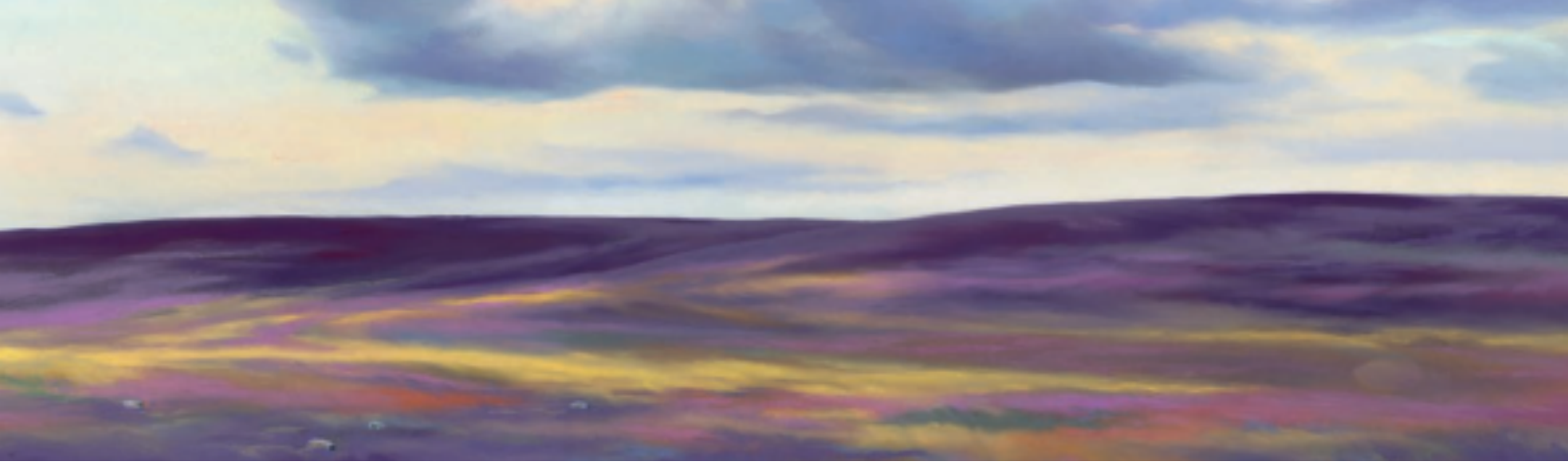


Yorkshire **DALES** review

Regeneration



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

Friends of the
DALES
YORKSHIRE DALES SOCIETY

Front Cover: In All Its Glory (Mallerstang); Heather Both Ways (Above Washburn Valley); Swaying Again (Swaledale). Paintings copyright Lucia Smith (artist), www.luciasmith.co.uk

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

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Joint (Over 60)	£450

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Helen Keep. Helen has worked within the farm conservation sector since graduating in 1995, and is now senior farm conservation officer at the YDNPA, managing the farm team and the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme. The farm team helps farmers into agri-environment schemes and delivers the Catchment Sensitive Farming initiative. **6**

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Natty Grey. Nine-year-old Natty is passionate about environmental issues at the local through to the global scale. She enjoys cycling, kayaking and walking with the family, especially if it involves her black lab pup, Pepper! **9**

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Lordships, Freehold Estates, Roods, Poles and Cattle Gaits



John Cuthbert. John was brought up in Ilkley and learned about the Dales at an early age walking throughout Wharfedale. Having retired from full-time work in education and training, he currently looks after a number of websites, all with a historical theme. **16-17**

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Village Action

Dales author David Joy responds to a challenging request by adopting a community perspective.

It was good to have advance warning from Bruce McLeod that this issue of the *Review* would be themed 'regeneration'. However, there was a sting in the tail. Would I write an article on what is vital for the Dales to be a sustainable, vibrant place?



Happy smiles from a group of Hebden haymakers, who have just finished raking the community wildflower meadow. Photo courtesy of Judith Joy

Certainly, there is no single answer at a time of so much economic and political uncertainty. Farming the land has to remain fundamental to keeping the Dales so special. Unprecedented problems in the absence of clear long-term policy were ably spelt out by Malhamdale farmer Rachael Caton in the summer *Review*. She concluded that the only way forward was 'with open minds, ready to be flexible and adaptive to whatever is coming next'.

It is all too easy to be utterly pessimistic but taking a community approach to regeneration can have untold benefits. My own village of Hebden in upper Wharfedale is now celebrating the fifth anniversary of embarking on a project that has certainly helped its wellbeing. Regeneration in a natural sense is at the heart of it, thanks to grant funding from the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. A scheme to create a community woodland on Hebden High Green received overwhelming support.

Villagers gathered on a cold, wet day in November 2017 and carefully planted a mixture of species including oak, small-leaved lime, rowan and hawthorn to suit ground conditions. Carol Douglas, the trust's Woodlands Officer, comments: 'During their first year the villagers ensured that the saplings were protected from grazing, watered during dry spells and weeded as necessary, and the trees have grown substantially. In a few more years, Hebden will have a beautiful young woodland for people to walk through and wildlife to enjoy.'

The need to be adaptive to whatever comes next took a surprising turn. As a condition of planning consent to deepen Swinden Quarry, its owner, Tarmac, agreed to set up a Natural Environment Fund to finance local projects. Hebden received a grant of over £6,000, part of which could be used to create a wildflower meadow on the High Green adjacent to the woodland. It was a definite contrast with bleak November tree-planting when volunteers gathered on a sunny June afternoon. Cut hay was enthusiastically raked into 'stoops' as a first stage of discouraging dock, nettles and other unwelcome weeds.

What has become known as the Quarry Fund is also being used to enhance Hebden Beck. Under the guidance of Professor Jonathan Grey of Lancaster Environment Centre, water quality is being improved to encourage more insects, birds and fish. Alders have been planted on

its banks and boulders will be added to create pools and shallows. In addition, bird and bat boxes have been put up around the village and a detailed survey has embraced the nest sites of house martins, swifts, swallows and spotted flycatchers.

Such has been the continuing enthusiasm that earlier this year it was agreed to set up a group to foster continuing regeneration and village improvement. Initial thoughts that it be called the Hebden Action Group raised doubts of mockery owing to its acronym, HAG. Someone might have been tempted to joke about the dictionary definition of 'hag' – an unpleasant or ugly old woman. It has instead become the Hebden Environmental Action Team (HEAT). Its lengthy list of projects ranges from development of a pond through to planting wildflowers in the three stone troughs that are a feature of the village.

There is keen support for a community orchard, encouraged by what has been achieved at Addingham by Derek Law. Over a period of more than 30 years he has transformed a field surrounding the churchyard. Once infested with nettles and brambles, it now has almost 100 trees of traditional varieties of apples, pears and plums underplanted with soft fruits such as raspberries, gooseberries and currants. Log piles have been put in place to house beetles and bugs that provide food for nesting birds essential to keep pests under control.

Derek Law set down his experiences in a beautifully illustrated small book, *The Church Orchard*, published in 2018. He concludes: 'From wilderness to what exists today has taken many years and much hard work. There have been many disappointments and some success, but now as it slowly evolves it is a wonderful place.'

As with Hebden's meadow, there has to be patience and determination. Regeneration takes many forms but it can undoubtedly help to maintain community spirit. It provides an opportunity for new residents to get involved and become part of local culture, which hopefully is one reason why they moved into the Dales. It also offers healthy exercise.

David Joy, Vice President

Thanks are due to Sheila Ely, James Ferguson and Stefan Sykes for help in the preparation of this article.



Funding Fillip for C2C

Designation of the Coast to Coast Walk as a national trail is expected to provide significant economic opportunities for businesses along the 197-mile route.

In August the government announced that Natural England will work alongside county councils and the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors national park authorities to improve the path, which is expected to open in 2025. Some of the £5.6 million funding has been set aside for a community engagement programme and to maximise the economic and health benefits for residents and businesses.

The work will also include improving accessibility for people of all abilities and high-quality signage, waymarking, path surfaces and infrastructure. Circular routes are being developed for people who wish to use the C2C as a basis for shorter walks or rides. National trail status will also entail a long-term commitment to funding local authorities to maintain the path.

The C2C is already walked in its entirety by 6,000 people a year and generates about £7 million for local economies. The new path from St Bees in Cumbria to Robin Hood's Bay is expected to closely follow the existing route.

No Levy on Silage Wrap

From 1 April 2022 producers and importers have had to pay a tax on all plastic packaging without a recyclable content of at least 30%. The £200 per tonne levy is aimed at reducing demand for landfill and incineration but after lobbying from farm unions and industry groups, silage wrap was declared exempt. Farmers can choose to pay £60 per tonne to have it collected so it can be recycled as part of an Agriculture Plastics Environment scheme.

