

Autumn 2017 : Issue 140

Yorkshire **DALES** review

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- **SALMON ON THE RIBBLE**
- **AA BOX**
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- **EXTENSION TO THE DALES**

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**Friends of the
DALES**
YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY
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Yorkshire DALES review

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

I am aware of my good fortune in gingerly stepping into some very, very big shoes at the *Yorkshire Dales Review*. Following Fleur's indomitable reign of so many years is not a task for the faint-hearted and I hope that I am up to the challenge of carrying on her invaluable work. To reassure you all, I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as a travel journalist and magazine editor of many years standing. Yorkshire born and bred, I had wandered the country from Scotland to London before my husband and I packed up our life in Wiltshire and decamped back to the Dales five years ago. We now live in Nidderdale AONB with our dogs and chickens and spend our weekends getting to know our glorious surroundings. It really does feel like coming home.

And as we enter this new era with the *Yorkshire Dales Review*, I'd like to pay tribute to the people behind the scenes, who co-ordinate policy and planning matters, manage finance and governance, organise all our great events (see page 19) and spend their free time leading walks and recruiting new members to our charity. There's a fantastic team of trustees and volunteers made up of driven and focused individuals who bring all sorts of life skills to the Friends of the Dales. And now we have three more: with backgrounds in economics, industry and land management, our three new trustees are introduced on page 16. All three have been closely connected to the Dales for years, and like me have fallen in love with its ancient charms.

We already have much to be thankful for in the Dales, especially as autumn creeps in. Hilary Fenten's spectacular photographs capture this natural beauty on page 17. And thanks to our clear night skies, far away from light pollution in the cities, you'll find a new type of tourism on our doorstep, described on page 4. But the Dales are fragile and achieving a sustainable future for this magical landscape won't happen without clear-headed future planning, so please read and react to Chairman Mark Corner's article on page 11. It's part of that forward planning that led to the expansion of the Yorkshire Dales National Park last year, a campaign driven by Orton resident Kyle Blue and explored on page 10.

So here goes with the first *Yorkshire Dales Review* under the new regime. In this issue, we've included some readers' letters for the first time and we really do welcome your feedback. Please feel free to let us know what you think about the magazine, what you like best about it – or what you'd like changed. How do you think we can improve it and what would you like to read about? Contact details, from telephone to email, are all available on the back cover of the *Review*.

Yorkshire people are world-famous for their open hearts and friendly, accepting ways so we hope that you'll all welcome in this new era for the *Yorkshire Dales Review* and work alongside us to ensure its future and the future of our beloved Dales.

Sasha Heseltine

MANY THANKS TO FLEUR

As noted in the summer issue of the *Yorkshire Dales Review*, Fleur Speakman has retired after 35 years' service to the *Yorkshire Dales Society*. In early July we held a special lunch for her, along with her husband Colin and her closest friends, at the Craiglands Hotel in Ilkley to celebrate her outstanding achievements. Guests included Chris and Joan Alder, Rod and Judith Clough, Ruth Annison, Dawn Burton, Colin and Sheila Ginger, Chris Grogan, David and Judith Joy, Mike and Ann Johnson, and Bernard and Rosa Peel. Trustees Ann Cryer, Malcolm Petyt, Chris Hartley and Nancy Stedman also attended, along with trustee Mike Stephenson and his wife Jan.

Fleur gave special thanks to Michael Spencer of Briggs Brothers, the graphic designer who has worked closely with her for the last seven years or so on producing the magazine to such a high standard. Briggs Brothers presented Fleur with a beautiful bouquet to mark her retirement. Mark Corner, as Chairman of Friends of the Dales, expressed his heartfelt thanks to Fleur for her commitment and professionalism to the benefit of the society over so many years. We presented Fleur with a basket of flowers and £100 of national gardening vouchers purchased with generous donations from those present and others who were unable to attend.



Michael Spencer of Briggs Brothers, Cononley, with Mrs Fleur Speakman at her retirement lunch.



STAR ATTRACTIONS IN THE DALES

Ribbleshead Viaduct by night. Courtesy of Matthew Savage

Initiatives aimed at tempting tourists to national parks outside the peak holiday season are not new but, as Lynn Leadbeatter discovers, these days visitors are being encouraged to explore the Yorkshire Dales under the cover of darkness too.

FOTD business member Diane Howarth was among the first accommodation providers to recognise the potential of one of the area's greatest natural assets – its freedom from the light pollution that obscures the stars and planets over much of the UK. Now guests at Cottage in the Dales in West Burton and Newbiggin receive a free 'Dark Skies' package including telescope, binoculars, torches, guides and even picnic baskets

and blankets so they can enjoy home comforts while exploring the constellations overhead.

"The sight of the Aurora Borealis at Abisko in Sweden last year was just spectacular," Diane says. "Then I sat out in my garden in August and saw the Perseid meteor shower. I've even taken photographs of the Northern Lights on my mobile phone from one of our cottages. I put the 'Dark Skies' package together with technical help from astronomer Richard Darn, launched it in October last year and quickly received three bookings for winter as a result. It's all about going the extra mile and it's helped to differentiate us. The Guardian recommended us in a Dark Skies review in February this year, also resulting in additional bookings."

Our Clear Skies

Looking up and seeing the night sky in all its glory is something our ancestors took for granted, but now the artificial glow above our towns and cities has robbed most of us of this awe-inspiring spectacle. Not so in the Yorkshire Dales, where up to 2,000 stars can be seen in clear weather. The area's remoteness from urban light pollution also makes it an excellent location for viewing the planets, shooting stars, the moon – and even the Aurora Borealis. It's good news for wildlife too. Light pollution messes with the 24-hour circadian rhythms that regulate many aspects of plant and animal behaviour including reproduction, feeding and migration.

Fortunately 'Night Blight' maps produced by Campaign to Protect Rural England show that 98 per cent of the Yorkshire Dales' skies fall into the two darkest categories. Stargazers can enjoy exploring the constellations at four discovery sites: at Tan Hill Inn above Swaledale; the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes; and Buckden and Malham national park car parks, where there are excellent sight lines and the Milky Way is visible to the naked eye. With the best times for viewing between mid-August and early May, increased awareness of the clarity of the night skies is now helping to support tourism businesses through the lean winter months.

It could also attract visitors from farther afield. The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority is bidding to join a select group of 11 International Dark Sky Reserves, which offer specific protection to preserve the exceptional quality of their starry nights or nocturnal environment. Qualifying for designation is far from easy and it is expected to take several months for officers to collect the required meter readings. But if the Dales are successful, they will join Snowdonia, Exmoor, the Brecon Beacons and the South Downs as being recognised for providing an exceptional resource, relative to the communities and cities that surround them, where the night sky is routinely equal to or darker than 20 magnitudes per square arc second.



Dark-skies watching with a telescope.
Courtesy of Richard Darn

Sightseeing by Night

In the meantime, more and more people are realising that beautiful views aren't restricted to daylight hours. From 10–25 February 2018 the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors national park authorities will join forces to organise a varied programme of activities and events with a nocturnal theme, building on the success of two previous festivals. Last year's highlights included the installation of a pop-up planetarium at Grassington Primary School, enabling visitors to take a virtual tour of the stars. Other activities included night runs, cycling and caving and a talk by Richard Darn, who has acted as consultant to Northumberland International Dark Sky Park.

This year the programme will be extended from one week to two, to attract a wider audience while allowing for the differing timing of school half-term holidays. Similar festivals are being held by the Exmoor and South Downs national parks.

