel' and 'Kennedy's Chocolate Factory and Coffee House'. All Saints church is built on higher ground in the village and its imposing 16th century white tower can be seen from almost anywhere in the surrounding countryside.

Our walk took us eastwards from the village and up a gentle climb to Scar Side, passing an old lime kiln and onto the open limestone countryside with sheep bitten grass and the odd lonely and wizened hawthorn. A finger post on the Public Bridleway indicating 'Access to Monument', pointed us towards our first objective, which was clearly visible at the top of a steepish climb. The Beacon Hill monument was erected on 21st June 1887 and its inscription reads: *'This ancient beacon fire was here kindled to commemorate the jubilee year of the beneficent reign of her gracious majesty Victoria queen and empress'*. The views from this vantage point are stunning and we were fortunate enough, given low cloud, to be able to admire the northern Pennines, Mallerstang, and the magnificent Howgills, the latter which will also be part of the extended National Park (see Malcolm Petyt's article in the Summer 2016 Review).

We were intrigued by the mention of the nearby 'Thunder Stone' on the OS map and set off to find it. Orton and Great Asby Scars are designated as open access with only a few designated paths, so it is fun to wander about at will. This is my way of saying that it took us a while to find the aforementioned stone, which, if I'm honest, was a little underwhelming! It is a modestly sized granite glacial erratic which the dry stone wallers of the time had conveniently, and sensibly, incorporated into their wall.

We then made for the amazing limestone pavements in the National Nature reserve of Great Asby Scar. The welcome board to the reserve puts it well when it says: 'This large expanse of limestone pavement and heath present a landscape that offers rare chances of experiencing upland wilderness'. It really is a fascinating, other worldly, landscape and we had the place to ourselves.



Orton Scar limestone pavement and Orton Cross

PAVEMENTS OVER ORTON

These limestone pavements were formed from rock laid down in a warm shallow sea some 350 million years ago. During the last ice age some 12,000 years ago, the rock was scoured by a thick ice sheet, which after melting, left behind a layer of glacial debris. Water filtering through the debris progressively eroded the deep fissures (grikes)* between the hard upstanding limestone blocks (clints), and eventually washed most of the debris away. Limestone pavements are nationally rare and have been extensively damaged in the past by removal for garden rockery stone. Great Asby Scar contains some of the best remaining intact examples in Britain.

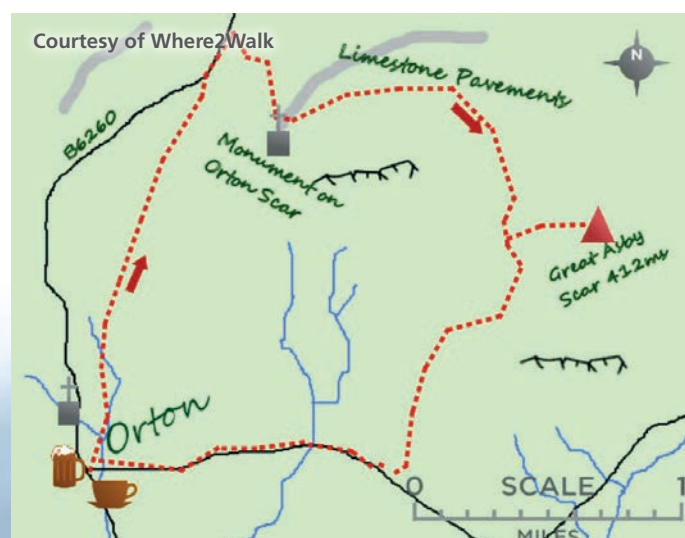
Given that we visited on a rather bleak winter's day, there was not much evidence of the rich flora that can be seen here in the warmer months. The limestone pavement is home to rarities such as angular Solomon's-seal, dark red helleborine, bloody crane's-bill, rigid buckler fern and limestone fern. On top of the limestone pavement you can find other specialities including bird's-foot sedge, autumn gentian and

salad burnet. Dwarfed trees dot the limestone landscape, their growth stunted by the rock itself and the very dry conditions found here. Part of the reserve is managed as a non-intervention area where no grazing is carried out, allowing such growth. There is also an abundance of bird and invertebrate life in the area. We thought we heard the guttural croak of ravens though didn't, unfortunately, spot any.

We then headed south along the Dales High Way and back through the pavements, bagging the trig point at Powson Knott, before returning to Orton for a pint by the log fire in the George Hotel to reflect on our 12 mile, six hour walk and agreed, that we would be returning to this special area in future. Oh, and I bought a very nice bar of chocolate from Kennedy's before heading for home.

Mark Corner

** grikes can also be spelled as grykes.*



Drystone Wall built around the 'Thunder Stone'





National Trust

The present

The National Trust has two large properties in the centre of the Yorkshire Dales, at Malham Tarn and in Upper Wharfedale, which together cover over 8,000 hectares. They are beautiful, dramatic and much loved areas with a fascinating history and a rich ecology. However, aspects of human exploitation of the land over the centuries, whilst creating some stunning landscapes, have also impoverished nature and the environment.

The whole National Park has a remarkably low cover of native trees and shrubs (around 1%) and many areas of relatively uniform moorland or grassland. Phases of more intensive farming, forestry and grouse moor management have also had serious impacts on the blanket bog peatlands, on soils and on the 'hydrology' – releasing global warming gases and adding to the potential for increased downstream flooding.

The Trust's tenant farmers, who carry out the lion's share of the land management, have worked closely with us and organisations like Natural England over recent decades to conserve and enhance the quality of habitats and species. Much has been achieved, but it has become clear to us that further action is required to create a more natural, diverse and resilient countryside fit for the challenges of climate change. This is a beautiful area but it could be so much better!

WORKING TOWARDS MORE NATURAL LANDSCAPES IN THE DALES

The vision

We believe we can look to a future that gives us the best of everything! We want thriving wildlife, fantastic views, fascinating archaeology and cultural histories - an environment that captures carbon, slows water flows and conserves soils, is an inspiring place to visit, has lively local communities and that retains viable farm businesses.

Achieving this will take time and require cooperation and openness to change. Some of the changes will need trialling and developing, but in summary we are looking at low-input farming systems working across landscapes with more trees and shrubs (in the right places) and restored peatlands and wetlands. We want our tenant farmers to be well supported for producing a truly excellent environment, alongside very high quality beef and lamb, albeit at reduced quantities.

Starting change

We launched the Yorkshire Dales Appeal in 2013, mainly to National Trust members, to help us tackle the changes required and were delighted with the response. The appeal raised well over £300,000 and was accompanied by overwhelmingly supportive comments. With other grants, we now have three major projects up and running at a cost of over £700,000.

The aim of these initial projects is to create areas of more natural, diverse and robust countryside, at the same time as developing a new and constructive partnership with our tenant farmers.

