

# VOICE OF THE MOORS

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



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MOORS ASSOCIATION  
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Cover photo: Cleveland Way, Hasty Bank © Mike Kipling-NYMNPA

### NYMA MEMBERSHIP

#### Annual membership:

- Individual £18
- Joint £25 (living at same address)

#### Annual digital membership:

- Individual £10
- Joint £14 (living at the same address)

#### 10 Year membership:

- Individual £120
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#### Life membership:

- Individual £300
- Joint £400 (living at same address)

#### Business membership:

- Small businesses (up to 10 employees): £30
- Large businesses (more than 10 employees): £100

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# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES 2019

## INTRODUCTION

This year has been a busy time for NYMA and includes follow-up work on the History Tree Project after the launch of *The History Tree* book at last year's AGM. We have responded to planning applications, attended numerous meetings and continued to work on other projects. We have committed ourselves to hosting the 2020 National Park Societies annual conference to be held next October at Cober Hill, Cloughton near Scarborough. We have responded to the consultation on the Review of National Parks (Glover Review) and in September, attended a round-table meeting in Helmsley with the chairman Julian Glover. We have also worked on a response to the consultation on the draft Local Plan to cover the period 2016-2035 and due to be submitted to the planning inspectorate in June. NYMA has organised its biennial Conservation Award made jointly with the National Park.

## FINANCES

At the end of the financial year in March 2019 our financial position is sound with an end of year balance of £55,628.33. Our main expenditure is *Voice* production and Secretary fees and expenses. Our main income is from members' subscriptions and we received £2,900 in donations. In 2018 we received a bequest of £2,500 from the estate of Allan Patmore to be allocated to a specific project yet to be arranged.

## MEETINGS

Over the past year we have held four Council meetings in Kirkbymoorside. We also attended three Campaign for National Parks (CNP) meetings, giving us the opportunity to meet with other representatives from the twelve National Park Societies and with representatives from CNP. We would like to record a word of thanks to Ruth Bradshaw, Policy and Research Manager for CNP, who has been helpful in contributing to the consultation on the Local Plan and other planning matters. We also attended the 2018 National Parks Societies annual conference held in the Dartmoor National Park. Meetings have been held with the Friends of the Dales and Friends of the Peak District in connection with a link-up to the School of Tourism at Leeds Beckett University. This is a new initiative to find out more about young people's interest in national parks. We also continue to keep in touch with the North York Moors Green Lanes Alliance on issues concerned with off-roaders who create so much damage to green lanes and make difficulties for other users.

## MEMBERSHIP

Total membership in April 2019 was 423 showing a small decline of 4 members since last June. There has been a good take-up of the 10-year membership option introduced at the beginning of 2018. We have a growing number of business memberships and these now total six. We have reviewed the

postage costs of *Voice* to overseas members. In the case of overseas life members, a greater proportion of their fee is taken up by postage and we are in financial deficit. A new digital subscription, with a rate of £10, has been introduced for individual membership and a proportionate rate of £14.00 for joint annual membership.

### CONSTITUTIONAL OBLIGATION

Our Constitution requires us to report on the activities of the Association including those for public benefit and you will see from what follows that this is very much part of what we have done over the last twelve months.

### VOICE OF THE MOORS

Our quarterly magazine continues to be a vitally important connection with our members. The high quality of content and design is maintained through the efforts of the editor Sharon Artley and Pascal Thivillon of Basement Press who prepares the magazine for printing. We are grateful to the many contributors to the magazine, especially those who provide articles for each issue. Thanks must also go to the team who ensure that the magazine reaches our members in a timely way. This issue carries a tribute (page 8) to Tom Kirby who sadly died earlier this year. He provided such informative and readable articles on mycology.

### GUIDED WALKS

The programme of guided walks has continued over the last year with eleven varied walks led by our regular walks team: Beryl Turner, Colin and Heather Mather, Wendy Smith, Kath Mair and Albert Elliot. They have clocked up a collective total of over 60 miles. An additional "Town Walk" has been introduced, the first of these being a walk round Kirkbymoorside.

### PARK WOOD BIODIVERSITY PROJECT

This long-term project has continued with some fencing maintenance and additional tree planting in late April. We have to thank Botton Forester Alan Ayers for generously providing trees and stakes from the Botton Tree Nursery. Tree planting is now almost complete, but we will be seeking some Alder Buckthorn for planting in the autumn to provide a habitat for the brimstone butterfly.

### MOORSBUS

This year marks the end of ring-fenced funding that we have provided for supporting this project. The funding came from a bequest from the estate of the late Charles Laughton of York. NYMA will continue to offer support for the Moorsbus in other ways.

### WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

NYMA now has a new domain name: [nyma.org.uk](http://nyma.org.uk) and thanks to Janet we have now got a lively and up-to-date website. Cal and Janet have also set up a new Facebook page *Wild about the Moors* which it is hoped will provide a forum for campaigning as well as highlighting NYMA activity.

### PLANNING MATTERS

We have continued to monitor the developments at the Sirius Minerals mine head site at the former Doves Nest Farm and also at the tunnel access site at Lockwood Beck. Further modifications to the original planning application have been agreed with the National Park. The large painted bronze



Park Wood biodiversity plot tree planting

sculpture known as 'The Seated Man' erected on Brown Hill between Danby Dale and Westerdale has now been removed. We objected to the siting of this sculpture on Brown Hill when the planning application was made two years ago, considering it not to be a suitable location. It was subsequently approved by the National Park Planning Committee for a limited period of five years. The popularity of the sculpture, generated partly through social media, led to unexpectedly large numbers of people visiting the site and resulting in considerable damage to this protected area of moorland and so a decision was made to remove it after only two years.

We are pleased to report that the County Council has imposed a permanent Transport Regulation Order (TRO) on Kirby Bank which includes the "Kirby Bank Trod". This bans all motorised vehicles from using this track and will help to preserve an ancient public way from the damage caused by off-road vehicles. In 2018 NYMA added its voice to the consultation which started the process leading to the ban.

### PUBLICATIONS

Sales of *The History Tree* book continue with over 600 copies now sold. NYMA is acting as publisher for two new books shortly to appear on bookshelves. These are: *Wildflowers of Westerdale* by Carol May Wilson and *Wheelsheds of North Yorkshire* by David Hartley and Joan Hartley, edited by Robin Cook.

**TOM CHADWICK**

# 50 YEARS OF THE CLEVELAND WAY

Summer walkers on Cleveland Way near Roseberry Topping

Photo © Malcolm Blentley-NYMNA

**O**F THE SIXTEEN NATIONAL TRAILS in England and Wales, the Cleveland Way is the best! But then, I would say that, wouldn't I! However, I think I can justify my claim. For a start, several of the National Trails don't follow coastline, although a few do start or finish by the sea. And which other National Trail offers such a wide range of habitats and such diverse scenery as the Cleveland Way? Moorland and forest, woodland and farmland, rocky shore and sandy beach, dales and escarpments, sea cliffs and headlands, the list goes on. And in addition to the natural features, the Way passes historic sites dating from the Stone Age to the present, including the magnificent Rievaulx Abbey, dominant Scarborough Castle, and the subtler evidence of Iron Age forts and Stone Age fields. Then there is our very capricious weather! Let's take a quick trip along ten sections of this glorious 109 mile walk.