Businesses are also waking up to the potential in the skies above. Diane has been spreading the message through Destination Dales, an advisory group that helps to develop tourism locally while safeguarding the special qualities of the countryside. Other accommodation providers, such as FOTD business member Cambridge House in Reeth, are now following her lead. Last year owner Sheila Mitchell organised a talk by Richard Darn supported by the village astronomy group and there are plans to hold a similar Stargazing Reeth event as part of the Dark Skies Festival 2018. Upper Nidderdale Landscape Partnership has given small grants to develop facilities for visitors keen to explore the heavens above.

Those of us lucky enough to live in or near our national park could also take time out to appreciate that some of its special qualities really are out of this world.



To download a brochure to help you enjoy stargazing in the Yorkshire Dales, visit www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/visit-the-dales/things-to-see-and-do/stargazing/dark-skies-festival

Yorkshire Dales accommodation with dark skies packages:

Cottage in the Dales, Wensleydale and Bishopdale
www.cottageinthedales.co.uk

Cambridge House, Swaledale
www.cambridgehousesreeth.co.uk

YORKSHIRE DALES DARK SKIES FESTIVAL

Our superb dark skies are one of the features that make the Yorkshire Dales National Park so special and the Yorkshire Dales Dark Skies Festival 2018 will take place between Saturday 10th to Sunday 25th February 2018. Tickets available from the beginning of October on www.darkskiesnationalparks.org.uk



Kathy Swinscoe in The Courtyard Dairy.
Courtesy of Tim Hancock

LIVING THE DREAM IN SETTLE

Many people can only dream of working for themselves. But entrepreneurial couple Andy and Kathy Swinscoe are turning their dreams into reality.

Lots of us would love to return to our roots and live in the countryside among the people we grew up with. For most of us, these ideas remain dreams, but Andy and Kathy have taken the plunge and now run an award-winning cheese business in the Yorkshire Dales.

Andy's originally from Appleby and Kathy from Rochdale; they planned to leave their jobs in fine dining in the south of England and set up an artisan cheese business that connected with the Dales farming community.

Making a success of your own business needs more than courage – you need to know what you are doing. Andy served an apprenticeship in cheese making in France, the country of 365 cheeses. In 2012 the couple opened their shop in The Courtyard near Settle, and their hard work was rewarded with their shop gaining accolades including Best New Cheese Shop in 2012 and the prestigious World Cheese Award from the Guild of Fine Foods the following year.

Their business has proved so successful that they have now moved to Crows Nest

Barn near Austwick, keeping the name of The Courtyard Dairy. Here the Swinscoes champion traditional farmhouse cheeses and have added a café, cheese exhibition and cheese-making courses to their burgeoning empire.

Sustainable Business Model

With milk prices currently so low, their move has given local Dales farmers a welcome new market for their dairy products, from sheep, goats and cows. The couple are helping the wider Dales community by developing a sustainable business model that provides a market for local products and creates jobs as well as adding another tourist attraction for people to visit.

Provenance is a key attribute in artisan food products and this is now being applied to cheese making, with The Courtyard Dairy sourcing from small farms in the area. One key supplier is Andrew Hattan of Low Riggs Farm, Middlesmoor in Nidderdale, who has a dozen dairy shorthorn cows, and other farmers are already asking Andy and Kathy to help them develop new cheese recipes.

The Dales need more entrepreneurs to match the Swinscoes' success, as it benefits the national park in so many ways while protecting the communities that form a vital piece of the Dales magic.

Discount Offer on A-Z Maps

Members can receive a fantastic 20% discount on all publications by the Geographers' A-Z Map Company Ltd, when bought online at www.az.co.uk.

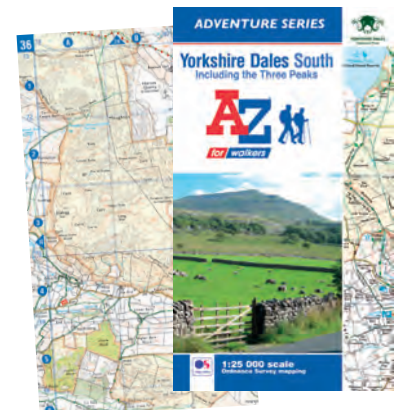
The new Adventure Series uses Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 mapping in a neat book, which is the same size as a standard folded OS map and fits in a standard map case. A good alternative to a flappy map on a windy hillside!

We have seen the Adventure Series for the Pennine Way (in two books, North and South), and one for the Yorkshire Dales South. This edition was released before the extension to the national park so the new area is not included in the book. No doubt it will be updated in a future edition.

The books are robust and easy to use. There is an overlap as you turn the page and the maps open flat. The laminated covers have front and end flaps and are handily printed with PROW and Access map keys. There is an index to towns, villages, hamlets and features such as nature reserves, car parks and youth hostels, each with page references and a six-figure National Grid reference.

You'll need to enter the code FOTD20 when you purchase online – the retail price is £8.95 without the discount – and that's available until the end of 2017.

A great present for a keen walker or cyclist!



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WALKING IN QUAKER FOOTSTEPS AROUND SEDBERGH

There are several sites around Sedbergh of great importance in the development of Quakerism. In July, Malcolm Petyt led a circular walk to find out more.

About a mile west of Sedbergh on the Kirkby Lonsdale road, a number of cars and minibuses can often be seen parked in a small lay-by. For the casual passer-by, there is nothing remarkable to be seen, but a signpost points down a narrow lane towards a building that draws Quakers and other visitors from across the world. This is Brigflatts Meeting House, dating from 1675 and the third-oldest place of Quaker worship in the country. It is listed as of Grade 1 significance.

And Sedbergh has more claims to historic importance in the Quaker movement. For it was here in 1652 that George Fox, the founder of the Religious Society of Friends, preached in the churchyard of St Andrew's Church. He refused to go into a church itself (speaking of churches as "steeplehouses" with their "hireling priests") and believed that the church was simply "the body of people with Christ at their head".

Preaching in the Open Air

Fox was invited by the Westmorland Seekers to attend a great meeting on Firbank Fell, three miles northwest of Sedbergh. There he preached a three-hour sermon to around 1,000 Seekers and this is widely seen as the start of the Quaker movement. He spoke from the rocky crag now known as Fox's Pulpit, walking up there from a little cottage across Lunesdale that also hosted significant events in Quaker history a few years later.

With so many sites around Sedbergh of importance to Quakerism, a group of local walkers has produced an illustrated guide to a Quaker-themed walk, with maps and instructions for following the route. A Sedbergh Quaker Trail, 2016, is available from Sedbergh Tourist Information Centre for £1.50. The route is around 11 miles in all, but can be chopped down into shorter sections.

The walk starts outside St Andrew's Church, dating from the 12th century and itself of considerable historical and architectural interest. Here George Fox preached standing on a bench under a yew tree. Crossing through the grounds of Sedbergh School, founded in 1525

and one of Yorkshire's great public schools, to the hamlet of Birks, the route then takes a path over the fields to Brigflatts. This is possibly the route taken for centuries by Sedbergh Friends going to Meeting there.

The Meeting at Brigflatts was settled as a worshipping community in 1652, the year of Fox's first visit to Sedbergh, although the Friends Meeting House itself was built in 1675. It is a fascinating building to explore before continuing the walk.

