

Yorkshire DALES review

- Biking the Swale Trail
- Biodiversity in the Dales
- Meet new trustee Wilf Fenten
- Protecting Hellifield Flashes
- Sustainable energy at Killington Hydro



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Friends of the
DALES
 YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY

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Editors Letter

Autumn is here again and I’ve now been editor of this magazine for a year. In that time, the Friends of the Dales have lost some friends, including Jerry Pearlman, recruited more members and campaigned hard for the benefit of the Dales countryside we all love. In this issue, Lynne Leadbeatter continues that good work by exploring what we can do to ensure the future of Dales plants and animals (page 8) and trustee Marion Temple tells of a happy day’s outing up Pen-y-Ghent with some first-time visitors on page 16. The merits of the new Swale Trail cycling route are examined on page 13 and an update on the campaign at Hellifield Flashes is found on page 12. A day out there is planned for Saturday, January 19.

Chairman Mark Corner looks back over the year and reports on the AGM, which was held on Saturday, 22 September. And we welcome new trustee Wilf Fenten, who contemplates the future of the national park on page 10. It’s always good to have new blood in the charity, and it’s important to acknowledge how hard all our volunteers work. Publicity always helps, too, and so we are please to let you know that our President, Sir Gary Verity, Chief Executive of Welcome to Yorkshire, will speak at our annual Focus on the Dales on Wednesday, October 17. Read more on page 19.

Sasha Heseltine

Yorkshire **DALES** review

Securing the Future of National Parks?

In May of this year, the government announced a review of England's national parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty (AONBs) 'to ensure designated landscapes are fit for the future'.

Encouragingly, the terms of reference of the review, being led by author and journalist Julian Glover, state: "The review aims not to diminish the character or independence of our designated landscapes, or to impose new burdens on them and the people who live and work in the areas they cover. Instead, its purpose is to ask what might be done better, what changes could assist them, and whether definitions and systems – which in many cases date back to their original creation – are still sufficient."

The review will examine and make recommendations on, amongst other things: the existing statutory purposes of national parks and how effectively they are being met; the case for extension or creation of new designated areas; the financing of national parks; how to connect more people with the natural environment from all sections of society and improve health and wellbeing; and how well these designated landscapes support communities. It will also explore how access can be improved, how those who live and work in them can be better supported, and their role in growing the rural economy.

A six-person independent advisory review panel will support Glover. Unfortunately, the one hill farmer on the original panel has resigned and we hope that he will be replaced so that people with 'the Park under their nails' are represented. The process, as we understand it, involves a formal call for evidence in the autumn with likely publication of the final report in autumn 2019. We will likely make our input to the review via the Campaign for National Parks (CNP), of which we are a council member. CNP officers have had initial discussions with Julian Glover.

Much of the initial media interest around the review has focused on the potential for the creation of new national parks, with some saying

that the review was triggered by Michael Gove's interest in seeing the Cotswolds AONB becoming a national park. Closer to home, there may be merit in consideration being given to the addition of the Nidderdale AONB to the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

From our perspective we believe the priority aspects of the review should be:

- **Stronger protection against inappropriate, particularly major, development in national parks. We believe, as an example, that the permission given in the North York Moors National Park for a major potash mine was wrong.**
- **Stable, adequate funding for national park authorities, preferably on a multi-year basis.**
- **Adequate support for upland farmers, the primary custodians of our landscape and wildlife, producing food as well as managing land for water quality, flood control, carbon sequestration and many other social benefits.**
- **Concerted efforts to address the challenge of affordable housing and well-paid employment in national parks such as ours. We recognise that the primary purpose of the national park authorities is conservation and not socio-economic development but without thriving communities to look after the landscape, wildlife and culture of these places, they will wither.**
- **Improving access, including public transport, so that all have the opportunity to visit and benefit from our national parks.**

We see the review as potentially very significant for our designated landscapes. If it has serious political backing, it could be as important as the Hobhouse landmark report in 1947, which paved the way for the creation of England's network of designated landscapes, with the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act passed in 1949.

Mark Corner, Chairman of Friends of the Dales

AGM and Review of the Year

The charming village of Langcliffe in Ribblesdale provided a fine venue for our 35th Annual General Meeting on September 22, preceded by a visit to the nearby Hoffmann Kiln.



Langcliffe Crag viewed on AGM walk. Photo Gillian Harrison

My chairman's review of the year started by remembering fondly our friend and trustee Jerry Pearlman, who sadly passed away in March of this year. Those of us at last year's AGM will recall him cheekily promoting his book during the formal proceedings!

This had been a successful year for our charity in which we 'campaign, protected and enjoyed' to good effect and grew our membership significantly.

We organised and delivered 15 events during the 2017-2018 financial year, which were very much appreciated by both members and guests. Highlights included a visit to 'Ilkley and its Manor House', one of our Vibrant Community events aimed at offering a distinctive and insightful look into

Dales communities. We held three Dales Insight "walks and/or talks" and six Classic Countryside walks throughout the Dales. We also participated in three events in the "ride2stride" 2017 festival of walks, talks and music from stations on the spectacular Settle to Carlisle railway line, organising and/or leading three events.

Our policy committee monitored all planning applications made to the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) and those of relevance made to Craven District Council, objecting to or supporting, as appropriate, those viewed as most significant. We remain concerned about the increasing number of applications for conversion of roadside barns in the context of the more relaxed planning policy that now applies to these. We had a useful exchange of letters with the park authority on this issue and we will continue to intervene when we think fit. While we have been supportive of planning applications for modest camping and caravanning applications, we objected to a

proposed holiday chalet development on Hellifield Flashes on the grounds of scale and impact on wildlife and landscape setting (see article on page 12). Our responses to planning applications are now published in the 'Campaigns' section of our web page. Policy position statements were produced for built heritage and we are now working on one for biodiversity (see article on page 8).

We played an active role in helping to shape the Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan 2019-2024 and responded to the consultation on the draft plan, the final version of which is to be finalised this autumn.

We campaigned during the year on the challenge of the availability of affordable housing in the Dales and supported the authority's proposal to explore the possibility of increasing council tax on second homes. This initiative did not receive political support from Richmondshire District Council but it is clear that some form of innovative response is needed to address the combination of the lack of well-paid jobs and the shortfall in affordable homes in the area. We also campaigned for:

- **protected/enhanced funding for YDNPA**
- **the use of rail for moving North Craven quarry output**
- **sustainable communities (through our Vibrant Communities events and responses to developments such as the closure of Horton primary school)**
- **and rural transport.**



Hoffmann Kiln visit, AGM walk. Photo Gillian Harrison

In addition we continued to work closely with the Campaign for National Parks (CNP) on national campaigns and statements, in particular on its 'National Parks for all: making car-free travel easier'.



Mrs Fleur Speakman

Four high-quality editions of the *Yorkshire Dales Review* were published and were clearly much appreciated by its readers. Fleur Speakman, who edited the Review for 35 years, stood down in May 2017. We are indebted to Fleur for her enormous contribution to the Review and to the society in general. We were delighted that Sasha Heseltine joined us as editor and she has now published three excellent editions and is a valued member of our team.

