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Cover photo: The waterfall at Thomason Foss near Beck Hole © rjbphotographic.co.uk

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CHAIRMAN'S FOREWORD

THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN'

The title track of Bob Dylan's 1964 album was recorded in October 1963 shortly after the Washington Civil Rights March led by Martin Luther King in August of the same year. Bob Dylan's song became an anthem for the time and is appropriate, perhaps in some respects, for our present time. We are facing significant changes on many fronts from climate change to political upheaval both international and domestic.

HIGH TEMPERATURES ACROSS EUROPE

Climate change tends to be a remote concept until the more extremes of weather come nearer to home. Recent focus on Greenland and the effects of this year's European heatwave serve to illustrate this only too well. Information from the National Snow and Ice Data Centre (NSIDC) in Greenland show the European heatwave reaching Greenland on July 29th setting record temperatures and melting 90% of the ice sheet surface. The run-off from this melting ice was 55 billion tons. This is 40 billion tons more than the 1981-2010 average for the same period. Even closer to home, in July we saw the highest temperature ever recorded in this country, 38.7°C at the Cambridge University Botanic Gardens. This was followed in August by the hottest late Bank Holiday weekend on record. Extremes of weather are a predicted feature of global warming which leads to climate change.

IPPC REPORT

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released a special report on August 8th "Climate Change and Land". One of its principal findings is that managing land resources sustainably can help address climate change and that this comes down to locally appropriate policies and governance systems.

The Government's 25 year plan to improve the environment which was launched at the beginning of the year also includes a review of National Parks and AONBs. At a national level it is an ambitious attempt to create a green future for the country. Using and managing land sustainably is set out as a clear objective at the beginning of the plan and is in line with the findings of the IPPC Report. Hopefully fine words will be translated into deeds and acted upon as a matter of urgency.

REVIEW OF NATIONAL PARKS AND AREAS OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

The Glover Report issued interim findings of the landscapes review in July and outlines changes which are seen as necessary to improve protected landscapes. "The underlying argument of our review is that our system of designated landscapes should be a positive force for improvement with big ambitions made possible by these 44 areas uniting to become more than the sum of their parts". The final report will explore

the potential for a National Landscape Service to address the problem that "Our system of landscape protection is fragmented, sometimes marginalised and often misunderstood". There is a suggestion that such a service would be an organisation with overall control of all National Parks possibly based on the US model. There is also an indication that the report will recommend the development of a National Ranger Service calling for a significant increase in the present number of rangers with a wide remit similar to US National Park Rangers. Amongst the findings of the report are suggestions for changes in farming delivering nature recovery through environmental land management systems as part of subsidy reform. Designated landscapes should become leaders in Nature Recovery Networks. The current system of governance for National Parks should be reformed. "Time after time we have heard and seen that boards are too big, do not do a good job in setting strategic direction and ambition, and are unrepresentative of both society and, at times of the things parks should be leading on, such as natural beauty, climate change and diversity".

The report recognises that the changes that are being proposed will cost money, "doing more will cost more" and quoting John Dower who wrote in 1945 "If National Parks are provided for the nation they should clearly be provided for by the nation". The final review will also say that there is a very strong case for increasing funding for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs).

These interim findings point to a radical overhaul of National Parks but the big question that remains is whether, having received the full report later this year, the government will be prepared to act on the report and adequately fund the changes.

DAVID RUBINSTEIN

Sadly, at the end of July, we learned of the death of David Rubinstein. David was a leading figure of the Ramblers' Association and a long-term member of NYMA. He has been a supporter of the North York Moors for many years objecting to the Whitby Potash development proposed in 1978. A full tribute will appear in a future issue of Voice of the Moors. You can read David's final article in this issue of *Voice*.

CHANGES AT THE DANBY MOORS CENTRE

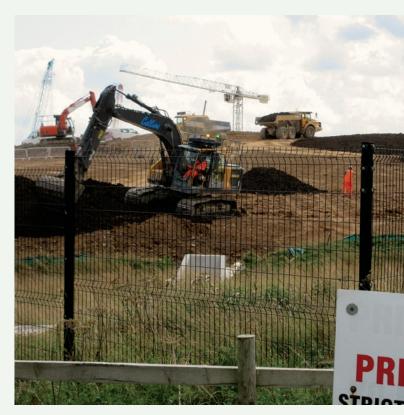
A huge improvement has been made to the permanent display at the Moors Centre with a complete change to the layout and content. It is a welcome change from the rather tired display which has been there unchanged for many years. The National Park should also be complimented on the high quality and frequently changing displays of art work in the gallery, work which is often inspired by the landscape and wildlife of the Park.

PLANNING ISSUES

Hanging Stones Project

The "Hanging Stones" Project is a scheme which is being proposed for Northdale near Rosedale Abbey. It is a sculpture trail with various installations set inside refurbished and

rebuilt derelict buildings around the dale. The project is funded by the landowner David Ross. Four of these creations by the artist Andy Goldsworthy have already been completed and permission exists for a fifth installation. A planning application for a further five of these buildings was submitted to the National Park earlier this year. NYMA submitted a response which was reached after considerable lengthy discussion by Council. It was decided to approve the project in principle but also expressed some reservations about the management of the scheme. At the July planning meeting, the National Park Committee agreed to defer a decision until further information was made available, including ecological evidence which could indicate possible harmful effects on wildlife.



Sirius Minerals

Sirius Minerals share price crashed on 6th of August following their decision to withdraw the \$500 million junk bonds which it needs to sell as a prerequisite for borrowing \$2.5 billion from J.P. Morgan, the American investment bank. This is a serious set-back for the company which is continuing to develop the three interlinked sites at Wilton on Teesside, Lockwood Beck and the mine head site at Doves Nest Farm within the National Park. This funding arrangement to raise a further \$3 billion, referred to as Stage 2 funding, is necessary for Sirius to continue to develop the polyhalite mine. It was reported that unless Sirius is able to obtain this funding, the company will run out of money within six months. Engineering work is beginning to reach a period of high risk with shaft sinking and tunnelling and the possibility of delays caused by geological problems.

NYMA has said from the beginning of the project that such a high risk venture should never have been allowed to take place in the National Park.

TOM CHADWICK

THE NORTH YORK MOORS - A WALKER'S REFLECTIONS

HE NORTH YORK MOORS NATIONAL PARK is not the most celebrated of the English national parks but it is cherished by all who know it. I was aged 33 before I set foot on the moors when I moved from London to Hull to take up a new job. I believe as firmly as any native that Yorkshire is God's own country and that the North York Moors are a veritable paradise.