The Dales Way

The route then winds towards the ancient Lincoln's Inn Bridge over the River Lune on the A684, passing the 16th-century Ingmire Hall and following the Dales Way for a good half-mile. Next is a path across fields and through a wood, which has a wonderful display of bluebells in spring. This brings walkers to the narrow road on Firbank Fell that leads up to Fox's Pulpit and the site of his famous three-hour sermon.

There are two options for the next section of the walk, taking walkers east through Firbank, and both offering wonderful views across Lunesdale to the magnificent Howgill Fells. A steep descent to the Lune itself ends at Fisherman's Bridge, destroyed by Storm Desmond in December 2015 and due for rebuilding in late 2017. Here the Dales Way is joined again as far as Bramaskew Farm. Close by is Drawell Cottage, the 17th-century home of the Blaykling family who were Fox's hosts the night before his Firbank Fell sermon. It was also where the Dent militia arrested a group of Friends in 1665 and the venue for a conference in 1676 attended by William Penn, who went on found to the Quaker colony of Pennsylvania.

From there, it's a short walk to Howgill Lane, which leads back to Sedbergh. For those in the know, a more interesting – and more demanding – route leads up through lovely Cragstone Wood to the slopes of Winder. A route close to the fell wall leads to Lockbank Farm, one of the most popular access points onto the Howgills and then it's a final short stroll down the lane to Sedbergh.



Brigflatts Meeting House. Courtesy of Mark Corner



Fox's Pulpit. Courtesy of Mark Corner



Triumphant: Sheila shows off the refurbished AA Box. Courtesy of Betsy Everett



Bob Donnison paints the AA Box. Courtesy of Betsy Everett

AYSGARTH AA BOX SAVED

As listed buildings go, it's not even much to write home about. It serves no useful purpose and stands poor comparison with ancient churches, grand country houses and the blue-plaque homes of long-dead celebrities. Its usefulness long usurped by mobile phones, the black-and-yellow box is little more than a reminder of the days when stranded drivers had to trudge for miles to summon help, days when AA patrolmen on motorcycles saluted motorists whose cars sported their distinctive yellow badge.

Yet the box's listed status marks it out as a true, if tiny, national treasure and makes it deserving of special protection by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Planning Authority. And as one of only 18 such boxes remaining of more than a 1,000 built, it has not been forgotten.

Every Sunday over summer, weather permitting and courtesy of the Acorn Wensleydale Flyer 856 bus service, a one-woman roadside rescue operation was mounted. Armed with bin bags, gardening gloves, a high-visibility jacket and a sturdy determination, Sheila Simms, a life member of Friends of the Dales from Leyburn, alights from the bus, does an hour's weeding, dead-heading and maintenance of the wildflower beds flanking the box, before dodging the motorcyclists on the busy A684 to head home on the return service.

According to framed newspaper cuttings inside the box, the gardens had for years been looked after by volunteers Marjorie Workman and Peter Percival. But last spring Sheila realised the work had stopped and took it on herself. "I get about an hour to work before catching the bus back to Leyburn. I'm no gardener so just trim back and remove stuff as necessary," she says.

A defunct AA call box sitting in a lay-by at the side of the A684 near Aysgarth may be an unlikely national treasure, but as a Grade II listed building that's precisely what it is, explains Betsy Everett.

The small plots host a mass of wildflowers including wood avens, Welsh poppies, golden rod, yellow loosestrife, goat's beard, cow parsley, meadowsweet, red campion and red valerian, with the display changing through the year.

Were it not for the Wensleydale Flyer, the service managed by the Yorkshire Dales Society's subsidiary, the Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company, Sheila could not make the journey to the garden and indeed might never have noticed it in the first place. She takes up the story: "I was helping with the campaign to fund the Flyer and noticed the flower beds by the AA box were neglected. We needed £6,000 to keep the bus on the road over the winter as it's a lifeline for local residents. While we were raising the money, I would get the bus from Leyburn to Hawes every Sunday and give out information to passengers.

"I then saw that the spring bulbs around the AA box would not be able to fight their way through the winter growth. Time was of the essence, so I started getting the bus to the AA box every week."

As she worked, Sheila noticed that while she was looking after the small garden, the AA box itself was not getting the care and protection it warranted. The Grade II-listed structure was being neglected by the very authorities legally charged with its protection: the AA itself and planners at the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

Buffeted by the wind and rain of several Dales winters, it was shabby. Its paint was peeling, its hinges rusting and the wood was rotting. "Structures are listed because they're perceived to have some worth locally and nationally. I thought of giving it a lick of paint myself, but knowing its historic value, decided that was not a good idea," Sheila explains.

Instead, she wrote to the Park Authority's planning policy officer, Tom Harland, who knew the box from it being vandalised seven years ago. "The door had been kicked in and two of the AA insignia wrenched from the sides. I recovered the damaged items for safekeeping until the AA were ready to do repairs," he recalled.

He wrote to the AA in March, recalling the 2010 vandalism incident and suggesting the sentry box was once again in need of a bit of TLC. Two months later, Sheila had a more serious worry. Ivy growing on the stone wall behind the box had forced its way through the woodwork, causing severe damage. She wrote again to Tom: "This is going to be a bigger job than I first thought as no maintenance has been done for some time. It will need a survey and someone equipped to do the woodwork, rather than just sticking some paint on it. Hopefully the work can be done without trampling on the gardens. Please let me know if the AA are taking this seriously as it is a much-loved local feature and I am not prepared to see it go to wrack and ruin."

Neither, it seemed, was Tom Harland, who wrote once more to the AA, reminding them of their obligations and enclosing pictures taken by a colleague who had visited the site to assess the damage. No reassurance could be given about the timing of repairs, said Ian Crowder of the AA, but Aysgarth's Box 442 was "on the schedule to spruce it up."

In fact within days of Sheila's last intervention, Bell Group UK decorating contractors dispatched an emergency repair team from their North Shields depot to do the work. "I am delighted," says Sheila. "I went to clear the lay-by with a friend and the man had just finished replacing the back of the box. He had done a really good job and they were due to come the following day to paint it."

Keiron Sanderson, contract supervisor at Bell Group North East, said they were pleased to be repairing the Aysgarth box, along with another at Beadnall in Northumberland. "It's a bit different from our usual jobs," he said. "These boxes are very quaint, and they wouldn't survive in a city. But in rural areas it's good to help keep them up to scratch."

The Bell Group's maintenance man Bob Donnison travelled 80 miles from his Gateshead home to complete the painting. "It's a great place to be working on a summer morning. I remember when these call boxes were in use. Those were the days," said Bob.



Inside the AA Box.
Courtesy of Betsy Everett

Now, claims Sheila, there are just two jobs outstanding: the dry stone wall that surrounds the plot needs repair and the lettering spelling out the box's unique number, 442, is peeling away. She thinks it needs a specialist's attention. "What I'd really like to do is set up a Friends of the Aysgarth AA box," she says. "That way we might find people to do these odd jobs and to keep their eye on it when I'm not around."

POLICY COMMITTEE PLANNING UPDATE

One of the roles of the Policy Committee, which consists of a group of trustees and other volunteers with substantial relevant experience, is to consider the implications of planning applications in and around the Yorkshire Dales.

