

VOICE OF THE MOORS

NYMA - PROTECTING THE NORTH YORKSHIRE MOORS
FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS



THE MAGAZINE OF
THE NORTH YORKSHIRE
MOORS ASSOCIATION
(NYMA)

ISSUE 138
WINTER 2019

£2.75



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Voice of the Moors Editor

Sharon Artley
Please email articles/letters/photos to:
editor@nyma.org.uk - 01287 660470

Design

Basement Press - 01947 897945
www.basementpress.com

Printed on paper made from sustainable and traceable raw material sources.

Articles appearing in Voice of the Moors convey the authors' personal views, beliefs and opinions and are not necessarily those of the North Yorkshire Moors Association.

CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

THE STATE OF NATURE

There is an unfolding realisation that all is not well in the natural world. Apart from a significant loss of wildlife habitat and other problems, there is also an encroaching threat from a changing climate. The recently published "State of Nature 2019" is a detailed and comprehensive report describing what has happened over the last fifty years to the natural world and the wildlife that inhabits it. As well as the longer term view, it also focuses on the last ten years and from this we are able to see whether things are getting better or worse. It draws on an impressive range of expertise including all the leading wildlife organisations and also a vast number of individual studies on a diverse range of environmental subjects which build a picture of the present state of UK biodiversity.

Over a much longer period of time than fifty years, there has been a significant loss of wildlife. This has happened through persecution by humans, by pollution of the sea, rivers and streams, by the loss of habitat because of farming methods, industrial development and population expansion.

We really don't have to look far to see the sort of losses in biodiversity which are highlighted in the report. There is clear evidence in our own backyard. In 1988 Nan Sykes, one of North Yorkshire's eminent botanists wrote to the National Park to say that following an extensive survey of arable land, "the arable plant flora has practically disappeared". This led to the Cornfield Flowers Project and the subsequent recovery of many of the arable plants from the verge of extinction. In 2005 following a widespread sampling and analysis of streams and ponds on the eastern side of the National Park, the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH) concluded that this area was the most acidified region of the UK for which data was known. This is the legacy of the pollution from Yorkshire coal fired power stations built and operating between 1960 and 1970 which over the years, through unabated emissions of sulphur, created acid water in streams. The headwaters are still acidified and either void of aquatic invertebrates or very much reduced in their diversity. Dutch elm disease wiped out twenty million trees in the 1970s and since then our trees are being attacked by other invasive pests and pathogens. Acute oak decline is affecting one of our most widespread trees. Ash dieback is evident in Guisborough and in Danby Dale. While on a recent visit to the Lake District, we noted that preventative felling of diseased larch trees around Tarn Hows is very much in evidence. The "State of Nature 2019" describes a loss in nature as a wakeup call for all of us but the most severe impact will be felt by young people and future generations.

20/20 VISION FOR NATIONAL LANDSCAPES

NYMA will be hosting the National Parks Societies annual conference in October 2020. A key theme for the conference is taken from the 2019 Landscape review which coins the term "national landscapes". We will be looking at how far the

implementation of the review will have progressed as well as looking at other issues including the future of upland farming and the challenges faced by small businesses in National Parks. The conference is to be held at Cober Hall, Cloughton and will take place over three days from Tuesday 13th October to Thursday 15th October. This year the conference is hosted by the Campaign for National Parks (CNP) and is in London on November 21st. The theme is focussed around the Landscape Review and will examine what it means for National Parks and AONBs.

PLANNING MATTERS

Sirius Minerals

Sirius Minerals has slowed down the construction of the polyhalite mine following the collapse of the funding bid to raise a further \$3 billion to complete the construction of the mine. The company has been demoted from the FTSE 250 index to the Small Cap Index presumably making it more difficult to raise the large sum of money required to finish construction. There has been a huge loss for private investors who have taken shares in the company and also a loss of around 300 jobs. Sirius Minerals is preparing a review of finances and engineering.

Cleveland Potash Ltd

Cleveland Potash Ltd which is owned by Israeli Chemicals (ICL) has submitted a new planning application to the National Park to mine polyhalite for a period of 25 years starting in 2023 when the current permission to mine potash expires. The company gave a pre-application presentation at the National Park Office Helmsley on October 17th. The application is for a new permission not just a continuation of the existing one and therefore is regarded as an application for a major development subject to the major development test. The company is aiming at producing 1.3 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) of polyhalite



Crab apple tree Park Wood Biodiversity site

over three years and raising this to a maximum extraction of 3.0mtpa. They will continue to mine salt about 300,000tpa used chiefly for winter road de-icing. They will continue to use their dedicated mineral line for transporting the polyhalite. The planning application was submitted at the end of October and they will be holding a number of public consultation meetings throughout November.

PARK WOOD BIODIVERSITY SITE

This slowly developing planting site was started in 2010 when the United Nations declared 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity. The UN said “it is a reminder of how fundamental biodiversity is to the health of the planet and human wellbeing”. This year we had a bumper crop of crab apples from the crab apple trees which are amongst the 100 trees we have planted. Inspired by the Whitby Naturalist Project which was the winning entry for the Conservation Award this year, we will be planting Alder Buckthorn over the next few weeks to encourage the northern spread of the brimstone butterfly.

TOM CHADWICK

NORTH YORKSHIRE MOORS ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S AWARD 2020

We are pleased to announce an increase in the size of our biennial research award to **£1000**, starting in 2020.

The President's Award is for research into aspects of the North York Moors National Park and surrounding areas. Topics can relate to Natural History, Archaeology, Social or Economic History, the Natural or Built Environment – or other subjects which need investigating. Previous awards have been made for a wide range of research topics, including a moorland bird studies, butterfly conservation, adders, barn owls, archaeology, and village history.

Applicants can be students affiliated to a college or university or amateur researchers, and applications can be from individuals or groups. The results of the research should make a contribution to the body of knowledge about the Moors. The closing date for entries is May 31st 2020.

To apply, you will need to send us an outline of your current or proposed research project along with a statement of your previous experience, any collaborators, an indication of how the award would be spent, and a plan for sharing your research findings (note that it is a condition of the award that you write an article for *Voice of the Moors*). In the first instance, please request further details and an application form from Dr Janet Cochrane, NYMA Secretary: secretary@nyma.org.uk.

THE SCOTS PINE

A **S** **A**UTUMN tree colour falls, it is time for our evergreen trees to come into prominence. One of our native ones, the Scots pine, *Pinus sylvestris*, occurs in various situations on our moors. Although not truly native here, but planted, it was common after the last ice age, gradually being displaced by deciduous trees with a warming climate, timber use, clearing for agriculture and more recently by sheep grazing and burning for grouse shooting.

However, early plantations, particularly on poorer soils, were of Scots pine although more commonly now spruces, larch and lodge pole pine are used. But the Scots pine was also planted in scattered places as a protective or amenity tree, singly, or more usually, in small groups as shelter belts round dwellings. In many parts of the country they were placed by drove roads to mark the way or indicate 'friendly' farms to travellers or where cattle could be rested safely overnight. They also marked burial places of warrior chiefs or cross roads. But on the moors, there has also been some natural regeneration of pines where they have been able to become established on unburnt and ungrazed moorland.

Pines belong to an old family, the *Pinaceae*, the Scots pine and juniper being our only native needled trees. The Scots pine can live many hundreds of years, reaching 40 to 50 metres tall with a strong vertical tap root that anchors it firmly into the soil. The lower branches fall away as it grows to give a straight trunk topped by an open, rounded crown. This trunk is deeply fissured and dark at the base but scaly with a red to orange tinge higher up. The buds are sticky with resin, the needle-like leaves glaucous grey-green, slightly twisted, in pairs joined by a basal sheath, remaining on the tree for three years and, being needles, lose little water ensuring the tree can survive in poor sandy soils and evaporation by strong winds. The male flowers are yellow 'knobs' of stamens that shed huge amounts of pollen in the wind and the female ones are purple-red, bud-like cones of fleshy scales, sticky to catch the pollen. After fertilisation, the cones become green and, in the second year, brown and dry and, when ripe, they open in dry weather to allow the winged seeds to blow away. Three generations of cones can be seen on the trees at any time.

It is these seeds that attract the crossbills which can extract them from the cones, as do squirrels, while the many insects, aphids, ants and moths that live in the trees are food for smaller birds, siskin and goldcrests. The trees also provide year-round protection for wildlife while the cones support small species of fungi and the trees themselves are associated with a variety of others, including boletes, Russulas, the fly agaric, milk caps, with the cauliflower fungus being specific to dying pines.

