

VOICE OF THE MOORS

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



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Cover: Wonderful autumn colours in Yearsley Woods, depicted in iPad art (©Jeff Parker)

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CHAIR'S FOREWORD

NYMA has been involved with many planning battles over the years. One of the most potentially serious emerged in August this year - in the middle of the holiday season when many will have been least able to respond quickly. This was the Government's latest bid to deregulate planning rules affecting barns and other small buildings. The effect would be that buildings could be converted to residential use without rigorous planning intervention. John Ritchie, Scarborough Councillor and NYMA Trustee, was one of the first to react, reported in the Yorkshire Post as saying that "if someone had written a policy to destroy a National Park, the Government's proposal would be it". The North York Moors National Park Authority has lobbied the Prime Minister, and the Campaign for National Parks has organised a press campaign. To many, this is an ideological attack on principles formulated since the 1930s to protect and enhance cherished landscapes. If it goes ahead, the Yorkshire Dales will be one of the worst affected areas, so too will the Moors. (See also Nick Hall's comments on pg. 5.)

Just before we went to press, the Yorkshire Post ran an article called 'National Parks Under Threat' that highlighted the potential violation of the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors National Parks by the proposed change in planning laws.

FINDING YORKSHIRENESS

With winter upon us, you may be finding yourselves pining for a fix of Yorkshire and 'Yorkshireness', in which case reach for Andrew Martin's 'Yorkshire: There and Back'. This book is the polar opposite of Philip Larkin's fine poem 'The Whitsun Weddings'. Instead of a laconic one-way steam train journey from Hull Paragon station to London, witnessing farcical wedding parties on successive station platforms on a hot summer's day, you have Andrew Martin's compulsive need to return to Yorkshire from London at every conceivable opportunity. King's Cross station is his magic portal to the north, and York his craved-for destination. Except that York doesn't really crack it. It's not really Yorkshire ENOUGH.

For me, Andrew Martin's book was an instant hit. I knew I'd love it because this was the Yorkshire I know, starting in the era of steam trains at King's Cross station, stirring memories of an echelon of four A4 locomotives ('Streaks' we called them) sizzling in the platforms waiting for the OFF signal to rush north. I often travelled from King's Cross to Bradford as a youngster to visit my mother's family who lived in the Halifax area.

Andrew Martin is a self-proclaimed 'professional Yorkshireman'. His goal is to pin down what this means. This takes him across the county in visits to many of the places and people that might be the essence of 'Yorkshireness'. For the Moors and Coast read Beck Hole, the Lyke Wake Walk, the Kilburn White Horse, the Hole of Horcum, each topped off with detail only to be known if you were actually there. He also includes a chapter based on a walk in the Dales with NYMA Trustee and author Colin Speakman. This book is easily found in Yorkshire bookshops. It will be in the Yorkshire section. Elsewhere it's unclassifiable: autobiography, mid-life crisis cry for help, rip-roaring travelogue: any or all of these! Perfect for a winter's vicarious return to your favourite haunts.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION

Elsewhere in this issue of 'Voice' - including the cover - you will see the vibrant artwork of Jeff Parker, created on an iPad. We came across this when admiring David Hockney's landscapes of East Yorkshire. Hockney was an early adopter of the 'Brushes' iPad app, opening up dazzling new ways of perceiving landscapes. These formed the core of the acclaimed Lightroom exhibition in London (<https://lightroom.uk/whats-on/david-hockney/>).

The Brushes software carries out one function brilliantly well, as well as being affordable. Like many organisations, NYMA has embraced the digital age using software which we judge to be usable and manageable both for the members and our administration. There is the pdf version of Voice distributed to our Digital subscribers, the MemberMojo membership management system which has helped to streamline our contact with members (as long as we have your email address), and Zoom, which has proved its worth in bringing a widely-spread membership closer, and allows us to have occasional quarterly Council meetings virtually (though most are now face-to-face).

Another example of Zoom in action was in early September when NYMA's Ray Clarke gave a presentation to the WOMA's Institute in Richmond. Not Richmond in North Yorkshire, but Richmond-on-Thames, Surrey. The audience was grouped in a room viewing a large screen, and Ray spoke from his home near Scarborough. In case things went wrong, there was technical support at both ends. Nothing did, and the reaction from the audience was excellent.

Zoom also provides the medium for our 'Meet the Members' online socials which are back this winter, starting on Tuesday 7 November at 7pm with guest Debbie Trebilco. Debbie has a business and industrial background embracing renewable energy and the climate crisis. Her presentation at the NYMA-hosted National Park Societies conference in November 2021 can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WUgc7Neh-LE>. She delivers a powerful message that the climate emergency is not someone else's problem. It starts with all of us, and how we behave, and that's where we should look first for serious change.

I look forward to seeing you there!

ADRIAN LEAMAN

'Yorkshire: There and Back', Andrew Martin (2023), Little, Brown Book Group



Sheep on Warren Moor



Callister Wood trail before...



and after

CLEARING THE TRAIL AT CALLISTER WOOD

LATE in the summer we were out again with sturdy tools to clear a path running through Callister Wood, between Rievaulx and Old Byland. This project had a lengthy walk-in due to gated restrictions on how far we could bring our vehicle.

Initial inspection of the quarter-of-a-mile bridleway that climbs up through the wood revealed sections that had fallen away due to the steep terrain, plus bramble and sapling incursions that had completely covered sections of the route, rendering it virtually impassable to any users, let alone the horse-riders and mountain-bikers who should be able to use it.

The first task was the clearance of undergrowth to reveal the true state of the route and see what, if any, remedial work could be carried out to the existing structure. This revealed that about 20 metres in total had fallen away, so new stretches would have to be cut in from the northern bank and deposited below the southern edge; due to the steepness of the land it was felt most appropriate to commence working from the higher northern end.

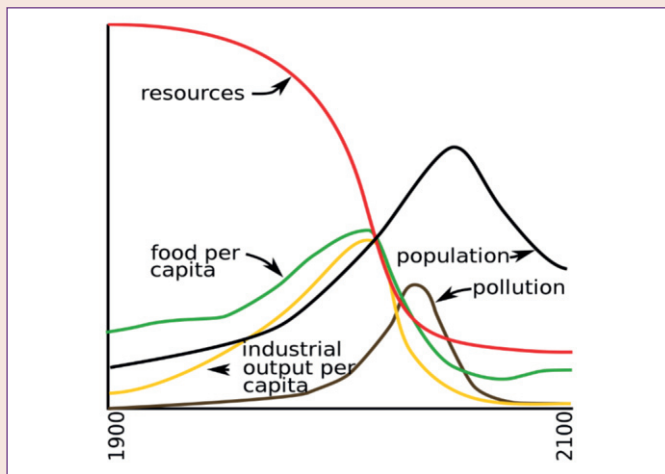
Whilst working away we were congratulated by various walking groups, totalling around 12 people.

Some 3-4 hours later, a safe passage for all was once again negotiated.

DIGGER & CUTS

LIMITS TO GROWTH: FIFTY YEARS ON

JUST OVER fifty years have passed since the publication of 'Limits to Growth', a report published by the Club of Rome (a grouping of scientists, economists, business leaders, and politicians). This was a ground-breaking American study of the future, supported by early computer modelling and nascent cybernetic thinking. The study induced paranoia in many and fervour in a few. Its main message was: 'There are limits set by the natural world. These limits will eventually render the reckless pursuit of economic growth impossible ... and we can prove it'. The concept is dramatically illustrated in the graph below, with natural resources, food and output per capita declining after a period of steep growth in population – along with pollution – followed by a decline in the population and levelling off in pollution as resources are exhausted.



