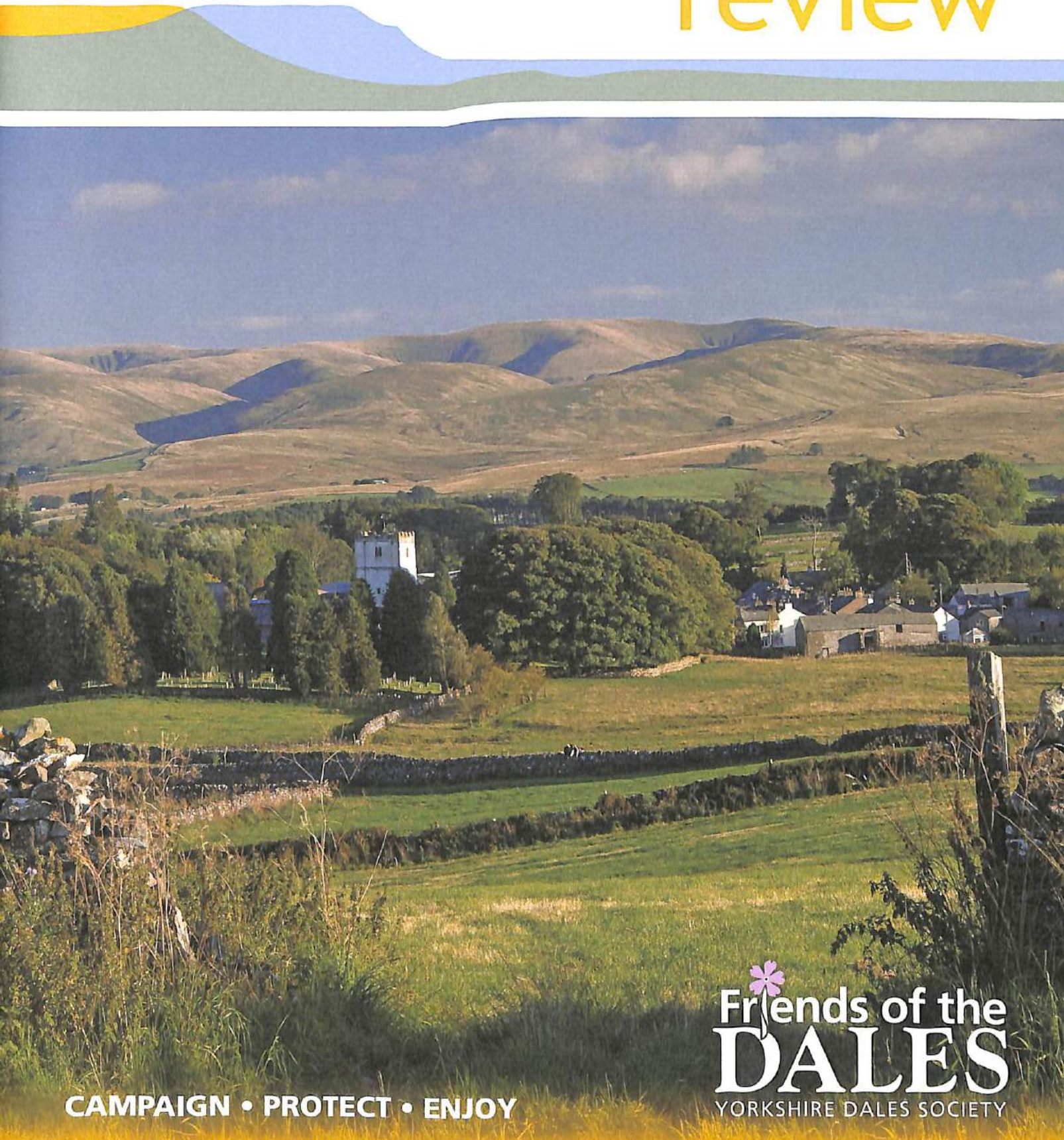


Yorkshire **DALES** review

Summer 2017 : Issue 139



CAMPAIGN • PROTECT • ENJOY

Friends of the
DALES
YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY

- RETROSPECTIVE AND A FOND FAREWELL • ACCESS FOR SOME •
- FRIENDS OF THE DALES • HAY MEWS • THE OTHER DALES RAILWAYS •



Yorkshire **DALES** review

Retrospective and a Fond Farewell

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END OF AN ERA?

Fleur retiring as Editor of the Yorkshire Dales Review marks the end of an era and we owe her a great debt of gratitude for her dedication in bringing us this fine publication for the last, believe it or not, 35 years.

On behalf of members and Trustees of the Society and the thousands of satisfied and enlightened readers over those years I would like to thank Fleur and express admiration for what she has achieved. The Review has become the flagship of the Society and a

window on the Yorkshire Dales, highlighting the beauty of the place and its people, but also covering the challenges it faces, all written in an accessible style and with insightful editorial comment.

Fleur has been blessed to have Colin at her side, making his own very significant contribution to the Review, and though Colin too is retiring from "front line service" in the Society, I'm very pleased that he will continue to write articles for us and act as a wide ranging ambassador for the Society in his capacity as a Vice President.

After all those years of commissioning pieces, chasing contributors, writing editorials, working with the designer, and the incessant looming deadlines - all done on a voluntary basis - we can appreciate why Fleur has decided to lay down her pen. But we will really miss her and she leaves us with a big editor's chair to fill. We very much hope she enjoys her well earned retirement, which we will mark with a special lunch with her closest friends.

Fleur, thank you once again.

Mark Corner Chairman



A 35 year-old institution from the Yorkshire Dales Society's early days is still going strong! It was the brain-child of Secretary Colin Speakman, who suggested a quarterly magazine as a vehicle for the Society to promote its concerns about the Dales, both to members and opinion formers. Colin took on this regular substantial commitment. I too started to assist, then increasingly became involved. Early issues were typed on a daisy wheel electric typewriter; correcting the stencils by hand was uphill work and printing was by offset-lytho format. But even then, major articles of some intellectual content appeared, complemented by suitable black and white photos. With improved technology, the Review became easier to read and photo reproduction improved. Around this period I became Joint Editor with Colin, and in due course persuaded the Council of Management to allow a colour cover for various special occasions. In 2000 we featured Arthur Raistrick as our Man of the Millennium. Full colour editions were to follow and for about thirty years we enjoyed an excellent and fruitful relationship with John Mason, and then Matthew Mason, who headed John Mason Printers in turn.

That first issue of the YDS Review appeared in 1982, containing a stimulating article on the archaeology of Victoria Cave by archaeologist Tom Lord, with an award winning photo by Eliza Forder on the cover of local Dales woman Ivy Bentham in front of her Dentedale farmhouse. The Spring issue dealt with Farming and the Landscape by writer and photographer Geoffrey Wright, while historian Peter Bears explained the custom of Dales' knitting sheaths, and botanist Judith Allinson contributed an article on the distribution of certain flora species. All were YDS members. Moving on, in 1995, member and environmentalist, Richard Harland, flagged up concerns about the damage caused by motor cycles and vehicles to green lanes, and other articles on this subject followed. This led to the formation of the Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Alliance, initiated by YDS. Effective lobbying eventually encouraged the YDNPA into some very effective protective action. We were also fortunate that when Bill Mitchell, after his official retirement as editor of Dalesman magazine, became a regular and much appreciated contributor to the Review and also a popular YDS President.

Over the years people have asked: "How on earth do you even start to fill the magazine every quarter?" The short answer is by trying to keep abreast of what is going on in the Dales and elsewhere, commissioning articles from appropriately knowledgeable sources. If you have reasonably wide interests and a willingness to explore new ideas and concepts, sometimes less obvious avenues provide rewarding or even

challenging material (post-World War II map-making or even the joys of paragliding). Over the years a template has evolved which we are continuing to refine. Contents always include information on current YDS campaigns, Society matters, details of the popular walks, talks and visits. Useful unsolicited articles can arrive, as do various books to review. With the benefits of modern technology, we have been able to do greater justice to photos which have always played a key part in the magazine. Its layout has benefitted immensely from 2011 from the creative flair of our designer Michael Spencer of Briggs Brothers and the warm interest of Briggs Director Tony Lee. I would like to give my personal tribute to a very positive, productive and enjoyable working relationship with Michael. We have been particularly fortunate to have had the professional writing talents of Colin Speakman, whose hard-hitting, impeccably researched and very readable articles, have been a key feature of the YDS Review over the years. The magazine has covered transport matters, farming, the Dales economy, quarrying, local businesses, tourism, social housing, Dales fauna and flora, environmental and renewable energy issues as well as many aspects of Dales cultural history.

For twenty five years, whilst I was the Society's part-time Joint Secretary, one regular responsibility, with the help of a team of volunteers, was the quarterly mail-out of the magazine. Editing the YDS Review proved to be a very satisfying and creative experience, initially as Joint Editor with Colin, then for some years in sole charge. It created wonderful opportunities to meet, commission, interview and also write articles about some very interesting people - a huge bonus - such as a lady overseer in the post-World War II textile mills or the co-founder of Rohan, the outdoor outfitter. It has been a great privilege to be entrusted with the position of Editor and I have relished the task. The post is a very responsible one and does involve quite a lot of dedication. Though I do have some regrets over making what has proved to be a difficult decision, I believe now is the time for me to hand over responsibility to a new Editor who will put their own stamp on the Review.

Key to any success is the excellent quality of our contributors to whom I extend my enormous sincere gratitude and appreciation. I am also very appreciative of all the kind comments on the Review and the tremendous support offered me by members. I have had great colleagues both among the YDS trustees, the ECM committee members under the chairmanship of Tony Smith, and in Ann Shadrake who has patiently sent on material and also made some very constructive suggestions, and thanks are due to our little team who help with proofing. My warmest thanks go particularly to a very close colleague (named elsewhere in this article), unstinting in his support.

Fleur Speakman

ACCESS FOR SOME – OR FOR EVERYONE - TO OUR NATIONAL PARKS?