Bog in a Box

Poems by Friends of the Dales Vice President Colin Speakman and supporter Gill Petrucci feature in the Give Peat a Chance exhibition at The Folly in Settle until Friday, 23 December 2022.

The centrepiece is a 'Bog in a Box' installation including a plant-rich square metre of peatland. The exhibition, which was previously hosted by Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes, also includes photographs of historical peat extraction loaned by the Heseltine family of Kettlewell, work by artists including Friends of the Dales member Bev Parker, Hester Cox and Ann Rutherford, and music by cellist and composer Sarah Smout.

More information at www.thefolly.org/event/give-peat-a-chance/

Membership Rates

In light of the difficult financial situation facing the country during 2022, trustees of Friends of the Dales have agreed to defer any consideration of a change to our membership rates until the next financial year. We recognise that the cost of living increase may well be affecting many of our members, and trustees very much value your continuing support during these difficult times.

Silver Anniversary Celebrations

It is now 25 years since our long-standing business member Eagle Intermedia Publishing Ltd launched its Yorkshire Dales website, which features a comprehensive list of attractions, geological features, villages and other places in and around the dales. The site is aimed at promoting the area's tourism economy and attracts visitors from around the world.

To mark the occasion, the company is offering three months' free advertising on www.yorkshire-dales.com to Friends of the Dales business members such as accommodation providers. To find out more contact internet marketing consultant Roger Poultney at info@eagle.co.uk.

It's Official

On 5 July 2022 North Yorkshire County Council formally declared a climate emergency. It is aiming to become net zero by 2030 and we welcome the inclusion of trials of different verge management regimes on rural roads among measures to further reduce its carbon footprint.

We are campaigning for regional and local authorities to adopt more nature-friendly cutting practices in order to improve biodiversity. There is growing evidence that species-rich verges also store more carbon.

The council trials will seek to improve understanding of the impact different management practices have on ecology, costs and road safety.

A Note on Access

Promoting more access to the countryside is often seen as inviting more damage. However, access has been and is severely restricted (97% of rivers and 92% of the landscape are out of bounds) and this has not prevented our rivers being filthy and the land steadily losing wildlife (the UK is ranked 189/218 in the world for biodiversity intactness). Restricted access has clearly not protected our natural world. This begs the question: who (or what) is most responsible for the damage?

Bruce McLeod, chair

In the Yorkshire Dales National Park there are 120,000 ha of open access land, about 60% by area - details can be found here: www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/things-to-do/get-outdoors/where-can-i-go/open-access.

There is also a helpful map where you can search for open access areas in England (and where closures may be in place) published by Natural England - see here: www.openaccess.naturalengland.org.uk/wps/portal/oasys/maps/MapSearch

0

the number of rivers in England that meet the Environment Agency's criteria for a healthy river

3

billion
the number of litres per day that leak from water pipes



Letters

In the summer issue of the *Review* we asked for readers' thoughts on how well the updated Countryside Code had been publicised. Here, we publish a few responses from members.

Raising Awareness of Countryside Code

Long-standing Friends of the Dales member Lynne Noble argues that more effort is needed to make visitors aware of how to behave responsibly in national parks.

'In response to your invitation to hear our thoughts on whether there should have been more marketing and financial investment in the Countryside Code (*Under the Radar, Yorkshire Dales Review* summer 2022), the answer is emphatically **Yes**.

'Freedom in between lockdowns, resulting in unprecedented numbers of new visitors, all too graphically showed the need for a concerted effort at education on countryside matters.

'Most of us are familiar with the issues about litter and dog waste but, having served as a Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority volunteer for 17 years and an HF Holidays walk leader for 16 years, I would like to highlight insufficient dog control. This impacts on ground-nesting birds and stock, particularly in the lambing season. It is a commonly held belief that, if no animals are visible, it is OK for a dog to roam free.

'Stones are removed from dry-stone walls and there is a lack of understanding that outside Open Access areas one needs to be on a right of way and should have a picnic only in direct proximity to a footpath. Other issues include using fencing for firewood, walking at the side of paths and picking meadow flowers. Portable barbeques are a fire hazard and Natural England should push hard for their sale to be banned, as it has been in Waitrose and Aldi.

'We need to take a far more proactive approach to educating the public about how to behave in the countryside, starting with our young people whilst they are in education.'

Lynne Noble



Photo courtesy of Mark Corner

From a resident's perspective...

'My husband and I are lucky enough to own a bit of land that has public footpaths running through it. We frequently come across people straying from the designated paths and even wandering on private land. It's particularly annoying when the traditional hay meadow is in flower and people seem to see nothing wrong with letting their dogs and children run around in it, flattening the flowers.

'We also have a beck running through our property right in front of the house. When the water is low, it's possible to walk quite a long way along the bed and recently we had two people in our garden, with dogs, because they had done just that. Not only that, but the man in question challenged my husband as to whether it was really private.

'I don't know what the national park authority does to promote the Countryside Code but I think it should be prominently displayed in shops etc and that all holiday accommodation should make copies available.'

Margaret Lowndes

From a farmer's perspective...

'I recently came across a farmer replacing the gate giving access to a popular path with a stile. He told me he felt compelled to do this after being abused by motorcyclists using his land. Intimidating behaviour has included threats to burn his house down and he is also worried that he could be successfully sued in the event of an accident. The new stile was broken down within days.

'His sheep are hefted to the moor but have been kept indoors to prevent them ingesting human excrement left by campers. They were also brought down to the farm to save them from distress during increased public usage of the land during lockdown.

'The new GCSE in natural history featured in the summer 2022 issue of the *Review* is to be welcomed but, as an optional subject, it is unlikely to do much to raise awareness of rural issues among young people as a whole. I am not convinced that this can be achieved by a document like the Countryside Code, which also preaches to the converted, or by assuming that increasing public access automatically leads to greater appreciation and understanding. A more holistic approach is needed, involving the media and the wider school curriculum.'

Lynn Leadbetter

Cash Injection Sparks Rural Revival

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority Senior Farm Conservation Officer Helen Keep tells how a new funding stream is kick-starting community and environmental regeneration at the same time as making agricultural businesses more resilient.

The discovery of a large colony of white-clawed crayfish by Nick Prince's ten-year-old son came as something of a surprise.



The endangered crustaceans, which have been pushed to the verge of extinction in the Yorkshire Dales, now survive in only a few isolated locations – like the beck on the family farm near

Hawes, which remains isolated from the rest of the dale's watercourses due to parts being underground. Until recently it might have been difficult to find funding for fencing it off from cattle to protect the rare species, because the existing grant schemes could have required Nick to meet criteria like planting trees on the banks – which may have had an adverse impact on the habitat.

Thankfully, he was able to apply to Farming in Protected Landscapes, a three-year programme now available in national parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. A grant of just over £10,000 enabled him to install water troughs and erect 300 metres of fencing around the beck as well as restoring derelict sheepfolds that can now be used for the first time in over 30 years. Nick is also looking to plant some trees when conditions allow and upgrade boundary walls to further limit stock access, thereby reducing erosion.

'Farming in Protected Landscapes has allowed us to access money for projects that were good to have but not essential,' he says. 'It complements our business needs without being prescriptive.'

Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) has enabled the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority to support a wide range of projects including farmer cluster groups, educational visits, paddock grazing, hedgerow and lime kiln restoration and upkeep of the iconic walls, meadows and field barns.



Nick Prince with one of the restored sheepfolds on his farm. Photo courtesy of Nick Prince

The programme encourages applications and projects that can meet one or more of four themes – climate, nature, people and place. The first outcome covers projects that work towards delivering net zero and those that provide nature-based solutions to make communities more resilient to extreme weather. The other headings embrace biodiversity enhancement; promoting wellbeing through improved access and tourism provision; and historic features, farm sustainability and diversification. Projects must also meet at least one of the Yorkshire Dales National Park management plan objectives to be eligible for funding, which can add value to, but not duplicate, existing agri-environment schemes.

The Shape of Things to Come

In the long term the government hopes that farmers leading on FiPL will become involved in the Environmental Land Management Scheme, which will replace European funding. This is based on the principle of giving support for work that benefits the public, rather than subsidising food production alone.

For example, one of the most popular grant requests has been for infield planting of trees as farmers are now seeing the sad effects of ash dieback and are wanting to prepare for the future, creating shade and landscape value.

Last year the programme issued 31 agreements, spending just over £255,000. This year, the available grant budget is set at just over £1.3 million and so far the Yorkshire Dales FiPL team has approved 26 projects, committing a £560,000 spend. Larger diversification initiatives that have taken longer to develop are now coming in to the team for consideration, mostly focusing on tourism accommodation but also on transforming current farming practices to more regenerative, soil health-based systems. These involve quite a lot of infrastructure across all pastures, including fencing, hedgerows, infield trees and water supply.