The three-year "Capturing the Past" project to train local heritage groups and others to be able to digitally store and make publicly available online their archives, which started in 2015, was formally completed in March 2018. The project has been funded through a Heritage Lottery Fund grant as part of an exciting series of projects called "Stories in Stone" coordinated by the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. It has been a great success and exceeded, at 21, the initial target of six for the number of archive collections to be captured. The digital archive website www.dalescommunityarchives.org.uk is an excellent resource and is being well used.

We continue to support the need for improved public transport access to and within the Yorkshire Dales. Our subsidiary, the Dales & Bowland Community Interest Company, faces significant funding challenges in maintaining its DalesBus Sunday and bank holiday services but has had some success with sponsorship and funding appeals with the result that the 2018 summer timetable remained a comprehensive one.

Significant efforts were made to address our slowly declining membership numbers, with pleasing success. We rebranded ourselves in March 2017 as Friends of the Dales and launched a recruitment campaign in June 2017. A new membership recruitment leaflet was designed and printed and distributed by trustees and volunteers, including 15 who, with Bernard Peel's encouragement, agreed to become 'ambassadors' for us. Tim Hancock kindly created a new user-friendly web page for us, including the functionality for members to join and pay their subscriptions or donate online. Our social media presence has grown and we now have over 2,000 Facebook followers and around 1,200 on Twitter and Instagram. The national park authority kindly allowed us to place leaflets in its centres and to recruit from its car parks at Malham and Grassington. We paid for leaflet inserts in *Dalesman* and *Cumbria* magazines (and both publications ran articles on our rebranding) and in *Yorkshire Life*. The result of these efforts saw our membership grow by over 20%. This is an encouraging start but we need to work to retain these new members and to sustain the recruitment effort on a continuous basis.

A new business strategy was developed in December 2017. We agreed to have as a mission: to deliver our charitable

objects whilst becoming a more financially sustainable organisation and one for which it is rewarding to work and volunteer.

I closed my Review by thanking members, volunteers, trustees, vice presidents, President Sir Gary Verity, Patron Alastair Humphreys, and the excellent work that Ann Shadrake and Penny Lowe are doing in managing all of our activities.

Graham Yule, our treasurer, presented his report, indicating...

In the formal part of the meeting, the Annual Report and accounts were approved by members. The 16 existing directors were re-elected and Wilf Fenten elected as a new trustee. Graham Yule was re-elected as Honorary Treasurer and I was re-elected as Chairman. Ann Cryer, Malcolm Petyt and Colin Speakman were re-elected as vice presidents, Sir Gary Verity as President and our 12 honorary members were endorsed.

Graham Yule, our treasurer, presented his report, indicating that income and expenditure were under control, with a planned use of reserves to improve our core purposes of conserving and raising understanding of The Dales. A summary of the report can be found on Page 6.



Halfway up Pen-y-Ghent. Canopy Housing Group Event, see page 16. Courtesy of Ann Shadrake

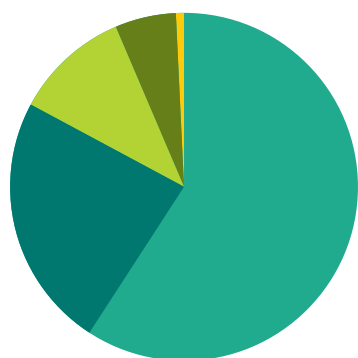
Treasurer's Report from Graham Yule

As Honorary Treasurer, one of my responsibilities is to ensure that our members are aware of where our income comes from and how we spend it. Unfortunately, the Statutory Accounts are not of a form that is immediately meaningful. So, to aid understanding, Ann Shadrake and I have extracted the data from our accounts, picked out the key numbers, added a few words and a created a couple of colourful pie charts. I hope this helps.

Income 2017-2018

The charity received a total of £70,437 of income during the financial year. Part of this was ring-fenced for one of two specific purposes. Firstly, the charity ran a fundraising campaign to raise donations for supporting rural bus services in the Dales - this generated £8,438. Secondly, the charity continued to claim grant income from the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust under its Stories in Stone project (ultimately Heritage Lottery Fund). These funds, totalling £15,634, were spent on running the very successful Capturing the Past digital archiving project.

The rest of the year's income - £46,365 – came from sources such as subscriptions, donations, Gift Aid and bank interest earned on the charity's reserves (which are largely held in fixed-term bonds). No legacies were received during the year, though a number of larger one-off donations were generously given to the charity. Trustees can decide how to use this unrestricted income to best achieve the charity's objects.



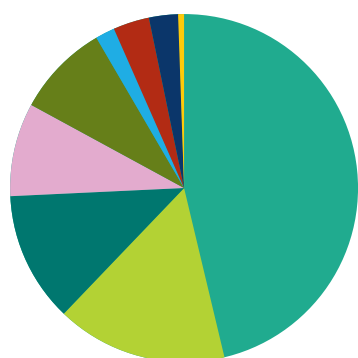
Breakdown of Unrestricted Income = £46,365

£27,452	Membership subs & donations
£10,993	Larger one-off donations
£5,014	Gift Aid
£2,690	Bank Interest
£216	Reimbursement from D&B CIC (fundraising costs)

Expenditure 2017-2018

The charity spent £90,692 over the financial year. This is about £20,000 more than all the income received over the same period – the difference was made up by transferring funds from the charity's reserves. About a third of the total expenditure was ring-fenced to the two purposes mentioned above. Rural bus services were supported by transferring funds totalling £12,098 to the Dales & Bowland CIC. A total of £14,833 was spent on the Capturing the Past project.

The rest of the expenditure was used, as determined by the trustees, to run the charity to meet its core purposes of conserving and raising understanding about the Dales. The formal accounts show expenditure broken down into standard charity headings such as "Membership & Promotion" and "Objectives and Activities". Members may find it helpful to refer to the pie chart below, where costs are shown under categories such as staff, running the office, the Review magazine, governance costs, and subscriptions and grants to other organisations.



Breakdown of Unrestricted Expenditure = £63,761

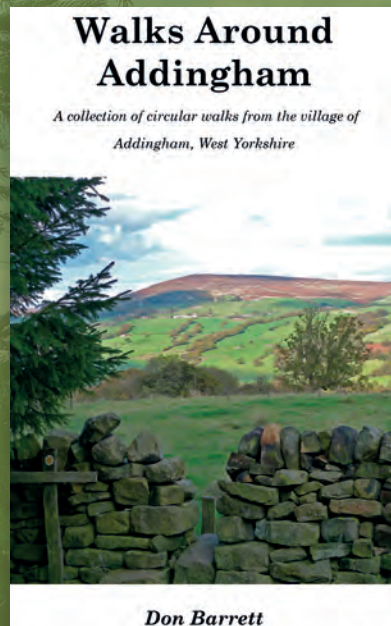
£29,589	Staff costs (2 part-time staff)
£9,993	Printing and dispatching the Review
£7,784	Operating the office
£5,523	Running the charity (governance etc)
£5,491	Promotion, new leaflet and events
£1,273	Subscription to CNP etc
£2,000	Grant to D&B CIC
£2,000	Grant to Fisherman's Bridge (Ken Willson Fund)
£108	Depreciation

Walks around Addingham

Don Barrett

Independently published. ISBN 978-1980417323

Price £10



This imaginative collection of circular walks based in and around Addingham is designed to encourage exploration of an historic village and its surrounding countryside. Two of the eight walks follow routes within the village, while others point north to Beamsley Beacon and Bolton Abbey, east to Ilkley, south to Rombalds Moor and west to Counter Hill.