Access to Britain's National Parks has become a major theme for the Campaign for National Parks. "Access" is an overused word, but in the context of our National Parks, it can be understood in three different ways:

Intellectual – this refers to knowing about and understanding the idea of a National Park, what is special about the particular area and the reasons you would wish to go there – fresh air, exercise, natural beauty, culture, meeting friends etc. With such knowledge you are motivated to go there to experience what there is to see and do.

Legal – your right to go there by public road, public path or bridleway, the ability to walk or ride over land (or caves or crags) with public or permitted access.

Physical – your physical and mental health and well-being which allows you to travel to and within a National Park, but also the means by which you can travel there – by car, on foot, by cycle or public transport.

Only if all three of these elements are in place are you able to enjoy access to some of

Britain's most beautiful and inspiring places. By doing so you can then in turn enjoy the many personal and spiritual benefits of being in a great natural and cultural landscape. There are also many economic benefits for the host communities as people spend money on services, refreshment, locally produced produce or accommodation.

As an educational charity, a key role of the Yorkshire Dales Society is to help not only its own members, but the wider community to share such positive experiences, by communicating our own knowledge, love and enthusiasm for this special part of England. By increasing understanding, we are also able to increase the desire to protect and conserve that high quality environment and to encourage other people to do so, including Government agencies and local authorities who are required to do so, under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, the Environment Act 1995 and subsequent legislation.

All the work of the Yorkshire Dales Society is therefore geared towards these three interlocking objects – the Review, the lectures, the walks, the visits, the campaigning and project work. As a small but independent body, there is little we can directly do

ourselves, but much we can do to influence the behaviour of other people and to ensure that our elected representatives take the right choices in difficult times.

In recent years, there has been a new recognition of the public health benefits of fully accessible and well protected National Parks. The Government's excellent recent 8 Point Plan for National Parks emphasises the value, especially for young people, of visiting and taking healthy exercise in the open green spaces and fresh air of a National Park, away from what we now know to be often dangerously polluted urban environments. Money spent on National Parks saves far more money for the National Health Service. The recent welcome focus by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on the need for action on mental health issues has also highlighted the positive way in which a day in the countryside can help combat depression and reduce personal stress levels. Investment in our National Parks, and in ways of enjoying them, are therefore, in public health terms, a highly cost-effective preventive medicine.

Recent cuts to National Park's budgets have been damaging to two of the three core objects in terms of accessibility for all. The educational work the Yorkshire Dales

National Park Authority can do has been reduced with a loss of a full time Educational Officer and reduction of the amount of school and out-reach work the Authority can achieve. Despite financial cuts, excellent work has continued by the Ranger service in terms of rightly prioritised protection to footpath, bridleways and access to open country. But an acute blind spot has been the failure of the Authority to offer even modest support to help sustain the public transport networks which around 25% of the UK population who live in households without cars need to reach the Park – this includes many younger and older people and those on lower incomes in both rural and urban areas. To make things worse, North Yorkshire Council has also slashed bus service budgets and now refuses to accept their legal requirement to reimburse bus operators for senior and disabled pass travel on many Sunday DalesBus services – claiming that these public buses are "tourist services" and therefore not eligible for support. This means that on Sunday and Bank Holidays, many vulnerable people with disabilities or older people on very low incomes can no longer afford to travel on DalesBus services that start in North Yorkshire. In contrast the far more supportive West Yorkshire Combined Authority (Metro) insist that senior and disabled passes on all DalesBus services out of West Yorkshire remain valid.

Yet just 1% of the National Park's £5 million annual budget would allow this highly regarded integrated travel network

to continue. It is all too easy for decision takers who have full access to their own car to determine that supporting weekend bus services from the conurbations to the Yorkshire Dales is "not a priority" but it is also a sad failure of imagination. If their own car keys were taken away for just a week, maybe they would see the world very differently.

For example, this Easter weekend, there were no buses to Malham because, unlike in the recent past, there was no longer sufficient finance to run the Summer DalesBus network from April, with the start of most services delayed until early May. Yet the village is now a black spot for weekend traffic congestion. So, a 17-year-old, living in Leeds, a single mother without access to a car in Bradford or a pensioner in Burnley, wanting to come to enjoy a walk in some of the finest limestone country in England, were denied access to this area as effectively as if there had been a barbed wire fence across the path to the Cove.

Excellent news therefore that the Campaign for National Parks has now made access for all, with a sharp focus on public transport access, one of its top priorities for 2017:

Nearly every National Park in England and Wales includes areas where buses have gradually been cut more and more since 2010. It's not surprising then that 93% of visitors to National Parks choose to travel by car.

This has implications for everyone, both visitors and residents alike. Overall, the Parks have higher than average car ownership, but even in the whole of the UK, over a

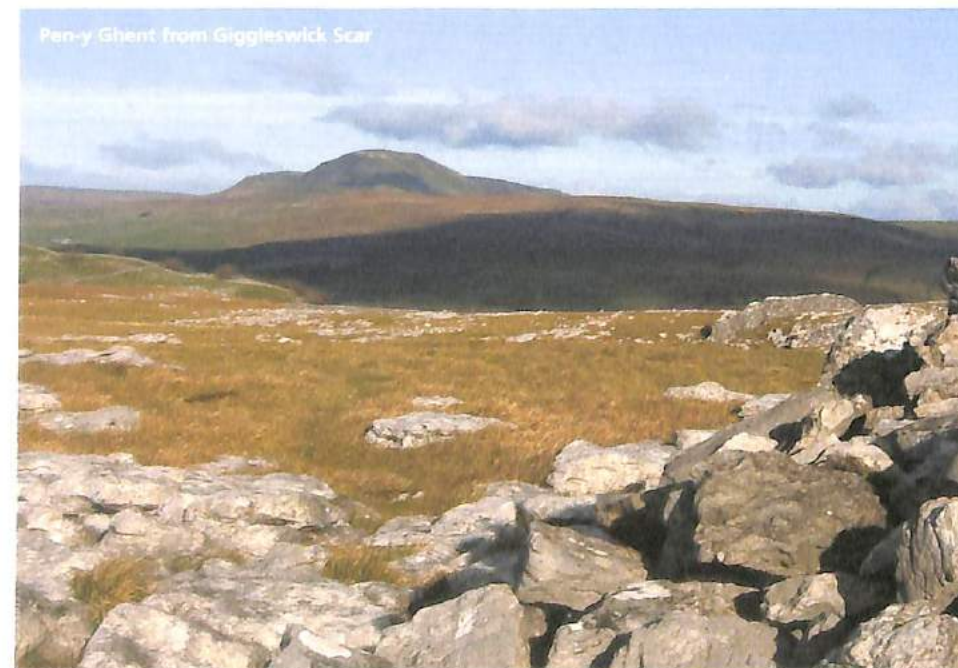
quarter of households don't own a car. This predominantly affects the young and old who become isolated because they aren't able to get around.

We think that if National Parks are really going to be enjoyed and valued by everyone, something needs to be done. We're calling for more investment in public transport which will help people get to, from and around National Parks.

Well said! The Yorkshire Dales Society has always believed that access to and within the Dales for everyone, with or without a car, was a high priority. It was in response to funding cuts that, ten years ago, the hugely successful Dales & Bowland Community Interest Company was established by the Society. Gradually the CIC, a not-for-profit social enterprise run by volunteers (most of whom are YDS members), has taken over responsibility for most of the popular Sunday DalesBus network. But for 2018, unless there is additional political and financial support forthcoming for DalesBus from other partners, most notably including the National Park Authority itself, funding streams will dry up and DalesBus services will have to be slashed.

Access for everyone? Only if you own and can drive your car.

Colin Speakman



Pen-y Ghent from Giggleswick Scar



Malham with cars

Friends of the DALES

YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY

The Trustees of the Society have decided to adopt **Friends of the Dales** as our brand name in an effort to raise awareness of who we are and what we do, with the aim of recruiting more members and supporters.

The formal, established name of the charity will remain the Yorkshire Dales Society and members can rest assured that it is to this organisation they will continue to belong. Our values, objects, Articles of Association, etc. will remain unchanged. We will continue to Campaign-Protect-Enjoy. The name Friends of the Dales will appear alongside that of the Yorkshire Dales Society on our new logo to indicate the relationship between the brand name and the registered charity.

Friends of the DALES

YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY

amazing
inspiring
but fragile

Please join us to help keep the Dales special and vibrant for years to come

Why are we doing this? I have reported in previous Reviews and AGMs our concerns regarding falling membership numbers. This matters, firstly because our size influences the credibility and impact of our campaigning efforts – we need to be able to demonstrate that we are speaking on behalf of a wide range of residents and visitors. Secondly, our income from membership subscriptions is needed to cover our running costs. To address the membership challenge, we are convinced that we need to raise public awareness of our charity and describe what we do in a compelling way, that encourages people to join us.

In considering how best to do this we thought about our name. 'Yorkshire Dales Society' has stood us in good stead for 36 years but as a name, to those who don't know us, it isn't easily understood or very descriptive of what we do, and sometimes gets confused with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority or the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. We want to be able to say to non-members that if you care for this special place and want to help protect it, then become a "Friend" of an independent membership charity that does exactly that – us!

We have always worked for the wider Dales, not just the Yorkshire Dales National Park, and now, with the National Park extension, so much more of the area extends outside Yorkshire, including the Westmorland Dales. Not all prospective members in Westmorland would be happy with the Yorkshire title!

Of course we realise that on its own a name change isn't going to achieve much, but we wish to use this re-branding to invigorate our efforts to raise awareness about us and to encourage new members and supporters to join us.

We have designed a website (www.friendsofthedales.org.uk) with useful features such as the ability to join or to renew membership online, including electronic payment. We are interested in pursuing the concept of "supporters" who register with us online, support campaigns, and perhaps receive an electronic newsletter, as would members of course. We would hope that many of these supporters convert to members and receive the full benefits of membership, including receipt of our flagship membership magazine, the

Yorkshire Dales Review. We have also produced a membership recruitment leaflet which focuses on what we do to help care for the Dales, and copies are included with this mailing (with more available on request).