Some who do not know the moors assert that is merely a plateau of high ground. They could hardly be more mistaken. I think of the splendid views in the vicinity of Ampleforth and Hawnby, the grandeur of the Hole of Horcum, the waterfalls near Goathland, the many splendid churches or abbey remains at such places as Pickering, Lastingham, Whitby, Byland and Rievaulx. There is the North York Moors steam railway bisecting the park, the multitude of craft works and bookshops, the five-mile long walk thought the daffodil valley in Farndale or the August glory of the purple heather moorland.

I know the North York Moors as a carless walker. Recently Malcolm Hodgson organised a hugely successful jubilee of the inauguration of the Cleveland Way whose 109 miles are mostly within the national park. The event was abundantly attended but only two of us were veterans of the original opening in 1969. One was Colin Speakman and the other was me. In 1969 we attended as newly-appointed secretaries of the West and East Riding branches of the Ramblers' Association. In 2019 we were old fossils, a not entirely comfortable incarnation, but a proud moment nonetheless.

I played a more active role in earlier years in combating the proposal to build a reservoir in the upper Farndale valley, a scheme which would have badly affected a peaceful part of the moors and the daffodil valley. I recall visiting Low Mill with my three young sons to secure signatures to a petition against the scheme. Nearly everyone who passed us signed and the reservoir was not built.

We were less successful in stopping the proposed potash mines near Whitby, most of which were adjacent to, but not actually in the park. Opposition to the mines was mitigated by the enticing prospect of jobs but the operation was delayed due to economic circumstances. The protest movement did its best and was a worthy predecessor of the widespread opposition to fracking in the area.

It was not all campaigns. The North York Moors provide wonderful walking country. An example is the Lyke Wake Walk, whose forty miles across the moors from Osmotherley to Ravenscar follow in part an ancient burial route. I have tried to walk the whole path three times but succeeded only once. This was on my first attempt when I joined an organised party which fed and watered the walkers and carried our paraphernalia. The route crosses the Roman road on

Wheeldale but my pleas to stop and examine it fell on deaf ears as my companions knew the area well and were concerned only to reach Ravenscar without delay. My second attempt was made with one friend. We were woefully underprepared and bailed out when we had hardly reached the halfway point. The third attempt was better planned and undertaken with a youthful Colin Speakman and Chris Hall, then the national secretary of the Ramblers' Association. Starting from Osmotherley, we initially got on well, but by the time we reached the Whitby-Scarborough road, Chris and I were so exhausted that we stopped there and waited for a bus to Scarborough, leaving Colin to complete the route alone.

The North York Moors have been a haven to me for over fifty years, a focus for campaigning, recreation and leisure. Soon after the turn of the century I suffered a major stroke which limited my walking to much shorter journeys. The savage cuts in government financing of national parks which followed brought to an end the national park's Moorsbus scheme which operated each year from April to October. A voluntary Moorsbus, the NYM Railway and the commercial Coastliner provide lifelines but they are not adequate substitutes for the comprehensive national park network. Still, at 87 I look back with satisfaction on many life-enhancing days on the moors. Heaven itself could offer nothing finer. I never wanted to learn to play the harp anyway!

DAVID RUBINSTEIN

From the Editor: See the Chair's Foreword for more about David.



os © Ian Carstair

A LITTLE OR A LOT - IT ALL COUNTS

OR THE LAST FIFTY YEARS demands for environmental action have surged in periodic waves of deep concern, each wave more pressing than the one before. In between, the passion tends to wither and sink back as media interest wanes and the messages sound stale. Today, with ever more urgency, a new tidal wave urges action on climate change, on species and habitat loss, on each of us

Will it be different this time I wonder? Will we be prepared to really make the changes needed? There are encouraging signs. The switch from fossil-fuel to electrically-powered vehicles, the phasing out of gas boilers and the dream of carbon-neutrality

are on the agenda. But will momentum be maintained?

needing to do whatever we can to help.

In reality, while we are concerned locally for our wildlife and landscapes, the future of farming and the health of the environment in general, it is what people like us say and do in many places which will dictate what ultimately happens to look after the planet and the natural world.

In late August two senior politicians made striking statements. "Our house is burning", tweeted French president, Emmanuel Macron, literally in the sense of the Amazon going up in smoke taking part of our air supply with it. Metaphorically he also neatly provided a most apposite and succinct expression for environmental challenges as a whole.

In parallel, on this side of the Channel, our Prime Minister, Boris Johnson robustly stated his concern for the environment, habitats and species. However cynical some might be about whether actual deeds will lie behind the words, at least they have been said. Add to that, Stanley Johnson, Boris's father played a part in drafting the crucial EU Habitats legislation which underpins protection of our Moors and wild places and just maybe, an element of his wisdom might filter down to stick with his son as future policies emerge.

Obviously, it is what people do, not only what they say that counts, whether in Birmingham, Boston or Brasilia. And the most important step of all is for each of us to believe that however small our contribution it can make a collective difference.

I appreciate that this may all seem rather abstract and déjà vu, I'd like to share a few tangible things which have cheered me immensely despite the tangled uncertainties of present times.

On 'Earth Day' boys and girls from our local primary school launched *Pledges to the Planet*. They suggested simple ideas, the kind of things we can all do: switch off lights, don't waste water, drive less, walk more, keep places for wildlife in your garden. Now, each month our town magazine runs a Pledge to the Planet Reminder on the young people's theme of 'The climate is in a muddle, wildlife is in trouble and time is running out'.

My second highlight is the award of the grant to Whitby Naturalists for the scheme to help the Brimstone butterfly by







planting alder buckthorn, the caterpillar's food-plant. Here we have a group of people taking that all-important step to make a difference by helping the butterfly to adapt to climate change. It would be an easy step to follow their example.

My third highlight is the acclaimed book: Working with Nature – saving and using the world's wild places, by Jeremy Purseglove. If you are demoralised by what you see happening all around, you simply must read this book. It is wonderful. Purseglove maintains a boyish sense of enthusiasm through his writing, which is engaging, and delightfully spangled with very personal anecdotes.

As an environmentalist with a major international firm of engineering consultants his achievements and ideas are so compellingly refreshing. Purseglove might have re-wilded rivers, made dam projects environmentally beneficial, sought solutions in the monoculture of palm groves, and influenced places all over the world on a scale few can aspire to, but at the bottom line, this is an individual who thought the environment mattered and spent a lifetime doing something about it.

