

# Yorkshire **DALES** review

Winter 2017 : Issue 137



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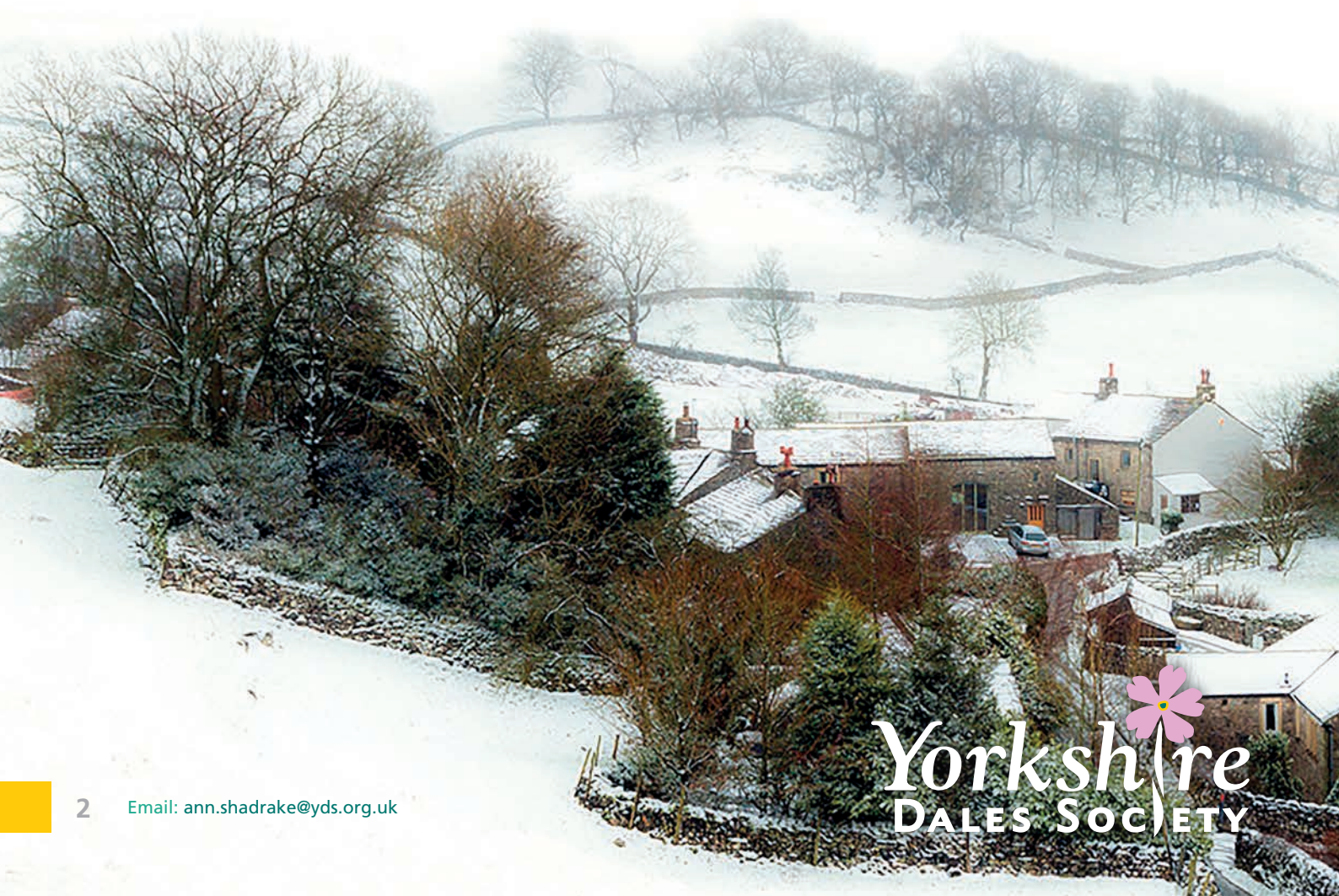
  
**Yorkshire**  
**DALES SOCIETY**

- PATTERNS OF CULTURE • DEFENDING BEAUTY •
- PAYMENTS BY RESULTS – THE FUTURE OF AGRI-ENVIRONMENT SCHEMES •
- NEW PRESIDENT SIR GARY VERITY • ARCHIVE PHOTOS – CAPTURING THE PAST PROJECT •



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# Yorkshire **DALES** review

## PATTERNS OF CULTURE

**A**n article in the Craven Herald in mid October entitled **Trying to uncover the truth about the Roman Occupation** by Dr Roger Martlew, Director of Archaeology, Yorkshire Dales Landscape Research Trust, ahead of a seminar later in October, suggested that the limestone dales may have once been as densely populated as lowland areas. **The lack of recent ploughing often means that evidence from the Roman period, and before, survives as lumps and bumps that are clearly visible where grazing keeps the grass short.** There is still much to discover in the Dales as regards the co-existence of native Britons and Romans under Roman rule in Britain. Many of us find this quite fascinating. But why?

A short answer might be that this is part of our Dales culture and we want to know more. But what exactly is culture and why are we concerned about it? Culture can be partly defined as something tangible in a physical sense and may be immovable, such as a great natural formation like Brimham Rocks or some splendid religious building like Fountains Abbey or a superb eighteenth century architectural masterpiece like Castle Howard. But it can also be a row of beautifully renovated Birmingham nineteenth century back-to-back artisan dwellings, which tell us so much about their period; a move spear-headed by the National Trust under its former Director General Fiona Reynolds (later Dame), and which proved to be highly popular. The concept continually evolves and the more we learn about our past, the more we understand and modify what we thought we knew; and the more we understand ourselves.

But how does landscape and archaeology relate to this? Archaeologist Graham Fairclough, writing on **Cultural Landscape, Sustainability and Living with Change**, asserts that human actions can be seen as the most significant factor that has changed the whole of landscape across centuries or even millennia. He regards landscape as a **complete artefact from which we can learn about both past and present**. Man has certainly put his mark on our beautiful and many-faceted Dales landscape – forests felled, fields ploughed, settlements, roads, railway lines, viaducts built and the remains visible of former industries such as lead mining, quarries, water and steam powered textile mills. But that is not the whole story. Our natural environment with its fauna and flora and Dales farms are equally an intrinsic part of our cultural landscape – to be seen, admired and enjoyed with all five senses.

Culture we are also told is intangible – and includes social customs, the ways and means of behaving in society, its formal rules and even its unspoken more informal ones such as being quiet in places of worship even if admiring its architectural glories. Culture gives us a framework of how to conduct ourselves and a key to particular traditions, practices and beliefs. Dialect and the language itself are vital ways to help to preserve a particular way of life, and by delving further into the language and its ancestral roots, for example place names, it can give us a small glimpse into the remoter past. Burnsall's name indicates its connection with its Anglo/Danish heritage, possibly meaning "hall of the burn" or "hall of the chieftain named Burn" and its hogbacked Viking grave gives actual tangible evidence of the kind of people who once settled there.

Culture is transmitted in a variety of ways – orally whether spoken, sung or its music played, and also by a wealth of modern technology: the worldwide web, television, radio and social media. Books, the press and periodicals are traditional ways of passing such information on as well as archive photos, which can give us further insight into ways of working or of leisure time occupations, see pages 10-11 in this Review.

It is culture that can help to form close-knit communities where people can come together and enjoy themselves, whether it be at an agricultural show or a local festival. It can sometimes also foster a special spirit. A village might create a missing facility in their environment, perhaps volunteer their services to help in the local village shop in Clapham (a village cooperative) or help out in the News Room in Askrigg, with a chance to meet and talk, or perhaps help at the Hub in Grassington (see page 17) which houses the local library and is available for much information about local activities and transport.

But why do we attach so much significance to looking at our past? According to David Lowenthal in his book **The Past is a Foreign Country** 'preserved objects also validate memories'.

Finally, we use our heritage to confirm or substantiate who we are and even our own identity as individual human beings. Who can claim that protecting the special heritage of the Yorkshire Dales is therefore **not** important?

Fleur Speakman



# DEFENDING BEAUTY

Dame Fiona Reynolds has long been a close friend of the Yorkshire Dales Society. Way back in 1981, when the Society was nervously first establishing itself within the Yorkshire Dales, a young bright Director of the Council for National Parks (as it was then), came to visit the fledgling Yorkshire Dales Society, staying with our then Vice Chairman, and later President, Ken Willson. Fiona was keen for the Society to object to the extension of Coolscar Quarry at Kilnsey, but the Society at that time, anxious not to be branded as a whinging group of outsiders by local people, decided to play it safe by merely supporting CNP and not be an individual objector.

