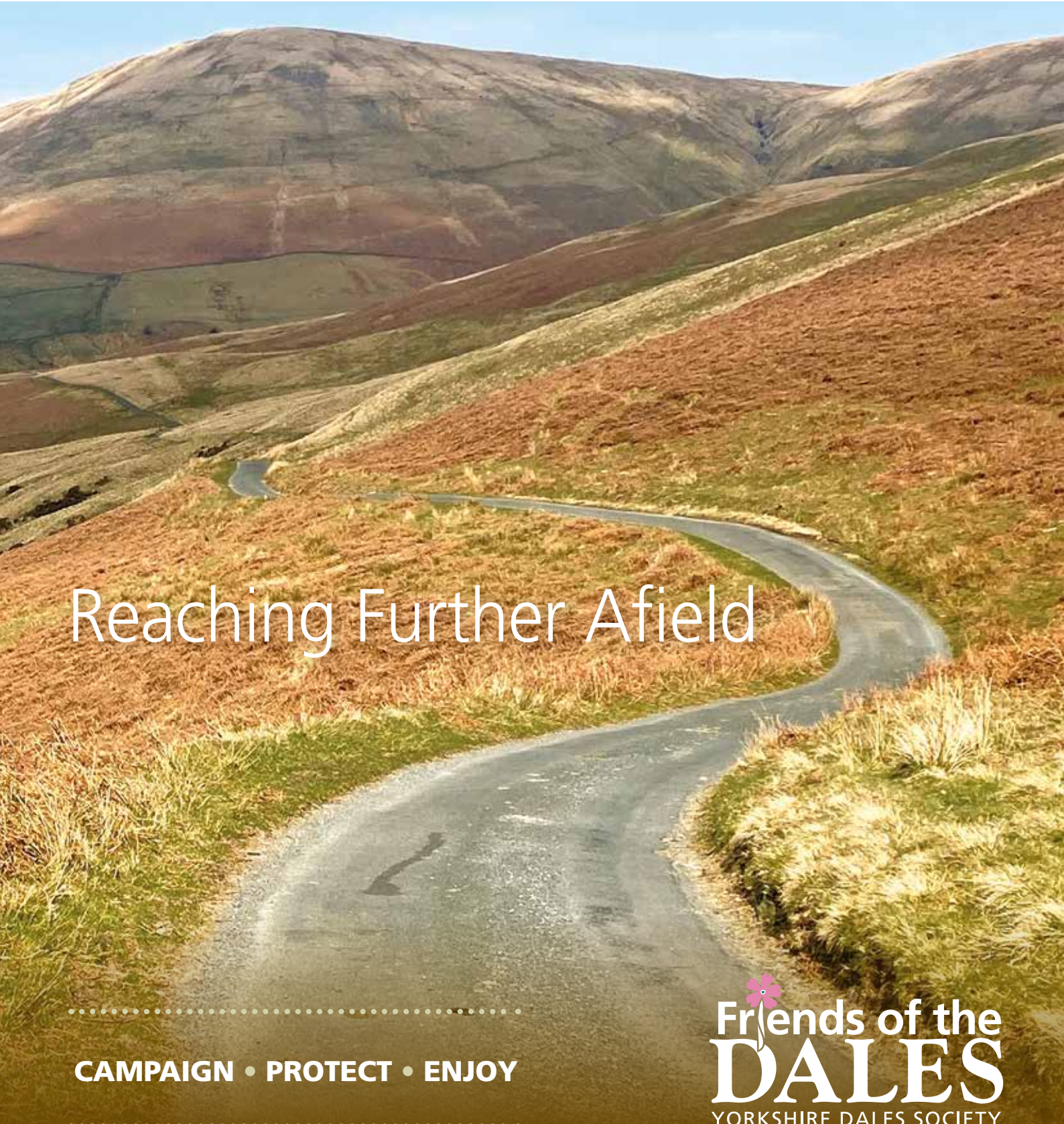
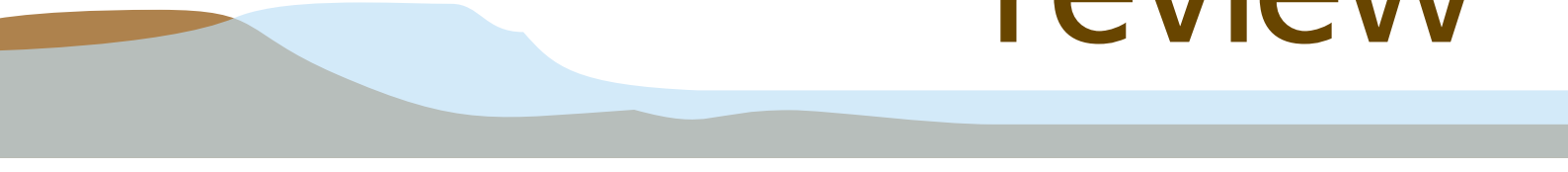


Yorkshire **DALES** review



Reaching Further Afield

.....
CAMPAIGN • PROTECT • ENJOY
.....

Friends of the
DALES
YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY

Front/back cover photo: Lune gorge from Fairmile looking north. Courtesy of Ken Humphris

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

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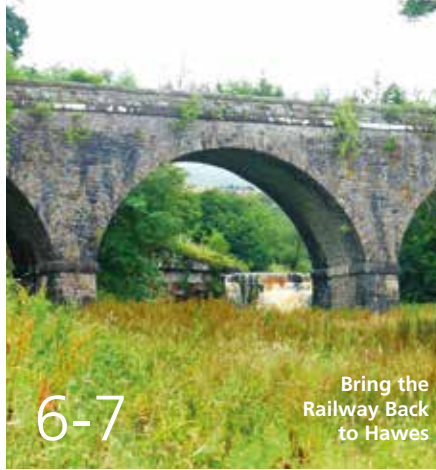
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6-7

Bring the
Railway Back
to Hawes



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Westmorland
Dales

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Andrew Longworth, Chartered Engineer and graduate of Imperial College, has been a regular walker in the Dales for over 30 years, and is married to a Yorkshirewoman. The challenge of reinstating the railway to Hawes has occupied him since 2018. 6-7

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David Evans has spent much of his professional life working in landscape conservation in the urban, post-industrial North West. Now living in Kendal and employed by Friends of the Lake District, he works in the Cumbrian part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. . 10-11

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Tabitha Brown is a Y11 student at Settle College. As an Explorer Scout, she spends a lot of time outdoors in the Dales, enjoying all that nature has to offer. She is passionate about the need to protect this fantastic part of the world. 17

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Issue 152 of the Review sees the debut of our new editor, Prue Harrison. Having previously worked in book publishing, she is excited to be taking on this new and rewarding role. We'd like to take this opportunity to express our deep gratitude to Sasha Heseltine who has done a wonderful job producing the Review over the last three years.



Campaigning For A Sustainable 'New Normal'

I have always assumed that a snafu was a hiccup or a minor problem; it actually refers to a crisis that has become the normal state of affairs. Coined during the Second World War, it is an acronym for Situation Normal: All Fouled Up (that's the polite version). When one considers the climate emergency, the collapse in biodiversity, and pollution, we are living in a permanent snafu.

Calderdale. Photo courtesy of Frank Fenten



Tree planting without plastic, Aireville Park, Skipton, Summer 2020. Photo courtesy of Ann Shadrake

But, as with the enormous challenges of WW2, we can create a different "normal". Crisis can be turned into opportunity and innovation. The potentially catastrophic dearth of rubber faced by the Allies at the start of the war was solved by the invention of synthetics, which became the new norm. We are now faced with the catastrophic fallout from our use of fossil fuels and synthetics, especially plastic. Massive state intervention and R&D solved the problem in the 1940s - and can again.

In the case of reducing and replacing plastic tubes for trees, there has yet to be a significant intervention by any of the larger

organisations responsible for planting trees. In a major shift the Forestry Commission advises in its latest guidance on tree planting: "Minimise or avoid the use of plastic." Friends of the Dales vigorously supported this shift in our response to Defra's recent England Tree Strategy consultation. However, the default mode is still to use plastic guards, which are only too evident, and unsightly, throughout the national park. We are a year into our campaign against single-use plastics and these new plantations can be dispiriting indeed (as is the plastic bale wrap - the purple or pink wrap one often sees means, sadly, a charity is lending the practice its endorsement).

With your help, we will, of course, "shout" louder and more persistently, in order to raise awareness. However, we cannot just agitate for sustainable alternatives. As Dr Mark Miodownik (UCL) warns: "There is no such thing as a sustainable material. There are only sustainable systems. People don't think in terms of systems but that's the only way." To promote more sustainable systemic practices (our new policy on sustainable economic development is now on our website) is to call for authorities and groups charged with increasing woodland to stop the infusion of petrochemical tubes into the environment. A "systems change" also means demanding

producers pay for or stop polluting and provide alternatives (which do exist).

Producers agree. In 1986, faced with a backlash against CFCs and the depletion of the ozone, an executive from major producer DuPont explained: "Development of alternatives is going to happen at a rate that corresponds to the amount of pressure that is applied. Right now there is no economic or regulatory incentive to look for other routes."

Friends of the Dales will endeavour to add our voice to the growing pressure to end the use of plastic tree guards and baling wrap; to move from a state of snafu to one of sustainability.