We are now working on how best to promote ourselves using these communication tools. Thoughtful placing of leaflets will help, for example, in the National Park Centres, which the Yorkshire Dales Park Authority have kindly agreed to allow, but it will be through face to face communication that we will stand the highest chance of recruitment success. We hope that our members, volunteers, and trustees will act as recruiters for us. We aim to develop a group of **Ambassadors** located throughout the Dales and further afield who champion this recruitment effort to find our new **Friends**. If you would like to help promote our work in your local area, please get in touch with me.

The introduction of the Friends of the Dales as a brand name will not have a formal launch. It has already been registered with the Charity Commission as a **working name**. The new website is on-line now and the former YDS site has been archived. I will report on feedback from the new website and the recruitment leaflet at the AGM on Saturday 23 September in Hawes.

Though we don't expect the introduction of a new brand name to solve the membership challenge by itself, I believe that with our collective recruitment efforts, we can halt or at least slow down the decline in our numbers.

I do hope that members understand the reasoning behind the introduction of the Friends of the Dales name, and indeed support it, and I would like to stress again that we are all still members of the Yorkshire Dales Society and we continue to dedicate ourselves to protecting and enhancing this special area and encouraging people to value and enjoy it.

I would be very happy to hear from anyone who has other thoughts about how we can address our membership challenge. Thank you.

Mark Corner

mark.r.corner@hotmail.com or write to me at the Society's office.

A DETECTIVE STORY IN STONE

Hidden in Plain Sight History & Architecture of the Airton Meeting House

by Laurel Phillipson & Alison Armstrong

ISBN 978-1-904446-77-4, £9.50, Quacks Books, Petergate, York, (p&p£2)

or in person at Airton Meeting House from Resident Friend, check by phone (01729 830263) if wishing to visit.

Reading *Hidden in Plain Sight* helps to solve two questions. Why did the Friends in Airton, a small village, near Malham, have such a substantial barn-like building capable of holding more than 100 people as their place of worship? And why was its actual entrance somewhat concealed from the road? This attractively produced, highly readable book, divided into two parts, gives some essential historical background and an overview of the building's history. The second section gives a detailed explanation, complete with plans, drawings and photos, of the various changes to the building's fabric.

Even before the Reformation, there had been unease with the way the established Church had moved away from the simplicity of the teachings of the early Christian Church. There was also sporadic unrest about payment of tithes due to the Church. The Lollards in the late fourteenth century, followed by Grindletonians in the early sixteenth century, helped to promote some independent thought. People who held similar views on religion read the scriptures together and prayed together. The Seekers, pre-cursors of the Friends, also believed in biblical study and refused to recognise a formal church-based religion, which they claimed had lost its way. Characteristically they often sat in silence, waiting for some significant inspiration and seeking a new apostle. Charismatic George Fox^{*} heard of the Seekers and became increasingly drawn to and involved with them. On his celebrated journey northwards after preaching on Pendle Hill in 1652, he stopped to preach to nearly a thousand people on Firbank Fell, near Sedburgh, and was recognised by the Seekers as an 'apostle'. The local Westmorland Seekers later merged with the Religious Society of Friends and became popularly known as "The Quakers."

The small village of Airton did have one great advantage. It had a number of roads and tracks leading to it, which meant that people could approach the meeting place quite unobtrusively. Originally Skipton



seems to have been at least the regional headquarters of the Seeker movement and after the merger with the Quakers, when more space was needed, 'circumstantial evidence' seems to point to Airton Meeting Place as the new hub. The barn-like structure acted as a protective measure to conceal the building's true significance when both church and state authorities had started to punish dissenters by fines and imprisonment in the Dales and elsewhere. However, the owner of the nearby estate and dower house, the powerful Major John Lambert who led the new Model Army in Scotland and acted as Oliver Cromwell's second in command, (drafting moreover, the Articles of Government for the Protectorate), though never himself a Quaker, tolerated them and acted as a tacit protector. The Meeting House was situated on his land and clearly visible from his property. When the Lambert fortunes waned, William and Alice Ellis endowed the property, adding their own house and additional land. Their initials and the date 1700 (when they acquired it), are engraved into the stone above the doorway.



Why were the authorities so concerned about a group of peaceful people studying the Bible, or sitting in silence before praying together? First of all the Friends were seen as both political and religious rebels by not recognising Church authority, and also as a danger to the body politic, potential plotters against the state – even papists in disguise! In some cases it was a refusal to continue to pay high rents to their overlords, in a period when there was much real poverty. Heavy fines were the result, with a prison sentence and the seizure of goods from those who wouldn't or couldn't pay. A few even died in prison. The Friends in many areas also had to contend with a pernicious system of paid informers who attempted to infiltrate their groups and could be paid a proportion of any fines from the people they caught. After the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660, the Friends refused to swear the oath of allegiance to the Crown, and increasingly decided to keep their own register of marriages, births and deaths, setting up their own ceremonies. Their independent spirit was part of their quest for liberty, brotherhood and equality. Women were given a more prominent role in the Meeting House, dealing with the needy and other matters which affected women in particular. In Airton Meeting House, there is a panelled, closed off area where women elders would retire to discuss their particular issues. This would be raised and opened so that both male and female groups could report their deliberations to each other. The Meeting House is open to visitors to this day.

Hidden in Plain Sight is a timely reminder that the early Friends played a crucial role in helping us all to win the liberties we now tend to take so much for granted.

Fleur Speakman

^{*}See Events, Quaker Beginnings Walk led by Malcolm Petyt 22 July, page 19.



Former Hay Mew, now dwellings (Front)

HAY MEWS

There was an interesting article in the YDNPA's *The Visitor* 2017 about field barns and the storage of hay. A quote said "usually the daughter's job, to be in the hay mew, and you had to tread round and stamp it down". To us this was anathema and we were surprised that they got away with it. There is always the danger of spontaneous combustion.

A mew is a stack of hay in a barn extending upwards from the floor. Typically they would be between 15 and 30 feet square depending on the size of the barn and might be up to 20 feet high. The other main place to store hay was on the baulks over the mistal or shippon housing the cattle.

Until 1952 we lived on a dairy farm right in the middle of Wilsden, five miles from the centre of Bradford. Thereafter we lived on a much larger farm at Timble in Washburndale. My hay timing days did not really start until we moved to Timble.

My father started by laying down timbers over the barn's earth floor. Then wagon loads of loose hay were brought to the barn as weather permitted. Usually there were three of us on

the mew, my mother near the forking hole to act as distributor and two standing back on opposite sides. My father would be on the wagon outside forking in the hay – perhaps half a ton per load.

The first job for the mowers, if hay had not been added for a few days, was to go round and check for hot damp hay – often near boiling point. This was pulled out and thrown to the wall where it could cool and dry. The

mew would have settled and be lower than when hay had last been added.

Then as the hay was forked in, it was shaken up as it was distributed on the mew to maintain a level surface. There was no question of tramping down. The whole purpose was to allow air to get into the hay and extract residual moisture. Crossing the unconsolidated hay on the mew meant bouncing along rather than walking.



Former Hay Mew, now dwellings (Rear)

I would not say the work was physically hard. But it was conducted in a hot, airless and dusty atmosphere. It was a great relief during a break to get to the forking hole and gulp in fresh air and feel the breeze.

When the hay got up to the beams, it was my job, as the smallest, to pack as much as possible into the remaining space. This was an especially hot, airless job in the dusty, cobwebbed beams breathing in dusty air. And of course you could breathe a sigh of relief when the job was done. However a few days later the hay had settled and there was a space to be filled once again – though not so big this time. Sometimes if my father thought that I was "nobbut laikin" he would come into the space like a big gorilla and really press the hay down so that more could be got in.

When hay leading was finished for the year, he would rake down the front of the mew to give it a lovely clean finish. During the winter the hay was gradually consumed. Once the loose hay at the top had been taken, the compressed hay underneath had to be cut with a hay spade to extract it and this really was a very hard physical job.

In my early hay time days, I was paid one penny per hour (remember that would purchase a pen'orth of chips), later this went up to threepence and later still sixpence.

From the mid-1950s increasingly hay was baled and by the mid-1960s mews were a thing of the past.

The difference in approach to storing hay is quite remarkable. But I cannot recall any barn fires arising from either approach. I suspect climate played a large part in the different methods. In the drier, more settled weather east of the Pennines, the aim was to get the hay to the barn direct from where it lay in rows on the ground. This saved the time and labour of an extra process. The hay would be dry enough to complete the drying process in the barn without any fire risk. In the Dales with wetter, more unsettled conditions, the aim was to get the hay off the ground as soon as possible to avoid it spoiling and rotting. The hay was therefore temporarily stored in the fields either, typically, as 6 foot high haycocks, or if more hay could be brought together, as 10-12 foot high pikes. These might be left for several weeks, during which time the drying process was largely completed, before being transferred to the barn.

Bernard Peel

POLICY COMMITTEE RESPONDING TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS

YDS aims to provide a voice for both local residents and visitors on issues affecting the Yorkshire Dales. One way we do this is to keep a watchful eye on planning applications, especially those within the National Park. The National Park Authority receives over 600 planning applications per annum, issuing a list each week of new applications. The Policy Committee, a group of 13 Trustees and members drawn from a wide range of backgrounds, checks these lists and submits comments where there are concerns, or indeed where we wish to express our support for a proposal.

Over the past couple of years, the Committee has made a number of responses, notably on quarrying, new housing, recreational proposals and barn conversions, and some examples follow.

Housing: For the Dales, the proposal for 11 new dwellings at Long Preston is relatively large. We welcomed the inclusion of 6 affordable houses within this development, but pointed out that there needed to be a mechanism in place to secure these houses as affordable in perpetuity, to meet local housing needs. We asked that, without such a mechanism, the application be refused. The application has now been approved, with a legal agreement ensuring that these 6 units are transferred to a Registered Provider.

We were hopeful for 5 more affordable dwellings in Malham, although we had concerns about the use of a green field site, as well as the generation of more traffic. This proposal has now been approved, but with occupancy limited to local people, rather than secured as affordable housing.

Recreation: We have commented on a number of developments for camping, 'glamping' and caravanning. Whilst welcoming the opportunities provided for people to stay and enjoy the countryside at relatively low cost, we have had concerns around the scale and obtrusive nature of some of the proposals.