Passing time soon changed all that. But Fiona remained a constant support and friend to the Society from those early years. She soon moved on to greater things, in 1987 becoming the Director of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, and after three years as Director of the Women's Unit in the Cabinet office in 2001, took up her appointment as Director General of the National Trust, a post she held for 12 years before becoming master of Emmanuel College Cambridge.

During her period of office in the National Trust, she transformed the Trust from being a comfortable, even somewhat cosy organisation with a slightly fusty reputation as a guardian of great country houses, to the much more dynamic, forward looking organisation it is today. As articles in the Yorkshire Dales Review illustrate, the Trust is now in the forefront of thinking about wide ranging environmental and countryside management issues, including the future of hill farming and global warming. But equally radical has been the transformation of the Trust from being a somewhat elitist group, to one which welcomes

and embraces people of all ages, incomes and cultural and ethnic backgrounds, to share our common heritage. Such brilliant recent campaigns as "50 things to do before you are aged 11¾" has all the hallmarks of Fiona Reynolds' quiet revolution. As she recalls, on one occasion before she came to work for the Trust, when she took her little "butter-wouldn't-melt" daughter Rose to a Trust country house, she was shocked when Rose was shushed by a Trust room attendant for chattering too loudly to her mother, breaking the quasi-religious quiet. It seemed to Fiona to encapsulate much that was wrong with the Trust, preoccupied as it was at that time with a narrow view of heritage as something that belonged to a wealthy and privileged elite.

Those of us who were members of the Trust during her period of office were well aware of how her gentle, consensus seeking manner disguised an iron determination to bring about change to prevailing perceptions. When in 2002 a row of Victorian back-to-back terraced houses in Birmingham was preserved as part of the peoples' heritage, there was outrage in some of the popular press. Traditionalists were shocked when the modest Liverpool homes of John Lennon and Paul McCartney were seen as much part of our heritage as the homes of earls or dukes. Another example of the new people-centred approach was the rescuing of Tyntesfield, the neglected Victorian gothic mansion near Bristol, where local people and Trust members have been directly engaged in the conservation and interpretation of its heritage.

When in the future, the history of not just the National Trust, but the whole conservation and environmental movement in the UK in the early 21st century comes to be written, there is little doubt that Fiona Reynolds will be seen as every bit equal in stature to the great environmental thinkers, movers and shakers of the past – people like Octavia Hill, Canon Rawnsley, George Trevelyan, John Dower and Tom Stephenson.



Yockenthwaite Farm, Winter

How welcome therefore is Fiona's new book **The Fight for Beauty**, which on one level is her personal testimony to a lifetime of active campaigning through leading organisations such as CNP, CPRE and the National Trust. As Fiona's own achievements demonstrate, campaigning is about far more than just protesting and protecting. Campaigning is about developing and delivering – new ideas, new concepts, new ways of thinking, and above all making things happen, as she has done so effectively in her lifetime's work.

But this is far more than a personal testimony and record. **The Fight for Beauty** takes a wide look at the whole emergence of the post-industrial conservation movement, including our National Parks – whose roots lie deep within the writing and philosophy of Romantic poets and thinkers such as Wordsworth, Ruskin and John Muir. She deals with some of the great countryside battles, both victories and defeats, in terms of the protection of nature, farming and conservation, forestry and coastal protection, including the magnificently successful *Enterprise Neptune* project.

Central is the often misunderstood concept of cultural heritage. Only when we understand and respect our past history, and with it our own roots, can we understand the present and help determine and come to terms with the future. She also makes one of the best cases in recent years for the need for good and effective town and country planning, giving the lie to the utterly false claims that good planning somehow inhibits economic progress. Indeed it can be argued that a high quality, clean environment and protected natural beauty support a healthy and vibrant economy, as countries such as Switzerland, Austria and Scandinavia demonstrate so well.

But central to the whole book is the unfashionable notion of Beauty. As Fiona suggests, it is a word that officialdom shies away from, preferring meaningless bits of jargon, yet it is fundamental to the whole concept of countryside protection and heritage conservation. The words "natural beauty" are enshrined in legislation, but no one really knows what that term actually means. It is a difficult concept to quantify, to put a number to. In modern consumer-driven society, if you can't measure a phenomenon in numbers or cash value, it doesn't exist. Yet so much of human experience is about other kinds of values - love, ethics, beliefs, and indeed perceptions of beauty that give our life meaning and

purpose. It is also about nature and wildlife, harmony between man and the natural world. Fiona looks at lots of examples, taking as her starting point the writing of that highly influential Victorian art critic and philosopher John Ruskin, whose **Modern Painters** and other writing explored to a great degree what is meant by beauty and aesthetic understanding, as it relates to both art and landscape.

Beauty is about many things. It is about harmony, balance, a sense of place, about our relationship with our surroundings, as well as personal interactions. It is about what we perceive to be true and authentic as opposed to the ugliness of what is false and pretentious. It's also about our well-being, the cultural perceptions we share with our family and friends, and with the artists, writers and teachers who help frame how we see the world. The great Romantic poets and artists of the past encouraged us to see mountains and lakes as places of beauty, to a point when perceptions of such landscapes as beautiful are now near universal. Ability to respond to beauty cuts across all class and social divisions. Areas like the Yorkshire Dales where man and nature are in harmony has a different kind of beauty. And those of us at a recent National Park Societies Conference in The Broads realised, that superficially we might see this area of marshland, rivers, lakes and reeds as fairly dull compared with Gordale Scar or a Swaledale meadow, but their intriguing history and rich wildlife heritage soon indicated a different kind of natural beauty.

As Fiona writes:

*Beauty is not a luxury we can have only when we are rich; it is a way of shaping the changes we need and want, so that they make a positive contribution to everyone's lives, as well as protecting the things and places we most value. To succeed we need to be clear about our objectives and beauty, sustainability and genuine public engagement must be at their heart.*

**The Fight for Beauty** is one of the most important books about our environmental legacy published in the past decade. It is essential reading for anyone who cares for and is actively involved with the safeguarding of our precious, but increasingly threatened, cultural landscapes – and natural beauty.

***The Fight for Beauty – our path to a better Future*** by Fiona Reynolds is published by One World (ISBN 978-1-78074-875-7) price £16.99.





# PAYMENT BY RESULTS

## THE FUTURE OF AGRI-ENVIRONMENT SCHEMES?

***The first agri-environment scheme (AES) was pioneered on Halvergate Marshes, Norfolk, in 1985 to prevent draining of the grazing wetlands.***

The development of Environmentally Sensitive Area schemes (ESAs), funded by the Government and European Union (EU), soon followed. Aimed at protecting our most environmentally valuable habitats and species, these national schemes have become an important part of the farming landscape.

Yorkshire Dales farmers and national AESs have had a 30 year relationship, from the early days of ESAs in the late 1980s through Environmental Stewardship (ES) in the 'noughties' to the current Countryside Stewardship Scheme (CS).

Farmers have voluntarily engaged with these schemes. At their peak in 2014, AESs covered 85% of the National Park - the equivalent of 150,000 hectares - providing over £10 million of annual income for Dales farmers. Since then, there has been a dramatic drop in agreements (mainly entry level ES), reducing coverage to 56% and income to £5.9 million [Defra, 2016]. CS uptake has not mirrored the number of ES expiries with farmers stating limited option choice, more complex management and administration requirements as the main reasons for low participation.

This move away from AESs is worrying, impacting not only on the environmental achievements of the last three decades, but also threatening farm incomes and encouraging agricultural intensification. The schemes in the Dales have supported farmers

in managing hundreds of hectares of species-rich grassland, encouraging wader-friendly farming so that numbers buck the national downward trend, restoring many hundreds of miles of drystone walls, and repairing hundreds of stone field barns.

Despite their achievements, AESs have come under a fair amount of criticism, from being too prescriptive to not delivering on a number of environmental targets. So, with Brexit on the horizon, what does the future hold for these schemes? Is there a more transparent, accountable way of helping farmers deliver on environmental targets so they feel more in control of delivery, but still able to produce the results the taxpayer is after?

This is what Natural England and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority are hoping to achieve from an innovative new project. The three year 'Payment by Results' project is funded by the EU and project partners. It aims to create an alternative way of awarding payments to farmers on the basis of the quality of environmental outcomes for upland hay meadows, breeding waders, pollinators and farmland birds.