Bruce McLeod, Chair



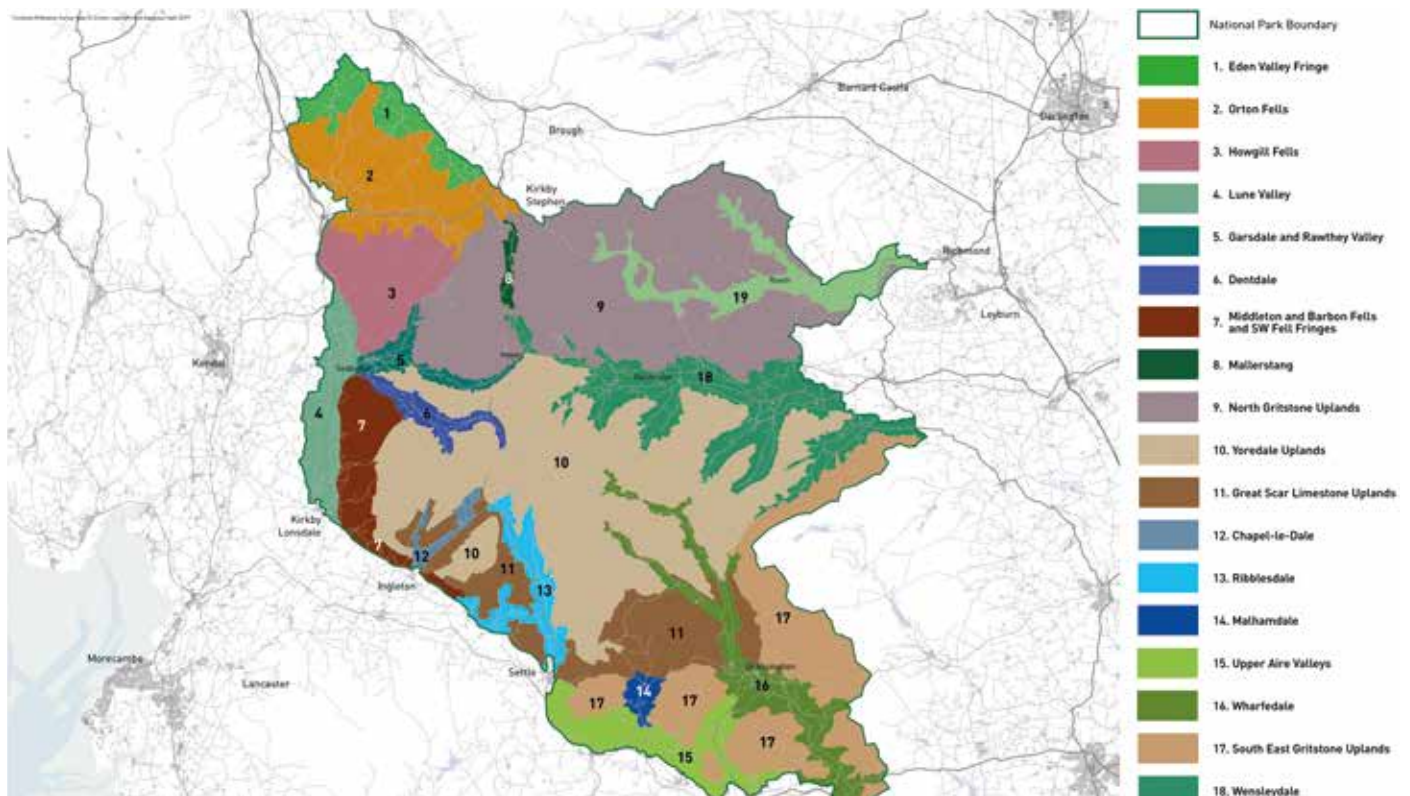
Trees without tubes or stakes but with added wild flowers and multi species grassland. Photo courtesy of Anthony Bradley

Landscapes of the Dales

A comprehensive and updated source of information about the landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales National Park is now available. Illustrated with excellent new mapping and photographs, the Landscape Character Assessment 2020 not only provides detailed descriptions of 19 distinctive landscape character areas across the park, but also for the first time analyses the landscape settings of key settlements and the landscape sensitivity of 'gateway' areas adjacent to but outside the national park boundary.

The first landscape character assessment (LCA) for the Yorkshire Dales was published in 2002 with the aim of recording the character of the landscape in an objective way, to inform the national park authority's work. This new assessment by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) builds on the original study, extending coverage to include the 2016 national park extension areas. It aims to inform the

development of strategies and policies (eg recreation strategies and local plan policies); assist the delivery of management plan objectives (eg in relation to housing land release and woodland creation); help prioritise conservation activity spatially (eg target restoration of barns and walls); and promote understanding and enjoyment of national park landscapes by the public.



The 19 landscape character areas within the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Image courtesy of YDNPA.

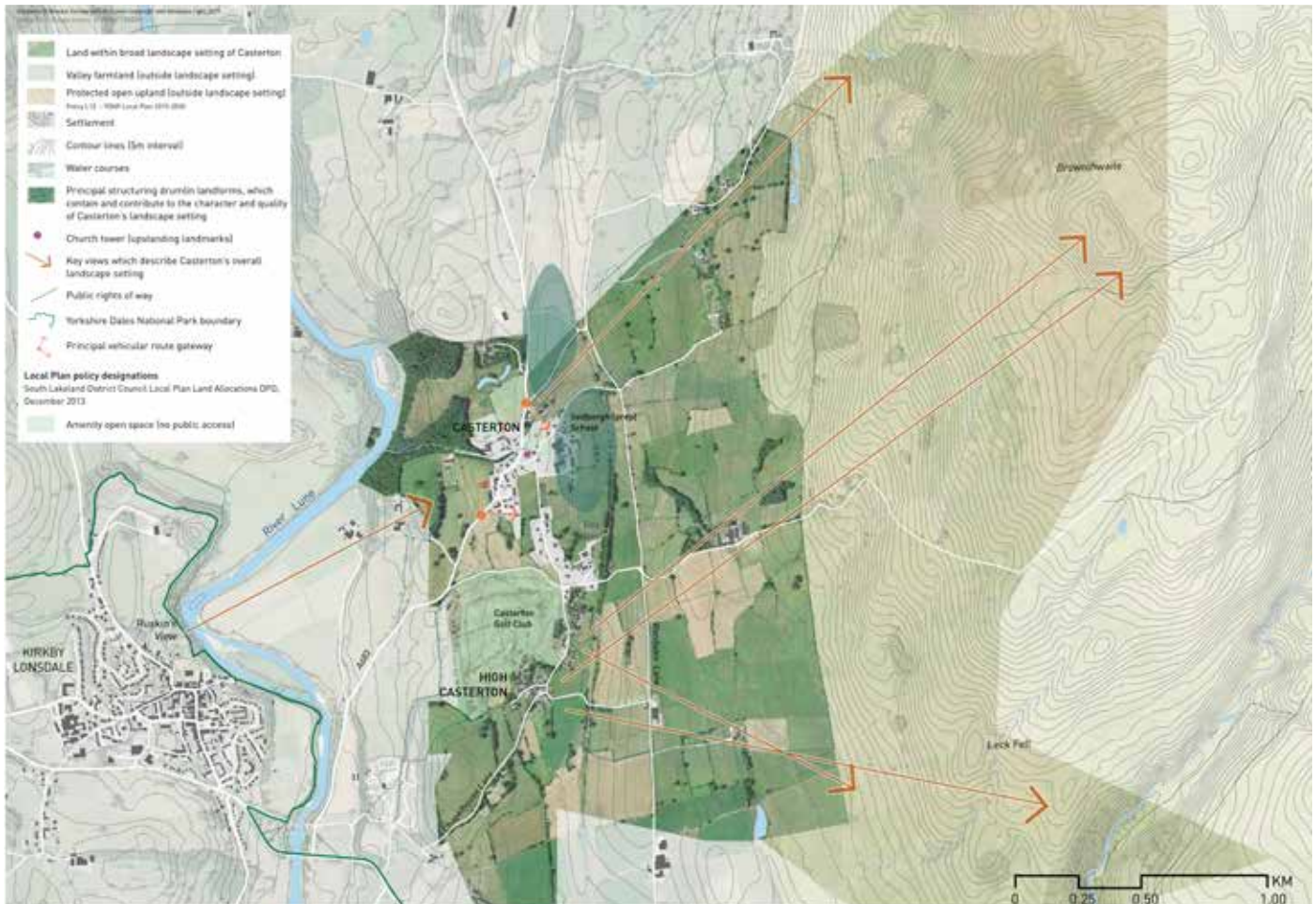
Overview Report

The LCA comprises an overview report with summary information and mapping for the whole park area, together with 19 landscape character area reports looking at particular landscapes in more detail. The overview report describes the physical, historical and cultural influences on the Yorkshire Dales landscape, with maps of specific aspects of landscape character such as geology, land cover, tranquillity and dark skies. It also includes an interesting analysis of changing patterns of development, land management and recreational activity and their implications for landscape character. Changes that are highlighted include additional housing around towns and villages; changes in farming practice and woodland expansion; and growing pressures for outdoor

recreation. All of these, of course, raise issues of how and where such change can best be accommodated in the landscape. The report points to existing published sources of information and advice that may be helpful when planning for landscape change.

Annex C of the report presents detailed analyses of the landscape settings and key sensitivities of the eight settlements that are considered most likely to expand (Sedbergh, Hawes/Gayle, Grassington/Threshfield, Reeth, Barbon, Casterton, Embsay and Long Preston). Annex D looks at the principal gateways to the park (Kirkby Lonsdale, Ingletton, Settle, Gargrave, Skipton/Embsay, Richmond, Kirkby Stephen, M6/Tebay), highlighting areas of significant landscape sensitivity just outside the national park boundary.

The LCA was prepared by consultants Sheils Flynn and can be viewed at <https://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/about/landscape/landscape-character-assessment/>



Landscape settings to settlements: Casterton in the Lune valley. Image courtesy of YDNPA.

Landscape character area reports

Complementing the overview report, the individual landscape character area reports describe each area's key characteristics, landscape context, distinctive character and key natural, cultural and perceptual features – all amply illustrated with photos and maps. New mapping – believed to be the first of its kind for any national park in England – reveals the location of some of the 'special qualities' that underpin the area's national landscape designation, drawing on the extensive databases of information that are held by YDNPA. The mapping shows, for example, the most significant areas of outstanding classic limestone scenery, glacial and post-glacial landforms, flower-rich hay meadows and pastures, deciduous woodlands, traditional stone-built field barns, early field systems and early industrial remains such as former lead mines. Importantly, the mapping also covers the wider visual context for each landscape character area.

Photos © Sheils Flynn Ltd



Maulds Meaburn – villages in the Eden Valley Fringe LCA are often surrounded by remnant medieval strip field patterns



Dentdale's dispersed pattern of isolated farmsteads dates from the tenth-century Norse settlers



At Helwith Bridge the River Ribble has cut down through the glacial drift deposits to create a diverse, intimate river corridor landscape



Penhill - Wensleydale's stepped dale slopes reflect the banded geological strata of the underlying rocks

Using the landscape character assessment

While the LCA is intended mainly for YDNPA's own internal use, it is also potentially a very valuable resource for members of Friends of the Dales, local communities and businesses alike. For instance, the analyses of visibility, views and important landscape features within and around our key settlements should be very helpful to both intending developers and consultees when considering individual planning applications and potential local plan land allocations. The gateway analyses, similarly, can help flag up significant landscape and visual issues that may be associated with major developments on the national park periphery. The mapping of 'special qualities' within individual landscape character areas has scope to improve our understanding of our local landscapes and the reasons why they have been designated. We should then be better able to explain to visitors why they are special and worth visiting; and better informed when considering future landscape management and change.

Julie Martin, trustee*

* Julie Martin worked for many years as a landscape planning consultant specialising in national parks. More recently she has been a member of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and a trustee of Friends of the Dales. However, her article on Landscape Character Assessment is written in her personal capacity and does not necessarily represent the views of either organisation.



Hawes branch trackbed meets the Settle-Carlisle railway. © Mark R Harvey (2011)

A key ambition of Friends of the Dales is to support others to provide a fully integrated public transport system for the Dales – a big task! Part of that would be improved mainline railway services, but the reinstatement of heritage train lines such as the successful Wensleydale Railway also has a role to play. You can read more in our railways policy (all our policies are available on our website or on request).

In the west of the national park, the *Upper Wensleydale Railway Association*, currently a small informal group, is seeking to reinstate the railway line between Garsdale and Hawes. Earlier in the year it applied to the Department of Transport's Restoring Your Railway Fund and if successful will receive funding to create a business case. Below Andrew Longworth of UWR provides an insight into this exciting project, with more information available on its website (<https://upperwensleydalerailway.org.uk/>)

Above Garsdale Head, at the summit of the Sedbergh to Hawes road and close to the headwaters of the River Ure, the curious traveller might notice evidence of a former railway descending quite steeply into Wensleydale towards Hawes. Its remains - the trackbed and the structures - are largely still in place. With some investment and reconstruction, they could be reinstated as a modern railway. An example of resilient Victorian engineering, perhaps. The enticing prospect of a service operated by modern trains would offer possibilities both for connections to the existing Leeds - Settle - Carlisle route at Garsdale and for through services for Hawes through Garsdale, past the Three Peaks to Settle, Hellifield and beyond.