In May this year we were alerted to the proposal for industrial, retail and housing development on land adjacent to the B6480 at the southern entry into Settle, the Anley Crag Business Park. After some consideration, we decided to lodge an objection to Craven District Council about this application. While we recognised that the generation of economic activity is to be welcomed in the area, we felt that proposal was inappropriate for a number of reasons. The site is in a particularly important location, acting as a key gateway to Settle and Ribblesdale and it's right on the boundary of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. It is in open countryside, outside the settlement of Settle, and is highly visible from the well-used A65 and B6480 roads. Moreover, we considered the proposal to be typical of urban and suburban business parks, too large and out of character for the area and lacking any distinctiveness appropriate to its unique location. The main economic activity in this area is tourism, so we felt that a development of this sort would undoubtedly detract from the quality of the local environment. We also raised concerns about the increase of traffic on the A65. We did not believe that any economic benefits would be worth the long-term harm to the environment.

Planning applications like these always involve a degree of judgement, and our aim is to protect the quality of the landscape for the benefit of both residents and visitors in the long term. We would welcome your views! Also please let us know if you are aware of a planning proposal that gives you cause for concern, and we will endeavour to respond to it – but always remember our resources are limited.

Proposed Anley Crag Development, Settle.
Courtesy of Craven Herald & Pioneer



A cairn overlooking Garsdale.
Courtesy of Colin Gregory on Flickr

OUR EXPANDING NATIONAL PARK

New trustee of Friends of the Dales Kyle Blue was one of the campaigners to bring parts of former Westmorland into the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Sasha Heseltine finds out why.

In August 2016, the Yorkshire Dales National Park expanded by nearly a quarter, swelling to 841 square miles with the addition of spectacular upland landscape in Cumbria and, yes, even Lancashire too.

The wild fells of Middleton and Barbon, the River Lune and Devil's Bridge all now come under the jurisdiction of the national park, along with Wild Boar Fell, Mallerstang and the rolling northern Howgill Fells. Fascinating geology can be seen in the extensive limestone paving and granite erratic boulders dumped by glaciation. Among this spectacular scenery previous generations have left burial cairns, standing stones and circles – compelling evidence indeed that man has always lived in the Dales.

Tucked away in a wide valley within the fells is the leafy village of Orton, described by Alfred Wainwright as one of Westmorland's loveliest villages. Although well off the tourist trail, this thriving community has a large primary school, pub, café and artisan chocolatiers. As a long-time resident, Kyle Blue has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the Upper Lunesdale and Eden Valleys.

Growing Up in Orton

"My father was the local GP and my wife's family have farmed here for several generations. I've lived in Orton since I was very young and went to the primary school before later heading for Sedbergh School. I'm currently chair of the parish council and the local Manor Court, which dates back to the Enclosure Acts of the 18th century and still controls the common lands in and around the village."

Small wonder then, that Kyle was one of the advocates of the Westmorland dales and fells being included in the Yorkshire Dales National Park. He explains, "I saw it being advantageous for two significant reasons. Firstly, it would give this incredible landscape the degree of protection it richly deserved and secondly, I felt that the economic benefits could be significant."

The public inquiry into the inclusion ran over two weeks back in 2013 and Kyle assisted with the setting up of a local group to give evidence. "It was great fun and we found some surprisingly passionate witnesses who provided compelling evidence. The inspector allowed us to display blown-up images of stunning local landscapes around the inquiry room and when it was complete, he and some of the other participants left clutching them as souvenirs. We were overjoyed when after two years our labours bore fruit."

Looking to the Future

According to Kyle, "A year on and work on integration is proceeding exceptionally well. The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority has set up an office in Orton and recruited three staff and 24 new Dales volunteer rangers. There is a new workshop nearby, making use of redundant farm buildings, and it is here that work on maintaining the extensive network of footpaths and bridleways takes place. There is much to be done."

However, as he continues, "This national park has the potential to absorb many more visitors comfortably and I would like to see the Friends of the Dales encourage the dwellers of the urban areas around us to come and see what this area has to offer and how accessible we really are."

The famous sights like Malham Tarn and Ribbleshead are inundated with tourists, while around Orton there are SSIs that are all but deserted – limestone springs, Sunbiggin Tarn and wild flower meadows around the village. Visitors may be lucky enough to see ospreys fishing, or spot moorland birds and curlews in abundance. It's a perfect area for field trips and educational visits. The word just needs spreading.

Kyle agrees with Friends of the Dales Chairman Mark Corner that the authorities need to take a three-pronged approach in order for the Dales to stay vibrant and sustainable. "Post-Brexit, our farming community needs support to stay prosperous so the countryside can retain its beauty. A struggling agricultural sector is detrimental for wildlife and the overall appearance of the countryside. Secondly, we need genuinely affordable housing so young people are not driven away to the big cities. Although it's not an issue now in Orton, where second-home owners are very careful to use local resources, controlling the number of second homes in our communities may become an issue elsewhere in the park.

"And finally, I would like to see improved local transport. In Orton the parish council subsidises a very minimal service and we do need decent transport links so the villages stay healthy and visitors can get here. We have high-quality countryside here so the Park Authority should reach out to visitors so they can find out what's on their doorsteps, and can get here to enjoy it."



Packhorse Bridge After Repair.
Courtesy of Kyle Blue



The Howgill Fells. Courtesy
of Mark Corner

PRIORITIES FOR THE YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK

The National Park Management Plan is the single most important document for each national park. It sets out its “special qualities” and articulates the vision, strategic policies and desired outcomes for the national park over the long term and guides the delivery of the national park purposes.

There is a statutory duty to review the management plan every five years. The current plan for the Yorkshire Dales National Park expires in 2018 and a new one running until 2023 is currently in preparation under the coordination of the National Park Authority. It will take around 12 months to complete, so should be ready for adoption in early summer 2018.

It is a plan for the national park – its communities, businesses, visitors and the many organisations that operate there, and will be produced by a partnership of bodies, representing landowners, businesses, local authorities and government agencies, as well as the National Park Authority. It requires all who have an interest in the national park to work together to achieve its aspirations and will be used to shape the policies and work of all those operating within it.

The Authority members have been consulting on the plan, seeking ‘Your Dales, Your Views’. They have asked what we – residents, visitors and a wide range of stakeholder organisations

– all think about the Yorkshire Dales National Park? What do we love about it, how do we think it can be improved, and what do we think are the most important issues to tackle? I hope that many of our members have had the opportunity to respond to the consultation, which has now closed.

There is much to love about the Dales and as a wonderful area it has many fantastic qualities. In our response, as trustees of the society, however, we focussed on addressing the question: *“What do you think are the three most important issues for the National Park Management Plan to tackle over the next five years?”*

We said:

1. Shaping farming and land-management policies post-Brexit to support employment and to protect and enhance the landscape and biodiversity. Land management remains the biggest employer in the Dales and the viability of upland farming continues to be a challenge. There is a great opportunity with Brexit to help shape balanced agricultural and environmental policies for our area that reward farmers for delivering ‘public goods’, including protected and enhanced landscapes and biodiversity.

2. Promoting sustainable local communities – including the delivery of genuinely affordable housing, with control of second-home ownership; employment opportunities (particularly for the young); and adequate services. Many of our communities, with ageing and declining populations, are struggling. Policies are needed that promote employment opportunities and tackle the issue of the lack of affordable housing. We acknowledge that this is easier said than done.

3. Access for all – improved public transport, and maintained rights of way (improved in the new area). Improved access to and within the Dales will enable more people to enjoy and benefit from this special place and will help stimulate the visitor economy – an increasingly important source of employment. We are convinced that the adequate provision of public transport ought to be a much higher priority than it currently is.