The project area is split between Wensleydale and East Anglia, with meadows and waders the focus for the Wensleydale pilot. It is the only one in the UK testing this kind of approach and is one of three similar projects in Ireland, Spain and Romania, that the EU is funding.

The approach is based on tried and tested 'results based' AESs in other European countries, where farmers are able to manage

their land - without prescriptions or stocking rate requirements - to produce a set of measurable results for a range of habitats and species. The most striking consequence is the mind set change of farmers - from being sceptical and negative about the conventional prescriptive AESs, to being exceptionally proud and fully engaged in delivering environmental outcomes.

The 'Payment by Results' concept is simple: a set of measurable indicators, devised for a particular habitat or species. The indicators reflect the overall biodiversity and integrity of the habitat or species and are set in consultation with farmer groups to ensure they are relevant, understandable and achievable. The farmer manages the habitat to achieve a positive environmental outcome and assesses its well-being against the indicators to achieve an overall 'health' score.

For example, the optimum rush cover for breeding waders, such as curlew, is 30%. If the site exhibits this level of cover, the farmer is managing the rushes at the right level and achieves a maximum score. If it is higher or lower, the score drops, providing a clear indication that management needs altering to improve the site.

This is replicated for the other indicators for that habitat and a final score is calculated. The healthiest habitats gain the highest score, which is reflected in the highest payment. Farmers are able to improve on their score year on year up to a maximum payment - providing an incentive to do more for the environment. A win:win scenario.



Curlew photo by Whitfield BensonYDNPA



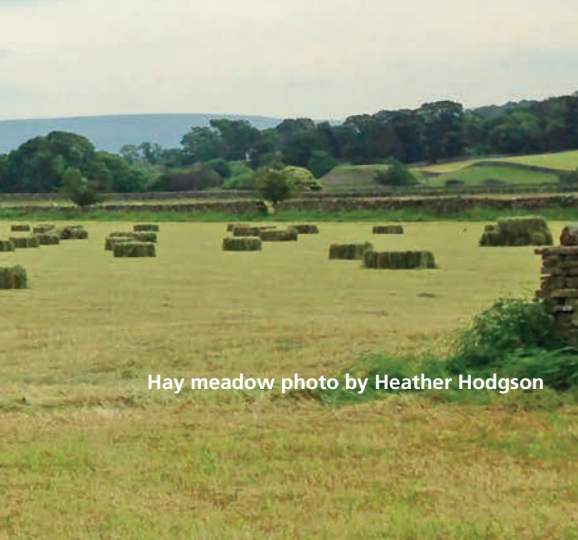
Within the Wensleydale pilot area, 19 farms are taking part in the 'Payment by Results' project, undertaking management on 36 hectares of meadow and 153 hectares of breeding wader habitat over the next two years.

The farmers will be supported by the Farm Conservation team at the National Park Authority, providing guidance, training and advice when needed. The method of approach, habitat health and farmers' attitudes will be monitored and compared to conventional AES sites to understand if the concept delivers the right outcomes for the environment, farmer and taxpayer.

This may well be a blueprint for how future schemes are developed and it is fantastic that the Yorkshire Dales is at the forefront of this work.

#### Helen Keep

Senior Farm Conservation Officer YDNPA



Hay meadow photo by Heather Hodgson

# Sir Gary Verity CEO Welcome To Yorkshire NEW YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY PRESIDENT

a very warm welcome from the Yorkshire Dales Society



**Sir Gary Verity led the winning bid to bring the Grand Départ of the Tour de France to Yorkshire in 2014 and was instrumental in the entire process from start to finish. It has since been hailed as the grandest ever Grand Départ. He led the county's public and private sectors to back the successful bid to bring the Tour – the world's largest annual sporting event – to Yorkshire ahead of other bidders such as Florence, Barcelona, Utrecht, Berlin and Scotland.**

The county's successful hosting of the Grand Départ of the Tour de France, which generated £102 million economic benefit, has now been followed up with Yorkshire's very own international stage race, the Tour de Yorkshire, which enjoyed significant success in its inaugural year.

Sir Gary has been recognised for his contribution to the county he loves, including being knighted in the 2015 Queen's Birthday Honours list for services to Tourism and the Tour De France Grand Départ 2014. He has also been named Yorkshire's Man of the

Year in 2014, Yorkshire and Humber IoD Director of the Year 2014 and received Yorkshire and Humber IoD's Lifetime Achievement award.

Sir Gary has also been presented with honorary doctorates from the University of York, Sheffield Hallam University and Leeds Beckett University; as well as receiving an honorary Doctor of Letters from York St John University, alongside Tour de France director Christian Prudhomme.

Since his appointment as Chief Executive of Welcome to Yorkshire in October 2008 he has successfully raised the profile of Yorkshire at a regional, national and international level. Welcome to Yorkshire has won various national and international awards for its marketing campaigns.

On accepting his presidency of the Yorkshire Dales Society, Sir Gary said: *I am honored to be President of the Yorkshire Dales Society, which does such a brilliant job of protecting, conserving and promoting the Yorkshire Dales.*

A dynamic and motivational leader, Sir Gary has an excellent track record in brand building and managing complex businesses. Sir Gary is the Regional Chair of Yorkshire & Humberside Heritage Lottery Fund and also chaired the Olympics for Yorkshire Committee. His love of sport extends into his work; he is President of the world's oldest cricket festival at Scarborough and also on the Board of Yorkshire County Cricket Club. A passionate Yorkshireman, in his spare time Sir Gary is also an award-winning Dales sheep farmer and lives on a working farm near Leyburn.



# A HIDDEN VALLEY IN THE WESTMORLAND DALES



Smardale Bridge by Ann Sandall



Red Squirrel by Andrew Walter

**I**n the last issue we celebrated the expansion of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Mark Corner described his walk over the limestone pavements of Orton and Asby Scars. Those pavements are a crowning feature of a ridge that curves eastwards from Shap to Ravenstonedale and forms the watershed between the rivers Eden and Lune. It is a wide-open countryside scattered with prehistoric burial mounds and the humps and banks of long-gone Romano-British farms, but it also has a remarkable, hidden feature.

Not far from the village of Newbiggin on Lune – where that famous river rises on the northern slopes of the Howgill Fells – the limestone ridge is slashed across by a ravine called Smardale Gill. There the Scandal Beck breaks through the watershed to give the Eden what should be part of Lune's water!

Smardale Gill is some 250 feet deep and less than 300 yards wide. Little cliffs of limestone break through its grassy upper flanks, while the lower valley sides are covered in ash woodland. The valley is a National Nature Reserve, owned and managed by Cumbria Wildlife Trust, and the woodland floor is carpeted by bluebells, primroses, wild garlic and ferns. The grassy slopes above and upstream from the woodland bear a rich limestone flora including rock roses, bloody cranesbill and fragrant butterfly orchids. The rock roses are the food plant of the Scotch Argus butterfly, and this is one of only two places in England where it may be seen.

But Smardale is not only a wonderful place for a naturalist. It is also a magnet for the railway historian. For here two of England's most remarkable railways cross. The Settle-Carlisle line, emerging from the Yorkshire Dales, runs northwards across the valley on one of the country's highest viaducts. The disused South Durham and Lancashire Union Railway passes

westwards and crosses Scandal Beck on the magnificent curved, 14-arch Smardale Gill viaduct towering nearly a hundred feet above the valley floor. It was designed by the line's chief engineer, Cumbrian Sir Thomas Bouch, who is unhappily better remembered as the architect of the ill-fated Tay Bridge, destroyed in a storm in 1879. Today, you can walk from Newbiggin on Lune through Smardale Gill on the old railway line to the ancient farm of Smardale Hall and return over the slopes of Ash Fell past Ravenstonedale Park, where the Lords Wharton once hunted deer.

This whole area is a wonderful exploring-ground for walkers. North of Smardale, Crosby Garrett Fell is dotted with long-vanished Romano-British farm settlements. Near here the wonderful Roman cavalry helmet was found in 2010. North west towards Orton, Sunbiggin Tarn lies in a hollow amid heather moors. South and south-west lie the northern Howgills and Wildboar Fell, brooding over the deep dale of the Eden at Mallerstang, where the ruins of Pendragon Castle evoke Arthurian legend. Ravenstonedale is an excellent base from which to explore all this country, and it has two good hostelrys for the visitor!