Both Addingham and its surrounding countryside lie close to, but outside, the boundaries of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The author, Don Barrett, reminds us of the quality of this part of Wharfedale using well-chosen photographs to illustrate key facets of both the landscape and the village that walkers will see at different times of the year.

While the walks in this collection include sections of the Dales Way and the Dales High Way, which will be familiar to some readers, the book includes other less-frequented public rights of way. The walker is encouraged to pause and consider local ecology, geology and history rather than to walk the route without stopping.

Another strength of this compilation is the provision of alternative routes of differing lengths to suit a variety of walkers – and a variety of Yorkshire weather! Ordnance Survey mapping makes for effective route finding, while different coloured text delineates various route options for individual walks as well.

We are currently finalising details for a Friends of the Dales event in Addingham on Saturday, 9 February 2019, with a morning walk based on one of the routes in this book and an illustrated talk in the afternoon. Meanwhile, use this volume to make your own visit and enjoy this part of Wharfedale on foot, whether you are a strong walker or an afternoon stroller.

Marion Temple, Friends of the Dales trustee

This Land - The Moonbeams

Available online, through local shops in the Dales and via www.themoonbeamcollective.co.uk.

Long Preston-based folk musicians The Moonbeams released *This Land* in May this year and it builds wonderfully on their two previous albums, *Sparrowhawk's Eye* and *Watching Wildlife*, which I would also thoroughly recommend.

These talented musicians, under the leadership of Jon Avison, a previous chairman of the Yorkshire Dales Society, continue to develop their 'Songs from the Dales', moving beyond a traditional folk style in several tracks on this CD. Their ability to draw inspiration from the landscape, culture and wildlife of the Yorkshire Dales and capture its essence is impressive and moving. The title track, *This Land*, contains the line 'For when all's said and done, I'm a part of this land and this land's a part of me', and that is palpable in many of the lyrics in the collection.

Farming life figures strongly in tracks such as *Gathering Day*, *This Land* and *Haytime and Harvest*, the latter a sad tale of a farm being lost to the construction of a dam. Wildlife is another theme and *Blackbirds* and *Thrushes* is a sweet love song with a fine whistle accompaniment.

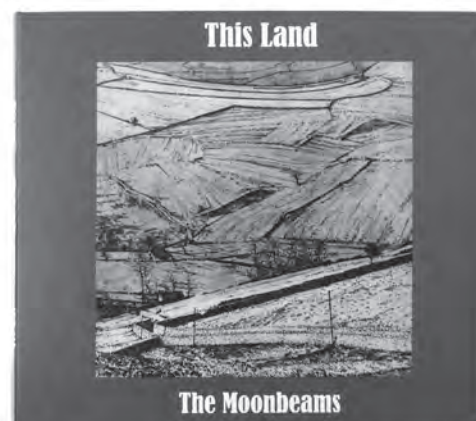
My own favourite is *The Flags Beneath our Feet*, a poignant reflection on the origins of the old mill flagstones on some well-used paths in the hills, which were once trodden by exploited child workers from the mills. The Giggleswick & Settle Brass Band plays on this track to wonderful effect.

The musicianship is very fine. Viola, mandolin, banjo and whistles all complement great guitar work and vocals, evoking the spirit of the Dales. *Slow Down*, a track with advice to do just that, is the least folksy but it doesn't jar. All of the songs are written and arranged by The Moonbeams, except for the final, foot-tapping track, *The Yorkshire Tup*.

I've played the album a lot while out walking in the Dales and find the music moving, poignant and evocative of this wonderful place.

In 2017, The Moonbeams decided to branch out from just playing and writing music and joined with friends to set up The Moonbeam Collective. The collective is a 'community' organisation that aims to celebrate and promote the environment and rural life, and it has created a short movie that we will be playing at our event in Hellifield on Saturday, 19 January 2019 (details on page 19). The movie, *Streams of Wonder*, explores the landscape and culture of the Dales through the eyes of a young walker.

Mark Corner, Friends of the Dales Chairman



The Moonbeams album cover. Courtesy of Mark Corner

Ecologist Robyn Guppy of
Haycock & Jay Associates
in Hodgehill Wood near Sedbergh.
Courtesy of YDNPA



A Bright Future for our Flora and Fauna?

The national park authority is pulling no punches about its intentions to create conditions where the distinctive flora and fauna of the Yorkshire Dales can thrive. Lynn Leadbeatter looks at the plans.

Full marks for ambition, but can it deliver? The draft management plan for 2019-24 certainly opens with a bang. The vision is to create a 'home to the finest variety of wildlife in England by 2040'. But just how realistic is that given the many challenges facing our upland landscapes?

The good news is that over a quarter of the Yorkshire Dales are already made up of nationally and internationally important wildlife habitats. They boast rare wet meadows, over half of England's calcareous grasslands and more than 30% of its limestone pavements. They are home to nationally important populations of birds like curlew, lapwing, black grouse and ring ouzel as well as rare invertebrates like the northern Brown Argus butterfly. And they

have more than a quarter of the country's remaining flower-rich upland hay meadows and pastures.

But the national park authority does face significant challenges if it is to realise that 2040 vision. The first-ever survey of priority habitats in Swaledale outside Sites of Special Scientific Interest has shown that only 60% of them, by area, are in good condition. The situation within SSSIs could be even worse. In 2017 only 28% by area of those in the national park were in favourable condition, compared with 38.5% nationally. Ash dieback disease is spreading quickly through the ancient semi-natural woodlands of the Dales. And they remain a black spot for raptor persecution.

In June, the Campaign for National Parks launched its 'Raising the Bar' report, which calls for a new approach to increasing the abundance and diversity of nature across the designated landscapes. Its recommendations include prioritising the need for bigger and better-connected habitats and more resilient ecological networks. CNP also wants to see national park authorities identify areas that

seem relatively wild and remote and manage them in such a way that they encourage people to reconnect with nature.

YDNPA's draft management plan stops short of this, but the objectives relating to wildlife are still challenging. They include working with farmers and landowners to:

- restore and manage land in nationally and internationally important wildlife sites so that 50% is in good condition by 2024;
- achieve and maintain stable and increasing populations for 90% of priority species by 2025, including 'red-listed' upland birds like the curlew, lapwing, hen harrier, merlin, black grouse, skylark and yellow wagtail;
- improve the condition of the Aire, Eden, Lune, Ribble, Wharfe, Ure and Swale, so that at least 90% of all rivers achieve good ecological status by 2027;
- end illegal persecution of raptors.