My final accolade goes to film-maker Rebecca Hosking for her contribution to the attack on single use plastic bags. Some years ago, Rebecca took her acclaimed and moving BBC film on plastic pollution and its impact on albatrosses in the Pacific to her local Council in Modbury, Devon. In response the Council promoted a ban on single-use plastic bags in the town. A one-woman-move encouraged a landslide revolution which touches us all. What each of us can do, however little or large, is truly relevant to everyone else.

IAN CARSTAIRS

VOICE OF THE MOORS - SUMMER 2019

KEEPING THE SUNSHINE









UST AS the bright yellow dandelion summons in the early summer sun, so other yellow members of the *Asteraceae* family prolong it, giving us cheer and insects an extended feeding season into October when few other plants are in flower. Some have all ray florets like the dandelion, others have only an outer ring and a few have none at all.

Three with no ray florets are pineapple weed Matricaria discoidea, common groundsel Senecio vulgare and tansy Tanacetum vulgare. Pineapple weed is a small common annual, often overlooked, of path edges and field gateways with finely dissected, feathery leaves smelling of pineapple. The conical flowers can be eaten in salads, the slight bitterness aiding digestion. Groundsel, another common annual of disturbed ground, has fleshier leaves and more cylindrical flowers. It flowers, seeds and germinates all year round which possibly accounts for its name from Old English meaning 'ground swallower', though it could also mean 'pus absorber' due to its effective use as a poultice to heal wounds, boils and blisters and calm hot inflammations. The taller tansy is less common, found occasionally on roadsides, river banks and cliffs, having dissected, aromatic leaves and a flat head of button-like flowers. Though very bitter, it was eaten at Easter in cakes, puddings or stir fried with orange and for flavouring black puddings and liqueurs. As a strong insecticide it was used as a strewing herb or planted round animal sheds to deter fleas and lice or taken to rid the body of worms. Its disinfectant and antimicrobial properties were used to preserve meat and for embalming and it also regulated the menstrual cycle and prevented miscarriages in small doses, larger ones having the opposite effect!

Three with an outer ring of ray florets only are common ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*, Oxford ragwort *S.squalidus* and fleabane *Pulicaria dysenterica*. Ragwort, with its dissected leaves and tall, strong, branched stems supporting large multiflowered heads, is commonly found in hedgerows, wastelands and wood edges, though reduced now by man due to its slow poisonous effect when eaten by animals, especially when it loses its protective bitterness dried as hay.

These powerful chemicals in the leaves were used in poultices for joint inflammations, rheumatism and gout, and for burns and old ulcers, often mixed with honey. It is now thought it could be antimitotic, inhibiting cell division and cancer cell proliferation. But it is loved by insects who congregate on its safe heads, especially the cinnabar moth and its black and yellow caterpillars. However, in folklore, it was fairies and witches that were attracted to it, both said to ride on its stems or shelter under its heads. Burns mentions them 'on ragweed nags'. The larger flowered Oxford ragwort, an escapee from its botanical garden, spread via the railways and embankments countrywide and brightens up these man-made 'squalid' places as do many alien plants. Fleabane, a creeping, patch forming plant of wetter areas, ditches, roadsides and cliffs, has paler florets and entire downy leaves. Reputed to keep away flies and midges, it was employed as a strewing herb with its astringent properties for dysentery and wound healing.

Of those with all ray florets the three sow-thistles, smooth *Sonchus oleraceus* and rough *S. asper* both annual/biennial, and the bright yellow, showier perennial (*S. arvensis*) are all plants of disturbed, rich soils, field edges and roadsides. With juicier, lobed leaves they were eaten as a vegetable but are now relegated to pigs and rabbits, although in folklore, they were connected to hares. Their milky juice was used to aid the flow of milk and to calm inflammations. In the complex hawk weed/beard/bit group, the autumn hawkbit *Scorzoneroides autumnalis*, rough hawkbit *Leontodon hispidus* and the lesser hawkbit *L.saxatilis* may still be in flower but none have been past recorded as used by man. Only the earlier flowering mouse eared hawkweed *Pilosella officinarum* has been widely used, including as an effective antibiotic for many medical conditions.

Like the dandelion, most of these plants will be often thought of as 'weeds', growing where we don't want them, but to insects they can be a saving late food source as the days get shorter and colder. Let's leave them to grow!

ANNE PRESS

SAFEGUARDING OUR MOORS CULTURE

PRIME PURPOSE of the North Yorkshire Moors Association is safeguarding the landscape and culture of the North York Moors National Park. Landscape is an easy enough concept to understand, but what do we mean by culture?

So here is an attempt to define "culture" in the context of the work of the Association.

The landscape of the North York Moors is itself a product of human culture – what the Germans would call a "Kulturlandschaft" or cultural landscape, shaped by natural forces, but also by millennia of human activity – clearing forests, draining land, building walls, barns, farms, villages, treading out paths, tracks and roads. This includes moorlands which are not "natural", rather a specially managed landscape for a particular leisure activity, as are many areas of parkland. What we are protecting in the National Park is in fact a historic landscape created by economic activity which in many cases no longer exists or has changed beyond recognition, but which society has agreed to protect as a link to our own personal history and sense of identity.

But it is reflected also in architecture – from the grand architecture of the aristocracy, such as Duncombe Park or Hackness Hall, fortified structures such as Hemsley or Scarborough Castles or monastic such as Rievaulx or Byland, to the vernacular buildings dating from medieval times onwards – cottages, farmhouses, barns, walls, bridges, and moorland crosses but also the barrows, tumuli, tracks and trods of Roman, Iron or even Bronze Age origin.

Equally important are artefacts of the industrial 18th, 19th and even 20th centuries – the railways, the textile mills, the ironworks as the Rosedale Land of Iron Project exemplifies. Even where a century or more has healed the scars on the landscape, the human stories remain.

Less tangible perhaps, is the culture of the communities who live, work and for that matter visit the area, and in particular what is distinctive and different in these cultures which in some ways reflect the cultural landscape which we cherish.

This has many aspects. Hill farming, and hill farmers and their families in particular, are living connections with past cultures, in terms of their memories, family history, folklore, music, dialect and language. The Lyke Wake Dirge is one of the most remarkable medieval poems in the English language which also happens to be in Cleveland dialect. Words are a direct connection with past lives and experience.