At present, travel to and from upper Wensleydale, both for the local community

and for visitors, is predominantly by car. The distances entailed are significant; the roads are not good and are exposed to the vagaries of the local weather, not to mention the changing climate. A modal shift to a more resilient means of transport would promote sustainability and support future regeneration of the local communities. A scheme to reinstate the railway, to connect the local centre and "hub" of Hawes to the national network at Garsdale, is based upon achieving this shift.

The railway from Garsdale station to Hawes was the only branch of the Settle to Carlisle line. The branch is a little under six miles in length with a ruling gradient down to Hawes of 1 in 70. There were no intermediate stations. The branch line saw its last scheduled passenger service in 1959, with the

track finally dismantled in the mid-1960s and the land subsequently acquired by its various frontagers. It must therefore be emphasised that although some parts of the railway formation are readily visible from local public rights of way, public access to the formation is not permitted. The national park's local plan now protects the route from development that would prejudice future railway use.

The railway, opened to traffic in 1878, was commissioned by the Midland Railway as a part of its Settle to Carlisle line. At Hawes, the branch line met end on with that of the former North Eastern Railway from Northallerton via Leeming Bar, Redmire and Aysgarth. Passenger services were a mix of through trains from Northallerton to Garsdale and trains to Hawes via Garsdale originating from Bradford or from

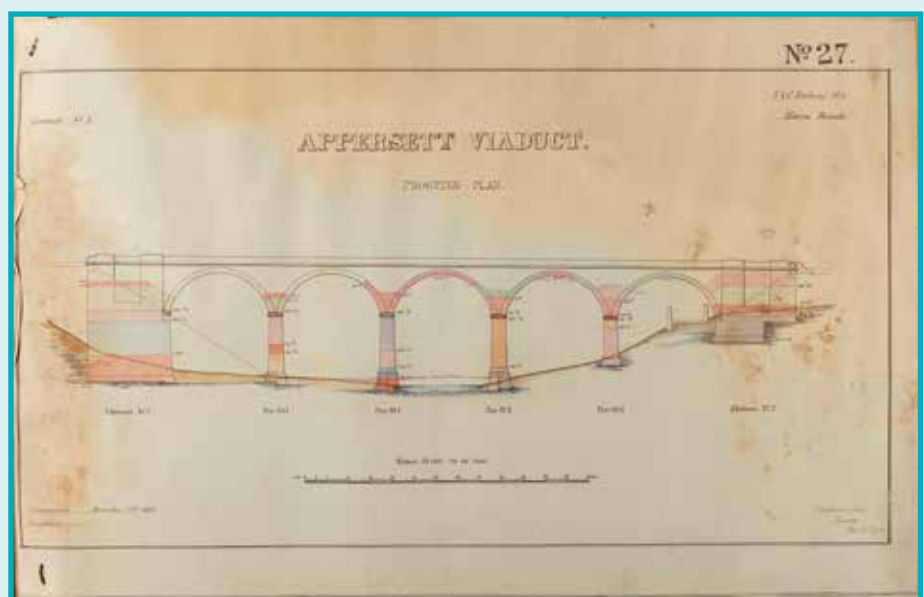
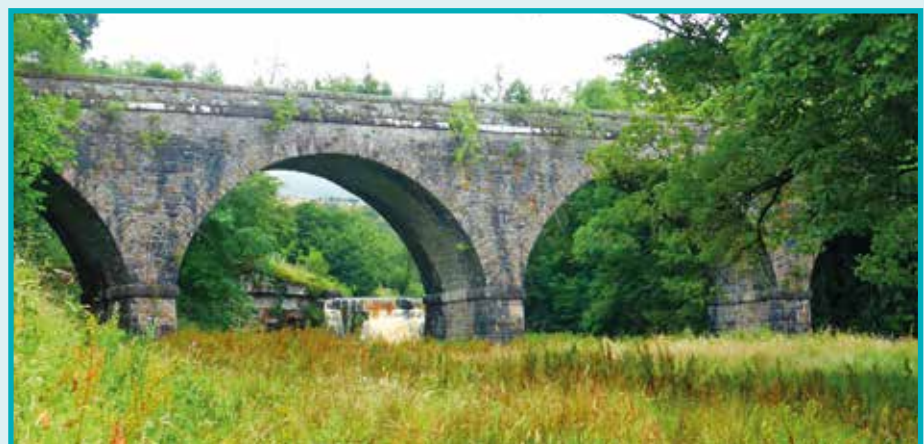
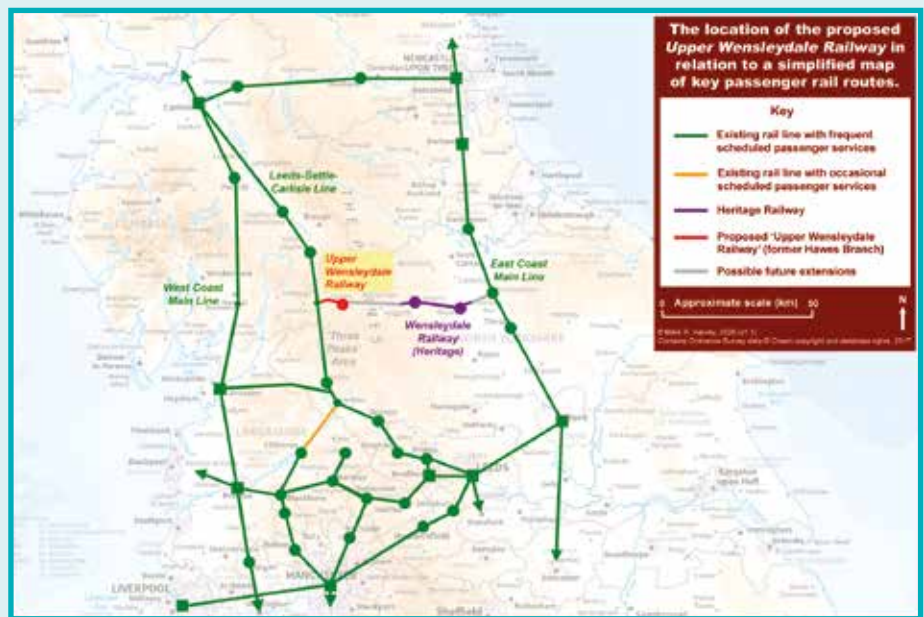
Hellfield. The passenger train services from Northallerton ceased in 1954, whilst those via Garsdale continued until 1959 (but briefly resumed in the severe winter of 1961, a reminder of the vagaries of the local weather). The railway from Northallerton to Redmire has remained in place and is now home to a well-established heritage railway operator.

The project team is fortunate to have access to detailed design drawings and diagrams prepared for the original construction. These drawings demonstrate the resilience of what was built and hint that the railway is waiting to be reinstated and put to good use.

In particular, the *Book of Bridges*, prepared in the 1870s by the Midland Railway, comprises 40 pages of ink and watercolour civil engineering drawings of the railway's structures. The manual skills required to produce such drawings are in contrast to the digital skills required for today's computerised drawings. Routinely used as a source of reference for the maintenance of the railway, the book lay forgotten after closure and was in a sorry state when specialist paper conservators brought it back to something like its original condition. Safeguarded by the Dales Countryside Museum at Hawes, this historical document provides fascinating information about the principal structures along the route.

Also to hand are the original "2-Chain" scale diagrams that show in detail the construction plans for the route. These diagrams note that Hawes station was 262¾ miles by railway from London St Pancras. Again, these diagrams were prepared by hand by skilled draughtsmen of the Midland Railway to a remarkable standard.

And finally, the beguiling Dales landscape will continue to attract visitors from far and wide whose demands for the sustainable, resilient transport that a modern railway can provide will be ever increasing. Future passengers will have extensive views of the remote but stunning scenery of upper Wensleydale. There are bridges, two viaducts, streams, rivers and even a short tunnel, not to mention the flora and fauna along the route. Future passengers will have a chance to glimpse Mossdale Falls, sketched by JMW Turner in 1816 on one of his visits to northern England, not to mention the farmlands and the fells that form this part of the Yorkshire Dales landscape.



Tees-Swale: naturally connected



Upper Swale above Muker. Photo courtesy of Rick Cowley

Visitors to the Yorkshire Dales are familiar with the delights of the national park's wonderful dales and surrounding uplands, but perhaps less so with what lies to the north of the park. The North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is about as large as the national park and contains equally stunning landscapes of open heather moors and dramatic dales. Yet both areas are suffering from environmental pressures, declining biodiversity and nature in retreat.

It is therefore very welcome news to hear that an important step has been taken that will hopefully connect, restore and enhance the outstanding landscapes of upper Swaledale in the national park and upper Teesdale in the adjoining AONB. A five-year £8.5m programme called Tees-Swale: naturally connected has been established by the national park authority and the AONB partnership as a farming-focused nature recovery programme, centred on the upper reaches of the two dales.

Recently the initiative received a huge boost with the awarding of a £5.7m grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund that will enable the work to begin in earnest. This will include supporting farming methods that restore at-risk nature, connecting priority habitats and helping to reverse the decline in biodiversity. Methods will include hay meadow and peatland restoration, river enhancement and wetland and woodland creation, with joint learning between farmers and conservation bodies being an essential

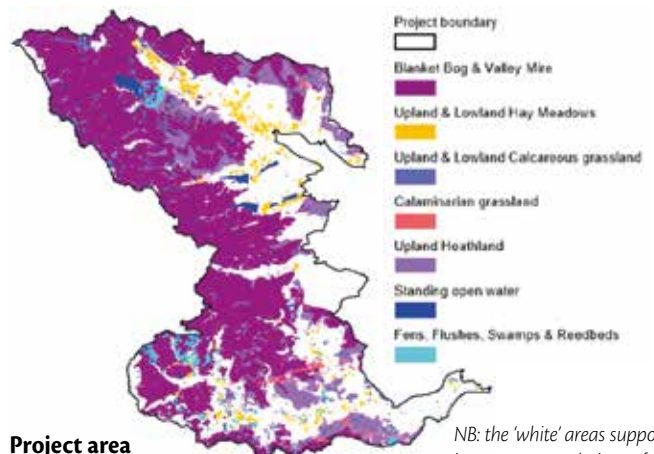
part. Schools and community groups from the area will be able to take part in activities to help them better understand and appreciate the wildlife, landscapes and lives of the people who live and work there, as well as boosting their own wellbeing.

More information is available at www.northpennines.org.uk/what_we_do/tees-swale-naturally-connected. We will seek to keep Review readers apprised with progress on this important project as it develops.