More diverse, varied habitats including areas of heath, trees, shrubs and wetland will support a greater variety of flora and fauna and will better allow for species to move into and through the landscape with a changing climate. Instead of losing carbon from eroding peatlands, we expect carbon to be captured and stored in healthy bogs, woods and soils. The more natural wetland systems will slow the flow of water from the hills and hopefully play a part in reducing downstream flood peaks. In addition, we believe these changes will create an even more beautiful landscape and, that we will be able to enhance the conservation and interpretation of important cultural and historic features across the properties.

Two Volunteers planting Hawthorn and Hazel within grykes on a section of limestone pavement'



Volunteers surveying erosion above a large peat cliff

Work started on the ground last year and over the next two years our plans are to have completed the following key tasks:

- 1. The planting of over 100,000 trees and shrubs to create new areas of native wood pasture and scrub.** The tree planting is focussed on the upland gills at Darnbrook within the Malham estate and near Yockenthwaite in Upper Wharfedale. In addition we are planting shrubs like hawthorn and hazel in and around areas of limestone scar and pavement across Malham Moor. [The Malham work is supported by a major grant from WREN's FCC Biodiversity Action Fund from funds donated by FCC Environment through the Landfill Communities Fund.]
- 2. Completing work to restore the condition of the blanket bog across the Trust's land in the Dales (>3,500 hectares of bog).** Drains on the bogs were blocked some years ago and no burning or damaging levels of grazing have been permitted since the Trust acquired the land. The final phases of peatland restoration involve working on (reprofiling) the eroding 'peat hags' and re-vegetating any small areas of bare peat. [The tree planting and peatland work in Upper Wharfedale is supported by Countryside Stewardship agreements administered by Natural England.]

- 3. Developing result-based agreements with our tenant farmers.** We are in the process of early discussions with a number of tenant farmers, with the objective of trialling another way of delivering environmental improvements. The intention is to identify the main components of a healthy natural environment in a given area and to design payment options for farmers that depend entirely on the environmental outcomes they deliver – rather than on their completion of management tasks. The payments would be designed using assumptions about how the outcomes are likely to be achieved, but payments would be made based on the outcomes delivered in practice, or indicators of progress towards those outcomes. The approach, and in particular the monitoring, will be kept as simple as possible. We will involve ecologists, farmers and rural surveyors in the design of the payment options in order to identify locally appropriate ecological outcomes, to achieve practical option design and to ensure consistency in approach and payments across areas.

Peter Welsh
(National Trust Ecologist, Yorkshire Dales)

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If you would like to make a donation to help with our work in the Yorkshire Dales, please use the link below.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/malham-tarn-estate/features/donate-to-the-yorkshire-dales-appeal

RECENT NATIONAL TRUST NEWS

As part of its new on-going vision for land management in the Yorkshire Dales, the National Trust have recently reintroduced around 100 specially bred water voles, (a species declining by almost 90 per cent), to Malham Tarn. The voles will play an important part in the ecosystem, by grazing and burrowing into riverbank areas, thus providing space for rare plants to grow. They will also act as a food source for such species as barn owls and otters. It is planned to release a further 100 in the fen area of the tarn in June next year.



See water vole photo on back cover, showing species reintroduced at Malham Tarn.



THE SOCIETY'S FIRST PATRON

Trustees have invited Alastair Humphreys, an adventurer and author who grew up in the Dales, to be the Society's first Patron. This new role is designed to enable people who have a high profile in the media or public life to offer support or advice to the Society when requested. Mark Corner met Alastair following an inspirational talk he gave at Settle early in 2016 about his unusual and exciting career.

Mark explains: Alastair Humphreys is an adventurer, blogger, author and motivational speaker. As well as expeditions such as cycling across the world, walking across India and rowing the Atlantic, Alastair was named as a National Geographic Adventurer of the Year for his pioneering work on the concept of micro-adventures: trying to encourage people to get outside, get out of their comfort zone, go somewhere they've never been that is close to home, cheap, simple, short, and yet very effective. Alastair has written eight books about his adventures. What's more, Alastair is a young Dalesman with family in Airedale, though he now lives in London.

Alastair's latest adventure (summer 2016), is inspired by Laurie Lee's book *As I Walked Out One Midsummer's Morning*, which tells of Lee's walk through Spain in the mid 1930s. Lee literally sang for his supper, by playing the violin and living simply along the way. To attempt to recreate this journey in the 21st century, Alastair learned to play the violin – as he said in his blog before setting out: I have never played music in front of an audience, and it is one of my deepest fears... But is not the essence of adventure to seek out that which scares you? To risk failure and uncertainty? I will not carry the safety net of spare money or credit cards: it is the violin or bust.

We hope to hear more about inspiring endeavour and Alastair's unique adventuring spirit, in a future issue of the Review. You can watch videos of some of his talks at his website www.alastairhumphreys.com



Diggers have been working along the eroding peat edges and peeling back the vegetation above, reprofiling the eroding peat edge and then folding back the blanket bog vegetation to completely cover the exposed peat.

An ambitious landscape scale project within the heart of the Yorkshire Dales National Park will be launched this autumn. Led by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust, a partnership of organisations, businesses, individuals and groups have come together with the sole aim of improving the environment of Wensleydale and its tributary dales for the benefit of people and nature.

The initial inspiration for the project was an idea by local naturalist, Deborah Millward, who witnessed the landscape changing over the years and was concerned that the special identity of this part of the National Park was being lost. Her original vision focused on improving water quality, while supporting dairy farming, and linking ice-age geological sites like waterfalls and drumlins via a new walking trail. Since then, the project has grown into an all encompassing catchment project focusing on the themes of farming, water, nature, history and tourism.

One of the first things our partnership undertook was a study of the catchment to highlight what is valuable now and the threats to its special character. We found that land management practices have intensified and tourist numbers increased. These developments, along with climate change, have put pressure on the landscape including loss of historic features like field barns, fragmentation of habitats and changes in grassland management. Hay meadows have been converted to silage production and there is an increased risk of diffuse pollution from a range of sources. These issues are not new, but the speed and scale of change is.

Engagement with the farming community and local inhabitants through a series of meetings in 2015 and 2016 raised more issues, but importantly a number of opportunities and solutions. These have been packed into the Project Catchment Plan together with a 25 year vision and a series of actions aimed at improving water quality, reducing flood risk, supporting sustainable soils and farming, connecting people with nature, protecting the historic environment and helping both visitors and inhabitants to better understand the environmental pressures Wensleydale faces. This plan will be launched in the autumn and work will start on delivering on these actions straight away.

Farming and the River Ure are at the heart of the project and will be a focal point for action. With funding from Natural England, the partnership commissioned Leeds University to carry out a research project on flood risk management and soil compaction. The findings of the research showed how much compaction upland soils have suffered in recent decades and confirmed the need to look after them to reduce surface run-off and loss of nutrients and make them more resilient to drought.

