

Yorkshire **DALES** review

Winter 2019 : Issue 149

- Tackling plastic in the Dales
- Hope for white-clawed crayfish
- Tracking this magazine's green footprint
- Dales landscapes as art forms
- Reaction to the Glover Review

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Friends of the
DALES
YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY

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Editor's letter

A beautiful book has been published by the YDMT, backed by Stories in Stone and the Ingleborough Dales Landscape Partnership. With a series of delightful and intimate images, Selside photographer Hilary Fenten has captured a slice of Dales life in *A Portrait of Ingleborough* (ISBN: 978 1916 072770, price £8.50, available from www.ydmt.org/shop).

Hilary set out to photograph people involved in Ingleborough life, producing portraits that depict the residents and their place in our rural landscape. By concentrating on how much is happening here – tourism, sheep shows, pantomime, culture, caving, quarrying, local farming – and highlighting the broad spectrum of skills and ages, full of energy and smiles, Hilary has succeeded in presenting a truthful picture of life in the Dales.

Just as the aim of Hilary's book is to highlight the delicate balance of farming, conservation and tourism around Ingleborough, our hope is to see the Dales preserved and enhanced. FOTD has embarked on two major campaigns: the charity is keen to halt the use of single-use plastics in the Dales, see page 12. The second campaign adopted this year is to see wild flowers flourish on our verges once more (p 6). The findings of the Glover Review are welcomed with cautious optimism on page 10, and we check our own carbon footprint on page 11.

And yes, we're asking for your help again. We're planning an article about ebiking in the Dales for our Summer Review, and would like to compile a list of ebike-friendly businesses. Do you use an ebike to explore the Dales? Do you know of businesses that are happy to top up your battery charge – perhaps in return for buying a snack or drink? What are the pros and cons of ebiking in your experience? Please email your contributions to Colin Surrey, life member of Friends of the Dales at colin_surrey@hotmail.com by February 28.

Thank you, and here's to a very happy and successful New Year.

Thanks, Sasha Heseltine



Yorkshire DALES review

Health Emergency

Numerous authorities, including the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Craven District Council and Skipton Town Council, have declared a climate emergency. Having done so, we can expect radical steps to be taken to reduce carbon emissions as well as halt and recover the loss of biodiversity.

The last time the countryside, people and a nationwide emergency were cross-referenced was during the Second World War. "Dig for Victory" and the War Agricultural Executive Committees re-envisioned the use and interpretation of the landscape; the narrative of property rights and traditional farming practices changed in the service of a common cause: survival. Laissez-faire capitalism was forced to give way to a more corporate notion of commonwealth.

To be sure, the narrative had been changing for some time due to the political demand for greater access to privately owned land, especially for and by the most deprived: the mass of workers in urban centres. The right to roam the British landscape coalesced with the right to a healthy life and restorative recreation. In this way, the "nature cure" posited the natural world as guarantor of public and democratic health. In short, during the war and afterwards, it was nature to the rescue!

In his White Paper published in 1945, John Dower, who saw the benefits of the nature cure while convalescing in Kirkby Malham, wrote that the countryside is "second to none in giving physical, mental and spiritual health and happiness to the whole mass of people". The White Paper led directly to the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. Thus the national parks were conceived as a space of entitlement: to mobility, enjoyment, retreat and health. Dower built upon the belief that quality spaces, whether landscape or housing, were a civil right.

2019 marks the centenary of the Ministry of Health Act and the subsequent Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act. As with the local government boards that it replaced, the Ministry of Health oversaw public health as well as social housing in both urban and rural settings. Health and habitat for the benefit of the public were deemed inseparable. Like good public housing, nature reserves were viewed as intrinsic to the nation's patrimony.

Impact of mass tourism

However, Dower could not have foreseen mass tourism, global warming or the poor health of nature today. How do these developments impact our understanding of access and rights? In 1949, the population of England was 38 million and 86% of households had no car. By 2017 the population was 55 million and 75% of

households had a car. While promoting access to the parks for all and recognising that, as National Parks England states, "[national parks] are a significant part of the natural health service", we must also be cognisant that our treasured landscapes have been significantly depleted and damaged by the way we have treated them over the last 70 years. Tourism, for instance, is accelerating: it brings benefits but also a growing monotony of holiday homes, low-wage and seasonal service jobs, congestion and pollution. Over 90% of visitors to the Dales arrive by car.

I believe our narrative and choices need to change in order to combat the climate and environmental emergency. And I am proud that Friends of the Dales is at the forefront of thinking through this challenge. If in 1945 the fight was to regenerate the health of the nation, today the fight must be for the health of the parks and the natural world. It is time to rescue nature.

Bruce McLeod, Chair, Friends of the Dales

Ray of Light for Endangered Crayfish

On a bright, October day supporters of Friends of the Dales gathered at The Knights Table, Stainforth, to meet Paul Bradley (PBA Ecology director) and Alex Gould (PBA ecologist). The aim of the day was to learn more about one of the Yorkshire Dales' most threatened species, the white-clawed crayfish, and the conservation efforts that are in place to try to save it from local extinction.

The day started with a presentation by Paul, which summarised the history of the species within the upper Ribblesdale catchment. Having previously been home to a strong population of white-clawed crayfish, the introduction and spread of the invasive American signal crayfish and the fungal-like pathogen crayfish plague now means that our only native freshwater crayfish species has been lost from much of its former range. Thanks to Paul's survey efforts, a relict population has been identified in the headwaters of the Yorkshire Dales. This population is protected by a waterfall, which forms a physical barrier and prevents

the spread of invasive species and disease. Individuals from this relict population are now being used as breeding stock within one of Britain's largest white-clawed crayfish captive-breeding facilities, housed here in the Yorkshire Dales. It is hoped that juveniles raised in this facility can be used to try to reintroduce the species to parts of its former range.

Stories in Stone

After the presentation the group went to visit the captive-breeding facility, which is owned and managed by former Environment Agency fisheries officer Neil Handy. This facility was established in 2001 and refurbished in 2018. The project is part of Stories in Stone, a scheme of conservation and community projects concentrated on the Ingleborough area. The scheme was developed by the Ingleborough Dales Landscape Partnership, led by Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust and supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Following the refurbishment, more than 250 juveniles have been bred and raised within the facility. This local stock of captive-bred white-claweds has been released into sites where the species has been lost recently. The group was able to visit one of these sites next.

A private fishing tarn managed by Manchester Anglers' Association was until 2015 known to be home to one of the largest known still-water populations of white-clawed crayfish. This population underwent a catastrophic collapse in 2016. The source of this collapse has not been confirmed but an outbreak of crayfish plague is believed to be the most likely cause. The collapse was so dramatic that surveys undertaken by PBA Ecology during 2017 failed to record a single individual. Having discovered the loss of this species from such an important, isolated ark site, PBA Ecology committed to reintroducing the species there.

Reintroducing white-clawed crayfish

The first step in this reintroduction was to confirm that the site was once again able to support the species, and that the risk of catastrophic population collapse had passed. In order to establish this, bioassay tanks were installed within the tarn on 15 January 2018. These tanks house live individuals taken from the captive-breeding facility, and their survival and health has been monitored ever since. The Friends of the Dales supporters who attended the day were able to help with one of the monthly inspections of the

The Friends of the Dales supporters who attended the day were able to help with one of the monthly inspections of the bioassay tanks.





bioassay tanks. This gave them the chance to handle this enigmatic species, learning the key identification features. Excitingly it was found that the females are once again carrying fertile eggs. This gives great hope that a recruiting population can once more be established in the tarn.