Rick Cowley, policy committee volunteer



Boundary (in red) of the Tees-Swale: naturally connected project area. Image courtesy of North Pennines AONB



Project area

- Priority habitat – 502 sq km (61%)
- Blanket Bog & Valley Mire – 400 sq km (48%)
- Upland & Lowland Hay Meadows – 14 sq km (2%)

NB: the 'white' areas support important populations of breeding birds, including priority species such as curlew, lapwing & black grouse

Project Areas Habitat.

Map courtesy of Tees-Swale: naturally connected/YDNPA



Welcome To Our Newest Cohort of Members

What a boost it was to receive a cascade of new membership forms arriving at the office by post and email in late summer this year. We'd paid a modest fee to have our updated membership leaflet enclosed with the September subscriber issue of the renowned



Extract from 'The Dalesman'

The Dalesman magazine – which is posted across the country to thousands of readers. Despite the ongoing uncertainties for everyone from Covid-19, about 80 people (at the time of writing) signed up as new members. This fantastic response generated a heavy, but welcome, extra workload for Penny Lowe, our administration assistant. Coming just at the time that we were moving back into our office, this did mean a slight delay in responding to everyone. We're looking at building in more support for Penny on routine membership administration as part of boosting the office team next year (using part of the substantial legacies received last year, noted on page 23).

Banking "Regs" Catch Us Out

Earlier in the year, banks in the UK introduced some new regulations - called Confirmation of Payee - which affect online bank transfers and are designed to reduce fraud. As well as providing the right sort code and account number, anyone setting up a payment using internet banking needs to enter the right name for the recipient. And that name, whether for an individual or a business, must match exactly the one held by the recipient's bank. All well and good unless you are a charity with both a legal business name and a trading name. *Friends of the Dales* is our accepted "trading as" name and a working name registered with the Charity Commission. However, our bank (Barclays) unfortunately won't allow you to use it to make online bank transfers of your subscriptions or donations (though confusingly it does accept *Friends of the Dales* on a cheque or direct debit form). If you like to pay your subs or donation by **online transfer, please use Yorkshire Dales Society** in the payee box in future.

We were unwittingly caught out a second time by banking regulations this year. We had to delay collection of some annual direct debit subscriptions in the spring due to lockdown/working from home. When we processed these for collection in mid-summer, we discovered that some banks (but strangely not all) apply a 13-month expiry date to unused direct debits. So our heartfelt apologies to the small number of members whom we have asked to fill in fresh direct debit forms.

Could You Include Friends of the Dales In Your Will?

Once again this autumn there are two national campaigns, funded by groups of larger charities, to encourage people to make or update their wills. Solicitors participating in the campaigns offer discounted, or even free, will writing services. Appointments are limited so it is best to enquire early. See www.freewillsmoth.org.uk and www.willaid.org.uk for more information or ask your own solicitor.

We are not intending to give legal advice and you should always get your own professional advice from a solicitor. If you would like to support Friends of the Dales, your solicitor will need 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."

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. Please do consider remembering our charity in your will if you possibly can. Your legacy gift could make a real difference to keeping the Dales vibrant and special for years to come. We are very grateful to several members who have let us know they have pledged a gift to us in their wills.

Last financial year we did receive two substantial and very welcome legacy gifts (as reported by our Treasurer on page 23), which will really help our charity have a bigger and better impact in the future.

Ann Shadrake, executive director

New Business Member - Merritt & Fryers

Family business Merritt & Fryers has served the Skipton area with an extensive one-stop resource for professional tradesmen and DIY enthusiasts since 1935.

Providing friendly expertise along with materials, it offers timber, building supplies, plumbing and heating, ironmongery, hardware and garden and landscape supplies as well as having an extensive tile showroom, decorating and bathroom design centres and bespoke joinery department.

Committed to supporting environmental initiatives, the company supplies a wide range of sustainable materials including those appropriate for use in a national park, such as Defra-approved wood-burning stoves. The firm has recently switched to sugar-based, eco-friendly carrier bags as part of its own sustainable development goals.



The *Revealing and*



View across the upper Lune vallyey from Knott. Photo courtesy of WDLP

The Westmorland Dales lie in the north-westernmost corner of the Yorkshire Dales National Park to the north of the Howgills. They stretch across the upper Lune and Eden valleys, and Great Asby Scar, from Tebay to Kirkby Stephen and Maulds Meaburn to Ravenstonedale. They have much in common with landscapes elsewhere in the Dales with limestone pavements, flower-rich meadows, traditional farm buildings and a rich cultural history. They are, however, most definitely part of Cumbria, and to some even more definitely part of what was once Westmorland.

Added to the extended Yorkshire Dales National Park in 2016, they are home to the Westmorland Dales Landscape Partnership Scheme, grant funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and jointly led by Friends of the Lake District (which has a Cumbria-wide role) and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. Its aim is to reveal the hidden heritage of the Westmorland Dales, engaging people in enjoying and caring for this wonderful landscape. The £3.5 million scheme is being delivered over a four-year period by a broad partnership of organisations including local authorities, conservation bodies, community groups and, most importantly, farmers and landowners.

Projects are grouped under three broad themes: natural heritage, cultural heritage and connecting heritage, although there is huge overlap between them. Details of all 21 projects can be found online at www.thewestmorlanddales.org.uk so it's worth focusing on a few to illustrate their scope.

The Westmorland Dales have some of the most spectacular species-rich meadows, verges and limestone grasslands in the whole of Cumbria. Working with Cumbria Wildlife Trust, we're looking to conserve the best of them, surveying them before and after restoration, restoring them with a variety of techniques and advising on their future

management. We've recently produced a series of films to help people identify some of the most typical meadow wildflower species.

The limestone fells above Orton and Great Asby have been described as one of the richest prehistoric landscapes north of Salisbury Plain, but much of it has not been surveyed or recorded. So we've been working with volunteers, consultants and Lunesdale Archaeology Society to survey Great Asby Scar, identifying many new sites to add to the Historic Environment Record and training volunteers to continue this work elsewhere.

The legacy we leave, and how it is sustained, are crucial. One of our projects therefore



Westmorland Dales

Protecting a Hidden Landscape



Volunteers recording cairns on Great Asby Scar. Photo courtesy of WDLP

focuses on training two groups of apprentices as countryside workers. Employed by the national park authority and working out of our base at Tebay with a qualification being provided by Askham Bryan College, the first four apprentices have already completed their first year. They've worked with a broad range of partners, across a variety of sites on all sorts of tasks including wildflower plug planting,

taking part in the archaeological survey, tree planting, dry-stone walling, path improvements and much more.

So if you want to get involved, do get in touch: we've opportunities for volunteers, produce a regular newsletter and have a small grants scheme if you have your own project ideas.

David Evans,
Westmorland Dales Landscapes Partnership

Friends of the
DALES
YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY

New Trustee Wanted

Our trustees are volunteers who provide leadership in shaping and delivering the strategy that enables us to pursue our charity's purposes, and ensure its responsible governance. We have a shared passion for the Dales landscape and communities, within which individual trustees have their own interests and expertise.

We are keen to recruit a trustee with a particular interest in the issues and policies related to sustainable public access to our national park. On busy days in recent months, cars have lined the roads in and near Malham and Horton in Ribblesdale. An increasing number of cyclists use our roads and bridleways. Usage of green lanes by off-road vehicles and others creates challenges. There is plenty of campaigning and awareness-raising to do!

We also expect the person appointed to play a lead role in liaison and support with the Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company. 2020 has been a very different year for its enterprise due to the coronavirus pandemic. A key component of our strategy is to promote the long-term sustainable future of its successful DalesBus initiative.

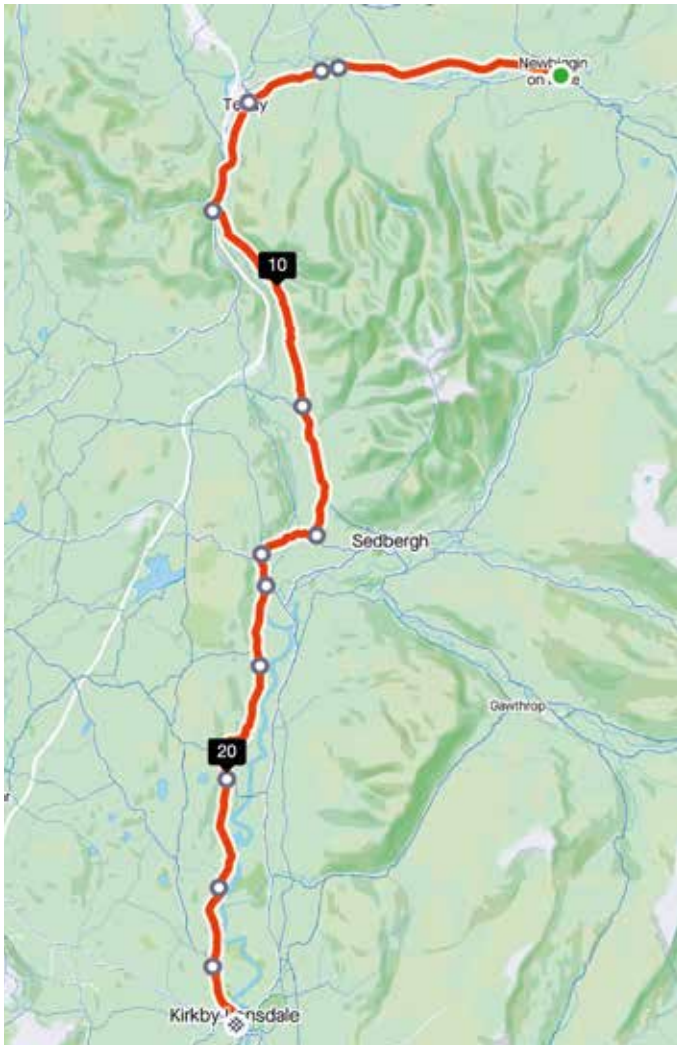
If you are interested in finding out more details, please contact ann.shadrake@friendsofthedales.org.uk for more information and an informal discussion.

Marion Temple

Chair of Finance and
Governance Committee

The Lune Valley

Cycling from Newbiggin to Kirkby Lonsdale



The Westmorland Dales and the Lune Valley - the newest parts of the extended Yorkshire Dales National Park - offer wonderful opportunities for cycling, and this article describes a picturesque 24-mile, north-south ride that makes a good introduction to the area.

The smallest of the five principal rivers of the Yorkshire Dales, the Lune rises in the northern Howgills in a series of small springs (there's not much to see), most notably Weasdale Beck, above the village of Newbiggin.

The catchment area includes most of the Howgills (River Rawthey), Garsdale (River Clough), Dentdale (River Dee) and the western slopes of Barbon, Casterton and Middleton fells. The Lune becomes a substantial river less than 25 miles from its source, and is awe-inspiring in times of heavy rain.



The infant Lune near Kelleth



Near Fleshbeck, Middleton and Barbon Fells behind

Starting from Newbiggin, take the minor road, which runs parallel and to the north of the A685. The succession of hamlets and scattered farmsteads is delightful, with glimpses of the meandering infant Lune, the Howgills as a dramatic backdrop and even distant Wild Boar Fell enhancing the view. Cross the main road just after Rayne Bridge and continue through the hamlets of Gaisgill and Cocklake to Tebay, which enjoyed a brief golden period with the coming of the railway in 1846 and retains a legacy of railway architecture.