We will continue to engage with the National Park Authority and others as the Management Plan takes shape. If members have views on the issues raised here, or others they feel should be considered, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Mark Corner, Chairman

chairman@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Members' Letters

Here at Friends of the Dales 'HQ' (aka the office in Gargrave), we are very pleased to hear from members about your experiences of the Dales, why you support our charity, what you feel we could be doing differently (or better) and what other activities we could offer to our supporters. Here's a selection of recent letters and emails. We always ask for permission to quote or print contributions.

You can contact us on 01756 749400, email ann.shadrake@friendsofthedales.org.uk or write to us at Gargrave (see back page). We are also online at www.friendsofthedales.org.uk.

Dear Mark

I look forward to reading the *Yorkshire Dales Review* every time it comes out. I was brought up in a village near Skipton with one brother and two sisters. Each of us married and still is and we each have three children and several grandchildren. We all moved away to other parts of the country but kept in contact through home visits until our mother died about 12 years ago. We are all in our 60s and 70s. After my mother died, I started getting the *Review* so as to retain the contact and when my brother was 70, I sent him a subscription for his birthday, hoping he would continue with it and now my elder sister is 70 this year I am doing the same.

So why don't you suggest to your existing membership that if they have a close relative or friend who has a special birthday or occasion coming up, that they purchase for them an annual subscription with the same expectation. These will not all come up at once so it will spread itself and might even feed through to the next generation. It was also useful having the tear-off form to complete particularly if you use the postal system.

Kind regards, John D F Brown

Dear Penny

I am a regular visitor/walker in the Dales and have become a member of the Friends of the Dales. I have been sent two copies of the excellent quarterly *Yorkshire Dales Review* in which interesting aspects relating to Dales' life and economy are written by local contributors; particularly by Colin and Fleur Speakman who, I seem to remember, formed the YDS back in 1982. The Friends monitor local environmental, business and planning matters and lobby the relevant authorities, particularly in support of public-transport facilities in the Dales.

The Dales are very important to me for my visits, appreciating the essential characteristics of the area in the limestone outcrops and especially the miles of stone walls 'stitching' the land together and the many field barns. And not forgetting, of course, the precious few remaining wildflower summer meadows, which are a joy to see and walk through. These hold so much of my affection and I commend membership of this laudable organisation to all who visit and love the Dales.

Miles Rhodes

Dear Mr Peel

Many thanks for the lovely card and your kind remarks. I first fell in love with the Yorkshire Dales over 40 years ago after a few days' outing at Kettlewell, which was one of the regular coach rambles organised by Manchester Ramblers.

Over the years, I, along with a very old friend, have enjoyed many walking trips in and around the Dales. We never tire of revisiting places, seeing them in different seasons; different weather conditions. Unfortunately, with advancing years and arthritis, we are not able to walk the distances we used to, but we still enjoy occasional trips to our favourite spots in the Dales.

I joined the YDS not long after it was formed and during all these years I have appreciated the work carried out by yourself and the team of volunteers. Whilst I live too far away to offer any practical assistance, I have been happy to contribute, in my own small way, some finance to the society, which I hope to be able to continue for many more years.

Unfortunately I don't drive and so am not able to attend the many interesting events organised by the society. However, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have been involved over the years in producing the excellent quarterly *Review*; it has gone from strength to strength and I have always enjoyed reading it.

With best wishes to you and all the team,
Roy Lomas



Ruined barn near Hawes.
Courtesy of Tim Hancock



Stone walling in Swaledale. Courtesy of Mark Corner

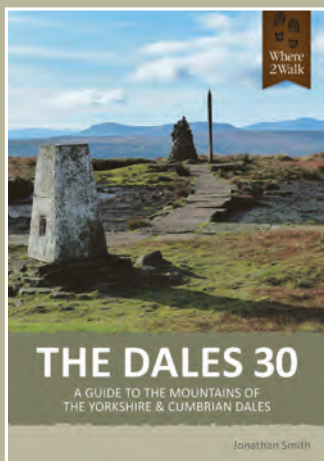
THE DALES 30

A GUIDE TO THE MOUNTAINS OF THE YORKSHIRE & CUMBRIAN DALES

By Jonathan Smith

Published by Where2Walk. £12.95 where2walk.co.uk

ISBN 978-0-9956735-1-9



Scotland has the Munros and the Lake District has the Wainwrights. And with Jonathan Smith's fine new book, we now have the Dales 30.

Jonathan, one of our business members, has lived and walked in the

Dales for over 20 years and set up the excellent Where2walk website describing over 500 individual walks in the area. His book showcases the 30 mountains exceeding 2,000 feet in the extended Yorkshire Dales National Park and describes, using clear sketch maps, his "best route" to their summits.

However, this is much more than a traditional guidebook. Jonathan includes a number of his own photographs spanning the seasons; he has described the climbs in an honest and humorous manner and has added historical or geological facts about walking in the Dales. Outside experts also contribute their own special stories of the region. The issues of public transport (covered by FOTD), accessibility, maintenance of the paths and the Three Peaks challenge are all tackled.

What I like best about this book is that it encourages walkers to explore the Dales beyond the iconic Three Peaks. For example, the Howgills contain five of the 2,000 footers and form a majestic region that deserves to be admired by many more people. Likewise Mallerstang, also in the extended area of the national park, has the imposing Wild Boar Fell, which I struggled up recently and was rewarded with fantastic views.

Whether you wish to take up the challenge of bagging all 30 or prefer dipping into selected, less trodden peaks, I would recommend using this book to help you plan your grand days out in the Dales or just to sit by the fireside and reminisce over past conquests.

The publication of The Dales 30 is supported by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's Sustainable Development Fund, and five per cent of the proceeds from sales will be donated to the Authority's Three Peaks Project, supporting footpath and access work. Another good reason for buying this excellent book!

Mark Corner, Chairman

WE WELCOME NEW BUSINESS MEMBERS

Penny Lowe
Reflexologist and EFT Practitioner



Penny Lowe Reflexology and EFT - Penny provides holistic treatments to support you when you need it – whether you fancy a relaxing treat or need a bit of extra emotional support. Choose from reflexology, Indian head massage or EFT tapping, available at Lavender Lounge in Settle or at Ilkley Healing Centre. Home visits in the local area can also be arranged. She would like to offer a 10% discount to Friends of the Dales who quote their membership number when making a booking. This offer is not available in conjunction with any other offer and expires at the end of August 2018.

www.pennylowe.co.uk



Sasha Heseltine, Travel Writer -

Sasha Heseltine is a freelance writer and editor for online media and several Yorkshire-based magazines. While travelling the world and falling in love with the Dales, she's worked for Rough Guides, Time Out and Thomas Cook and contributes online to Viator, Tripadvisor and Frommers. In late 2017 she will launch a website marketing and supporting services in the Yorkshire Dales with her husband, George Meer. Sasha has taken on the role of editor for our membership magazine, the *Yorkshire Dales Review*, following the retirement of long-standing volunteer Fleur Speakman.

www.sashaheseltine.com



The Courtyard Dairy, near Settle - The

Courtyard Dairy stocks and supplies a carefully chosen range of unusual and exquisite farmhouse cheeses selected direct from individual farms, and then only if the cheese is superior in quality and taste. No compromises. For the best depth of flavour, these specialist cheeses are still made by hand on the farm, with most farmers using their own high-quality unpasteurised milk from a single herd of animals. Many of these farmers have less than 70 cows (the smallest producer has just seven goats!). Read more about them on page 6.

www.thecourtyarddairy.co.uk

EAGLE INTERMEDIA
PUBLISHING



Business Friend Anniversary - We'd like to congratulate long-standing business friend, Dr Roger Poultney of Eagle Intermedia Publishing Ltd on the 20th anniversary of his company's Yorkshire Dales tourism business website www.yorkshire-dales.com. The Yorkshire Dales website offers an extensive range of information about the area, including accommodation links, eating out, events and news. Eagle Intermedia has been an enthusiastic supporter of our charity since our business membership scheme was set up in 2006. Roger Poultney, Eagle Intermedia: 01274 480853 or email info@eagle.co.uk

SALMON ARE BACK IN THE DALES

Casting for salmon. Courtesy of Michael Ellery on Flickr

After a dramatic decline in the 20th century, salmon are now returning to Yorkshire's rivers for the first time in over a century. Here's how and why.