Leaving the imposing ruins of the castle in the very centre of the attractive market town of Helmsley, the Way climbs gently westward before dropping into a series of valleys which dissect the limestone of the Hambleton Hills. The route finally emerges onto the plateau at the aptly named village of Cold Kirby before arriving at Sutton Bank. The two highlights of this section of the walk are surely the glorious ruins of Rievaulx Abbey and the amazing view as you suddenly emerge from the forest on the very edge of Sutton Bank.

From here to Osmotherley is an airy walk along the escarpment edge at around 200 metres above the western plain. A gradual change from limestone to sandstone introduces you to your first experience of heather moorland which stretches eastwards for some forty miles to the North Sea. On a clear day the views in all directions are stupendous and in August the acres of purple heather have to be seen to be believed, not to mention the honeyed scent!

Prepare for some stiff climbing on the third section of the Way! The Cleveland Hills form a vast dissected plateau along the western and northern area of the North Yorkshire Moors. You have no sooner scaled one hill when you are heading for the next. The views, will however, offer compensation, extending north to Middlesbrough, Hartlepool and Durham County and west to the Northern Pennines. Today it is difficult to appreciate that a couple of centuries ago, this escarpment was riddled with working jet mines and huge alum quarries.

The ascent from Clay Bank to the summit of Urra Moor, at 454 metres the highest point on the moors, is the last long climb for a while, the rest of the walk being a gentle downward slope towards Kildale. The distant peak of Roseberry Topping draws you on while you may contemplate when and why the numerous standing stones you pass were erected. Crossing the old Rosedale mineral railway track bed may also bring thoughts of the tough conditions in which the early navvies worked.

Leaving Kildale and passing under the line of the Esk Valley Railway, the path climbs gently towards the prominent stone obelisk erected in memory of Captain James Cook. Cook spent much of his boyhood within sight of Roseberry Topping. Through coniferous forest and mixed woodland and overlooking the ancient market town of Guisborough, the Way now heads eastwards towards the coast. A pleasant stroll down Saltburn Valley brings you to the sea and a dramatic change of scenery.

Keep the sea on your left and you can't get lost! Like the sky, the sea is forever changing and will now add a new dimension to your walk. Appropriately, we are still in Cleveland, 'cliff land', as we stroll out along the North Yorkshire and Cleveland Heritage Coast. From sea level at Skinningrove, the Way gradually rises towards the highest cliffs on the east coast of England at Boulby. Like the northern escarpment, these cliffs have seen huge changes as a result of the extensive quarrying and mining activities of yesteryear.

Leaving behind the attractive old fishing village of Staithes, the path now climbs from the shore and once on the cliff top follows a near level route via the impressively named Port Mulgrave (don't expect too much!) and the cliff top settlement of Kettleness, most of which fell into the sea 190 years ago. Approaching Sandsend, the path suddenly descends via a steep staircase onto the trackbed of the old Whitby to Saltburn railway which closed in 1958. Winding through the site of a huge old alum works you finally arrive where the 'sand ends',

Subject to the state of the tide you may walk along the beach to Whitby, which deserves more than a passing look. The town is steeped in history and is dominated on the East Cliff by the gaunt ruins of Whitby Abbey and on the West



View of Robin Hood's Bay from Ravenscar



Lake Gormire from Cleveland Way north of Sutton Bank



Bluebells near Roseberry Topping



Saltburn



Group of walkers near Wainstones

Cliff by the prominent statue of James Cook. An airy cliff top walk will bring you to that jewel in the crown of the Yorkshire coast, Robin Hood's Bay.

Following the wide sweep of the bay with its great curving Jurassic scaurs, the Way climbs to Ravenscar, the last high point on the walk, from which there is a steady descent towards Scarborough. Ravenscar, 'the town that never was', sits atop a 200-metre-high cliff, perhaps one reason why development never took off? Quite a contrast to Scarborough, 'the queen of watering places', to give it its old sobriquet.

From Scarborough to Filey is one of my favourite stretches of coastline. Away from the moors and the high cliffs, you follow a more gentle and greener coastline, to terminate in the long eastern pointing finger of Filey Brigg, the end of the Cleveland Way and the beginning of the Wolds Way, but that's another story!

Fifty years is half a lifetime and there have been many changes along the Way since Alan Falconer first proposed the route in the late 1960s. Walking has increased in popularity and today it is estimated that around 350,000 people walk at least a part of the Way every year, with several thousand completing the whole route. Wear and tear on the peatlands of the Cleveland Hills led to the establishment of the Cleveland Way Project in 1989 and the paving of several miles of the route with sandstone slabs from old mills in West Yorkshire. Along the coast, erosion has taken its toll with sections of the route frequently being moved back to accommodate the path. This was particularly challenging when the Holbeck Hall Hotel at Scarborough fell into the sea in 1993! Today, volunteers play a big role in managing the Way with sections of the route being adopted by families, youth groups and clubs. They check their section three times a year, carry out small works and report any problems. National Park Volunteers and Park Apprentices also play a major role working with a full time Ranger. Many things may have changed over the last fifty years but the Cleveland Way remains a walk for all seasons and is still the premier long distance walk in the country. But then, I would say that, wouldn't it!

ALAN STANIFORTH

# ORCHIDS

**M**ENTION orchids and most people immediately visualise the showy tropical orchids that are ever available in supermarkets and garden centres rather than our native ones. They may be quite disappointed by these; smaller, less spectacular and with only a brief and often hidden flowering period. But their life styles are fascinating and, if conditions permit, they can offer a short eye-catching display.

We have about fifty native species, belonging to the family Orchidaceae, just less than half are, or have been, found on our moors, many are rare and most sadly declining in frequency. In evolutionary terms it is a fairly recent family adapting to insect pollinators available, and frequently hybridising. They are perennial, monocotyledons with single, erect, unbranched stems supporting a flowering spike, with simple parallel veined leaves in basal rosettes which may continue sporadically up the stems. The flowers have three sepals and three petals, the inner lateral ones forming a 'lip', above which the single stamen supports the two pollen sacs. These lips vary tremendously in shape and size, in extreme cases resembling the insects attracted for pollination, the bee and fly orchids, or other fanciful shapes that give them their common names.

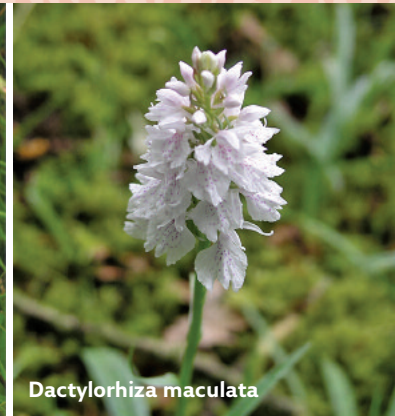
We now know that nearly all plants benefit from having an association with fungal mycorrhiza in the soil, but orchids are entirely dependent on these, each with a specific fungus. This limits the habitats where they can survive as, even if pollination is successful, their prolific minute wind borne seeds have no food reserves and need that fungal association immediately to germinate and growth to maturity may take several years. However, once fully grown, they are fairly robust, carrying huge food reserves in their tubers and roots so they can survive in poor soils and even over years when conditions prevent flowering. Most flower early in the summer before other vegetation becomes too dense and only spend a brief period above ground. They prefer stable habitats, woods, bogs, cliffs and old meadows, modern farming practices being detrimental but they do seem able to recolonise the poor soils left on old industrial sites, waste tips, power stations and motorway verges, for example around the Teesmouth area.