We make many uses of the Scots pine, mostly for timber which is smooth, yellow, soft and resinous, being used for pit



furniture, paper and, in the past, ship building. The trees exude a resin that is distilled to turpentine, used for cleaning paint brushes, on violin bows and in varnishes. It is also used in many pharmaceutical products, cosmetics and pitch for barrels and boats. The bark, buds and leaves yield oils which are antiseptic, antibacterial, antioxidant, decongestant, diuretic and antirheumatic. These are used in inhalants, as vapours, baths, rubs and decoctions and teas. Since ancient Egyptian times they have been used for pneumonia, bronchitis and other chest, lung and sinus problems as well as infections of the urinary tract, rheumatism, varicose veins and aiding blood circulation.

In myths and legends, the Scots pine was a tree of the winter solstice, logs and needles being burnt in the house by the Druids to clear out negative energies giving rise to our yule logs and Christmas trees. They recognised pine woods as resinous and therapeutic places. But not our modern plantations, packed by uncomfortable, lonely trees, dark and mournful, distanced from their usual associated plant and animal species, more the open, natural woods or small stands where the trees can grow sturdy, rugged, not graceful, but dignified and strong. Even the new self-seeded trees, lone on the moors have a brave beauty.

ANNE PRESS

CHANGES IN THE BIRDS IN YOUR GARDEN

I, **M** **S** **U** **R** **E** all garden birdwatchers will be wondering what the coming winter will bring. The ever-increasing amount of energy in our planet's atmosphere is making its weather more violent and less predictable, so I for one, am leaving my crystal ball in the cupboard.

Farming practice has always governed what kind and how much wildlife lives in our surroundings, so not surprisingly changes in these practices over the past decades have significantly affected the number and species of birds living in the countryside. Autumn sowing, the loss of over-winter stubble and fallow fields, continued though reduced use of pesticides and herbicides, spreading fertiliser and not manure, all play a part. Climate change is adding another layer to these pressures with some 40% of our bird species declining and another 30% increasing due to its effects.

The outcome is fewer birds around to come into our gardens, though those that are there are probably more likely to need the extra food supplied in them, both natural and supplementary. Goldfinches are a case in point, having increased their visits to our gardens sixty-fold over the last twenty years.

Everyone will have noticed that thrushes, starlings and sparrows are far less common nowadays, though locally fair-sized flocks of some of them can still be seen. The British Trust for Ornithology has published several reports on changing bird populations, and its Garden BirdWatch, which has been reporting bird numbers for the last 25 years, has a mass of data on bird numbers and distribution from all over the UK, which is available to all on its website.

What does all this mean for us as garden bird enthusiasts? Again, much will depend upon the weather. Studies have suggested that only around 20% of most birds' food intake is provided by supplementary offerings, apart from during really harsh weather, though putting out food certainly will increase the number of birds you will see. We are putting out vast amounts of supplementary food for birds every day, so much so that it has been estimated that it could support up to 200 million garden birds. Which is the best part of half the total number of birds thought to be at large in the UK countryside as a whole!

The corollary to this is – don't overfill your feeders. Aim to have to have to refill them at least every week. Leaving out food for too long will only cause it to spoil and possibly provide a feast for undesirable visitors such as rats. Likewise, clean in and around your feeders and move them regularly. Salmonellosis is one of the primary killers of birds and a mix of bird droppings and dropped food, on the ground or on a table, is a potent recipe for bug growth – freezing weather will only slow them down, it won't kill them.

Looking around locally it would seem that there is a good crop of most berries and seeds, and this should provide food for at least the first part of the winter. If the same applies in

Scandinavia and northern Europe, migration numbers will be low as many partial migrants will stay on the other side of the North Sea, at least until the food runs out.

But: birds rarely read bird books, or if they do they don't take much notice. You will be surprised by what you can see if you keep your eyes peeled. It's not just about the rare vagrant that gets the twitchers so excited, but birds do transit from one feeding area to another as the food available runs low, and will often stop off for a snack *en route*. Add to this local residents, temporary or permanent, which might be out and about looking for food, and anything is possible. The best time to see unusual birds in your garden is during the 'hunger gap' in February and March, when food in the countryside is running low and the new year's supply has not yet arrived.

Keep a pair of binoculars handy, and if you see something that looks a bit different, have a closer look. I've written about "wee brown jobbies". That 'sparrow' might be a redpoll, a finch or a juvenile of another species. Look out too for those flocks of tits passing through, they may include something you don't normally see. Many species aggregate during the winter and often such flocks will include the odd 'random' member.

If you find the lives of our garden birds to be of interest, and would like to join in and count the feathered occupants of your garden, please contact the BTO via its Garden BirdWatch website (www.bto.org/gbw).

MIKE GRAY

Photo © Sharon Artley



DARK STARRY SKIES: MEETING THE CHALLENGE

THE TROUBLE with light, like noise and smell, is that it respects no boundary. Every poorly designed, badly aimed, over-bright or simply unnecessary light can impact well beyond the purpose for which it was installed, inflicting its presence on surrounding properties and spilling light pollution, the cumulative effect of which has deeply eroded the splendour of the night sky and nocturnal view of the landscape in many places throughout the world.

In images from space, like the one used in television weather reports, we can see the world glittering at night. It looks quite beautiful, but nothing could emphasise more clearly the impact of an astounding waste of energy. It is appalling and sobering to contemplate that throughout the entire history of the planet until relatively recent years it would not have looked like this. Certainly before the industrial revolution the night sky would have been inky black punctuated only by the brilliance of the stars.

On closer study of the spectacular, though somewhat depressing view from space, darker areas lie between the spangled cities and necklaces and threads of light. Among these areas, to the south-east of the veritable 'inferno' of Teesside, sits the seemingly empty expanse of the North York Moors.

We can see the distribution of light pollution across the country, and the moors in particular, in more detail in an

interactive 'Night Blight' map published in 2016, by the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE). Along with publications from a number of National Parks their accompanying advice enables us to learn more about the problem and what we can do to improve the situation. (See: *Find out more online* opposite)

The illustrations from the CPRE's study provide a guide to the areas where the skies at night are darkest. The work also sets out an interesting analysis of relative degrees of light pollution. Most significantly Ryedale District, which covers a large part of the North York Moors, is generally speaking the fourth least light-polluted District in England, out of more than 300. Only The Scilly Isles, West Devon and Eden in Cumbria recorded less.

The darkest place in the country at the time of the study was a hillside in the East Kielder Moors, Northumberland, while the most light-polluted places included a location in Rotherham, South Yorkshire.

Tranquillity, remoteness and dark night skies are important qualities identified for protection and enhancement in the North York Moors National Park's Management Plan. While existing policies in the Park's Local Plan seek to minimise the impacts of light, hopefully these will be strengthened further in the next version of the Plan, supported by an in-depth topic paper on the subject.

The planning system is an important starting point to guide best practice for the future. But what about minimising existing light pollution and protecting the quality of the night sky now? Making progress is not in principle difficult. It just needs each one of us wherever we live to stop and think. And here, is a three-point starter-plan.

1. If you have existing lights, only switch them on when really needed and make sure they are not too bright.
2. Point lights downwards so that they do not shine above the horizontal. If they are in a housing which allows light to shine in many directions, paint the top part black to a level just below the light source or at least limit the upward spread.
3. When buying and fitting new external light fittings make sure they are dark sky friendly and fit them accordingly.

The CPRE light map has proved an important catalyst to

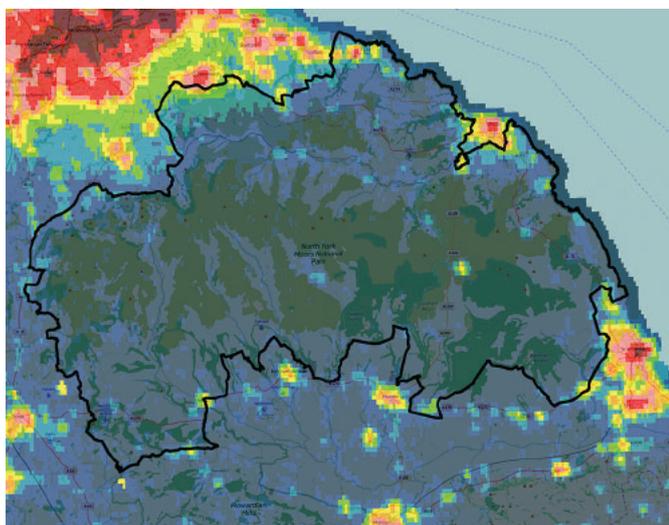


Photo © Earth Observation Group, NOAA National Geophysical Data Center. Data processed by LUC on behalf of CPRE.