Limits to Growth

Those who should have been listening to this message either ignored it or were hostile to it, especially mainstream academic and government economists. At that time, if economics considered the natural environment at all, it was usually as a desultory afterthought, often in diagrams that had a cloud symbol labelled 'Externalities'.

Externalities? If you click on an online dictionary you'll find a definition like this, from Apple: 'A consequence of an industrial or commercial activity which affects other parties without this being reflected in market prices, such as the pollination of surrounding crops by bees kept for honey'. Seriously! In practice, it's more often used in a negative context, for example the pollution of waterways by effluent from industrial processes.

GROWTH AT ANY COST

As these externalities - pollution, floods, disease and more - became an obvious and increasing threat, they could no longer be ignored. Now economists reach for inventing new 'markets' for things that have become troublesome in the natural world, such as carbon dioxide. They apply a monetary value to activities like tree-planting or peat rejuvenation which supposedly substitute what was happening before with a replacement that avoids putting even more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. Buy a carbon credit and you can claim to have created less carbon pollution than you otherwise might have done. This is especially handy for airlines, mines, steel and concrete producers, and many other industrial, transport, construction and exploitative processes ... and for 'net zero' apologists who have promoted this as mainstream policy. If you cannot create a 'market' for it, then bury it, as with

'carbon capture and storage' (an unproven process where carbon dioxide is extracted from the air and then buried) or nuclear waste disposal. The alternative is to claim that your fuel of choice is 'green' and then get the government to subsidise its creation and use (hydrogen is the favoured fuel of the moment, but very inefficient when boundaries are widened and the full environmental costs of production are considered).

Either way, growth is not stopped or, some say, even hindered. Growth is still the fundamental objective, come hell or high water - literally.

What has this got to do with 'Limits to Growth'? The Limits to Growth computer model redrew the boundaries - the 'limits'. In the 1970s the threat of population growth featured strongly in the model, as did oil supply. Pollution less so. But the Limits to Growth modelling data showed clear consequences: a headlong rush for economic growth would eventually be stymied by the limits of what could be exploited in the natural world.

ALTERNATIVES TO GROWTH?

Which raises a harder question. If not growth, then what? There are two candidates: first, less aggressive and less damaging versions of growth, and, secondly, a root-and-branch replacement of growth as a fundamental objective.

The much-vaunted theory of 'doughnut economics' is an example of the first. This redraws boundaries in the manner of 'Limits to Growth', extending them into territories never previously explored by suggesting a social foundation to economics and an ecological ceiling (see diagram). An interview with Oxford economist Kate Raworth, who co-founded the concept, may be heard in the BBC's Great Lives Radio series (search within BBC Sounds) or in a 2018 TED talk.



The Doughnut of social and planetary boundaries

Much more challenging is a different set of objectives, as suggested in Kate Soper's book 'Post-Growth Living: for an alternative hedonism' (Verso, 2020). What replaces growth-fixated consumerism? There's a rocky road ahead but it may involve something like a return to citizenship over individualism; consumption that contributes to well-being without damaging it; new forms of work and volunteerism; and reclaiming land and property for the public interest, with different ways of defining access, the countryside and nature. Andrew Curry's blog 'Just Two Things' is a good source for exploring and unravelling these exacting topics.

ADRIAN LEAMAN

MAJOR WIN FOR NATURE AND COMMUNITIES

© NYMNP / Mike Kipling

© David Sharp

We're celebrating at Campaign for National Parks, as the Government in Westminster has finally listened to our repeated calls to give National Parks – including the North York Moors – and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) in England greater powers for protecting nature.

We've been carrying out a long-running campaign for changes to ensure that these amazing landscapes do more to support nature recovery and people's access to nature. Working with Parliamentarians and National Park supporters, we've been pushing for an amendment in the Levelling Up Bill that would update the legislation that underpins our Protected Landscapes. After months of pressure the Government has finally announced that it will be introducing its own proposals in response to the amendment, which will deliver more effective management plans and place stronger duties on other bodies to contribute to the delivery of these plans.

Management plans play a vital role in setting out the targets and actions needed to ensure that National Parks and AONBs are contributing to important international commitments, including the commitment to protect 30% of land and sea for nature by 2030 (known as the '30x30' target). But the Protected Landscape bodies are reliant on other key organisations such as local authorities, the water companies and Forestry England to deliver these management plans. To date, there has been no mechanism for requiring those other bodies to contribute, but this new amendment should ensure that's not the case in future.

We hope that these reforms will have a real impact in transforming the state of nature in the North York Moors. Our recent research found that only 12 percent of SSSIs (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) in the National Park were in a 'favourable' condition, the lowest of any National Park in England, although the average across all parks is only 26 percent.

THREATS STILL LOOM

While the amendment is a massive step forward, we will be keeping a close eye on the details of what the Government proposes to ensure it really does deliver. In addition to duties relating to management plans, we want to see the statutory purposes for Protected Landscapes updated to place a greater emphasis on nature recovery and equality of access as well as a stronger duty on all relevant organisations to further these amended purposes. We will be continuing to call for the wider legislative reform and greater funding needed if our National Parks are to play their full role in accelerating nature's recovery, delivering strong climate action, and ensuring more people have good access to nature.

The amendment is welcome news after months of worrying announcements which threaten to chip away at the protections in these precious areas. In August, the Government published plans that would allow barns and other rural buildings in National Parks to be converted into dwellings without the need for planning permission. We're concerned that if these proposals go ahead, they will lead to the growth of isolated residential units in unsustainable locations and will undermine NPAs' policies to ensure local people are given priority when new housing is built. A proliferation of new dwellings could also add significant pressures in terms of water pollution and traffic



Fryupdale



Bransdale

without any requirement to contribute to the supporting infrastructure. We recognise the need to provide more affordable housing across the country, but residential barn conversions in remote places like the North York Moors and the Yorkshire Dales would do nothing to help, and would cause irreparable damage.

Alongside NYMA and other concerned groups we've written to the Secretary of State in charge of planning, raising our strong opposition to the proposals and seeking assurance that the Government will retain the exemptions which currently apply in Protected Landscapes, which we campaigned hard for when the barn conversion proposals were first put forward a decade ago. We've also had a letter published in The Telegraph highlighting the issue, and have been pleased with the high level of support from people who care passionately about these places.

While it's great to finally be able to celebrate a positive step forward in our fight for stronger legislation for National Parks, concerns over planning protections and the perilous state of nature show there is still much we need to campaign on.

NICK HALL
POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND CAMPAIGNS MANAGER, CNP

As a member of NYMA you already contribute to the work of CNP through an annual levy on your subscription, but if you'd like to know more and stay up to date with our latest news, please sign up for regular newsletters at www.cnp.org.

INTEGRATED MOORLAND MANAGEMENT AND DRIVEN GROUSE SHOOTING

© Eric Wesson, Dawnay Estates, Ian Carstairs



Bee-hives on moorland



Heather burning



Red grouse in young heather

IF YOU live in the National Park, you will no doubt notice the clouds of smoke arising from the moorland each autumn as the annual season of controlled heather-burning gets under way. Along with other aspects of moorland management, this activity often gives rise to criticism of how the heather moors are used, with the criticism all-too-often focussing on the single activity of driven grouse shooting.