Although 21/22 species have been recorded on the North Yorkshire Moors, many are rare and confined to a few individuals in specific areas, but half a dozen are more likely to be encountered, some with purple flowering spikes and some with yellow/green ones and I will concentrate on these.

The first to flower is the early purple orchid (*Orchis mascula*), from April in ancient woodland, cliffs and hedge banks on more acid soils. It has a dark purple lax flowering spike and usually darkly blotched leaves. The common spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*), follows with a pale pink, more compact head and spotted leaves, on verges, meadows and marshes on non- acid soils and the similar light pink heath



*Dactylorhiza fuchsii*



*Dactylorhiza maculata*



*Epipactis helleborine*



*Orchis mascula*

spotted orchid (*Dactylorhiza maculata*), a little less common on acid heaths and moors. Other pink/purple orchids that may be encountered are the fragrant, the northern marsh and the pyramidal.

Of the green/yellow flowering species, the easily overlooked common twayblade (*Neottia ovata*) is often found in woods and on grass verges, with its two large, oval basal leaves and green flowers with forked lip, and the broad leaved helleborine (*Epipactis helleborine*) in shady woods and banks with long spikes of greenish pink flowers.

The tuberous roots of many orchids contain a mucilaginous starch like substance, with sugar and nutrients that has from ancient times been used to make a drink called Salep (from the Arabic Sahlets), with spices, honey and milk, a highly nutritious herbal tonic, soothing and strengthening. This was drunk in the popular Salep houses, particularly as, due to the shape of the two round underground tubers of many species, by sympathetic magic it was reputed to be an aphrodisiac as well! Only when coffee arrived in this country did these venues become our coffee houses. Due to the concentrated nutrients, the tubers were also carried on long sea voyages. Only the twayblade had other uses, being recommended as wound healing and for irritable bowels.

Needless to say, all orchids are too scarce for us to consider uprooting them for use nowadays! I have only described a few of the commoner orchids and suggest if you find any others you consult a good flower guide for identification.

ANNE PRESS

# THE FUTURE IS A STATE OF MIND

## ...AND, WHAT A MESS IT COULD BE!

My head is spinning with chaos, sound-bites, threats, promises, losses, uncertainty. British Steel collapses, it has just been announced (no idea what the position will be when you read this). I contemplate those forests across the Park planted in response to a desperate strategic need at the end of The Great War, pondering whether there might just be a lesson, once learned a very hard way, writ large across the landscape.

In such turmoil, where will the quality of the environment sit in the collective mind of society? What we think now, sets the scene for that, which others will inherit or have to deal with in the years ahead.

But, why have we heard so very little about the environment in the debate over our future relationship with Europe?

'Getting our country back', which I never thought I'd actually lost, tells me absolutely nothing about what we will do when it 'returns'. There is a drive to trade globally. At the same time, imperatives for the future of the planet point in exactly the opposite direction - that we should be aiming for something rather closer to home. It seems a very strange and contradictory mind-set to have.

And: how far will politicians compromise the hard-fought-for principles of environmental protection and food standards in the headlong dash to woo trade and encourage building projects?

Even today, with regulations to protect our finest places, it is an uphill struggle to constrain inappropriate development, as we know only too well in the Moors. Moreover, I am told transposition of rules into UK law, if not carefully handled, could water-down the Habitats Regulations, which can stop activity harmful to internationally protected wildlife sites, including most of the moors, from going ahead.

But, getting down to fundamentals, what worries me most for the countryside is the future for our farmers, on whom not only food supplies depend but also the means to try to maintain and rebuild the fabric of the natural world on a national scale.

Farm support and environmental payments have been an essential part of helping to keep food prices low. Importantly,

it is a frightening fact that 'food comes first ... morals and everything else somewhat later' ... and to add another drop of doom and gloom, it is also said that: 'we are only three meals away from anarchy', not forgetting that we already import a large proportion of the food we need.

Unfortunately, on entering the EU, when support payments were linked to production, they encouraged wholesale clearance of rough places and many intimate details of the landscape were lost to provide more space to grow crops and increase returns. Rejigged to support the holding rather than the production and with the addition of welcome environmental payments, the financial support regime turned this around, sustained holdings and supported important work for the environment on farms. This enabled proper management of economically unviable but ecologically priceless places to be maintained, and yes, loved with pride by those responsible for looking after them.

Now what is to happen? We are told that present farm support will be maintained for a few more years then scaled-down. A new scheme has been promised - details yet to be seen - tailored to providing environmental benefits and public good. On the face of it that sounds fine. But if there are to be new and beneficial ways for farm support to be financed, perhaps capped or tapered to favour the smaller farming enterprises, can society make a plea that they are not onerous or too demanding of the farmer and that those owning and working the land can be rewarded in relation to what they already have, as well as for the new things they can create or accommodate.

As to society's collective state of mind ... I'd say it should be 'troubled to get things right'. For the person who thinks it important to do the 'right thing' in their private life, however small that gesture might be, later that day might be the Chief Executive of a multi-national company, or somewhere on the scale in between, and attach the same concern for the environment and the future of the planet as a priority in whatever decision they are about to take; the Future is our state of mind ... now. It is the ultimate cliché, but we are all in this together. What do we think? A lot depends on it.

IAN CARSTAIRS

Photos © Ian Carstairs

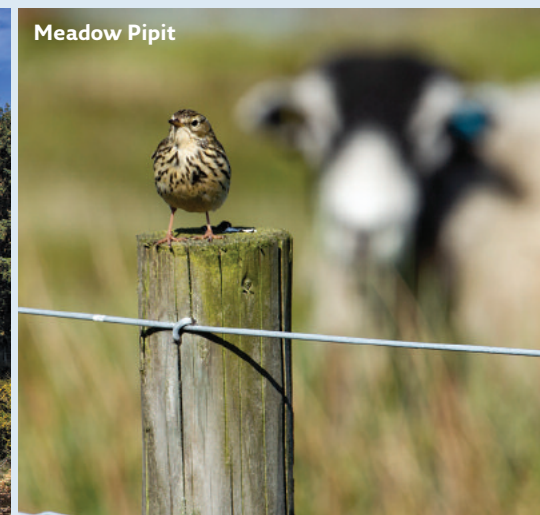
Boundary marker



Forestry Commission forest edge



Meadow Pipit



# TOM KIRBY

## 1949 - 2019

Photo © Pauline Elliott



**ISSUE 125** of *Voice of the Moors* (Autumn 2016) contained the first of Tom Kirby's fascinating articles on fungi. Tom was an enthusiastic and knowledgeable amateur mycologist. In fact, it was said by those who know that he was 'quite an expert'. He was an active member of the North Eastern Fungus Study Group. Perfectly complimenting his mycology expertise, was his ability to write in a humorous and entertaining style while still having gravitas when needed. Tom contributed a further nine excellent instalments on fungi for *Voice* readers, his last piece appearing in issue 134 (Winter 2018). He also led lively 'fungal forays' for NYMA members (and any other interested groups) impressing everyone with his in-depth understanding of his subject and his knack of readily identifying and quoting both the common names and the more esoteric Latin nomenclature of the specimens of fungi he uncovered, as well as giving the pertinent botanic details and any relevant folklore.