Getting there? Kirkby Stephen station, on the Settle-Carlisle line, is the gateway for the railway traveller. Some walkers will arrive on the Coast to Coast path. Many will use a car to get to the start of their walk – and here a word of caution. The small car park by the road, just north of Smardale Hall has very limited space and is reached by narrow lanes. Newbiggin on Lune, at the west end of the walk, has no dedicated car park (but does have a tea room). Sorting out car parks in this area will be a real challenge for the National Park Authority!

**Martin Holgate**

Sir Martin Holgate is President of the Friends of the Lake District



# Vibrant Settle

**Settle certainly has a buzz about it these days and this fine market town provided a perfect venue for the Society's final "Vibrant Community" event of the year held in early December.**

Steve Amphlett kindly acted as our host for the day. Steve and his wife Sue are Business Members of the Society, running "Cottontail Crafts" in Settle, and Steve is involved in many of the exciting initiatives happening in the town, aimed at making Settle a better place to live, to work, to play and to visit.

Settle has an enviable location and acts as a very impressive gateway to the Dales, through which many pass on foot, bicycle, and train to the increasingly popular "Three Peaks" and beyond. Nestling below Attermire Scar and overlooked by Castleberg Crag, Settle is the ideal starting point for exploring the picturesque limestone crags (including the nearby Victoria Cave), pleasant riverside walks, charming waterfalls and majestic moorland around the town.

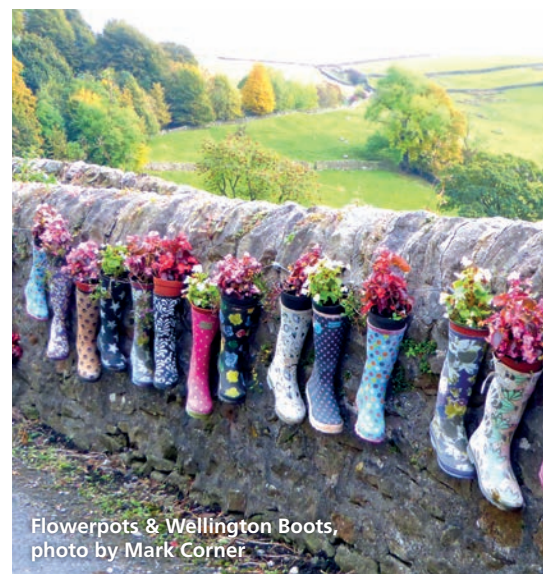
There is much in the town's history and current development to admire. The Folly, a grade I listed building and home to the Museum of Craven Life, is well worth a visit. You can see there the plans being formulated to make the building an exciting regional heritage centre. The market square has hosted a weekly market since 1248 and the former Town Hall has had a new lease of life and is now home to fine shops, a gallery,

offices and the Tourist Information Centre, and provides free WiFi in the vicinity. The Victoria Hall, opened in 1853, offers a full and exciting programme of entertainment, including the annual Settle Folk Gathering, said to be the only free folk festival in the country. The shops and services on offer range in their history too: from Nelson's Footwear in the family since the 1840s, when the building of the railways in the area created a high demand for boots, to recently opened outlets for health food, sweets, and a children's toy and gift shop.

The fantastic pubs and cafes of Settle provided lots of choice for our lunch break.

We were fortunate to be able to visit Settle Hydro. This is a pioneering community hydroelectric scheme, using an Archimedes screw, that generates funds for local community projects. Settle Hydro was built in 2009 on the site of Bridge End Mill, one of a number of mills that operated on this stretch of the River Ribble until the mid-twentieth century.

Settle folk are obviously a creative lot and it was fun to hear about and see photos of the Flowerpot Festival that is held in the town each summer, attracting a significant number of visitors. It was also interesting to see the efforts being made to promote the town through social media – there is a very comprehensive monthly Vibrant Settle newsletter issued electronically: [www.visitsettle.co.uk/whats-on.html](http://www.visitsettle.co.uk/whats-on.html) – and via more traditional media, including an impressive "Welcome to Settle" guide and maps, updated each year.



Flowerpots & Wellington Boots, photo by Mark Corner

It was also encouraging to learn of the investments in the town being made by entrepreneurs and businesses, examples being the development of the Town Hall by an ex-student of the nearby Giggleswick School and the refurbishment of the Falcon Manor as a country house style hotel and wedding reception venue.

Settle does of course have its challenges. It is unfortunate that the town centre suffers from traffic, especially a significant number of Heavy Goods Vehicles, many from the nearby quarries in Ribblesdale. Efforts are being made, involving the Society, to encourage more use of rail for the transport of Ribblesdale quarried stone. The provision of an adequate number and quality of public conveniences and parking congestion in the market square (which surely would benefit from being pedestrianised), are also issues it is hoped that local councillors will be able to address.

We had a great day in Settle and we would encourage wholeheartedly a visit to this vibrant town!