After confirming that the tarn is again capable of supporting a healthy population, the next step was to carry out the first wave of reintroduction. Having obtained a licence from Natural England, over 250 adult white-claweds were collected from the donor site in 2018. These individuals were introduced to areas of suitable habitat within the tarn. Surveys conducted in 2019 confirmed that these individuals had survived their first year in the tarn. The success of this project gives hope that white-clawed crayfish can have a future within the Yorkshire Dales.

Alongside this ambitious reintroduction attempt PBA has also been supporting researchers who are trying to better understand the impact that signal crayfish are having on natural ecosystems. This involves working with and supporting masters and PhD students during their fieldwork and at the start of their careers. A total of nine postgraduate projects have been supported in the Yorkshire Dales to date: two of the students now live and work full-time in the



Reintroducing white-clawed crayfish. Courtesy of Alex Gould

Dales. Thanks to an anonymous donation from two members of Friends of the Dales, a Masters student will be sponsored during the 2020 field season. This funding and support is crucial if we are to understand some of the most pressing ecological issues currently facing the Dales and their wildlife. We would welcome any enquiries from people who may be interested in sponsoring student projects in the future.

PBA Applied Ecology Ltd is an independent, specialist ecology practice based in Giggleswick on the south-western edge of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. If you would like to learn more about PBA and the work we do, please contact: a.gould@pba-ecology.co.uk.

Paul Bradley, director PBA Applied Ecology

A letter we received after the event:

Dear Ann

Many thanks for arranging the crayfish event.

We had never even seen a freshwater crayfish before, never mind the white-clawed species, so the event was very educational and inspirational.

The presentation was excellent in drawing attention to the relative vulnerability of the species due to pollution and the American signal, and to the work of PBA.

We were also privileged to visit the research and breeding sites, a very enjoyable day rounded off by a welcome cup of tea and scone in the café.

Maybe summed up by 'amazing, inspiring but fragile', as on the front of the Friends campaign leaflet...

Brian Eamonson and Judy Crampin



White-clawed crayfish ready for introduction. Courtesy of Alan Gould





Verge cutting.
Courtesy of Mark Corner



Roadside verge with flourishing wild flowers. Courtesy of Phil Gayton

Verging on Progress!

How many drivers have time to notice what's growing by the side of the road? Well, more than you might think, actually. The charity Plantlife has so far gathered 83,633 signatures in support of its latest campaign to save wild flowers on road verges.

Here in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, we have hundreds of miles of roadside verges. In spring and summer, they provide displays of colourful wild flowers against the backdrop of our drystone walls, forming an integral part of the verdant Dales landscape.

Roadside verges are not just there to be admired by passing travellers, though. Verges that have lots of different plants growing in them support lots of different insects, which in turn support all manner of other wildlife. Very often, the biodiversity that has been lost from nearby agricultural fields over the course of the last few decades remains only in these precious strips of 'no-man's land' bordering the tarmac.

However, road verge habitats are increasingly under threat. Pollution from car exhausts is only part of the problem – poorly timed cutting regimes are the main culprit. If flowering plants are cut back before they are allowed to set seed, they will not be able to grow next year. Over time, this leads to a decline in the abundance of flowering plants in our roadside verges and a corresponding loss of biodiversity.

Roadside Verges Campaign

In the Yorkshire Dales, responsibility for cutting the roadside verges is divided between different councils, with North Yorkshire County

Council looking after the lion's share. NYCC policy states that environmental considerations must be taken into account when balancing cutting priorities, recognising that road verges are important for wildlife. However, in practice we have observed that the verges are frequently cut at entirely the wrong times, to the detriment of special wild flowers such as orchids and melancholy thistle. Often this cannot be justified on safety grounds.

To address these problems, Friends of the Dales have launched a roadside verges campaign of our own, with a focus on the Yorkshire Dales. We have formulated an action plan and are liaising with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. We have the support of Plantlife and are armed with its newly updated guide to best practice in managing grassland road verges.

We are meeting NYCC to understand more about the difficulties it faces in managing our roadside verges, and how we could reach mutually acceptable solutions.

In the meantime, we would welcome any feedback and ideas from members about our campaign. We would also love to receive any information (good or bad) about verges in the Dales, with cutting dates, location details, wildlife sightings and photographs if you have them.

Read more about Plantlife's campaign at:

plantlife.love-wildflowers.org.uk/roadvergecampaign

Anne Readshaw, member of FOTD policy committee

Groundworks that appear to form a lake with steep banks. Courtesy of Roger Haffield, SOCC

Wildlife Under Threat At Hellifield Flashes

Following Craven District Council's comprehensive refusal to allow a major 'leisure complex' development on the Hellifield Flashes earlier this year, the same developer returned just two months later and started groundwork on a planning application that was granted 14 years ago.



Gallaber Flash with its thriving bird populations. Courtesy of Roger Haffield, SOCC

CDC's planning committee approved a smaller project back in 2005. It includes a hotel and 'Rural Environment Centre', retaining the ephemeral characteristics of Gallaber Flash and preserving its nature conservation value. However, it quickly became apparent that Gallaber Flash and its gently sloping surroundings, vital for the abundant wildlife they support, were being excavated and bulldozed to form a lake.

The local communities have been outraged with this action and have demanded the planning authority to explain how this can be allowed to continue, especially in a conservation area. Many residents have contacted the Environment Agency, Natural England and North Yorkshire County Council, but unfortunately there appears to be little appetite for any of them to step in.

Local Green Space designation

Following numerous complaints to Craven District Council, a community meeting was arranged by our local ward councillor and attended by the CDC Chief Executive. This resulted in a commitment to have

the many issues raised in respect of the planning permission examined by its legal representative.

Despite the recorded presence of European-protected great crested newts some 250 metres away in a second pond, a response regarding habitat destruction from Natural England and wildlife protection officers is still awaited although NE has confirmed that the records exist and that no habitat disturbance licence has been requested or issued.

In a further twist, the wider Flashes area has since been put forward in the Craven local plan for designation as a Local Green Space. Whilst this has been supported throughout the long local plan process by CDC, the planning inspector confirmed in his final judgment that, ironically, only the Gallaber Flash would be appropriate for Green Space designation. Sadly, this has come too late to assist in helping preserve the Gallaber Flash and its abundant, diverse wildlife.

Those who strive to protect our special landscapes and wildlife, take note.

Roger Haffield, Save Our Craven Countryside

We at Friends of the Dales are also appalled at the works that have been carried out at Hellifield Flashes. Over the years they had developed considerable biodiversity interest, offering shallow water for a wide range of waders throughout the year. We have been in contact with Natural England in an attempt to clarify whether or not the works are in line with its approvals for the site.

As Roger says, Craven District Council has committed to carrying out a review of all planning and related files. We have asked it to include three specific questions:

1. Was the environmental assessment adequate; did it provide sufficient information for the planning committee to make an informed decision; and are the works in line with the recommendations made?
2. Was a licence obtained from Natural England to disturb great crested newts and what measures are being taken to mitigate that disturbance?
3. How were the potential impacts of the works on the populations of waders and wildfowl and the hydrology of the nearby Sites of Special Scientific Interest - Long Preston Deeps and Pan Beck - assessed?