At the start of 2019 Tom fell ill, eventually requiring prolonged hospitalisation. Despite his excellent care and medical treatment, Tom lost his brave battle with cancer and, sadly, died at the end of March. He was seventy. Tom was a caring environmentalist and at his request the funeral service took place at the green field burial site along Westerdale Side at the heart of the North York Moors National Park. A huge throng gathered there on Monday 8 April to celebrate Tom's life and say farewell to their good friend and colleague. The many upbeat and often humorous eulogies and anecdotes fondly delivered during the service said it all. A small ensemble of

colleagues from the Eskuleles band sang songs that Tom knew well. Tony O'Donnell, a talented violinist and friend from Castleton, completed the service music with a moving rendition of *The Lark Ascending* by Ralph Vaughan Williams. However, the weather on the day was not so kind, being bitterly cold with a low-lying dense fog (roke) hanging in the valley frustratingly obscuring the fine views of the dale for those attending the service. Tom would certainly have made some humorous and pithy quip about the conditions of the day and the vagaries of the English weather ...

Tom Kirby and his wife Annie moved to Ainthorpe, Danby, just three or so years ago after living for over forty years in the Sedgfield area. However, Tom immediately involved himself in the local community becoming an enthusiastic and active Esk Valley resident and a valued friend and colleague to many. He joined the Castleton Men's Shed group and the Eskuleles, a band of local musicians and singers who give concerts in the area and raise considerable funds for charities and other worthy causes. This was right up Tom's street. In his own inimitable way, he took up the ukelele with gusto putting in many hours of concentrated practice (to which Annie will attest). He soon became proficient on the instrument going on to give entertaining and accomplished solo renditions of some of his favourite songs such as *Frankie & Johnny* and *Blueberry Hill* as part of the Eskuleles entertainment evenings: a born performer.

Tom was a talented and generous guy, an excellent cook (nicknamed by his friends the Naked Chef because of his penchant for wearing little else but shorts and a large wrap-around apron when cooking). He ably displayed this culinary skill and kindness by cooking and serving - on two occasions and at his behest - breakfasts at his Ainthorpe home for the entire twenty or so members of the Castleton Men's Shed. Annie discreetly 'slipped away' during these raucous men's breakfast banquets: a wise woman indeed. Tom's dishes of smoked fish kedgeriee and haddock cooked with oats were delicious. Tom loved food. His irrepressible love of life was infectious and his enthusiasm for cooking, socialising and merrymaking (along with the love of a shared tot or two of his favourite tippie, Tullamore Dew Irish whiskey...) was legendary as was his kind hospitality and friendliness. He delighted in sharing a good joke or story; a raconteur who could enthral listeners with his 'riveting' tales.

Tom was a non-conventional individualist, a big man in both stature and personality; a loveable extrovert and a larger-than-life character. He also had his share of eccentricities (like swimming at midnight in the cold River Esk, for instance!), but his offbeat and zany exploits served only to endear him all the more to those who came to know the man. A kind, supportive and unforgettable character who will be greatly missed.

AINSLEY



# YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT

**I**’M SURE you’ve noticed that birds’ beaks vary in shape and size and realise that in most cases they have evolved to cope with their respective diets: but have you ever stopped to wonder how beaks work? Many garden birds are seed eaters and have strong beaks capable of cracking husks to get at their kernels.

But look more closely at these (primarily) seed eaters; competition for food means that some sort of specialisation is needed to make the most of each type of seed. Take finches: they have strong jaw muscles and modified beaks with two grooves inside where they can lodge seeds and then use their tongues to rotate them as the mandibles do the crushing and dehusking. If you decide to avoid the mass of husks left underneath a feeder containing whole sunflower seeds and so put out sunflower hearts, you may then wonder why you are still left with a load of skins. This is the finches rotating the seeds in their beaks and using their tongues to deskin them, so making them more digestible.

Beaks are made up of two halves or mandibles, the outer layer of which consists of keratin (like our hair) and which, similarly, continues to grow and is worn down by everyday use. The upper mandible contains the nostrils at the base of the bill and both mandibles have cutting edges. The jaw muscles are attached to the skull and act as a lever on the lower mandible, allowing the bird to open and close its beak – the upper mandible does not move in most birds.

‘Soft-billed’ birds generally can’t crack open hard seeds, with species like wren and starling having narrow bills to probe for insects. Starlings do have an extra feature to their beaks; their jaw muscles are extremely strong allowing them to open their beaks within the soil, uncovering insect larvae that might



Goldfinches

Photo © Sharon Arntley

otherwise remain undiscovered. Blackbirds have a fruit-eaters’ bill with a slightly hooked tip for plucking fruit and a broad base that allows them to swallow things whole, but obviously are happy to eat worms and many other similar comestibles.

Surprisingly the shape of a bird’s beak may change over time. A great tit’s bill can change shape depending on what food is available. Adults eat seeds during the winter but switch to caterpillars in the spring. Subtle changes occur in their bills, which become longer and narrower during spring, allowing them to feed more easily on invertebrates.

But when you look closer still, there are other specialisations to be found.

Chaffinches and bramblings usually feed on the ground looking for places where disturbed soil has brought seeds to the surface, with the chaffinch having a slightly smaller bill suitable for smaller seeds.

Greenfinches prefer elm, yew and hawthorn, and have large robust beaks to cope with these larger seeds. Goldfinches too are specialists. They prefer very small seeds, favouring dandelions, thistles and teasel, their fine, pointed bills allowing them to access the small seed heads.

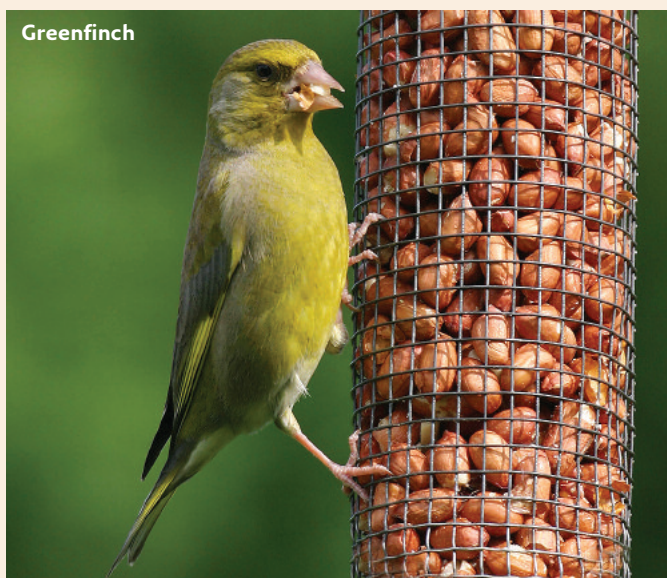
Bullfinches prefer to peel the skin and pulpy flesh off their seeds, with short bills designed for the task.