The team has also funded two exciting projects centred on the use of hill sheep fleece. Finding new markets for this by-product of the lamb industry is important when margins are tight on farms. Hawes-based Natural Dales Wool Products received £8,070 for making the fleece into felt, which is then woven into mats or large rolls. The former can be used as grip blocks for peatland restoration and the latter for suppressing weeds for tree planting projects, providing a more sustainable alternative to imported coconut fibre. A grant has just been offered to Clapham-based Glencroft for scaling up knitwear production using locally sourced wool. Both projects aim to pay the farmers more for their fleece than current market rates.*

The FiPL team is keen to hear from farmers and land managers over the next few months and would particularly like to encourage applications that will meet the people theme. Grants cover a proportion of project costs, depending on whether the recipient stands to gain commercially. For more information, support and advice, contact fipl@yorkshiredales.org.uk or telephone 0300 456 0030.

Helen Keep, Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority Senior Farm Conservation Officer

** For more detail on these projects, and others, see [Bringing Wool Back into the Fold](#) on page 8.*

For details of all projects funded in 2021-22 visit www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/park-authority/living-and-working/farming/farming-in-protected-landscapes

Piecing Together a Diverse Landscape



Vibrant wildflowers in Ashes Pasture

It's clear that we all need to consider the impact that several large-scale ecological restoration schemes will have on the landscapes of the Dales. On page 10, Ann Shadrake reports on ambitions by the Woodland Trust for its large landholding at Snaizeholme. Below she considers another scheme - Wild Ingleborough.

We've had our eye on this important project led by Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT) and Natural England (NE) for a year or two. We finally had the chance to visit in June this year on a guided tour led by Graham Standing, Living Landscape Officer for YWT, and Joe Bodycote, Nature Reserves Assistant. They were joined as co-leader by Nancy Stedman, our volunteer and returning trustee. We limited the group size to protect the fragile habitats of the three reserves we visited and used Ribbleshead Station as a convenient base. These photos showcase the stunning beauty of the landscape and habitats. Of course, we very much hope to return to see how the project evolves but if you'd like to find out more or visit for yourself, the project's website www.wildingleborough.com has a wealth of information.

As explained on that website, Wild Ingleborough is 'a multi-partner, landscape-scale conservation project creating a wilder future for this part of the Yorkshire Dales. Building on decades of work by Natural England and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, the project aims to combat the impacts of the climate crisis and aid nature's recovery across this large upland area.'



Photos courtesy of Ann Shadrake



Bird's-Eye Primrose

Imagine, if you can, that the project area is a vast 1,200-hectare 'jigsaw'. At the moment we can see important but isolated jigsaw pieces – owned or managed by the two conservation agencies. Under Wild Ingleborough management on these reserves will change so the land works differently for biodiversity, food production and climate resilience. More pieces of the jigsaw will be added by land purchase or the co-operation of neighbouring tenants. Indeed, 100 ha were recently purchased to start the linking of existing reserves.

The plan is to generate a connected mosaic of habitats with more wildflower-rich grassland (as we saw in spectacular bloom on our visit to Ashes Pasture) mixed with areas of shrub and woodland. Existing ancient woodlands, species-rich grasslands and hay meadows will be protected. Where a natural seed bank still exists and grazing pressure is reduced, new woodland may naturally regenerate right up to the montane line. Overall, wildlife will benefit from sympathetic and co-ordinated land management across the whole area of the jigsaw – powerful ambitions.

Naturally the support of local people, particularly children and young people, is essential. Some creative techniques are being used to enthuse and engage – such as the All Our Land initiative, explained on pages 14 and 15 by Philippa Troutman.

Ann Shadrake, Executive Director

Bringing Wool Back into



'From our initial gather of 571kg of raw fleece in 2021, we've lost 271kg through the scouring process and the carding and combing, which have all taken place within a 40-mile radius of Clapham,' explains Glencroft partner Edward Sexton. 'The net 300kg has now been successfully spun into two different specifications of yarn, which have been tested and which our knitters love. We are currently working on the knitwear designs to make with this yarn, as we want something that really makes the most of this local wool.'

With further funding pending from the Farming in Protected Landscapes scheme, Glencroft hopes to take the project into a second cycle, which will see it scale up to a gather of three tonnes of wool, along with an ambition to create the first 100% Yorkshire Dales tweed cloth made uniquely from the Dalesbred fleece.

Inspiration and Application

Another local artisan committed to using and celebrating one of the Dales' finest commodities is felt artist **Andrea Hunter**, who works in wool fleece from her studio at Hardraw near Hawes. Widely recognised as something of a trailblazer in the medium, thanks to her book *Creating Felt Pictures*, Andrea credits wool with a versatility that enables her to capture a sense of movement in her artworks.

The **Wensleydale Longwool Sheep Shop** in Leyburn commissions yarn from the rare breed, which is then spun, dyed and finished in Yorkshire. In addition to wool, it sells garments that can be bought off the shelf or made to order by its team of local knitters.

Natural Dales Wool Products was founded by Ruth Lindsey in early 2022 after she read in a newspaper article that fleece could not be used to restore upland areas because it is an animal by-product. At the time, large quantities of coconut fibre were being flown onto the moors above Hawes for the restoration of peat bogs while local farmers continued to be paid less than 10p per kilogramme for raw Swaledale fleece. Ruth has developed a wool felt made from 100% Swaledale washed fleece sourced from four farms in upper Wensleydale with a jute scrim. It is being trialled for tree planting, peat bog



Glencroft's Clapdale yarn.



Late lamber in felt, by Andrea Hunter

Manufacturers and artists are finding new uses for a former by-product of hill farming, writes Membership & Events Officer Victoria Benn.

From their diet of grass, water and fresh air, sheep produce a brand-new fleece every single year. Wool is also mendable, recyclable and naturally biodegradable – an outstanding eco-combination that is inspiring some hard-working pioneers to put one of the Yorkshire Dales' oldest natural resources back into the marketplace – and for more than just carpets.

Committed to using British wool and British manufacturers since it started in 1987, but thwarted by an inability to buy its own 'local' wool from the Wool Marketing Board in Bradford, **Glencroft** of Clapham took matters into its own hands, starting the Clapdale Wool project with help from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's Sustainable

Development Fund. Eighteen months on and this innovative 'farm to yarn' project now has its first commercially produced and fully traceable yarn available to buy.

The project not only uses wool sourced from within just five miles of Glencroft's warehouse, but it pays farmers more for their fleeces than they currently get from the Wool Marketing Board, with a future aim of also introducing a circular economy where 10% of profits are fed directly back to farmers. The project also uniquely uses all the breeds and cross-breeds that can be seen out on the fields around Clapham, such as Dalesbred, Teeswater, Texel, Mule and Bluefaced Leicester.

the Fold



Prototype wool log for peat restoration.



Felt pieces for retail sale.

Photos courtesy of Ruth Lindsey

restoration, weed suppression and moisture retention and sold retail in cut lengths.

The fleece is a sustainable product, paying farmers a fair price, returning carbon to the land, and with only 145 miles travelled in the manufacturing process.

Finally, although not a Yorkshire Dales-based organisation, **Woolcool**, established in 2008, has become a global player in creating insulation made not from plastic and polystyrene – but from wool. Its 100% pure wool packaging is still the only packaging of its kind that allows the transportation of temperature-sensitive goods such as food products and pharmaceuticals in an ecological and sustainable way. Although not recycled by Woolcool, the wipe-clean, wool-filled liners offer scope for being reused or recycled at a local level, such as for garden compost, pets and arts and crafts.

www.glencroftcountrywear.co.uk

www.andreahunterfocusonfelt.co.uk

www.wensleydalelongwool.co.uk

Victoria Benn,
Membership & Events Officer



Wild Flowers & Road Verges

What looks better Short, mown grass or colourful, pretty flowers? Which is better for the environment? Which is better for road safety? I think the answer is the same for all these questions... Flowers!

Living in the countryside I am annoyed by the shortage of wild flowers! Sheep, cows and horses are very good mowers. Road verges and Islands seem a perfect place for wild flowers, out of reach of hungry mouths.

However councils mow the verges because of concerns for road safety. Fair enough but if all you do is mow, mow, mow and leave the cuttings it just grows back faster and stronger and it costs more money to pay for fuel and employment. Costs the council could do without.

By letting the flowers grow throughout summer until they seed and then cutting them and removing the hay, it saves costs. The plants grow less vigorously and the grasshoppers, butterflies and bees will be happy, win, win, win! (No mow May, bloom in June, Free high July!)

We (with about Lothersdale) have been doing this. We ask the council to not mow within lane triangle near my house and I think the results speak for themselves. I helped design a sign together with lots of friends from Lothersdale School.

By Natty Grey, age 9



Wild About Lothersdale is a local community volunteer group helping to nurture nature. They were Greener Craven Community Champions in the environment award category in 2021. Natty Grey is a young volunteer with the group.