A great deal of attention has recently been focused on Natural Flood Management. The basic idea is very simple – to slow the flow of water in the uplands during storms, so that streams and rivers can cope without spilling their banks. Tree planting, establishing becksides buffers with rougher vegetation to slow and hold water and improving soils, are all simple measures that any landowner can do, but a more planned approach is needed if we want to use some of the more technical solutions, including small leaky dams designed to hold back water for a few hours to allow the flood peak to pass.

The WENSLEYDALE PROJECT

Yore Past, Ure Future

Wensleydale, photo YDNPA



Fawcett Waterfall, Bishopdale,
photo YDRT

Our partnership is helping with this, in cooperation with regional Universities, and is also providing practical advice to farmers who have shown a lot of interest in using some of these methods.

Our work is not going to solve all of the flooding problems in York and Leeds overnight, but it will help and can also offer great benefits for wildlife, amenity and landscape – something that can't normally be said for traditional flood protection measures.

We're really proud of what we have achieved so far – and look forward to seeing more people involved with us in looking after this wonderful place.

Helen Keep

More information about the project is available by emailing:

Rita Mercer on
rita.mercer@yorkshiredalesrivertrust.com

or Helen Keep on
helen.keep@yorkshiredales.org.uk

CAPTURING THE PAST off to a good start

In the winter edition of the Review, Mark Corner, Chairman of YDS, described how the Society is leading on an exciting project to identify and preserve collections of historical material in the parishes around Ingleborough, and make them available to the public. The project, called Capturing the Past, is part of the Stories in Stone programme, led by the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

A project team was set up including Professor Angus Winchester of Lancaster University, Wilf Fenten a past member of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Dr Mike Slater who, with others, has completed extensive work on historic local wills, Ian Fleming and Anne Webster. Two members of staff at North Yorkshire County Record Office are providing professional guidance, whilst Nancy Stedman, a Trustee of YDS, is overseeing the project and ensuring that it continues long after the initial funding from HLF.

Work began in February to locate vulnerable collections and contact their owners or keepers. From an initial list of around 28 archives of varying sizes, 10 have been identified as suitable and available for further work. These range from the extensive collection of mainly photographic material held by Horton Local History Group to over a thousand maps in need of cataloguing, digitising and conserving. Recently a further extensive local archive has been included - the product of many years' work by a group of passionate local volunteers.

The main outcome of the project over the next two years will be the cataloguing and digitising of material, and the creation of a website and searchable catalogue with links to other on-line resources such as North Craven Heritage Trust and the County archive.

The team has now bought professional quality digitising equipment including a hi-definition camera and stand, an overhead document scanner, a slide and negative scanner and much else. Ownership of this equipment is being passed to YDS, so that work to digitise further material of interest in the Dales can continue.

A team of volunteers is being recruited to help with cataloguing, digitising and up loading material to the new website. If any reader is interested in becoming involved, then the team may be contacted at ctp.archives@outlook.com. You don't need to be computer literate! as there is much work to do: from sorting and evaluating material, photographing it, entering details in the catalogue, as well as uploading material and developing the website.

We are in the process of securing accommodation at the Folly in Settle, sharing rooms with the Settle and Carlisle Railway Trust. This will enable us to organise drop-in events where members of the public can bring along historic documents for digitising, so that they too may be added to the catalogue and website. We are arranging training events for our volunteers to familiarise them with the workings of the new on-line catalogue and the website, and how to deal with issues of copyright and data protection. The accommodation will provide the project with a base where most of the digitising work can take place.

However, some material is too fragile to be moved around so digitising equipment has been bought that will enable easy transportation to wherever the material is.

The website is being developed for us by experts who have built over 200 similar community archiving sites. The aim is to ensure that the site is easy to use, adapts automatically to the device being used to access it and has a fresh, uncluttered look. We shall be able to build exhibitions on the site, pulling in material from the catalogue that has relevance to specific themes or events. This will keep the site dynamic and encourage people to keep coming back. It may also be possible for registered users to upload their own materials.

Work will begin in earnest in September and we hope to have both the website and catalogue live by the time of the YDS AGM in late September, with enough material loaded to offer a good representation of how the site will look when completed -and something exciting to show those of you attending the AGM.

Looking much further ahead, the plan is for the project to provide a model that can be progressively rolled out across the Dales in future years. There is funding within the project plan to ensure a legacy, with a website that will continue to be maintained, updated and expanded. This will both raise the profile of YDS and give purpose to our commitment to help more people to find out about this stunning landscape and its long human history.

Ian Fleming, Team Leader, Capturing the Past

A late member of the Society, Mr Carl Surr Newton, kindly left the Society an unconditional legacy gift last year. Mr Newton had a great fondness for the Ingleborough area. This article is dedicated to his memory.

Ian Fleming

35th ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHT

A VISIT TO NETHERGILL ECO FARM

It is not everyone who is not only truly passionate about what they do, but are also excellent communicators.

Farming for Fiona and Chris Clark is a twin trajectory of business and landscape, with three inter-dependent categories of Food, Farming and the Environment - needing to be in balance.

The couple met at agricultural college, both determined to own and run their own farm one day, and put their own stamp on it; although neither of them had a farming background. Some varied experience in animal husbandry and farm management, were followed by Chris taking a business course and Fiona a course in graphic design; all in furtherance of their original goal of farm ownership. By 2005, after a long search, a Dales hill farm, Nethergill, seemed to be the ideal spot in which to practise and develop their particular philosophy of conservation and sustainability.

Ten years later Nethergill eco farm was the winner of the Green Tourism Award. The farm of about 400 acres has a beautiful setting and a somewhat isolated position on the upper reaches of the River Wharfe in Langstrothdale. The Clarks focussed on some hardy rare breed White Shorthorn cattle and some hardy Whitefaced Woodland and Dalesbred sheep; making some controversial decisions by reducing their stock. But they found themselves in a "win-win" situation. Stocking numbers are dictated by the amount of animal fodder available and the amount of meat that can be sold. With a short growing season (155 inches annual rainfall) for the animal feed, the Clarks chose to reduce their sheep to 150, with 30 breeding ewes, in the interests of less



Nethergill, photo Tim Hancock

bacterial infection and a lower mortality rate; interestingly it was also more economically viable. An Open Gate policy for both cattle and sheep allows the animals to decide when and where they prefer to feed. These farm animals give a quality meat product, which can be sampled by those who use the stylish self catering accommodation, but want a holiday from their kitchen. In addition, a constant stream of Dales Way walkers are most appreciative of the facilities at the farm's field centre.

Education is something Chris and Fiona feel strongly about, though younger school groups are finding the distance for a day visit a little too challenging. Smaller and older educational groups have been much enthused by what they saw, and the Clarks are seeking other ways through modern technology to communicate and engage with the younger generation. They would also like to establish a Farm Reserve which would attract visitors to the wildlife and the whole ethos of the farm. This is still at an early stage, but could develop in the future.