After two miles south on the A685, turn left beneath a span of the M6 to the working farm of Borrowbridge, which sits on a large rectangular grassy platform.

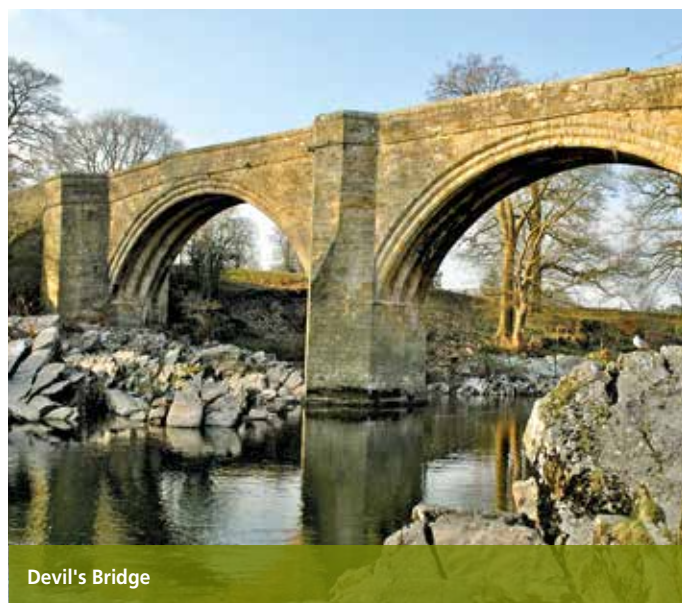
(Enthusiastic cyclists have the option of avoiding most of the main road by making a pleasant diversion after Kelleth, passing through Orton and then taking the minor road that crosses both arms of the M6 to reach Roundthwaite and join the A685 just north of Borrowbridge. It adds five miles/200m of ascent.)

Since time immemorial the Lune gorge was an important north-south route, and a Roman supply route to Carlisle linked the forts at Burrow (near Kirkby Lonsdale) and Low Borrowbridge. The grassy platform beneath the farm clearly shows the outline of the Roman fort.

The narrow road from here to Sedbergh follows the Roman road and is a gem for cyclists, and the intrusion of the 21st century fades as the road snakes around the flanks of the Howgill Fells with picturesque views of the river far below. Whilst undulating, the route repays the effort with glorious scenery and even a glimpse of the majestic red sandstone Lowgill Viaduct, which carried the Midland Railway line to join the west coast main line at Tebay.

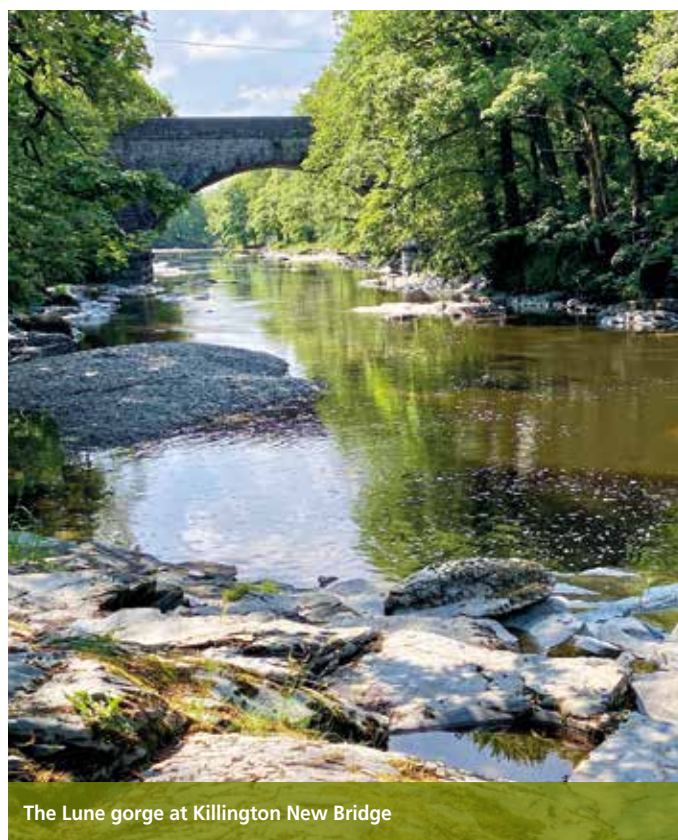
A right fork near Height of Winder leads to a steep, narrow, twisting descent to the A684. Turn west, crossing the Lune again at Lincoln's Inn Bridge, and after a mile leave the main road at Black Horse. Admirers of railway architecture could detour before then, back up the road to Firbank, to view two other viaducts including the handsome Waterside Viaduct with its cast-iron latticework central span.

Half a mile beyond Black Horse is Killington New Bridge, where the Lune runs through a narrow rocky gorge, accessible by a short section of footpath owned by YDNPA. This pleasant spot is popular for picnics, swimming and as an occasional launching spot for canoes.



Devil's Bridge

From near the bridge, take the minor road to the west of the river for six or seven miles to the outskirts of Kirkby Lonsdale. The Lune meanders gently through this pastoral landscape, passing through lush meadows around scattered farmsteads, as well as Rigmaden Park, one of the great Webster houses of the Lune valley, built by Christopher Wilson in 1828. There are splendid views of the unspoilt Middleton, Barbon and Casterton fells, rising to between 400 and 600 metres, and travellers journeying northwards have the added attraction of the Howgills in their view.



The Lune gorge at Killington New Bridge

Below Killington New Bridge the Lune has few crossing points; Rigmaden Bridge, built by the Wilson family in the 1880s, is the only one between there and Kirkby Lonsdale. The massive sandstone edifice of Underley Bridge, built by the Earl of Bective in 1872 in order to access Barbon railway station, has no public right of way.

Intrepid visitors exploring with an Ordnance Survey map will note three fords marked across the river, at Low Waterside, Hawking Hall and Low Beckfoot. Be warned: these are not routes for any kind of bicycle - nothing less than a large tractor will make these crossings.

Leave the quiet back road at Kearnstwick for the final gentle descent into Kirkby Lonsdale. Ruskin's View, which looks down from St Mary's churchyard on a broad sweep of the river with the backdrop of the Barbon and Casterton fells, is a worthwhile detour.

Devil's Bridge, a fine 14th-century structure built by St Mary's Abbey in York, marks the end of this journey.

Ken Humphris, trustee

Author's note:

This is a more challenging ride, with more and steeper ascents, if tackled from south to north.

With big changes mooted in national planning policy and our own national park authority entering the next phase of updating the local plan, two members of our volunteer policy committee reflect below on the national and regional planning landscape as it continues to evolve.

National and Local Planning Policy Update

It's never a dull life in the world of planning, as this retired ex-town planner can testify.

There is always a controversial application to be decided, new policy guidance from the government to be understood, public consultation on revised local plans to be undertaken and so on.

Readers may well be aware that the government published a White Paper in the summer on a proposed wholesale revision of the UK planning system. One key aspect of these proposals is to restrict future local plans (such as the one the national park authority is currently preparing) to identifying only three types of area:

- "growth zones", where certain types of development would automatically be allowed, without the need for the usual individual planning application and public consultation.
- "renewal zones", where existing built-up areas suitable for smaller-scale, new development (such as small sites in or on the edge of villages) would also receive automatic approval.
- "protected zones", where planning applications for development would still be required and assessed against national planning policies. Examples of such protected areas are given in the White Paper as including Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, green belts, conservation areas and areas of open countryside outside the growth and renewal zones.

There is no mention of national parks as "protected zones". This could be a simple (but perhaps an alarming and surprising) oversight, but could also (and very worryingly) be a deliberate omission. This does need clarification. Even if national parks are included as protected areas, the impact of adjoining areas designated as growth or renewal zones in the new local plans could be significant for the parks.

Of more local interest on the planning policy front is the current work of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority in revising its current local plan for the park to cover the period 2023 to 2040. The authority started its review of the existing plan last year, when it consulted on "setting the

agenda". Responses to that consultation centred on the need for a more "plan-led" approach to development, including the need for a wider range of new homes and affordable housing. They also said new development should support biodiversity; there should be a lower carbon "footprint" and better broadband and mobile infrastructure; and conservation of the park's special qualities should be continued.

The authority consulted on the next stage, on "exploring the options", during the past summer, to gather public views on the "direction of travel" that the new local plan should take. The suggested options centred on how many, if any, new homes should be allowed within the park; how great a carbon footprint should be allowed and how much renewable energy production there should be; and what farming in the Dales should be like (eg rewilding, nature-friendly farming, or intensification).

Following that round of consultation the park authority intends to hold further consultation on a spatial strategy (generally where the development should go within the park), and then the actual location of new housing sites.

How this work will relate to the government's very different ideas on what local plans should look like in the future is a bit of mystery at the moment, I guess.

Friends of the Dales is taking a keen interest in the local plan preparation and will keep members informed of progress.

To find out how the local plan will be affected by the updated Yorkshire Dales National Park Landscape Character Assessment, see Julie Martin's article on pages 4 - 5.

Rick Cowley, policy committee volunteer



Local Plan Consultation: Our Response

We have now submitted our response to stage two of the consultation on the Yorkshire Dales National Park local plan 2023 - 40.

The format of the consultation aims to focus thinking around three topics: community sustainability, carbon futures and on-farm development.

Community sustainability

This section focuses almost entirely on building more houses. But we felt that the starting point should be creating opportunities that will lead to demand for housing. There needs to be a strategy to provide local work opportunities that will retain and attract younger people, and will retain and create employment sites. Simply building more houses will not create the 'strong, self-reliant and balanced communities' as set out in the overarching vision for the national park.

Nor is it clear how, if a target were set, it would be used to influence appropriate development. Indeed, it is not numbers of new permissions but completions that are significant. With outstanding permissions for 600 dwellings in the park, a target of 55 per annum could be achieved

within a decade if they were all implemented, without the need for any further permissions.

It is clear that two- and three-bedroom affordable dwellings are needed, along with live/work premises, not more upmarket executive housing. There is ample housing stock within the Dales but so much of it is used as either second homes or holiday lets, that it can sometimes lead to the decline of villages and their services. There also seems to be an assumption that the provision of services will follow the building of houses, but past experience shows this not to be so.

It is increasingly clear that the policy of converting barns to dwellings is not providing housing at reasonable prices for local people. Rather it is creating



Photo courtesy of Nancy Stedman

Lodge Farm Barn, Rylstone. This large barn, on the busy B6265 Skipton to Grassington road, has now been converted into dwellings, one 4-bed and one 3-bed. For sale with a condition that restricts them to local occupancy, the asking prices are £625,000 and £525,000 respectively.

upmarket dwellings, adding to road traffic and suburbanising the remoter dales. We believe the policy needs to be comprehensively reviewed.

There is a duty on all authorities (including government departments and agencies and utility companies) to have regard to national park purposes in carrying out their activities, and we call for that duty to be strengthened and enforced.