A report published in August this year takes a more holistic view, examining grouse shooting in the context of the well-established 'three pillars of sustainability': environmental protection, social equity, and economic viability. These interlinked responsibilities form complex systems which need to be properly understood to ensure they can adapt to changing societal and environmental pressures.

Written and reviewed by academics with a range of professional and personal interests, the report concludes that the current system of moorland management for grouse shooting has developed over many decades into a sustainable system, and that alternative uses would be unlikely to maintain the current landscape type and biodiversity.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS

It could almost be said that the landscape resulting from the present system of moorland management, with acres of purple ling and bell heather delighting visitors in late summer, is an unintended consequence of the practice of heather-burning. Few moor owners rely on the few months of grouse-shooting alone to generate income, especially as it is not always profitable - it can only take place in years there is a large enough surplus of birds. But year-round, the upland landscape and especially the heather in late summer form a key attraction for other visitors. Thus, the principal activity of shooting itself drives high-end tourism - with concomitant local economic benefits through spending on accommodation, eating out, shopping, and employment - and facilitates other forms of tourism throughout the year. Other economic uses of the moors include livestock farming, commercial forestry, honey production and renewable energy generation in addition to tourism, and together these form a complex system of integrated moorland management.

The seasonal burning of heather moorland is carefully controlled to ensure a rotation of the areas affected and a low intensity 'cool burn' fire which affects only the upper layer of vegetation without damaging the underlying soil or peat. This reduces the risk of summer wildfires by removing the burden of more combustible older vegetation, and in maintaining biodiversity by producing a mosaic of heather and other plants

at different ages of growth, which supports a richer population and diversity of invertebrates. Other practices, such as the legal control of predators, allow not only the grouse to thrive but other birds too, especially curlews, of which the UK has around a quarter of the world's breeding population. Other ground-nesting birds like golden plovers, lapwings and oystercatchers have been found to benefit and breed more successfully on managed heather moors. Grouse moor managers also make a significant contribution to controlling the invasion of bracken, and to restoring moorland after damage from wildfires.

The report also points out that other proposed management options such as mowing or cutting of heather are as yet unproven, and that the controlled burning of heather may be more effective at reducing the release of greenhouse gases. This is because cool burning produces 'biochar', a charcoal-like substance that results from burning organic material, which is thought to be more effective at capturing carbon than cutting, since that results in the decomposition of dead plant material. The report's author, Professor Simon Denny, concludes that alternative ways of encouraging healthy heather growth are unlikely to generate the same positive impacts.

In terms of social aspects, the practice of driven grouse shooting benefits upland communities through creating jobs and providing opportunities for physical activity (such as beating and picking-up) and socialising. There's also an important element of creating a shared identity and 'sense of place': the report goes as far as to say that shooting is part of the intangible cultural heritage of many rural people and communities, which other forms of heather management could not replace.

LOOKING AHEAD

The report recommends that landowners and tenants should develop better systems of recording biodiversity on their land and invest in ways to enrich it; that advocates of alternative methods of management should research the ecosystem services and other benefits produced by these methods; and that those with an interest in how moorlands are used and managed should engage with each other to develop mutual understanding and a shared vision for the uplands.

JANET COCHRANE

Denny, S. (2023) *Sustainable Driven Grouse Shooting?* Second edition. Available at: <https://www.regional-moorlandgroups.com/research>



BUZZARDS



UNTIL recently, the Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) was only found in the north and west of the UK, following a severe population decline in the 1960s and 70s. This was caused by persecution by gamekeepers and farmers, combined with a crash in prey populations following changes in farming practices and the impact of pesticides such as DDT.

The UK then started to improve its wildlife conservation policies, for instance banning organochlorine pesticides in 1986, with associated debate and publicity leading to increased public awareness. This led to a significant rise in Buzzard population size and range, and it is now the commonest and most widespread UK bird of prey.

Buzzards are one of the larger birds seen in the North York Moors, with broad, rounded wings, and a short neck and tail. When gliding and soaring they will often hold their wings in a shallow 'V' with their tail fanned, a useful distinction from Red Kites with their longer, more pronounced V-shaped tails. Buzzards can vary in colour from pale to dark brown, with dark wingtips and a finely barred tail. They have broader wings and shorter tails than harriers or Red Kites. Listen out for their haunting, cat-like 'kee-yaaa' calls as they soar in circles high above the moorland and farmland.

OPPORTUNISM AND PERSECUTION

They are opportunistic predators and will take a wide variety of prey. Small rodents such as voles and mice are most commonly eaten, but they will also take animals as large as rabbits or as small as earthworms, as well as scavenging on roadkill. This flexible diet allows them to survive in a wide variety of habitats and has helped them reach an estimated 67,000 breeding pairs.

The persecution of birds of prey on moorlands continues to hit the headlines, both in the general press and in conservation and ornithological publications, with North Yorkshire being reported by the BBC as the worst area for crime against birds of prey – including Buzzards – in the UK. There is no doubt that the mass releases of gamebirds still practised, which run contrary to efforts to avoid further distorting the environment and to increase biodiversity, attract predators. Free food is irresistible.

What is not clear though, is the extent to which Buzzards take advantage of this bonanza. As is often the case, objectivity and science are lacking. Just how much of a Buzzard's diet do gamebirds comprise? There are really only two ways to find out, and both require a lot of time and a fair bit of skill. The commonest is to observe their nests and identify the food brought back for the chicks, but this only covers a small part of the year. The other is to locate their roosts and collect their pellets (birds of prey regurgitate the bones and feathers of whatever they eat) and to meticulously identify all that remains. Very time-consuming!

The evidence to date is, not surprisingly, inconclusive. Typical of the findings are those of a 2016 multi-organisation study on the Scottish Moors:

- Buzzards relied on small mammal prey during the winter.
- When available, Red Grouse formed a minor dietary component.
- Buzzards are opportunistic hunters, with their diet changing according to prey availability.

The report said: "Our findings did not support the prediction that predation of Red Grouse would increase when vole abundance was low. Buzzards are opportunistic birds, which means their diet changes depending on the types of prey available in the area or at that time. In this study, the scientists found that during the winter, buzzards mainly relied on eating small mammals. Insects were also an important component of their diet, particularly earthworms and beetles, because in the winter buzzards can spend more time feeding on the soft ground."*

MINIMISING CONFLICT

By looking at the diet of birds of prey and other predators, scientists can understand their impact on gamebird species. In this study, the scientists highlighted that Red Grouse were only a small component of Buzzard diet during the winter, suggesting that they are more of an incidental or opportunistic prey item. This knowledge is important, as it should help to minimise conflict between people, predators and gamebirds.

Whether objective evidence will ever overcome the subjective opinions of those who illegally kill birds of prey is another matter.

MIKE GRAY
BRITISH TRUST FOR ORNITHOLOGY

*Francksen R. M., Whittingham M., Ludwig S. & Baines D. (2016) Winter diet of common buzzards *Buteo buteo* on a Scottish grouse moor. *Bird Study* 63: 525-532

PLANT COMMUNITIES - HEATHER MOORLAND

© Nan Sykes



Ling / *Calluna vulgaris*



Bell heather / *Erica cinerea*



Cross-leaved heath / *Erica tetralix*

FOR THE past fourteen years I have been writing in 'Voice' about our moorland plants, singly or in groups with similarities, covering their structures, habitats, histories, and uses. I have mentioned over 250 of the commonest species likely to be encountered and I hope have sparked an interest in and some understanding of our rich flora.