Photo © Ian Carstairs

positive action in many places in England alongside the work of organisations such as South Downs, Exmoor, Northumberland and our own National Parks along with Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, most of which are specially recognised for the quality of their starry skies.

In Exmoor it is estimated that 14% of the visitors to the area come for the dark skies experience, so there is a clear economic value as well as one of immense heritage and cultural importance.

The value attached to enjoying starry skies is reflected locally in the popularity of the Dark Sky Festival events, focussed on Sutton Bank, the Moors Centre and Dalby Forest. Weather permitting these adventures bring a sense of freedom and wonder for many urban dwellers living in a world dominated by endless artificial light.

Intrigued by the CPRE Night Blight light map, encouraged by the Dark Skies status achieved by other national parks and the assessment that the Moors are very good too, I decided to take a trip to see how the evidence on the CPRE's light map equated with experience on the ground.

My journey took me from Malton to Amotherby - a bright spot on the light map verified on the ground as a highly-lit fuel depot; north to Hutton-le-Hole and Rosedale Chimney Bank; then down into Rosedale, up to the Millennium stone and Ralph's Cross; before descending into the Esk Valley to the Moors Centre and finally up to Danby Beacon. From this vantage point a wide 360 degree vista stretches across the Moors, along the coast to the north and out to sea. I took a camera and tripod to record what I saw.

With the shutter set for twenty second exposures, the image I captured (*see previous page*) emphasises the extent to which light spread from various sources.

At Ralph's Cross, the stars were indeed very clear and bright, as they were too at the Moors Centre and Danby Beacon. You could easily make out the Milky Way and just spot the Andromeda galaxy, the furthest thing the human eye can see, though the light we are witnessing left there an extremely long time ago.

But I was also greatly surprised, for while it was very dark on the moor tops as the map had suggested, as a thin layer of high cloud spread over the sky, it reflected the skyglow from local settlements and more distant sources in towns and villages and indeed I suspect as far away as York.

So, yes we do have low light pollution and very dark skies when it is clear, but we are not immune to the considerable impact of stray light when the atmospherics are not favourable.

Nevertheless, with icy patches underfoot and a fierce wind cutting across the moor-top, it was a fundamental experience to stand alone with the vastness of space above, and a dark barely lit landscape below; an experience surely, to cherish and to preserve by darkening the light, wherever and whenever we get a chance. There is good and important work to be done.

IAN CARSTAIRS

FIND OUT MORE ONLINE BY SEARCHING:

- CPRE Night Blight Map
- Moors Planning tranquility dark night skies
- Cranborne: Lighting types quality and impacts pdf to read online or download
- South Downs Dark Skies pledge
- Exmoor International Dark Sky Reserve



GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS: MOORS RAIL

Photo © Adrian Leaman



NYMR steam service at Whitby in 2011, prior to the reinstatement of the second platform to accommodate NYMR services

LET'S GET the good news out of the way first. Transpennine Express (better to omit 'express' and just call it TP) has started running some of their new five-coach diesel locomotive push-pull services to Scarborough via York and Malton. By 'some' we mean, at the time of writing, one. And the promised hourly Northern Trains (NT) York-Scarborough service, has come to life, at least in the timetable, if rarely in reality. You might expect that timetablers would place these services half an hour apart, but no, one is planned to follow the other, which leaves us more or less back where we started ...

Or even worse, because TP have recently enraged Scarborough travellers by turning trains round at Malton if their trains are running late. As they come via Manchester, Leeds and York bottlenecks, the likelihood of that happening is quite high. To get round it, TP have increased 'dwell' times at Scarborough to try and reduce the likelihood of Keystone Cop scenes as passengers rush to get on late terminating trains that are soon to leave on their return journey. Or, as a last resort, drive to Malton against the clock down the A64. But don't go there, really don't ...

Because Malton, which could loosely be called a gateway to the Moors if you had the imagination of a TP press officer, is also a bottleneck, but not because of the

excess of trains, but the lack of track, platforms, location and car parking. Malton was once the focus of several rural lines serving the Moors and the Wolds. What is left is still a double track line, but has only one platform, so trains running in the York direction have to cross to reach the single platform, an unusual and inconvenient arrangement. Even more unusual was an abandoned method used to access the original York platform. A trolley would emerge from under the platform and form a causeway that passengers could walk across.

Last minute changes to the TP timetable in summer 2019 also totally messed up connections at Malton Station with weekend Moorsbus services, causing bus services which had already been registered to frustratingly miss connections in both directions by a few minutes. So much for integrated transport. Hopefully this can be rectified for the 2020 summer season.

Whitby, like Malton, had lost most of its routes by the 1970s. What survives is a bizarre arrangement where the last of the ignoble 'Pacer' diesel passenger trains totter on, sharing the station with one of the world's leading heritage railways, the North York Moors Railway (NYMR). The NYMR runs services from Pickering via Grosmont. Northern Rail runs the highly scenic Esk Valley line calling at some superbly situated small

rural stations with great walking opportunities in the National Park before heading off to Middlesbrough, Darlington, Newcastle and Hexham, change for Carlisle. Mid-route the train reverses at Battersby, the point at which the original line connected with Yarm and Stockton. In summer four two-carriage trains a day run north from Whitby using vintage forty-year-old stock, and four longer, normally steam-hauled trains, run south to Pickering, using carriages which can be from the 1930s. So eight trains a day in summer sounds reasonable, but Pickering is landlocked for rail to the south, the original line to Malton and York having been abandoned, and the trains are for tourists not locals. Hexham is a destination solely for the benefit of Northern Rail, amalgamating two existing services in one train. Has anyone from Whitby ever been to Hexham on the train?

The route south from Whitby to Scarborough via Ravenscar and Scalby is long gone, but its ghost survives as part of Sustrans national cycle route number 1 which connects Dover with the Shetland Isles, according to another myopic press release. The good news is that the Scarborough end of the track is due to be upgraded with a grant of £850,000 from the Department of Transport; but it hasn't happened yet ...

And nor has the £7 million of Section 106 funding allocated to the Esk Valley line in 2016 for rail service improvements to Whitby as part of the planning quid pro quo for the Sirius polyhalite mine south of Sneaton. At the time of writing (September 2019), the mine looks increasingly like another triumph of wishful thinking over practicality.

Hooray, good news. There is a summer-only, Saturdays-only train from Scarborough to St Pancras via Sheffield which 'only' takes four hours to reach London. Trouble is ... it leaves at five o'clock in the afternoon.

ADRIAN LEAMAN AND COLIN SPEAKMAN

THE GEOLOGY OF YORKSHIRE

YORKSHIRE is by far the biggest (and best!) county in England and as such illustrates a wide diversity of geology and landscape. In the west may be found some of the oldest rocks in the county dating back several hundred million years while glacial deposits, formed only a few tens of thousands of years ago, plaster the more ancient solid rocks throughout many parts of the county.

This rich diversity of strata has attracted geologists for centuries. Two names in particular will forever be associated with the county. William Smith, the 'Father of English Geology', who resided at Hackness and Scarborough in the later years of his life, and Adam Sedgwick, born in Dent and destined to become a powerful force in British geology.

The early 19th century saw the development of geology as a true science and the foundation of the London Geological Society in 1807, the oldest geological society in the world. Many learned treatises were written and published, amongst them one of the first detailed geological descriptions of the geology of Yorkshire by John Phillips. Phillips, a nephew of William Smith, rose to prominence through his early publication of a global geologic time scale. Phillips' parents both died when he was a child and custody was vested in his uncle, William Smith. As a result of travelling extensively together throughout Yorkshire, studying and recording the geology, Phillips published his classic work on the geology of the county in two parts. Part 1, published in 1829, went by the marvellous title *'Illustrations of the Geology of Yorkshire; or, a Description of the Strata and Organic Remains: accompanied by a Geological Map, Sections, and Plates of the Fossil Plants and Animals. Part 1 The Yorkshire Coast'*. This classic work contains numerous exquisite line drawings of local fossils, all drawn by Phillips.