We were alerted to the proposal for a large scale holiday development at Hellifield Flashes, the low lying land adjacent to Hellifield. We lodged a strong objection with Craven District Council, making four points:

- Loss of valuable amenity and recreational green space
- Significant adverse impact on wildlife
- Scale of proposed complex was far too large for its location, substantially increasing traffic levels without bringing benefits to local community
- Significant adverse impacts on views from open access areas and public rights of way on higher land to the north, within the National Park.

Quarrying: We have commented on 3 quarry proposals, at Ingleton, Arcow and Swinden. We have objected to requests for extension of time, asking for the quarries to be closed in line with the National Planning Policy Framework, which seeks the removal of quarrying from all National Parks over time unless there are exceptional circumstances. We have not been convinced that there has been either national need (when materials can be obtained from elsewhere) or exceptional circumstances to justify extraction beyond current permission expiry dates. We have also pressed for a substantial increase in the amount of material taken out of the area by rail, rather than by road, to reduce the amount of heavy traffic on the minor Dales roads.

Conversion of traditional buildings: The relaxed policy on the conversion of barns to dwellings in the new Local Plan has resulted in a large number of proposals, mostly for local occupancy. Some of these, such as those within hamlets or farmsteads, we have welcomed as a way of ensuring the renovation of a traditional building. But on a few occasions, where the barn lies out in open countryside and away from any other settlement, we have objected. We are concerned about the visual impact arising from changes to the buildings and their surrounds, as well as increased road traffic and further demand on stretched services.

There is always something new coming along to keep the Policy Committee on its toes! Do let us know if you are aware of a proposal that you think we should address, but please understand that our resources are limited and we do have to prioritise our efforts.

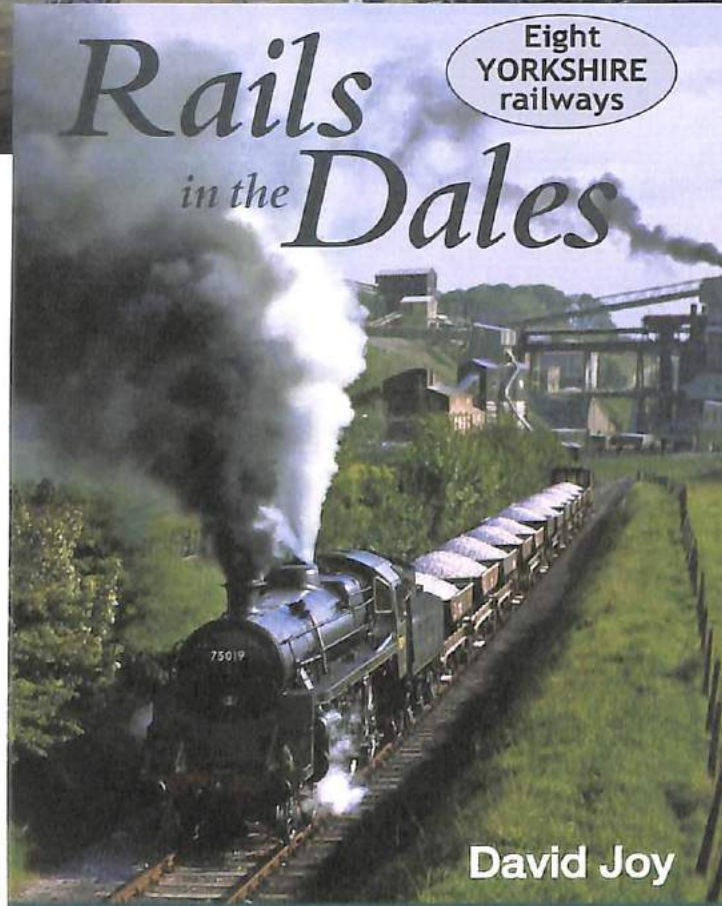
Nancy Stedman, Trustee

The Other Dales Railways

David Joy looks at the story of lines that today tend to be overshadowed by the Settle-Carlisle railway. They have much of fascination and feature in his new book *Rails in the Dales*.



The impressive Richmond station, the first to serve the Dales in 1846, was saved from demolition when closed and is now a thriving community centre with its exterior virtually unchanged. This perspective was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1848 – Science & Society Picture Library.



One of the last steam-worked trains to leave Swinden Quarry on the Grassington branch in summer 1968 is depicted on the cover of *Rails in the Dales*. The book costs £12.50. It is available through shops in the Dales and at National Park Centres, or can be obtained via the National Park website: retail.yorkshiredales.org.uk

To many there is now only one railway in the Yorkshire Dales. The Settle to Carlisle line has deservedly achieved cult status. Conceived in frustration and built in desperation by the Midland Railway, it survived attempted abandonment by its creator before construction work even started. Against the odds, it instead became a monument to the high noon of Victorian enterprise. Seemingly watched over by a guardian angel, it emerged triumphant from the most hard-fought closure proposal of all time and this spring was at last reopened after Storm Desmond of December 2015 interrupted through traffic for over a year.

Yet the Settle-Carlisle was certainly not built to serve the Dales. The sole object of the Midland Railway was to reach Scotland, heading northwards like a winged arrow with scant consideration for anything on the way. In so doing it created magnificent landmarks epitomised by the great Ribbleshead viaduct that have come to dwarf the achievements of other Dales railways. Yet lines purposefully serving individual dales – rather than running through them to a distant goal – left an impressive legacy that from first to last should not be forgotten.

The earliest of them were built to serve gateway towns. Spurred on by potential traffic from Swaledale's lead mines, the first in September 1846 was a branch linking Darlington with Richmond. It was completed just before the white heat of initial railway speculation gave way to savage cutbacks, and thus Richmond was fortunate in getting a terminus widely regarded as one of the finest in Britain. Designed by George Townsend Andrews, High Sheriff of York, it is

astonishingly medieval with its cloister-like entrance and mullioned windows. When the branch closed in 1967, it happily escaped demolition and 40 years later reopened as a community and business centre complete with restaurant, art gallery, two cinema screens and a range of artisan food producers. Known simply as The Station, a remarkable structure has been brought back into the heart of Richmond and its people.

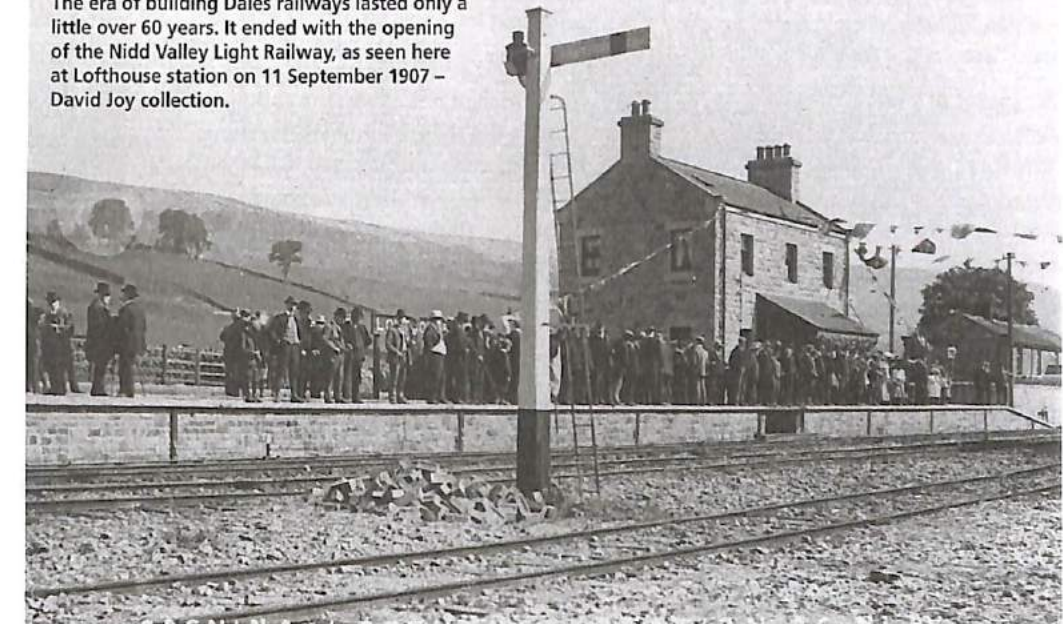
A year after the railway reached Swaledale's gateway town, Skipton found itself similarly blessed with completion of a line extending up the Aire valley from Leeds and Bradford. Recessionary times then forced a lull elsewhere, but in 1861 the railway finally reached Leyburn after 13 years of faltering progress from Northallerton. Much of the line has been preserved by the Wensleydale Railway with its buildings providing a fascinating kaleidoscope of station architecture.

Bizarrely, a striking monument to the railway age is often overlooked because it is a complete town. Ilkley, a mere village at the start of the Victorian time, would never have become a health resort and a gateway to much of Wharfedale without the arrival of the railway in 1865. As it was, Ilkley was soon described as 'abounding in hydropathic establishments, some of palatial character', and was well placed to become a dormitory town for Bradford wool merchants all too keen to escape living close to the smoke-filled squalor they had helped to create.

Crowds at Leyburn station in 1927, waiting to return home on eight special trains. A total eclipse of the sun had originally been expected, but denied by the weather. On the right are catering vehicles and gas tanks for replenishing restaurant car kitchens. HC Casserley



The era of building Dales railways lasted only a little over 60 years. It ended with the opening of the Nidd Valley Light Railway, as seen here at Lofthouse station on 11 September 1907 – David Joy collection.



No other communities were transformed in quite the same way. The Settle-Carlisle spawned a link-line up Wensleydale from Leyburn through Hawes, but other railway development was largely limited to relatively short branches such as those to Masham and Grassington. Just as Bradford played a key role in the development of Ilkley, it was also fundamental in creating the last line to be built in the Dales. By late Victorian times, the city was desperately short of water for its numerous mills. After much searching, it settled on building the two enormous Angram and Scar House reservoirs at the head of Upper Nidderdale. The only way to get materials to this desolate location was by constructing the Nidd Valley Light Railway from an existing railhead at Pateley Bridge.