Plants do not naturally grow in isolation but in communities depending on their needs, not always competing, sometimes relying in each other or using different aspects of the environment at different times, thus 'fitting in' to their specific habitats. Darwin's concept of the 'survival of the fittest' is often misunderstood: it refers to the act of 'fitting in' to the environment, not in the sense of being the strongest, as our modern thinking would have us understand it!

With this in mind, I would like to go back to the most obvious and well-loved of the moorland habitats, the heather upland, returning to some of the plants I first described. That is, the three heathers: Ling (*Calluna vulgaris*) dominant under most conditions; Cross-leaved Heath (*Erica tetralix*) of damper, more waterlogged areas; and Bell heather (*Erica cinerea*) of drier areas, often the roadsides where it makes an eye-catching purple display just before the Ling flowers. The other two dominant plants in some areas are Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and Bilberry (*Vaccinium myrtillus*). The former prefers deeper soils on sheltered slopes due to its underground rhizomes and tall foliage, while the Bilberry - being deep-rooted with small leaves and compact growth - can grow on the more exposed, drier slopes.

SYMBIOSIS BETWEEN PLANTS AND FUNGI

Recent research has now proved the importance of the fungal associations that all plant roots have with mycorrhiza in the soil. They form symbiotic relationships, the mycorrhiza helping the plant obtain more water and nutrients, especially in poor soils, in return for some of the plant's photosynthetic products: sugars and carbohydrates for energy and growth. They are dependent on each other. Some plants can use the mycorrhiza of many different fungal species but others are reliant on a specific one, and it appears that Ling is one of the latter, needing a specific microscopic species of mycorrhiza within its roots.

This relationship had been speculated on for a number of years, although not fully understood or proven. For example, Sylvia Arnold in her 'Wild Flowers of the North York Moors National Park' (1986), notes that Ling has a fungal root infection which increases its phosphorus and nitrogen supply, the hyphal threads creating a larger absorption surface for taking in soil nutrients. She also suggests that because of this, it was able to adapt from

an undershrub in woodland to the dominant moorland plant on poor soils. She notes that the controlled patch-burning of the heather when its lower buds remain protected by leaf litter allows it to re-sprout the following year, but if - unintentionally or by accident - the fire destroys these buds and kills the plant, it can reproduce from its copious seeds instead.

In addition, Gerrit J. Keizer in his 'The Complete Encyclopedia of Mushrooms' (1998) states that there is a specific mycorrhizal association for heather, as with orchids, but this can be fragile and damaged by drying out or pollution.

If heat, increasing dryness or pollution also damages the fragile mycorrhizal partner, it may take time for it to re-establish in the soil from neighbouring areas before the seeds can grow successfully. This can enable plants not so reliant on specific fungal relationships, such as Bilberry, Bracken, rushes, grasses and the other heathers to colonise the areas first.

From observations locally over the last few years I have noticed some indication that this is happening in areas subjected to excess heat, dryness or both. It takes an extra year for the seeds to grow in these cases, and this happens beginning with those closest to older heather plants and then gradually spreading into the centre of the bare patches where other plant species have usually taken a hold. Once growing, the Ling can become established again under the Bilberry and Bracken, as it was originally an understory plant and can tolerate some shade, and hopefully it will become dominant again.

These comments illustrate some of the complexity of our upland moorland habitat. With our now changeable and unpredictable weather patterns altering conditions, we need as much research and careful management as possible to keep it thriving. We also have to remember that it is not a completely natural plant community.

ANNE PRESS

Ling in competition with bracken



© Eric Wesson

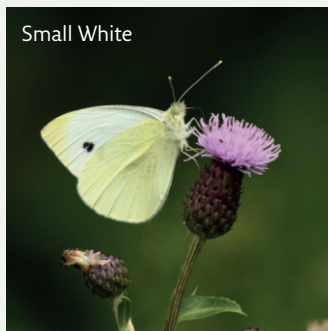
WHITES AND YELLOWS OF THE NORTH YORK MOORS

THIS IS a group of butterflies which most people will be familiar with - at least some of them. This article describes both the commonest species and rarer ones that you may spot in the North York Moors.

The Large White and the Small White and are both species which can claim the title of 'Cabbage White', widely known as the scourge of allotment owners. The larvae of these two species can reach pest proportions and decimate cabbages and other garden-grown brassicas to the point that they become mere skeletons of their former selves. As the name suggests, the Large White is the larger of the two. The female Large White is distinguished from the male by the presence of 2 black spots, together with a black dash, on the upper side of the forewing. The Small White is quite difficult to tell apart from the closely related Green-veined White butterfly, as the two are similar in size. However, the underside of the Small White has a dusting of yellow scales and the veins are not marked to the same extent with grey/black scales as the Green-veined White.

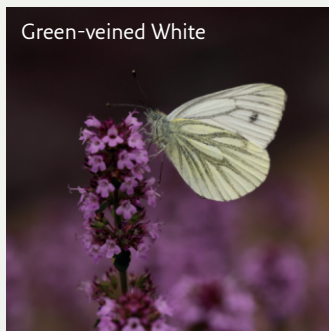


Large White



Small White

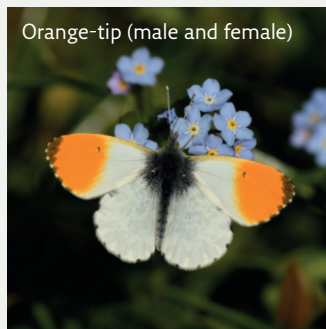
The habits of these butterflies are different from one another, too. The Green-veined White is not a pest of cultivated vegetables like the Small and Large Whites. Although it will frequent gardens, it prefers damper habitats such as woodland rides, moist field margins and meadows. It can be found in moorland areas where the other whites are absent. The larval foodplants are various hedgerow plants of the group known as crucifers, including Garlic mustard, Cuckoo flower, Charlock and Hedge Mustard. (Cruciferous plants incidentally are part of the wider genus of brassicas.)



Green-veined White



The Orange-tip is often seen as the harbinger of spring. The males stand out with their bright orange wing-tips as they wander the countryside looking for females. The female meanwhile lacks the orange wing-tips but her underside is a beautiful moss-green marbled colour. Their larval foodplants are Cuckoo Flower, Garlic Mustard or other crucifers. In the garden they will also use Dame's Violet and Honesty.



Orange-tip (male and female)

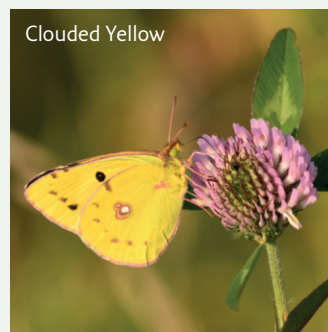


The Brimstone can be seen very early on in the year as they hibernate over winter, first appearing on warm spring days. Later in the year, they love purple flowers such as thistles, Teasels or Purple loosestrife, and can be totally oblivious to your presence when nectaring on these flowers. The males are a sulphury yellow - hence the name Brimstone. The females are a much paler shade of yellow, meaning that without careful attention, they can be easily misidentified as one of the Whites. To avoid this, look for the pointed tips to the fore and rear wings as a distinguishing feature from a distance.

Brimstones exist principally where their larval foodplant Alder Buckthorn or Buckthorn is found, but they are wanderers so can be seen well away from these. (You may remember that in 2019 NYMA presented a Conservation Award to the Whitby Naturalists Society for their work in planting Alder Buckthorn across the National Park to encourage the spread of the Brimstone.)