Carbon futures

It was not clear to us if the assessment of the impact of transport included private car use by both residents and the 2.5 million visitors, around 90% of whom come to the Dales by car. Whilst agriculture and other land uses make the greatest contribution to emissions, the dependency upon cars must be addressed. Housing in remote areas, which simply generates more car use, should be more effectively discouraged. We support genuinely zero-carbon buildings, and accept non-traditional designs as long as they are sensitive to their surroundings and of a high aesthetic standard.

On-farm development

Increased intensification of agriculture has nothing to recommend it for the Dales. There is growing evidence that high-nature-value farming within the limits of the land will bring benefits to soils and water, reduction of emissions, protection of wildlife and be profitable. This approach combines productivity with protection of resources including wildlife, and should be encouraged across the area.

Only some areas will be suitable for 'rewilding', although we suggest that this is an unhelpful term, as it is loaded with misconceptions. We think that 'restoring nature' or 'land sharing' are more accurate terms, as it is not about abandonment. The land will continue to need some degree of management, and therefore there will be no loss of farming culture.

However, the impacts of the Brexit negotiations have yet to be determined, and the level and type of support that will be available through the new Environmental Land Management scheme is unknown. And, as Rick Cowley points out, the current White Paper proposes a wholesale revision of UK planning, pulling yet more powers in to the centre. The process of developing a local plan is one of the most democratic processes we have; it gives local people a say in what should happen and where.

See how you can participate here:

www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/park-authority/living-and-working/planning-policy/local-plan-2023-40

Nancy Stedman, trustee

Feedback from our first ever 'digital' AGM

As members will be fully aware, it proved impossible to hold our normal AGM in the Dales this year. Instead we, like many other charities, took advantage of the growth in familiarity (for some) with digital meetings and offered an event by Zoom on Saturday 19 September. As this was our first foray into a public meeting "via the internet" we kept participant numbers fairly modest but were delighted that 21 members joined us successfully on the day!

Bruce McLeod, Chair, and Ian Harrison, Treasurer, presented some key achievements and the financial highlights for the financial year. You can read a flavour of those presentations on pages 22 and 23. Prof Chris Nash, Chair of Dales and Bowland CIC, spoke about the successful financial year 2019-2020 but also the challenges (due to Covid-19) in delivering full services since then.

The full Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2019-2020 were approved and are available on the website or on request from Ann Shadrake, Executive Director (contact details p2).

The key decisions taken were the re-election of Kyle Blue and Marion Temple as Directors, each for a second term of three years, and the election of Wilf Fenten as our Vice Chair. Most heartening was the response by members to proxy voting – in total 93 votes were received by post or email (using the form provided), with all appointing the Chair as the proxy vote and all votes FOR the elections noted above. In addition, votes on the day appointed Ken Humphris and Dilip Mysorekar as new Directors, following their co-option by Council in September. We will introduce Ken and Dilip in a future issue of the Review.

Bruce thanked a number of Trustees who had stood down over the past year – Jon Beavan, Peter Charlesworth, Ann Cryer, Tim Hancock and Chris Hartley. He also noted that our existing three Vice Presidents, namely Ann Cryer, Malcolm Petyt and Colin Speakman, are continuing in their current terms of office until the next AGM, and thanked them for their sterling support to the charity.

In addition to a number of continuing Honorary Members, Bruce noted that Council had appointed two longstanding and active volunteers and Trustees – Hilary Baker and Chris Hartley – as Honorary Members.

We share here an email received in response to the AGM:

"To Bruce McLeod

I just want to tell you how much I appreciated joining you all at today's meeting (the AGM on 19 September 2020 held online). As a newcomer to Zoom, it was something of a revelation that I actually managed to do so and it seemed to go very well.

As you know, the Dales are such a special place for us all, and for me (as a relatively new life member) visiting over so many years. I am proud to be an ambassador and spread the word down here in whatever way I can. It is so good to see that Friends of the Dales is in a robust position, both financially, and through increasing membership and liaison with kindred environmental organisations despite the difficult and unprecedented times that we are living in. It is, because of Covid, a very uncertain prognosis for the future but we can be assured that the magnificent Dales, our land, will remain for us to enjoy for as long as we are able to do so.

Miles Rhodes, Life Member"

Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company



Volunteers Needed

Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company (D&BCIC) is urgently looking for people with some marketing and/or fundraising expertise to help deliver its ambitious business plan and make the DalesBus network more sustainable

DalesBus background

Formed in 2007 as a volunteer-run, not-for-profit social enterprise wholly owned by Friends of the Dales, D&BCIC manages the DalesBus network of weekend public bus services into and around the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Nidderdale/Forest of Bowland Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and promotes public transport in the area.

The CIC is managed by a board of directors, all volunteers, who determine the company's strategy and undertake the day-to-day activities required to provide the DalesBus network, assisted by a wider team of volunteers.

DalesBus provides a much-valued service for people to travel into and within the Dales, generating social, wellbeing, economic and environmental benefits for local communities. Over 30,000 passenger journeys were made on services managed by D&BCIC in 2019-20.

Marketing Support

D&BCIC uses a range of channels to promote DalesBus and its services – including printed materials, Twitter and media releases – as well as our popular website www.dalesbus.org

We need one or more volunteers with an interest in marketing to help us promote the DalesBus network and deliver the planned passenger growth as well as countering the negative effects of Covid-19 on public perceptions of public transport.

Fundraising Support

D&BCIC needs to raise around £100,000 each year to provide its services. As funding from the public sector has dropped significantly in recent years, we need to also seek support from commercial sponsors, charitable trusts, local charities, local businesses and individuals.

We need one or more volunteers with administration or fundraising expertise to help us raise additional funds to secure the future of the DalesBus network.

Interested?

You can find out more at www.dalesbus.org/dbcic-news

If you might be interested in helping, we'd love to hear from you - please contact jan@dalesandbowland.com.



Photo courtesy of D&BCIC



House in brambles



Dales Des Res For Endangered Hedgehogs

In her third article for the Review, Settle College student Tabitha Brown describes her efforts to help to conserve one of Britain's most appealing, but now threatened, species: the hedgehog.

A little ball of brown spines and an adorable nose. Hedgehogs are fascinating creatures to behold whatever your age, but they have been in decline since the 1950s, when it was estimated there were around 30 million hedgehogs in Britain alone. Nowadays it is estimated there are around 500,000 in Britain and, as they are described as vulnerable to extinction on the Red List for Britain's Mammals, it is a good idea to help them out whenever possible. Hedgehogs seem to have adapted to urban habitats quite well, as they can find food put outside for them by people and our gardens can provide a safe refuge. The only places in Britain where hedgehogs are not found tend to be wetlands, moors and coniferous plantations.

One Tuesday morning, my grandparents, sister and I set out on a mission to rehouse two rescued hedgehogs on to a patch of land owned by my grandparents. Staff at the rescue centre had advised us to set up their new habitats the day before we picked them up, placing two specially designed hedgehog houses amongst the bracken, safe for them to hibernate and rest in. Hedgehog houses are built specifically for hedgehogs as they contain two compartments, with an entrance hall and an adjoining bedroom area that only the hedgehogs can fit in to, so they will be safe from predators. We put their food and water bowls near to the houses so that they had an easily accessible supply of food and water when they awoke.

We transported the two hedgehogs (Cheddar and Johnson) from the hedgehog rescue centre in Blackpool to their new houses on the edge of the Dales. Johnson stayed in a deep sleep when we placed him and the hay he had been transported in into his new home, but Cheddar peeked his nose out and had a look around before we placed him inside his house.

The following morning, we returned to their houses to find that they had eaten their food and drunk their water. I hope they will be safe and happy in their new homes.

Tips for helping hedgehogs

- Putting a dish of hedgehog food out in the evening could attract some hedgehogs. Hedgehog food is relatively easy to buy: it can be found in most pet shops as well as online. Hedgehogs will also eat wet cat and dog food.
- They are lactose intolerant, so never leave milk out for hedgehogs. Water is best.
- Hedgerows are perfect for hedgehogs but if you have fences around your garden, you could help the hedgehogs get about by making corridors and holes for them to move around in. They can travel around 1.25 miles a night, so making space for them to roam will be really helpful.

For more information visit:

RSPB website: www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/other-garden-wildlife/mammals/hedgehog/

Hedgehog Street website: www.hedgehogstreet.org/about-hedgehogs/

Red list for British mammals: www.mammal.org.uk/science-research/red-list/

British Hedgehog Preservation Society: www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/british-hedgehog-now-officially-classified-as-vulnerable-to-extinction/



Johnson the hedgehog



Holding hedgehogs

Return to the Dales

We asked readers of our free monthly e-news* to let us know where they would be heading After Lockdown. With lockdown now over, but the future still uncertain, we offer a selection of responses highlighting the joys, and the challenges, of a Return to the Dales.

I live in lower Wharfedale so have been able to walk from home on to my local moorland and alongside the River Wharfe. But I'm really looking forward to a return to the limestone country within the national park for a different landscape and flowers: I expect to be in time to catch the rock roses and wild pansies and hope that I might just catch the bird's-eye primrose. We'll park in Grassington, head down to the river, on to Skirethorns and up the perimeter of Threshfield Quarry for splendid views eastwards before heading on to Kilnsey, over to Conistone and back to Grassington for a cup of tea in our favourite cafe.

My childhood summer holidays were often spent in the northern Yorkshire Dales and I have retained a love of pastoral Wensleydale. So, for an expedition further afield, we'll park alongside the village green in West Burton, head down to the waterfall, hopefully to spot the dipper, then walk up Morpeth Gate and along the green lane east with excellent views of the dale and of Castle Bolton before dropping down Green Gate to turn west along Langthwaite Lane to the remains of the Knights Templar Preceptory, soon turning south-west along Spring Bank to return to West Burton.
Marion Temple



Castle Bolton. Photo courtesy of Mark Corner

Having moved to Skipton from Leyburn just before the lockdown was imposed, I had my road bike put on a turbo trainer as my only way of keeping the pedals turning. Yesterday I took my mountain bike and met my cycling buddy, Hilary, in Hubberholme. We rode from there to Kettlewell and then on the back road to Conistone and back, just to see if I still had the strength in my (elderly) legs after all these weeks away from road cycling (I'm 77 this year).

It was wonderful to hear the birds singing and see all the wild flowers along the route. I have been keeping a record of the flowers I have seen on my daily walks around the edges of the town. Going back into Wharfedale made me realise how many I haven't seen. I have missed sweet cicely, with every part smelling of aniseed; greater stitchwort, with its pretty, white petals; various orchids; the white and scented sweet violet and the long-lasting yellow crosswort, among others. I realised how I took for granted the abundance of such a variety of wild flowers in the Dales when I lived there. I will definitely be going back with my bike on a regular basis.

Sheila Simms



Greater Stitchwort.
Photo courtesy of Ann Shadrake

Sweet Cicely.
Photo courtesy of Ann Shadrake



A report in a **Moneywise** newsletter revealed that 25% of homeowners intend to move home when the lockdown is over with the primary aim being to relocate to less densely populated areas. If this happens, it will undoubtedly put more pressure on the availability of affordable housing for local people in the Dales. Having last year returned from abroad to the county of my birth and having to settle for living just outside the Dales due to difficulty finding accommodation, I have personal experience of the problem.