Another classic of northern geological literature was privately published in 1924 by Percy Fry Kendall and Herbert E. Wroot. With the less wordy title of *'Geology of Yorkshire. An Illustration of the Evolution of Northern England'*, this work is written in three parts. Part 2 is entitled *'Yorkshire from a Railway Carriage Window'*. This, of course, was in the halcyon days when there were numerous railways operating throughout the land, including several within the North York Moors. What a wonderful way to study the local geology! The book is written in a more lyric style than today's more scientific approach and includes diversions into the local history and archaeology as well as biographical sketches of many early geologists. The writing style makes for easy reading and is largely due to Herbert Wroot, who was employed by the Yorkshire Observer. Here is a short example:

'The geological student will find nowhere in Yorkshire a more remarkable contrast of scenery than in following the few miles of railway from Whitby up to Castleton. From the



neighbourhood of Sleights he sees from his carriage window a valley encumbered with deposits of boulder clay, and the river Esk makes its way down to the sea through many mounds of tumbled drift, through rock gorges and under steep bluffs of Lias. West of the Lealholm cutting in the moraine all the boulder clay ceases; the valley opens out wide, with a flat but terraced floor over which the river courses with intricate meanders. It is patent to every eye that here was once a great lake'

'...we have before our eyes one of the loveliest panoramas on the Yorkshire Coast - the wide expanse of Robin Hood's Bay and the Parish of Fylingdales. The heather clad hills sweep round in a semi circle and slope down on all sides like a Greek theatre to a rocky bay and wide expanse of sea....'

The next authoritative and comprehensive geology of Yorkshire was published by the Yorkshire Geological Society in 1974. Edited by D.H.Rayner and J.E.Hemingway this is a collection of papers by various authors, specialists in their own field. This is a book for the specialist and the interested amateur rather than the casual reader. More recent years have seen the publication of numerous scientific papers and books as well as a host of material written for the general public. Paul Ensom's *Geology of Yorkshire* from 2009 is a very readable and well illustrated account of the subject. For popular texts concerning the geology of the North York Moors one can do no better than read the books by Roger Osborne, most notably *The Floating Egg* which demonstrates so strikingly that the art of geological writing is alive and well!

ALAN STANFORTH

LANDSCAPES REVIEW: NATIONAL PARKS AND AONBs

IN MAY 2018 the government asked for an independent review into whether protection for National Parks and AONBs is still fit for purpose. In particular, what might be done better, what changes will help and whether the definitions and systems in place are still valid. (Defra)

The Landscapes Review also known as the Glover review was published on the 21st September this year and runs to 168 pages. It is a report on the condition of our designated landscapes, National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) and how they might be improved.

Julian Glover who led the report says in his introduction:

“The experience has produced two strong emotions. First, gratitude that so much of so great a quality is out there, saved in part by the efforts of those who fought for our National Parks and AONBs and work in them now. Second, fear that these places are fragile, that nature in them is in crisis as elsewhere, that communities are changing and that many do not know these places”

There is much to examine in the report and no doubt there will be criticism of some of the findings and subsequent proposals for dealing with the issues it raises. The National Parks Societies conference this year is hosted by the Campaign for National Parks (CNP) and will be held in London on November 21st. The conference will be examining the report and the various responses from National Park Societies and from CNP. Julian Glover will be speaking about the review and there will be an initial response from the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State and Minister for Rural Affairs and Biosecurity, Lord Gardiner of Kimble.

The review focuses on five areas, **Landscapes Alive for Nature and Beauty; Landscapes for Everyone; Living Landscapes; More Special Places; New Ways of Working.**

Landscapes Alive for Nature and Beauty draws on the 2016 State of Nature Report to illustrate the need for action to replenish and recover the losses in wildlife which have taken place since 1949. The report uses the term “national landscapes” to refer to the two designations of National Parks and AONBs and proposes that a new National Landscape Service should be created which brings together these 44 designated areas of landscape. Alongside this there would be strengthened Management Plans which set out proposals for dealing with issues such as climate change. These plans would help to make national landscapes the leaders in Nature Recovery Networks. There are 6 proposals which support the concept of a New Landscape Service and how it would deliver this first area it focuses on.

Landscapes for everyone refers to national landscapes as refuges where people can enjoy the spiritual and physical

enrichment provided by these beautiful areas. There are, it is suggested, sections of the population who are not encouraged to seek out these places and there are ten proposals aimed at a stronger mission to connect all people with our national landscapes.

Living Landscapes sets out ways in which communities within national landscapes would flourish. The first suggestion is to change the present duty required of National Parks which is to seek to foster the social and economic wellbeing of local communities into a third statutory purpose. A second suggestion is to create a National Landscape Rural Housing Association to build affordable homes to rent. Thirdly is a suggestion that National Parks take a more active role in promoting low-carbon accessible forms of transport. This includes a new approach to coordinating public transport which is to be piloted in the Lake District.

More Special Places includes proposals that there is a case for several larger AONBs to take on National Park candidate status as well as creating new AONBs. Three more proposals are made to include a new National Forest, welcoming new landscape approaches in cities and the coast, and a city park competition and to add to these proposals a better designation process.

New Ways of Working this includes the central proposal for a National Landscape Service. The existing statutory purposes should be renewed creating stronger purposes in law for national landscapes which should apply equally to both National Parks and AONBs. These should be to:

1. Recover, conserve and enhance natural beauty, biodiversity, natural capital and cultural heritage.
2. Actively connect all parts of society with these special places to support understanding, enjoyment and the nation’s health and wellbeing.
3. Foster the economic and community vitality of their area in support of the first two purposes

Where there is a conflict between any of the three purposes then greater weight must be given to the first of these purposes under an updated “Sandford Principle” that applies to all national landscapes not just to National Parks as it does at present.

A radical change in governance is being proposed and for National Parks this would be comprised of 9-12 person boards with the chair being appointed by the Defra Secretary of State. Other members would be appointed by the National Landscape Service. The board should be advised by a partnership group bringing together stakeholders of all kinds.



A winter sunset over Fryup Dale from Oakley Walls

Planning issues should continue to involve local authority members, so the proposal is for a planning sub-committee chaired by a member of the main board and including at least two members of the main board. AONBs remain outside of planning but a similar structure for boards is proposed.

None of these changes are possible without adequate funding and it is worthwhile noting that in the summary of New Ways of Working there is a quotation from John Dower in the Dower report of 1945 “if National Parks are provided for the nation they should clearly be provided for by the nation”.

A new financing arrangement is proposed including central government funding which should continue and be both extended and secured across a five-year period. However, it is also proposed that a new funding model is needed to replace what it describes as a fossilised system which provides, for example, poor funding for AONBs. It recommends that funding should move from being routed through Defra to the new National Landscape Service. It should negotiate with Defra a multi-annual financial settlement which secures existing resources, services and programmes but also ensures a focus on growth innovation and efficiencies. AONBs should get a new and larger

settlement to reflect their enhanced purposes, responsibilities and activities. The suggested figure is a doubling of the current funding from £6.7million to £13.4million.

Another suggestion is that national landscapes should prepare financial plans which include a more diverse range of income sources such as growth in philanthropic giving, trading activities and large scale externally funded projects. Finally there is a recommendation that the new National Landscape Service has a key role to play in finance including entering into commercially successful partnerships and encouraging parts of the system to work together.

The report proposes radical changes to the present system of designated landscapes and it has been received with a cautious welcome. National Parks England responding to the report said,

“NPE welcomes many of the ambitious recommendations made within the Landscapes Review and is pleased that all the opportunities and priorities NPE submitted to the panel have been acknowledged within the report. We are now considering the detail of the report as a family of National Parks and AONBs”.

TOM CHADWICK

THE PLEASURES AND BENEFITS OF WALKING

WALTER WHITE, the Victorian author of *A Month in Yorkshire* (first published in 1858), was an enthusiastic and inveterate trampler. He was a contemporary of Borrow and an early forerunner of such renowned trampers and writers as A J Brown and Alfred Wainwright. He was a strong advocate of walking as a means of seeing the world and promoting good health. He walked thousands of miles both in this country and abroad, making detailed observations on the lives and character of the people he met on his travels, as well as describing the topographical and man-made features of the landscape through which he tramped. On passing through the Beverley area in south east Yorkshire, his conversations with farmers, prompted him to write the following homily on walking. Although couched in quaint language (it was, after all, written over a hundred and fifty years ago), much of the advice he gives is as valid today as it was then.