Snaizeholme A Glimpse of the Future



Photo courtesy of Ann Shadrake

Back on a sunny day in early July, trustees, staff and volunteers from Friends of the Dales and guests from Campaign for National Parks visited Widdale, a lesser-known dale southwest of Hawes in Wensleydale. We were there on a fact-finding tour hosted by Alec Pue, who works for the Woodland Trust as Site Manager North England. As we reported in the *Yorkshire Dales Review* winter 2022, the trust recently ran a successful public appeal securing millions of pounds to fund the purchase of additional land in the valley. It now owns nearly 1,400 acres. This stretches from Snaizeholme Beck up the steep flanks of rough pasture to limestone pavement and peatland on the tops.

Getting to the site by car is via a single-track road leading to very limited parking¹ near the privately owned Widdale Red Squirrel Reserve. Our visit continued on foot partly on a stony track (an Unsurfaced, Unclassified Road or UUCR) then across uneven Open Access land along the valley floor. Alec explained that improving access along the valley and up the steep fell to reach the Pennine Way above (allowing a strenuous circular route) could be in the trust's plans, but it is not a priority at this time.

At the moment its focus is on baseline surveys – essential before any work begins – whilst drawing up more detailed planting schemes prior to identifying grant sources such as the Forestry Commission and White Rose Forest². Long-term research and monitoring will be included in the plans.

The trust has big ideas for the site, not least planting one of the largest new native woodlands in England. Fifty years from now the landscape will look dramatically different. The 20 years of ecological restoration at Carrifran Wildwood³ in Scotland offers a glimpse of a possible future landscape; nearer to hand is the example from Wild Haweswater⁴, where the RSPB is working to restore 30 square km in partnership with landowner United Utilities.

Will such impactful changes be welcomed in this quiet corner of the Yorkshire Dales? Talking and listening to local people and key conservation organisations (amongst which we count ourselves) is recognised by the trust as essential to garnering public support for its plans. We'll keep you updated – and hope to arrange a guided visit next year.



Carrifran Wildwood – before landscape restoration (above, photo courtesy of Borders Forest Trust) 1999, and same view (below, photo courtesy of John Savory) in 2019.

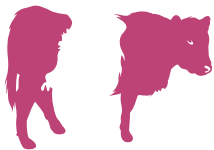




Surveys – in addition to baseline surveys needed for the Environmental Impact Assessment the trust has commissioned work to look at the colony of rare white-clawed crayfish in Snaizeholme Beck, bats and reptiles/amphibians. Breeding bird surveys, including for black grouse, are also being carried out this year. We saw few upland birds on our visit but with carefully planned habitat improvements the site could improve dramatically on that score. Other surveys are looking at ancient burial features, lime kilns and the distinctive knoll-top pine tree plantations.



Planting – following the commitment it made nationally last year, the Woodland Trust won't be using any plastic tree guards on the site. Rather the plan is to double (or thereabouts) the usual number of young trees planted to allow for natural losses. As probably the first large-scale new woodland in the Dales to be planted 'without plastic', this will be one we will watch closely. Native species of trees could include birch, aspen, alder and hawthorn, planted in patches protected by stock-proof fencing to create a mosaic of planted and open areas. Careful design will be needed as there is growing evidence⁵ that waders such as lapwing avoid nesting within 500m of small woods, even if the habitat is otherwise highly suitable – probably to avoid predation by crows or foxes.



Livestock management – Sheep grazing will be moved on in areas of planting as trees begin to be put into the ground, and hardy cattle breeds will be introduced in small numbers where they will not adversely affect tree establishment. Cattle graze differently to sheep, and this can help regenerate more diverse wildlife-rich pastures, particularly favouring ground-nesting birds.



Facilities – the trust is looking at repurposing a stone barn on the valley bottom into a contractor/research field base. This is likely to require planning permission, which we might wish to comment on.

Ann Shadrake, Executive Director

Find out about Wild Ingleborough, another large-scale landscape recovery initiative, on page 7.



Photo courtesy of Ian McPherson

¹ Local bus company Little White Bus offers a drop-off/ collection service for visits to the Widdale Red Squirrel Reserve <https://www.littlewhitebus.co.uk/red-squirrels/>

² The White Rose Forest is the largest of 13 Community Forests in England, and through a partnership provides advice, support and funding to plant trees. See <https://whiteroseforest.org/>

³ *A Journey in Landscape Restoration – Carrifran Wildwood and Beyond* (2020) Edited by Philip and Myrtle Ashmole for Forest Borders Trust. This book is highly recommended by our trustee Ian McPherson.

⁴ *Wild Fell: Fighting for Nature on a Lake District Hill Farm* (2022) Lee Schofield. Lee is the ecologist and site manager for RSPB Haweswater. See also <https://wildhaweswater.co.uk/> and Wild Haweswater Youtube channel for informative videos.

⁵ *Predation and Perceived Risk of Predation in Lapwings* (7 June 2017) Wader Tales blog by Graham Appleton, available at <https://wadertales.wordpress.com/2017/06/07/mastering-lapwing-conservation/>

For more information on the Woodland Trust's plans for its project, see www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/support-us/give/appeals/snaizeholme/



Photo courtesy of Ann Shadrake

Eyes on the Bog



Is it a moss or is it a grass? Photo courtesy of Victoria Benn

As part of our #MoorPeat peatlands campaign, we've been working alongside Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and Yorkshire Peat Partnership to train our own Eyes on the Bog volunteers to take responsibility for monitoring the condition of various peatlands across the Yorkshire Dales.

Eyes on the Bog is an International Union for Conservation of Nature low-tech, long-term monitoring initiative that is scientifically robust and repeatable. It enables individuals and small groups to review 'the state' of their local peatlands with special attention to assessing vegetation and measuring the depth and fluctuations in the water table and variations in peat quality and depth. Volunteers may choose to monitor peatlands under restoration, in which case their results will offer further evidence of the efficacy of interventions, or they may be monitoring peatlands in good condition, with this data helping us to understand how peatlands are changing through time.

This type of low-level monitoring is a vital part of peatland restoration with the data collected from our Yorkshire Dales Eyes on the Bog

peatlands being fed into the PeatDataHub hosted by Leeds University. This can be viewed at <https://peatdatahub.net/projects>

Around 80% of the 94,760 hectares of blanket bog in Yorkshire have been damaged in some way. Restoration through re-wetting, re-planting and 'slowing the flow' (ie keeping the water in the peat) is vital for wildlife and water purity and crucial for preventing the thousands of years of carbon stored in the peat being released into the atmosphere, which is what happens when peat dries out, degrades and breaks down.

The photos show some of our volunteers learning to become Eyes on the Bog peat monitors.

Victoria Benn, Membership & Events Officer



Dry sphagnum (it should be wet) Photo courtesy of Ann Shadrake



Friends of the Dales trustees Ken Humphris and Ian Harrison enjoying the lesson at Kingsdale Head.. Photo courtesy of Victoria Benn



Learning how to use a dipwell, which gives an immediate reading on the level of the water table. Photo courtesy of Victoria Benn



A helicopter dropping load after load of stone to create 'leaky dams' to slow the flow on the moorland at Kingsdale Head. Photo courtesy of Victoria Benn

The Flow: Rivers, Water and Wildness

Author: Amy-Jane Beer

Publisher: Bloomsbury www.bloomsbury.com

Price: £17.09 print, £13.29 e-book

ISBN: 9781472977397, e-book 9781472977373

In 1934 C E M Joad, celebrated author of *A Charter for Ramblers*, considered women and wild water (not to mention women wearing shorts) incompatible. The presence of women inhibited groups of men swimming naked. Professor Joad might well have shuddered at Dr Beer's irrepressible passion for immersion. She takes to water like a salmon or beaver or caddisfly or willow, all of which, among many other habitués of the nation's waterways, this wonderful compendium of a book covers. Reading *The Flow* is also an immersive experience. And Professor Joad would have applauded the wanderlust, the adventurousness, whether by kayaking, wild swimming or investigating the history of a place or a word.

From the sky's 'atmospheric river[s]' to the Rawthey in the Howgill Fells; from hydrolatry to Hell Gill in Mallerstang, the book is both panoramic and deeply personal. Beer is driven to 'grasp a bigger picture'. While exploring the River Hogsmill, which features in Millais's painting *Ophelia*, Beer writes: 'Hydrologically and historically, it is deeper and more connected than it looks.' This might apply to all her subjects of enquiry. She is out to educate, to enthuse, and to encourage us all to 'pay attention'. Beer is an eloquent advocate of greater public access to our nation's rivers and a fiery denunciator of their pollution, which she rightly sees is a consequence of 'systemic failures'. Water companies dumping sewage should be the focus of our ire rather than individuals dropping litter.