**Mark Corner**



Settle Town Hall, photo Mark Corner



Settle Hydro and weir with YDS group, photo Mark Corner



View of Settle, photo Mark Corner

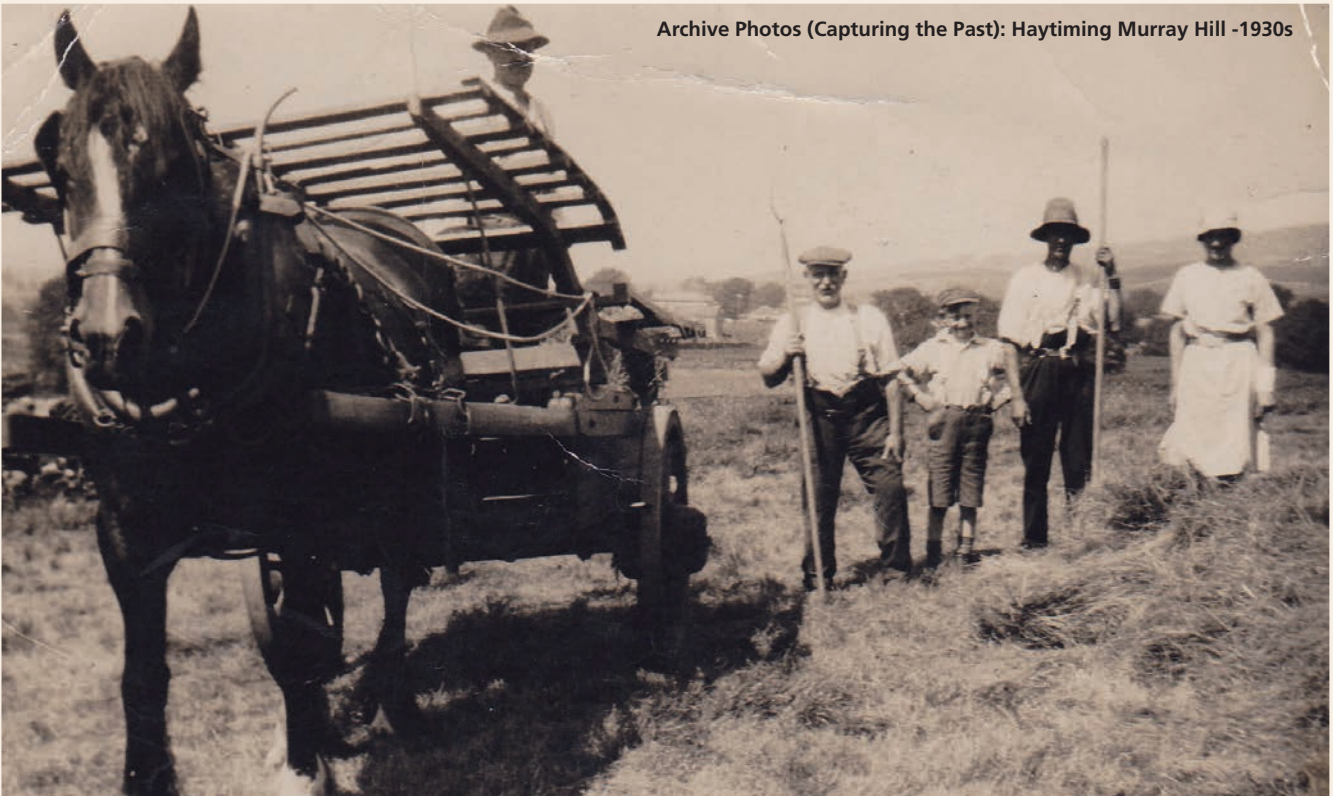


# These Archive Photos are Examples of the Material that

Archive Photos (Capturing the Past): Road Mending, Selside - 1890s



Archive Photos (Capturing the Past): Haytiming Murray Hill -1930s



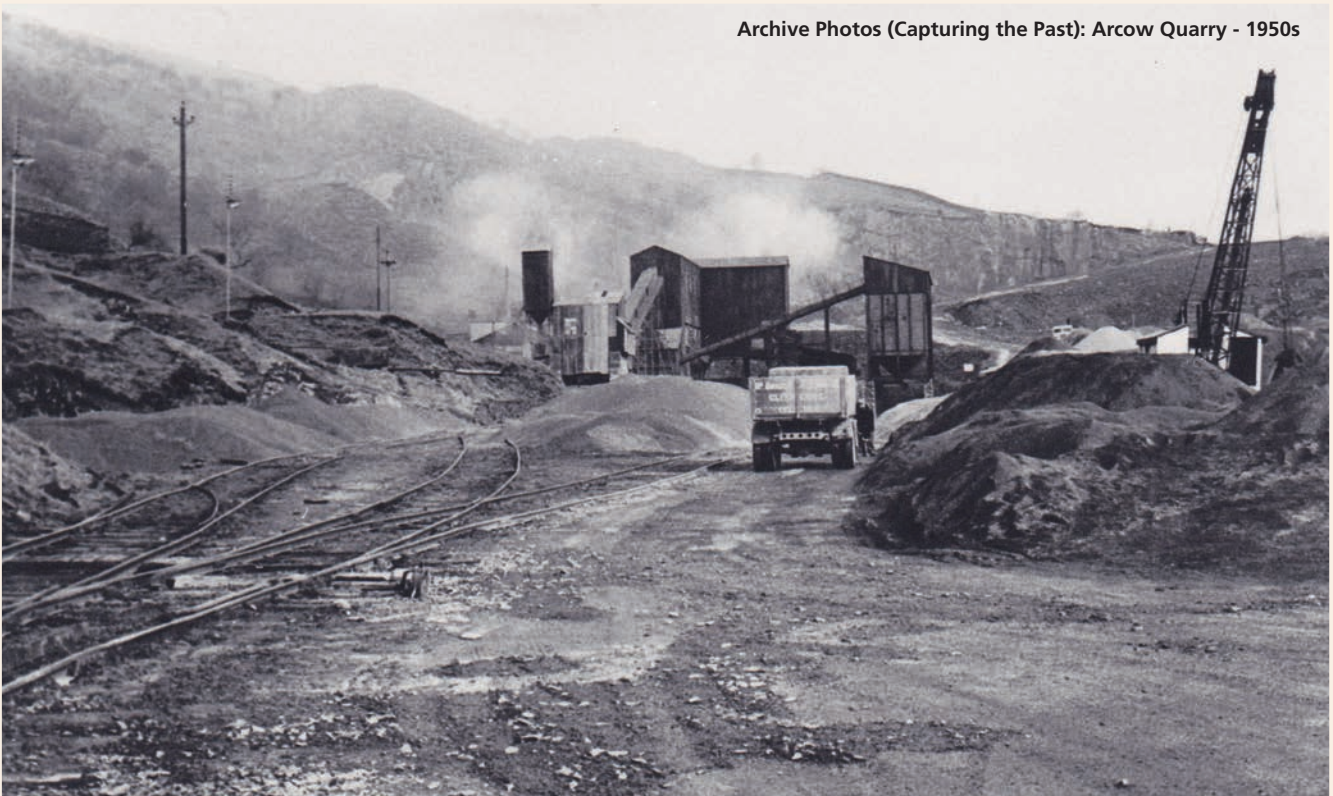


will be Digitised in the 'Capturing the Past' Project...

Archive Photos (Capturing the Past): Fordson Tractor - 1940s



Archive Photos (Capturing the Past): Arcow Quarry - 1950s





# A GRAND DAY IN GRASSINGTON AND OUR AGM

***Saturday 24th September saw members of the Society congregate in Grassington to learn more about and enjoy this fine Dales village and to hold our Annual General Meeting. We started our day in the impressive Devonshire Institute, the venue of our meeting, to hear from Andrew Wilson who is the Chair of Trustees of the volunteers that manage the building, which was built in 1855 as a mechanics institute and extended in 1923 and 1997. The Institute, more generally referred to as the Town Hall, offers a fantastically versatile venue and had just hosted the 1940s Weekend, so we were welcomed by much bunting!***

We then visited the Grassington Hub & Community Library, situated in the heart of the village. Dr Andrew Jackson, a Director, described how the volunteer-led community hub provides a wide range of services to residents and businesses, and acts as a central focus for information and a springboard for village initiatives.

Two short walks around the village, led by Ann Shadrake and Bernard Peel, gave us the opportunity to stretch our legs and to admire the village and surroundings, including the Cracoe Reef Knolls - low limestone hills, the geological remnants of an ancient coral reef.

Before enjoying lunch in Grassington's friendly cafes and pubs, we met with Peter Charlesworth by the processing facilities of Dales Dairies in the village. Peter was, until recently, the Chairman of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) and he described the challenges of enabling development in the Dales whilst protecting its special qualities, using the history of Dales Dairies planning applications as an example.

In the afternoon we reconvened at the Devonshire Institute to enjoy a very informative presentation by Ian Fleming on the "Capturing the Past" digital archiving project. Ian described the good progress being made with the project (*see the Autumn 2016 Review for an article by Ian on the project*) and shared some of the fascinating historical documents being scanned and made available on the web. He also managed to find a couple of new volunteers from the audience to get involved with this important work, which is clearly fully aligned with the Society's purpose of the conservation, for the benefit of the public, of the cultural heritage of the Dales.

The formal business of the day started with my overview of the past year, incorporating a series of photographs of the fourteen events we held in the reporting period – members present did reasonably well in identifying most of them! We reflected on the sad passing of our past President Bill Mitchell who we were sure would have been delighted with the government's decision in October 2015 to extend the Yorkshire Dales National Park - something our Society had campaigned for over many years. It is fitting that the extended area, incorporated into the National Park on 1st August 2016, now has the recognition and protection that its new designation provides.

Our Vibrant Communities events, held in Leyburn, Richmond and West Burton, were well attended, as were our Dales Insights "walks and talks". Our belief remains that we need to continue to offer something distinctive and insightful if we are to differentiate our events from other organisations who offer similar programmes. Our events programme is part of the "Enjoy" element of our "Campaign-Protect-



Cracoe Reef Knolls, Mark Corner



Enjoy" focus. The other element is The Review, and we thanked Fleur Speakman for the very high quality and much appreciated publications she produced in the year. Our "Protect" work is delivered through our scrutiny of planning applications submitted to the Park Authority. We looked at around 600 applications in the year, of which 40 or so we considered in detail, commenting on 20 – either to support, object to, or suggest conditions that should be applied. We also developed policies for upland farming, minerals, and railways and plan to tackle the subjects of housing and energy next. These policies inform our campaigns. As part of our policy work we were also engaged in the consultation process associated with the YDNPA Local Plan 2015-2030 which is expected to be published around the end of 2016. Regarding campaigning, we continued (with some success) to encourage the use of rail instead of road for movement of quarried stone, we supported our subsidiary the Dales & Bowland Community Interest Company (DalesBus) in efforts to sustain rural public transport, and through the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, we secured Heritage Lottery Funding for our "Capturing the Past" community archiving project as part of the Trust's *Stories in Stone* project.

We also discussed at the AGM the challenge of falling membership numbers and the need to raise awareness of the Society through promotional material, social media and, probably most effectively, through all of us acting as "recruiters". Our new Patron, the adventurer Alastair Humphreys, is helping us with social media advice and we hope that our new President, announced at the meeting, Sir Gary Verity, Chief Executive of Welcome to Yorkshire, will help us raise our profile.

I concluded my review by thanking members, volunteers, trustees and Ann and Susan in our office for a successful year for the Society.

Colin Speakman kindly provided a summary of Dales & Bowland CIC's year which had been very satisfactory, although the outlook in terms of funding is very challenging.

Graham Yule, Honorary Treasurer, presented a summary of the accounts (see the accompanying charts) which show, thanks to legacies of £17,155, a result for the year of a net income of £2,032. Our reserves remain healthy but have declined over a number of years as membership income fails to cover our costs. The Annual Report and Accounts for 2015-2016 were adopted by the meeting.

Two new trustees, Julie Martin and Peter Charlesworth, were elected at the meeting. Ann Cryer, Dr Malcolm Petyt, and Dr Colin Speakman were reconfirmed as Vice Presidents and Malcolm Petyt was added to the list of Honorary Members, in recognition of his multi-role contribution to the Society, including his significant involvement in championing the National Park extension.

