

## ABOUT THE AUTHORS

**Beth Andrews** is a geologist with an interest in industrial archaeology. She worked as Geodiversity and Heritage Officer with the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust and was Chair of the Tees Valley RIGS (Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites) Group for 8 years.

**Sharon Artley** taught at Caedmon School in Whitby for 23 years. When a replica of Caedmon's Cross was erected in the school grounds, she researched how the original Cross came into being and learned Caedmon's hymn in Anglo-Saxon. Since 2018 Sharon has been the principal editor of NYMA's quarterly magazine 'Voice of the Moors'.

**Fiona Barnard** is a life-long history enthusiast whose interest in the Scoresbys was sparked when she moved to Whitby. She has been working on the Scoresby collection in Whitby Museum since 2009.

**Ian Carstairs** has wide experience of conservation of the natural, cultural and built heritage, charity trusteeships, community action and campaigning. Starting his countryside 'career' as Assistant Director of the Moors Centre, he has also been a Secretary of State's Board member and a deputy-chair of the North York Moors National Park Authority; Chairman of the Heritage Lottery Fund's Yorkshire and the Humber grant committee; and is President of NYMA. A competent photographer, he loves the moorland landscape and the night sky.

**Michael Chaloner** is a retired Industrial Chemist and treasurer of Northallerton and District Local History Society. These are linked by an interest in the alum industry of North Yorkshire, the beginning of Britain's chemical industry, and links to his family, which developed the first alum mines in England.

**Linda Chambers** was instrumental in starting the Rosedale History Society in 2008 and since then has been working to collect and make available the growing archive of the area's varied local and industrial history. Involvement in several history-based projects including the 'Lord of Iron' programme has enabled her to gain invaluable insight into the diversity and historical importance of the wider area.

**Janet Cochrane** has had a life-long interest in wild places, especially in experiencing them from the back of a horse. Her career has principally been spent in the travel industry and academia, with a particular interest in resilient tourism systems in national parks and other rural areas, and including 12 years as Senior Research Fellow in Responsible Tourism Management at Leeds Beckett University. She became Secretary of NYMA in 2015.

**Albert Elliot** has been an advocate of the North Yorkshire Moors ever since visiting the beautiful moorland, dale, and coastal areas on a solo cycling holiday as a teenager in 1956. He returned time after time, cycling, hiking and rock climbing, often staying at youth hostels where he made many lifelong friends. He developed an abiding interest in the area's history, social and cultural folklore, and now resides within the National Park. He was editor of NYMA's quarterly magazine 'Voice of the Moors' for 9 years until 2018.

**Jane Ellis** has a lifelong passion for the North York Moors and has been researching and photographing their curiosities for many years, with particular reference to the industrial history of the region. She is a volunteer at Robin Hood's Bay Museum and an active member of several Yorkshire cultural and natural history societies and walking groups.

**Sheila Gendle-Clarke and Ray Clarke** have spent a number of years researching their family trees. When they moved to Scarborough in 2009 they discovered that Sheila's late brother-in-law, Frank Graham, was a great-great-great-nephew of Henry Freeman.

**Ann Glass** was born in East Yorkshire and spent childhood weekends and holidays in the North York Moors. Since the 1990s she has spent increasing amounts of time there with her family. She now enjoys the Moors every day, living in and conducting her legal practice from Rosedale.

**Adrian Leaman** has a lifelong interest in landscape and vernacular buildings. His professional life has been concerned with studying how people use buildings and with helping designers and managers improve building performance for the occupants.

**Rita Leaman** is a psychotherapist and writer who lives in North Yorkshire. As Alison R. Russell, she is the author of 'Are You Chasing Rainbows?' ([www.chasingrainbows.org.uk](http://www.chasingrainbows.org.uk)) and writes a blog on emotional health. Her work focusses particularly on emotional needs that are unmet and needs met unhealthily; this is why she responded favourably to the Camphill Trust, where the clients' needs are met well.

**Shirley Learoyd** was born within sight of the White Horse, in the School House in Coxwold, and has had a continuing love of and interest in the area ever since.

**Carolyn Moore** has enjoyed years of visiting and now living in the North York Moors. She has a particular interest in Captain James Cook, having grown up in his birthplace village and visiting his monument on Easby Moor regularly for the past 50 years.

**Sue Morton** is an architectural and landscape painter based near Whitby and a member of the Whitby Art Society. In 2013 RNLI Cromer asked the Society to create a mosaic of 64 paintings depicting the 1914 wreck and rescue of HMHS Rohilla. This became part of an acclaimed national travelling exhibition (2014-2019) entitled 'Hope in the Great War'.