Brimstone



Clouded Yellow

The Clouded Yellow has rarely been recorded in the North York Moors area but is a migrant from southern Europe so can pop up anywhere. Their larval foodplants are legumes such as Red clover.

The colour of all six of these species derives from pigments deposited on their wing-scales during pupation - in this case uric acid waste products.

**MARTIN PARTRIDGE
CHAIR, YORKSHIRE BRANCH, BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION**

To find out if these species have been recorded near you, check out the Yorkshire Butterfly Atlas.

More details of these butterflies can be found on the website of the Yorkshire Branch website of the Yorkshire Branch of the charity Butterfly Conservation.

CELEBRATING THE DIALECT OF THE MOORS



Map of Yorkshire Ridings

WHY SHOULD a National Park Society have an interest in local dialect? Very simply because conserving and enhancing a National Park's cultural heritage, as well as natural beauty and wildlife, is a prime purpose of its designation. The North York Moors has a particularly rich cultural heritage. Cultural heritage includes all the human aspects of a landscape – settlement, farming, industry, transport networks, vernacular and 'polite' architecture – and also the history, folklore, music, literature and language of the people who have lived and still live in the area. Often this language is expressed as dialects, or what Victorian commentators – with some insight – named 'Folk Talk'.

YORKSHIRE DIALECT EMERGES

Many generations of people speaking their own versions of North Riding Folk Talk have occupied the moors, dales and coast of what we now call the North York Moors. In the 9th and 10th centuries successive waves of Norse settlers, popularly known as Vikings, arrived from Scandinavia. They came initially as traders, then looters, and later settled along the coast and inland, intermarrying with existing Anglian settlers. By the late 9th century they had established the Anglo-Norse Kingdom of Jorvik, whose capital and great trading port we now know as York.

The Kingdom of Jorvik was divided into three separate Thriddings, or Ridings, under the control of King and a Parliament of Thanes (noblemen) who sat in York. After the death in 954 CE of the last Viking King, Eric Bloodaxe, Jorvik became absorbed into Northumbria and a newly united England.

Prior to the Norman Conquest people living in different regions of England would have had difficulty understanding each other. Then, over the centuries one dominant dialect – from the southeast Midlands including Oxford and Cambridge – became the basis of modern English, heavily influenced later on by French and Latin. But the language of earlier inhabitants has left an indelible mark on the landscape of the North York Moors: a high proportion of rivers, dales (itself a word of Norse origin), hills, hamlets and even towns have names of Norse origin such as 'Foss' (for waterfalls), Esk, Danby, Runswick, Ainthorpe, Fryup, Lealholm, Hackness, Kirkby and even Whitby.

The influence of a Scandinavian heritage remains in local speech patterns – in the accents people use at home, at work and among friends. Accent differs from dialect purely in degree.

The 'broader' your accent, the more likely you are to use words, grammatical structures and phrases that denote a dialect.

The language regularly used by many of the 5.4 million people living in Yorkshire still contains a distinctive vocabulary which has its origins in local dialects, while even within Yorkshire, there are wide varieties of what can broadly be called a Yorkshire accent. Three distinct varieties of Yorkshire dialect still correspond closely to the ancient Ridings. The huge and dominant West Riding, which subdivides into the great cities of Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, have their own, more localised speech; while in the former North and East Ridings, accents differ from the West Riding's harsher, flatter vowels. Some believe this was the result of industrialisation in the mines, the forges and the mills, linked to immigration from other regions of England and from Ireland. East and North Riding accents have retained purer vowels and a more Scandinavian sound, and in the North Riding there is a strong Northumbrian influence. A good indicator is the dialect word for 'house', which is likely to be pronounced 'haase' in the West Riding but 'hoos' in the North Riding.

DIALECT IN LITERATURE

But what about the written language? Yorkshire has a long and proud tradition of dialect writing, poetry and prose. One of the greatest medieval poems in the English language – The Lyke Wake Dirge – is in Cleveland dialect. With the awakening of interest in language and folklore in the 19th century, the writing of dialect poems, folklore and stories was encouraged and collected.

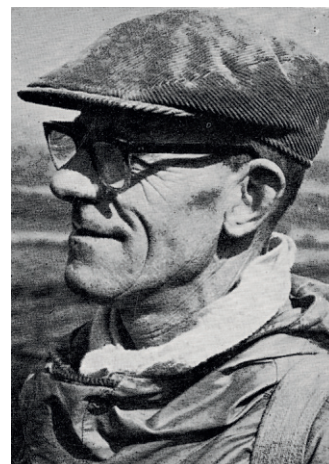
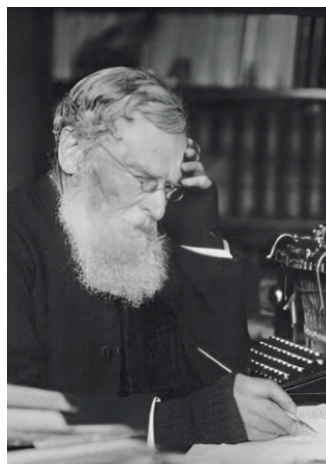
Successful North Riding or Cleveland dialect writers included the stonemason and poet John Castillo (1792-1845) of Lealholm. Richard Blakeborough of Guisborough (1850-1918) was a great collector of North Riding folklore and myth as well as a good poet in his own right. The industrialist Sir Alfred Pease published 'A Dictionary of the Dialect of the North Riding of Yorkshire' in 1928 (see quiz below), and Bill Cowley of Potto (1915-94) was a farmer, poet and dialect scholar (as well as the creator of the Lyke Wake Walk).

North Riding dialect still survives – although only just, mainly among farming communities, and within more isolated villages and hamlets, coastal and fishing communities. Much dialect evolved around specialist terms for farming, mining, fishing. As these industries change or die out, the words vanish with them.

Writing in the 1890s, both the Reverend John Atkinson (in his 'Forty Years in a Moorland Parish') and M.C.F. Morris ('Yorkshire

Rev. J.C. Atkinson at Danby

Bill Cowley



Folk Talk') predicted that the North Riding dialect would soon die out because of the impact of railways and 'certified schoolmasters' obsessed with Latin grammar. A far greater contemporary threat is television and social media, with a constant barrage of bland transatlantic English.

But perhaps the greatest threat of all is the loss of local communities in the Moors, as in other attractive rural areas of Britain. By buying up local houses and increasing prices, wealthy incomers are forcing local families to leave - and with them their traditions and language.

There are positive signs, however. Leeds University's Heritage & Dialect Project has been recording changes in local dialects in Yorkshire over the last half-century. The Yorkshire Dialect Society, the country's oldest dialect society, still flourishes (www.yorkshiredialectsociety.org.uk). This autumn the Society has even organised classes in West Yorkshire teaching people their native 'twang' in a project called Talk Tyke.

Is it time for NYMA too, to help discover and celebrate this special part of our local and national heritage?

COLIN SPEAKMAN



© Colin Speakman

DIALECT WORDS OF THE NORTH RIDING

SIR ALFRED PEASE (1857-1939) was a member of a Darlington Quaker family and an industrialist with interests in coal and ironstone mines, limestone quarries, railways, and iron and steel manufacture. He was also interested in the dialect spoken by local people. In 1928 his 'Dictionary of the Dialect of the North Riding of Yorkshire' was published. It contains many fascinating colloquial words that are now mostly forgotten. See if you can identify the animals and objects listed opposite, or at least have a guess at what they could be.