We await responses from both Craven District Council and Natural England with interest.

Nancy Stedman,
Friends of the Dales trustee



Regular updates can be seen on SOCC's Facebook page www.facebook.com/saveourcravencountryside-108150632557939/



An Agricultural and Environmental Win-Win?

Anthony Bradley, trustee of Friends of the Dales and long-time Dales livestock farmer, looks at the issues caused when farming needs impact on the environment.

Upland grazing in Ribblesdale. Courtesy of Mark Corner

In 1997 a group of neighbouring farmers in Pontbren, Wales, while discussing the usual fortunes of farming – rain, poor prices for lamb, beef – realised that perhaps their systems needed changing. In common with many upland livestock farmers, they had followed the policy drivers to use modern genetics, artificial fertilisers and winter housing to drive productivity and ideally financial fortunes. They knew, like most farmers, that in many ways it was, and indeed still is, a treadmill. A constant running faster and faster to only stand still. The typical high-cost, high-output scenario. They also knew from their shared family histories, often stretching back over 200 years, that they had simplified their landscapes.

Along with many other farmers, they started to wonder if there was another way. The difference in Pontbren was that they started to do something in a way that was at that time innovative.

Their “solution” was to turn back to hardier breeds of stock and restore their extended networks of hedges and copses. They wanted to return to lambing outdoors, hence the need for shelter from hedges, and

reduce their bought-in feeds, housing and machinery and consequently cut their costs. The problem was that the Environmental Stewardship schemes at that time did not tend to support the ideas they had nor did they support informal, collaborative working. So 10 holdings each had their own individual farm plans, they pulled them into a whole and then had to look for funding support. Part of their plan was to employ a facilitator, who could pursue funding from multiple sources and seek savings and opportunities from collaborative working. Eventually they were successful.

The Pontbren Project was “...an innovative approach to using woodland management and tree planting to improve the efficiency of upland livestock farming...”

The farmers knew where the old hedge lines were, where the boundaries of copses used to be, where their streams could be fenced off and still have water for stock. They identified the steep-sided gullies which, when fenced off, made livestock management easier as well as providing tree planting opportunities. On the more exposed sites they wanted to plant shelter belts. The wetter areas that had

had multiple efforts at draining could be excavated and ponds created.

The shelter belts were a case in point of both innovation and an idea that did not sit in any environmental schemes. The willingness to collaboratively seek and take advice helped over these hurdles. The use of locally sourced hardy tree species was essentially obvious. But one of the issues with shelter belts was what species to use and in which densities so three tree “groups” were used:

Pioneer: birches, rowan, with black alder for wetter areas and aspen on the exposed sites.

Long-lived, slower-growing: sessile oak, ash, sweet chestnut.

Easily coppiced: hazel, holly, bird cherry, field maple, hawthorn, blackthorn.

These shelter belts ignored the “normal” geometry of forestry and they were high density with a large proportion of shrubs.

As a result of timber production from laying hedges and coppicing, there was a timber crop for firewood but also an experiment using woodchip as an alternative bedding for housed livestock.



Highland cattle grazing in winter. Courtesy of Dave Lobley

The tree and hedge planting had clear benefits to the business of farming but that was only part of the success. The increased complexity and connectivity of the landscape improved wildlife habitat as well. The Pontbren farmers also noticed that the run-off of water in high rainfall episodes was reduced. This brought forward another innovation and collaboration as scientists were invited to investigate what was observed. It was discovered that water infiltration rates in fenced-off woodlands were 60% higher than that of grazed pasture. These effects were observable as little as two years after planting or fencing out livestock. This inevitably also reduced sediment loss to watercourses and reductions in peak flows of as much as 40%. Interestingly, these results have been replicated in the Hodder catchment.

The Pontbren Project was a success because there were agricultural, environmental, scientific and social benefits.

Fortunately this attracted the attention of government, which wanted to see if this model could be replicated. Eventually this led to the idea of farmers' facilitation funds.

Farmers could join one with no obligations beyond attendance at some meetings: they had a paid-for facilitator, training, speakers, walks and collaboration with Natural England, the Environment Agency, river trusts and other NGOs. They also get fed, which is normally guaranteed to boost farmers' attendance, engagement and enthusiasm as well as knock the edge off our usual suspicion of non-farmers "advising" us.

Now, many of you will have heard of the Long Preston Flood Plain Project, for which I was a farmer rep for a while. No doubt many will have driven the A65 or ridden on the train and observed the occasional expanse of floodwater. The area is a SSSI because of its unusual morphology, which provides important habitat for breeding wading birds

"Farmers knew where the old hedge lines were, where the boundaries of copses used to be, where their streams could be fenced off and still have water for stock."

and a range of rare plants. It was apparent that, to consolidate the environmental gains made in the flood plain, the work on a tightly drawn area needed to expand into the surrounding catchment.

Water-friendly farming practices

In 2017 the Ribblesdale Farmers Facilitation Group was born. This was made possible because many members were, or had been, involved in the LPFPP and our proposed facilitator was well known to the farmers as were people from both the Ribble Rivers Trust, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. It was a natural progression. Our stated aim and focus was natural flood management but that is only part of the work. It includes water-friendly farming practices, how to better manage soils, efficient nutrient management, the benefits of hedgerows, advice on Stewardship applications and other funding opportunities.

All the activities we see, listen to, talk about are around the things that are good for farming as well as the environment. In reality there ceases to be a distinction between the two. Collaborative relationships between farmers and non-farming agencies develop and a lot of the mutual suspicion falls away. Indeed, when visiting sites of tree planting from the early days of the LPFPP there are hints of pride and satisfaction from farmers at the changes made. There is even the prospect of farmers becoming competitive about the environmental improvements they make.

We also have an annual educational trip by minibus, which for some unaccountable reason takes in the odd public house.

Flood-management benefits

On a personal level, on my own piece of God's own country we have just started the process of planting over 1,300 metres of hedges, fencing off all of our watercourses with some tree planting behind the fences and taking advantage of free soil samples.

I rotationally graze my livestock and the new hedges will help create a series of 1.5- to two-hectare fields. These will be heavily stocked for short periods with a long rest until the stock returns. This mimics the natural behaviour of wild ruminants and maximises the productivity of my grass. The hedges and trees will naturally have wildlife benefits and natural flood-management benefits too. Life is never a series of binary choices and perhaps the oft-repeated conflict between agriculture and the environment can have some win-win.

Glover Review

What It Means for the Yorkshire Dales

The previous edition of the Review summarised the work done by the team led by Julian Glover on the future of English national parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The final report is now published.