South Lakeland hen harrier chicks in the rushes.
Courtesy of Natural England.



Dead ash tree in the Dales. Courtesy of YDNPA.



Black Grouse.
Courtesy of Simon Phillpotts www.wilddales.co.uk

Many of the targets have multiple benefits. As well as strengthening habitat networks, the creation of an additional 450 hectares of native broadleaved and mixed woodland would enhance the landscape, increase carbon storage and help to reduce flooding.

And, even before the official launch of the management plan, progress has been made on other objectives. In August, it was announced that an agri-environment pilot scheme in Wensleydale, offering farmers payment for results, would be expanded and extended by at least two years. Four hen harrier chicks fledged in south Lakeland in mid-July, marking the first successful breeding attempt by one of the country's most persecuted birds of prey in the national park since 2007.

But there are still many obstacles to overcome. The CNP report highlights the importance of engagement and outreach with local communities to overcome resistance to changes such as river restoration or the adoption of more natural land-management practices.

And that's where Friends of the Dales come in. We're developing our own biodiversity policy and will be supporting the national park and other organisations to improve habitats and protect endangered species. But we'll also be working to raise awareness of the issues affecting wildlife in the Dales. Recent Reviews have explored the challenges of maintaining healthy raptor and curlew populations and on page 12 of this issue, you can find out why we are opposing a leisure development on Hellifield Flashes, which are home to large populations of waders. Where possible, we'll give details of how you can play a part in nature conservation, either as a volunteer or by minimising the impact of your activities on the national park's flora and fauna. Look out too for events and activities where you can learn more about the wildlife of the Yorkshire Dales such as our guided walk on Hellifield Flashes on Saturday, 19 January; details on page 19.

We'll continue to press for robust agri-environment schemes that are easily accessible to farmers and advocate planning conditions that promote nature-friendly environments. And we're campaigning for changes to the management of roadside verges, so that they can function as wildlife corridors connecting different habitats, for example by cutting them later in the year so that there is time for plants to flower and their seeds to set.

We'll let you know how we get on in future issues of the Review.

Down Dale. Still Uphill?

Wilf Fenten was appointed as a Friends of the Dales trustee at our 2018 AGM



Wilf Fenten in Selside

“Protect and prosper!” has been something of a mantra for me since I started work as an environment consultant back in 2005. At that time, I had been a member of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority for nine years. A parish councillor since 1994, I was appointed as a national park authority member in 1996 by the Secretary of State. One great benefit of serving on the YDNPA was the excellent training that members received in areas such as landscape conservation, diversity awareness, legislative and administrative aspects, planning matters

and presentation skills. That training, coupled with other practical experience and self-directed study, emboldened me in 2005 to change from working as a self-employed technical translator to independent environment consultant for national parks and other protected areas across Europe.

After completing several successful projects about cultural heritage and sustainable tourism in different European countries, I started full-time work for the consultancy arm of EUROPARC, the umbrella organisation for protected areas in Europe.

The combination of being a YDNPA member and working as consultant on European national parks was life-changing and enriching. Some of the progressive aspects of our national park’s work informed programmes I contributed to, particularly in Eastern Europe and the Balkans. However, trying to bring practical and profitable ideas back from the rest of Europe to the Dales proved an uphill struggle. “Down Dale” I found – mainly in the politicians on the national park authority – an inbuilt conservatism that instinctively rejected solutions from “abroad”, even when these ideas and practices had been highly successful.

One very successful programme of EUROPARC Consulting, the company I worked for as managing director, included study tours that took officers from protected areas to another country to look in depth at work there. For example, two dozen officers from national parks in Ukraine travelled to several protected areas in Provence to learn more about environmental education, especially for young people, green-tourism activities, working with and involving local communities, and improving communication. They also learnt about very practical issues, such as land-use conflicts or problems with household waste and litter.

Our Ukrainian colleagues were particularly interested to see how protected areas helped farmers and other local entrepreneurs to work closely with the protected area authorities. This helped the introduction and promotion of new products to ensure that local businesses worked in harmony with the landscape, not against it. The practical solution in one park was the creation of cooperatives, which proved enormously successful. When I mentioned that during a national park authority meeting, one local member commented, “Cooperatives – are you a communist?”



Scoping visit to Gorgany Strict Nature Reserve in Ukraine.
Courtesy of Nicky Rowbottom



Community Outreach Assessment team meeting in Budva, Montenegro

Even now, with countless practical and profitable examples of close cooperation between protected area authorities and local entrepreneurs in other parts of Europe, our national parks in England, including our own park, remain hesitant about getting involved with local enterprise that could benefit the parks. It's still an uphill struggle.

Transport is another knotty problem where we could learn from colleagues in other parts of Europe. Around 90% of all journeys to our national parks are by car. Visitors by car are still the best provided for, when actually we should do much more to discourage car use. Our national park authority has just spent thousands of pounds on improving parking facilities around the Ribbleshead Viaduct (something I recommended) but without evidence of any strategic visitor management in that honeypot. Thus visits by walkers and cyclists using less-polluting modes of transport remain unpleasant and uncomfortable.

On sunny days a sojourn at what should be a jewel in the crown of our park is spoiled by motorbike noise and car fumes. Add countless sponsored walks, whose organisers introduce inappropriate marquees and fluttering banners in this exposed landscape, and you have an atmosphere of chaos rather than the tranquillity and beauty that should be the hallmark of the dale. As I wrote this, a helicopter plus an ambulance and police car were racing up to Ribbleshead to attend to yet another fatal crash involving motorbikes. A combination of inability and unwillingness by decision-makers to tackle the domination of cars and motorbikes is disfiguring what should be our finest environments.

Preparing to become trustee of the Friends of the Dales (FOTD), I discovered the amazing work needed to provide the excellent DalesBus service (which is managed by Dales & Bowland CIC, a subsidiary company wholly owned by Friends of the Dales), the funding of which is haphazard and often uncertain. What a difference to other countries in

Europe, where bus services in protected areas are managed better, to the benefit of local people, visitors and the environment alike.

I agree 100% with the proposal, also supported by local MPs Alex Sobel and John Grogan, that the Department for Transport should award each English national park £100,000 per annum for a National Park Sustainable Transport Fund. The total cost of just £1 million would allow every English national park to enjoy at least a DalesBus level of weekend accessibility for the quarter of the population without access to a car. This is, after all, required to deliver the government's 8-Point-Plan for National Parks and would bring many positive changes to our national park environment.

There is so much that can be done. As new trustee, I shall try to share my experiences across Europe with my FOTD colleagues so that, together, we can find a way forward and ensure that future generations can still enjoy these most beautiful places on our precious planet.