AINSLEY

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1 Flittermoos | 8 Rezzel |
| 2 Flayboggle | 9 Shig-shog |
| 3 Hagworm | 10 Slush-pan |
| 4 Icehoggles | 11 Spadger |
| 5 Muckinger | 12 Spinnermesh |
| 6 Peckatree | 13 Twitchbell |
| 7 Porriwiggle | 14 Whaup |

Answers: 1 Bat, 2 Scarecrow, 3 Adder, 4 Icicles, 5 Pocket handkerchief, 6 Woodpecker, 7 Tadpole, 8 Weasel, 9 See-saw, 10 Pot-hole, 11 Sparrow, 12 Spider's web, 13 Farwig, 14 Curlew

CHRISTMAS IS DRAWING NIGH!

IF YOU'RE short of ideas for presents for friends and family, how about choosing a gift from NYMA? Your purchase will help our funds, too. On offer are Gift Membership and a choice of three books, all packed with entertaining and well-researched stories or facts and presented in a highly readable style.

- Gift Membership is a wonderful way to support our work while giving that 'feel-good' factor to the recipient too - and enabling them to read the quarterly edition of 'Voice of the Moors' as soon as it comes out. Choose from Digital Individual (£15), or Digital Joint (£20), Annual Individual (£22), Annual Joint (£28), Ten-Year Individual (£180), Ten-Year Joint (£220).
- 'The History Tree: Moments in the Lifetime of a Memorable Tree' is a fascinating collection of stories of

personalities and events contributed by over 30 local enthusiasts for the North York Moors and edited by Janet Cochrane. £11 inc. p&p.

- 'Picture Guide to the Wild Flowers of North East Yorkshire', by Nan Sykes. A handy A5 size, this is the only thorough guide covering the North York Moors and beyond. £12.50 inc. p&p.
- 'The Quizzers' Compendium'. With over a thousand questions covering a wide range of topics and arranged into individual quizzes, the Compendium is a fun way to test the wit and brain-power of family and friends. It's compiled by Ainsley, who produces the regular crossword in 'Voice'. Perfect for quiz-lovers on winter evenings! £8. For all enquiries about gifts, please email secretary@nyma.org.uk or phone 07570 112010.





A WALK FROM NUNNINGTON

Late summer view over Vale of Pickering

THIS 7-MILE walk is outside the National Park but within the adjacent Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It starts and finishes in the village of Nunnington, where there is ample parking. National Trust members can make use of the carpark at Nunnington Hall, a magnificent rural manor house that has grown out of a Tudor Hall. The present Hall has developed from a combination of renovations and repurposes over the past 300 years with most of the renovations being carried out since the 1920s, when the house was in a poor state and uninhabited. Refreshments are available in the Hall café or in the village itself at the Nunnington Studios.

Go west through the village passing the Studios and some lovely houses, one of them offering wooden carvings for sale. The road turns sharp left and continues up through the village, but our path enters the field ahead and goes along the south bank of the meandering River Rye, through pastures and arable fields, until after about two-thirds of a mile the river turns sharply north. Here the path leaves the river and passes through Low Moor Plantation before turning left onto High Moor Lane, which you follow by the field edge until you reach a minor road.

Go left along this road then very soon right on to a field path which takes you beside several fields and finally down a bank into Stonegrave and onto the B1257. Cross the road to take a footpath signposted to Cawton, and walk left across the field to a gate which takes you into the churchyard of Stonegrave Minster. The church here dates back to Saxon times, having been established in the middle of the 8th century, although most of the current building is Norman. Take time to visit the Minster, if it is open, and as you leave the churchyard note the Elizabethan-style manor house next door.

Just before you reach the road you pass Stonegrave House, which was home to the poet, art historian and philosopher Sir Herbert Read for the last 20 years of his life. Turn left at the road and walk about 100m to Caulkley's Bank House, cross the road and turn right on the bridleway which passes on front of the house.

Follow the broad track up Caulkley's Bank and through a gate which takes you alongside Caulkley's Wood on a level path, with the wood on your right and arable fields on your left. This is Caulkley's Lane, one of many public rights-of-way in the Howardian Hills, which goes all the way to West Ness and beyond. Take time as you walk to enjoy the splendid views over the Vale of Pickering.



Stonegrave Minster

About a mile from Stonegrave the bridleway crosses a road called The Avenue which leads back to Nunnington, but you continue straight ahead along Caulkley's Lane on an obvious path between fields until it descends via the bridleway between hedges towards West Ness and onto a minor road. When we walked the path in July there were many wildflowers, butterflies, bees and moths to enjoy along here.

Cross the road and continue downhill, following it to the left past a farm, the old Wesleyan Chapel (1836), and a red telephone box. After this you join a riverside track to the left of the bridge. From here it is only about a mile back to Nunnington as you walk along the south bank of the River Rye. Soon you pass Mill Farm, and the 18th century Water Mill and the chimneys of Nunnington Hall come into view. The path follows the boundary wall of the Hall until you turn right onto The Avenue and back to Nunnington Hall and village. To finish your walk, it is worth spending a moment on the bridge and enjoying glimpses of the Hall through the trees.

TIM AND JANE DUNN

Looking towards the Moors



JEFF PARKER - INSPIRATION FROM THE LANDSCAPE



Straw bales near Newburgh and White Horse

IT WAS because of its inspiring uplands that the North York Moors was declared a National Park back in 1952, and its hills, moors, woods and fields continue to inspire those who visit it or live there. The Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty lies adjacent to the southwest side of the National Park, and its gentler, more pastoral landscapes are no less attractive.

Jeff Parker is one of several artists living locally. He says “my main focus is landscape and I am constantly inspired by the local landscape as I observe it throughout the year. I’m always on the look-out for scenes or viewpoints which suddenly ‘come alive’ as the light and season changes. The paintings are a moment in time, mainly painted on location within a 3-4 hour period and sometimes finished back in the studio.”

After studying art and design at York and Salisbury in the 1980s and working in graphic design for over three decades, Jeff settled back in Yorkshire in 2007 and re-discovered his enthusiasm for drawing and painting, which had taken a back seat during his career. In the Foreword to this edition of ‘Voice’ Adrian Leaman describes his pleasure in seeing how digital technology is used to support activities in so many areas of everyday life, and it was through browsing works produced by the iPad ‘Brushes’ software that he first came across Jeff’s North Yorkshire landscapes, on the <https://brushes.art/> website, which features a painting of the Kilburn White Horse to illustrate the app’s range and flexibility.

Jeff acknowledges David Hockney’s influence in his iPad art. “It was David Hockney who reignited my interest in the early 2000’s when he began his large body of work in East Yorkshire. This started a journey first with the iPad to pick up and develop drawing, observational and compositional skills leading to plein air painting in oils and gouache. I feel each medium has something different to offer, and they complement each other in my artistic development.”

He goes on to explain his inspiration as well as the evolution of his work. “Living and travelling through the beautiful countryside of Ryedale and Hambleton created a desire to respond to the beautiful landscape around me. I find the iPad allows me to quickly put down marks, tweak, change, modify and experiment as I draw. As my style is developing, it’s how colour can be used to capture the nuances and subtlety of the changing light throughout the seasons that really inspires me

and when it works, the result should be one of enhancement as well as a unique and personal representation of the scene which I’m aiming to capture.”