Beer describes a river as 'all intent, all progress'. This is an apt summary of *The Flow* and the future Beer envisages: the need to reclaim and restore our rivers; to treat them as commons rather than commodities, habitats rather than private property. Despite their deplorable state, Beer is an optimist about river recovery and our role in protecting them: 'All it takes for current to flow is connection - for circuits to be made.' The enjoyable energy of *The Flow* ultimately urges us to plug in.

Bruce McLeod, Chair

Friends of the Dales President Dr Amy-Jane Beer was among the panellists discussing the requirements of a healthy river at our 2022 conference, From Peat to Paddling.

The View From Here

Ingleton artist and printmaker Philippa Troutman unleashed a stream of creativity when she asked young people to explore the relationship between the upland landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales and climate change.

The All Our Land programme has been delivering workshops throughout 2022.

Participants have been drawn from local schools and were studying for GCSEs and A-levels. They also include university students from Leeds, The Hague, London and Carlisle, all returning to their homes in the Dales, and volunteers with Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, Wild Ingleborough and the national park authority.

We have had invaluable contributions to these 'creative conversations' from Sarah Wiltshire, Action on Climate Emergency (ACE) Settle and area coordinator; Tom Lord, farmer of Lower Winskill Farm, Langcliffe; Dr Cat Scott and Dr Dominick Spracklen, environmental scientists, Leeds University; Claire Hodgson,

Yorkshire Dales Our Common Cause: Our Uplands Commons Project Officer; and Ellie Parker, Wild Ingleborough Community Engagement Officer.

We hope that the resulting 'creative conversations' will generate further important reflections, discussion and action.

The All Our Land artwork can be seen at The Folly museum and gallery in Settle from Thursday 15 September to Friday 23 December. The Yorkshire Peat Partnership and ACE are exhibiting at the same time.

As artists Tony Stephenson and I introduced a mixture of methods and media for participants to choose from. All the resulting work was inspired by the landscape within which we worked; the insights and

discussions generated by all contributors to the sessions; and the thoughts and concerns and questions relating to climate change that everyone individually brought to the day.

The All Our Land groups have been fully engaged throughout, responding with care and openness to all that was being explored. They have experimented with new methods of making, taken risks with ideas, spoken honestly, questioned and listened with attention and regard for each other.

Every artwork was discussed in the making and, as one participant said, 'Once you open your eyes to nature, it really is a whole new world.'

The All Our Land artwork represented here is a small fraction of all that is being made and these ideas were still under



This image is a response to looking at, and then discussing, the presence of boundaries, walls and enclosures and thinking about the demarcation of land and sometimes of countries; what this means and how it has arisen. The work will be accompanied by text.



The carved wood is a 'work in progress', a tree within a tree. The original split wood was rotten. The emerging roots/branches/river systems are being developed session by session.



'Feet of Clay' emerged from thoughts about scale and everything of enormous value and importance that we cannot see or do not look at. We had been talking about soil. In discussion, participants looked up the meaning of 'feet of clay' and found '...a weakness or character flaw, especially in people of prominence and power'.

development. You will see that the responses of participants are varied in content and method. The exhibition at The Folly showcases all their 'creative conversations'.

When we asked participants what they wanted to say, they gave the following responses:

'I want people to appreciate nature more and learn about the importance of preserving rare and precious habitats and landscapes.'

'It is not too late and we all have the potential to change.'

'I want the messages to speak for themselves within the artwork and really say how important action is.'

'I have engaged with my creative side for the first time in ages. This has nurtured my connection to nature and affirmed my decision to search for a career in sustainability.'

All Our Land is jointly funded by Natural England and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust as part of the Wild Ingleborough initiative.

Philippa Troutman

Lower Winskill Farm Walk



These flowers were picked from farm meadows and were being embossed: printed through a press without ink so that all that was visible was where they had been, their absence. The resulting images were delicate and beautiful.

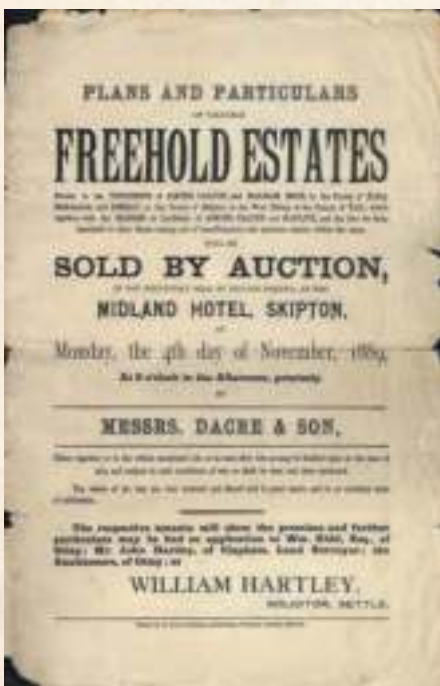


The views out to the mountains across the meadows were breathtaking. After sketching the view toward the summit of Pen-y-ghent, a participant worked into lino to reproduce this image.



The drawing of the bird contains a wealth of ideas that emerged from walking the high moorlands and learning about different approaches to land management adopted by farmers.

Lordships, Freehold Estates, Roods, Poles and Cattle Gaits



Auction Poster



Lots



Midland Hotel, Skipton. Picture courtesy of the Rowley Ellwood families

We are not just a campaigning charity, working to protect and enhance the Yorkshire Dales and encouraging everyone to value and visit this special place. We also preserve history through our community archives website. John Cuthbert, Project Leader for Capturing the Past, describes one of the contributions to this customised site.

Capturing the Past is a project dedicated to sharing historical material with a worldwide audience. The records are kept within the Yorkshire Dales Community Archives, with a wide variety of contributions. There are historical maps, documents, spoken memories, deeds and photographs. There are lists of pupils from the 19th century, articles about local churches and the history of families in the Dales. Some are from established groups, some of the collections are from individuals and some are individual items.

At present, we have over 2,900 records in the archive, so I haven't the space to show you them all. Instead, I've chosen just one record, donated by the Malhamdale Local History Group, to give an insight into the history of the Dales.

The sale of land was an opportunity for regeneration, as a change of ownership could bring in new working practices for raising livestock and growing crops.

On Monday, 4 November 1889 there was an auction of freehold estates 'At 2 o'clock in the Afternoon, precisely' at the Midland Hotel in Skipton. The auctioneers were Messrs Dacre & Son and the solicitor was William Hartley of Settle.

The Midland Hotel is now Herriots Hotel on Broughton Road, opposite the railway station.

PARTICULARS.

LOT 1.

The several **MANORS** or **LORDSHIPS** of **AIRTON, CALTON, and HANLITH**, in the **PARISH OF KIRKBY MALHAMDALE** aforesaid, with all **Seignories, Royalties, Courts, Perquisites of Court, and other Manorial Rights** therewith enjoyed. And also the several **free fee farm, leasehold, or other Rents** issuing out of hereditaments and premises within the said respective **Manors**, amounting to the annual sum of **£9 0s. 11½d.**

Lot 1 - Lordships

LOT 2.										
(NEWFIELD FARM, in the occupation of Thomas Land),										
No. on Plan.									Cultivation.	A. R. P.
1	Farm House, Garden, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		0 2 16
2	Croft behind	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	P.	1 3 11
3	Croft	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	3 0 13
4	Newfold Pasture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	56 0 10
5	High and Low Ainhalmes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	23 0 26
6	Dams Meadow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	M.	27 3 5
7	Plantation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	0 1 11
8	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	0 2 4
9	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	0 1 17
10	"	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	0 1 11
11	Hill and Milk Pasture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	P.	35 3 4
12	Plantation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	"	1 0 19
										140 3 35

Lot 2 - Acres Roods and Poles

This must be one of the earliest mentions of Dacre & Son and Hartley working together. Hartley started an auctioneer's office in Otley in the early 20th century, in direct competition with Dacre & Son. The two companies merged in 1936.

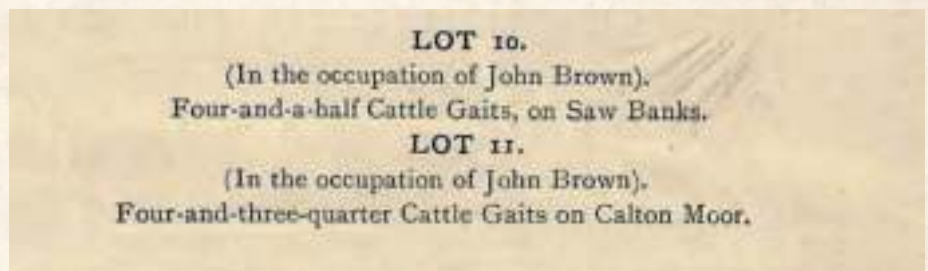
There was not just land up for auction, but also the lordships of various manors. These probably belonged to Mr Thomas Chamberlain of Halton East, who had died some years earlier. Lot 1 is described as:

'The several **MANORS** or **LORDSHIPS** of **AIRTON, CALTON, and HANLITH**, in the **PARISH OF KIRKBY MALHAMDALE** aforesaid, with all **Seignories, Royalties, Courts, Perquisites of Court, and other Manorial Rights** therewith enjoyed. And also the several **free fee farm, leasehold or other Rents** issuing out of hereditaments and premises within the said respective **Manors**, amounting to the annual sum of **£9 0s. 11½ d.**'

Further lots were each given a brief description. For example:

Dams Meadow (in Newfield Farm, in the occupation of Thomas Land) is described as being 'A.56, R.0, P.10'. In other words, Dams Meadow is 56 acres, 0 roods and 10 poles in size.