Writers who have succeeded in recording this rural past include Canon Atkinson and Frank Elgee, Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby's classic *Life in the Moorlands of North East Yorkshire* as well as many later figures who have provided important sources of knowledge of this rural culture and in





turn are a key part of that culture. Equally there are the painters, writers, poets who have been drawn to and been inspired by the North York Moors and its dramatic coastline – Wordsworth, Turner, Herbert Read, not to mention pioneering geologists, palaeontologists and botanists such as William Smith, John Phillips or Nan Sykes. This tradition continues through contemporary recorders of the landscape and culture including painters, photographers, poets and musicians .

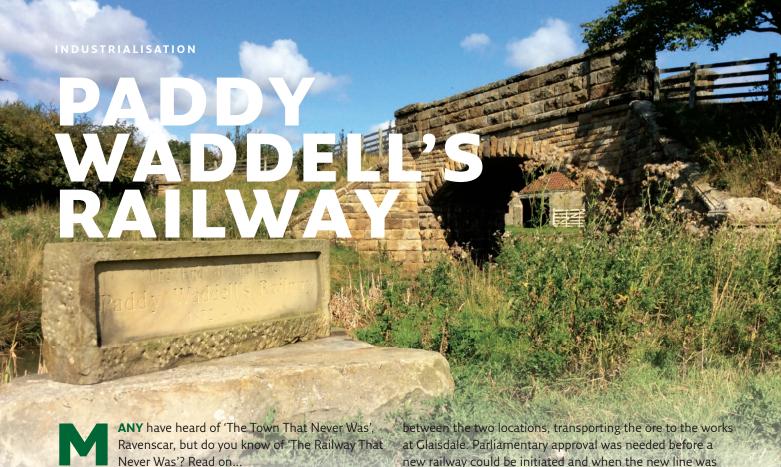
So how does NYMA best "safeguard" this rich heritage? Its regular and occasional publications such as *Voice of the Moors*, and the brilliant *History Tree* book are fine examples of how we are already doing so very effectively. But maybe we should also encourage and support younger generations of painters, photographers, musicians, poets, broadcasters, film makers and writers to discover what this unique landscape and seascape offers as inspiration and source of material.

The North York Moors is a landscape full of stories, many yet to be told. As a group of people sharing this heritage, we have the opportunity through our magazine, our events, talks, walks, discussions to inspire other individuals and organisations.

Britain faces a crisis of identity. Whatever the future holds, we need to rediscover who we are. True love of one's country is not about blinkered flag-waving nationalism, fear and xenophobia. It is about celebrating and sharing what is unique and special about our great Yorkshire landscape and cultural heritage, not just with ourselves, but with people from other parts of Britain and from overseas. Not only is this the best way of safeguarding our priceless landscape but, through the creative industries and the right kinds of environmentally sustainable tourism, generating the wealth to create the local jobs, services and businesses to support the infrastructure we need and the landscape we love.

COLIN SPEAKMAN

VOICE OF THE MOORS - AUTUMN 2019



EARLY IRON WORKING

The working of ironstone within the North York Moors goes back to the Iron Age, although few remains from that period can be seen today. During the mediaeval period lay brothers attached to the various monasteries were operating numerous small workings particularly in the Rye valley, the upper dales and the Esk valley. From the late 1700s ironstone nodules were being collected from the shore at Robin Hood's Bay and Staithes and by the early years of the 1800s, drift mines were being opened along the coast, the raw material being loaded onto ships bound for Tyneside where good supplies of coal were available. Cut channels, postholes and rutways along the shore all bear testimony to the early transport of ironstone by sea as do the more obvious, although rapidly decaying remains of Port Mulgrave harbour.

THE RAILWAYS ARRIVE

The opening of the Whitby Pickering railway in 1836 and the incidental discovery of a rich ironstone seam at Grosmont, led to the development of ironworking in the Esk valley. The ironworks at Glaisdale opened in 1866 and blast furnaces were also built at Beck Hole and at Grosmont. With the expansion of the railway system, sea transport declined. Numerous railways were developed to transport ore from the rich workings to the furnaces and there was often severe competition between the companies involved. By around 1850 the new town of Middlebrough was taking over from Tyneside as the place for investment in ironworking and railway development.

The first intimation of a proposed new mineral railway line between Glaisdale and Skelton, a distance of ten and a half miles, appeared in the Whitby Gazette of November 1871. The purpose was to exploit the rich ironstone reserves between the two locations, transporting the ore to the works at Glaisdale. Parliamentary approval was needed before a new railway could be initiated and when the new line was proposed there was strong opposition from the Whitby, Redcar and Middlesbrough Railway who saw the proposed new line as a competitor to their Whitby - Loftus route. However, in July 1873, the new route was approved. The Cleveland Extension Mineral Railway (CEMR), Paddy Waddell's Railway, was finally underway! Or was it?

On 17th October 1874 at Moorsholm, a location described in the Whitby Gazette as 'remote, bleak and at this season an almost inaccessible part of the district', the first turf was cut by Joseph Dodds. Mr Dodds was an industrial tycoon and M.P. who first put forward the proposal for the CEMR. In anticipation of the arrival of the new railway a large imposing two storey hotel was built in Moorsholm. The Station Hotel never opened for business.

Investment in the proposed new railway was slow and the time allowed for the construction of the line ran out. In 1878 and again in 1881 new Acts were passed by Parliament but still the work was not completed. In the twenty-three years between the passing of the first Act and the deadline for completion of work laid down by the 1896 Act, there were no fewer than seven Acts approved by Parliament.

FINAL DEMISE

The success of the venture to establish this railway was, perhaps, always in doubt. By the time the first Parliamentary Act was approved in 1873, the great boom in railway building was in decline. The Glaisdale ironworks closed in 1876 and in the early 1880s a slump in the price of iron from a top price of 120/- per ton to a low of 33/- per ton consequentially led to a reduction in rail traffic. In August 1884 contractor's plant from the CEMR was put up for sale at several locations in the area. This was 'the end of the line' for Paddy Waddell's Railway. In July of the following year the railway between Scarborough and Whitby opened with due ceremony. Not



dependent on ironstone traffic, this line transported mixed goods, including fish, and increasingly over the years, until its closure in 1965, passenger traffic.