In Victorian and Edwardian times, Yorkshire's rivers were home to countless salmon as well as brown trout, bream and grayling. During both world wars, however, industrialisation increased a thousand fold, and as it did, so our Dales waters and Yorkshire's river systems in general became increasingly polluted. Salmon numbers dropped as water quality deteriorated, preventing both the downstream migration of young salmon and the annual return of mature salmon. Eventually they disappeared altogether.

Since the 1980s, huge effort has been put into improving the health of Yorkshire's rivers. Over the last 20 years alone, there have been marked upgrades in water quality coming in from the tidal Ouse river system. Along with the Environment Agency, individual, not-for-profit river trusts, including the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust and the Esk Rivers Trust, are playing their part in encouraging the return of salmon. Numbers have radically increased in the Ouse and therefore some of the Dales rivers have become important spawning sites for salmon once again.

New guidelines on sewage treatment and cracking down on industrial discharges have played their role too, as salmon numbers recover. But several other obstacles need overcoming before salmon thrive once more in Dales rivers.

Combatting the Effects of Industrialisation

As industrialisation changed our environment forever in the 19th century, weirs were constructed at many textile mills on Yorkshire's rivers. These mills may now be defunct or given over to other uses but the weirs remain as obstacles for fish migrating upstream, so solutions include removing them completely or building fish passes to allow the salmon safe passage up and downstream. The Ure, Wharfe and Aire all have fish passes and their river trusts have recorded a subsequent rise in returning salmon.

A second priority for local trusts is to ensure that spawning habitats are suitable and safe for the returning fish. Habitat restoration requires long-term work with landowners to strengthen the riverbanks with willow spiling (a woven living willow wall) to deflect the flow of water, preventing erosion and protecting the spawning habitat. The provision of solar-powered water troughs in fields has ensured that livestock are not breaking down the riverbanks to get to water; that too adversely affects spawning.

Yorkshire's river trusts are keen to ensure a sustainable future for their salmon and fishing tourism is a major part of this. Fishing is vital to the Dales economy and as the fish numbers increase, so anglers will come to take their chances in our rivers. They all need accommodation and food, fishing tackle and transport; that's all money pouring into the local economy and providing more local jobs.

To ensure a decent future for salmon in Dales rivers, it is imperative that children have an understanding of nature. Some trusts have set up tanks of fry in schools to teach pupils about the life cycle of salmon, where they are responsible for feeding them and watching them grow until they are released into the rivers. The Ure Salmon Trust also organises school days out on the river, when youngsters can try out casting and learn more about ecology.

With all the points mentioned above being addressed across Yorkshire, the future of salmon in Dales rivers is looking very positive indeed.

Salmon on the Ribble

The Ribble Rivers Trust recently secured a total cash injection of £3.2 million, with £1.6m coming from the Heritage Lottery Fund and a further £1.6m from other organisations such as the National Rivers Trust and the Environment Agency. The money will be used to improve health from the river's source in the Dales to its estuary, 68 miles away on the Irish Sea. Future projects include planting new woodlands and wetlands to encourage more wildlife into the area as well as reducing pollution and controlling flood risk. Fish passes will also be installed on 14 weirs that currently prevent large numbers of fish migrating up river.

To (hopefully) see salmon in the Ribble, join our Salmon Walk on Saturday, 28 October. It will be led by Friends of the Dales Chairman Mark Corner and is a six-mile circular walk along the River Ribble from Settle to Stainforth Foss. For more details, see page 19.

SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH OF OUR NEW NAME

I'd like to share my reflections on our new name* of Friends of the Dales, which we introduced in June 2017 after much debate. As with any significant change, we were excited about the impact, but concerned that some members might feel we were moving in the wrong direction.

In the event, your feedback is almost 100 per cent positive. We enclosed leaflets in the June mailing to showcase our new approach and hoped that members would pass them on to encourage others to join. One or two members contacted were unsure what the leaflet was for but I'm pleased to say that most people I contacted said, "Give it a go, Friends of the Dales makes sense if it helps the charity attract new support."

Alongside the new recruitment leaflet we launched a new website – www.friendsofthedales.org.uk. Both leaflet and website are doing their job well and recruiting plenty of new members! By the end of August we had gained 120 new members. This is a fantastic response and a massive turnaround to the fall in membership we have seen for years. It's a growth of nearly 12 per cent in our membership in just a few weeks.

Lots of new members joined after hearing about us via *Dalesman* magazine. We paid for the leaflet to be enclosed with the July issue to postal subscribers. This is the first time to my knowledge that our charity has tried traditional direct marketing – and I am very pleased by these encouraging results.

We have also been busy getting the leaflets out into national park centres and outlets across the Dales, such as cafés, pubs and stations, tourist information centres and doctors' and dentists' waiting rooms. Our volunteers, trustees and growing team of local ambassadors help with the distribution. Many thanks if you have been involved in this effort, and please step forward if you can help on your local patch. Bernard Peel, office volunteer, now looks after our ambassadors and you can contact him on 01756 749400 or office@yds.org.uk.

We've also trialled face-to-face recruitment outside national park centres, with the kind permission of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. This has worked very well for raising awareness and we are learning a lot about which messages really engage people to support our charity.

This big push on recruitment has meant a lot of extra work in the office, and I would like to thank both Bernard and Penny Lowe, administration assistant, for their patience and dedication during this busy time of change. As 'frontline' people, they share their own feedback below:

Bernard: "In his article about Friends of the Dales in the summer *Review*, Mark Corner outlined proposals to appoint local ambassadors to champion our recruitment effort. So far (August 2017) 15 members have signed on – in addition to trustees – and they have distributed leaflets in appropriate local venues. A number of tasks have been identified, such as organising events and running stalls at local shows. We do need to make our presence felt in towns and cities such as Leeds and Bradford, so further offers of help as ambassadors would be appreciated."

Penny: "We have had a fantastic response to our new membership recruitment leaflet, which kept me very busy in the office during August. I did little else for that month! Tying up PayPal payments, website forms and emails, and with forms and cheques arriving daily, all this has certainly tested my organisational skills. Between June and mid-August, we signed up 82 new members from across the country. This means lot of welcome packs to prepare and send out! But it also means that our message is reaching more people and shows that people who live away from the area are interested in learning about, supporting and protecting the Dales."

If your membership is due to renew, you can now use the secure online payment system on the website at www.friendsofthedales.org.uk. This takes payments using PayPal or credit and debit cards – another steep learning curve! I'd like to thank Tim Hancock (trustee and Chair of the Events, Communication



New FOTD members Jane de Brûle (left) and Christine Vasey at Barbondale. Courtesy of Mark Corner

and Membership Committee) for the hours he put in to get the website and payment systems up and running. We've already had members renew using this system, plus overseas and gift subscriptions as well as plenty of new members.