Despite all this specialisation, finches will happily catch insects. Some species, such as chaffinch and goldfinch, will eat insects during the breeding season, and the majority of finch young are fed on easily digestible and highly nutritious invertebrates. It’s here that the debate of whether to feed during the breeding season comes to the forefront. Chicks need a high protein diet to develop as rapidly as possible, with their parents bringing them plenty of insects, but if there is a shortage, whether due to excessive use of pesticides and herbicides or our ever more extreme weather, what happens? If things get really tough, they will feed their young on seeds, and here I suggest supplementary foods are better than nothing, but otherwise there is a danger of parents taking seeds for the young whose rate of growth could be reduced as a result.

But do remember that birds don’t often read bird books and so don’t always do as they are told! Particularly on garden feeders, lots of birds will go for what is there, though if you put out mixed seed as I do you will see that there the various species do have their preferences.

Beak size and shape can be useful aids to identifying juveniles too, so next time you have some finches in your garden, get out your binoculars and have a closer look.

**MIKE GRAY (BTO GARDEN BIRDWATCH AMBASSADOR)**



Greenfinch

Photo © Jill Pakenham/BTO

# RIDING THE MOORS



**A** N ARABIAN proverb claims that “the wind of heaven is that which blows between a horse’s ears”, and in Yorkshire that certainly feels true.

Along with hundreds of other people, I enjoy riding the moors, woods, farmland and coast of the North York Moors and its surrounding areas, taking my horse whenever possible to explore the bridleways, tracks and quiet lanes. We are incredibly lucky in northeast Yorkshire to have access to so many miles of glorious countryside, and one of the many wonderful aspects of riding is that the horse takes care of the walking part, looking after its own feet, while riders can sit up and enjoy the views!

Of course, it’s not really as simple as that. It takes a partnership between horse and rider to be aware of the terrain we are travelling across and any hazards - although sometimes our perceptions differ as to what constitutes a hazard. For instance, as a human we might think that a huge tractor speeding towards us along a lane with no passing places is scary, but the horse is likely to be used to tractors and not be in the least worried ... however it may spook at a white butterfly suddenly flying out of the hedgerow, or a squirrel running along the top of a gate. Or a patch of slightly darker tarmac, or a molehill (OK, so they’ve seen thousands of molehills before - but who’s to know this isn’t the one hiding an explosive mole? It pays to be cautious).

Riding a horse in open country, as opposed to going round in an arena, is not only health-affirming physically because of the exercise and fresh air, but also helps to nourish that emotionally important sense of ‘belonging’, as people often ride out with like-minded others, sharing stories of horsey deeds (and misdeeds) and questions of family, professional life and even politics. It can help to create a sense of community with the people whose villages and farmland we pass through, and a deep connection with the lives of those in earlier centuries whose horses’ hooves passed over exactly the same ground as ours. Many bridleways follow ancient roads and byways across the Moors: the Cleveland Way is the best-known example where it follows the Hambleton Drove Road, but keeping an eye out for sunken ‘holloways’ and worn paving slabs reveal evidence of medieval or even Roman roads in other places too, such as the route between Chop Gate and Great Broughton that includes Kirby Bank

Trod, and the so-called ‘Quakers’ Trod’ leading northwest from Comondale to Guisborough.

While having access at any time to the North York Moors on my own horse is a huge privilege, visitors and non-horse owners can also enjoy hacking out from one of the excellent trail-riding centres in the area - and if basic skills are still lacking, many of them provide lessons to cover those too. Boltby Trekking Centre, the Bilsdale Riding Centre, Snainton Riding Centre, Farsyde Riding Centre at Robin Hood’s Bay, and the Friar’s Hill Stables at Sinnington all provide good horses for hire for riding out into the Moors, while Ride Yorkshire provides a series of self-guided route-maps and guided rides for people with their own horses.

## IT’S NOT ALL EASY RIDING

The terrain of the Moors can sometimes be challenging for horses because of its steep slopes and stony trails, while it often happens that a bridleway on the map simply doesn’t exist on the ground. Where they have been obliterated by shooting tracks, for example, it is normally straightforward simply to follow the newer track, but a wider issue is that in contrast to hikers, riders can only use a relatively small part of the public rights-of-way network. We are not permitted to use footpaths, which is justified in some cases because the paths are too narrow, steep or dangerous for horses, and as well as potentially injuring a horse use of the paths could cause conflict with other users. In other cases, however, trails were incorrectly recorded as ‘footpaths’ back in the 1950s when the rights of way network in England and Wales was mapped after the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act was passed, with paths that had been used by horses for centuries effectively downgraded to pedestrian use only. At that time, no-one foresaw the expansion of horse-ownership across the social spectrum, the popularity of riding out from equestrian centres - or the rise in demand for public access in all forms to the beautiful landscapes designated as national parks.

The result is that on a national level, riders have access to only 22 per cent of the rights of way network. Nevertheless, we are fortunate in the North York Moors in being able to connect the bridleways and other public off-road tracks by

using relatively quiet lanes in order to create some fantastic riding circuits. The growth of activity tourism means there are benefits on all sides: we help to support pubs and tea-rooms in out-of-the-way places by stopping for a drink (and hopefully cake!) while our horses create a picturesque sight as they help themselves to a snack of nearby grass.

In general, there are few conflicts between equestrians and other countryside users. We politely share the same tracks and pass the time of day – and riders are always delighted to find hikers reaching a gate at the same moment as we do since they will often open and close it, saving us the challenge of grappling with difficult fastenings or spring-loaded hinges. The National Park Authority is normally responsive to requests to sort out difficult sections, perhaps by installing culvert pipes and resurfacing eroded tracks, but greater consultation with horse-riders is sometimes needed: for instance, a section of the Cleveland Way east of Roseberry Topping has been paved with rough stone slabs – even though it is a bridleway – which horses struggle to cope with. Cyclists whizzing silently up behind horses can cause them to shy until they get used to this phenomenon (why, oh why, don't cyclists just call out to say hello?). Off-road motorised vehicles are more of a thorn in our flesh, as many of the ancient roads classified as 'Byways Open to All Traffic'

were designed for human and equine feet and not for the traction of chunky crossply tyres.

### THE VIEW FROM A HORSE'S BACK

I have some fantastic memories of riding in the Moors. The experience of standing by the shore of Lake Gormire in a group of gently steaming horses, with sunlight slanting through the golden autumn leaves, will remain with me for ever. Then there's cantering up the grassy valley of Whisperdales in Broxa Forest, or riding along the coastal road towards Robin Hood's Bay with swathes of heather on either side, and the blue sea ahead fringed by the red roofs of the village and the cliffs beyond. In Farndale during spring, my horse seemed to appreciate the daffodils as much as I did. And once, on a solo ride from Hutton-le-Hole to Fangdale Beck, crossing Farndale and Bransdale into Bilsdale, I turned her loose to graze in the remote churchyard of St. Nicholas at Cockayne, while I sat at a welcome picnic bench gazing along the dale and sipping coffee provided in the chapel for passing travellers.