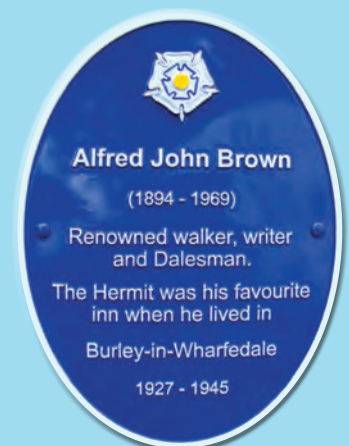
AJ Brown, Writer and Dalesman

Alfred John Brown was best known for his Yorkshire 'tramping' books of the 1930s, which inspired generations to explore 'God's Own Country' on foot. He settled in Burley-in-Wharfedale and often called at the Hermit Inn in Burley Woodhead for a pint of 'stingo', while he planned his 'tramping' trilogy: *Moorland Tramping in West Yorkshire* (1931), *Tramping in Yorkshire – North and East* (1932) and *Striding Through Yorkshire* (1938). After the war, he wrote the first official guide to the North York Moors National Park.

As well as helping to establish a national awareness of the Yorkshire Dales, he was an advocate for open access to moorlands and was first President of the

West Riding Ramblers' Federation. He was a regular contributor to the *Dalesman* magazine and was credited by the magazine's founding editor, Harry J Scott, for his encyclopaedic knowledge of the Yorkshire landscape.

Colin Speakman, a Vice President of Friends of the Dales, unveiled a blue plaque in honour of AJ at the Hermit Inn on Saturday, August 25, and paid tribute to him as a devoted advocate for the Dales. His legacy continues with the dedicated AJ Brown Memorial Trail, a six-mile trail around Burley. His biography, *Alfred John Brown, Walker, Writer and Passionate Yorkshireman* (2016), published by John A White, is available via Amazon Books UK.



AJ's plaque at the Hermit.
Courtesy of John A White

Hellifield Flashes

The members of our policy committee monitor planning applications within the national park carefully, and keep an eye on those nearby but outside the park boundary. They were quick to identify the application for a major leisure development at Hellifield Flashes as an issue of concern. Located on pastures to the west of Hellifield, lying between the A65 and Hellifield Station, the proposal comprises 300 lodges plus a 100-bed hotel and leisure centre.

We had a number of concerns. We were not convinced that it would bring economic or other benefits to the local area: rather it would have an undesirable impact on the quality of the environment and the amenities of local people, as well as reducing the undeniable value of the flashes to wildlife. Accordingly we lodged an objection with Craven District Council.

We believe that the sheer scale of the proposal is inappropriate for its location. The Dales are a quiet, rural area, much appreciated and valued by both residents and visitors. Recreational facilities in the area are generally small scale, and often provide support for those involved in farming or working locally. This proposal would appear to create a separate settlement, very large in comparison to the village of Hellifield, and crammed in to the available space. The introduction of such a large development would bring inappropriate changes to the rural landscape character of Hellifield and its surrounds. Moreover, it would be clearly visible by those enjoying the network of paths and open access areas, especially on the higher land to the north, within the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

It can be argued that it will offer some benefits to local people, such as the limited use of the leisure centre, and work (although jobs are likely to be low paid and part time, such as cleaning and hospitality). We consider that, rather than bringing substantial benefits to local people, the proposal would significantly reduce the quality of the amenity and recreational green space that is currently available to them. We are also concerned about the increase in traffic levels along the A65, and thus the impacts on those living in Hellifield, Long Preston and Gargrave.

Then there are the inevitable impacts on wildlife, both during and after construction. The flashes - shallow and fluctuating areas of water and wet grassland - host large numbers of birds, both migratory and resident, many of which are of conservation concern. These bring much joy to local walkers and birdwatchers, as well as being of biodiversity significance in themselves. One species that regularly uses the site is the lapwing, numbers of which have been declining over recent years, so that its UK conservation is now 'red'. I visited the site in the process of writing this piece, in August, and was surprised and delighted to enjoy the sight of a wonderful flock of over 250 lapwings feeding and roosting around the edges of the water. Such areas of both shallow, open water and damp and soft soil create ideal conditions for waders to feed, especially in dry summers like the current one.

Whilst it may be possible to construct new sites nearby that would attract birds, this is now a well-established site, which over time has developed its water and soil conditions and its plant life. It also lies between the complex of wetlands that form Long Preston Deeps and Pan Beck Fen, all of which are Sites of Special Scientific Interest. In 2010, Sir John Lawton presented his report 'Making Space for Nature', in which he made some key recommendations - that in order to have effective ecological networks in this country, we need not only more, bigger and better managed sites, but also sites that are connected. The Hellifield Flashes provide valuable connectivity along this part of the Ribble valley.

We lodged our objection back in December 2016. Since then some amendments have been made to the proposal, including promises to fund conservation works in the future. This has caused some objectors, including the RSPB and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, to withdraw. However, we remain of the view that this proposal is undesirable and inappropriate for its location, and our objection still stands.

Our guided walk on Saturday, 19 January (see page 19) includes a visit to the Flashes, and we are inviting local people to join us to share their views.

Nancy Stedman, trustee Friends of the Dales



Is the Swale Trail Family Fun or Hard-core Biking?

The Swale Trail is a new Dales mountain-biking trail that opened in spring 2018 and links the villages of Reeth and Keld. It's 12 miles in length and passes through stunning hill and moor countryside, but who is it aimed at? The national park authority say "the Trail has been designed with families with older children and cyclists with some experience in mind" but it looks fairly challenging. Is it suitable for families with kids aged 10 years and over? Or is it the domain of fitter than-fit mountain bikers?

We have had lots of feedback from cyclists, with most people saying what a fabulous facility the new Swaledale route is. However, not everyone agrees. One older, experienced cyclist is an active member of FOTD. Sheila Simms looks after the 1950s AA box at Aysgarth, and she featured in an issue of the Review last year. She takes issue with the fact that the trail is shared between bikers, runners, horse riders and walkers.

She remarks, "I have now seen both ends of this MTB ride. I was helping lead a flower walk from Keld to Muker one Saturday so saw that section. I thought the track down to the waterfall at the beginning was formidable. I asked a fellow cyclist if he would ride down it and he said "no". It is very artificial and does not appear safe. I have done 10 years off-road cycling since I came to Leyburn, and would regard going up or down this section as very difficult. I also spoke to someone on the walk who gave up on that same section. She later found out that all the cyclists who made it to the top had electric motors on their bikes!

"I didn't like the short section from Harkerside to the river at Reeth. It was steep and narrow with a gate to open and close half way down – all of which might be OK if it wasn't a shared track. There were runners, walkers and people with dogs on the Sunday I walked that section.

"On the flower walk, we had to contend with cyclists with no bells, who seemed to think people examining flowers knew they were coming, despite being given no warning. There were lots of walkers, some with dogs running loose. I refuse to cycle on a trail containing so many accidents waiting to happen and prefer to get well off the beaten track with my MTB. In your 70s, you look on these routes with different eyes. I've fallen off

my MTB many times and even had whiplash so I am not a scaredy-cat, but do like to be sensible as broken bones take time to mend, and can be 100 per cent inconvenient when you live alone. You would no doubt get a very different opinion from a young guy who likes danger and had very strong legs!"