ON THE GROUND

Although the CEMR never came to fruition, it nonetheless left its mark on the ground. When money was available, construction works commenced at numerous scattered points along the proposed route. Mainly taking the form of cuttings, embankments and culverts, many of these works can still be seen today and are also shown on the Ordnance Survey Outdoor Leisure maps of the Park. One of the easiest places to see some of the remains of the CEMR is near the junction of the A171 and the B1336 Liverton road, still known as Paddy Waddell's Corner. The railway would have crossed the main road at this point and a bridge to carry the road over it was built. This was later demolished but earthworks can still be seen on the moor in a south easterly direction. The only remaining bridge over the line is still in use near Rake House, very close to its termination with the present Esk Valley line. Although Rake House predates the CEMR by many years, it is probable that it was used as an inn by the navvies working on the line. One may imagine many a riotous night here after a

long day of heavy labour! A now modernised cottage on the Lealholm - Stonegate road also served as an inn during the construction period and was known as The Laughing Ass.

WHY PADDY WADDELL'S RAILWAY?

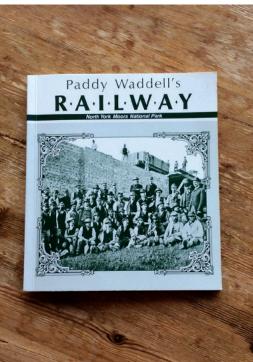
John Waddell (1826-1888) was a prominent Scottish railway contractor who founded the company of John Waddell & Sons. His firm was involved in the construction of several of the railways in the North York Moors including the line from Loftus to Whitby and the Scarborough to Whitby route which included the impressive thirteen arch, one hundred and twenty-foot high Whitby viaduct. His firm had a national reputation and was responsible for building the Mersey Railway Tunnel in 1881 and the graceful bridge over the River Thames at Putney which opened in 1886. Waddell was also the contractor for Paddy Waddell's Railway. Without the labour of Irish navvies it is doubtful if many of our railways would have been constructed. Thousands were employed in the pick and shovel work involved in creating the cuttings, embankments and tunnels necessary for the expansion of the railway system. Bridges often containing millions of bricks or huge stone blocks were built throughout the country to carry the lines over rivers and deep valleys. John Waddell employed Irish navvies on many of his projects and he also engaged an Irish engineer named Gallaher to supervise work on the Whitby - Loftus railway. The linking of the Irish and the Scots was perhaps inevitable!

FURTHER INFORMATION

The story of the CEMR was written by R.F.Moore and published by Whitby Literary & Philosophical Society in 1973. This offers a detailed account of the history of the undertaking, including information about the finances of the project and notes on the locations of extant ground evidence. The book was republished by the National Park Authority in 1985, but is now out of print. Interestingly, the Station Hotel at Moorsholm which is photographed in the reprinted book was demolished soon after the book was published.

ALAN STANIFORTH





WBJs





FANY OF YOU have heard one of my talks, you'll know that I rabbit on about 'wee brown jobbies'. (apologies to Billy Connolly). It's my contention that there are more species of birds in your garden than you may think, and that because many of them are brown they tend to be dismissed as 'just another sparrow'. This then, is an encouragement to look more closely at what you see, especially over the coming winter months. A cold spell can bring any number of unusual birds onto you feeder.

Perhaps the most typical of these 'wee jobbies' is the dunnock. Traditionally known as a hedge sparrow, it is not a sparrow at all, being a member of the Accentor family. It does look rather like a sleek sparrow. Close-up it is rather attractive with a blue-grey head and breast, brown streaky back and flanks, pink legs and a black bill that is finer than a sparrow's. Quiet and unobtrusive, they are usually seen on their own, creeping along the edge of a flower bed or near to a bush, moving with a rather nervous, shuffling gait, often flicking their wings as they go. If you see a solitary bird pecking away under your hanging feeder or table it is very likely to be a dunnock. When two rival males come together, they tend to become animated with lots of wing-flicking and calling.

The sexes are alike, though the female appears drabber when they are seen close together. Juveniles lack the grey head and chest and instead have brown streaks.

The dunnock's song is an unhurried sweet warble easily confused with the wren or robin. Their most frequent call is a shrill, persistent "tseep", which is heard for much of the year, and often betrays their presence. A bird's song is generally used to defend a territory or advertise for a mate, and tends to be used by males. Their calls serve as alarms or a means of contact between individuals or members of a flock. If you think of a blackbird's sweet song and compare it with its angry chattering when you disturb one, you'll get the idea.

Dunnocks are Amber Listed as birds of medium conservation concern following a serious decline during the 1980's: indications are that the population is recovering particularly in Yorkshire.

A ground feeder, the dunnock eats insects such as beetles, ants, and spiders. In the autumn and winter it will eat seeds

and berries as well, and searches around feeders for anything dropped by other birds. Robins and dunnocks have similar diets, so when food is short, robins defend their feeding territories and chase dunnocks away.

Females build cup-shaped nests in dense shrubs and hedges, using twigs and moss, lined with hair and more moss. They lay four or five glossy blue eggs and incubate them for around fourteen days. Fledging takes another twelve to fifteen days

The dunnock's sex life is remarkably varied and depends on the local balance of numbers and how territories overlap. Few birds are monogamous: most commonly, females breed with two or more males, something quite rare among UK birds. DNA fingerprinting has shown that chicks within a brood often have different fathers. Alternatively, if a male's territory overlaps several female territories, he may mate with many of them; or two males may mate jointly with several females, but there is a strict hierarchy among males, with first year birds being at the bottom.

Broods can be raised by one or more females with full or part-time help from various males. One study showed that a male is more likely to feed chicks if he thinks he may be the father. I'm not sure how they worked that one out though!

The dunnock is one of the main hosts for the cuckoo. A female cuckoo will remove an egg before laying one of her own, which is usually of a similar colour to that of the host. This colour match does not happen with dunnocks though, suggesting that that they are relatively recent hosts and have not yet shown the evolutionary response to nest parasitism that would make colour matching advantageous.

If you find the lives of our garden birds to be of interest, and would like to join in and count the feathered occupants of your garden, please contact me or visit the BTO Garden BirdWatch website (www.bto.org/gbw). If you know of a local organisation, not too far from York, who would like a talk on garden birds call: Mike Gray 07596 366342 or mikegbw@btinternet.com.

MIKE GRAY
(BTO GARDEN BIRDWATCH AMBASSADOR)

GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS: RURAL BROADBAND

FYOU WERE to dream up something new to help isolated people have better access to services or to enable others to reach them more easily, what would it be like? You would be able to complete and send forms, order things that you cannot buy locally, or communicate with relatives across the world. This is just the sort of thing that Joseph Banks dreamt about as His Majesty's Bark Endeavour crossed the Southern Ocean on Captain James Cook's first voyage from Whitby and first landing on the east coast of Australia. Banks wrote, on 3 October 1769, somewhat wistfully: "Now do I wish that our freinds [sic] in England could by the assistance of some magical spying glass take a peep at our situation."