In short, there is no finer view than the North York Moors landscape framed by a pair of shapely brown ears.

JANET COCHRANE

Riders and Rievaulx Abbey



Photo © Robin Chapman

Riders in Rosedale



Refreshments at Gillamoor



Photo © Mel Mellor

Riding at Hole of Horcum



Photo © Mel Mellor

## APPLE PRESSING

Photo © Piers Elias



**M**ANY PEOPLE will have noticed how well apple trees have been doing recently, and anyone with a reasonable sized apple tree in their garden will know that it can be quite hard to use, give away or store all the apples. Turning apples into juice is a good way of using surplus apples and a great way to use a local food resource. With the current interest in preventing

food waste and in eating locally grown food, a local community group in the North York Moors has planned a project to bring communities together to make a great use of apples which would otherwise go to waste. Moor Sustainable Community Interest Company has been awarded a grant of £4,912 by the National Lottery Community Fund to run a community apple pressing project this autumn. The project will buy apple crushers and presses and run community apple pressing days in several villages in the northern part of the North York Moors including Great Ayton, Comondale and Lythe. The apple juicing days will be enjoyable community events where people can bring buckets of apples from trees in their garden and go away with lovely fresh juice – a fun activity for all the family.

Beyond Boundaries which runs from a small farm in Comondale, and offers fully inclusive training, activities, sports and courses, will take part in the project. They will run several apple pressing days for members of the community, teach

their trainees the process and press apples from their own orchard.

The project will also work with Esk Valley Community Rail Partnership to collect apples from the Esk Valley via the various stations along the line. These will then be taken to Beyond Boundaries in Comondale for pressing. Anyone with surplus apples could leave them in designated areas at the stations on certain dates and members of Beyond Boundaries will collect them and turn them into juice for local consumption.

Apple trees in our area have done very well over the last few years, so we hope for a good apple harvest in 2019 and lots of lovely, locally produced apple juice to be consumed in our community. For more details or to contact us to get involved see [www.moorsustainable.org.uk](http://www.moorsustainable.org.uk), or look out for our leaflets, posters, in local press and in social media from August onwards. Also see the Esk Valley Railway website: <http://www.eskvalleyrailway.co.uk/events/index.html>

**CLARE CHURLEY**

### POEM

## MUSING ON MOLES

*Note from the editor: Tom Kirby (see tribute on page 8) sent this poem to Voice some time ago, but up until now, like the mole, it has lain hidden. It seemed a very appropriate and fitting moment to include it in this edition. I hope you will enjoy Tom's inimitable writing style, his use of language and wonderfully wry humour. We will miss your articles, Tom.*

How secretly the mole scrapes by in sodden earth and root.  
Each slug a wad of calories, a push a pull, a shovelled foot.  
His blind unmeasured consequence marked by muddy mound  
where proclamations of advance lay surfaced, scattered round.  
No concept, sight or knowing plan drives fur and feet afar;  
yet fanning out, with purpose clear,  
the shallow tunnels spread each year.  
In lawn and pitch and garden beds,  
under drives and through yew hedge,  
into cold frames, greenhouse soil,  
relentlessly the critters toil.

Up above, in sighted world, walks hound and Mole Man,  
gloved and grassed.

Below in scentless, senseless soil, the velvet digger,  
'til he's passed,  
is still and silent; lest one scrape should prick dog's ears  
and give away  
his hidden hold beneath the roots, so guile may let him  
live the day.

Down through the dark a stab of cane;  
another, nearer. Blood and pain,  
death's portentous company,  
is on him, but to wriggle free  
is more than pink spades can achieve.  
For sins in soil, there's no relieve.



Buried in his own dug grave, a bloodied cane still holds him fast.  
Another mole will find him, soon, and skirt around to seek  
repast.

Who knows which mole produced this hill, this February mound.  
They come and come and come again, erupting through the  
ground;  
and shallow tunnels spread each year.  
In lawn and pitch and garden beds,  
under drives and through yew hedge,  
into cold frames, greenhouse soil...  
I hate them.

**TECTAK2017**

# HERE'S TO YOU MRS ROBINSON

**'LOCAL HERO'** does not quite work for Maureen Robinson. Local heroine more likely, as she is from the generation who do not bridle at the term. On her father's side she is distantly related to the astronaut John Glenn, which helps explain her wanderlust. Remarkably, she has compiled and published 1400 walks, most of which have appeared in the Scarborough News in the period 1992-2018. For 52 weeks a year, every year, without missing once, mostly accompanied by her husband Michael, her hyperactive terrier Tigga and, in latter years, her neighbour Martin Bishop, Maureen has delivered. All but three of the routes are circular, usually 5 or so miles, so they are accessible to most, and all within a 25 mile radius of Scarborough, thus covering the southern and eastern Moors, the Coast and northern Wolds. Maureen has also self-published at least 40 books or booklets, all of which are now lodged at Scarborough Public Library in the care of Angela Kale. To show me these, Maureen borrowed her own work, lodged for posterity in the Reference Room. All the proceeds from the sales over the years have gone to charities including the Bridlington's MONECCA appeal, the RNLI, Woodland Trust, St Catherine's Hospice, the British Heart Foundation and several more. She has no idea how much has been raised. None of the books can be found in local bookshops because most asked for a third or more from the cover price. In her words, Maureen is 'quite thrifty', so that the wider public and charities have benefitted most from her efforts.

Originally from Rotherham and coming to Scarborough via Knaresborough and Irton, Maureen started writing botanical 'letters' for the Scarborough News. These drew on her botanical and zoological studies at Ripon Training College. The first was on feverfew and its properties in reducing headaches and fevers. This prompted such a response from readers that she ended up cycling to places like Cayton delivering specimens. The botanical letters eventually led to a request from the editor to write about walks. She was hesitant about accepting, especially because it involved visiting unfamiliar areas, spending hours poring over Ordnance Survey maps to trace routes, writing notes at the same time as controlling the dog, and, particularly, transport, where Michael filled the breach.

The first published walk was from Cloughton Village to Hayburn Wyke along the Cleveland Way and returning via the dismantled Scarborough to Whitby railway line, now Route 1 on the national cycling network. The editor accepted it with the comment that it was 'too flowery', meaning too much botany. That fixed, the next thousand prompted an



Photo © Martin Bishop

avid following of fans, many of whom would turn up on weekly walks, also organised by Maureen.

One thousand walks on, problems were all too frequently appearing: free-roaming bulls, footpaths ploughed over, misleading signs, barbed wire across stiles and paths, broken bridges and lack of maintenance in unfrequented places all cut down the options. So earlier walks were revisited, revised, and updated, but most were still completely new, for instance, just farther afield: Hornsea and Fraisthorpe in the south and Staithes and Sandsend to the north.