The farm now has 35,000 native species trees such as Scots pine, alder, willow with some juniper and holly on the outer fringes. When the couple originally consulted the authorities as to where to plant their trees, there seemed to be no consensus as to the best planting areas. Chris is very open about their mistakes. They discovered that trees refused to grow in one area due to the boggy ground covered in sphagnum moss, though the moss actually conditions the soil. It is also a rare habitat. Yet nearby where the terrain differs, there is a substantial patch of well-grown woodland, with bilberries and some heather. The trees are a haven for red squirrels and various birds.

Erosion from Oughtershaw Beck, which runs through the farmland, is ever-present. In one area the bank had already been rebuilt twice to little effect. More recently it was left untreated and has formed a small ox-bow lake. Where erosion again has been a greater problem and threatened to destabilise a crucial section by the swift flowing water, groups of willows planted along the edge have proved to be most effective.

The summer wild flower meadows were a feast for the eye, particularly where a quantity of yellow rattle, a partial parasite which reduces the vigour of meadow grasses, encourages the growth of luxuriant meadows. At Nethergill there is plenty of opportunity to study a wide variety of birds in the large and sturdy bird hide, constructed of recycled plastic bags by a Yorkshire social enterprise group: three species



Nethergill Hay meadow, photo Tim Hancock

of owl, hen harriers, crossbills, curlew and many more, as well as various birds of prey such as merlin and the occasional peregrine and sparrow-hawk visit the site. The well-equipped field centre has a webcam showing the activities of some red squirrels among the trees, and unexpectedly, an otter has also been sighted at times in the stream.

Conservation and sustainability are put into practice with solar panels, while the biomass boiler uses locally sourced logs for heating and hot water for the whole farm. Grey water (from showers, washings machines and the like) is used where water purity is not an issue. Pure drinking water of course comes from an entirely separate source.

A decision was made to organise some grip blocking on the farm's fell land - which can help restore natural drainage patterns, encourage re-vegetation, reduce erosion and aid carbon catchment. These small dam-like structures also encourage specialist plant species and invertebrate numbers, which provide a good food source for various bird species.

Chris explained that 90% of their income comes from the farm, and though at present he has a small amount of consultancy work, he plans soon to concentrate exclusively on running the farm. There is no need to maintain large scale farm equipment, which might have only occasional use. On one occasion, he remembers, a heavy digger used for drainage purposes, almost sank without trace in boggy ground and was very difficult to recover. He keeps a small tractor which is entirely adequate for their needs and would be happy to lend this out to any farming neighbour. *That favour will definitely be returned. You are helping each other and it helps to keep costs down if you co-operate.*

What of the future of farming in such an area? Chris suggests that the government might consider that farming land above 200 metres is too marginal to be of value. He believes that there will probably be no agricultural

payments in the future, but there may be environmental ones. *Farmers need to make their margins, but not rely on support.* Farmers should be pro-active, he believes: *And let the government know what options they mean to put forward, rather than wait for the government to take the initiative.*

Realising that transport is often an issue for a number of people, Chris initiated the idea of the six days a week, Monday to Saturday community bus, the Venturer, with a route from Grassington to Buckden and return. Peter Vetch, its highly able manager, heads a dedicated team who all share in its present success. More recently Chris was elected as a committee member for the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, giving him another way of helping the wider community and perhaps trying to influence some crucial decision making in the Dales. Fiona has had a number of commissions for her very charming animal and wildlife paintings, which decorate the raised area of the field studies centre. *I was inspired to take up painting in the first place by what I saw all around me here.*

The couple are committed to demonstrating that a farm on marginal land can be economically viable and sustainable. Their hope is that others within the Dales will be interested in what they have tried to create and follow their lead. The Yorkshire Dales Society group of 27 members on July 16th had a highly instructive, inspiring and most fascinating day. Admiration was expressed for the dedication, energy and initiatives that had made Nethergill what it is today. The Society sends its most appreciative thanks to Chris and Fiona, (who are Yorkshire Dales Society Business Members), for giving them all such a very special and memorable day.

Fleur Speakman

Stoat, painting by Fiona Clark



WHAT WILL BREXIT MEAN FOR THE YORKSHIRE DALES?

The Yorkshire Dales Society prides itself, quite rightly, on being a strictly non party-political organisation. It is an organisation where people of different political views, faiths, incomes and backgrounds can meet on a warm and friendly basis, sharing a love of the Yorkshire Dales.

Few events in recent British history have been as divisive as the recent EU Referendum. But the decision has been taken. In some cases, it could take years for the wounds to heal between Leavers and Remainers. It will also take years - perhaps a generation - for us to fully understand what that ugly word "Brexit" will actually mean for the Yorkshire Dales.

A jittery stock market and fall in the value of the pound may be temporary phenomena; nothing worries domestic and foreign investors more than uncertainty. Wild claims and counter-claims

from those on either side of the great divide are now seen as so much political hot air. Compromise and even fudge may now be a more realistic and rational option than ideology and confrontation.

But when the decisions are finally taken to sign Article 50 to leave the EU, there will be problems for many people, including the hill farmers who contribute so much to the landscape we cherish. UK agriculture currently relies heavily on financial support via the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). In 2015 support from Brussels for UK farming amounted to £3.1bn. Average income of farmers was just £19,471 but three quarters of this came from the EU. Many farmers suggest that it is not farmers who are being subsidised, but consumers, in that EU support for agriculture means cheaper food on supermarket shelves.

It has been suggested that it will simply be a matter of switching money that the UK sends to the EU to support our own farming industry. But there is no guarantee that levels will be as generous as they are via the CAP, though many people also suggest that large CAP grants to wealthy farmers and landowners in the grain belts of East Anglia are overdue for reform. But for hill farmers of the Dales, such support is essential, wherever it comes from.

A wider concern is that parts of the UK financial industry have indicated that they may transfer some or all of their operations together with their tax contributions to Frankfurt, Paris or even Dublin, in order to remain within EU free trade markets, with serious loss of jobs and tax revenues. At least one UK major car manufacturer, Ford, that imports 60% of its parts from within the EU, is also considering moving into a country within the EU to avoid tariff barriers. Will a new British Government, facing increasing financial pressure, possible tax rises and further expenditure cuts, see Dales farmers, as a priority for ever scarcer public sector funds? What happens to the many EU



The Northern Dalesman 830 bus, star of the recently highly acclaimed BBC4 All Aboard The Country Bus "slow travel" documentary, photographed near Ribbleshead viaduct. DalesBus and the Settle-Carlisle line could be vitally important ways of encouraging more visitors to the Dales in future years, without destroying the environment.

Photo by John Carey

funded Environmental Stewardship payments, which have done so much to help maintain barns, walls, and the flower-rich meadows of the Dales, as well as supporting small farming businesses?