'I could not help pitying those farmers at Beverley who saw no pleasure in walking. No pleasure in the surest promotion of health and exercise! No pleasure in the steady progressive motion which satisfies our love of change without hindering observation! No pleasure in walking, that strengthens the limbs and invigorates the lungs! No pleasure in arming the sling against the giant! No pleasure in the occasion of cheerful thoughts and manifold suggestions which bring contentment to the heart! Walking is an

exercise which in our days might replace, more commonly than it does, the rude out door recreations of former times; and if but a few of the many hundreds who put on their Sunday clothes to lounge the hours away at the corner of a street, would but take a ten miles' walk out to the country lanes or breezy moorlands, they would find benefit alike to their manhood and morals. If I remember rightly, it is one of the old Greeks who says that walking will almost cure a bad conscience; and for my part, I am never so ready to obey the precept of neighbourly love as when my sentiments are harmonized by walks of seven or eight leagues a day.'

PS In defence of the Beverley farmers, I must add that their finite store of physical energy and time would almost certainly have been expended on the daily grind of wresting a meagre living from the stubborn land. To them, the idea of walking for its own sake would understandably be anathema and the last thing on their minds. Walter White was a gentleman who had a relatively privileged life and the wherewithal to spend his time as he pleased in recreational and leisure pursuits in the countryside. The 'pitiful' rough farmers and agricultural workers of the time about which White talks had very hard and demanding lives indeed and different priorities.

AINSLEY

If this has inspired you to walk more regularly, take a look at the back page to see the monthly walks we have planned for this Winter. Ed

BOOK REVIEW

A WALKER'S INSIGHT INTO NORTH YORKSHIRE HISTORY

The PLACE Book of Winter Walks in North Yorkshire - Margaret Atherden (PLACE ISBN: 9787-1-906604-60-8 112 price £5).

Dr Margaret Atherden is a former academic geographer from York St John University. She is now the Chief Executive of PLACE, a charity that works to promote research and public interest in the cultural, local and natural history of the historic county of Yorkshire - including of course the whole of the North York Moors National Park.

She is also a keen walker and writer and a couple of years ago wrote and published through PLACE an exceptionally interesting book of short walks *Winter Walks in North Yorkshire*. This handsomely produced book contains thirteen walks, of which seven are within or close to the North York Moors



Eroding pill box with bay beyond



View of Gormire from near RAF memorial

National Park or Howardian Hills AONB. These include Cropton Forest, Ravenscar, Duncombe Park, Sutton Bank and White Horse, Castle Howard, Hovingham and Stonegrave and Scarborough. As well as exceptionally clear maps and directions, they are all fully accessible by public transport, including Moorsbus, (though in some case more details might have been given). The description of each walk reflects Margaret's detailed understanding of the geomorphology, archaeology, local and natural history of the areas the walks explore. Route descriptions are reinforced with colour photographs which identify both paths and locations. Twelve walks are circular, but one is a fascinating linear route along the River Foss from York, served by local bus.

They are called *Winter Walks* because they are ideal for a short winter's day, but they also work perfectly well any time of the year so equally suitable for a chilly - or a sunny - spring day. They are all between 4 and 7 miles (or 7 to 11 kilometres (as Margaret is refreshingly metric as indeed are the OS maps she recommends) and are all relatively easy - more about seeing and observing than energetic hiking.

Copies are available at local bookshops just £5; or perhaps easier can be ordered by post (add £2 pp) from PLACE, York St John University, Lord Mayor's Walk, YORK, YO31 7EX - details www.place.uk.com.

COLIN SPEAKMAN

SPOUT HOUSE OF BILSDALE



DRIVING ALONG the road between Helmsley and Chop Gate, in Biltsdale, most people are unaware that they are passing one of the most historic small buildings in the national park.

Between Laskill and Fangdale Beck is a pub standing square beside the main road: it's officially called the Sun Inn, although locally known as 'Spout'. To the left of this you'll see a long, low, thatched building. This is the old Sun Inn – also known as Spout House – which is believed to be the best preserved example of a 16th century cruck-framed house in the north of England.

It was built in 1550 as a tenant farmer's cottage, using the technique of fixing pairs of oak 'blades' and horizontal collar beams in an A-shape to support the walls and roof. Until the 19th century many buildings in rural areas were thatched, but as tiles became widespread, only the poorer and less important buildings retained their original roofing material. Spout House is one of these: an early 20th century photo shows it thatched with a ridge of turf, while a later restoration used rye-straw.

The cottage became an alehouse in 1714. While these were common at the time, given the arduous journeys travellers had to undertake, Spout House is a rare survival. On entering the building, you feel as though a couple of centuries have slipped away. You are back in the days when farmers met to discuss their business and relax, when hunt followers met before and after the day's outing, travellers between the market towns stopped for refreshment, and shooting parties travelled from further afield to stay near the grouse-moors. These were often collected from Helmsley station and brought to the inn by wagonette.

To your right is the Upper Parlour, the 'best' room, while to the left is the Bar Parlour where family and more familiar guests ate their meals. This would have been the cosiest room, with the range alight and plenty of ale and good cheer. Beyond that is the Lower Parlour, used by residential guests or those wishing for more privacy. At the rear of the cottage are the Cellar and Dispense, where the beer was kept and served. Beyond the back door is where water was collected from the 'spout' – the spring running off the hillside.

Venture up the steep wooden staircases, and the upstairs rooms are even more fascinating. The built-in truckle beds remain, along with iron bedsteads, bedding, rag-rugs, and a commode. Doubtless that saw plenty of use after quantities of ale had been consumed!

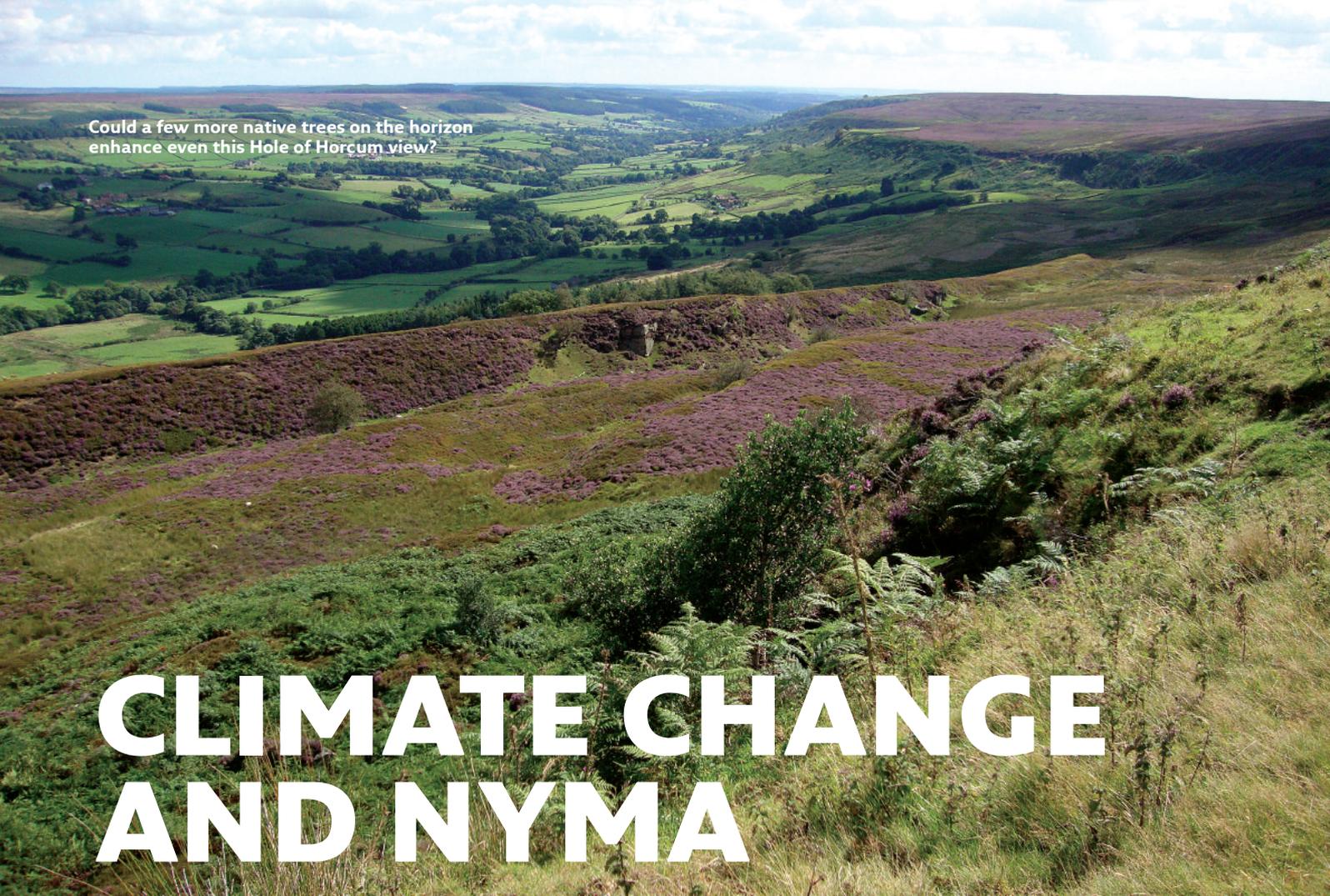
The history of the Sun Inn is interwoven with the Biltsdale Hunt, the oldest hunt in England. A memorial to long-serving whipper-in Bobby Dawson, who died in 1902 at the age of 90, stands next to the 'new' Inn, and a print of 'Hunting Morn', by the 19th century artist Ralph Hedley, hangs in the Bar Parlour of Spout House. It depicts that very room, with the huntsman and hunt-followers taking breakfast before heading out for the day. The painting is brought somewhat eerily to life by the huntsman's coat still hanging nearby, as if awaiting its owner to don it for another good day on the hills. The coat belonged to William Ainsley, Master of the Biltsdale Hunt from 1929 to 1953, and the third generation of William Ainsleys to live and work at the Sun Inn.