Bradford was then in the high noon of its prosperity and no expense was spared. It decided to provide a public passenger service up the dale as far as Lofthouse and the opening day in September 1907 was a truly grand ceremony. The only jarring note was a protest from the city's Temperance Council about the amount spent on 'intoxicating drinks', which in today's money was well over £11,000!

It was destined not to last. Bus competition soon brought an end to passenger services and they ceased in 1930. The station buildings had been so well constructed that they seem likely to survive for many a long year, as will the great dams at Angram and Scar House. Like the town of Ilkley and the more obvious Richmond station, they would not have been with us today in quite the same way without the coming of the railway age.

It would make a good pub quiz question – which Yorkshire Dale doesn't have the word "dale" in its name?

The answer, as true Dales-lovers know, is Walden – sometimes mistakenly called "Waldendale" – a six-mile-long tributary valley of Bishopdale, along Walden Beck, stretching from the pretty village of West Burton to the remote flanks of Buckden Pike.

"Dean" or "den" means forested valley and "Wal" refers to Welshmen or Foreigners, possibly a reference to the old Celtic speaking inhabitants, descendants of the Iron-Age Brigante tribes still occupying this remote valley at the time of the Anglian settlers who gave names to so many farmsteads and villages in the Dales.

Always isolated, Walden is reputed to be one of the last places where wild cats and pine martens flourished, both into the 19th century, the pine marten well into the 20th.

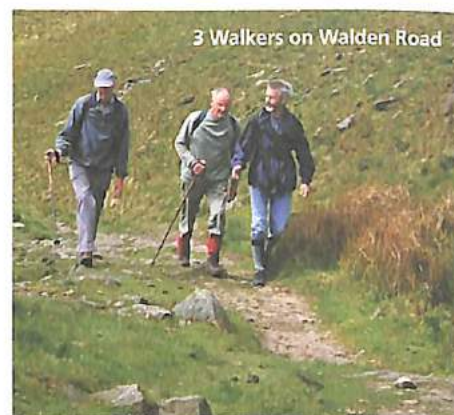
Because it is a cul-de-sac valley, with no village or even hamlet worthy of the name south of West Burton, relatively few visitors go there. You can drive up one side of the valley along Temple Lane as far as Kentucky House at Walden Head, but must come back the same way, or along the other side of the valley along Whiterow Lane as far as Nell Bank, but again you must retrace your drive. Where the road ends there are tracks and footpaths, which get narrower and wilder as you head south. There are no visitor facilities, only scattered farmsteads nestling into the hillsides, pastures scattered with buttercup in Spring and high empty moors stretching

up to the summit of Wasset Fell to the west or Harland Hill to the east.

According to Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby, writing in the 1950s, there were at that time 13 farms, but there are probably far less now, with amalgamations, and redundant farmhouses now gentrified weekend retreats for the urban affluent. A couple of centuries ago, the dale had a far larger population, with lead mining at Walden Head, Dovescar and above Wild Gath. This activity can still be traced as disturbed ground in the moorland. There was even a small smelt mill near Cote, on Thupton Gill, powered by a waterwheel.

This isn't an easy valley even to explore on foot. There are high moorland bridleways, a challenge for walkers and mountain bikers heading into Coverdale, and a classic circular walk from West Burton half way along the dale as far as Cowstone Gill, climbing back through woods on the side of How Hill before crossing to Newbiggin, with a choice of paths back to West Burton.

Bur by far the best way to discover Walden is to follow the fine old packhorse way, Walden Road, which starts behind the village of Starbotton in Wharfedale, and crosses the shoulder of Buckden Pike, heading down wild and boggy ground, headwaters of Walden Beck, before finally descending into the wonderful green pastureland of Walden itself. The footpath meanders past Hargill and Cowstone Gill farms, then through a score or so of beautiful meadows and pastures, before arriving at the welcoming Fox & Hounds inn, in West Burton. You can easily do this on any Sunday before the end of September by



either parking at Starbotton or, better still, catching DalesBus 874 bus which gives the strong walker plenty of time for the 9-mile hike before catching DalesBus 875 bus on the main road at 1655 back to Starbotton, Ilkley and Leeds.

Writer, poet, topographer and Rambler extraordinary, Alfred J. Brown made the journey on foot in the 1930s, in the opposite direction, from West Burton to Starbotton. He describes an epic walk in stormy conditions heading for the sanctuary of Starbotton's own Fox and Hounds: "Not I think in the remote valleys of the Pyrenees do you come closer to Solitude than in the high reaches of Walden Beck. Here is one of Nature's secret sanctuaries".

Walden hasn't changed much since AJB crossed over that spectacular dalehead. And you might even catch a glimpse of that elusive pine marten.

Colin Speakman

WALDEN

THE SECRET DALE

Walden view

Capturing the Past an update



It is hard to believe that Capturing the Past, the YDS project to identify, catalogue and digitise historic records of the Ingleborough area, has been underway for over one year already. Over 450 historic items in the catalogue can already be freely viewed. New material is being added almost daily and work has begun on preparing five collections of historic material, that will take the website to well over 2000 items. If you have any documents, photographs or other material of historic interest relating to this part of the Dales, that you would be willing to make publically available, then please do visit the site and add to the collection.

It's been a busy year for the team, making contacts, finding out about local archives and collections, and establishing a well-equipped base at the Folly, Settle. We are very heartened by the number and enthusiasm of the volunteers who have stepped forward. This has resulted in very enjoyable training days, learning how to use the digitising equipment, evaluate material, plan the structure of the catalogue, and familiarise ourselves with website use.

A lot of thought has gone into the structure of the website, and in particular the on-line catalogue, and the use of categories and key words to help those searching for information. An essential aim of the project is to make all this material available to the public, so we are very pleased to have launched the website in early April. Click on to: www.dalescommunityarchives.org.uk to see what archives have been uploaded so far.

Meanwhile the work is building up and further training sessions are being held. Volunteers are busy evaluating the extensive collection acquired from the former North Craven Historical Research Group. The Ingleborough Estate has been very generous in allowing us access to over 1000 estate maps. However, some of these maps are in a very fragile state, but our thanks go to North Yorkshire County Records Office which has offered professional help in digitising and cataloguing these invaluable records.

Support and training is being given to Long Preston volunteers to enable them to catalogue and digitise their substantial collection. Other collections where volunteers are now busy, are the Horton History Group, including records from Horton Parish Council, and the digitising of documents from the Stainforth area.

One of the special collections volunteers are presently working on are the documents held by Lawkland Parish Meeting, which consist of public records dating back to the mid-eighteenth century, including records of the first Poor House that served the Settle area. None of these documents have previously been available and no academic study has been made of them.

We have recently also been given access to an extensive collection of slides of the Three Peaks area that the late Jack Myers took from the mid 1950s to around 1980. Jack was a legendary caver and photographer in the 1940s and 50s, who later turned his attention to landscape photography in the Three Peaks area. Jack, together with Arthur Gemmel, wrote the seminal work on Yorkshire cave exploration – Underground Adventure. The third remarkable collection is a set of 100 original title deeds, indentures and wills relating to Newland House Farm at Horton in Ribblesdale. These documents cover the period 1665 to 1981, so they offer researchers an almost unique insight into over 400 years of history for one farmstead.

On Saturday 2 October the Yorkshire Dales Society will be holding a Focus on the Dales day in Victoria Hall in Settle, from 11 till 4. The team – Ian Fleming, Wilf Fenten, Mike Slater, Angus Winchester and Anne Webster – along with other volunteers, will tell about their work and the progress they have made. You will be able to explore the website, and look at all the equipment that we use. Bring along items of historic interest relevant to the Ingleton area – photos, maps, records of local life – and the team will help you scan and upload your items on to the website, thus adding to the burgeoning archive of historic information about the area. For further information check the website www.friendsofthedales.org.uk or contact the office.

The Project has also become known as the Yorkshire Dales Community Archives Project, a less catchy title, but it does emphasise how vital a contribution the community as a whole makes to it all. We are thrilled at the progress of this project, and keen to keep the momentum going, so do get in touch with the YDS office if you are interested in participating in some way.

Ian Fleming and Nancy Stedman

DRY STONE WALLS

HISTORY AND HERITAGE

by Angus J.L Winchester, Amberley Publishing,
ISBN 978 1 4456 5148 4, £14.99.

In his new book *Dry Stone Walls: History and Heritage*, Angus Winchester explains that these iconic features associated with the Dales countryside and elsewhere, are an essential part of the historic landscape. Their primary use to keep growing crops safe from livestock, generally dated from the medieval period, with a construction form standardised around the Tudor era. The second major stage of drystone wall building was the result of the Enclosure Acts of Parliament in the later eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Comparison of early wall styles and the later post-Enclosure periods show a contrast between the earlier more irregular shaped stones, and walls taking a more 'meandering route', while the later examples are more regular and usually composed of carefully cut and quarried stone. Dating the walls is still no easy matter, due to inevitable rebuilding over the centuries.

For generations there had been the practice of communal grazing with the head-

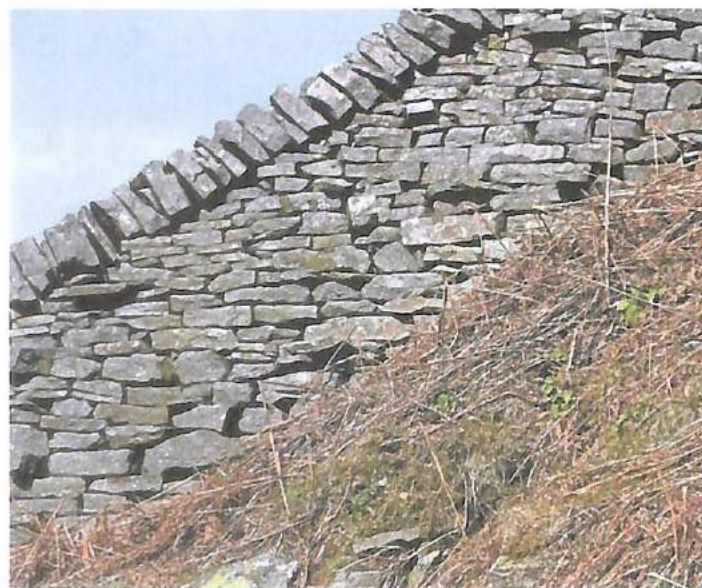
dyke as the boundary wall separating the community's fields from open hill grazing above. Regulations or "stinting" governed the quantity of horned beasts allowed on specific pastures. Changes in farming practices and also in attitudes regarding private property, caused the removal of existing boundaries and the creation of stock-proof enclosures, sometimes with hedges instead of walls. The book's second section becomes a field study for the many different wall styles, their varying gateposts and other features. Many prime examples are taken from the Yorkshire Dales, but others are from Cumbria and the Lakes, as well as other predominantly northern areas. Examining local wall styles becomes a fascinating study. A wall with overhanging capstones was built to deter sheep from jumping over them. A sheep creep or 'cripple hole' could be left in a wall to allow an animal to get through on a seasonal basis, but blocked by a large flagstone at other times. A less usual construction was

formed by large upright stones (orthostats) as the major part of the wall. In the Lake District, a further variation consisted of alternate boulder and slate layering courses.