A significant percentage of what is produced on our farms – including high quality beef and lamb - is exported into neighbouring EU countries and has to be competitive on both quality and price. New tariff barriers with our main trading partners could be a serious handicap.

Britain produces around 60% of its own food, the rest coming from abroad. But only 15% of fresh fruit and 55% of vegetables we consume are grown in Britain. Restrictions on workers from East Europe may create severe labour shortages, as few British people want to take on hard, seasonal labour of this nature, even if pay was better. If farmers and food processors in fruit and vegetable growing areas can't get workers, they may be tempted to sell up and move to countries within the EU where land and labour is cheap, resulting in more imports, and ultimately higher food prices and higher inflation. It also means as a nation we would become relatively poorer.

It is easy to mock EU bureaucracy. But the Yorkshire Dales National Park has benefited enormously from EU environmental laws and Directives. Nature takes no notice of artificial national boundaries. Migrating birds and mammals need sanctuary in all the lands they cross. The EU Habitats Directive, which created Special Conservation Areas to protect wildlife, has made a huge difference to our Continent. Before the various Directives, around 15% of protected sites in Europe every year were being destroyed – this is now down to less than 1%.

For the tourism industry in the Dales, BREXIT could be a two edged sword. Many Dales accommodation providers and caterers rely heavily on young Spanish, Polish, Lithuanian workers as cooks, bar staff and waiters. Restriction of freedom of movement could create labour shortages and higher costs, causing some businesses to close.

But the other side of the coin is that overseas holidays could become more expensive for British people. "Staycation" holidays in Wharfedale rather than the Costa Brava could be a welcome boost, especially for camp and caravan site owners. Equally, the Yorkshire Dales will become a more attractive destination for visitors from Europe and America if their euro or dollar buys more. We must ensure that leaving the EU does not make us any less welcoming to our Continental neighbours, with whom we share huge bonds of friendship, history and common European culture. We are all Europeans.

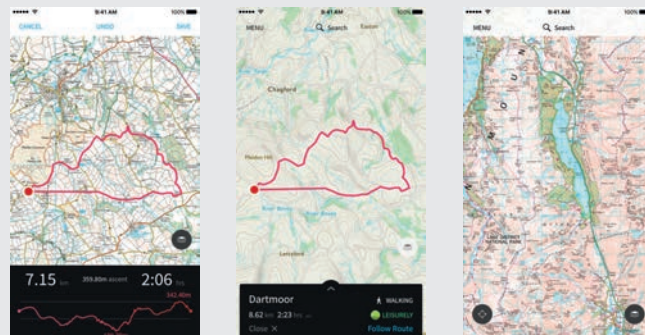
If Britain becomes a poorer, less affluent country as a result of leaving the EU, then this might encourage greater self-sufficiency. More expensive food in the shops is an incentive to grow more food ourselves, perhaps seeking ways of making marginal hill country more productive, with new ways of achieving sustainable farming and localism, using more locally generated green energy instead of fossil fuels.

Brexit is now a reality. What divided the country, now needs to unite us. It is time for new, perhaps radical thinking about the future. Whether we are farmers or consumers, whether of food or countryside, finding ways to make Brexit work to our advantage in the Yorkshire Dales is the new imperative.

Colin Speakman



OS MAPS A VERY USEFUL APP



What is OS Maps?

OS Maps work through your browser or mobile device to help you plan your next outdoor activity. You can view high definition maps and aerial imagery, plot a route and print your map, or get GPS guidance while en route.

A 12 month subscription gives you unlimited access to standard, Aerial, OS Explorer and OS Landranger Maps, unlimited printing and over 400,000 ready-made routes from other OS Map users, Good Pub Guide, Country Walking and Trail Magazine. You can also plan your own walking, cycling and running routes and then share them with friends or with the wider community.

You can use your subscription with the OS Maps App to download any section of your iOS (Apple) or Android device for use outdoors, even without a data connection. View your location, planned route or record your travels with the built-in GPS functions.

...or so the marketing material states. But does it work?

In short, it does everything it is supposed to, and even my battery-hungry iPhone 4S will run all day.

I suggest that you visit www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop/os-maps-online for a full description of the product and the current costs. For example, a 12 month subscription is from £19.99. There is also lots of 'Help' on the website. There is an App OSX (iPad, iPhone) and Android. You can use it on your Mac or PC desktop.

There is a guest mode and also a 7 day free trial of the full product. The Premium Edition has some special features for use within National Parks as well as an offline mode, so you don't need an active internet connection, as maps you specify, are stored on your portable device.

I found it easy to plan a walk from Malham and to use the app to check my location. I suggest you sign up for a free trial and see if you find it suits your needs.

Graham Yule



HELP US KEEP THE YORKSHIRE DALES SPECIAL AND VIBRANT THROUGH A LEGACY GIFT

In recent years the Society has drawn on its reserves in order to fund more campaigning work and more activities, including running a professional office base. With the expansion of the Yorkshire Dales National Park by nearly 25% this year, and continued threats to national parks, this charitable work will undoubtedly need to grow further. These established reserves (invested in secure fixed term bonds with UK institutions) have been built up over many years from legacy gifts, large and small. Could you consider investing in the future of the Yorkshire Dales by making a gift to the Yorkshire Dales Society in your Will?

There are very strict rules that charities must follow when raising the topic of legacy gifts – to ensure that people are not exposed to undue influence. Charities must always recommend that professional legal advice is sought, for example from a solicitor.

If you would like to support the Society's work with a gift in your Will, you could take advantage of the two annual free Will writing campaigns running again this autumn. Participating solicitors offer a free Will writing (or updating) service.

Free Wills Month starts on 3 October 2016 and is solely for people of or over 55 years old – see www.freewillsmoonh.org.uk

Will Aid Month runs during November 2016 and is open to anyone – you can find a participating solicitor via a postcode search on their website at www.willaid.org.uk Both schemes encourage a modest charitable donation in place of the legal fee and their websites offer lots of will writing advice.

I can send you a copy of the will writing guidance and details of these national campaigns - just contact me via the details on the back cover.

During the last financial year (2015-2016) we received unrestricted gifts in wills of £5,000 (Dr Palferman); £8,125.78 (Miss JHF Green); £1,000 (Clifford Barstow) and £3,028.89 (Carl Surr Newton). We also received a number of donations from collections at funerals and memorial services.

If you chose to support a charity with a gift in your Will, after taking care of the needs of family and friends, please include the Yorkshire Dales Society. Your solicitor will need our formal name, address and charity

number (see back cover). A legacy gift of any size could make a real difference to keeping the Dales vibrant and special for years to come, and help the Society plan for the future with confidence.