FOTD gave the right of reply to Kathryn Beardmore, director of park services at the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

"The Swale Trail is certainly proving very popular, but fundamentally it is still a bridleway, and part of it is an unclassified county road – not a cycleway. It is also used by agricultural vehicles, hence the engineering works on the steeper section. I know people keep referring to it as a 'family-friendly' route, but we have been careful not to call it this in our publicity – in fact we are promoting it as a route for budding young mountain bikers.

"Yes, the trail does increase in difficulty as you head west, but it's also being promoted from Fremington, so people can turn around and cycle back if they feel it's getting too difficult. Certainly people should get off and walk if they're not happy cycling the steeper sections. We are reviewing our leaflet to make sure we are getting that message across ... along with stressing 'the share the trail message' because of its popularity with cyclists.

"As an aside, it's important to understand that mountain biking is by its very nature a 'risky' activity. We can mitigate so far by the way the surface of the bridleway has been engineered, but we can't reduce slopes, or prevent people riding at speed if they choose to do so."

If you've cycled the Swale Trail and loved it, please let us know – and equally, if you didn't enjoy the ride, tell us why. We look forward to hearing your comments.

Quiet moment beside the River Swale



Ice-cream break at Gunnerside



In action on the Swale Trail



All images courtesy of Stephen Garnett Photography.com

Killington Hydro

a scheme we commend

Malcolm Petyt looks at the success of the Killington Hydro scheme.

Mention the name Killington to people, and most will either look blank or think of a service station on the southbound M6. The service station is built on an attractive promontory over a reservoir (Killington Lake), with stunning views to the Howgill Fells. Some may recall a proposal a few years ago to erect three gigantic wind turbines here, which would have blighted this and other views into and from the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Friends of the Dales (then the Yorkshire Dales Society) was one of the three organisations that stepped in at the last minute to have this

scheme called in by the Government. This was because we considered it was flawed decision-making by the District Council to allow it. The proposal was subsequently abandoned by its sponsors.

In fact, Killington is several miles from Killington Lake, and is a tiny village down in the lovely Lune Valley. The parish has only about 160 inhabitants, with a few hamlets of four-11 dwellings and several isolated farms. It is basically a farming community, although now with several home-based businesses, and it has a network of lovely paths that attract walkers from far afield. Deservedly, following the change of boundaries in 2016, it has become part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

In 2008, a group of people from the parish and nearby started to talk about global warming and sustainable energy, and K-SET (Killington Sustainable Energy Trust) was born. By the following year, it had decided to investigate the possibilities of hydro-generation. The Lune, which flows through spectacular rocky scenery here, forms the parish boundary and offered a favourable site: a weir close to the former Broad Raine Mill. But a rough road lay ahead, and it was nine years before energy-generation actually started.



No harm to fish

The first major hurdle was to persuade fishermen that no harm would come to the fish: migrating trout and salmon pass upstream via the weir or an adjacent fish-pass, and there were concerns that a turbine screw would damage them. (In fact it has been shown elsewhere that they can pass through unharmed.) Fortunately another local group, which operates a trap to capture fish and extract their eggs to raise and later release as fry into the Lune headwaters, were supportive of the scheme.

By 2011, the real planning could begin. Local people and organisations made donations or loans to enable preliminary studies. These not only concerned design, but also about any flora and fauna that might be affected. Detailed negotiations with the Environment Agency, the body responsible for rivers, were the next hurdle: many rules had to be observed, plus permits and licences had to be obtained.

Then planning permission from the District Council had to be sought: this took ten months from submission of the application to its being given unanimous approval. At last the actual fundraising for the project could start. This turned out to be the least difficult problem! The large capital sum required was raised within a few weeks, by setting up a Benefit of the Community share issue called RainePower, with the help of a non-profit organisation called Energy4All.

Access for construction traffic then turned out to be much more complicated than had been expected. Although the Environment Agency had previously had access for heavy equipment to service the weir, a change of land ownership, and concerns about possible noise from the turbine (in the event it turned out to be virtually silent), resulted in the necessity for long negotiations over many months and an agreement with more than 30 clauses.

Delays in construction

This delay meant that construction started later in 2016 than had been planned, and could not be completed before the Environment Agency required work to stop for the winter. Many thousands of pounds were lost because much work had to be re-done in 2017. One last problem was to arise. Late in that year, when work was virtually complete and only the connection to the grid was still to be made, a flood event caused damage to the banks and choked the inlet to the screw. Fortunately, the contractors returned to stabilise the area, clear the blockage and re-profile the channel in order to avoid any further problems.

In February 2018, the screw finally started to turn and to generate power at a level at least equal to what had been predicted. Although the power goes to the national grid, it is sufficient for at least half of the parish, and once costs are paid off, the profits will come to Killington. A bonus of the scheme has been the integration into the works of a new and more efficient Larinier pass (part-funded by the Yorkshire Dales National Park), with baffles to produce a turbulent route that is attractive for the fish migrating upstream.

Having opposed the Killington Wind Farm, Friends of the Dales now congratulates Killington on its achievement of producing a sustainable energy scheme that will benefit the community without any unsightly detriment to the landscape.

Dr Malcolm Petyt, trustee Friends of the Dales




**Friends of the
 DALES**
 YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY



**Christmas
 Membership**

A Special Gift for Christmas

Annual membership of Friends of the Dales makes a great gift for Christmas. Includes a Seasonal Card with your personal message.

Forms can be photocopied as many times as you wish.

Type of Gift Membership:

Individual: £25

Two people at one address – Joint: £35

Please tick appropriate box

Name of Gift Member(s):

.....

Their Address:

.....

Their Postcode:

Message for Card:

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

I/We enclose a cheque made payable to

Yorkshire Dales Society:

Please post to:

**Friends of the Dales
 Canal Wharf, Eshton Road
 Gargrave, North Yorkshire BD23 3PN**

Your Name(s):

.....

Your Address:

.....

Your Postcode:

.....

A Shared Ascent of Pen-y-ghent

On a hot, sunny Monday in early July we hosted staff, volunteers and tenants from innovative Leeds-based charity Canopy Housing for a combined ascent of Pen-y-ghent to kick off their 500-mile walking challenge.



Triumph at the summit of Pen-y-Ghent. Courtesy of Mark Dewar from Canopy Housing

As reported by Mark Corner on page 4 of our *Yorkshire Dales Review*, Canopy Housing renovates empty properties with volunteers and homeless people, who become tenants after creating good-quality affordable homes for themselves. Derelict properties are brought back into use, homeless families are housed and unemployed people are trained in construction skills. You can find out more about this charity at canopyhousing.org. Canopy was so impressed with its previous participation in a walk led by Mark back in April, that it asked us to organise this bespoke event.