Sustained membership growth is essential to add to our clout as a campaigning charity and to make us financially secure. We have an annual shortfall of about £25,000 in our running costs (which is funded from reserves) so it is essential that we recruit a lot more members, raise more donations and encourage gifts in wills. A significant part of our expenditure is the production of this magazine. The average value of a membership is £20 per year, so we are looking at a target of at least 1,000 new members over the next few years. Please help us to get there by encouraging neighbours, family and friends to join or support us. Perhaps you could buy membership as a gift for Christmas, retirement or a birthday. You can do this online or by contacting us on 01756 749400 or penny.lowe@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Please do contact me on my new email ann.shadrake@friendsofthedales.org.uk for any queries about membership or anything to do with our charitable work.

Ann Shadrake

*Our charity's legal name is the Yorkshire Dales Society



FOTD HAS RECRUITED THREE NEW TRUSTEES



Kyle Blue

Kyle knows parts of the Yorkshire Dales like the back of his hand – and he’s been places where few others dare to venture. As a pupil at Sedbergh School, he was given his first taste of outdoor activities in the national park on a Three Peaks challenge, and developed a passion for potholing while visiting the National Scout Caving Centre at Whernside Manor.

“It’s such a varied national park. I’ve always loved walking and cycling and had fun exploring all the nooks and crannies,” he explains.

Having lived in Orton since childhood, Kyle knows the Upper Eden and Lunesdale valleys inside out and helped in the campaign for the Yorkshire Dales National Park extension. “I felt it an honour that the area was contemplated for inclusion,” he says. “I’m also full of admiration for what Friends of the Dales achieve and what they set out to achieve. When I was asked to join the Council, I was quite daunted by some of the projects they had taken on before.”

Now Kyle hopes his in-depth knowledge of land and farming practices, built up during 40 years as a chartered surveyor, will be helpful to Friends of the Dales. As Orton parish council chairman, he has already helped to organise one of our Vibrant Community events and is keen to promote the unique landscape of the area. More from Kyle on page 10.



Tim Hancock

Tim never intended to live in the Yorkshire Dales but the new Chair of our Events, Communication and Membership Committee fell on his feet when he retired in 2012.

“I thought of settling in the Lake District because my family owned a garage in Sedbergh,” he says. “But it was too congested so I moved near to Ingleton and now I prefer the Dales because they’re less commercial and more open.”

Tim’s home is the perfect base for enjoying his hobbies of fell walking and photography – his photos feature on this cover and on our new website. When his area became part of the extended national park in August 2016, he met Friends of the Dales Chairman Mark Corner at an awareness-raising event and signed up as a volunteer. He was quick to see how his sales, marketing and communication skills in the agricultural industry could be useful to us.

“It was obvious that membership needed a boost and I thought I could help, having been in business development all my life,” Tim says. Brought up on the edge of the Peak District, he studied zoology at Durham University before gaining an MBA from Lancaster. He worked for Fisons and Dow Chemicals, had a four-year stay in France and served on several parish councils. He is married to Jo, a geneticist, and is accompanied on his walks by his Labrador, Bertie.



Marion Temple

Marion might have a professional background as an economics lecturer, but the Dales are precious to her because they offer something that money can’t buy.

“We should have a wider understanding of the costs and benefits of the landscape over the long term,” she says, “but this is not well understood. The National Trust talks about a ‘natural health service’ to promote wellbeing. Similarly, we should be looking at benefits for us all that can’t be measured in terms of money.”

Marion’s upbringing in Northumberland sparked an early interest in the countryside. She now hopes to make use of the skills gained during her academic and management career at the School of the Built Environment at Oxford Brookes University and as a trustee of Friends of the Lake District by sitting on the Friends of the Dales council.

“I’m not an accountant but I do have experience of charity finance and governance that I can bring across to the Dales,” she says. “I would like to contribute in a small way to looking after the national park and its landscape for future generations.”

Marion has been a member of Friends of the Lake District for 41 years. She joined Friends of the Dales soon after she came to live in Ilkley in 2010. She enjoys the variety of country landscapes in different seasons and weathers and she walks in the Dales most weeks.

OBITUARY

A Sad Goodbye to a Long-standing Member

We were saddened to hear of the death in July 2017 of Mr Alan S Watkinson, who was a member of our council for many years and was well known to many trustees and members. Our sincere condolences have been passed to his wife, Mrs Shirley Watkinson, and their family.

Colin Speakman, Vice President, says, “Alan was the ‘voice of Wensleydale’ on the YDS Council for many years. Always a voice of reason and common sense, he balanced the local view with that of

visitors, and we could always rely on him for 100 per cent support and a carefully thought-through response on any issue. His *Upper Wensleydale Newsletter* was a brilliant source of information for the Yorkshire Dales Review as well as a good read. He had a great sense of often wry humour, and was a very good friend and a great support to us.”

Dr Chris Wright, trustee, knew Alan well. “One of the highlights of the year was going to Alan’s evenings in the Methodist Chapel in August. Always a very hospitable event.”

Dales in their Autumn Finery

Photos by Hilary Fenten



Appersett in Wensleydale



Lead mine, Swaledale



Rainbow over Swaledale



Langcliffe

Pendle Hill, as viewed from the Yorkshire Dales

With Thanks

We are delighted to acknowledge a significant gift of funds towards our charitable work, received in July 2017. The gift is from a long-standing member who wishes to remain anonymous, who contacted me to discuss making good use of some money that had come to them unexpectedly. As a result, we received a donation of £3,000 towards the DalesBus rural bus services, which are so important to local people and to visitors enjoying the Dales. This donation has been passed on to our social enterprise company, the Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company, which manages the DalesBus network. A further donation of £1,000 was given at the same time as a gift to our general charitable funds. It was a privilege to discuss these donations with the member concerned, and we are very grateful for this generous support.

Remember Us in Your Will

In recent years the society has drawn on its reserves in order to fund its campaigning work and more activities including running a professional office. These reserves have been built up over many years from legacy gifts, large and small, and are invested in secure fixed-term bonds with UK institutions. With the expansion of the Yorkshire Dales National Park by nearly 25 per cent last year, and continued threats to the Dales environment and communities, our charitable work will undoubtedly need to tackle new threats in the future. Would you consider investing in the future of the Dales by making a gift to our charity in your will?

Several members have pledged to do this and we really appreciate their consideration. A long-standing member recently let me know her reasons for including the Yorkshire Dales Society in her will: "I feel very strongly about supporting the charity, because it is composed of people who are doing so much to promote the care and conservation of the Dales."

Naturally, the legacies reaching our charity vary from year to year. We don't budget for this income but treat it as a windfall for our reserves. In the last financial year (2016-17) we received one unrestricted gift of £5,000. Some years we receive more, others nothing. Sometimes we receive donations from collections at funerals and memorial services and all are very welcome.

We follow strict rules concerning legacy fundraising, which ensure that people are not exposed to undue influence, and we always recommend that professional legal advice is sought.

If you would like to support the society's work with a gift in your will, why not take advantage of the two annual will-writing campaigns running again this autumn. Participating solicitors offer a free will-writing (or updating) service in return for a modest (optional) charitable donation instead of the legal fee. Their websites also offer will-writing advice and if you don't have access to the internet, I can print this information and post it to you – contact me via the details below.

Free Wills Month starts on October 2, 2017 and is for people aged 55 and over – see www.freewillsmoonth.org.uk. Will Aid Month runs during November 2017 and is open to anyone; you can find a participating solicitor via a postcode search on the website at www.willaid.org.uk.