For those of you unfamiliar with such measurements, an acre is 4,840 square yards (about the size of half a football pitch), a rood is a quarter of an acre and a pole is a fortieth



Lots 10 & 11 - Cattle Gaits

of a rood. Each parcel of land is described in this way and denoted with an 'M' – meadow, or a 'P' - pasture (meadow is for mowing and making hay; pasture is for grazing animals).

Two of the lots, numbers 10 and 11, are not measured in size, but in the number of livestock the tenant is allowed to graze on open land. Lot 10 tells us that John Brown has four-and-a-half 'Cattle Gaits' on Saw Banks. Lot 11 tells us John Brown also has four-and-three-quarter 'Cattle Gaits' on Calton Moor. As a rough estimate, the right to graze 10 sheep (or 10 Sheep Gaits) is equivalent to 2½ Cattle Gaits – hence the fractions in lots 10 and 11. It's possible that John Brown, or an earlier tenant, was allocated 18 Sheep Gaits on Saw Banks and 19 Sheep Gaits on Calton Moor. Somewhere down the line this was converted to Cattle Gaits by dividing by four.

However, not everyone was happy with auctioning their property, preferring private sale instead: 'Previous to the sale Sir Mathew

Wilson, Bart., purchased by private treaty 59a. 1r. 5p., in the occupation of Mt Thomas Land, in the township of Calton (Lot 4). Mr Wm. Alcock, the owner of the property, got up at the conclusion of the sale and said he was willing to sell land to anybody privately, to pay intending purchasers 3¼ per cent on their money. He was not going to give his property away.' (*Craven Herald and Wensleydale Standard*, Friday, 8 November 1889).

Was this a typical sale of the 1890s? Does anyone have information about the owners: Thomas Chamberlain, Sir Mathew Wilson or William Alcock? Do the tenants still have family in the area? Please get in touch if you'd like to have a conversation about this record, or any of the archives.

Just send me an email at dalescommunityarchives@gmail.com

John Cuthbert,
Project Leader, Capturing the Past

www.dalescommunityarchives.org.uk

Blueprint for Future of National Park

Our Views



Keld. Photo courtesy Ann Shadrake

At the time of writing, we have just submitted our comments on the fifth consultation carried out by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority on its Local Plan for 2023-40.

We formed a small working group – Nancy Stedman, Vice Chair Wilf Fenten, Vice President Malcolm Petyt, Anthony Bradley and Executive Director Ann Shadrake – to consider the ‘preferred options’ set out in the consultation document, and Ann very ably pulled together all our comments into a coherent response. The key points are summarised here.

We largely support the core policies but want to see the Sandford Principle clearly stated – this states that when irreconcilable conflicts occur between conservation and public enjoyment, the conservation interest must take priority. We also want the duty on all utilities to have due regard for national park purposes to be reasserted.

We particularly welcome the aim that all development should result in biodiversity net gain – but we want to see these gains delivered on site, not achieved through purchasing biodiversity credits. Greater recognition needs to be given to the irreplaceability of existing habitats; these must be protected, while biodiversity uplift needs to be substantive, going beyond just a few bird or bat boxes. Development should leave the natural environment in a better state, and more resilient to the impacts of climate breakdown.

New Development

With regard to the target of 50 new dwellings per annum, we welcome the emphasis on achieving this through the hundreds of existing planning consents, and on allocated sites. We strongly support the restriction of all new housing to principal residency only: this needs to be in perpetuity.

We are pleased to see that the conversion of traditional buildings, including barns, remains within conservation policy, and that barn conversions for holiday lets will be permitted only where they are part of a farm business. But we want to see a clearly defined limit on the distance of such barns from a road, and we remain concerned about the lack of control over cumulative impacts. We call for local occupancy conditions to be relaxed only after six months, to improve the possibility of finding people with local connections. We are also concerned about permitting ‘low intensity uses’ of isolated traditional buildings, some of which can still have considerable and adverse impacts on the local landscape.

The policy to support rural land-based enterprises is supported, as is the requirement for all new recreational facilities to be supported by improved public transport. However, we are concerned about the possible impacts of what are described as ‘small scale’ developments: these include some substantial facilities such as hotels.

We are unclear about the policy to safeguard minerals, as this implies future extraction, which runs counter to the national presumption against future quarrying in national parks. But we welcome the protection to be given to dark skies, in recognition of the entire area’s designation as an International Dark Sky Reserve.

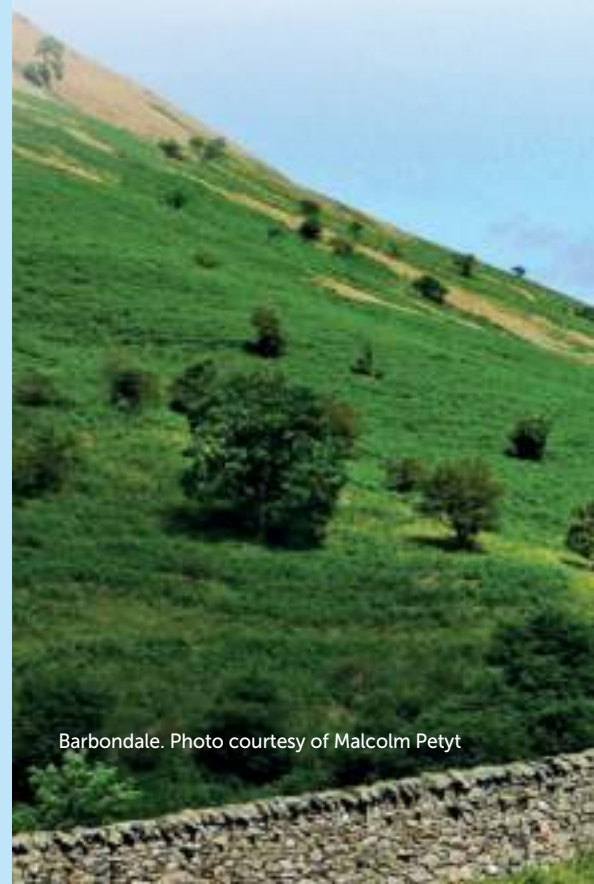
This is just a summary of many complex issues, and our full comments will soon be available on our website.

Nancy Stedman, trustee

A Great Two

From my home in Killington I look across the Lune Valley to the Middleton and Barbon Fells. When we moved here in 1999, almost all we could see over there was legally ‘no-go’ land, with only one footpath traversing the high ground. In the years since then we have gained much more freedom of access: the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (2000) provided for open access to uncultivated land such as this. (The mapping around here was completed and these provisions came into force in 2005). Then in 2016 the Yorkshire Dales National Park was extended and now includes all this area. But while we now have a legal right to roam freely over these fells, the general line of the footpath from near Barbon to Middleton Head, which I first did many years ago, is still a favourite walk.

Starting from the lovely Paley and Austin church in Barbon, I cross through parkland on a northerly heading to the farm at Eskholme, then turn right to climb increasingly steeply. I pass through the fell wall onto open moorland and pick up a grassy trod to reach the cairn on Eskholme Pike. The views are splendid and



Barbondale. Photo courtesy of Malcolm Petyt

Walk Above Lovely Dales

Friends of the Dales Vice President Malcolm Petyt takes a walk of about eight miles above remote Barbondale.

get better and better as I continue: across Lunesdale and over Bowland, to Morecambe Bay, the Lake District fells and round to the Howgills. A clear quad-bike track now leads me on a more gradual climb to the cairn on Castle Knott, from where I get my first sight of Barbondale and across to Bull Pot, Leck Fell and the world-famous caving area.

Barbondale, best seen from below, is a wonderful U-shaped valley on the line of the Dent Fault. The route of my walk today is all underlain by the older and harder rocks more typical of the Lake District, but across the dale is the vast extent of the great limestone area of the Dales. Until 2016 there was the anomalous situation of the national park boundary following that of the former county, with only the upper half of the dale having NP designation and protection. Thankfully that has now been put right.