Gift Membership for Christmas

As Christmas approaches, you may be wondering what on earth to give those friends and relations who already have everything they need. For something they will really value and appreciate, you could choose to give a Gift Membership of the Yorkshire Dales Society. The recipient will receive all the benefits of Membership. Gift Membership is at normal subscription rates, but runs for 15 months as a special offer. When renewal is due, we hope Gift Members will consider joining the Society in their own right. Please photocopy or cut out the form below, or download it from the website or phone me for a form. Thank you to Members who have bought Gift Membership over the last year.

Ann Shadrake



CHRISTMAS MEMBERSHIP

A Special Gift for Christmas

Annual Membership of the Yorkshire Dales Society at a Gift rate of 15 months for the price of 12 months: a gift card with your personal message and the current Review.

Forms can be photocopied as many times as you wish.

Type of Gift Membership:

Single: £23 ☐

Joint/Family: £32 ☐

Please tick appropriate box

I/We enclose a cheque made payable to

Yorkshire Dales Society: ☐

Please post to:

**Yorkshire Dales Society
Canal Wharf, Eshton Road
Gargrave, North Yorkshire BD23 3PN**

Name of Gift Member(s):

Your Name(s):

Their Address:

Your Address:

Their Postcode:

Your Postcode:

Message for Card:

Please send your completed form and cheque at least 2 weeks before the last Christmas posting date (2nd class).

Hyperfast in the Dales

Ireby Broadband volunteers hard at work



Everyone who lives in or near the Yorkshire Dales is very fortunate to have such wonderful countryside villages and communities. But as with any remote village location, there are occasional drawbacks, especially with regard to services. In times gone by, this just meant poor public transport and long distances to shops, schools and the doctor's surgery. The advent of the internet revolution has changed lifestyles for all those lucky enough to have decent connections, not just for leisure, but also for shopping, school homework and business. Once again, however, rural communities are in danger of missing out with old fashioned copper telephone connections, sometimes giving speeds of only a fraction of a Megabit per second. Such is the need for good internet speeds nowadays,

that potential property buyers are ranking broadband speeds as one of the key criteria for house selection.

Fortunately, there is a solution on the horizon, and in some cases, already in place for rural communities. Broadband for the Rural North (B4RN) is a community benefit society, which offers hyperfast broadband with a totally new and dedicated fibre optic network, brought all the way to the property, so there is no need for any copper telephone line at all. The B4RN network is built by community volunteers, who design the route, get way-leave permissions from landowners, raise the relatively small amounts of capital needed, and then dig and lay the ducting into the ground, usually over a distance of several kilometres, crossing fields, roads and rivers to and round their village. Once the ducting is in place, the fibre is connected to the house by B4RN professionals, and Eureka, broadband speeds of up to 1000 Megabit per second can be achieved with unlimited usage! Telephone services can then be added from one of several providers.

The B4RN network is ever expanding into the Yorkshire Dales, with a recent installation completed by volunteers into the villages of Leck, Ireby and Masongill on the western border of the Park. The network is set to expand around Ingletton, Casterton, and up the valley to Dent. For more information see www.b4rn.org.uk

Now living in the Dales can have another advantage – the latest broadband currently available anywhere in the world, helping to keep our communities alive. Look out for a Fibre To Property network coming in your direction, such as B4RN. Then it's up to the community to make it happen.

Tim Hancock B4RN Volunteer, Ireby

NEW YDS BUSINESS MEMBERS

The Racehorses Hotel - The Racehorses Hotel, Kettlewell is an independently run 11th century country inn, with thirteen en-suite bedrooms with beautiful views of either the river Wharfe or surrounding hills. The hotel has recently been extensively refurbished, its bedrooms include colour television and tea and coffee making facilities. Two comfortable bar rooms and two large dining areas, both with real fires can also be used for small and medium functions.
www.racehorseshotel.co.uk

Broadrake Bunkbarn - Situated in the Yorkshire Dales at the foot of Whernside, with long distance views of Ribbleshead, Ingleborough and Whernside. There is a superb range of local walks. Accommodation for 20 is in 5 ground floor bedrooms, with original beams making a lovely feature in the upstairs open plan space, with a good kitchen and dining area, complete with extending tables and a comfy seating area, with the bonus of stunning views of Whernside. Craft workshops can be hosted upstairs or the space can be booked as a mid-week day-time venue.
www.broadrake.co.uk

L.T. Locksmith & Security - LT Locksmiths offer a local, reliable and trustworthy locksmith service from their base in Ingletton across North Yorkshire, Cumbria and Lancashire. Their on call service 24/7 is without call-out fee, and a mobile key cutting service is available. Domestic services include emergency lock out, non destructive entry, lock replacement, window security film; as well as destructive entry if you lock yourself out of your car, and contract and commercial services.
www.locksmiths.co.uk



An Act of Faith

Parcevall Hall Gardens Autumn,
photo Enid Pyrah

You might think that it would take a lot of self-belief to set about transforming a derelict sixteenth-century farmstead on a bleak and windswept fellside into a spacious country house surrounded by 24 acres of gardens. But you would be wrong. Sir William Milner was a shy, sensitive and retiring man, more at home knitting socks in his massive four-poster bed or playing the harp than engaging in the sporting pastimes of a typical early twentieth-century country gentleman. Yet the strong Anglo-Catholic faith of the eighth Baronet of Nun Appleton was to inspire him to create the spectacular grounds of Parcevall Hall, near Appletreewick in Wharfedale, which are still providing spiritual refreshment to visitors almost a century after work began in 1927.

It's easy to focus on the detail of your immediate surroundings as you tour the gardens. There is the little cascade below the woodland tarn, fringed by cow parsley and water mint. There are the formal rose beds, sheltered from the elements by high yew hedges. And there is the orchard, where 40 different varieties of apple thrive despite the altitude and harsh northern climate.

But look up from the large open space to the south of the house and you can see that the terraces below it are laid out in a cruciform arrangement. At the centre is a circular pool, symbolising Jesus's promise of the water of life in John's gospel, and the borders at the base of the cross are planted with red and purple flowers, evocative of the blood of Christ.

Yet Sir William was also visionary in the way that he worked with nature, incorporating landscape features into the garden design. The most striking example is the surprise view of the heather-clad slopes and rocky outcrops of Simon's Seat rearing up to the east as you enter the upper terrace through a gateway from the hall's outer courtyard. And if you climb up above Silver Wood and follow the clifftop walk to the highest point of the gardens, you find yourself gazing down at the spectacular mouth of the Troller's Gill ravine.

The underlying geology of Parcevall Hall was also harnessed to create a series of 'set pieces', with Sir William's hybrid rhododendrons thriving on the acidic soils overlying the gritstone of the lower slopes, while other species flourish in the alkaline conditions created by the limestone bedrock above the house. Here topsoil was removed to create a sheltered rock garden planted with alpine and perennials, many of which were provided by the famous botanist and globe-trotting collector, Reginald Farrer of Ingleborough Hall, Clapham.