If you choose to support a charity with a gift in your will, please consider the Yorkshire Dales Society (which is the legal name of our charity). Just let your solicitor know your wishes and give them our charity number 515384 and our Gargrave address (see back page). A legacy gift of any size could make a real difference to keeping the Dales vibrant for years to come, and help us plan for the future with confidence.

Ann Shadrake

FRIENDS OF THE DALES 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 five 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

i Dales Insights

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

C Classic Countryside

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

V Vibrant Communities

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

f Focus on the Dales

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

Early autumn on the Ribble at Stainforth Bridge

Saturday, 21 October 2017



Capturing the Past – Celebration Open Day

Help us celebrate the completion of the first 18 months 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, social records, 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 to the website. If you live in the Ingleborough Dales area, why not bring along your own archive material for the team to assess, digitise and upload on the day? Take away a digital copy of your material on CD. You'll also hear how we hope to roll out the project to help other communities across the Dales collate and digitise their own archives.

Regret no dogs except RAD.

11:00am to 4:00pm 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.

Saturday, 28 October 2017



Medium

Salmon Walk

Led by Friends of the Dales Chairman Mark Corner, this leisurely six-mile walk follows the River Ribble from Settle to Stainforth Foss, where (conditions permitting) we should enjoy the spectacle of salmon leaping up the impressive cascades. After a stop at Stainforth's picnic spot, we visit the impressive Hoffmann Kiln at Langcliffe before returning to Settle via the Pennine Bridleway with time to enjoy the town's amenities.

Well-behaved dogs on short leads welcome. 🐾

10:44am meet at Settle Railway Station. Arrive by public transport or nearby P&D parking. Ends in time for 3:59pm Leeds train.



Stone walls and rainbow at Langcliffe. Courtesy of Mark Corner

Saturday, 11 November 2017



Short

Kilnsey and its Show

Members of Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group will provide a leisurely guided tour of the village of Kilnsey, exploring aspects of its history from monastic grange to Victorian tourist honeypot, with reference to recent research by UWHG on the vernacular architecture and documents of the 17th century. Walk c. two miles. UWHG history display available to view in village hall.

After a break for lunch (packed lunch or the nearby pub or café) we will reconvene at the village hall for a presentation by Jamie Roberts, business member and fourth generation of his family to live and work on the Kilnsey Estate. We will hear about Jamie's new book, *Studs & Crooks: the hidden history of Kilnsey Show*, with a variety of archive and contemporary photographs and a wealth of anecdotes and fascinating facts. We published a review of the book in our Spring 2017 issue of this magazine.

Well-behaved dogs on short leads welcome. 🐾

10:30am Meet at the Conistone with Kilnsey Village Hall, BD23 5PS. Parking available or use Kilnsey Park Estate nearby and walk few minutes south (take care on B6160). Ramped access and disabled facilities. Ask us about lifts or car share. 2:15pm Talk in Conistone with Kilnsey Village Hall. Complimentary tea and biscuits. Ends around 4:00pm.

Saturday, 2 December



Short

Ilkley and its Manor House

Join us for a guided tour of Ilkley town centre in the morning, finishing with a short excursion (optional and weather permitting) up to Ilkley Moor. Led by trustee Marion Temple, the tour will highlight the history and interest of several heritage buildings in the town that have been converted to a variety of new uses. These include new businesses, community facilities and housing, all helping Victorian Ilkley to continue as a vibrant town. The tour will conclude at Christchurch on The Grove, with its own story of contemporary community use including an excellent café.

Reconvene at Christchurch after lunch for a talk by Sir Rodney Brooke CBE, DL, Chair of the Ilkley Manor House Trust, about the successful campaign to rescue Ilkley's oldest dwelling for the community and plans for its future use.

There's a wide choice of places to eat and enjoy Ilkley's seasonal ambiance before and after the event. Ilkley is well served by public transport and there's P&D parking in the town centre. Ask us about lifts or car shares.

Regret no dogs except RAD.

10:30am Meet Ilkley Railway Station, Ilkley, LS29 8HF, next to Platform Two (Station Road side) for tour and walk.

2:15pm Talk in Christchurch, The Grove, Ilkley, LS29 9LW. Complimentary tea and biscuits. Ends around 4:00pm.

Saturday, 20 January 2018



Short

Victorian Skipton and Dales Rails

Ann Shadrake will lead a walk around Skipton to discover the mills, churches, pubs and transport so essential to the daily lives of the town's working people in Victorian times. Our afternoon presentation is by David Joy, Honorary Member of Friends of the Dales, speaking on his new book *Rails in the Dales* (reviewed in Summer 2017 issue of this magazine) with copies available to buy on the day.

Regret no dogs except RAD.

10.30am Meet at Fred Trueman Statue, Canal Basin, Coach Street P&D car park, BD23 1LE (public toilets). 10 minutes walk from Bus/Rail Station. Walk about three miles, mainly on pavements and towpaths but expect some puddles.

2.15pm Meet at St Andrew's Church Hall, Newmarket Street, Skipton, BD23 2JE. Complimentary tea and biscuits. Ends around 4pm.



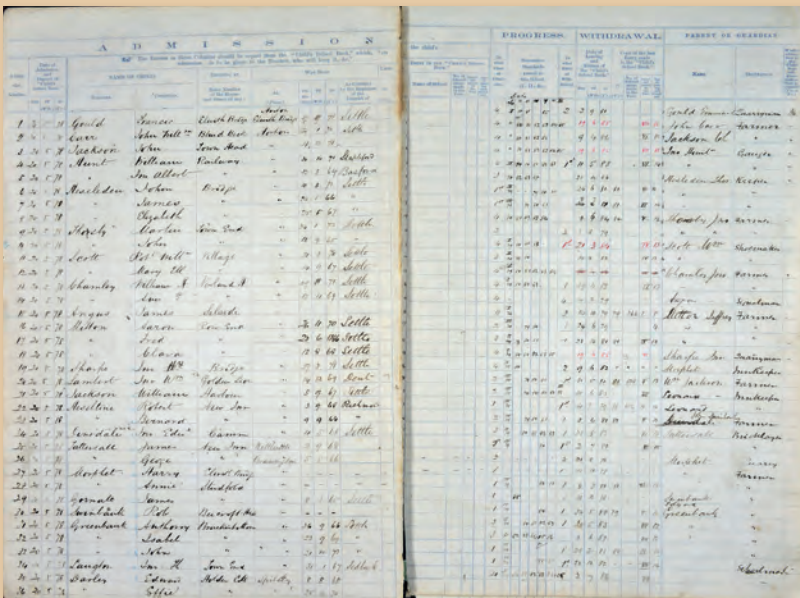
Ilkley Manor House. Courtesy of James King

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CAPTURING THE PAST

The first mention of a school at Horton in Ribblesdale is in a will dated 1525, and over the following 500 years various bequests and endowments were made to the grammar school at Horton. Chief among these was an endowment of 1725 made by John Armitstead who left his entire estate at Dub Cote to the school. In 1875 the grammar school became an elementary school and the image below (courtesy of Ian Fleming) is of the first page of the admissions register completed on that first morning in May 1875. In total, 67 pupils were admitted in that month. Sadly, in July 2017, the school closed its doors for the last time. Read more about our work on page 19.

Ian Fleming



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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Single	£23
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Individual (Under 60)	£400
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Joint (Over 60)	£450

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

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ENJOY the beauty and facilities of the Yorkshire Dales

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.