Eskholme Pike & Lunesdale.
Photo courtesy of Malcolm Petyt

A Spectacular Viewpoint

Skylarks have been my company and are still singing continually as I drop to a marshy section and then start a final steady climb. Ingleborough comes into sight on my right as I approach the trig point on Calf Top - a 'new mountain'. (In 2016 improved survey techniques proved that it is just over 600 metres (2,000 feet) in height and so qualifies as a mountain.) The term 'panorama' is often loosely used for a wide view, but from Calf Top the view really is all-round and exhilarating.

Near the summit a fence appears on the right; it then gives way to a wall, which is my guide for much of the rest of my route. There is still a fair way to go, but most of it is now downhill and the changing views up and down Dentdale, and across to Wild Boar Fell, the Howgills, Sedbergh and the Lune Gorge are magnificent.

Sometimes I would continue near the wall and over some quite steep slopes to reach the trig point on Holme Fell, but today I take one of the tracks down to my left. There are several of these, but the general direction is obvious, and after crossing a number of fords I see ahead the buildings of the former farm at Fellside (now converted into two large luxury houses). From there I drop down the access road to end my walk at the A683 near Middleton Head. A great day.

Getting there

At one time people could have done this walk between two stations on the Ingleton-Tebay railway: Barbon and Middleton-on-Lune. Sadly, the line was closed in the 1950s and there is now no regular public transport through Lunesdale. So to do this walk means being taken to Barbon and collected at Middleton, or almost doubling the distance by using the bridleways and footpaths down the Lune Valley, which enable you to get back to Barbon without having to walk the A683 main road.

Malcolm Petyt, Vice President





Would you like to be more involved in the charity's activities?

Our committees are a mixture of trustees and member volunteers. We aim for a wide spread of experience and knowledge. Time commitment is around one to two days per month. Topics are discussed by email, in small task groups and at quarterly meetings usually held near our office in Gargrave. We currently have the following opportunities:

Policy & Planning Committee (quarterly meetings usually on Wednesday mornings) – one new volunteer with a knowledge of biodiversity or planning or environmental expertise.

Events, Communication & Membership Committee (quarterly meetings usually on Tuesday mornings) – two or three new volunteers with an interest in marketing, media or helping with events.

AGM Blends Old with New

With our September AGM being held for the first time as a combined in-person and online event, my confident expectation as I write this in early September is that all will go smoothly on the day – technology and Covid permitting. We are hopeful that the AGM will confirm recommendations from Council and thus elect trustees; approve the Annual Report & Accounts; and approve updates to the Company's Rules. On that assumption, we introduce two new trustees at the start of their three-year terms.

Ann Shadrake, Executive Director

Opportunity To Take Key Role

Our current Chair, Dr Bruce McLeod, has indicated his intention to step down at the 2023 AGM after four highly successful years. Our trustees would very much welcome expressions of interest to be considered for this important and rewarding role. Bruce and other trustees are very happy to support a new person over the coming months to help them get an insight into how the charity works; meet fellow trustees, staff and volunteers; and find out more about what the role can mean in practice.

We are keen to bring in an active person, who is passionate about the countryside, ideally the Dales, to work with our committed and supportive team. You don't need to be a current member of Friends of the Dales (although you would be asked to join in due course) and you are welcome to contact us for an informal chat about what's involved.

Below Bruce shares his thoughts on what the role has meant for him, and the rewards it brings.

'Chairing Friends of the Dales means working closely with a superb team of staff and volunteers: to be immersed in the most pressing issues of the day and in the Dales, making connections and contacts, being enthused and inspired by members and colleagues, developing one's own interests and being focussed on making a difference. For me it has been hugely satisfying: challenging, a privilege and, most of all, a pleasure.'

If you, or someone you know, would like to find out more about the role of Chair, please contact either Bruce or Ann by email, to set up a chat by phone, Zoom or in person. Any and all questions are welcome.

Bruce McLeod, Chair, bruce.mcleod@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Ann Shadrake, Executive Director, ann.shadrake@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Rachael Caton

A graduate of Manchester University (BSc (Hons) Biology), Rachael pursued a career with Yorkshire Water, ultimately taking on the role of operations manager. Since having children, she has taken a more active role in the farm business she runs together with her husband – a beef and sheep farm in Malhamdale. Rachael brings to her role as trustee a wealth of knowledge around the financial and business aspects of farming, including farm diversification. Especially important is her insight into the future for national park farmers through new support options such as Farming in Protected Landscapes and her involvement in Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs workshops, which are helping to shape new agricultural schemes. Rachael is active in her local community – particularly in promotion of Malham Show, the Young Farmers' Club, a junior cricket team and as chair of governors for two primary schools.

Nancy Stedman

Originally training as a landscape architect, Nancy has an extensive professional background including with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) and Natural England. Nancy has followed a parallel career in visual art and arts development, whilst maintaining her interest in landscape matters. Notably she worked on defining the national character areas in Yorkshire and teaching on Sheffield University's MA in Landscape. For 10 years Nancy was a Secretary of State-appointed member of YDNPA. Nancy was a trustee for Friends of the Dales from 2015 until the end of her six-year term in 2021. During that time she helped to set up and oversee Capturing the Past, our digital archive project, and was actively involved on our policy & planning committee, undertaking important work including the Local Plan, planning applications and monitoring the barn conservation policy. Nancy has maintained these roles as a volunteer and chose to return as a trustee at this year's AGM.



Treasurer's Report 2021/22

Below is a summary of our financial position for the year 2021/22. 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.

For members less familiar with charity finances, it is important to highlight the difference between *unrestricted funds* (money which is available to trustees 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 2021-2022

We received a total of £221,011 (2020/21 £101,816) of income during the financial year. Of this, £217,117 (2020/21 £93,551) was unrestricted income and £3,894 (2020/21 £8,265) restricted. The increase in income compared to the previous year was attributable primarily to the receipt of significant legacy income in 2021/22.

A breakdown of our unrestricted income by source is shown in Chart 1. Although membership income initially held up well during the pandemic, we saw a slight decline during the financial year as individual membership income fell by 4.7% to £27,331 (2020/21 £28,696), whilst business membership showed a small increase of £268 to £908. Thanks largely to a single donation of £5,000, our unrestricted donations increased to £7,498 (2020/21 £1,925). Highlighting its importance to the charity, we received a total of £172,151 legacy income (2020/21 £32,396), which included the final tranche from the estate of Dr John Disney and generous legacies from the estates of long-standing members Mr Alan Sutcliffe and Miss Winifred Joyce Graham. Additional unrestricted income included Gift Aid of £5,755.

The charity received restricted donations totalling £3,000 (2020/21 £5,912) for the benefit of our sister rural transport organisation, Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company (D&BCIC), and the final tranche of Heritage Lottery Funding of £643 (2020/21 £2,354) for the Capturing the Past (CTP) project.

Expenditure 2021-2022

Our total expenditure during the year was £95,930 (2020/21 £79,659), which included a draw-down of restricted funds for Capturing the Past of £2,816. The balance of £93,114 (2020/21 £71,894) was drawn from unrestricted funds and was used in support of our core objectives (Chart 2). The increase in costs was driven mainly by the recruitment of a part-time Membership & Events Officer (MEO) in April 2021, bringing staff costs to a total of £54,741 (2020/21 £33,591). Other major items of expenditure included £14,025 (2020/21 £12,841) for the production of the quarterly *Review*, office costs of £19,930, which included an upgrade of some computer equipment (2020/21 £13,959), and a grant to D&BCIC of £2,000. The balance of the expenditure was on governance costs and donations/subscriptions to third parties.

Overall Position

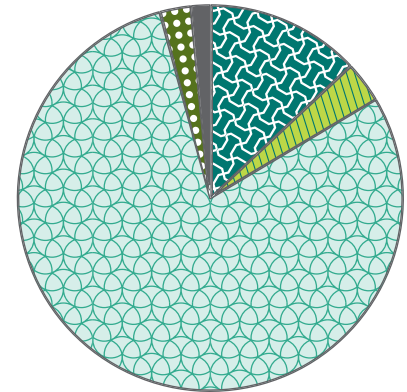
I am pleased to report that, despite the challenges of the previous two years and largely thanks to generous legacies that have been granted to the charity, the organisation remains in a robust financial position. During the year we had a net operating surplus of unrestricted funds of £124,003 (2020/21 £21,657), bringing total unrestricted reserves to £436,453 (2020/21 £312,450). Trustees continue to explore how we may make best use of these funds in support of our objectives. Plans currently include strengthening our three campaigns, providing financial support to D&BCIC, converting our fixed-term MEO role into a permanent position and expanding and extending the successful CTP project.

Our year-end restricted funds balance was £33,251 for D&BCIC which, at its request, will be released in tranches over the next five years, and £2,730 for the CTP project.