The lessons learned in designing the grounds of Parcevall Hall stood Sir William in good stead when he became a founding member and second Honorary Director of the Northern Horticultural Society. He went on to work closely with the late Geoffrey Smith on the development of RHS Harlow Carr gardens in Harrogate. Yet the eccentric aristocrat was not a landscape designer by profession, but an architect. Forming a partnership with Romilly Craze, he specialised in ecclesiastical restoration

and his work can be seen in the churches of Burnsall, Appletreewick and Hubberholme.

When Sir William first set eyes on the crumbling shell of Parcevall Hall, the traditional Dales longhouse was in a sorry state - but it fired his romantic imagination. Having inherited a title but no estate, he was in need of a home to call his own and he set about extending the property through the addition of north and west wings, creating an inner courtyard accessed through a grand gateway beneath an oriel window. A small army of labourers was needed to level the land immediately behind the original building using just pickaxes, shovels and wheelbarrows, with the displaced earth later used for the construction of the terraces. During a time of economic depression, the employment opportunities created must have been a godsend to the Dales economy.

Parcevall Hall became a magnet for the great and the good, with top-drawer visitors including Sir William's godmother, Queen Mary. But it was to fall on hard times again after his death in 1960 until a restoration programme began returning the grounds to their former glory in the 1980s. Today, even if you have no religious convictions, a visit to Parcevall Hall is proof that faith really does move mountains.

Lynn Leadbeatter

For more information visit
www.parcevallhallgardens.co.uk,
call (01756) 720311 or email
parcevallhall@btconnect.com



THE PENNINE WAY

*The Path,
the People,
the Journey*

Cicerone Press
£12.95 240pp.
ISBN: 9781852849245

Outdoor writer Andrew McCloy's new book **The Pennine Way – the Path, the People, the Journey** is neither a conventional walking guide – there are plenty of those about the Pennine Way – nor just a description of a walk along Britain's first and most famous long distance footpath and National Trail.

It is a fascinating exploration of the Pennine Way from many different perspectives, its culture, politics and history, the contributions of so many organisations and individuals, none more significant than that of its original inspirer and creator, the great Tom Stephenson, but also including Kenneth Oldham, Alfred Wainwright and countless others. Among many delightful accounts is one by the Yorkshire Dales Society's own former President, the late Ken Willson, taken from an article Ken wrote in the Pennine Way Council newsletter of 1979, describing a Holiday Fellowship trip in 1949 for which the only guidance was a set of One Inch Maps and a list of places where accommodation had been pre-booked.

As Andrew writes at the end of the book:

I had grasped how a footpath, a line on a map, had managed to weave together a story that began with the early 20th-century class struggle and hard-fought access freedoms, and continued through to the main-streaming of outdoor recreation and changing leisure habits in 21st-century Britain. I had learnt how the creation of the Pennine Way was inextricably linked to the birth of our national parks and a new look at nature conservation and our public footpath network – truly ground-breaking moments, if in hindsight with the odd flaw.

For Andrew, as for others, walking the Pennine Way was also a personal odyssey, a physical and mental challenge, with hardships, and moments of exhilaration, beauty and bleakness over 268 challenging miles. Anecdotes in abundance reveal the warmth, humour and humanity of the people he meets along the route or with whom he stays. Beautifully written and illustrated, this is a great book to read and dip into, a rich compendium for anyone who loves and cares for our northern hills.

Colin Speakman

Primula farinosa

THE BIRD'S EYE PRIMROSE AND OUR SOCIETY LOGO

Why did this small purple-pink five petalled artic-alpine flower become the logo of the Yorkshire Dales Society? *Primula farinosa* is well named. It is a perennial, liking a damp limestone terrain. Its leaves are set in rosette formation, with a broad smooth upper surface and grey-green underside, which looks powdery – hence 'farinosa' literally 'floury'. It tends to flower in June in the Dales, its flowers forming rounded clusters at the top of their stem. The yellow centre does indeed look like a small eye of a bird and skipper butterflies are particularly attracted to the plants. The bird's eye primrose is found in several Dales' areas, particularly around Ingleton, Kettlewell and Malham Tarn estate, where it can grow in some profusion. It is also at home in some European northerly regions, though rather rare elsewhere in the UK.

The celebrated botanist and plant hunter Reginald Farrer, who was based at his family estate in Clapham in the Dales, spent much of his early life scrambling among the rocks and crags of the Ingleborough area, inspired by the various plants he saw, before later travelling widely in the Alpine regions of Europe and the Far East. In time he was to provide illustrations, field notes, botanical specimens and seeds to the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh and had nine different plants named after him. Farrer was also a great pioneer of the alpine rock garden. But he had a special affection for *primula farinosa*. In one of his writings, he called the bird's eye primrose, *my best friend among English wild flowers* and he also referred to it as, *this gallant little thing*.

This special, characteristic Dales flower, for the original founders of the Society, was indeed truly an ideal representative and symbol.

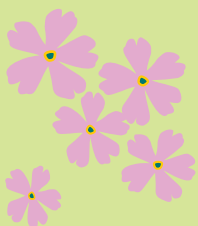


Bird's Eye Primrose

IN SEARCH OF THE BIRD'S EYE PRIMROSE

On June 18th a group of YDS members and other walkers set off *In search of the Bird's Eye Primrose* and other wild flowers as part of the YDMT's Festival of Flowers. The walk was led by YDS Chairman Mark Corner. These photos by Tim Hancock give a good flavour of the event - a circular walk of about 8 miles from Kettlewell, taking in part of the Dalesway along the River Wharfe, then up to Buckden, a further climb to Starbotton and a return to Kettlewell, with various flower species sighted along the way.

Studying the map to check the route



Stopping for refreshments in Buckden

STOP PRESS:

NATIONAL PARK SOCIETIES ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2016

National Park Societies Annual Conference 2016, hosted by The Broads Society, Friends of the Broads, on Friday October 21 - Sunday 23 October. Theme: *Sustainability for Vulnerable Landscapes in the 21st Century*. Accommodation, talks, tours, meals from Friday evening to Sunday lunch plus refreshments, at Belsey Bridge Conference Centre, Ditchingham, Bungay, Suffolk, on Suffolk/Norfolk border, set in 20 acres of grounds - fees from £219-£259 per person. Contact details: www.broads-society.org.uk

YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY EVENTS CATEGORIES

An enjoyable mix of events designed with something for everyone. All welcome - members and non members, families, friends and visitors. You could book an overnight stay in the area or visit a local Business Member (some offer discounts).

Charges

Events are free to members (unless part of a chargeable festival programme etc). Small charge to non members for talks (£3).

What to bring

For outdoor events - whatever the forecast - always come well equipped with boots/outdoor clothing and refreshments. Well behaved dogs on short leads welcome on many walks - look for the paw print symbol 🐾. For walks and visits always bring packed lunch or use local pub/café where indicated.