Lucid explanations and well-chosen clear colour photography act as an invitation to take Winchester's guide *Dry Stone Walls* on your next suitable excursion, to view and compare some of these examples at first hand. Whether rugged or smooth, limestone, granite or sandstone, to quote the author: 'Dry stone walls constitute a landscape legacy rich in historical resonances and ... [form] an important part of the cultural history of upland areas.'

Perhaps there should be a question - if drystone walls are such an important part of our heritage, how viable is their continual upkeep economically speaking?

Fleur Speakman



Millstone grit enclosure wall at Hebden in Wharfedale - regular courses of gritstone blocks laid horizontally up the slope and topped with steep capstones



Boulders and slate at Tarn Hows, Lake District. Field stones held in a matrix of thin layers of slate

New Settle-Carlisle Study

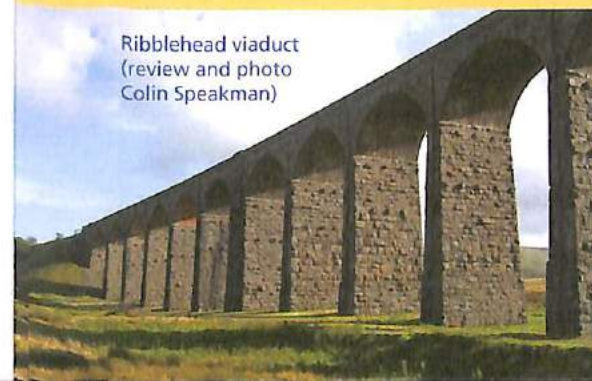
The Settle-Carlisle Railway 1850-1990

Available from FOSL shops in Appleby and Settle Stations price £10 or £13 with P&P from 23 Town Head, Settle, BD24 9JB - cheques J. M. Pearson.

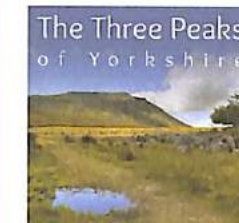
Yet another book on the Settle Carlisle Line? Martin Pearson's personal and idiosyncratic self-published study is mainly aimed at fellow enthusiasts and members of the Friends of the Settle-Carlisle line who know the story well. It is really a series of short paragraphs, kernels of information relating to the wider railway political scene and decision making process (though how the Cuban Missile Crisis is relevant is a puzzle), eventual attempts to close the S&C line and the triumphant campaign to save it. Sadly, the intriguing story of Dales Rail and the decision making which brought back seven local stations to regular use, plus the pioneering chartering of National Park trains; a critical stage in the saving and rebirth of the line, is dismissed in one short paragraph. Those of us involved with Dales Rail who also later campaigned on a wider agenda for many years (including the Yorkshire Dales Society) are referred to as mere anonymous "individuals in the Ramblers Association". The requirement for the Christmas Shoppers Special in December 1975 was not for "a Ranger - with a torch" but for basic lighting (we actually used miners' oil lamps at Dent). If such facts are so inaccurate, how reliable is other information? Nevertheless, it is a useful summary of the main events, with a comprehensive bibliography and equally useful appendices.

With the line now finally reopened after the huge Eden Brow landslip, the most intriguing news is the suggestion from Scotland that the Waverley route should be extended to Carlisle - to recreate the through Midland-North British route to Edinburgh. Now that would be a story to tell.

Ribblehead viaduct
(review and photo
Colin Speakman)



WE WELCOME A NEW BUSINESS MEMBER AND NEW AFFILIATE MEMBERS



The Three Peaks of Yorkshire - Where to go, what to do and where to stay in and around the Three Peaks and the towns and villages of this beautiful corner of the Yorkshire Dales. Forming part of the Pennines, the Three Peaks of Ingleborough, Wharfedale and Pen-y-Ghent lie at the western edge of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and offer some of the best scenery Yorkshire has to offer. Every year the Three Peaks are host to a number of sporting events including the Three Peaks Fell Race, The Fellsman & the Three Peaks Cyclocross Race. If you are looking to tackle the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge or just fancy walking one of the Three Peaks and need somewhere to stay - you've come to the right place!

www.threepkayorkshire.com



Orton Parish Council - Orton Parish Council have joined as an Affiliate Member, following a very successful visit by the Society to Orton in March 2017, which was kindly hosted by Kyle Blue, Chairman of the Parish Council. Further text on the Parish Council will follow in the next edition.

www.orton.org.uk/council



Asby Parish Council - Asby parish is a large and ancient rural civil parish in Cumbria, in north-west England, which historically, is part of Westmorland. The Parish Council aims to improve facilities and services for the parish and considers matters referred to it by local residents, Eden District Council, Cumbria County Council, central Government, and from 1 August 2016, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. These matters include planning applications, highways maintenance, housing provision, street lighting, broadband, the burial ground, play areas and village greens, litter, public seating, and the local bus service.

<http://asbyparish.org.uk/asby-parish-council>

Stainforth Parish Council - The Council has existed for more than 100 years. It manages street lighting, allotments (there are four), the village greens (two in Stainforth, one in Little Stainforth), maintains some seats, liaises with Highways about road repairs and signs, and monitors the drains. Planning applications are always referred to the Council for their views. There are also good relations with local police and National Park officers.

www.stainforth.info/parish_council.htm



Kids at School in Nepal

Kids at School in Nepal - Kids at School in Nepal (KASIN) was founded in 2005 as a small charity and is making a big difference to the lives of hundreds of children in Nepal, the 12th poorest country in the world. 85% of the population live in remote rural villages, 60% have no electricity, 38% have no toilet and 45% are illiterate. Most teachers in remote schools have no formal training. KASIN works directly with schools, teachers and volunteers. All of its funds go directly into projects, improving school facilities, providing teacher training, learning materials etc. Affiliate Membership has been paid for by a personal donation from a Trustee who is also inviting other cyclists to join him on a 100 mile fund-raising challenge on 24 September 2017 at the Birmingham Vélo.

www.kasin.org.uk

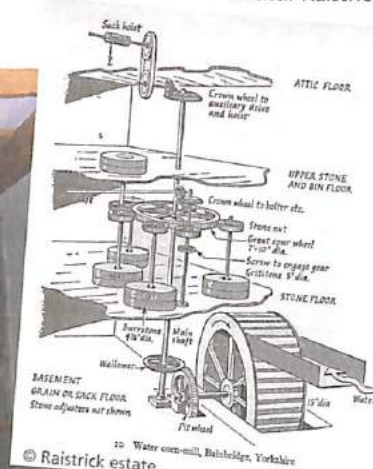
HISTORIC WENSLEYDALE MILL ENJOYS A NEW LEASE OF LIFE



Low Mill machinery, Bainbridge, in living area

It is not often that you find substantial sections of an old water mill actually contained within the structure of a dwelling house, and forming a sensational massive feature in an elegant living room. Low Mill at Bainbridge - house, former mill and its outbuildings, all Grade II listed, are a highly impressive complex, with the nearby mill race forming attractive views. The mill machinery has been restored and is in part working order, with the main core of the building rejuvenated as award winning bed and breakfast accommodation. Low Mill is now a Business Member.

Originally the mill belonged to the Crown, owners of the ancient hunting Forest of Bainbridge, but was leased to a succession of corn millers. The celebrated industrial archaeologist and historian, Dr. Arthur Raistrick, writes in his book *Industrial Archaeology*, that it "affords an excellent illustration of the machinery and arrangement of a mill" and contributes a full page diagram of the mill machinery. The mill itself dates largely from the eighteenth century, but with various nineteenth century alterations, necessary after a major fire broke out in 1830. The waterwheel is thought to have been enlarged at this time and enclosed in a brick outbuilding. After milling ceased in the early twentieth century, the mill became a dairy for a number of years, then an army cook-house and feeding station during World War II, and finally a storage area; unsurprisingly, becoming increasingly derelict after this time.



© Raistrick estate

In 1973, Low Mill gained a new lease of life when it was purchased by Dr Christopher Cole and massively refurbished, with restoration of the water wheel and mill machinery. Dr Cole used the premises as a workshop and dolls' house museum. But after his death, the building declined again, before its present charming transformation in 2010. Please note that the whole mill complex is in private ownership and not open to the public, though an occasional pre-booked tour may be feasible.

Finally, we are indebted to Low Mill owners and YDS Members Neil and Jane McNair for setting up a very successful Just-Giving appeal in 2016 to rescue the threatened Wensleydale 856 Flyer Hawes-Northallerton Sunday bus service, raising over £6,000 in an incredibly short space of time. The service continues to flourish serving the people of Wensleydale.

A RICH SEAM LEAD MINING AND TEXTILE HERITAGE IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES

The Dales Countryside Museum (DCM) in Hawes, has won a grant of £90,600 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to re-house and exhibit one of the country's most important lead mining collections in the Museum. The Yorkshire Dales Society has had strong links over the years with members of the Earby Mine Research Group whose research, rescue and conservation work over many years formed the basis of the Collection. The YDS have made several visits to their old premises in the Old School House at Earby. A total of 860 objects, which include mining wagons and tools, will be displayed at the DCM, together with much textile material – both former key Dales' industries. Entitled A Rich Seam, Lead Mining and Textile Heritage in the

Dales, this display will run over the next 18 months. It is also hoped to soon reassemble the giant waterwheel, known as the Kettlewell Crusher, in pride of place outdoors. This great wheel was rescued originally from Providence Mine near Kettlewell in Wharfedale by Earby Mine Research Group volunteers. See issue 126 Spring 2014 in the YDS Review, with a splendid colour photo on the cover and an article on the Collection.