**Louise Mudd** is a busy working mother of two, whose involvement in local history began when she took over the role of secretary of the Kirkbymoorside History Group. Her particular interest is in researching and bringing back to life the forgotten stories linked to local places and families.

**Tamsyn Naylor**'s interest in the history of the Esk Valley was sparked by members of the Cleveland Mining Heritage Society. Living surrounded by such a rich heritage and working for the steam railway at Grosmont meant she was ideally placed to get involved with the National Park's 'This Exploited Land of Iron' project, as well as contributing articles on a variety of topics in local magazines such as 'Esk Valley News'.

**Adele Pennington** was born with a spirit of adventure. Climbing Mount Snowdon at the age of 8 sparked a dream to reach the world's highest mountain. While studying for a PhD at York University she became a member of the Scarborough and District Mountain Rescue Team and spent all her free time climbing. She eventually gave up teaching to concentrate on outdoor pursuits, and now runs her own mountaineering company.

**Andrew Scott** has been a North Yorkshire Moors Railway volunteer since its inception nearly 50 years ago. Having retired from his role as Director of the National Railway Museum in 2010, he now devotes much of his time to the NYMR and to the National Park, of which he is a Board Member.

**Mike Shaw** is curator of the Sutcliffe collection of photographs and owner of the Sutcliffe Gallery in Whitby, where many of them are displayed. He has published several compilations of Frank Meadow Sutcliffe's photos.

**Steve Sherlock** has been a professional archaeologist working in Northeast Yorkshire since the 1970s. His research interests are wide although he has specialised in the Iron Age through to the Anglo-Saxon period. His present research is focused on the landscape around Loftus, on the Yorkshire Coast.

**Colin Speakman** is best known for his writing about the Yorkshire Dales, but is also a recognised poet and authority on rural transport and sustainable tourism. He has had a long-standing interest in Wordsworth, the first great English Romantic walker-poet, and Herbert Read as a poet, art critic and philosopher.

**Fleur Speakman's** interest in the Gothic and horror novel genre was kindled originally by a university course, emphasising psychological and sociological insights. An abiding interest in landscape and the historic past have featured prominently in a career of teaching, editorial work and consultancy in sustainable and heritage tourism.

**Alan Staniforth** was an Information Officer and Heritage Coast Ranger in the North York Moors National Park for 30 years. William Smith has been a life-long hero of his, not least because of Smith's humble background and his long fight for recognition.

**Brian Walker** was raised in Scarborough and joined the Forestry Commission in 1976, working in the North Pennines until returning to North Yorkshire in 1994 to manage recreation, access and the environment in the Commission's Yorkshire forests. Since retiring in 2010 Brian has been active in Scarborough Field Naturalists and is a member of the National Park's team of volunteers.

**Patrick Wildgust** took over in 2002 as curator of Shandy Hall and he and his partner Chris Pearson are lucky enough to live there. Between them they have built up the educational side of the Laurence Sterne Trust and manage both the house and the two-acre garden.

**Carol Wilson** has a keen interest in local history. After retiring as a head-teacher she went on to take a Masters' degree in medieval studies at the University of York, to research the village of Westerdale, and to write the history of Castleton School.

**Mike Windle** has a lifelong fascination for our planet. As a geologist he has spent the last 30 years sharing his passion through practical conservation, as director of two geology trusts and as an educator with his Geonaut programme. Lewis Hunton is one of his scientific heroes.

**Elaine Wisdom** lives on the edge of the North Yorkshire Moors and the coast. Both are ancient habitats for human life, from the neolithic through industrialisation to the present day. She enjoys engaging with that sense of lived continuity within the rugged panorama of both moors and sea, through her voluntary work with Ryedale Folk Museum and with the NYMA walking group.

**Peter Woods** studied Geology at Cambridge University in the 1950s, and after working in Africa moved to Yorkshire to help develop the new potash mine at Boulby. At the age of 50 he did an MSc in Forestry and Wildlife Habitat Management and then worked as an environmental management consultant. He was involved in raising the Millennium Stone while Secretary of NYMA in 2000.

## USEFUL ADDRESSES

North Yorkshire Moors Association (NYMA)  
4 Station Road  
Castleton  
Whitby  
North Yorkshire YO21 2EG  
<https://www.north-yorkshire-moors.org.uk/>  
(Please note that NYMA does not have  
premises open to the public)

North York Moors National Park Authority  
The Old Vicarage  
Bondgate  
Helmsley  
North Yorkshire YO62 5BP  
<http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/>

Sutton Bank National Park Centre  
Sutton Bank  
Thirsk  
North Yorkshire YO7 2EH

The Moors National Park Centre  
Lodge Lane  
Danby  
Whitby  
North Yorkshire YO21 2NB

Campaign for National Parks  
Europoint House  
5 Lavington Street  
London SE1 ONZ  
<https://www.cnp.org.uk>



## ABOUT THE NORTH YORKSHIRE MOORS ASSOCIATION

NYMA is dedicated to safeguarding the landscape and culture of the North York Moors National Park and surrounding areas. It supports development which respects the special character of the Moors while taking account of the needs of residents, working communities and visitors.