The report's underlying argument is that the country's national landscapes should be a positive force for the nation's wellbeing. It has 27 proposals or recommendations, ranging from specifics such as a night under the stars in a national landscape for every schoolchild, to general ones like the need for a renewed mission to recover and enhance nature. Some of the important issues relevant to the Dales follow, together with an initial reaction by FOTD trustees:

- The report says the national landscapes should have a revised purpose, "to recover, conserve and enhance natural beauty, biodiversity and natural capital, and cultural heritage". We welcome this, particularly the reference to "recover" in recognition of the depleted and damaged nature in the national parks.
- We have strong reservations that the current supporting duty of national park authorities to "seek to foster economic and community vitality" becoming a statutory purpose could undermine the basic need to protect nature.
- We welcome the proposal that management plans in the landscapes should be strengthened and become a statutory requirement of park authorities.
- The review recommends new Environmental Land Management Schemes, but we feel it must be made clear that they should be delivered by the park authorities. An excellent model is the "payments by results" scheme trialled by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. We are disappointed that moorland management and grouse-shooting issues are given short shrift.
- We strongly support the proposal that national landscapes be given a strengthened place in the planning system.
- Proposals on increased access to national landscapes are supported, but the report should recognise that green lanes need adequate protection from off-road motor sports, and that better guidance and funding is required to promote low-carbon and sustainable transport in national landscapes.
- We welcome the proposal for a new National Landscapes Housing Association to build affordable homes, but feel that housing should be viewed within the context of better-paid jobs in national parks. The report is disappointingly vague on the issue of second homes.
- We support ideas on sustainable tourism, but are disappointed by the lack of attention given to the damage that over-tourism causes to the environment.
- The report's proposal for a new National Landscapes Service is welcomed, but we feel it must be independent of the government, in terms of funding and powers, or else it will be prey to the whims of political change.

Overall, the board is very supportive of the Glover Review and hopes the government treats it seriously. We are, however, very disappointed with the lack of emphasis on a sustainable low-carbon economy for national parks like the Yorkshire Dales, with its need to attract a spectrum of job-creating enterprises in harmony with the landscape; provide renewable energy in areas where windfarms are largely banned; and avoid increases in tourism "killing the golden egg" and harming the beauty that visitors enjoy.

Rick Cowley, member of Policy Committee

The Glover Review can be accessed via

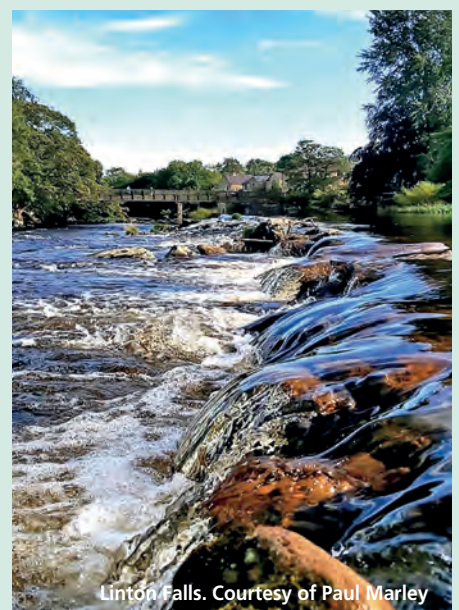
www.gov.uk/government/publications/designated-landscapes-national-parks-and-aonbs-review-2018



Pennine Way walkers.
Courtesy of Tim Hancock



Pendragon Castle, Malenestang.
Courtesy of Dave Lobley



Linton Falls. Courtesy of Paul Marley

From Forest to Print

More and more people are demanding to know where our food comes from, but how many of us ask about the paper we use? Lynn Leadbeatter talks to Tony Lee, MD of Briggs Bros printers.

This copy of the *Yorkshire Dales Review* has been produced from wood pulp sourced in sustainably managed forests. Our readers can rest assured that none of the organisations involved in the supply chain uses unethical employment practices including child labour.

We know this because Briggs Bros, the Cononley-based firm and FOTD business member that designs and prints this magazine, has Forest Stewardship Council accreditation. You can see the regulating body's logo on our back page and check the FSC number on its website if you want to be sure that the Review has not been produced at the expense of the environment or human rights.

"Printing had a bad press a while ago," says Briggs Bros managing director Tony Lee, "but people are pulling up the rainforest for other reasons and a lot of paper has always been recycled into cardboard and packaging. The print industry does not do enough to defend its corner. The end-product is not a disaster for the environment so the focus is now on plastics, which are more harmful because they are broken down more slowly."

Environmental responsibility

Companies with FSC accreditation have undergone a demanding audit process to ensure that they can show a clear 'chain of custody' tracking everyone who touches each tree, from the initial planting to the final print product. Those used by Briggs Bros come from Scandinavia and other European countries and are grown solely to provide softwood. For each one felled, four more are planted and they are cultivated specifically as a crop for paper production.

The firm has signed up to the Woodland Trust's carbon capture scheme, donating a proportion of the payments received from some of its customers, including Friends of the Dales, to enable the charity to plant and maintain more trees.

Briggs Bros also demonstrates its environmental responsibility by minimising the use of harmful chemicals in the production process. The traditional solvent of isopropyl alcohol is combustible and can contaminate the water supply. Instead, the company has switched to substitutes that can be discharged down the drain safely, even though working with them involved perseverance to achieve the same quality of finished product.

"We genuinely believe that being an ethical company is the right thing to do"

Reducing toxic discharges

Whereas many other printers use a process similar to that involved in developing camera film, the firm has adopted alternative methods that do not require the use of water in the plate-making process. This further reduces toxic discharges. Waste is kept to a minimum by calibrating the machinery and preparing the inks before starting a print run so that it is ready very quickly but this is not the only environmentally sustainable practice that also makes good business sense.

Solar panels on the roof of the building generate 50 kilowatts of electricity, cutting bills by 15-18%. The company receives feed-in tariffs for exporting power to the National Grid although it took six years to see a financial benefit. More importantly, corporate customers such as large supermarkets, Skipton Building Society and Specsavers insist on an ethical supply chain.

Yet commercial benefits alone are not the drivers of the firm's adoption of environmentally friendly practices. "We genuinely believe that being an ethical company is the right thing to do," says Tony Lee. "And our industry is a lot less polluting than it was. There are no emissions from our processes and digital cartridges can be recycled."

Consumers are increasingly demanding full traceability of food from fork to plate. Perhaps more of us should also ask our print suppliers to demonstrate true sustainability from forest to print.



Less Plastic in



Tree guards collected in a two-hour "litter pick". Image courtesy of Sally Goodman

Bruce McLeod, Chair of Friends of the Dales, explains why the charity has taken up the campaign against single-use plastic in the national park.

"We stand now where two roads diverge..." wrote Rachel Carson in *Silent Spring* in 1962. "The road we have long been travelling is deceptively easy, a smooth superhighway on which we progress with great speed, but at its end lies disaster. The other fork of the road – the one 'less travelled by' – offers our last, our only chance to reach a destination that assures the preservation of our earth."

I like to think that the anti-single-use plastics campaign initiated by Friends of the Dales in September is one very small step down the road less travelled. Plastic tree guards have been our first target. Despite the scale

of the problem and the inevitable systemic adversity to changing the way tree planting and protection is conceived, our campaign has gained ground.

Plastic Free Skipton

Over the last 25 years in the Dales, some three million trees have been planted; an estimated one million tree guards are now redundant and require collection for recycling or reuse. Friends of the Dales, in partnership with Plastic Free Skipton, held our first plastic guard "litter pick" on October 19th in Otterburn. Two farmers in the village, Philip Metcalfe and Andrew Haggas, along with Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and Yorkshire Farming and Wildlife Partnership, which planted most of the trees, were supportive. Over two hours, 12 volunteers collected 650 tubes. In total, some 800 tubes were sorted and bagged. Yorkshire Wildlife Trust took

them all away to reuse. Those participating had two feelings: we were pleased with and enjoyed our joint effort, but we also felt somewhat demoralised by scale of the problem. We also vowed never to use a plastic tree guard again.