Trustee Tony Smith talked to Canopy Housing and decided to opt for the iconic Wainwright ascent of Pen-y-ghent from Horton-in-Ribblesdale – an exciting and challenging route with outstanding views. Tony organised and led the walk with support from Marion Temple and Ann Shadrake. Our knowledge of the route, of the Yorkshire Dales National Park landscape and of hill walking enabled us to help Canopy's enthusiastic – but mainly novice – walkers in preparation for their fitness and fundraising challenge of walking 500 miles during the second half of 2018.

Canopy Housing brought along 10 of its volunteers and tenants supported by four members of staff, most of whom had not been on Mark's earlier walk in April. Canopy's tenants and volunteers are from very varied backgrounds and cultures and several have experienced severe disadvantage throughout their lives. The walk up Pen-y-ghent took many of the participants far away from their usual daily experiences in Leeds: some were on their first visit to the British countryside and others on their first visit to our countryside since their childhoods.

Not long after you leave Horton on this route, you catch your first glimpse of Pen-y-ghent's impressive profile. Exclamations of "Are we going up there?" were quickly followed by enthusiasm and determination to complete the challenge of doing exactly that – followed by a well-earned and relaxing rest and picnic lunch on the summit. It was a very special occasion: the panoramic views were outstanding; so many of our novice walkers had scaled their first ever Yorkshire peak (and some in brand-new boots); and one of them shared a home-grown mango in the unusually hot July sunshine!

Everyone was relaxed, happy and chatting on our descent, delighted to have made it to the top – and at a good pace. As it was the first time that many of the Canopy Housing volunteers and tenants had met each other, the day offered an excellent opportunity to exchange experiences, forge new friendships and strengthen the Canopy team's group identity too.

For us, it proved an inspirational and rewarding day, with an excellent fit to our charitable objects providing another apt illustration of the immeasurable value of the Yorkshire Dales' "Natural Health Service".

Marion Temple and Dr Tony Smith, trustees of Friends of the Dales

Should we be doing more community events?

Our recent community events with Canopy Housing and Carers' Resource have been very successful and also met our charitable objects. We could do more community events – guided walks or bus tours perhaps – but given our limited resources do you think this is something we should be doing?

Can you suggest specific groups we work with?

We welcome contact details of specific disadvantaged groups near to the Dales that you feel Friends of the Dales could work with.

We are looking for groups that can organise (and possibly pay) for their own transport to a meeting point in the Dales (minibus, bus or train) and can supervise and ensure the wellbeing of the individuals in their group, including ensuring they have suitable boots and clothing for walks. We may be able to help with some costs or signpost schemes such as Gift Your Gear, which provides donated outdoor clothing. Our role is to plan a suitable route, lead the walk or tour on the day and share our knowledge of Dales wildlife, features and scenery.

Please let us know your views; contact Ann Shadrake on 017565 749400 or ann.shadrake@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Here's the latest from our postbag!
We're always pleased to hear from members about your experiences of the Dales, why you support our charity and what other activities we could offer.

Contact us on 01756 749400, email ann.shadrake@friendsofthedales.org.uk or write to us (see back page for address). We are also online at www.friendsofthedales.org.uk



"Although, due to mobility problems, I am not able to participate in many events these days, I have very happy memories of when I was able to do so and I should hate to lose touch by not receiving the Yorkshire Dales Review – it's always an interesting read."

Miss Mary Oakley

My favourite Dales Business

Miles Rhodes, Life Member of the FOTD, purchased these tiny walking boots at Ingleton Pottery, which he describes as "a super little business". Do you have a favourite business you'd like to recommend?"



Dinky boots from Ingleton Pottery. Courtesy of Miles Rhodes.

Query and Response

Friends of the Dales member Professor David Phillipson contacted us recently with some questions about what he'd read in our 2017-2018 Annual Report and Accounts (now available on our website). He's given us permission to publish some extracts from our correspondence.

Prof Phillipson: "Although I am not aware of any formal link between [the charity] and Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, the report indicates a degree of liaison but none with others that hold overlapping responsibilities, including the relevant national organisations, district and county councils."

Our response: "With respect to the YDNPA, as an independent charity we do not have any formal connection to the authority but we do have regular liaison and other contact with senior staff and authority members. We regard ourselves as a 'critical friend' of the authority and seek to ensure that it delivers its statutory responsibilities with respect to the national park. This enables us to question and challenge policies and decisions where we feel this is necessary ... Regarding other bodies ... we have a memorandum of understanding with the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust.

"We have more informal relationships with bodies like CPRE and have contacts with district and county councils. As an example of the latter, we are currently trying to work with NYCC regarding the verge-cutting regime, where we have concerns about the loss of wildflowers. We aim to improve our cooperation with the parish councils in the Dales, and last year wrote to all of them offering our support on issues such as monitoring and intervention on planning applications."

Prof Phillipson's response to the above: "I am particularly pleased to know that you are in touch with county, district and parish councils, all of which is very impressive, particularly in view of the small number of staff involved."

If you have a question, want to call us to account or suggest something we should be doing – or we should be doing better – then please contact Ann Shadrake (details on back page). If you wish, we can also publish your queries or concerns here.

Exhibition at The Folly in Settle Goes on Tour

Seaside photographer and Friends of the Dales member Hilary Fenten was commissioned by the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust to create a 'snapshot in time' of Ingleborough's social history, as part of the Stories in Stone scheme (Heritage Lottery Fund). She photographed local people involved in a variety of jobs, trades and events around Ingleborough for a collection of portraits that depict the area's diverse residents and their special place in the landscape throughout the seasons.

The exhibition will spend the winter touring the Dales. Dates are as follows:

- Ribbleshead Station
2–16 October 2018
- Horton-in-Ribblesdale Station
17–30 October 2018
- St Mary's Church, Ingleton
2–23 November 2018
- Ingleborough Community Centre
2–23 November 2018
- Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes
4–30 December 2018
- Gallery on the Green, Settle
10 November – 13 January 2019

A Portrait of Ingleborough
a collection of photographs illustrating how people live, enjoy and work on and around the mountain.

The Folly 7th - 30th September
(£7 museum entrance fee applies, under 16 years free)
Ribbleshead Station 2nd - 16th October
Horton-in-Ribblesdale Station 17th - 30th October
St Mary's Church, Ingleton 2nd - 23rd November
Ingleborough Community Centre (TIC) 2nd - 23rd November
Dales Countryside Museum 4th - 30th December
Gallery on the Green 10th November - 13th January

The photographs, taken by resident Hilary Fenten, are a snapshot in time of the area's social history, showing how people - locals and visitors - connect to the land and its communities.

Heritage Lottery Fund
LOTTERY FUNDED

Stories in Stone

Membership News – Ann Shadrake, Executive Director

Could you include us in your will?

It's that time of year when you can take advantage of national will writing campaigns, if you are so minded. These campaigns can give us the incentive to get on and write a will (something that can be a bit off-putting) by offering various discounts and spelling out the benefit to charities – and to you. Regular readers of the Yorkshire Dales Review will know that I “plug” these campaigns every autumn, because they do offer some extra motivation (if we need it) to write or update our wills. With respect to Inheritance Tax (IHT), a charitable gift in your will is either taken off the value of your estate before IHT is calculated or if more than 10% of your estate is left to charity, then your IHT is reduced (see www.gov.uk/donating-to-charity/leaving-gifts-to-charity-in-your-will).