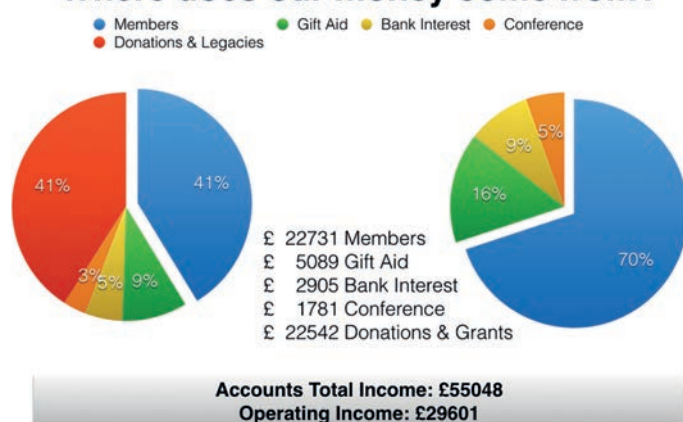
And so our enjoyable day at Grassington drew to a close. The AGM provides a wonderful opportunity for members to hear what the Society is up to and to help shape its future, as well as having an enjoyable day in the Dales, and I would encourage more members to join us at the meeting next year!

Mark Corner, Chairman

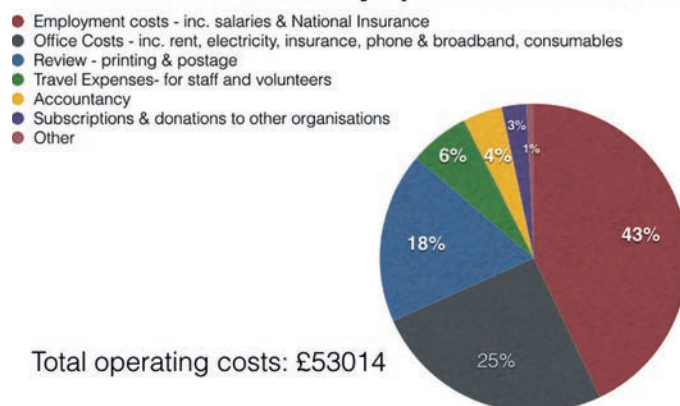


Peter Charlesworth & YDS group, Mark Corner

## Where does our money come from?



## What does The Society spends its funds on?



Pie-charts Graham Yule

The costs show we spent £53104 in running the Society. A substantial 70% of this was in direct support of our charitable objectives. The chart on the right income slide shows the importance of members' subscriptions to the Society's income. The £29601 'operating income' falls well short of our costs. We are operating at a loss. However, if we also consider the contribution that legacies (for which we cannot budget) made in 2015/16, then our total income was £55048. Hence, we made a small profit.

# FUTURE OF MUCH-LOVED WENSLEYDALE BUS ROUTE SECURED

A threatened bus route through the Dales, much loved and well-used by locals and visitors alike, has been saved thanks to funding by local people in Wensleydale through a Just Giving scheme and by generous sponsorship from Yorkshire-based mobility specialist Acorn Stairlifts.

Acorn has pledged cash to keep the DalesBus 856 service – the ‘Wensleydale Flyer’ – running throughout the whole of 2017. Without this funding the year-round service was facing an uncertain future and likely to cease operating early in 2017.

The bus, which has been renamed the ‘Acorn Wensleydale Flyer’, runs on Sundays and Bank Holidays between Northallerton and Gayle, a hamlet half a mile south of Hawes. It stops at towns and villages all along the route, including Ainderby Steeple, Leeming Bar, Bedale, Constable Burton, Leyburn, Aysgarth, Bainbridge and Hawes.

The full 40-mile journey lasts around an hour and 15 minutes, passing through some of England’s most spectacular scenery. It is the sister service to the ‘Northern Dalesman’ DalesBus 830 service recently featured on the BBC4 programme ‘All Aboard! The Country Bus’, although this service only runs through the summer.

About three-quarters of people regularly using the Acorn Wensleydale Flyer are local

residents, and for many of them it is a weekly lifeline. The service is also popular with visitors who use it for walking and sightseeing trips, visiting attractions such as Aysgarth Falls and the Wensleydale Creamery at Hawes, home to authentic Wensleydale cheese.

At various points the service also links up with other bus routes and rail services, including the restored Wensleydale Railway line at Leeming Bar, making it part of a wider rural transport infrastructure.

Most of the Sunday DalesBus network, including the Wensleydale Flyer, is managed by the Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company, a not-for-profit subsidiary of registered charity, the Yorkshire Dales Society. It relies on contributions and donations from public bodies, individuals and local businesses to keep its buses running, as ticket sales alone do not cover the costs.

A “Just Giving” Crowdfunding website set up by Jane and Alistair McNair of Low Mill Guest House, Bainbridge, assisted by Ruth Annison of Askrigg, and backed by new YDS President Sir Gary Verity, in support of the Wensleydale Flyer, managed to hit its target of £6,500, demonstrating the value which local people put on the service. That money would have kept the bus going from the end of October, when current funding ran out, until Easter. Now, thanks to the pledge from Acorn Stairlifts,

much of the crowdfunding money can be held in reserve, giving the service a financial safety net well into 2018.

Dr Colin Speakman is a Vice-President of the Yorkshire Dales Society and one of a dedicated band of volunteers fighting to keep the Wensleydale Flyer alive. He said: *This is a brilliant bus service and so important to the people of Wensleydale and their visitors for work, shopping and leisure.*

*Without this vital service there will be no way people without access to a car can get in or out of the Dale anywhere between Northallerton, Leyburn and Hawes on Sundays, leaving many local people isolated and visitors unable to come for the weekend.*

Based at Steeton, West Yorkshire, Acorn Stairlifts, who we also welcome as a new Yorkshire Dales Society Business Member (see right), will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 2017 and is delighted to sponsor the Acorn Wensleydale Flyer throughout the year as part of its celebrations. Founded in Bradford, Acorn has grown to become the world’s largest company concerned solely with the manufacture, direct-to-consumer sales and installation of stairlifts. Its British-made stairlifts are exported to more than 80 countries, including America where it is the recognised market leader.

It was Acorn’s design studio manager Emma Slater who spotted a local newspaper story on the possible axing of the Wensleydale Flyer unless funding could be secured. *“As someone who has relied on rural public transport to get to work, the plight of the threatened service really struck a chord with me,”* said Emma, who pitched the idea of sponsorship to her employer. *“People who live in rural areas are particularly vulnerable to the effects of cuts in public transport. At Acorn Stairlifts we are acutely aware of the link between mobility and physical and mental health, and we recognise that lack of good transport can lead to practical difficulties, isolation and loneliness for a lot of people. Many of our customers rely on services like this and we were delighted to be able to give something back to our local community with this gesture.”* For more details of the Acorn Wensleydale Flyer and other DalesBus services, visit our website at [www.dalesbus.org](http://www.dalesbus.org)



Acorn Flyer in new bus livery



# WE WELCOME NEW YDS BUSINESS MEMBERS PLUS A NEW AFFILIATE MEMBER



*Our sincere apologies for one or two errors in the last issue in our entry on LT Locksmith & Security. The corrected entry is as follows:*



**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. They offer an on call service 24/7 without call out fee, as well as a mobile key cutting service. Domestic services include emergency lock outs, non destructive entry, lock replacement, window security film; as well as non destructive entry if you lock yourself out of your car as well as contract and commercial services

[www.ltlocksmiths.co.uk](http://www.ltlocksmiths.co.uk)



**Low Mill Guest House** - Low Mill is a stone-built, Grade II listed, late 18th Century corn mill situated in the beautiful Yorkshire Dales village of Bainbridge, close to the ancient market town of Hawes. Bainbridge is in the heart of Wensleydale, so Low Mill makes an ideal base to explore this stunning area and its many attractions. Backing onto the River Bain, England's shortest river, Low Mill is an amazing place. Most of the original millworks situated throughout the house remain in working order, including the waterwheel. It has recently undergone a full, sympathetic restoration to become a Guesthouse, providing luxury bed and breakfast accommodation. We have a lovely riverside garden to relax in and private parking is available.