We’ve included a small number of Jeff’s works here. As you can see, most of his work centres on the area around Coxwold, Ampleforth, Kilburn and Helmsley. Talking about the oil painting of a lane near Pockley, Jeff explains: “painted en plein air on the last day of August, I was captivated by the position of this mature tree on the corner of a track just off the road to Pockley, a small village near Helmsley. The break in the hedgerow also offered a distant perspective across a recently harvested wheat field. This painting captures the late summer colours in North Yorkshire and is expressive with bold and impasto brush work. I especially wanted to capture the contrast between the light of the opposite hedgerow against the darkness of the tree trunk in shadow.”

Late summer and autumn often provide marvellous colours to appreciate, as with the magnificent depiction of Yearsley Woods which adorns the front cover, and a stack of straw bales under a tree near Newburgh Abbey which focuses the eye on the view across the fields towards the White Horse of Kilburn.

Jeff has a virtual gallery at <https://jeffparkerart.co.uk/> which is well worth browsing.

JANET COCHRANE

Intake Lane, Pockley



Plein air painting



LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY



Emma Silkstone

HAVE YOU ever considered how you would manage if you became incapable of managing your finances, either because you were physically incapable of going to the bank, managing your accounts online or signing cheques, or if you were mentally incapable? Have you also considered whether you would like someone else to make decisions about where you live or what medical treatment you should receive in the event that you cannot make such decisions yourself due to mental incapacity?

Although it is sometimes difficult to think about such a thing happening to you, simple tasks can become more and more difficult as you get older and especially if you become ill, have an accident or suffer from an illness such as dementia or Alzheimer's. Occasionally, much younger people may suffer a loss of mental capacity due to a sudden illness or as a result of an injury or accident.

Whilst you are still fit and well, you can prepare a document which allows you to choose who will deal with your finances if you are unable to. The document is a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA), whereby you appoint one or more attorneys to deal with your property and affairs or make personal welfare decisions. This includes everyday tasks such as paying your bills or more significant duties such as selling your house or deciding where you live or what medical treatment you receive

1. What are LPAs?

LPAs were created by the Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA 2005). The MCA 2005 covers England and Wales and provides a statutory framework for adults who lack capacity to make decisions for themselves, or who have capacity and want to make preparations for a time when they may lack capacity in the future.

2. How do they work?

An LPA enables a person aged 18 or over (the donor) to appoint another person or persons (their attorney(s)) to act on their behalf, following the principles of the MCA 2005, if they subsequently lose capacity. A person can choose to delegate decisions affecting their personal welfare - including healthcare and medical treatment decisions - as well as decisions concerning their property and financial matters to their attorney(s).

3. What types of LPA are there?

Property and affairs LPAs (LPA PFA): these can be used to appoint attorneys to make a range of decisions including buying and selling property, operating a bank account, dealing with tax affairs, and claiming benefits.

Personal welfare LPAs (LPA HW): these might authorise the attorney(s) to make decisions about where the donor should live, consenting to or refusing medical treatment on the donor's behalf, and day-to-day care, including diet and dress.

4. Do they need to be registered?

The LPA must be registered with the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) before it can be used. This can be done either at the time of making the LPA or at a later date when the LPA is needed.

5. Who should I choose as Attorney(s)?

The choice of attorney(s) is clearly a personal decision for the donor, but the attorney(s) must be absolutely trustworthy. The appointment of a sole attorney, whether this is for a LPA PFA or a LPA HW, may provide greater opportunity for abuse and exploitation than appointing more than one. If the donor wishes to create both an LPA PFA and an LPA HW then they should consider whether they wish to appoint different attorneys for each LPA.

It is possible to allow some flexibility, for example the donor may wish to appoint a family member and a professional to act together and independently with, perhaps, the family member dealing with day-to-day matters, and the professional dealing with more complex decisions.

6. What if I want more than one Attorney?

Where more than one attorney is to be appointed for a LPA PFA or for a LPA HW, they must be appointed to act together, together and independently, or together in respect of some matters and together and independently in respect of others.

7. Can I choose a replacement Attorney?

In the LPA you can state that if your named attorney(s) cannot act that you have a replacement attorney who can then act in their place.

8. What type of authority should I give them?

The donor must be clear whether the LPA is to be a general power, giving the attorney(s) authority to manage all the donor's property and affairs or to make all personal welfare decisions, or whether any restrictions and/or conditions are to be placed on their power.

General authority under an LPA HW will include all healthcare decisions, except giving or refusing consent to life-sustaining treatment (unless the LPA document expressly authorises this).

9. What is the certificate?

A valid LPA - whether it be an LPA PFA or LPA HW - must include a certificate completed by an independent third party known as the 'certificate provider' confirming that in his or her opinion:

- the donor understands the purpose of the LPA and the scope of the authority under it;
- no fraud or undue pressure is being used to induce the donor to create the LPA; and
- there is nothing else that would prevent the LPA being created.

Only certain people can make the certificate, including someone who knows the donor personally and has done so for the previous two years or someone who has the relevant professional skills and expertise to certify the LPA. Examples include a GP, social worker, and lawyers.

A certificate provider cannot be under 18 or a member of the donor's or attorney's family or certain other persons.

10. When can the LPA be used?

An LPA PFA can be used if it has been registered and if the donor still has capacity (unless it specifies that it can't) or after the donor has lost capacity.

An LPA HW can only be used if it has been registered and when the donor no longer has capacity to make decisions affecting their health or personal welfare.

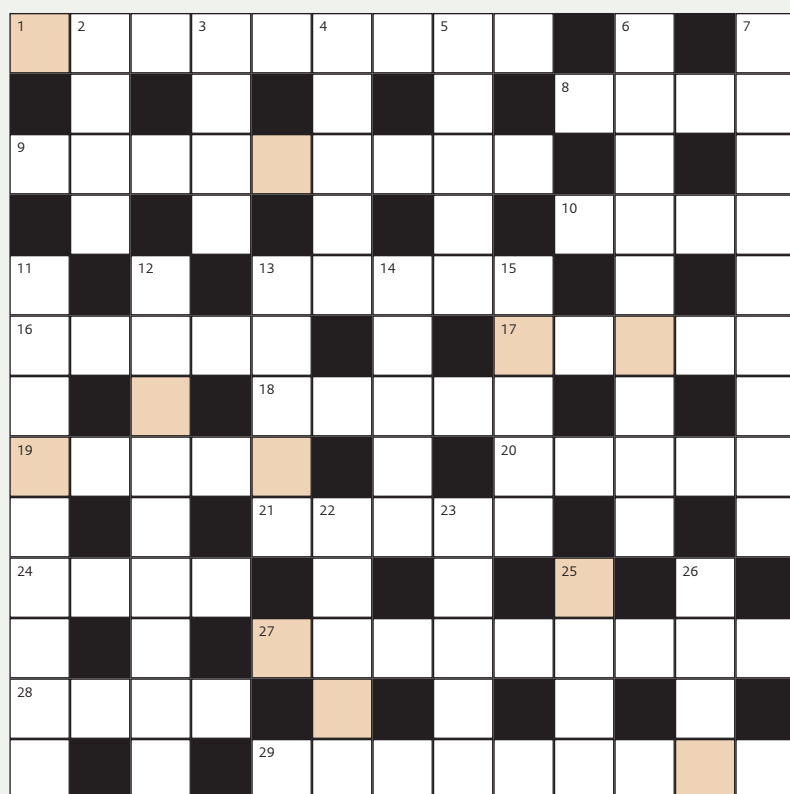
Please contact Emma Silkstone or Beth Worthy on 01751 472121 to discuss Lasting Powers of Attorney, and mention that you're a NYMA member to benefit from a 12.5% discount on legal fees.