Free Wills Month starts on 1 October 2018 and is solely for people over 55 years old – see www.freewillsmoth.org.uk. Will Aid Month launched in September 2018 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 would like to support Friends of the Dales with a gift in your will, we recommend speaking to your solicitor. They will want to know our charity's registration details and the type of gift you prefer. This could be a specific sum or perhaps a fixed percentage of your estate. You might find it helpful to take this note along:

“I wish to make the following gift in my will. I give and bequeath % share of my estate OR the sum of £..... to Friends of the Dales (a registered working name of the Yorkshire Dales Society), of Canal Wharf, Eshton Road, Gargrave, North Yorkshire, BD23 3PN (Registered charity number 515384) for its general charitable purposes absolutely.”

Unlike big national charities, which may rely on legacies for up to 50% of their income, our charity doesn't expect to receive legacies every year. In fact, we received no legacies in the last financial year (as reported by our Hon Treasurer on page 6). But in the fullness of time, your legacy gift could make a real difference to keeping the Dales vibrant and special for years to come. New threats and opportunities are always before us in the Dales and legacy income helps us respond to these quickly and plan for the future with confidence.

Donations

Once again, I am delighted to acknowledge a large donation of £5,000 from a member who wants to remain anonymous. At their request this has been split, with £3,000 being passed to our social enterprise, the Dales & Bowland CIC, to support Dalesbus services, and £2,000 being used for our general charitable purposes.

I am also pleased to report that thanks to the efforts of our member Jonathan White, who is currently President of Skipton Golf Club (as reported in the summer issue of the Review) donations totalling £240 have been collected for Friends of the Dales. We also recruited two new members at the guided walk with the Club in early July. If you are involved in an organisation that supports charities, maybe a sports club or Rotary or WI group, please consider supporting Friends of the Dales. We always thank our donors, large or small, and are very grateful for all donations.

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.



Wednesday, 17 October 2018



Responding to the Challenge – Dales Families and Communities

This year's annual Focus on the Dales event is offered in partnership with Councillor Wendy Hull, Chair of Craven District Council, and our charity's President, Sir Gary Verity, Chief Executive of Welcome to Yorkshire. The theme is inspired by the current debate about attracting and keeping young people and families living, working and enjoying life in the Dales. This topic generates strong opinions and sometimes controversial solutions. There are two parts to the day, and you can join us for either or both. We'll visit some key local businesses during a bespoke guided walk, followed later in the day by short presentations and opportunities for debate. The two "halves" of the day will be linked by an informal Yorkshire afternoon tea – expect local cakes and savoury treats with lashings of tea (bar also open).

The event is based at Victoria Hall, Settle. Councillor Hull's budget is covering the modest costs of the venue and catering, as her nominated charity, so this is a free event to members and their guests. Full programme and to book your place – contact Ann at the office.

Wednesday, 14 November 2018



Barn Conversions in the National Park – change in policy, change in landscape?

Recent changes in the national park's policy on barn conversions have resulted in a large number of applications for local occupancy accommodation or holiday lets. Trustee Nancy Stedman will explore these issues and draw on her own research to look at possible cumulative and long-term implications. A joint meeting hosted by North Craven Heritage Trust.

2:30pm Langcliffe Village Institute. Small car park at the institute or park with consideration on village roads. Lifts possible from Settle; contact Ann at the office.

Saturday, 1 December 2018



Music in the Cove

Join us for a sociable group visit to Malham, with a scenic walk (c2 miles) led by Mark Corner, followed by Skipton Brass Band's Christmas concert in the awe-inspiring setting of the cove. Time for lunch in a village pub or cafe, or a spot of gift shopping. The concert (2:00–3:30pm, short interval) is a free public event run by the National Trust, with mulled wine and mince pies (charge). Carol sheets available. No seating provided, wrap up warm/bring a torch. Well-behaved dogs on leads welcome. Day ends around 4:00pm.

Meet 10:30am Malham National Park Centre (toilets). P&D parking or park with consideration (donation) on village roads. Bus 75 d Skipton 9:45am, via Gargrave, arrives Malham 10:25am. Return leaves Malham 4:30pm, via Gargrave, arrives Skipton 5:15pm. Bus times tbc - check www.dalesbus.org.uk. Lifts possible; contact Ann at the office.

Saturday, 19 January 2019



Inspirational Water

Walk: A morning walk (c2 miles) led by Marion Temple exploring Hellifield village and the Flashes – natural and ephemeral shallow ponds offering a haven for birds. This open space is at risk from a proposed complex of holiday chalets to which many, including Friends of the Dales, are opposed. Local campaigners have been invited to join us. Bring binoculars/camera. Wellingtons or boots/gaiters advisable. Regret no dogs except RAD.

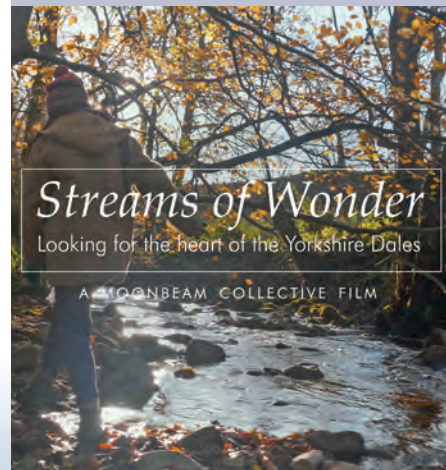
Film Short: After a break for lunch (pub/cafe) immerse yourself in *Streams of Wonder* – a beautiful slow-paced film by The Moonbeam Collective. This explores, through the eyes of a young walker, the landscape and culture of the Dales.

"The essence of the Dales captured in a host of images, words and music. The blending of all three is truly inspired." Mike Harding.

Meet 10:30am at Hellifield Institute – open for coffee morning (& toilets) prior to walk.

Meet 2:15pm at Hellifield Institute – for film presentation followed by tea & biscuits.

Large free public car park behind the institute (access from Gisburn Road). Train & bus options, lifts, tbc. Please check our website or with Ann nearer the time.



Canada geese over Hellifield Flashes. Courtesy of Ann Shadrake

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A fantastic chance to hear Sir Gary Verity, our president and chief executive of 'Welcome to Yorkshire', speak at our October event, see page 19 for details and booking.
Photo credit news.leeds.gov.uk

Become a **Friend of the Dales**

Join online • By phone • By post

CAMPAIGN for positive improvement, and against negative development

PROTECT and help to safeguard the Dales

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.

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

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

Ann Shadrake
Friends of the Dales
Canal Wharf
Eshton Road
Gargrave
North Yorkshire
BD23 3PN

Email:
ann.shadrake@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Office: **01756 749400**



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Community Interest Company:
www.dalesandbowland.com

Annual Membership

Individual	£25
Joint/Family	£35
Business Members	£40
Affiliate Members (Group)	£40

Life Membership

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

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



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