Maureen doesn't have a favourite walk, she says all were a tonic and any one of them could never fail to revive, however dark the day. The ones that spring first to mind are Castlebeck Wood, Sinnington daffodils; the Old Wife's Way near the Hole of Horcum, Harwood Dale; Farndale; Cropton; Appleton-le-Moors; Kirkham Abbey and Howsham Mill, especially before it was refurbished when it was an eerie, mysterious place. As for views, she loves Whisperdales reached via the hundred-yard-long ford in Lowdales, Sutton Bank over Lake Gormire, Ravenscar towards Robin Hood's Bay and Scarborough South Bay from the Cleveland Way.

Inevitably there were many adventures: held captive by a goat at Scrayingham Church; coming across a rare blue tassel hyacinth; cut-off by the tide at Cayton Bay and escaping via the Coastguard Station wall; fleeing a bull on a Hunmanby-Muston walk; losing Tigga the terrier for three hours in Harwood Dale. But most of all the delight in being greeted by strangers and spontaneously thanked for introducing them to wonderful places that they would never have otherwise seen.

Amongst her favourite publications are 'Amazing Race', a self-compiled booklet which traces a journey along the Gypsy Race, a watercourse which appears and disappears in its journey over the Wolds, terminating at Bridlington Harbour; 'Following the Derwent', another end-to-end river journey; and 'Countryside Companion to the Yorkshire Coast'. Just three of 4000 pieces over 40 years.

**ADRIAN LEAMAN**

## UNIVERSITY FIELD TRIP REVIEW

Photo © Rachael Roberts



**RECENTLY** visited the North York Moors on a field trip for my MSc in Responsible Tourism Management (at Leeds Beckett University). Having visited the area many times myself, I was looking forward to showing it to others, particularly my fellow-students from the sunnier climes of Greece, Italy and Croatia.

We started in Kirkbymoorside where we met June Emerson from the

Kirkbymoorside Environment Group and Bill Breakell from Moorsbus. They spoke about their respective organisations and a number of initiatives, including the Repair Café (where small electrical items are repaired by volunteers), 'Give or Take' Days (where unwanted household items are exchanged), the MoorsBus service and other local initiatives. We went away inspired, talking about how we could implement them in our own towns and villages.

Next came the Blacksmith's Arms in Lastingham, where we met the landlord Peter Trafford and George Thompson, Head Keeper of the Spaunton Estate. We were privileged to be offered taster dishes by Peter Trafford. These were fantastic examples of local produce and low food miles, originating from the moors less

than half a mile away. With George Thompson, we discussed the need for managing the moorland, mitigating seasonality in tourism and promoting 'localness'. Lastly, we visited the moors themselves to see how George and his team manage the land and the grouse. It provided a wonderful day out and illustrated very clearly some of our study topics such as 'over-tourism' and seasonality and showed how communities are working to preserve their cultural identity, promote the environment, and protect and enhance local amenities. It was fascinating to see how these issues can be addressed in a practical setting. All this while enjoying good food, good company and good weather!

**RACHAEL ROBERTS**

### CONSERVATION AWARD

## BUCKTHORN FOR BRIMSTONES - 2019 CONSERVATION AWARD WINNER

**THE NYMA COUNCIL** is delighted that the winner of this year's NYMA Conservation Award is the Whitby Naturalists' Club for their 'Buckthorn for Brimstones' initiative. The award is co-funded with the North York Moors National Park and recognises outstanding conservation work.

Buckthorn is the only food-plant of the Common Brimstone (*Gonepteryx rhamni*). In its larval stage, these attractive yellow butterflies will travel miles in spring to lay their eggs on its leaf-buds. The caterpillars munch on the young leaves, taking about a month to pupate and emerging as beautiful, finely-veined butterflies. There is speculation that their bright yellow colouring accounts for the 'butter' in 'butterflies'!

Alder buckthorn (*Frangula alnus*) is native to Yorkshire, and the Whitby Naturalists' Club has begun planting it along 'conservation corridors'. Despite its name, the buckthorn is not an alder and has no thorns! However, it is often found near alder in woodland, preferring damp places and peaty soils, and in the past its

twigs were used as butchers' spikes and skewers.

Both brimstones and buckthorn are at the northern end of their range in north-east Yorkshire, but since warming due to climate change is encouraging the migration of some species northwards, in early 2019 the Whitby Naturalists' Club began a programme of planting buckthorn in order to extend the habitat and range of the brimstone.

The project began with members of Whitby Naturalists planting over 120 buckthorn trees in their gardens in Whitby and surrounding areas. Funding from the charity Butterfly Conservation paid for a further 175 trees in public spaces, creating links to brimstone breeding sites along corridors such as the Cinder Track between Whitby and Ravenscar, the North York Moors Railway from Grosmont to Goathland, and the Esk Valley from Whitby to Commondale.

NYMA's Conservation Award of £500 will fund a bulk purchase of buckthorn whips for planting over the winter, adding further brimstone larval food sites. Buckthorn is



Photo © Matt Berry, Greenwings

also preferred by other butterflies and moths, while the flowers attract hoverflies and bees in the summer and birds feed on the berries in autumn, so the programme is encouraging a wide diversity of animal life. Another feature of the scheme has been community participation, including members of Whitby Naturalists, school-children and National Park volunteers.

Sightings of the brimstones are being monitored, so if you spot them in the area, please send your record to [lepidoptera@whitbynaturalists.co.uk](mailto:lepidoptera@whitbynaturalists.co.uk).

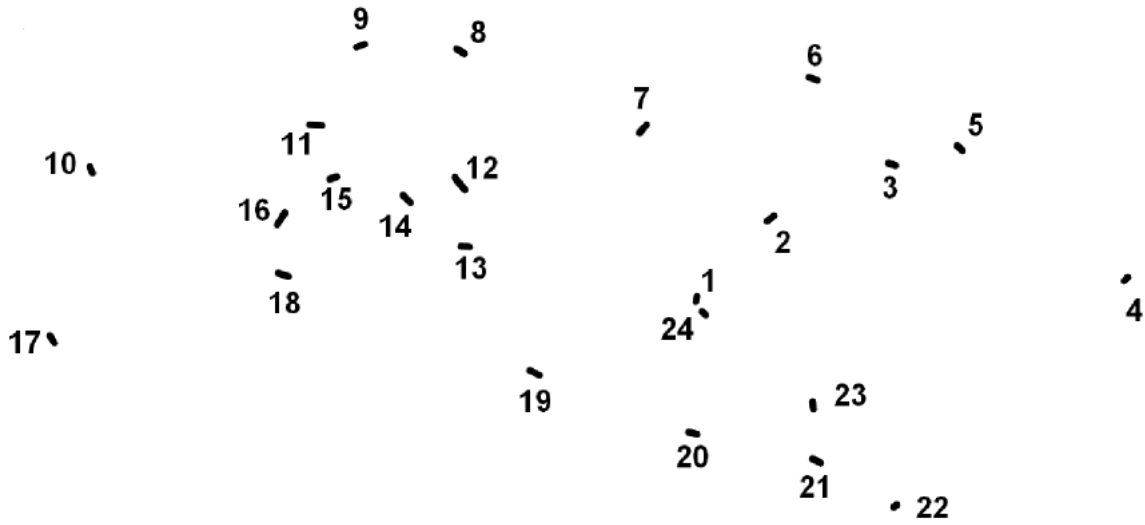
**JANET COCHRANE**



# SKYLARKS

Hello younger readers.