Ian Harrison, Treasurer

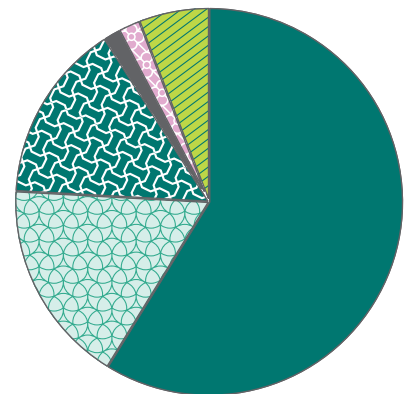
2021/2022

Unrestricted Income (Chart 1)



	13%	£28,239	Membership
	3%	£7,498	Donations
	79%	£172,151	Legacies
	3%	£5,755	Gift Aid
	2%	£3,474	Other
Total		£217,117	(2020/21 £93,551)

Unrestricted Expenditure (Chart 2)



	59%	£54,741	Staff
	17%	£19,930	Office
	15%	£14,025	Review
	1%	£1,284	Marketing
	2%	£1,685	Subscriptions & Donations
	6%	£5,467	Governance & Other
Total		£93,114	(2020/21 £71,894)

Book Review

The Stream Invites Us to Follow

Exploring the Eden from Source to Sea



Author: Dick Capel

Publisher: Saraband www.saraband.net

Price: £9.99 print,
£5.99 ebook

ISBN: print: 9781912235841
ebook: 9781912235858

This is a fascinating meander along the River Eden, starting at its source in the magnificent Mallerstang valley in the Yorkshire Dales national park, continuing past the limestone landscape of the Orton Fells, then meandering through the wide and lush dairy-dominated valley to the Solway Firth.

Dick draws upon his extensive experience of working for the East Cumbria Countryside Project management team where, devising 'Discover Eden' walks, he gained an intimate knowledge of the area. It's a thoughtful and observant account of the river's journey, full of intriguing snippets of history, local myths and sightings of wildlife, as well as comments on land management and conservation issues, as one might expect from someone of his background. But then there are also some intriguing asides; I was particularly taken by his description of why he likes jazz.

There are revealing insights into how he set up and supervised the art commissions along the river, as well as how he worked closely with Andy Goldsworthy to achieve

his series of pinfolds. I've worked as a public art project manager myself so I can vouch for the complexity of issues and range of contacts – landowners, planning authorities, government agencies, structural engineers, funders etc – that you have to work with. Under Dick's direction, a series of artworks created by talented artists has been achieved, artworks that respond to their locations and are well executed – testimony to his ability to work with people of all backgrounds, encouraging, persuading and gently directing.

The tone of the book reflects the author – perceptive, thoughtful, modest about his achievements but with a streak of obstinacy: always sticking to his principles and challenging human-centric attitudes. It is a delight to follow him as he traces this little-known river from upland source to the Irish Sea.

Shortlisted for the Lakeland Book of the Year 2021, the Striding Edge Prize for Landscapes and Traditions

Nancy Stedman, trustee

Film Review

DARK WATERS

Dark Waters is a film about the chemical contamination of an entire town by the American conglomerate DuPont. In this shocking true story, the main character, lawyer Rob Bilott, uncovers the murky truth about the toxicity of the local water network and attempts to find justice despite the corruption concealing the true cause of various health issues affecting the town. The fact that it is historically accurate makes the devastating events even more unsettling. In the end we are left with a selection of bitter statistics, reminding viewers that 99% of people in the world have blood contaminated by the chemical compound C-8, which, for those who have seen the film, is a haunting note to be left on.

The titular idea of the film is the pollution of water but that's not the only thing the film explores: it is also an agonising portrayal of the blatant corruption that society is often victim to and the dangerous power that companies such as DuPont hold over people. It is scary because it isn't trying to show this in a satirical or fictional manner: it is merely portraying a true event, which poses the worrying thought that it could ultimately happen again, if it isn't already...



A catastrophic example of river pollution is depicted in the film, but what makes it exceptionally shocking is the intelligence DuPont had. It knew exactly what it was doing, and this shows that the problem wasn't a lack of knowledge but a drive for profits by a small group of powerful people at the expense of the health of an entire community. Another alarming fact is that the story begins in the 1990s and ends in the relatively recent 2010s, further evidence of the urgency of the movie.

Beatrice Benn, Year 11 pupil at Skipton Girls' High School



Booking for our events is easy. Either email our Membership & Events Officer, Victoria Benn, at victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk or add your booking request to our **contact form** on the home page of our website, www.friendsofthedales.org.uk.

Events Planner - Autumn and Early Winter 2022

Walk Event: Wild Ingleborough

Thursday, 6 October 2022

10:00am – 4:00pm

Building on her September talk, Ellie Parker, Community Engagement Officer for the Wild Ingleborough project, will lead a walk around Ingleborough up to Park Fell, bringing to life the different features of the landscape that have been shaped by humans and offering insight into different wildlife habitats, why they're there and which species they benefit. She will also point out some of the areas the project has been developing. This is a full day's walking over moderate and steep terrain. No dogs except RAD.

This guided walk is free for all to join.
Booking essential - to book your place email victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Digital Talk: Plastic-Free Woodlands

Wednesday, 19 October 2022

4:30pm

Fifty million trees must be planted each year to counteract Britain's contribution to climate change. Trees often need protecting from grazing animals or harsh weather conditions to become established. However, without radical changes to the way we plant them, 1.5 billion plastic tubes may end up littering the environment and damaging ecosystems by 2050.

Mike Appleton, Plastic Free Woodlands Project Officer for Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, will talk about its ongoing project to break our reliance on plastic and find sustainable alternatives for woodland creation with support from Mark Corner, a Vice President and former Chair of Friends of the Dales.

This talk is free for all: to book your place email victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Catch up via E News

Sign up to our free monthly e-news and be one of the first to hear our news, new event listings and information about hands-on volunteering opportunities arranged by Friends of the Dales and other environmental charities. Sign up at: www.friendsofthedales.org.uk

You can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



Walk Event: Barns, Meadows and Lead Mining in Swaledale

Wednesday, 9 November 2022

10:00am – 4:00pm

Join trustee Ian Harrison for a seven-mile walk through Swaledale. Starting and finishing in Muker, this walk takes in some of the region's best-preserved field barns along with geological features, lead mining industry remains and examples of traditional hay meadows. The walk will also incorporate a stop at Keld Village Hall's 'honesty café' for those wishing to enjoy some well-earned tea and cake. This is a mainly moderate walk with some undulating, uneven ground, a few narrow stiles and some short stretches of road walking.

This walk is free for all, but booking is essential as numbers are limited. To secure your place email victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Digital Talk: Rural Bus Services in the 21st Century – Challenges and Opportunities

Wednesday, 16 November 2022

4:30pm

Trustee Kevin Armstrong, a director of Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company (DalesBus) (the social enterprise set up and supported by our charity), will talk about how it came into being and the challenges and opportunities facing rural bus services at a time of funding cuts, fuel price rises and a need for improvements in 'greener' travel.

This talk is free for all: to book your place email victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Digital Talk: Capturing the Past

Wednesday, 7 December 2022

4:30pm

Join John Cuthbert, Project Leader of Capturing the Past, our long-term community archive project set up as part of the Stories in Stone initiative supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. John will talk about the origins of the project, giving an overview of the archives it now contains as well as insight into some stories, photographs and documents with a slant to a 'winter theme'.

This talk is free for all: to book your place email victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk

For details of our January talk and other forthcoming 2023 events see the winter edition of the *Yorkshire Dales Review*. Please note our guided walks will resume in March.

We are pleased to promote the following event:

Traditional Dales Music and Dance Afternoon

Sunday, 20 November 2022

2:00pm – 5:30pm

Join our friends, the Dales Dance and Tunes Project (Dales Countryside Museum) and popular Yorkshire Dales ceilidh band Buttered Peas, for an afternoon of live folk music and dancing at Kettlewell Village Hall. Timed to coincide with the 72 and 874/5 DalesBus (www.dalesbus.org) bus service from Skipton, this lively event featuring a licensed bar and tea and cakes in the interval is suitable for families, couples and singles. Expert callers Sue and Pete Coe will make sure that everyone feels welcome with guidance through the moves.

Tickets are £8.50 in advance from Grassington Hub www.grassingtonhub.com or enquiries@grassingtonhub.com or £10 on the door. Entry is free for young people aged 18 and under.

Catch up on YouTube

If you missed one of our talks first time round, you can now watch them on YouTube.

Look out for our page and subscribe to be notified of all the latest videos.

Our YouTube channel now hosts 11 videos on a wide range of environmental subjects gleaned from our successful digital talks programme. For those that prefer tuning into sound and vision, it's the perfect place to find out more about our Living Verges campaign, the plight of our decimated peatlands and what's been done to restore them, walking in the Orton fells and around Crummackdale and the work of the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust – amongst several other subjects. We post updates about new video uploads on our social media pages or you can subscribe to the channel to be notified. Visit www.youtube.com and search for Friends of the Dales.



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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.