[www.lowmillguesthouse.co.uk](http://www.lowmillguesthouse.co.uk)



**Top Farm Bed and Breakfast** - This farm based B&B is located at Selside near Horton-in-Ribblesdale in the beautiful Three Peaks area of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Run by Anthony and Helena Draper, this new business is in the process of launching their website – currently information is obtainable via [www.bookings.com](http://www.bookings.com) or phone:

01729 860370



**Acorn Mobility Services Ltd.** - Join the thousands of people who have benefited from our stairlifts worldwide. We are a global, family owned company established in 1992. We have grown to have over 1400 employees worldwide. We specialise in making stairlifts - it's all we do! That's how we make them so stylish, easy to use and affordable. We build all our stairlifts in our United Kingdom factories and export them to locations all over the world.

[www.acornstairlifts.co.uk](http://www.acornstairlifts.co.uk)



**Skipton IT Services** - We are based in Skipton. Our aim is to provide an affordable, friendly and reliable computer and IT support service for home users and businesses in Skipton and the surrounding area. If you require help or assistance with any computer or IT related problem then please do not hesitate to get in touch. T: 01756 636111. M: 07749974809.

[www.skiptonitservices.co.uk](http://www.skiptonitservices.co.uk)



**Otley Townswomen's Guild** - A force to be reckoned with, Townswomen play a pivotal role in communicating important national issues to governmental bodies and the media. Since its inception in 1929, members have collectively voiced their concerns to change and improve the livelihoods of women, something that is still pursued as passionately as ever. Alongside all this worthy and serious work, members nationwide have plenty of time for friendship and fun. Meeting as part of a local 'Guild' usually once a month, either during the daytime or in the evening, Townswomen enjoy a huge range of recreational activities such as talks, social studies, hobbies, arts & crafts, competitions, socialising and organised trips. The Otley branch meets on the first Thursday of the month at 19:30 at:

**Otley Trinity Methodist Church, Walkergate, Otley LS21 1HB**

# ALFRED JOHN BROWN

## Walker, Writer & Passionate Yorkshireman

by JOHN A. WHITE

**Y**orkshire Dales Society members will recall the excellent article in the Winter 2015 Yorkshire Dales Review by John White on A.J. Brown, popular Yorkshire topographer, novelist and poet, whose writing about the Yorkshire Dales in particular was so influential between the 1930s and 1960s.



John has now produced what can only be described as the definitive biography of "AJ". It is an impressive 534 page hardback, looking at every aspect of Alfred's life in detail, from his humble beginnings in a modest suburb in Bradford, to his life and career as young manager in the wool trade and writer living in Burley-in-Wharfedale, his distinguished service in two World Wars, his brief career as a hotel manager in the North York Moors after the second World War, and final return to the textile trade as an export manager.

This is both a detailed biography and description of many of the walks and adventures he took on his own, with friends or his wife Marie-Eugenie in the Yorkshire Dales, Moors and Wolds, but also an evaluation of his many literary achievements, looking at such outdoor and walking classics as **Four Boon Fellows**, the **Yorkshire Tramping** trilogy, **Striding through Yorkshire**, and **Broad Acres**, not to mention the first official guide book to the **North York Moors National Park**.

But John White also looks at the other side of Brown's life. As well as literary success, he also struggled all his life against ill-health. His passion for walking and love of the moors arose from his desperate illness at the end of World War I, with the toxic aftermath of diphtheria which led to partial paralysis. Hill walking enabled his recovery to a point when he was undertaking marathon tramps across the Pennine moors; a love of the fells which permeates all his outdoor writing. Who else would have spent his honeymoon at Tan Hill Inn, or the now vanished Cat Hole inn, in Keld, Swaledale? But literary fame was ephemeral. He never made quite enough money to be able to live well solely by writing. When his novels didn't really sell and with a young family to care for, he always had to keep his day job.

The energy and determination Alfred brought to overcoming these problems are documented in absorbing detail in the book, which has excellent reference and bibliography, making this an important reference work not only for students of A.J. Brown but for the turbulent period in which he was working and writing. My only regret is lack of an index and colour for some of the pictures, but the maps of some of Alfred's walking routes, including a marathon tramp during World War II, are fascinating.

Colin Speakman

The book, a limited copy 500 edition, (ISBN 978-1-5256-0511-7) is published by John White himself in co-operation with A.J. Brown's family. At just £15 plus £3.50 post and packing, it represents excellent value. Copies can be obtained direct from Smith Settle, Gateway Drive, Yeadon, Leeds, LS19 7XY, or by contacting Tracey Thorne (tthorne@smithsettle.com) phone: 0113-250-9201.

## PETER CHARLESWORTH

We warmly welcome Peter Charlesworth's return to the YDS committee as a Trustee.



Peter was born and brought up in Hull where he was educated until he went to Leeds University to study law. There he discovered the Yorkshire Dales and never went home, spending much of his time walking, eating and drinking on his many visits to the Dales. He became a barrister and later a Crown Court Judge based in Leeds, living in the village of Bramhope near Otley. In the late 80s he bought a house in Threshfield and joined the Yorkshire Dales Society, and became involved in many local events including the Grassington Festival. In 2005 he became a Trustee and later a Chairman of the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust and in 2008 he was appointed a Secretary of State Member of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, and was elected Chairman for three successive years until his term of appointment came to an end this year. He had previously served on the Council of the YDS, but felt he had to relinquish that role on becoming Chairman of the Authority because of potential (albeit unlikely) conflict of interest. He has now, at the first opportunity, returned to the Council of the Yorkshire Dales Society.

In contrast to this passion for the Dales, Peter's other lifelong passion is Rugby League and he has for over 20 years been Chairman of their Disciplinary Committee; a long session of which invariably leads to a calming walk in the National Park! Peter shares his time between his home, now in Ilkley, and Threshfield and looks forward to using his experience and love of the Dales for the benefit of members of the Yorkshire Dales Society.



# THE GRASSINGTON HUB

***These days, the only certainty is uncertainty. The world is changing rapidly and many communities face new challenges which can threaten them. Those threats, though, can be a stimulus for communities to face their problems and change for the better.***

This was the philosophy behind the creation of the Grassington Hub seven years ago in September 2009, and it is still striving to make the village as self-sufficient and vibrant as possible. In fact, after a successful start, we are poised to grow into a more efficient and exciting organisation altogether.

The Hub was originally the product of the co-operation of a group trying to re-establish a library in the village, and a number of individuals who were keen to see more coherence and co-operation between the many organisations that make Grassington such a vibrant community. Many meetings and “lively” discussions later, we had defined our aims rather better and thrashed out the concrete ways by which we could head towards achieving those aims.

We found suitable premises near the centre of the village, and committed ourselves to acquiring them without a penny of funds. Two local businessmen stepped in and purchased the premises on our behalf, and the long process of public consultation and the nerve-racking pursuit of funding started. By this time we were organised into small working groups for business planning, design, fundraising and so on, and suddenly the Reaching Communities Fund granted us funds for rent and a manager for 5 years. We were off!

The Hub is both a charity and a limited company, and is run by a Board of Trustees, and a team of around twenty volunteers, a part-time professional librarian, and a part-time transport co-ordinator. Since our five year funding ran out, we have coped without a full-time manager.

So, what do we do, exactly? Besides a community library, our volunteers run the box office for local events, an information centre and a local patient transport charity. We provide office services such

as photocopying, passport photos, and a video screen of forthcoming events. We run a community cinema, the village website, lunch clubs and a minibus which provides transport for local groups and also day trips for locals.

Loss of ongoing funding and having to live off our reserves has recently caused us to shake off a degree of complacency and focus our minds on the future.

Now, while one of the big problems faced by villages such as Grassington is the demographic challenge of attracting young working families, who find house prices high and job opportunities scarce. On the other hand, the preponderance of retired professionals in communities such as ours means a ready supply of highly experienced and motivated people who don't just stop being experienced and motivated when they retire, and relish the chance to become involved. They have stepped up to the plate and we now have a “refurbished” Board and a new sense of direction.

We are returning to the original vision of a “joined up” community, where village organisations are more aware of each other (via a village “parliament” of Parish Council, Festival, Dickensian, Chamber of Trade, etc.) and better communications (via an improved website, a village magazine and old-fashioned talking to each other), to form a confederacy of local organisations co-ordinated by the Hub. Add in an ambitious local historical digital archive and historical interpretation scheme, village artworks and co-ordinated shop signage, and you get the idea!

Communities in the Dales face the gradual erosion of their facilities with pub and shop closures, but it is heartening to see how many of them are fighting back. The Grassington Hub is part of that fight. We can, and must, determine our own future and come up with the novel and exciting ideas for the future.