We are pleased that Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust is taking the lead on organising around this issue: it called a meeting to discuss the practicalities of collection and reuse or recycling of redundant guards at the YDNPA office at Bainbridge and hosted a day's conference with United Bank of Carbon (Leeds University) entitled Plastic Tree Guards: Who Needs Them? The impressive array of attendees ranged from the manufacturers of guards (both plastic and non-plastic) to the Forestry Commission. The workshop will, I believe, be seen as a watershed moment in the Dales.

the Dales

“The better we are at recycling, the easier it is for plastic producers to continue with business as usual.”

As Alistair Nash from the Woodland Trust said, given the growing public antipathy to plastic, there is a “reputational risk” to organisations that continue planting with plastic guards. Everyone, bar the manufacturers, is in agreement; plastic needs to be radically reduced and alternatives instituted. Time and lobbying pressure is of the essence since a massive push to plant trees is now underway.

The numbers around tree planting, and thus tree guards, are mind-boggling. The government’s 25 Year Environment Plan’s target (published in 2018) is to plant 11 million trees in five years. This is now supported by the recently announced £50 million Woodland Carbon Guarantee Scheme. The Big Climate Fight Back seeks pledges to plant a million trees. The Northern Forest plans to plant 50 million trees by 2032. Yorkshire Water aims for a million by 2028. And so on. However, this sort of mobilisation and funding to reforest does have negative consequences.

There is no doubt that plastic tree guards do the job they are designed for extremely well. But we should not confuse design and the five to eight years of protection guaranteed with efficiency or value for money. If one takes a holistic or “whole systems perspective”, then plastic tree guards fail as the best option. As a product of the petrochemical industry, polypropylene (PP) is polluting at its creation and polluting for ever after, not to mention an eyesore in between. One cannot even talk of its “lifespan” since from the day it’s cracked, if it isn’t burned, PP will last for 500-1,000 years. In terms of net environmental gain, PP is both very costly and extremely wasteful.

Manufacturers of plastic guards will contend that the carbon used to produce the guards is easily offset by the carbon sequestered by the trees. There is a similar argument that one can offset one’s carbon footprint

by planting a certain number of trees. The catch here is that, though we get more trees, this sort of trade-off allows fossil fuel extraction, usage and pollution to continue. One might argue, therefore, that under these circumstances, tree planting could become a form of greenwashing: a virtuous, and painless, form of ecologically beneficial action that fails to challenge the present destructive socioeconomic system. In short, we can’t see the system for the trees

Compostable tree guards

What of recycling? The Woodland Trust, which has planted 35 million trees since 1972, estimates that a tiny fraction, perhaps 13,000, tree guards have been recycled. It’s expensive and inefficient. It’s also a consoling myth: 79% of all plastics have not been and are not recycled (or burned). It also prevents us from reducing our dependence on fossil fuels. The danger of focussing on recycling (and even reuse, which, of course, should be done) is that it lets the polluter off the hook: the better we become at recycling, the easier it is for plastic producers to continue with business as usual. In other words, if we as consumers agree to recycle, we end up protecting producers rather than our precious landscapes.

Our priority must be alternatives, whether these are compostable tree guards, fencing or natural planting. Alternative tree guards are on the market; they will improve and proliferate the more plastic becomes an unacceptable material for tree guards.

Skipton Town Council recently announced that it has switched to biodegradable tree guards and Craven District Council plans to use plastic on only 30% of its plantings and is looking to reduce that further. The Woodland Trust’s Young People’s Forest at Mead in Derbyshire is to adopt a radical approach to the site and planting; when its young planters were asked how they

Arabella Marley helps count the tree guards. Image courtesy of Sally Goodman



envisioned the project, they responded “Let’s go plastic-free!” And they are. The trust is also taking a holistic look at all the plastic it uses, from tree guards and signs to drainage pipes. This is good news indeed and we hope others will follow its example.

Friends of the Dales will strive to use this issue as a catalyst to get members and non-members involved in the charity’s campaigning spirit: to generate heat and light (from a renewable source of course). Please speak out against the use of plastic by other organisations and at local tree planting events; we are making an impact. Speaking of which, there will be a second tree guard “litter pick” as a day event on March 14th in our former Chair Mark Corner’s woodland between Long Preston and Settle. We will also seek to widen our campaign: we will urge the Campaign for National Parks to champion it nationally so that all national parks might begin the process of kicking the habit of planting plastic.

Our New Parishes – Lune Valley

The expansion of the Yorkshire Dales National Park in 2016 added 26 parishes to the area. Ken Humphris looks at the geology of the Lune Valley.

The Yorkshire Dales are known for their beautiful karst scenery, but there are other things to see in our landscape too. Understanding its geology helps us to see more. All our local rocks were formed from underwater sediments, derived from either the erosion of older rocks or from the shells of marine creatures. As sediment built up, it was compressed by its own weight to form hard layers. Different sediments – stones, gravel, sand or mud – resulted in different sorts of rock.

Below the Lune Valley, the Earth's crust is about 19 miles thick; the older underlying bedrock is a mix of metamorphic rock (changed by heat and pressure) overlain by sedimentary rocks, formed by compaction of layers of deposits of small particles, into both of which igneous rocks (cooled molten rock) have intruded. Upon this bedrock, multiple layers have been deposited, uplifted, folded and eroded many times, fractured and scoured by ice, making the landscape we see today. What we see today has been deep under the sea, and at other times high above the water, sometimes covered with miles-thick ice, and then scoured by melting glaciers.



The road through Upper Barbondale separates the Yoredale scenery on the right from the Silurian on the left

The Unfolding Story

Some 450-500 million years ago, Britain was south of the equator and on different tectonic plates separated by an ocean. The Silurian period (400-450 million years ago) was the key time for us. Plate movement brought north and south Britain together, and the collision caused buckling, forcing land upwards to form high mountains as the landmass moved north. Erosion and deposition of this high ground deposited fragments in river deltas and on the ocean floor, which subsequently formed greywacke, the chief rock type of the Lune Valley. According to the laws of sedimentation, gravel, sand and mud should not be laid down together, but in greywacke they are. It's thought that either submarine avalanches or strong turbidity currents churn sediments comprising fine and coarse particles, resulting in slurries that are then deposited.

Greywacke is a smooth material, grey or grey-green in colour, and used in many of the dry-stone walls in the parish as well as older, rubble-walled barns and houses. St Peter's Church in Mansergh is built from greywacke. It is not an ideal walling material as it tends to break into irregular pieces, but it very tough and hardwearing.



The limestone pavement at Hutton Roof Crag is unusual for being on a steep incline

Limestone pavements

By the Carboniferous period, 290-350 million years ago, Britain had drifted north to the equator, and a global rise in sea levels finds most of our parish covered by a warm, shallow sea containing calcium-rich corals and small marine creatures. Their remains accumulated on the seabed, and over time compressed to yield various limestones that consist mainly of calcium carbonate. Some contain the well-preserved fossils of marine creatures. Most sedimentary rocks reveal individual beds separated by bedding planes, which represent pauses in the deposition processes, and are broken up by plate movement to form vertical cracks or joints. Calcium carbonate is slightly soluble in acidic rain, and this gives rise to the criss-cross pattern of clints and grykes seen in our limestone pavements.