Another effect of Covid-19, according to the **Sunday Times**, is a huge surge in interest in UK second homes. Second homes constitute only 1.1% of all UK homes but 3.7% of all house sales last year. It seems this is going to become a bigger issue now in the Dales and something we may wish to monitor in the coming months.

I fear a huge influx of visitors this year with the usual dichotomy - good for the local economy, but not so good for the residents, with parking and overcrowding problems in local beauty spots. I will be using local footpaths or walking with the Dales programme if and when it resumes.

John Smithson

When I have visited the Dales in the past, I have been saddened to see so much car use. It would be great if the pandemic were to make people realise that there is a different way of doing things: the Dales can be explored on foot, by bicycle or by public transport, and if cars have to be used, they can be shared or pooled.

I would like to see a transport infrastructure that enables people to visit the Dales without doing so much damage to the environment: perhaps some park-and-ride car parks just off the main roads leading into the park, with bus services linking those car parks with the places that most visitors want to see. Or a fleet of bikes (electric ones, to help on the hills) available for hire at the Dales' railway stations and main bus interchanges (eg Settle and Grassington). Or an online car-sharing/car-pooling scheme that would enable small groups of people to come to the Dales in just one car rather than two or three. In Luxembourg there is a 'bed + bike' scheme, whereby people touring the country by bike can book into accommodation that guarantees a safe place for overnight bicycle storage and facilities for drying wet cycling clothing and 'running repairs' if needed.

Peter Workman



Cycling to Buckden. Photo M Spencer.



Lister Arms, Malham. Photo courtesy of Mark Corner

For over 15 years a small group of friends and I have walked in the Dales or North York Moors and Wolds on every possible Tuesday so I'm just looking forward to being able to round off a walk with a pint and some banter in a village pub once again. Oh, and six times a year start a walk with a bacon and egg sandwich or a full Yorkshire breakfast in a local cafe or hostelry as we celebrate our individual birthdays. I've researched some new walks in lockdown so, together with some old favourites, the first 20 walks back are planned. We'll never take our wonderfully diverse countryside for granted again - we've missed it so much.

Tony Harrowsmith

* To sign up to the e-news and receive topical updates about our campaigns and snippets about the Dales, visit our Facebook page or website, or email penny.lowe@friendsofthedales.org.uk. The sign-up is GDPR compliant and you can unsubscribe at any time.

John Phillips Yorkshire's traveller through time

Author: Colin Speakman

Publisher: Gritstone Books, Birchcliffe Centre,
Hebden Bridge,
West Yorkshire HX7 8DG

Available on line at
<https://gritstonecoop.co.uk/books/john-phillips/>

Price: £15 inc post and packing within UK

ISBN: 978-0-9955609-8-7

The lecture circuit in the late 1820s was busy. Dominating the scene were the numerous women's societies agitating for the abolition of slavery. In 1829 the Birmingham Ladies' Society for the Relief of Negro Slaves put several lecturers in the field. One, a Captain Charles Stuart, drew an audience of 6,000 in Leeds. Competing for a slice of popular attention was the young "peripatetic lecturer and teacher", John Phillips. One of the great "pioneering interpreters of the Yorkshire landscape" and a polymath naturalist, Phillips is the subject of Colin Speakman's marvellously readable, informative and beautifully illustrated new book. Like the abolitionists, Phillips was a zealous educator. He was "passionate about Yorkshire, particularly the great and fascinating landscape heritage of the uplands and the coast, its archaeology, history and architecture".

Speakman deftly guides us through Phillips's life and accomplishments. With no formal higher education, Phillips was schooled by his uncle, William "Strata" Smith, who published the first nationwide geological map. Their work had an incalculable impact since, as Speakman puts it, "the new science of geology enabled the exploitation of much of Britain's countryside for industrial development". Geology was never just an academic exercise but empowered the Industrial Revolution, from canal building to mining coal. It exposed the "deep time" and design of mineral deposits while simultaneously aiding in their extraction and, of course, the rise of the fossil fuel industry and greenhouse gas emissions. One also realises how much of the Dales countryside in the nineteenth century was dominated by polluting industry.

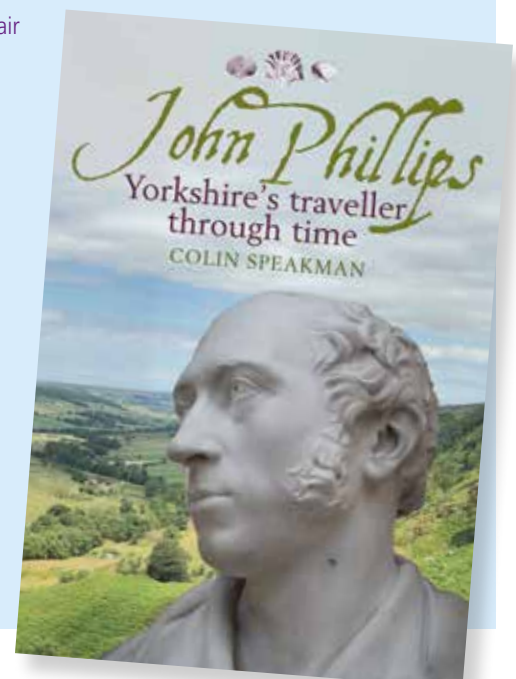
That Smith and Phillips gave advice to landowners keen to mine black gold is not to detract from their intrepid "strata hunting", the ground-breaking (and best-selling) publications or the founding of various intellectual institutions - for example, the Yorkshire Philosophical Society and Yorkshire Museum. Phillips, who was seen as a veritable "cyclopaedia

of science", contributed to numerous invaluable educational resources. Just as Speakman writes for both historian and layperson, Phillips aimed to popularise geology. The first purpose-built science museum, the Rotunda Museum in Scarborough, was designed to exhibit a continuous diorama of his geological sections of the coastline.

Speakman contextualises well: he draws attention to important humanist, Romantic and evangelical values of the period, especially the obsession to classify and categorise natural history. It is a preoccupation intrinsic to empire building and colonial settler societies seeking to "fix" natural environments and peoples into an order and timeline privileging Europe, if not the English. Phillips didn't shy away from the fierce controversies involving Christian and Darwinian interpretations of evolution. His natural curiosity and commitment to science enabled him to keep an open mind despite his own Christian beliefs. Rather than succumb to evangelical-driven denialism (regarding evolution), Phillips supported the British Science Association (as it became known), founded in 1831. In keeping with this tradition, in 2009 the BSA urged religious leaders to address climate breakdown. Like the abolitionists (slavery in the British Empire was abolished in 1833), Phillips had the courage to go against the grain. He was an empirical scientist, who was committed to "journeys of enquiry ... even ... if those quests for truth raise uncomfortable issues that may collide with long held beliefs and personal faith".

The commitment to educate and to democracy moved this "energetic Rambler" to also produce attractive guidebooks in order to encourage tourism. Phillips published one of the world's first railway tourist guidebooks. He even issued a "first-ever plea for better public transport to allow people to access and enjoy...what is now a National Park". We are indebted to Phillips for being an early proponent in the long struggle to secure national parks; and we are indebted to Colin Speakman for vividly documenting one of the most "influential Yorkshire walker-writers of all time".

Bruce McLeod, Chair



In recent months, four Dales-based members have published books inspired by their own research and interests. The books would make wonderful gifts perhaps for Christmas or a special anniversary.

Fleur Speakman, who was editor of the Review for many years, has produced an excellent little book of 15 short stories on a wide variety of topics but all with the common theme of the book's title **Ways of Coping**. Bernard Peel explains: "In her introduction Fleur says that each of the characters has to cope with some kind of dilemma. The subjects vary from the harrying of Quakers in the 17th-century Dales, Georgian England, Jersey in wartime, the biography of a German monarch, the relationship of a king and his daughter and many contemporary themes including murder and suicide. The variety of constructions used in telling the stories adds to the enjoyment. At £5 (no extra postage) the book is fantastic value for money."



Write with a cheque made out to Fleur Speakman at 48 Lawn Avenue, Burley-in-Wharfedale LS29 7ET or by PayPal from Michael Farren, e-mail mikefarren@outlook.com.

Raistricks and Other Hills over 1,000 feet in the Yorkshire Dales

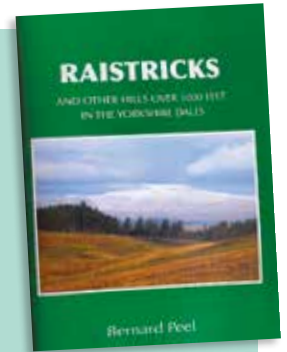
In his spare time our long-standing volunteer, Bernard Peel, has researched and self-published a fascinating insight into the hills and mountains of the Dales.

Trustee Mark Corner says: "Until this publication, I don't believe anyone had catalogued the 242 hills above 1,000 feet in or close to the national park. Through a labour of love, Bernard Peel has done this for us, creating his own categorisation of hills and generously naming a subset of them after the wonderful Dalesman Arthur Raistrick. Bernard has shared his deep knowledge of this special place, describing the geology of the area and individual character of each of the major dales and hills."

Price £10.

Bernard is kindly making a donation to our charity for each copy sold.

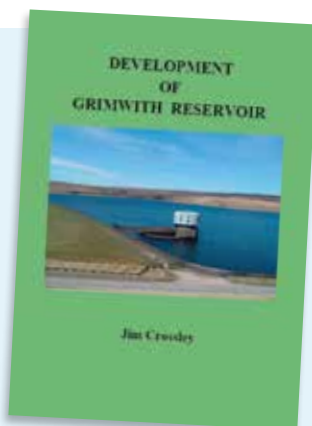
To order Bernard's or Jim's book, please contact Ann Shadrake (contact details on page 2) and she'll pass your request on. If contacting Ann by post, please enclose a cheque made out to the relevant author.



In Development of Grimwith Reservoir - a Great Feat of Civil Engineering

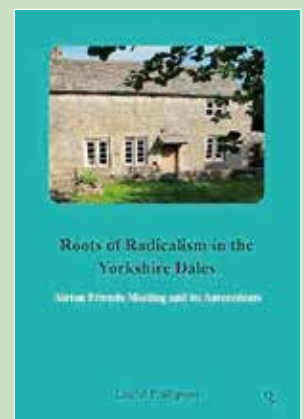
Jim Crossley explores the development and history of the "second" reservoir - a remarkable feat of 20th-century civil engineering. Jim ought to know - he is the chartered civil engineer (now retired) who designed the new reservoir prior to opening in 1983. Colin Speakman writes: "Jim Crossley tells the complex story of the building and opening of not only the present reservoir, but also the earlier, much smaller reservoir built in the higher valley of the River Dibb, opened in 1864. But what makes Jim's account especially valuable is that Jim is more than just a historian of the building of the second reservoir, opened in 1983, but part of that story - both as an eyewitness and participant in what was one of greatest pieces of civil engineering in the Dales in the 20th century."