**Andrew Jackson, Chairman Grassington Hub**



## SHORT BOOK REVIEW

## STONE ON STONE

by Jan Michael, published Gabriel Press at £7.50. ISBN 978 -0-9576533-1-3.

The Yorkshire Dales setting and the building of the Ribbleshead Viaduct with its associated shanty towns has proved inspirational for Jan Michael's compelling and shocking story; framed by a modern couple who find that one woman's fate, in those bleak earlier times, literally haunts them both. Jan has based her research particularly on an unpublished manuscript *The Journal of William Fletcher, railway missionary to the workmen of the Settle Carlisle Line, second contract*, which enabled her to include some powerful testimony about the conditions, and her ready imagination and further research has supplied the rest.

All profits from book sales go to the NSPCC and Mary's Meals. (Her book *Moorside Boy*, which we reviewed in an earlier issue of the YDS Review, featured the childhood of Benjamin Waugh, who was brought up in the Settle area and became the founder of the NSPCC – again a tremendously lively story. Sales of the book raised over £5,000 for the charity.)

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](http://www.dalesbus.org) and [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://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](http://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](mailto:ann.shadrake@yds.org.uk)  
or 01756 749400

## 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.

## 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.

## Vibrant Communities

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

## 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.

## FLOOD-HIT BRIDGE REPLACED

The bridge at Birks Mill outside Sedbergh in the Yorkshire Dales National Park – with a span of 33m, bore the full force of Storm Desmond and disappeared in December 2015, disrupting a number of local walking routes.

It is now replaced, with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

working with a number of partners. Financial support has come from Cumbria County Council, the National Park Authority, Sedbergh Parish Council, Friends of the Lake District, HF Holidays (Pathways Fund), the Ramblers Association, and the Dales Way Association which contributed £500.



Birks Bridge after floods, YDNPA



New Birks Bridge, YDNPA



## Saturday, 14 January 2017



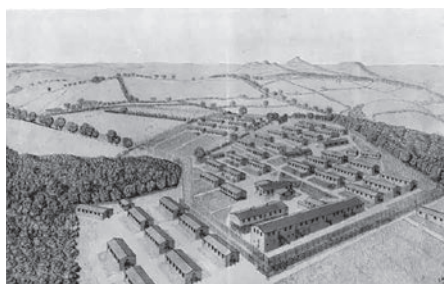
### In search of Raikeswood Camp – Skipton

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/cafés) we will reconvene to hear from students and leaders about their discoveries and the history of the camp. Well behaved dogs welcome. 🐾

**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.*



[www.raikeswoodcamp.co.uk](http://www.raikeswoodcamp.co.uk)

<b>i</b>	<b>Dales Insights</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>Classic Countryside</b>
<b>V</b>	<b>Vibrant Communities</b>
<b>r</b>	<b>Ride2Stride* Event</b>

## Wednesday, 15 February 2017



### Photo Workshop

Join experienced photographers Tim Hancock and Tony Crossland on a half day walking photo workshop. Set around the stunning scenery of Ribbleshead Viaduct, this easy walk will offer plenty of expert tuition on how to take well composed photographs in this very beautiful part of the Yorkshire Dales. Suitable for beginners and those with a little experience of digital photography, whether using a simple or bridge camera, an SLR or a mobile phone with a reasonable camera. Bring your own camera/mobile phone, lunch and a notebook! Time for refreshment in the pub afterwards. (RAD dogs only).

**10:30 meet outside The Station Inn, Ribbleshead, LA6 3AS. Close to railway station and nearby lay-by parking.**

*Leeds d. 08:49 arrives Ribbleshead 10:06. Kirkby Stephen d. 09:48 arrives Ribbleshead 10:17. Range of return trains available. Ask about car share.*

Donations welcome on the day. Booking required as numbers are limited – Contact Ann on 01756 749400 or email [ann.shadrake@yds.org.uk](mailto:ann.shadrake@yds.org.uk)

## Wednesday, 29 March 2017



### Behind the Scenes in Orton and Tebay

A full day visit with transport from Kirkby Stephen Station so you can enjoy the spectacular journey along the Settle-Carlisle Line. Kyle Blue, Chairman of Orton Parish Council will welcome us for an easy walk round the village. We'll visit family-run Kennedys Fine Chocolates in Orton, and afterwards go to Lyon Equipment Ltd at Tebay for a bespoke factory tour. Originally from Dent, this innovative company now employs 90 people, distributing outdoor adventure products and making equipment for working safely at height and in confined spaces, including for 'covert operations'! They also train rescue and fire services, coastguards, and oil rig workers.

**11:00 Meet outside Orton Market Hall.**

*Park with consideration on village roads. Or minibus from/to Kirkby Stephen Station, depart Leeds 08:49 arrives 10:34. Ends in time for 17:14 train to Leeds arrives 19:07. Booking required for minibus – contact Ann on 01756 749400 or email [ann.shadrake@yds.org.uk](mailto:ann.shadrake@yds.org.uk) Donations are welcome on the day.*

## Tuesday, 25 April 2017



### Ride2Stride Event Opening Walk: Settle to Horton

Join Colin Speakman, a Vice President of the Society, on a 7 mile linear walk from Settle to Horton, taking in many features of interest including Stainforth Foss, Long Lane and Dub Cote. (RAD dogs only).

**Meet and transport details:** Meet at Settle Railway Station in time for the arrival of the 09:48 train from Leeds (Leeds d. 08:49, Skipton 09:26). Return 15:38 train from Horton to Settle, Skipton and Leeds.

## Wednesday, 26 April 2017



### Ride2Stride Event Walk: Settle Caves and Waterfalls

Led by Dr Tony Smith, Trustee of the Society, this will be a full day circular walk of about 8-9 miles moderate. (RAD dogs only).

**Meet Settle Railway Station at 10:45.**

*Train from Leeds 09:47 arrives Settle 10:43. Train from Kirkby Stephen arrives Settle 10:31. Return train to Leeds at 17:57 and later trains available. Return train to Kirkby Stephen at 19:08 only.*

## Thursday, 27 April 2017



### Ride2Stride Event Walk: Viaducts and Verse

This leisurely 6 mile circular walk starts at Kirkby Stephen railway station and visits the vicinity of Wharton Hall and the location of an impressive ancient oak tree. From here we head to the stunning Stenkrith Park and the "Devil's Mustard Mill" gorge before a stroll along the disused railway line over two viaducts close to the village of Hartley, before visiting the charming market town of Kirkby Stephen. After lunch we follow the River Eden and join the Poetry Path, a celebration of the hill farmer's ancient and enduring relationship with stunning landscape in and around Cumbria's upper Eden Valley, before returning to the station. Those wishing to stay in Kirkby Stephen for the 16:00 music event can return to the town after the Poetry Path, rather than heading for the station. (RAD dogs only).

**Meet and transport details:** Meet Kirkby Stephen Railway Station 10:35. Train from Leeds d. 08:49, arrives Kirkby Stephen 10:34. Return to Leeds at 15:00 and later trains available.

\*Ride2Stride is an annual festival of walks, talks and music along the Settle-Carlisle railway line, contact [www.ride2stride.org.uk](http://www.ride2stride.org.uk)

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Archive photo: John Bentham, Horton Cobbler - 1900s

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

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

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Office: **01756 749 400.**

Events

Hotline: **07497 256763** (text or call)

Information about the Society can be found on:



[www.yds.org.uk](http://www.yds.org.uk)



[www.facebook.com  
/YorkshireDalesSociety](https://www.facebook.com/YorkshireDalesSociety)



[@yds35](https://twitter.com/yds35)

Dales & Bowland  
Community Interest Company:  
[www.dalesandbowland.com](http://www.dalesandbowland.com)

#### Annual Membership

Single	£23
Joint/Family	£32
Business Members	£35
Affiliate Members (Group)	£35

#### Life Membership

Individual (Under 60)	£400
Joint (Under 60)	£550
Individual (Over 60)	£300
Joint (Over 60)	£450

Please Gift Aid your membership if you are eligible as we can benefit from additional income.



## BE A FRIEND OF THE DALES!

**An invitation to join the Yorkshire Dales Society**

**ENJOY** the beauty and facilities of the Yorkshire Dales

**PROTECT** and help to safeguard the Dales

**CAMPAIGN** for positive improvement, and against negative development

Members receive a quarterly full-colour 20 page magazine and the opportunity to be present at a rolling programme of events. Contact and other details available on this page.