Water seeping into the bedding planes can excavate subterranean holes by dissolving the limestone, causing the surface layer of soil and vegetation to collapse. The resultant sinkholes often occur in lines that follow underground watercourses, and large-scale dissolution results in the formation of caves and potholes. Britain's most extensive network is the Three Counties System, nearly 56 miles long and accessed near Bullpot Farm in Casterton.

Basic Principles

- The Earth is 4.6 billion years old, but most of our local geology has happened in the last 500 million years.
- The surface of the Earth is a fragmented shell, only a few tens of miles thick, and in constant movement relative to the north and south poles, and to other pieces of the shell. Movement of these "tectonic plates" explains much of what has happened, as colliding plates can buckle or fold the rock.
- Sea levels have varied because of plate movements, or because of an increased/decreased amount of ice as the climate changed.
- Several periods of intense cold occurred, when vast amounts of ice accumulated. Subsequent melting led to ice movement, which became an important shaper of our landscape. The melting and movement of glaciers scoured deep channels, or left behind small, egg-shaped drumlin hills.
- We can see only the result of the last glacial period, which began about 80,000 years ago and came to an end about 10,000 years ago – a tiny 'blink' in geological time.



Scar Bottom, near the junction of Barbondale and Dentdale, is a corrie formed by a retreating melting glacier

But the Carboniferous period is not just about limestone. Eroded debris was washed down from higher ground to the ocean to form deltas, which over time became compressed to form shales and gritstones typical of the Pennines. Climate warming enabled the deltas to support tropical rainforests, the fossilised debris of which gradually compressed to form coal seams – hence the name ‘Carboniferous’.

Changing climate

With changing climate and varying sea levels over millions of years, deposition of different types of material was repeated many times over, to produce the irregular alternating layers of gritstone, shale, limestone and coal known as the Yoredale Series. This comprises much of the high ground of the east Lune Valley, including Cragg Hill, extending east to Whernside and the Three Peaks area beyond.

It also occurs in an arc around the south-east side of Kirkby Lonsdale, extending to Hutton Roof. Towards the end of the Carboniferous period, plate movements caused uplift and faulting throughout the Dales. The mid-Craven fault roughly follows the A65 through Kirkby Lonsdale, one side of which was uplifted. The subsequent erosion and glaciation exposed extensive limestone outcropping.

The major Dent fault runs roughly north from Cowan Bridge, following the line of Easegill, Aygill and Barbon Beck to the head of Barbondale. The difference between the rounded Silurian rocks on the northern side of Barbon Beck, encompassing Calf Top, and the exposed Carboniferous Yoredale southern side, with its green pastures and potholes, is very marked.

Where a dry-stone wall crosses the beck, the stones change from greywacke to limestone. Barbondale was glaciated, and at its head is Scar Bottom corrie, formed by glacier movement towards the end of the last ice age, less than 10,000 years ago. There are drumlins near Preston Patrick, and St Patrick’s Church appears to sit atop one of them. They comprise debris resulting from glacier movement, and their elongated shape indicates the glacier’s direction of travel. There are many drumlins alongside the A65 near Kirkby Lonsdale.

* *The author gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Peter Stockdale in preparing this article.*

* *Images courtesy of Ken Humphris*

Peak Fitness

Settle schoolchildren are developing physical skills with state-of-the-art new play equipment with a Three Peaks theme, thanks to a donation from Friends of the Dales.

We have topped off a fundraising campaign by the primary school PTA by contributing £2,400 towards the cost of a ‘Pen-y-Ghent’ high-quality natural wood adventure trail and an ‘Ingleborough’ double-width slide, which has been installed on an embankment. The donation marks the final distribution of money collected in memory of Ken Willson MBE (1914–2004), who served for many years as our first President. Settle Legacy Fund also made a major contribution of £8,000.



“Supporting local primary schools and young people in the Dales is fundamental to our mission,” says Friends of the Dales Chair, Bruce McLeod. “We are proud to contribute to the wellbeing of children and to encourage them to be active and creative outdoors.”

“We are so excited to have raised enough funding to improve our playground with help from our PTA, Friends of the Dales and the Settle Legacy Fund,” says deputy head teacher Laura Thompson. “This wonderful equipment will help to support children’s physical and mental wellbeing. Many thanks to all the organisations that have helped us to provide it, including the Coop Local Community Fund and Tesco Community Grants.”

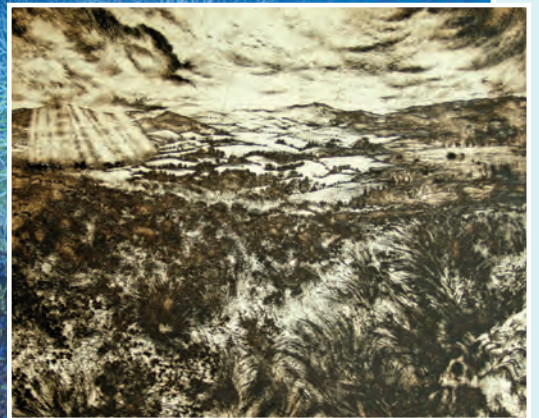
The adventure trail incorporates swinging traverses and a series of log obstacles. The play equipment will also be made available to visiting pupils from Kirkby Malham and other local groups and holiday clubs that use the school. There are plans to add a musical and sensory area when funding permits.



Images courtesy of Tim Hancock

Changing Impressions of Dales Landscapes

Artist Bridget Tempest has worked across the world, but feels closest to the Dales landscapes. Here she explains why.



The natural world has always been the subject of my work as an artist. Born in Zambia, the wide, open spaces of the bush in my early childhood must have drawn me to similar landscapes found through travel to remote places like Peru and Turkmenistan.

I have always recorded the places where I've been, filling sketchbooks with drawings and watercolours rather than photographs. Now I'm living back in the Dales, where my family has been established for over 30 generations around Broughton, I feel a particular attachment to the upland Dales landscape.

As a nature artist, the challenge is to make a combination of marks that are the equivalent to the sense of being in a particular space, suggesting such elements as the sound of the wind in the leaves, the birds answering each other, the rich smell of the undergrowth and the feel of the air.

Drawing underpins my work, which predominantly involves printmaking processes. I spend a long time on the drawing of each copper etching plate because through

looking closely over time, it's possible to discover a hidden world of rhythms and harmonies. Tracing the shapes and intervals between trees in the small wood close to where I live is particularly enchanting, as though their interconnectedness is revealed through careful attention. There's a secret world of nature so subtle that it's hidden from us at first glance.

I'll work on a large copper plate covered in wax and leave it in the wood over the winter, adding little by little to the drawing each day. Working so slowly allows rhythms to emerge gradually so that by the time new leaves start to alter the skeletal structure of the trunks and branches, the drawing is finished and the plate is ready to be submerged in acid. Lines drawn with a scribe have exposed the copper, producing grooves as the acid dissolves the metal. Ink is rubbed into the resulting marks, which are transferred onto paper through the pressure of the printing press.