The first William Ainsley is recorded as holding the licence in 1826, and successive generations ran the inn alongside their farming work. Beer came initially from York and later from the breweries of Tadcaster. A large order meant a huge weight on the carts, with the barrels having to be unloaded and rolled up Sutton Bank by hand.

At one point at least 14 family members were recorded as living in Spout House; even with an 'outshut' under a catslide roof at the rear, it is difficult to imagine this now. It must have felt wonderful to move into the modern building across the yard in 1914. Then, the doors to the old inn were closed, and the building and its contents lay largely untouched until restored in the 1980s. Spout House was leased to the National Park in 1979, while the Ainsleys continued to run the more modern Sun Inn until around 2010 (it is now leased to a local couple, while the last William Ainsley still runs the farm).

Visitors are welcome between April and October and are free to wander about as they choose and absorb the ancient atmosphere.

JANET COCHRANE



Could a few more native trees on the horizon enhance even this Hole of Horcum view?

CLIMATE CHANGE AND NYMA

SHOULD the North Yorkshire Moors Association, as an environmental and educational charity be active in what is now the worldwide Extinction Rebellion movement?

It is easier for us to dismiss melting Arctic glaciers or dying coral reefs as something that occurs in distant lands, not in safe North Yorkshire. Science however has a less comfortable story to tell. The overwhelming majority not just of climate scientists, but those in many other disciplines - with the notable exception of those employed the multi-national oil and gas companies - tell a very different story. All indications are that we are now at the start of what could be a frighteningly rapid "Sixth Extinction" - a catastrophic change of the earth's eco-systems which will transform our planet into a hostile place not just for butterflies and water voles, but for larger mammals and sooner, rather than later, for *homo sapiens*. We are already seeing the results of rising sea levels and desertification in Africa, driving people away from their homes both along coastal regions and inland. Rivers in Australia are dying, fires and ruthless clearance are destroying the Brazilian rainforest. Migration of impoverished populations and immigration to wealthier nations is leading to political unrest, and was an underlying motivating force behind Britain's current Brexit crisis as that notorious poster campaign revealed.

Equally however, expert opinion also points how there is still a short window, perhaps only a decade, during which if Governments take co-ordinated action to restrict global temperature rises to 1.5 degrees, in particular slashing the

use of fossil fuels, but also taking a whole range of actions in terms of how we manage our land, humanity might survive.

In the UK, politicians have been quick to catch the headlines by declaring a "Climate Emergency" which sounds fine but means little if not followed by perhaps unpopular action to restrict our freedoms. So what, if anything, should NYMA do? Can we as a small voluntary society make the slightest difference?

It's perhaps the old adage "think globally, act locally".

We need, in all aspects of our lives and work, to do all we can both to reduce our own personal carbon emissions but also support or initiate policies and activities which will both reduce the risks and also mitigate the inevitable impacts of climate change.

One small example of our recent campaigning has been to support the revived Moorsbus network as a way of giving opportunity and choice not only to those without their own transport, but also offering great new opportunities for linear or cross Dale walks. But we need to do more to promote the regular weekday bus and train networks for example the Esk Valley line, the Coastliner 840 bus from York and to Whitby and the X93 Middlesbrough-Whitby-Scarborough. Just using the bus for one day trip in ten would make a real difference to our carbon footprint.

But there are other ways, in which both as campaigners and consumers, we can support those important guardians of our landscape, our hill farmers.

We may soon be entering an era of resource shortages in

which world food supplies are no longer guaranteed. Cheap mass-produced food which requires high carbon in soil-impoverishing chemical fertilisers and long-distance energy guzzling air and road transport across continents, may soon not be an option. One answer is to reduce food wastage and over-consumption of carbohydrates, a major cause of obesity. Another is to look how we both farm and manage the landscape in the future.

Much of the North York Moors are, in ecological terms, a degraded landscape. Purple heather of grouse moors may look glorious in August but could at least some of the gills and edges be planted by native trees and shrubs to encourage greater biodiversity? Peat is a huge mechanism for carbon storage, so working with landowners and moorland managers to ensure wetlands are protected and enhanced to store water and reduce fire risk is also vital.

A key question is whether traditional sheep rearing is the best use of most of our uplands, especially at a time when post-Brexit farm payments are likely to be changed to reflect wider public benefit outcomes such as biodiversity. Even more significant, mainland Europe is a major export market for lamb which will soon face heavy tariffs as Britain leaves the EU. Conservation, not food production, may soon be the priority for financial support in National Parks. The highly successful High Nature Farming pilot “payment by results” scheme with 19 farmers in Wensleydale, Yorkshire Dales, shows what can be done with such an approach – and farmers are delighted to take part.

But a recent study (www.marginallands.org.uk) of 23 hill farmers and small holdings in upland areas in the UK, extending from Shetland Islands, through the Pennines, the Welsh mountains to southern England, has suggested how food production of high value, organic fruit, vegetables and salads can be sustained in the most difficult terrain. Facing a variety of problems – short growing season, poor soils, wind, rain, lack or too much water, hill farmers and smallholders have adapted their land to work with, not against nature. Shelter belts have been built, streams dammed, ponds created to help change microclimates, polytunnels erected and trees planted. Agroforestry, growing crops or grazing

animals between widely planted trees to maximise shelter whilst allowing light to penetrate, is an ancient technique of husbandry which protect soils. Fruit is also a particularly profitable crop, whether cider producing apples and pears, soft fruit or even exotics such as chillies and asparagus peas now being grown over 1000 feet above sea level in the Hebrides.

This is not subsidised farming. These producers are doing this commercially, in many cases and finding a ready market in local restaurants or shops where provenance of top-quality fresh fruit, salad and vegetables has a high value. This is especially true in remote rural areas like the Hebrides where transport costs and delays make locally produced goods more profitable. In some cases, this is the main activity of the enterprise, in others a secondary diversification of the more traditional hill farm or even tourism enterprise.

A superb example in the North York Moors is at Fadmoor, where Newfield Organics <http://newfieldsorganics.com/> a 120 acre farm 650 feet above sea level on the edge of the Moors has conventional cereal and livestock production. But on 25 acres, farmer Rosemary Wass produces high quality fresh seasonal organic vegetables that not only are used to supply local shops but her farm shop is open daily to local customers.