Transport

We provide details of public transport known at the time of going to press. Always check www.dalesbus.org and www.nationalrail.co.uk. We endeavour to car share - to offer or request a lift contact me in the lead up to that event.

Booking

Most events are offered on a 'just turn up' basis with no need to book - but it really helps if you can let me know if you hope to attend so I can gauge numbers. Events will go ahead unless very bad weather etc. We have only cancelled two events in the last 5 years (snow and floods). See www.yds.org.uk and Facebook for last minute updates or ring/email me.

Register an interest in attending/queries:
Ann Shadrake ann.shadrake@yds.org.uk
or 01756 749400

i Dales Insights

Afternoon/evening talk (with a cuppa) usually teamed with an optional easy/moderate morning walk. Wide range of Dales themes with knowledgeable leaders and speakers.

C Classic Countryside

Half day (easy) to full day (moderate) sociable and distinctive walks with added 'something special!'. Experienced leaders - steady pace with breaks/picnic stop.

V Vibrant Communities

Bespoke 'one-off' guided tour of Dales village/town devised by local Members & community. Easy morning and afternoon walks/visits.


f Focus on the Dales

Full day themed visit exploring a Dales topic e.g. farming, quarrying, tourism, community action. Soak up knowledge from opinion leaders - with lively debate.

Saturday, 8 October 2016

C Choice of Medium  or Long 

Kuta Outdoors 3Peaks Trail Sweep

Help clean up the stunning Three Peaks by joining forces with a team of volunteers from Kuta Outdoors, a Leeds-based company who organise corporate and charity events in the area. Choose one of the Three Peaks to trail sweep (distances vary 6 – 10 miles). All litter picking equipment is provided (just bring tough gloves). Wear full outdoor gear (warm waterproof clothing and boots) and food/drink. Dogs on leads in warm coats are welcome. 

1:00 Meet at The Station Inn, Horton in Ribblesdale. Return transport to The Station Inn for the two linear routes (Pen y Ghent and Ingleborough). Register via ann.shadrake@yds.org.uk or ring the office.


Train: (Settle-Carlisle line) to Ribblesdale d. Leeds 10:49, Settle 11:44 arrive Ribblesdale 12:02. Return trains from Ribblesdale depart 15:45, 17:42, 19:30, 21:00 (trains also call at Horton in Ribblesdale.)

Saturday, 29 October 2016

C Long 

Salmon Leap and the Elgar Way

Led by Mark Corner, this varied 8 mile walk follows part of the Elgar Way and Dales High Way. Much to enjoy and time for a picnic along the way - Catrigg Force, Winskill Stones, Jubilee and Victoria Caves. We hope to see salmon leaping at Stainforth Foss (conditions permitting).

10:45. meet Settle Railway Station. Nearby P&D parking or arrive by public transport. Ends in time for 15:59 Leeds train. Well behaved dogs on short leads welcome. 

Train: (Settle-Carlisle line) d. Leeds 09:47, Skipton d. 10:26 a. Settle 10:44. Return from Settle: 15:59, 17:16, 17:59.



Leaping Salmon


Key

- i** Dales Insights
- V** Vibrant Communities
- C** Classic Countryside

Saturday, 12 November 2016

i

Men of Lead - Hebden

Join David Joy, renowned author and historian, on an easy walk (c 3miles, some rough tracks, about 2 hours) from Hebden village into Hebden Gill to discover more about the area's fascinating lead-mining history and the life of local miners. Well behaved dogs on short leads welcome.  After a break for lunch (packed lunch or local pub/café), David will present the afternoon talk in the village's Ibbotson Institute. This will focus on his most recent and acclaimed book **Men of Lead**. Followed by complimentary tea/biscuits in front of the Institute's roaring coal fire!

10:30 Meet outside the Ibbotson Institute, Hebden, BD23 5DE. Short flight of steps, regret no disabled access. Park with consideration on village roads. Ask about lifts/car share from Grassington.

2:15 Talk in the Ibbotson Institute, details as above. Ends approx 4:00.

Bus 74 from Ilkley Bus station to Hebden a.10:30, Bus 72 d. Skipton Bus Station 09:45, Rail Station 09:50 for Grassington NPC a.10:25, change onto 74 for Hebden. Return for Ilkley/Skipton from Hebden at 15:35.

Saturday, 3 December 2016

V Short 

Vibrant Settle

Organised with the help of Steve Amphlett (Business Member) and other local people, this full day event will offer a fantastic insight into how the bustling market town of Settle is making itself even more vibrant. Our bespoke guided tours (morning and afternoon) will explore many significant buildings such as the Shambles, the beautiful Victorian Music Hall and The Folly [Grade 1 listed 17th century house] and discover how these are the focus for cultural, community and commercial use today. We'll also visit Settle Hydro – a community owned micro hydroelectric scheme. Optional walk to the top of Castleberg Crag for spectacular views. Time to take lunch locally (choice of pubs/cafes including Business Members) or bring packed lunch. Why not stay on for the Christmas Lights Switch On and plenty of options for overnight stay.

10:45. Meet at Settle Railway Station. P&D display parking nearby. Easy walks around the town (some cobbled areas and short uphill/downhill lanes). Regret no dogs except RAD. Concludes by 3:45 to coincide with trains.

Train (Settle-Carlisle line) d. Leeds 09:47, Skipton d. 10:26 a. Settle 10:44. Return from Settle: 15:59, 17:16, 17:59.

Saturday, 14 January 2017

i

In search of Raikeswood Camp – Skipton

During the morning we will visit the site of Raikeswood Camp - a WW1 prisoner of war camp for German Officers (and previously a Bradford Pals training camp). Most of the camp has been built over, but special access will be arranged to the remaining open field by John Mitton, Project Director, *In Search of Raikeswood Camp Project* (funded by Heritage Lottery Fund). Local secondary school students carried out excavations at the camp during the summer of 2016. After lunch locally (choice of pubs/café) we will reconvene to hear from students and leaders about their discoveries and the history of the camp.

10:30 Meet at Fred Trueman Statue, Canal Basin, Coach Street P&D Car Park BD23 1LE (public toilets). 10 mins walk from Bus/Rail Station. Approx 3 miles circular walk to Raikeswood Camp site via Leeds Liverpool Canal and Skipton Woods. Some gradients on pavements and footpaths – expect mud!

2:15 Meet at Skipton Girls High School, Gargrave Road, Skipton BD23 1QL. Limited parking on site p.m. only or use nearby Coach Street P&D. Talk, video, artefacts. Ends approx 4:00 p.m.

Frequent train and bus services to Skipton. Canal basin/High School is 5/8 minutes' walk from Skipton High Street, 10 minutes from rail or bus stations.



By the Riverside

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See article Recent News page 7, water voles released at Malham Tarn

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Please contact the Editor, Fleur Speakman c/o the address below for any contributions or comments concerning this publication.

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