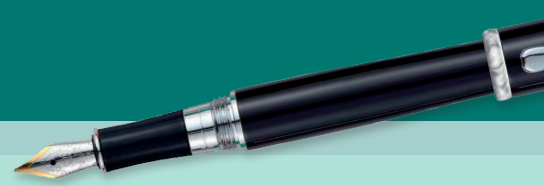
The experience of landscape is complex, resulting from many factors – time, memory,

state of mind. From the detailed drawings I make on the plate over the winter and using the process of monoprint, I can reassemble elements of the same landscape in combinations of different colours, representing, for example, the moor in each season: at dusk, in the rain, lit by the moon ...

I also work with film as an extension of my printmaking. Film relies on repeated images to suggest movement. "Light moving in time" is one definition of film that demands a different type of composition.

I lived for a short time with Ashaninka Campa Indians in the Gran Marañon in Peru. They believe their jungle is a living being and so their own stewardship of the land is imbued with respect and love. If we, as a sophisticated and developed nation, had half their wisdom, we would not find ourselves losing our native species and wrecking our environment for money. Recent work deals with my personal dismay at the violence inflicted by industrial-scale recreational events on familiar landscapes.

Images courtesy of Bridget Tempest. You can view more of Bridget's work online at www.bridgettempest.com



Members' Letters

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

"Ramblers" - not "The Ramblers"

I must pick up on a phrase in Bruce McLeod's excellent article in the autumn edition of this *Review*.

Referring to the 1932 Mass Trespass on Kinder Scout in the Peak District, he said this was "led by the Ramblers". "The Ramblers" is the modern brand name for The Ramblers' Association, the national body that works to promote the interests of walkers of all types. But the RA as such was formally established only in 1935. Before that the pressure for greater access to the countryside was led by several regional federations of individual rambling clubs. Prominent among these were the federations in Manchester and Sheffield.

Ramblers from these and other large towns had been agitating for many years to be allowed onto mountains and moorland, particularly in the nearby Peak District, where access was refused by the powerful individuals and corporations that had owned the moors for the last 100 years and guarded them jealously, largely for the purpose of shooting grouse on a few days each year.

The idea of a Mass Trespass actually came from members of the British Workers' Sports Federation (set up by the Young Communist League in

Manchester), and it was led by a young Jewish mechanic called Benny Rothman. They had been stopped in their rambles by gamekeepers, and they were frustrated by the slow progress in negotiations led by the Manchester and Sheffield federations. These federations actually opposed the Trespass, believing it would set back their efforts.

However, the reaction of the landowners and their gamekeepers to what had begun as an admittedly peaceful protest, and the subsequent imprisonment of five leaders of the Trespass after trial at Derby Assizes, swung the sympathies of those formerly against such forms of direct action. (The jury was composed of country gentlemen: it was said to have comprised two brigadier-generals, three colonels, two majors, three captains and two aldermen!)

The Ramblers federations actually promoted a second trespass later in 1932, and Benny Rothman eventually came to be a revered member of The Ramblers' Association, which was formed a few years afterwards. I remember seeing him at RA Council meetings, a very short man now in his eighties, and one I wish I had known 60 years before.

Malcolm Petyt, FOTD Vice President – also a Vice President of the Ramblers

Future of Clapham School Again in Doubt

As reported in the summer 2019 issue of the *Review*, North Yorkshire County Council decided to keep Clapham School open despite falling pupil numbers. A public consultation earlier in the year had demonstrated high levels of support.

Now governors of the school are recommending closure. A second public consultation could decide whether it remains open.

We have expressed our concern about the effect of closure on the sustainability of the local community. The Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan for 2019-24 pledges to undertake a five-year programme of measures aimed at stopping a decline in the number of working-age households (aged 18-44). We fear that primary school closures in villages such as Clapham will make these communities less appealing to families with young children.

Clapham C of E Primary School.
Courtesy of Mark Corner



The Big Issue Of Land Ownership

As usual, I read the latest copy of *Yorkshire Dales Review* with interest. However, I note that the big issue of land ownership is rarely touched upon. The figures for England and Wales are startling, with 30% of land owned by small numbers of gentry, 18% by companies and 17% by industrialists and oligarchs. Some of these are in receipt of massive subsidies (Single Area Payments) from the taxpayer simply through owning land. A staggering 95% of the Yorkshire Dales is in private hands.

The housing crisis is a land crisis with the high cost of housing related to spiralling cost of land. As Guy Shrubsole points out in his book *Who Owns England?* (William Collins, London 2019), enlightened aristocrats could do nature and the public a favour by voluntarily ending grouse shoots on their estates and taking up the challenge of re-wilding England's degraded uplands.

The loopholes used by landowners to avoid paying inheritance tax also need to be closed. Shrubsole provides a well-argued agenda for English land reform, finishing by saying: "If you want to see the housing crisis fixed, nature restored and land ownership become more equal – take action". It would be good to see this issue being given more attention in the *Yorkshire Dales Review*.

Yours sincerely, Dr John Puntis

Life and Gift Membership

We're always especially pleased to welcome life members to the charity and often people buy these for themselves or a family member as a special gift. Recently we heard from member Mrs Harvey, who said: "I enclose a cheque to pay for a life membership for my son, who was born and brought up in Yorkshire but now lives in London and misses his regular trips to the Dales." What a lovely way to keep in touch with what is happening locally.

It's easy to buy a gift membership for a loved one – whether for annual or life membership. This could be a special gift to celebrate a birthday, Christmas, anniversary, retirement or house move perhaps. Just contact Penny Lowe, administration assistant, enclosing your payment, and let us know your and the recipient's names and addresses and the date by which you'd like the gift to arrive. Rates and address on back page. Penny will send the normal membership welcome pack plus a set of 10 notelets with B&W illustrations by Dales artist Frank Gordon. These have been "upcycled" by volunteers from some older stock we have at the office, giving them a new lease of life!

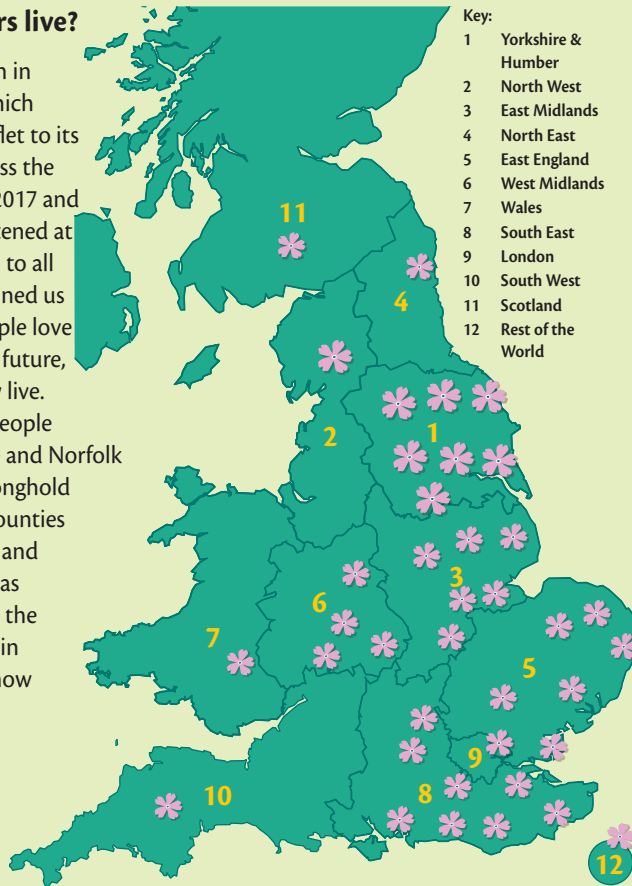
Legacy and Donation


Towards the end of last year we received a legacy of £1,000 from the estate of member Mr Norman Thompson of Skipton. We had learned of Mr Thompson's death earlier in the year and wrote at that time (as we always do in such circumstances) with our condolences to his family and friends. Mr Thompson kindly did not put any restrictions in his will about how his gift was to be used. This means that our trustees can apply it to the general fund, which supports all aspects of our charitable work to protect the Dales.