No one would pretend that this is a solution for all farmers in the Moors or elsewhere. But it does point in the way to how hill farmers can adapt to changing circumstance and markets. It can also reduce their carbon footprint. If as many people predict, food prices rise as cheap EU imports are replaced by deregulated US agribusiness, high quality local fresh fruit and vegetables could enjoy rapidly increasing demand.

NYMA needs to use whatever means we have as a campaigning organisation to help initiate, promote and support such initiatives when and wherever we can. If we fail to do so, then there will simply not be a future for our grandchildren.

COLIN SPEAKMAN



LYKE WAKE WALK

IN THE LAST edition of *Voice of the Moors* there were a couple of references to the Lyke Wake Walk: the late David Rubinstein mentioned his attempts at completing this forty-mile walk across the North York Moors National Park, and Colin Speakman commented on the ancient Lyke Wake Dirge incanted at funerals in the Cleveland area.

Extremely popular during the '60s and '70s when in May and June it was quite usual to have a thousand people on the moors during weekends, usually attempting the walk as a charity fund raiser. These events raised thousands of pounds, but at the same time incurred the two moorland rescue teams in a fair bit of work dealing with poorly equipped or badly prepared walkers. The Cleveland team still possibly holds a record – looking for 500 people doing the walk in aid of UNICEF!

The walk was the idea of the late Bill Cowley. In 1955 he was farming near Swainby, had an interest in a farm at the head of Glaisdale and wrote a monthly farming column in the *Dalesman*. He



Carlton Moor



Wheeldale Beck in flood

raised the idea of a walk across the generally uninhabited east to west watershed of the moors to be completed within twenty-four hours. This challenge came to fruition and on 1st October 1955 the walk was completed, forming the Lyke Wake Club.

Large numbers of walkers, 15,000 per year in the late '60s started to cause serious ecological damage to the fragile moorland habitat and the club began to have concerns over linear erosion with Bill regretting he had started one of the first 'challenge' walks in the country.

The club worked with the National Park eventually getting numbers to acceptable levels and by the turn of the century only a few hundred a year were doing it.

In "Golden Jubilee" year 2005, it was decided that the club was no longer viable and on 1st October 2005, it was laid to rest where it all started at the Raven Hall Hotel in Ravenscar.

Numbers continued to decline and it has now been decided to close the Lyke Wake Company Limited (the trading arm which sold merchandise, holds intellectual property rights, etc.) Badges will still be available to walkers.

No doubt people will continue walking this route, but at least Rosedale and Wheeldale moors are now recovering from fifty plus years of erosion.

More information is available on the website www.lykewakewalk.co.uk

PAULA A. SHERWOOD

Photos © John Hughes, Paul Sherwood

NYMA

THE HISTORY TREE QUIZ

HERE ARE twelve tricky teasers based on some of the events found in *The History Tree* book. You may need to look at one or more chapters to find the answers. The answer may not be in the most obvious place, but perhaps in another which makes reference to the subject. Even if you do not have a copy of the book (see the back page for more information about where to buy one) with a little research, you should still be able to solve the mysteries!

KIRKDALE

- Who was Gamal's son?
- Who served with the Green Howards, was awarded the Military Cross and Distinguished Service Medal, was an influential figure in art history, poetry and philosophy and wrote *The Green Child*?
- Name three species of large African mammals, the bones of whose ancestors were found in the Kirkdale Caves.

THE SEA

- On 8th February 1861, ferocious storms resulted in more than 200 vessels foundering off the coast of Whitby. Lifeboatman Henry Freeman was involved in five attempted rescues. On the fifth attempt, what saved his life when his fellow lifeboat crew members perished?
- What links the way in which the rowing lifeboats *Robert Whitworth* and *William Riley* had to be deployed to go to the aid of the stricken vessels the *Visiter* and *Rohilla*?

POETS AND STORY TELLERS

- Which dale was poet and stonemason John Castillo sorry to leave and why did he have to leave it?
- Which of Charles Dickens' novels was dedicated to the Marchioness of Normanby?
- Who connects an ironstone mine at

North Skelton with P.T. Barnum's travelling show?

INDUSTRY

- To assist in the alum production process, what was transported up from London in barrels and what was returned there in the now empty tubs?
- Apart from alum, what other material was mined in Rosedale and how is it associated with Queen Victoria?

ARTS AND CRAFTS

- What is the origin of the 'trademark' mouse on Robert 'Mouseman' Thompson's oak furniture?
- A print of which Frank Meadow Sutcliffe photograph did the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII) purchase?

Answers are on page 18

Photo © Ian Carstairs

Around the 9th hole



ANSWERS TO THE HISTORY TREE QUIZ

KIRKDALE (see Chapters on *Kirkdale's Contribution to the Theory of Evolution* and *Sir Herbert Read*)

- Orm
- Sir Herbert Read
- Hippopotamus, elephant, rhinoceros

THE SEA (see Chapters on *Henry Freeman, Man of the Sea, The 'Visiter' Sea Rescue, Robin Hoods Bay* and *The Wreck of the Rohilla*)

- Henry Freeman survived because he was wearing one of the newer style life belts which fitted over the shoulders whereas his crewmates were wearing standard lifebelts which fitted low on the body.
- On each occasion, the seas were so rough that both rowing lifeboats had to be hauled overland before each could be launched.

POETS AND STORY TELLERS (see Chapters on *Poet John Castillo, Bard of the Dales* and *Henry Cooper, the Scugdale Giant - A Tall Tale*)

- Fryupdale. Castillo had to leave because he could not earn sufficient money
- *Dombey and Son* was dedicated to Marchioness Normanby
- Henry Alexander Cooper who worked at Fogga an ironstone mine at North Skelton before being spotted by a local fairground owner and then attracting the attention of P.T. Barnum. He then spent the rest of his life in circuses and sideshows in Canada and the USA.

INDUSTRY (see Chapters on *Alum Extraction around the North Yorkshire Moors, Rosedale and the Industrial Revolution* and *Queen Victoria and the Whitby Jet industry*)

- Urine was transported from London and butter was transported back on the return journey.
- Jet. After the death of Prince Albert, Queen Victoria dressed in mourning apparel and complemented her dress with jet jewellery.

ARTS AND CRAFTS (see Chapters on *Robert 'Mouseman' Thompson, Master Craftsman from Kilburn* and *Frank Meadow Sutcliffe, Photographer*)

- On working on a large cornice for a screen with a fellow craftsman, Thompson remarked that he was as poor as a church mouse, carved one on the screen and decided that it would be a "lovely trademark".
- The print purchased by the Prince of Wales was 'The Water Rats'.

SPORT

A GOLF COURSE AT GOATHLAND

'THE VILLAGE of Goathland has of late years achieved great fame as a holiday resort, but it is yet unspoiled, and one may wander waist-deep in heather on its breezy hillsides with none to say nay, while the turf-cake and honey of the hospitable farmsteads and cottages will be refreshment echoing as it were the aroma of the moors themselves.' Kendall and Wroot. *Geology of Yorkshire* 1914

Goathland had obviously 'achieved great fame as a holiday resort' long before the advent of 'Heartbeat'! But even before Kendall and Wroot waxed lyrical about the village, visitors were arriving via the new horse drawn carriageway built by George Stephenson between Pickering and Whitby and opened in 1836. When George Hudson introduced steam engines to the line in 1846, there would no doubt have been an increase in passenger traffic.

Why, in 1891, a group of gentlemen in Whitby should propose establishing a golf course at Goathland is a little unclear, but establish it they did. Why they should design the course literally through the centre of the village is even less clear, but through the village it went! It is not surprising therefore that the club allowed play 'on the express understanding that it 'took no liability for accidents'. In the early 1890s the club acquired land at Uppgang, Whitby on which to build a new course which was officially opened in May 1895.

In Goathland it was decided to form a new golf club and to redesign the course. A report in the *Evening Telegraph* of 1913 describes the course;

'The village straddles the main street. So does the nine hole golf course. You go twice round the church, carrying the road on the way. Local rules prevent one from playing out of the churchyard. One short hole of 137 yards calls for the crossing of two roads between a farm and a ravine. One of the tees is outside the vicarage gates, and a green is on the other side opposite. With your drive you have to carry over the road towards the village shop. "I charge 1s/6d for a broken window in the parish room - when I can find the culprit" says the vicar.'

The Goathland Golf Club finally closed its doors in 1948, perhaps due to increasing traffic, perhaps in anticipation of Health and Safety legislation to come!

ALAN STANIFORTH

"You go twice round the church"



Watch the windows!