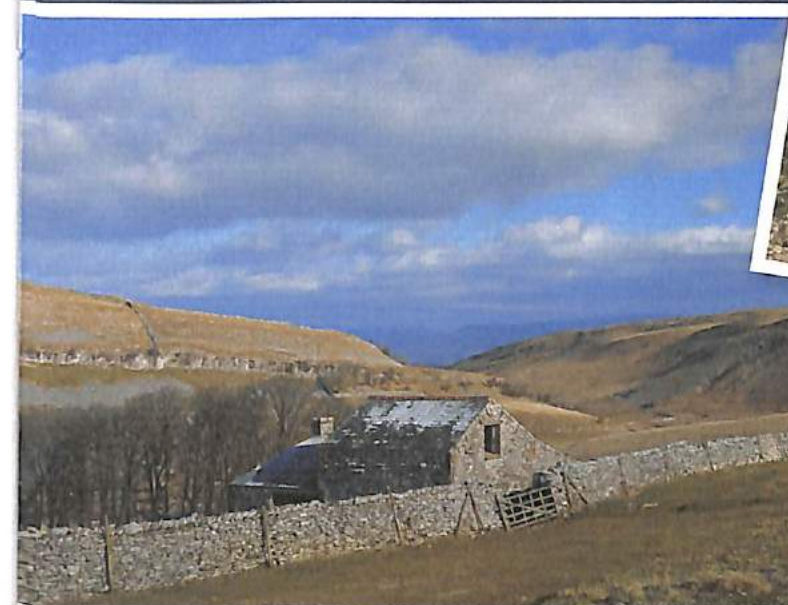
New exhibition space will display the DCM's extensive textile holdings as well as lead mining artefacts and will tell some of the stories of the miners themselves. The mezzanine floor will be extended to create more space, while lighting, electrics and decoration will be improved. 20 new volunteers will work beside permanent staff on the interpretation of this amazing part of Dales heritage.