If you care about and enjoy this spectacular moorland landscape and coast, why not become a member?

Find out more about our work, campaigns, publications, walks and events at:

<https://www.north-yorkshire-moors.org.uk/>

Information and free downloads about The History Tree project,  
including the learning pack, can also be found on our website.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The contributions of at least 40 people have made this publication possible, not least the 30 authors who have researched and written the topics which form the main body of the book.

Amongst these, principal thanks must go to Albert Elliot who, as a stalwart of the North Yorkshire Moors Association over many years and a long-term resident of the National Park, identified the opportunity to commemorate the copper beech tree at Danby Lodge after it was felled in 2007. It was he who master-minded the design and installation of the History Tree plate which serves both as a point of interest at the National Park's Moors Centre and as a recurring motif in our book.

We are also hugely grateful for the creative insights and many hours of work that NYMA President Ian Carstairs has put into supporting the production of this volume, helping with the photographs, urging the team forward when spirits were flagging, and drawing together the final strands of the various elements of the book.

It is certain that without the quiet dedication to high standards and speedy working of our designer, Ian Dashper, the book would not have reached the quality that it has.

Other essential support for the project has come from Carolyn Moore, who led on producing the educational materials which complement the book, and Brian Pearce, NYMA's Treasurer, who has helped to ensure that the project achieved its aims within the grants awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Land of Iron project.

Special thanks are also due to Whitby Museum, The Rotunda Museum, Ryedale Folk Museum, and Robert Thompson's, Kilburn whose staff cheerfully accommodated at short notice requests to photograph exhibits in their collections.

## PHOTOGRAPHS AND ILLUSTRATIONS

Credits are listed in alphabetical order of ownership. On pages with multiple images the acknowledgements refer to them by Roman numeral, clockwise from top left (reference numbers are not shown with the individual images). The contributors directly involved all gifted use of their material free of charge to NYMA for this publication.

By courtesy of Emma Beeforth: 97(i-ii); Phil Brown: title page; William Wordsworth by William Shuter ©The Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections, Cornell University: 14(ii); Debra Decloux: 49(ii); Dorman Museum: 67(i); Tim Dunn: 49(iii); Albert Elliot: 7,19(iv),back cover; William Smith by Hugues Fourau ©The Geological Society: 32(i); R.J. Hammerton after a photograph by Whitby Wallis; North York Moors National Park Authority: 13; 5; Raymond Hayes Collection/Ryedale Folk Museum: 97(iii); Mike Kipling: ©front cover; Neil Mitchell – APS(UK)/Carstairs Countryside Trust: 85; Captain James Cook by Nathaniel Dance ©National Maritime Museum: 25(ii); Sir Herbert Read ©National Portrait Gallery: 121(ii); Sir George Cayley by Henry Perront Briggs ©National Portrait Gallery: 44(ii); Adele Pennington: 104(i); Alan Staniforth: 14(i),(v),26(iii),37(i)(iv),43(i),49(iv),62(i),68(ii),73(iii),74(ii),80(ii),91(i-iii),110; Steve Sherlock/Kirkleatham Museum: 133; The Sutcliffe Gallery: 79,92(i-iv); Robert Thompson's Craftsmen Ltd.: 62(ii); Whitby Museum: 26(ii); by courtesy of Vicky Whitfield: 97(iv-v). All other modern photographs: Ian Carstairs. We were unable to find sources for certain historic images.



# THE HISTORY TREE

This stump is all that remains of a once majestic copper beech tree. The iconic tree was planted circa 1800 and flourished here for over 200 years, living through the reigns of nine British monarchs. For over two centuries the tree was mute witness to great change and many events occurred during this period that are an important legacy of the rich culture and social heritage of the North York Moors and adjacent areas. A varied selection of these historical events has been chosen to feature on this plate.

Positions of the event dates on the plate have been calculated from the annual growth rings showing on the face of the ancient tree stump.



Trees are living landmarks, a link with the past and a symbol of hope for the future. They grow larger and live longer than anything else on earth. They adorn our landscapes, contribute to a healthy and sustainable environment, provide a haven for wildlife, and are a valuable natural resource. Trees enrich our lives, bring us closer to nature, and are vital to the future survival of mankind.

*"If a tree dies, plant another in its place."*

Linnaeus 1707 - 1778