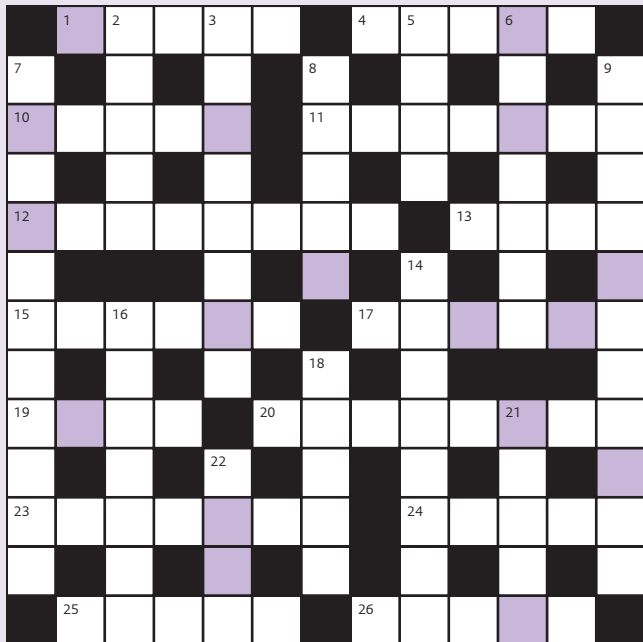
Join the dots on the picture below to reveal a creature that visits the moors in spring and summer.



Can you find this creature anywhere else in the magazine? Do you know what it's called?

We enjoy including your pictures, stories and news, please keep sending them to [editor@north-yorkshire-moors.org.uk](mailto:editor@north-yorkshire-moors.org.uk)

## CROSSWORD 85 BY AMANUENSIS



Take the letters from the coloured squares on the grid and rearrange to solve the anagram.  
Clue: Old spanner found by runner at Westerdale (6'1, 4, 6)

### ACROSS

- 1 & 4 One could be tickled to catch this? (5,5)
- 10 Takes a colourful run down the mountain (5)
- 11 & 18 down A down to earth man? Most definitely! (7,5)
- 12 They can't get away although they'd like to (8)
- 13 Loop goes around the pond (4)
- 15 Axes the French take north east for hydrocarbon (6)
- 17 List appears when target goes into oven (6)
- 19 Principal curved structure (4)
- 20 Sustenance for those in high places? ((8)
- 23 Brown man may go off on one of these? (7)
- 24 Out of a bottle, perhaps (5)
- 25 A cereal fruit of the forest (5)
- 26 Hear cooking method coming from Scottish hills (5)

### DOWN

- 2 Complains bitterly about small marsh birds (5)
- 3 Bellicose make-up? (8)
- 5 Bread made on a drum (4)
- 6 Fabulous animal (7)
- 7 They can knock you out - permanently! (11)
- 8 Shabby towel for young bird of prey (5)
- 9 Alloy consumed five hundred combined (11)
- 14 Thickens ice-cream, doubly so perhaps? (4-4)
- 16 Using few words the French take on specific shape (7)
- 21 Single loss of a pound causes slight burn (5)
- 22 Look intently at the nobleman (4)

,

Answers on back cover

## NYMA NEWS

Following a request to members in the spring issue of *Voice of the Moors* to confirm their details, we received an overwhelming response together with some very generous donations, and we're taking this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. The process has enabled us to update our membership database and bolster our funds for mailing the magazine and for carrying out campaigns and projects.

Also, as a way of modernising our membership options, we now offer a Digital Annual Membership at £10 (individual) or £14 (joint) with 'Voice of the Moors' via email rather than a printed copy through the post. This applies to new, existing and overseas annual members. If you are a Life or 10-year member and you would like to receive your magazine in pdf format, please let Membership Secretary Cal Moore know on [membership@nyma.org.uk](mailto:membership@nyma.org.uk).

However, if you live outside the UK and you'd prefer a postal copy of the magazine, let us know when you renew your membership and we'll tailor a bespoke quote based on the cost of postage.

We're also grateful to NYMA member Ray Clarke who stepped into the breach for us when a planned talk to the Scarborough U3A looked like being cancelled at the last moment. Aided by the wonders of modern technology, Ray was able to deliver an entertaining and well-received talk on our History Tree project, based on his own knowledge of the North York Moors - and the fact he himself had authored a chapter in the History Tree book.

JANET COCHRANE

## NYMA WALKS

**Sunday 21 July**

### CLEVELAND WIDDERSHINS

Walk Leader: Wendy Smith  
[wpsmith7a@gmail.com](mailto:wpsmith7a@gmail.com)  
or 01642 711980  
Meeting place: Sutton Bank Visitor centre, having arrived by M4 Moorsbus from Ayton, Stokesley or Helmsley. Meet time: 11.15am.  
Distance: 7 miles.  
Mainly a gentle downhill along the Cleveland Way back to Helmsley. Tea in Walled Garden.

*Widdershins mean backwards! The Cleveland Way really starts in Helmsley.*

**Saturday 3 August**

### GLAISDALE TO LEALHOLM IN THE ESK VALLEY

Walk Leader: Jane Ellis 07787 311913 No need to contact the leader in advance.  
Meeting place: Beggar's Bridge, Glaisdale down the hill from the railway station. Grid ref NZ785055 (park cars by the railway arches). Meet time: 10.15am (on arrival of the 09.31 bus from Whitby bus station). No dogs. Distance:

4 miles, with plenty of stops  
Items of interest *en route* include: Beggar's Bridge, a watermill, a section of "Paddy Waddell's Railway", a memorial to the victims of a USAF plane crash in 1979, 2 inscribed stones on private land (by permission). Walk finishes with a cafe visit in Lealholm. 95 bus departs Lealholm at 15.14 for retrieving cars from Glaisdale Station.

**Saturday 7 September**  
**RAISDALE RAMBLE**

Walk leaders: Heather & Colin Mather  
[heathercolin67@gmail.com](mailto:heathercolin67@gmail.com)  
Tel. 01287 669104  
Meeting place: Meet at Lord Stones car park on Raisdale Road from Carlton to Chop Gate.  
Grid ref : 524 030  
Meet time: 10.30am  
Distance approx 6 miles  
Along the Cleveland Way, down through Raisdale to the mill and return to Lord Stones. Some gradual ascents but not steep and good views on Cleveland Way.

## CROSSWORD ANSWERS (see page 15)

HUNTER'S STEE BRIDGE

Anagram:

14 agar-agar; 16 laconic; 21 single; 22 peer  
7 asphyxiant; 8 owl; 9 amalgamated;

Down:

184 brown trout; 10 skier; 118 down William Smith (the geologist); 12 hostages; 13 pool; 15 xylene; 17 agenda; 19 arch; 20 ambrosia; 23 tangent; 24 genie; 25 acorn; 26 braes

Across:

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Tom Chadwick

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Adrian Leaman

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### Association Secretary

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### Membership Secretary

Cal Moore - [membership@nyma.org.uk](mailto:membership@nyma.org.uk) - 01287 669648

### Walks Coordinator

Heather Mather - 01287 669104

### NYMA

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