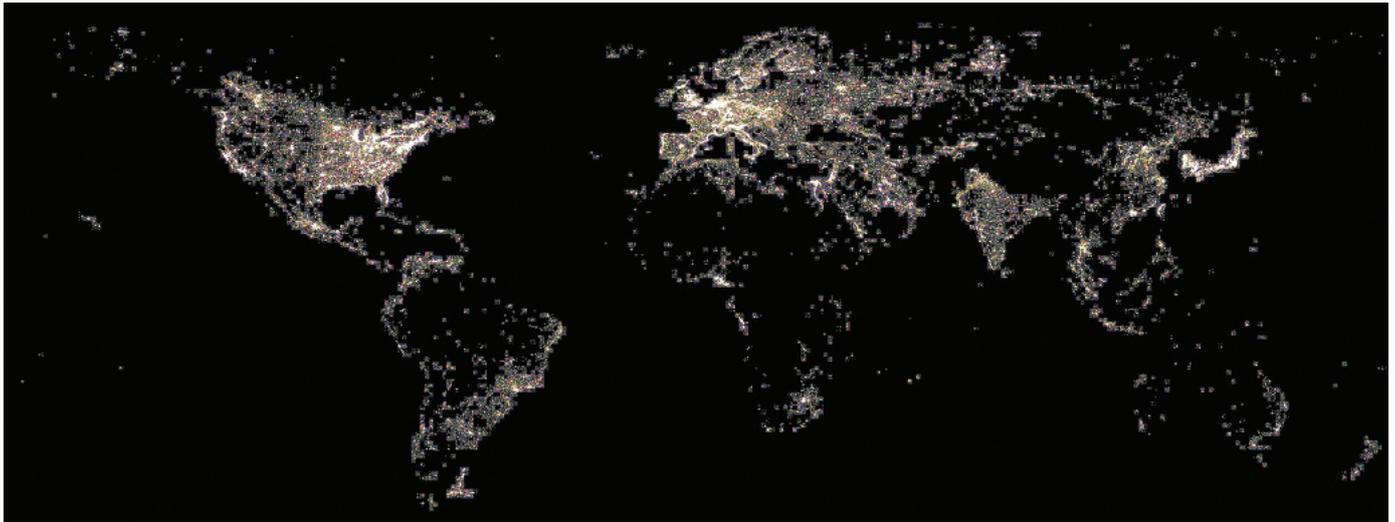
SKYLARKS



As you know, winter brings us long, dark nights.
 If you live in a rural location like the North Yorkshire Moors you may be more likely to enjoy dark skies.
 What do we mean by dark skies? How can skies be made darker?

Why do you think places like the North Yorkshire Moors might have darker skies than towns and cities?
 If you said less **light pollution** then you would be right.

What is light pollution and who or what causes it? Look at the image below of light pollution across the world. Unravel the jumbled words (anagrams) to reveal some of the causes.



FRATFIC

GINSOUH

INESSEBUS

ONLAPOPUTI

TREETS THIGLS

Can you identify which countries cause the most light pollution?

Imagine you lived a long time ago, what type of light might you have used to help you see?
 Using the time line below, match the type of lighting that might have been used at that time.



10 Million

10,000

4,000

500

200

100

This winter, have a look around your house and outside and check how many lights could be switched off or positioned better to help prevent light pollution.

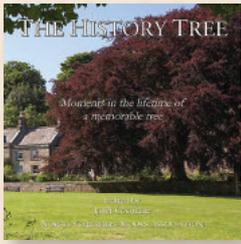
If you have an astronomy book or someone in your family has a star app, ask a grown up to take you outside on a clear dark night and see what planets or constellations you can identify.

What could you see more of with less light pollution?

We enjoy including your pictures, stories and news, please keep sending them to editor@nyma.org.uk

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 Candle: <http://www.freestockphotos.biz/stockphoto/16833> - Street Lamp: https://www.clipartmax.com/middle/m2KgAom2d3d3G6d3_candle-flame-light-street-lamp-lantern-clipart/
 Moon : <https://publicdomainvectors.org/en/free-clipart/Moon-on-black-background-vector-clip-art/21607.html> - Oil lamp: <https://pixabay.com/vectors/magic-lamp-lantern-oil-genie-24293/>
 Fire: <https://pixabay.com/vectors/fire-camp-bonfire-wood-heat-30231/> - Light bulb: <https://www.publicdomainpictures.net/en/view-image.php?image=155227&picture=light-bulb>

NYMA NEWS



IF YOU ARE still wondering what Christmas gift to buy for a lover of our Moors, then consider: "The History Tree: Moments in the Lifetime of a Memorable Tree".

The book commemorates a magnificent copper beech which stood at the Moors Centre, Danby, for 200 years. Professionally designed, illustrated and edited, it includes 40 articles on the fascinating history, personalities and legends of the Moors and covers a wide range of themes including science, literature, exploration, archaeology, the sea and much, much more. It is available from a range of outlets across the national park and also from our website. Details here:

<https://www.nyma.org.uk/the-history-tree/>

Our monthly walking programme is supplemented by occasional visits to places of interest. In September we enjoyed a tour of Robin Hood's Bay with NYMA member Alan Staniforth, including the fascinating Old Church of St Stephen's, and in October we were shown around the thriving village of Thornton-le-Dale by members of the local history society, who were recipients of a NYMA Conservation Award in 2018. In January we'll visit the charming market town of Stokesley – see this page and www.nyma.org for details.

NYMA WALKS



Saturday 11 January 2020 **GUIDED WALK AROUND** **STOKESLEY**

Walk leader Beryl Turner:
berylturner3@gmail for queries
but no need to book.

Meeting place: Outside the Town Hall. 2 hour disc parking in town or pay near Springfield Co-op. A gentle wander to explore the town's history and hear personal memories from a local resident. No dogs please.

Saturday 22nd February 2020 **DANBY/LITTLE FRYUP**

Walk leader: Jenny Shepherd:
jennyshepherd85@hotmail.com
Meeting Place: Danby Village Hall
Meet time: 10:00am
Approximate Distance:
6/6.5 miles
Steady climb into Danby Dale to North End Farm. Steeper climb

up to the trig point and then down Crossleyside into Little Fryup and the Yorkshire Cycle Hub (refreshments available). Back via Forrester's Lodge, Danby Castle and Castle Houses Farm.

Saturday 14th March 2020 **NORTHDALE, ROSEDALE**

Walk Leader: Wendy Smith
wpsmith7a@gmail.com or
01642 711980
Meeting Place: Rosedale Abbey GR. 724 959 Village Green (near Milburn Arms)
Meet time: 10:30am
Distance: 5 miles
Walk up Northdale beck to the farm, turn back and climb to Brown Hill. Return via Smiths plantation and The Grange. We hope to get permission to see the sculptures by Andy Goldsworthy.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS (see page 17)

AND THE NEW YEAR
BEST WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS
Anagram:

1 & 3 across Three Wise Men, 4 sheepsfold, 5 money, 6 par, 7 tot, 9 Saturday, 10 pastarami, 11 no, 13 ET, 14 adorned, 17 into, 18 lies, 19 ache, 20 tend, 21 two, 25 Scrooge, 27 tacti, 28 leapt

Down:

2 ore, 3 See 1 down, 6 present, 8 adrift, 9 stun, 10 palette, 11 nose, 12 turkey, 15 radical, 16 admiral, 19 apt, 22 inn, 23 telephones, 24 boxwood, 26 butterflies, 29 acrobat, 30 Trent

Across:

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

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Ian Carstairs OBE

Chairman

Tom Chadwick

Vice Chairman

Adrian Leaman

Council Members

Sharon Artley, Sue Chadwick, Janet Cochrane, Albert Elliot, Ann Glass, Cal Moore, Dave Moore, Colin Speakman, George Winn-Darley, Elaine Wisdom

Association Treasurer

Brian Pearce – brian.pearce11@btinternet.com

Association Secretary

Janet Cochrane – secretary@nyma.org.uk – 07570 112010

Membership Secretary

Cal Moore – membership@nyma.org.uk – 01287 669648

Walks Coordinator

Heather Mather – 01287 669104

NYMA

4 Station Road, Castleton, Whitby, North Yorkshire YO21 2EG



NYMA – Sponsors of the Moors Rambler Bus.
Please make use of the Moorsbus whenever possible.



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FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS

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