Come 2019, 250 years later and some of us are still wishing. Broadband, and the cluster of technologies that constitute it, is the basis of our modern 'magical spying glasses'. It's the means by which we connect computers to each other and to the internet. If you are fortunate, you will be able to connect whichever type of computer you have - via either a wireless or wired link or a combination of both. It is now normal to connect first via wireless wi-fi, then a wired link from a router into the telephone network, then on to a fibre optic network taking you eventually to the internet. The part that most people worry about is how well these first connections work, or, if you live in some remote locations, don't ...

In theory, broadband should be the answer to many a rural problem. But as someone famously said, "in theory, theory and practice are the same, in practice they are not". The very thing that broadband is good at - conquering distance by transmitting and receiving relatively huge quantities of information very quickly - is also a handicap: who pays for the infrastructure to carry it?

For rural areas, this also afflicts postal services, buses, rail, refuse collection, road maintenance, water, gas, sewerage

and electricity: it is more expensive to provide these services outside built up areas because of the costs of overcoming the distances involved. And if costs and profit, rather than the public interest, are your main motives - rural areas inevitably suffer disproportionately ...

This presents an opportunity for entrepreneurs. If you can escape the suffocation of monopolies, restrictive practices, vested interests, planning, politics and plain bloody mindedness, then providing broadband connections in rural locations may be one of the most liberating and transformational services you can provide.

And this is just what initiatives such as Moorsweb, have done on the North Yorkshire Moors. Moorsweb, along with others such as Beeline Broadband, Quickline, Boundless, Save 9 and Bay Broadband Cooperative, have examined the local conditions that defeat national providers like BT, and turned them to advantage, creating niches for themselves, each with a different approach depending on local circumstances. Once the magic ingredients of funding and local cooperation are in place, it is possible to have isolated rural locations with better broadband services than the urban norm.

Moorsweb, for instance, is a collaboration between the community overseer, Moors Web Link, and the operator Signa Technologies. Started in 2006, it now serves 300 subscribers across a range of moorland locations. The local topography dictates the network setup. A series of relays located strategically plus relay transmitters on subscribers' properties, form a tree-shaped network. Speeds range from 10 megabits per second to 100 Mbs, depending on how many subscribers are accessing the system and other variables. Funding initially came from Yorkshire Forward. Connection improvements were funded by North Yorkshire County Council, NYNet and Ryedale District Council. Since 2013 funding has come mainly from subscriptions.

Such achieved speeds almost completely solve some of the most irksome problems with rural broadband, especially when users try to connect with essential websites such as banks or pubic bodies which require forms to be completed online and do not work properly on slow lines. This is an issue both with the physical hardware and also web designers not considering, for example, low broadband speed for rural users on websites with many unnecessary graphics.

The latest 'solution' for isolated rural areas is 50 metre high masts for next generation 5G mobile phone networks at twice the height of the current planning maximum. Good news or bad news? I wonder what Joseph Banks might have thought with his magical spying glass?

ADRIAN LEAMAN



Thanks to Bernard Glass and Ann Farmer for additional material.

THE MEDIEVAL CLOTHIER: MAKING AND MARKETING CLOTH IN YORKSHIRE

TWESTERDALE HISTORY GROUP in June, John Lee spoke on the medieval clothier, and his (or occasionally her) work in both the making and marketing of cloth. He explored the different processes involved in making cloth. Several of these terms are still mentioned in everyday speech, when we talk of being 'dyed in the wool' or 'on tenterhooks'. Clothiers also arranged the sale of the finished cloth. Visiting town markets and fairs, they negotiated with merchants from London and occasionally even from overseas. Consequently, clothiers needed a range of technical knowledge, from buying wool to dyeing, as well as marketing skills.

Yorkshire was a centre of the industry from an early date. In the late twelfth century, Beverley, Kirkbymoorside, Malton, Thirsk, Scarborough and York were granted a charter from King Henry II restricting the manufacture of dyed and striped cloths within the county to within these boroughs. Cloth-making was also practised in many small towns and rural communities, from Halifax in the western Pennines to Hedon on the east coast, and from Wakefield in the south to Whitby on the north-east coast.

Commercial cloth production could be found within a handful of communities on the North York Moors. An inquisition was drawn up in 1399 in response to complaints from the York Weavers' Guild that weavers and dyers outside the city and the other boroughs which had received Henry II's charter were

competing with them illegally by producing dyed or striped cloths. This enquiry reported that at Coxwold, Thomas Webster and John Raby, and at Kilburn, William Skurweton and Alexander Webster, all wove blue and 'plunket' (grey or light blue) coloured cloths. Helmsley was a larger centre of production, as no fewer than 9 weavers producing coloured cloths were recorded in the 1399 survey.

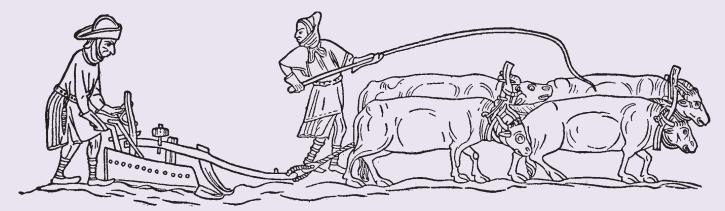
By the 1470s though, there had been a significant shift in production, with Bradford, Leeds, Wakefield, Halifax, Huddersfield and surrounding villages in the West Riding expanding at the expense of York, Beverley, Ripon and other cloth producing areas in the North and East Ridings. Clothmaking was now increasingly in the hands of the clothiers, who put-out raw and semi-finished materials to outworkers and then marketed their cloth, selling to merchants, drapers and other traders. Textiles had become England's leading industry and the country's most valuable export, a major source of wealth for individuals and their communities.

IOHN LEE

John Lee teaches for the Centre for Lifelong Learning at the University of York. He has recently published *The Medieval Clothier*. For further details see:

https://boydellandbrewer.com/the-medieval-clothier.html

ORM OF KIRKBYMOORSIDE



N JULY the Kirkbymoorside History Group held its third annual Heritage Day and focused on people who had contributed to the history of the town from Orm, who lived almost 1,000 years ago, up to personalities who can be recalled from more recent living memory.