Lead mining Wagons from Earby Mines Collection displayed at DCM

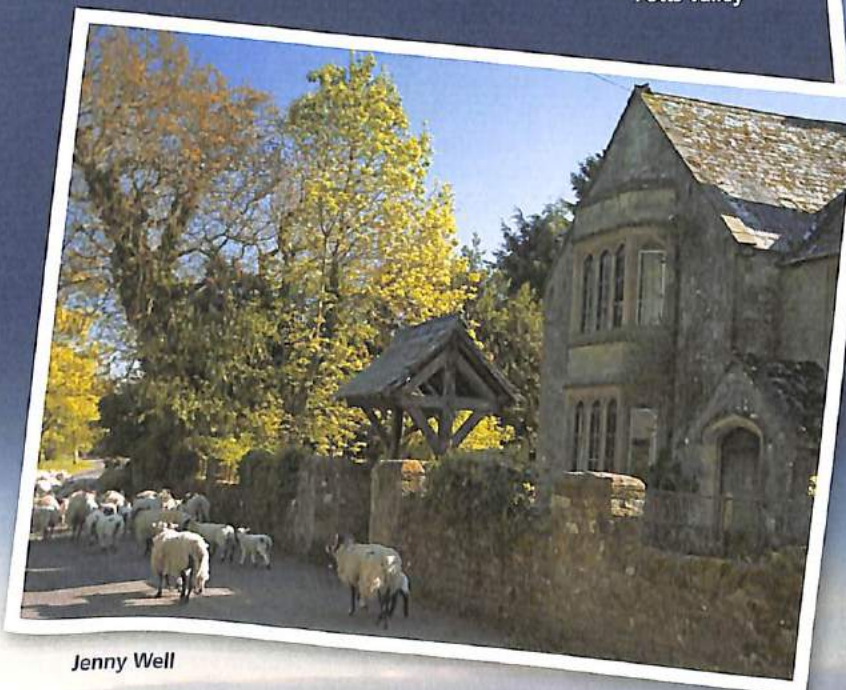


Westmorland

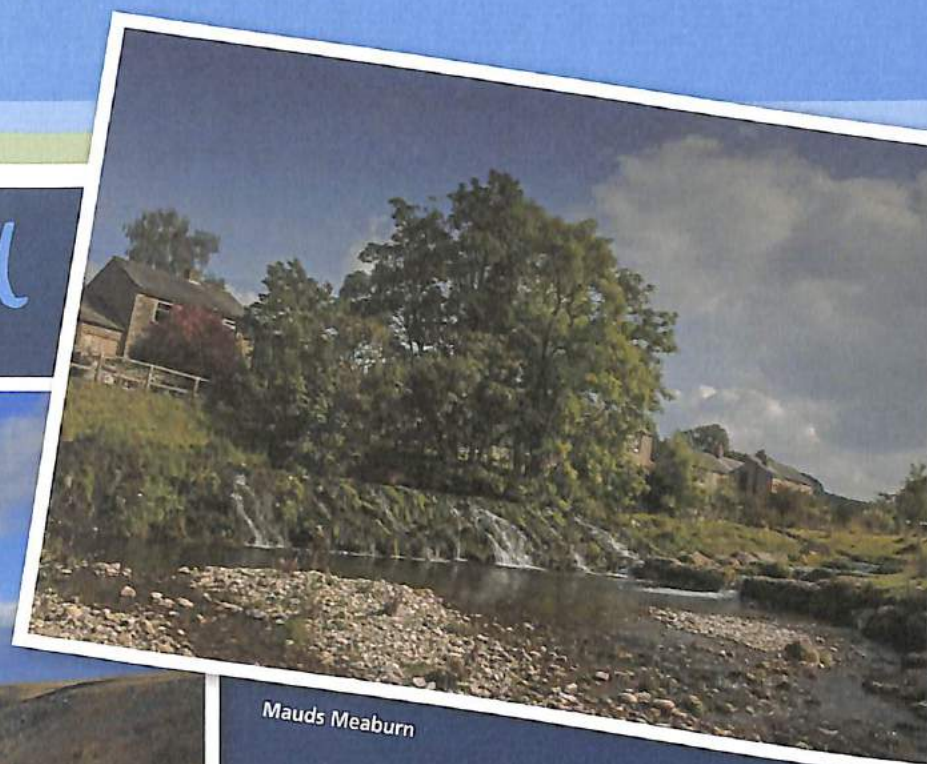
Photos by Nigel Coward



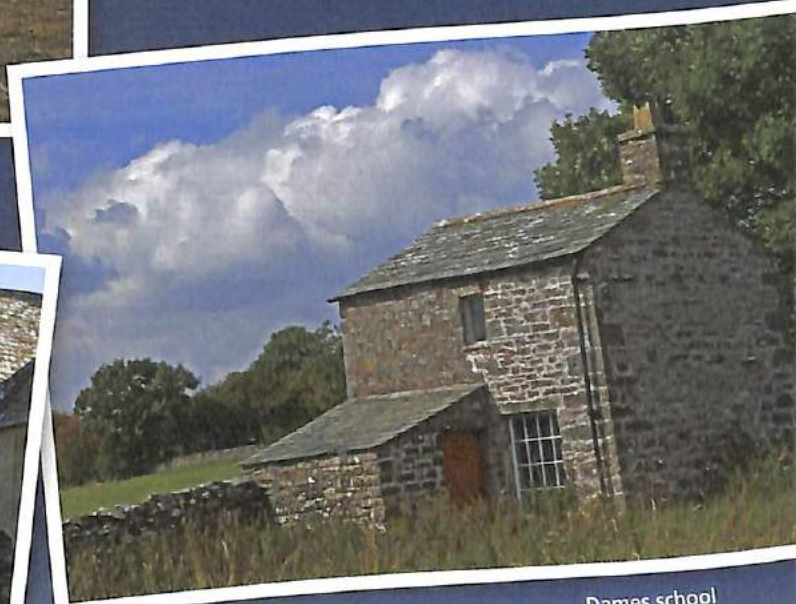
Potts Valley



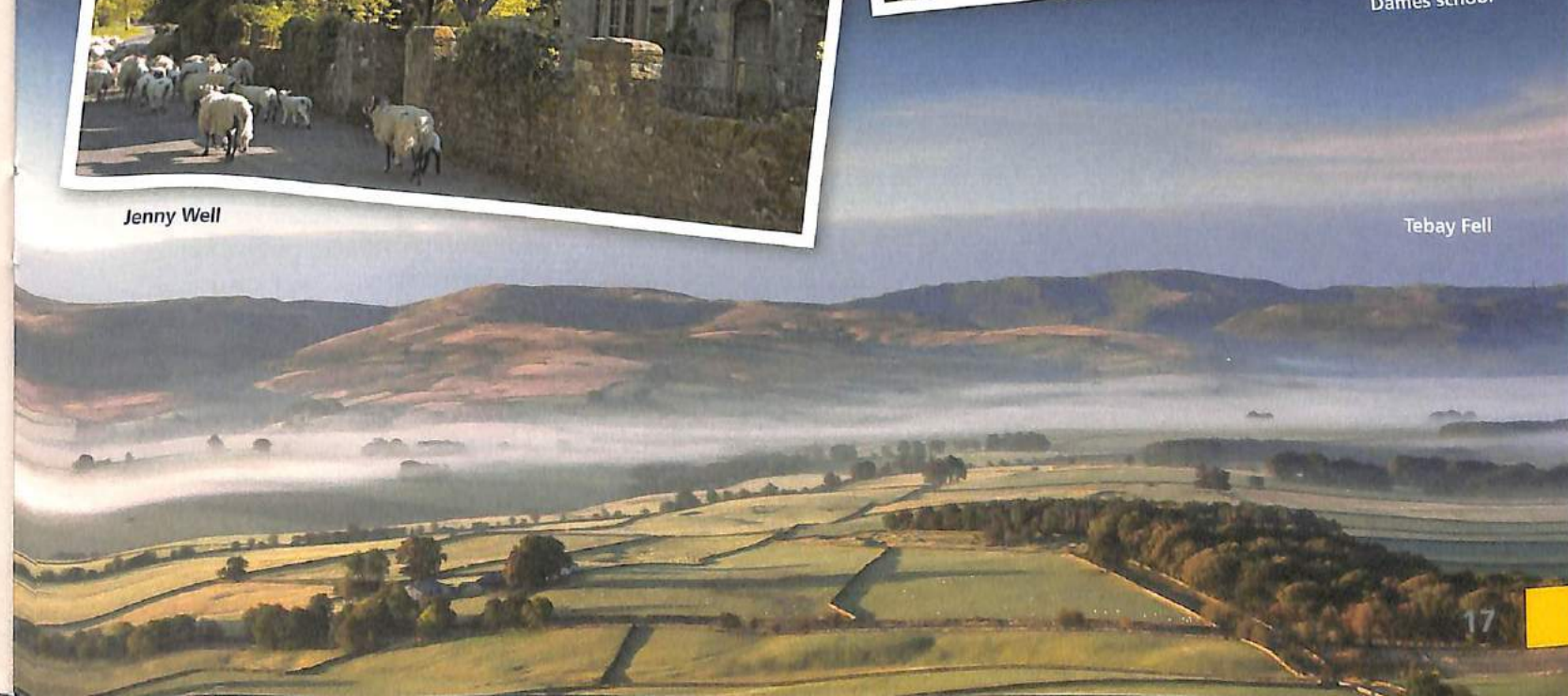
Jenny Well



Mauds Meaburn



Dames school



Tebay Fell

Penny Lowe

We are delighted to welcome Penny Lowe as the Society's part time Administration Assistant based in the office in Gargrave. Penny is focussing on all aspects of membership administration and supporting our Honorary Treasurer Graham Yule with financial administration. Penny has a wide range of experience and skills, having worked for the NHS in a financial role, and for a Yorkshire education charity for 16 years. She now has her own business offering holistic therapy. Penny and Bernard Peel, our long standing office volunteer, are currently embarking on a much needed overhaul of our membership files – a mammoth job!



DalesBus to amazing places



The Yorkshire Dales Society's own D&BCIC-managed Summer DalesBus network runs every Sunday and Bank Holiday until September 24th. New for 2017 is a minibus service from Lancaster, Bentham and Clitheroe Stations through the heart of the Forest of Bowland AONB, to Slaidburn and Gisburn Forest. And a new walkers' link between Fountains Abbey (meeting the bus from York) and Brimham Rocks which also links to Pateley Bridge and Ripon, with every

other week the bus continuing to Grassington via Greenhow, or to Lofthouse, Middlesmoor and Scar House. Classic routes such as the awe-inspiring Northern Dalesman service in both directions from Lancaster and Ribbleshead to Hawes over Buttermere Pass to Swaledale, or from Middlesbrough, Darlington and Richmond to Keld and Hawes continue, not forgetting direct buses from Wakefield and Leeds to Hawes, from Bradford to Malham, or the spectacularly beautiful Malham Tarn Shuttle through the heart of Malhamdale, and the Saturday and Sunday S1 and S2 services from Dent station into Dentdale to Sedbergh, extending on Sundays to Cautley for the Howgills.

Full details of all weekday and Sunday DalesBus service are in the MetroDalesbus timetable or downloadable on line at www.dalesbus.org. But members who might also want to explore our sister National Park, the North York Moors, might be interested to learn of the amazing revival of the wonderful MoorsBus network, which as well as a full Sunday network, now has direct buses on every Saturday and Monday until September 24th from York and Malton Stations to Pickering, Hutton-le-Hole, Castleton and Danby – details on www.moorsbus.org

National Park of the Year

A great boost for the Yorkshire Dales! Earlier this year the Yorkshire Dales National Park was named as the nation's favourite. Our National Park's crowning achievement, as winner of the BBC Countryfile Magazine's survey for the National Park of the year, was in spite of stiff competition from the Peak District, the South Downs, Snowdonia and Loch Lomond. Our dramatic limestone landscape, waterfalls, hay meadows, pretty villages and woodlands, swept the board. Carl Lis, Chairman of the YDNPA, said it was an excellent result for the Yorkshire Dales. He continued: "The Yorkshire Dales is an area of amazing contrasts; it can be raw, grey, awesome or sweetly beautiful. Everyone who lives in the Park and helps to manage the land, not least our farmers, should take pleasure from this award, and perhaps even afford themselves a little pat on the back. And to everyone who visits the Park and promotes the understanding and enjoyment of it, thank you and come again soon."

Colin Speakman's article on pages 4-5, explains how access to such a beautiful area as our National Park needs to be shared with everyone, including those of limited means or without their own transport, who as the YDS has always argued, are equal stakeholders, who deserve to share all the wonderful personal health and well-being benefits a visit to an area as inspiring as the Yorkshire Dales can bring.

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.friendsofthedales.org.uk and Facebook for last minute updates or ring/email me.

Register an interest in attending/queries:
ann.shadrake@friendsofthedales.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.

Saturday, 22 July 2017

C Medium 🐾

Quaker Beginnings

Led by Trustee Dr Malcolm Petyt, this 7 mile linear walk will link three significant places associated with the visit of George Fox in 1652, regarded as the start of the Quaker movement. From the Parish Church in Sedbergh we will walk by field paths to Brigflatts, the second oldest surviving Meeting House in England, then wind cross-country to Fox's Pulpit where 1,000 Seekers heard Fox preach in 1652. Thence with splendid views of the Howgill Fells to Firbank, where cars will transport us back to Sedbergh. Moderate walk with some stiles and climbing. Toilets and picnic stop at Brigflatts. Well behaved dogs on leads welcome. Finishes in time for a cuppa in Sedbergh or why not stay on and make a weekend of it in this lovely Cumbrian town.

11:00 Meet at St Andrew's Parish Church, Main Street, Sedbergh, LA10 5BZ.

P&D parking nearby. Train to Dent (Leeds d. 08:49 Dent Station a.10:16) connects by bus S1 at Dent Station d.10:20 for Sedbergh a. 10:50. Return bus leaves Sedbergh 16:50 to connect with 17:32 train from Dent, arrives Leeds 19:07. Please check all public transport details in advance.

Saturday, 12 August 2017

C Medium 🐾

Barbondale

Join volunteer Bernard Peel for a lovely 8 miles circular walk (up to 1,000 ft ascent) around Barbon Low Fell, in recently extended Westmorland area of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The route will head south along field paths, then east ascending Brownthwaite Moss on the way to Bullpot Farm and Bullpot of the Witches. Returning via Barbon Manor Wood in Barbondale. Well behaved dogs on leads welcome 🐾. Bring a packed lunch.

11:00 Meet at St Bartholomew's Church, Barbon, near Kirkby Lonsdale, LA6 2AJ.

Please park with consideration on village roads. Regret no public transport, to arrange lifts contact Bernard at the office (office@friendsofthedales.org.uk or 01756 749400).



Saturday, 23 September 2017

f Short 🐾

Gayle Mill, Hawes and AGM

Join us in the lovely Wensleydale town of Hawes for a day full of interest. In the morning we have arranged a full guided tour of a restored working saw mill - Gayle Mill (discounted fee of £3 per person). There will also be time to explore the Dales Countryside Museum (free, normal charge waived for our visit). In the afternoon we have booked the meeting room at the Museum with presentations from Mark Corner, Chairman, and Trustees/staff about the Society's successes and future plans. Plenty of opportunities to ask questions and offer ideas about what the Society should be doing. This will be followed by the formal and short AGM. Why not book local accommodation for the weekend? Hawes has much to offer for a longer stay. Regret no dogs except RAD.

10:00 Meet at Dales Countryside Museum, Station Yard, Burtsett Road, Hawes, DL8 3NT. Parking pass (free) issued on arrival.

10:30 Group walk to Gayle Mill (about 20 minutes walk, gentle uphill). If you prefer not to walk, there is some parking at the Mill including 2 disabled bays, but please register at DCM first.

11:00 One hour guided tour of the three floors of Gayle Mill led by their volunteers. Level access (suitable for mobility scooters) into the first floor but no lifts to upper floors. If you are not able to visit the upper floors, you can enjoy the early part of the tour and remain to watch a DVD about the Mill. Time to visit the craft shop with wood products made in the Mill. Return walk/drive into Hawes to take lunch locally (many options).

1:45 Meet at Dales Countryside Museum for afternoon presentations, discussions and AGM. Tea/coffee will be served during the afternoon. The event will close around 4:30 pm.

Please book your place by emailing ann.shadrake@friendsofthedales.org.uk, phone 01756 749400 or by writing to Ann (address on back cover) so numbers can be confirmed for the visit to Gayle Mill (£3 payable to the Society on the day) and for the AGM in the afternoon. Train/bus options see www.dalesbus.org. If you need a lift, or can offer one, please let Ann know.

Saturday, 21 October 2017

f Short 🐾

Capturing the Past – Open Day

Help us celebrate the completion of the first two years of our fantastic HLF funded community archiving project - Capturing the Past! Members of the expert team and local volunteers will be showcasing the incredible historic photographs, estate maps, wills and other documents unearthed as part of this very successful project. You can see the scanning and digitising equipment in action, and explore the huge catalogue of items now uploaded on the special website. If you live in Ingleborough Dales area, you can bring along your own archive material for the team to assess and upload on the day! Hear how we hope to roll out the project to help other communities across the Dales collate and digitise their own archives. See reports on the project by Trustee Nancy Stedman and Project Leader Ian Fleming elsewhere in this Review.

11:00 to 4:00 pm. in the main hall at Victoria Hall, Kirkgate, Settle, BD23 9DZ. Settle is well served by trains and buses and has ample P&D parking close by.

George Fox



Key

C Classic Countryside

f Focus on the Dales

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Lead Miner's Kibble used to lift material out of the mine, see article on Earby Mine Collection and Dales Countryside Museum's plans for this collection page 18.

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

For any contributions or comments concerning this publication, please contact:

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www.friendsofthedales.org.uk



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