We were very grateful to receive a donation of £3,000 from a member who wishes to remain anonymous, but with a particular interest in supporting rural bus services. On request we transferred £2,750 to our social enterprise, the Dales & Bowland CIC, to support the Sunday and bank holiday DalesBus services.

Where do our members live?

We recently ran a promotion in *The Dalesman* magazine, which delivered a membership leaflet to its postal subscribers right across the country. We last did this in 2017 and once again we've been heartened at the response – so thank you to all those new members who joined us recently. It's clear that if people love the Dales and care about its future, it doesn't matter where they live. Our membership includes people from Somerset to Scotland - and Norfolk to the Netherlands! Our stronghold of membership is the four counties of Yorkshire plus Lancashire and Cumbria. And we value just as strongly our sole member in the IOW and our two members in Rutland – thank you, you know who you are!



 About 100 Members
 About 10 Members


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

Dales Insights

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

Classic Countryside

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

Vibrant Communities

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

Focus on the Dales

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

Note: We are planning a range of exciting events linked to our campaigns for 2020. As a result we are not able to offer the usual “walk and talk” events in January and February. Instead there are opportunities to attend two evening talks, hosted by kindred groups, where two of our trustees are guest speakers on important Dales topics.

Wednesday, 5 February 2020



Tracking Barn Conversions in the Dales

Our trustee Nancy Stedman is the guest speaker at this evening talk offered by Skipton Civic Society (SCS), a noted local membership organisation with which we share many aims and aspirations. Nancy oversees our work on monitoring planning applications in and close to the Dales. Over the last few years, following changes to the planning rules, there's been a big increase in applications for converting roadside barns into homes for local occupancy or short-term holiday lets. What are the implications of this change in policy? Are barns being conserved? Is it resulting in more housing for local people? Join Nancy for an illuminating insight into this topical issue.

7:30pm Soroptimist Rooms, 28 Otley Street, Skipton BD23 1EW. £3 (unless you are also a member of SCS). Good public transport links to Skipton. No parking at venue but nearby public car park.

Thursday, 26 March 2020



Capturing the Past

Our Vice-Chair Wilf Fenten and Mrs Hilary Fenten are the guest speakers at this evening talk offered by Skipton & District History Society (SDHS), a membership group showcasing local and national history. Wilf has been a key part of our very successful archiving project over the last four years. Local volunteers have been trained to catalogue and digitise their community documents/photos and upload these to a bespoke website. The project is part of Stories in Stone, a scheme of conservation and community projects concentrated on the Ingleborough area led by Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust and supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

7:30pm Swadford Centre, 32 Swadford Street, Skipton BD23 1RD (upstairs room, lift). £3 (unless you are also a member of SDHS). Good public transport links to Skipton. No parking at venue but nearby public car park.

Wednesday, 29 April 2020



Crummackdale & Thieves Moss – Horton-in-Ribblesdale Station

Join Bernard Peel for an invigorating ramble (c seven to eight miles) across open country, limestone pavement and walled tracks. We'll be hoping for a glorious show of bird's-eye primrose and far-reaching views.

Friday, 1 May 2020



Grisedale – The Dale that Nearly Died – Garsdale Station

Dr Malcolm Petyt, a Vice President of Friends of the Dales, will lead us on an exploration of this secret, little dale with its remote feel and quiet beauty. About six miles – a moderate leisurely walk.

Saturday, 14 March 2020



Short

Woodland Volunteering (Campaign) – near Settle

Support our “Plastic-Free Dales” campaign by joining us for a few hours (11:00am – 1:00pm approx) of gentle work removing redundant tree guards from a private woodland near Settle. Hosted by trustee Mark Corner. Wear warm, waterproof outdoor clothing, boots and sturdy gloves. After a sociable picnic lunch (bring your own), Mark will offer an optional guided walk of his woodland ending by 4:00pm. Well-behaved dogs on leads welcome.

Meet 10:20am at Settle Railway Station (timed for arrival of Leeds train or P&D parking nearby). Share cars to limit parking on access lane. Pleasant one-mile walk to woodland entrance. Alternatively walk from Long Preston Station (two miles) – directions available on request.

Booking essential (25 places) – contact Ann (details on back page).

Advance Notice



Ride2stride Walking Festival

We are delighted to support this excellent walking festival once again in 2020, with free walks starting and finishing at stations on the Settle-Carlisle Railway. We are offering four bespoke walks, each lasting from mid-morning to mid/late afternoon. There are many other free walks and pub music as part of the festival programme. By the time you read this, the festival brochure should be published – we can send you one on request or see www.ride2stride.org.uk. Regret no dogs except RAD due to ride2stride policy. Bring a packed lunch on all walks.

Monday, 4 May 2020



Long Preston Deeps & Ribble Way – Long Preston Station

A scenic walk from Long Preston along the Ribble Way to Settle with views across the “Deeps” – an important area for wetland birds and wildflowers. Led by trustee Dr Tony Smith, c. seven to eight miles of moderate walking. [NB not a bank holiday in 2020].

Tuesday, 28 April 2020



Hoffmann Kiln & Ribble Way – Settle Station

Led by our Chair, Bruce McLeod, a lovely, varied walk (c six miles) with the highlight of the stunning, well-preserved ruin of the Hoffmann Kiln, a vast, industrial-scale lime kiln that you can walk inside!



Collecting plastic tree guards in the Dales. Courtesy of Sally Goodman

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Help us to Capture the Past

Interested in local history?

A keen volunteer is needed for the next phase of our very successful 'Capturing the Past' project. We're looking for a coordinator to continue our community digital archiving project in the Dales, supporting the existing teams of hands-on volunteers and rolling the project out to new areas. We estimate the role requires about half a day per week. Travel and out-of-pocket expenses are reimbursed. If you are interested in local history, would like to work with volunteers and have some knowledge of IT, please contact Ann Shadrake on ann.shadrake@friendsofthedales.org.uk for more information. Other volunteer roles are also available on this fantastic project.

Andre Beaumont landing at Settle 1911. Catalogue / Manchester Anglers' Association / Sport and Leisure.



ANDRE BEAUMONT.
Winner of the English Circuit Throat Race, who alighted at Settle for repairs to engine, in his flight from Carlisle to Manchester, July 26th, 1911.

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:

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BD23 3PN

Email:
ann.shadrake@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Office: **01756 749400**

 www.friendsofthedales.org.uk

 www.facebook.com/YorkshireDalesSociety

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

Dales & Bowland
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.