Price £10.



Thanks to sterling research by Laurel Phillipson and support from Airton Quakers, YDNPA's senior historic environment officer Miles Johnson and North Craven Heritage Trust, Historic England has upgraded Airton Quaker Meeting House to Grade II* status (which applies to less than 6% of listed buildings in England). In her new book **Roots of Radicalism in the Yorkshire Dales, Airton Friends Meeting and its Antecedents**, Laurel Phillipson concludes that Airton Meeting House "was purpose-built, most probably in the first decade of the 17th century, apparently as a dissenters' meeting place". Trustee Wilf Fenten writes: "Discontent was rife, religious uncertainty abounded, there was turmoil and political tension that would soon lead to bloody civil war. Disillusioned, searching for truth, people were looking for new ways of political and religious understanding. During this time a semi-clandestine group known as Seekers emerged around Craven. They rejected existing churches and creeds as corrupt. Instead, they met in silent assemblies, often in the open air, private homes or buildings like Airton Meeting House."

Laurel's book (£8.50) is available from Airton Meeting House (books), Calton Lane, Airton BD23 4AE, or contact airtonbarn@gmail.com.



A Baptism Of Fire

Last September I wrote a piece about the Dales facing unprecedented times. Little did I know just how unprecedented things were going to get. The rather abstract, intangible emergency of the climate crisis, to which I was referring, became the very immediate emergency of the global pandemic. It is widely accepted that the two are inextricably linked, the common denominator being our ravaging of the natural environment in pursuit of energy, commodities and pleasure.

As Chair, I inherited a smooth operation: efficient, engaged and enjoyable, which was just as well given the test soon to come (cancellation of events, office closure, Ann Shadrake and Penny Lowe working from home, risk assessments, meeting via the internet). Blissfully unaware of Covid-19, trustees and volunteers mapped out the coming year. We were guided by the knowledge that the charity was to receive a substantial legacy and a survey in which our members ranked campaigning as their top priority. We consequently rebooted our mission, which was distilled into our "vision": *to be the leading voice campaigning for a sustainable future for the Dales.*

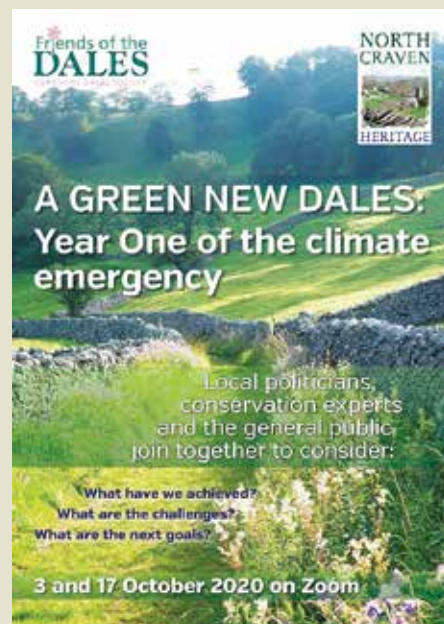
If our goal is to be the leading voice, we also aim to be an inclusive, thought-provoking and fresh voice. This found, I believe, vivid form in our very successful 150th issue of the Review: *The Youth Edition: Speaking to the Future.*

Our two "live" campaigns - plastics and verges - have faced uphill battles against entrenched default regimes of planting trees in plastic

tubes and cutting roadsides. However, undeterred, we continue to raise awareness and to be, as David Butterworth (Chief Executive, YDNPA) approvingly put it, "a pain in the backside" (another way of describing, I assume, our role as a "critical friend"). We've also, I think, been able to integrate our various pursuits – the Review, e-newsletter, walks and talks – better with our campaigns. They've been designed to be part of a wider chain of events and organisations, drawing on our policies and well publicised in the press.

Until the March lockdown we put on our usual mix of bespoke and traditional events featuring everything from native crayfish conservation to transport and supporting access to the national park for all.

Lockdown and its fallout have presented us with some unique challenges and pressures, foregrounding the impact of tourism and a potentially deregulated planning system (see the government's Planning for the Future, which Rick Cowley writes about on p14). The special qualities of the national park are under greater threat than ever before.



Unprecedented times for sure, but also unprecedented opportunities for the charity to get involved in helping to regenerate the Dales. I'm pleased, therefore, that the year ends/begins with the conference: A Green New Dales: Year One of the Climate Emergency.

The highlight of my first year is what impressed me when I first became acquainted with Friends of the Dales: the people who make up the charity, from the staff, trustees and volunteers to the members. The collective dedication and passion to campaign for the Dales gives the recovery of nature and rural communities a better and brighter future.

Bruce McLeod, chair



Please find enclosed a membership leaflet which we hope you can pass on to a friend or neighbour to help our recruitment campaign.

Alternatively you could complete the form as a gift (maybe a Christmas gift idea?).

Please feel free to photocopy the form or contact the office for more copies if required. Thank you.



Friends of the Dales, Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company and Friends of Dalesbus joined members of the Sikh and Muslim communities in Bradford to participate in the BBC TV's *Good Life* documentary (now called *Stories of Us*) at Bolton Abbey, January 2020. Photo courtesy of Paul Chattwood



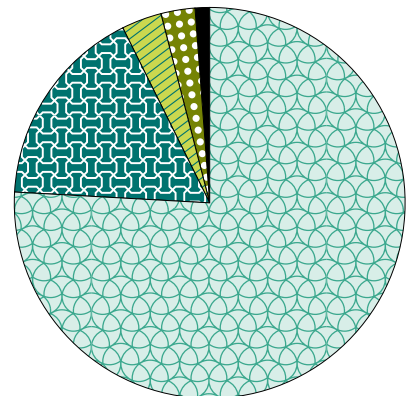


Treasurer's Report

Below is a summary of our financial position for the year 2019/20. In it I have highlighted the key elements of our finances, which can be seen more fully in the formal Annual Report and Accounts available on our website. I have also provided a more detailed breakdown of the income and expenditure than is presented in the Statutory Accounts, which I hope members will find useful.

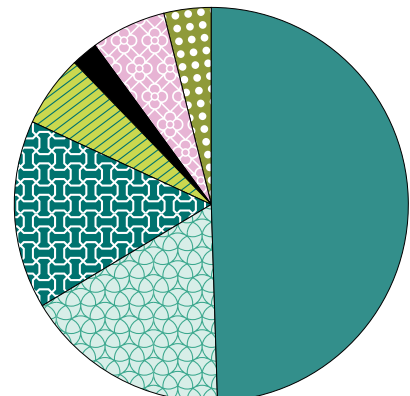
2019-2020

Unrestricted Income (Chart 1)



	76%	£139,627	Legacies
	17%	£30,877	Membership
	3%	£6,096	Donations
	3%	£5,191	Gift Aid
	1%	£2,209	Interest & Other
Total		£184,000	(2018/19 £41,576)

Unrestricted Expenditure (Chart 2)



	49%	£32,672	Staff
	17%	£11,162	Office
	15%	£10,214	Review
	6%	£3,892	Governance
	2%	£1,434	Marketing
	6%	£4,073	Subscriptions & Donations
	4%	£2,562	D&B Grant
Total		£66,009	(2018/19 £62,482)

For members less familiar with charity finances, it is important to highlight the difference between unrestricted funds (money which is available to trustees to use in the pursuit of the charity's overall objectives) and restricted funds (money which is to be used for a specified purpose within those objectives).

Income 2019-20

We received a total of £229,917 (2019 £62,805) of income during the financial year. Of this, £184,000 (2019 £41,576) was unrestricted income, a significant increase on previous years, as we benefited from a very generous legacy from the estate of member and supporter Dr John Disney, following his untimely death in 2018 - as reported in our Review issue 145. I am also pleased to report that our membership subscriptions, an important source of unrestricted funds, increased by 8.4% to £30,877. During the year, in common with other charities, council took the decision to ask contributors of restricted funds if they would be willing to contribute up to 15% to the costs of running the charity. We received £500 overhead contributions from this source in 2019/20 (included in other costs) but hope that future donors see the value of supporting the organisation in this way. General donations, Gift Aid and interest on our deposit accounts made up the balance of our unrestricted funds. (Chart 1).

The charity also received £45,917 (2019 £21,229) of restricted income, ring-fenced for specific purposes: £43,568, including a significant legacy from an anonymous donor, for our sister rural transport company, Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company (D&BCIC), and £2,349 for our continuing and successful Capturing the Past digital archiving project.

Expenditure 2019-20

Our total expenditure during the year was £93,551 (2019 £70,447). We transferred £24,438 of restricted funds to D&BCIC, and a further £3,104 was spent on Capturing the Past activities. The balance of £66,009 (2019 £62,482) was drawn from unrestricted funds and was used in support of our core objectives. This included the costs of our two part-time staff (£32,672) and the cost of our office (£11,162) – in January this year we were fortunate in securing the lease on a second office adjacent to our existing one. The design, printing and distribution of our highly successful Review cost £10,214 whilst the balance of unrestricted expenditure was on promoting the charity, governance and donations and subscriptions to other organisations, including Campaign for National Parks. We also made a grant, including Gift Aid of £2,562, to D&BCIC (Chart 2).

Overall Position

I am very pleased to report that the John Disney legacy, combined with our existing reserves, has placed the charity in a robust financial position. With unrestricted reserves of £290,793 at the end of the year, trustees have been able to consider ways in which we might expand the work of the charity. The strategy review reported in our last Review issue 151 has helped us set our priorities and determine how we can make best use of our funds. In the meantime, as well as securing additional office space, trustees have given approval to recruit a third part-time member of staff to increase our capacity to develop the work of the organisation and a short-term freelance contract to support our successful Capturing the Past project. The funds will also help us increase our visibility and expand our campaigning activities, such as our plastic tree guard and road verge campaigns.

At the end of the financial year many of our plans had to be placed on hold as a result of the pandemic. But I am pleased to say that, thanks not only to the commitment of our staff (who have maintained our operations throughout while working from home), but also to the continuing support of our members, as well as our strong financial reserves, we have so far been able to weather the storm.

Ian Harrison, Treasurer

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Support us, support the Dales

Friends of the Dales is the leading voice campaigning for a sustainable future for the Dales.

Our charity needs your support to help us protect this amazing, inspiring but fragile place - for years to come.

➔ JOIN US

- More members means more clout when we campaign. Members receive this quarterly magazine and first news of our events programme.

➔ DONATE

- Our charity's running costs are funded entirely by your voluntary subscriptions, donations and legacy gifts.

➔ VOLUNTEER

- Help with our walks and other events
- Shape our charity's future; become a Trustee
- Put out our leaflets on your home patch

➔ LEGACY

- Please consider making a gift in your will to **Friends of the Dales**.

➔ BE 'DALES-FRIENDLY'

- Try out our sociable walks and events (*most are free*)
- Support Dales businesses and communities
- Look for sustainable ways to visit, like **DalesBus**

www.friendsofthedales.org.uk

Please visit our website and follow us on social media. Full contact details and membership rates are on page 2



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LOVE...**



When you've read and enjoyed this magazine please pass it on with our regards.