CROMBIE WILKINSON SOLICITORS



CROSSWORD 102 BY AMANUENSIS

The puzzle contains a random mix of cryptic, synonymic, anagrammatic, and general knowledge clues.



ANAGRAM: take the letters from the coloured squares and rearrange in the boxes to solve the anagram.

CLUE: A run of great success or good fortune seen on the moors in August? (6, 5)

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

ACROSS

- 1 Below twelve inches on the ground (9)
- 8 Deserters from the vessel (4)
- 9 Waxy substance found floating on the sea (9)
- 10 Was once Siamese (4)
- 13 What cars run on (5)
- 16 Never finishes in front (5)
- 17 Aviator one included in the scheme (5)
- 18 Certainly not a starring role (5)
- 19 Yearn when a hundred give extreme praise (5)
- 20 A short time to demolish ruin in city (8)
- 21 Have the courage to never alter (5)
- 24 Female supporters (4)
- 27 Seek advice from relative after extreme pain (5, 4)
- 28 Tour around in total defeat (4)
- 29 Come to a standstill on board (9)

DOWN

- 2 Title of plaited mane (4)
- 3 Need change in the garden (4)
- 4 Old-fashioned or conservative person (5)
- 5 A natural source of oil (5)
- 6 They prefer to be on their own (9)
- 7 Helper who is a fool to start with (9)
- 11 Singer from the rooftops? (9)
- 12 Folk call it sparrow grass (9)
- 13 Just small bits of wood (5)
- 14 Revolves backwards or forwards (5)
- 15 Mix paste in quick succession (5)
- 22 A number is consumed one hears? (5)
- 23 Even Albert is corrupt at heart (5)
- 25 Tree that is on hand (4)
- 26 Sheepshank for example (4)

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Across 1 underfoot, 8 rats, 9 ambergris, 10 Thai, 13 tyres, 16 loser, 17 pilot, 18 extra, 19 crave, 20 Turin, 21 nerve, 24 bras, 27 agony aunt, 28 rout, 29 stalemate
Down 2 name, 3 Eden, 4 fogey, 5 olive, 6 bachelors, 7 assistant, 11 blackbird, 12 asparagus, 13 green, 14 rotor, 15 spate, 22 eight/ate, 23 vena, 25 palm, 26 knotn
Anagram PURPLE PATCH

NYMA NEWS

NYMA TREASURER

We warmly welcome Vic Worrall to the Council of Trustees as our new Hon. Treasurer, and look forward to working with him. Vic is a retired businessman who lived in Cropton for many years, where he was active on the Parish Council and Village Hall committee, and now lives in Pickering. He is taking over from Brian Pearce, who has done a magnificent job in keeping track of our finances for over a decade - we wish Brian all the very best for the future.

ANN GLASS

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of former Trustee Ann Glass, from Rosedale, in September. Ann was a loyal supporter and stalwart of NYMA for many years and a Council member from 2013-21. She was a constant source of common sense and wisdom, and her contributions were always measured, balanced and carefully thought through. She will be much missed.

FUNDRAISING

The Esk Valley Fell Club came up trumps when we met them at their Cock Howe race in July, and donated a very generous £350 from the race proceeds to NYMA. The photo shows Clive Thornton, from the Fell Club, handing a cheque to Ray Clarke (left), while NYMA Trustee and fell runner Tom Ratcliffe stands by.

Thanks to Ray, aided and abetted by Albert Elliot and Dave Moore, we had a presence at some of the local agricultural fairs over the summer - Duncombe Park, Thornton-le-Dale, Castleton and Kildale - which generated book and magazine sales and some new members.

We're very grateful for the generosity of Life members who have recently donated further funds to NYMA to help cover our costs. While we love having long-term supporters, the original 'Life' membership subscription was too low to cover the ongoing costs of membership over a long period. For instance, the cost of a stamp for posting 'Voice of the Moors' has risen in the past year from £1.05 to £1.15 (April) and then £1.55 (October).

WALKING SURVEY

Our Walks Coordinator Dave Moore does a wonderful job of organising monthly walks. We're currently running a survey to find out what length of walk people would enjoy. So far, the preferred length of walk is anything from 3 to 10 miles, while several new people have offered to lead walks - so there should be something for everyone! If you haven't completed the survey yet, please do so at <https://www.nyma.org.uk/walks-events/walking-survey/>

CHRISTMAS TEA

And finally, don't forget to book your place at our Christmas Tea-Party on December 2nd - we decided to do something different from the traditional Christmas lunch this year. Do come along to meet other NYMA members and Trustees - details in the column opposite. Places are limited, so please let us know you're coming on secretary@nyma.org.uk.

NYMA WALKS & EVENTS

WALKS

Saturday 28 October - Comondale Circular

Meet 10.30 at the clump of trees just west of Comondale (Grid Ref. NZ 657 105, W3W shape.modifies.heeding) for a 5.5 miles walk via Hob on the Hill, Quakers' Causeway, and Black Howes. Total ascent 200m. Leader: Wendy Smith. Please let Wendy know you're coming on wp-smith7a@gmail.com or 01642 711980.

Saturday 11 November - Staithes Circular

Meet 10.30 at Bank Top carpark, Staithes (TS13 5AD, W3W flight.vam-pire.bloom)

This 4-mile walk follows the Cleveland Way along the coast then through woodland before returning to Staithes (partly following the route described by Tim and Jane Dunn in the Summer 2023 'Voice'). Leaders: Heather & Colin Mather. Please let them know you're coming on heathercolin67@gmail.com or 01287 669104.

EVENTS

Tuesday 7 November - Meet the Members

Join a Zoom session at 7pm with guest Debbie Trebilco. Debbie is a scientist and businesswoman specialising in renewable energy and the climate crisis. A former North Yorkshire Rural Commissioner, she lives in the National Park, where she and her husband Mike Ford run their smallholding on an ecological basis. Let us know on secretary@nyma.org.uk if you'd like to attend so we can send you the link.

Saturday 2 December - Christmas afternoon tea

We've booked Bolli's Tea Rooms at Unit 2, The Hillyard, Wykeham YO13 9BP for a Christmas tea-party. The menu includes sandwiches, homemade fruit scones served with clotted cream and homemade raspberry jam, Christmas shortbread, mince pies and Christmas cake, and (of course) Yorkshire Tea or coffee.

The event is from 2-4pm and costs £17 per head. A great opportunity for a pre-Christmas get-together!

Please book your place on secretary@nyma.org.uk or 07570 112010.

Esk Valley Fell Club presentation



OFFICERS OF NYMA

President: Ian Carstairs OBE

Chair: Adrian Leaman

Vice-Chair: George Winn-Darley

Executive Secretary: Janet Cochrane - secretary@nyma.org.uk, 07570 112010

Hon. Treasurer: Vic Worrall

Membership Secretary: Vacant

Other Council Members: Tom Chadwick, Ray Clarke, Albert Elliot, Helen Gundry, Tom Ratcliffe, John Ritchie, Colin Speakman, Andy Wilson, Elaine Wisdom

Walks Coordinator: Dave Moore, walks@nyma.org.uk

NYMA: Glen Cottage, Carr Lane, Scalby, Scarborough YO13 0SB

The North Yorkshire Moors Association is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, Registration no. 1169240

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