Orm has a special place in the heritage of the town as he is the earliest individual who we can link to Kirkbymoorside by name. This is because he is listed in Domesday Book in the entry for Kirkbymoorside which records –

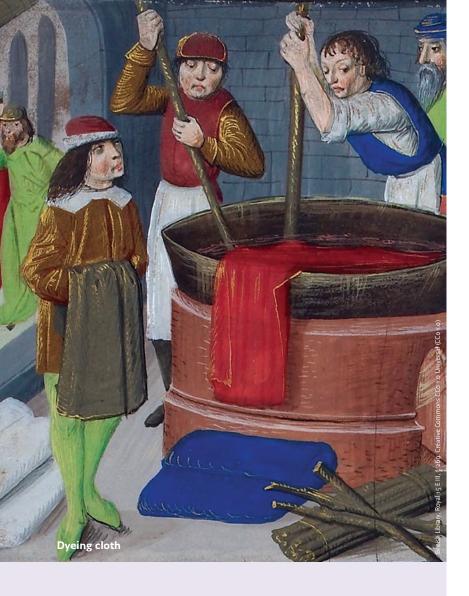
In CHIRCHEBI. ht Orm. v. car træ ad gld.

This translates as -

"In CHIRCHEBI (KIRKBY) Orm has 5 caracutes of land taxable"

Domesday Book is the record of the detailed survey of English landholding conducted on the orders of William the Conqueror in 1086. One of its main purposes was to allow taxes to be collected efficiently. The Kirkbymoorside entry tells us that Orm was the Lord of the Manor and that he held five carucates of land. A carucate is usually regarded as an area of roughly 120 acres (50 hectares) and so Orm owned an estate of land of about 600 acres based on Kirkbymoorside.

Orm and his father Gamal both have Scandinavian names and it is likely that the family was descended from Viking settlers in North Yorkshire. They may have originally been aristocratic warriors called housecarls who helped King Canute conquer England in 1016 and who were given English landed estates as a reward for their military service.



A very influential person in Northumbria, Orm had married into the leading aristocratic family of the region. His wife AEthelthryth was the daughter of Ealdred, the Earl of Northumbria and Orm's brother-in-law then became Earl, thus enhancing Orm's status.

Orm is best known in our local area because his name appears on the Anglo-Saxon sundial above the door of St. Gregory's Minster, Kirkdale.



The inscription reads:

"Orm the son of Gamal acquired St. Gregory's church when it was completely ruined and collapsed, and he had it built anew from the ground to Christ and to St. Gregory in the days of King Edward and in the days of Earl Tostig".

STEPHEN PEET

A fuller version of this article was first printed in the regular newsletter of the Kirkbymoorside History Group sent out free as an attachment to an email three times a year. If you would like to receive your own regular copy of the newsletter, please send a request by email to its editor at smpeet@outlook.com

HEADLESS MYSTERIES SURROUND THE OLD TOWN HALL

ECENT survey work as a prelude to transforming Guisborough's old Town Hall into a top tourist attraction with high quality bunk-house accommodation aimed at walkers and cyclists has shown that earlier thoughts on the time line of the building may not be all that they seem from the date stone at the top of the building. Originally thought to be built as a two-storey building in 1821 on the site of an ancient toll booth, then extended to three floors in 1870, recent surveys by the project team have found that the current building is composed of three very different ones, with traces of the original toll booth still in situ and forming part of the original two storey building, which was followed by a complete renovation and additional floor in 1870.

This suggests that the current building can trace parts of it back much earlier than 1821. How far back in history these stones from the original toll booth can be dated is unknown. In 1405 the head of Sir John Falconberg was said to have been placed on the toll booth for rebelling against the King. It is speculation but interesting to wonder if those stones formed part of the building during such macabre times. Were they there when the Priory was destroyed by Henry VIII? Sadly, we may never be able to answer these questions. But what is clear is that the foundations of the Town Hall go back much further than the date stone on the current building would have us believe....

...Another mystery the project team are keen to solve is the possibility that there is a cellar under the Town Hall.

Readers may remember an earlier report which suggested that there was a two-room cellar clad in white tiles and used to store fish *en route* from Whitby to Middlesbrough and beyond. Despite a full survey of the building, which included ground penetrating radar, nothing was found.

However, a more recent report suggests that there may be truth in the rumour. It has been claimed that during the Second World War, when troops were stationed in camps on the outskirts of Guisborough, a communications centre was established in the cellars under the Town Hall. More research now needs to be carried out to verify this new



information, but if any reader can help solve this mystery, or shed any light on the story, Andy Murray, the Project Chairman would love to hear from you. He can be contacted at Sunnyfield House, Westgate, Guisborough.

KEN HORNER

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VOICE OF THE MOORS - AUTUMN 2019

NYMA PUBLICATIONS

Many of you will be aware that NYMA is the publisher of various books of local interest. Below are three published most recently. As the festive season approaches, one (or more) would make an ideal Christmas gift for a relative or friend who loves the moors. Or perhaps a membership subscription to NYMA? (See page 2 for details).

WHEEL SHEDS OF THE NORTH YORK MOORS AND ADIACENT AREAS

by David Hartley and Joan Hartley, edited by Robin Cook

This new publication is primarily the work of Joan Hartley who was born and lived all her life in and around the North York Moors. She and husband Charles devoted many hours capturing details of wheel sheds in their travels.

Wheel sheds were developed as structures built to enclose a horse engine, usually circular but sometimes square or octagonal, attached to a threshing barn and mostly built in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The variety of styles is considerable as can be seen by the many examples shown in the book.

Whilst researching the various wheel sheds, it is not hard to imagine the couple being viewed with much suspicion by owners and farmers when driving up often muddy farm tracks asking to take photographs of the buildings!

In addition to the wheel sheds, Joan Hartley's interest extended to observing any proposed developments such as their incorporation into existing farm buildings and their conversion into dwellings. However, many were in a poor condition, gradually falling into disrepair and without this record of their existence, they would be lost forever.

This albeit specialised subject (which also includes Joan's own experiences as a young girl of "thrashing day"), will be of interest to those keen on agricultural history and development as well as the history of their local area.

The book is available from local bookshops in the area, Amazon Books or can be purchased directly for £13 (P&P £2.50 extra): from David Hartley Tel: 01278 671488 Email: quantockhartleys@gmail.com

THE WILD FLOWERS OF WESTERDALE

a botanical handbook by Carol M Wilson

The parish of Westerdale is one of the most beautiful and unspoilt areas of the North York Moors National Park. Greatly adding to the beauty of the area is the



abundant and varied flora, particularly the wild flowers. Carol Wilson, a resident of Westerdale village, passionate botanist and lover of our native wild flowers, has over the past few years painstakingly searched out and recorded all the species of wild plants to be found growing there. This colossal piece of work has been a labour of love and has culminated in the publication of this comprehensive botanical handbook, in which the author gives detailed information on over 350 species of wild flowers as well as other plants and trees.

The attractive full-colour book has over 150 pages and 650 photos presented in a user-friendly layout using colour-coded sections making for easier identification of the species under examination, particularly for the less experienced or novice botanist. However, full Latin botanical nomenclature and a complete index of the common names are also included. There is an introductory section on plant families, a useful glossary and guidance notes on where and at what time of the year the wild plants can be found.

Although the book is specifically intended as a guide to the flora of Westerdale Parish, the species covereed can also be found in many other areas and therefore the handbook can be used to advantage as a practical botanical guide across the whole of the NYMs National Park.

Copies of the book can be purchased direct from Carol M Wilson, at Pinfold,

Westerdale, Whitby, YO21 2DT, £15 per copy (P&P £2.25 extra). They are also available from Danby Moors Centre shop and from Castleton Tea Rooms, High Street, Castleton.

THE HISTORY TREE

Memories in the Lifetime of a Memorable Tree edited by Janet Cochrane

Until 2007, an iconic and cherished copper beech tree stood in the grounds of the Moors Centre, formerly Danby Lodge. When it had to be taken down, and also to mark the 25th anniversary of NYMA, a steel plate etched into the shape of the bole and main branches of a truncated tree, was placed in the ground where the tree had grown. Forty local and national events which occurred during the life of the tree were recorded on this plate.

The History Tree book provides forty carefully researched chapters which recount the topics in more detail and offer opportunities for further research. Themes include literature, the sea, exploration and endeavour, tragedy and bravery, craftsmanship and creativity, nobility and royalty, cultural and industrial heritage, the railway, science, geology, forestry and much more.

Copies are £7.50 and available at many outlets across north-east Yorkshire. A full list can be found on the NYMA website. They can also be purchased directly (P&P £2.50 extra) by completing the form on the website.



SKYLARKS

Now we are in Autumn, what has happened to the trees? What are trees called that lose their leaves? What are trees called that keep their leaves or needles?

Use the activity below to learn more:





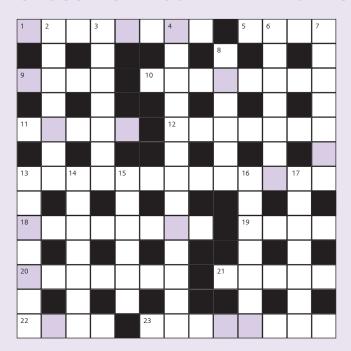
Find the letters on the trees above to spell out the type trees below (get a grown up to help if you need to).

A tree that loses its leaves is called **D_C_DU_U_**.

A tree that keeps its leaves or needles is called an **E_ER__E_N**.

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

CROSSWORD 86 BY AMANUENSIS



Take the letters from the coloured squares on the grid and rearrange to solve the anagram.

Clue: NYMs beauty spot that Wade was said to have had a big hand in creating. (3, 4, 2, 6)

ACROSS

- 1 Nocturnal mammal goes round field with Mr Piggy (8)
- 5 Came about at the absolute peak (4)
- 9 Tripped over mountain side (4)
- 10 Art lover? (8)
- 11 Royal lager brew (5)
- Morning recorder for current measure (7)
- 13 Political skills when America's 50 go on male boat (13)
- 18 Response to awful creation (8)
- 19 Storage capacity to get your teeth into one hears? (4)
- 20 Opportunity novice found inside church (7)
- 21 Emblem of musteline mammal having tail docked? (5)
- 22 Extremely enthusiastic about small fruit (4)
- 23 Old wind instrument has strange hour amongst crop (8)

DOWN

- 2 First lady to take a break on top of the world (7)
- 3 Frugal lantern sheds light on chivalrous person (7)
- 4 Delivery man? (7,6)
- 6 The best quadrupedal sprinter (7)
- 7 One used by clear-sighted people perhaps? (3-4)
- 8 Holy man has last word on flower part (6)
- 13 Muslim races north with a combination (7)
- 14 The first man to join worker is determined (7)
- 15 Attract apprentice at the end (6)
- 16 The week would not be complete without it (7)
- 17 A whole unit; not a fraction more or a fraction less! (6)



Answers on back cover

VOICE OF THE MOORS - AUTUMN 2019

NYMA NEWS

UPDATE ON SIRIUS MINE

Sirius Minerals share price collapsed on September 17th when the company announced that they had abandoned the arrangements for the phase 2 funding, the shares fell to 3.7p. The company said in a financing and development update that they had £117m which would keep them going for a few months. Meanwhile they are to conduct a comprehensive review of the project. This will include revising the engineering schedules that are already in place and will result in a slowing down of the development. A review of the financing arrangements which will take some time to put into place will also be undertaken including seeking a major strategic partner for the project.

An additional event for this autumn:

SATURDAY 19 OCTOBER:

A Morning in Thornton-le-Dale

Meet at 10.30 on the village green (YO18 7LF - public car park nearby).

The local history group of this historic and active village was co-winner of the NYMA President's Award in 2018.

Members will show us the key sights of the village, including Methodist and Anglican churches, pubs - both temperance and 'normal' - the original village school, almshouses and Thornton Hall.

There are several pubs and cafes for refreshments afterwards.

If you wish to attend this event, please email Janet Cochrane secretary@nyma.org.uk or phone 07570 112010

CROSSWORD ANSWERS (see page 15)

Anagram: THE HOLE OF HORCUM

Down: 2 Everest; 3 gallant; 4 overarm bowler; 6 cheetah; 7 eye-drop; 8 stamen; 13 Saracen; 14 adamant; 15 entice; 16 Sabath; 17 integer

z3 crumhorn

Across: 1 hedgehog; 5 acme; 9 fell; 10 aesthete; 11 regal; 12 ammeter; 13 statesmanship; 18 reaction; 12 byte; 20 chancel; 21 badge; 22 nuts;



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



Walk Leaders: Dave and Cal Moore. Please contact us on o1287 669648, flightbrand@gmail.com to confirm attendance.

Meeting Place: Lay-by at Cowbar on the A174 (opposite the entrance to Boulby Mine). Grid reference NZ 767 185.

Distance: 5.5 miles approx with

some climbs.
Meet time: 10.30am
Distance: about 6.5 miles
A circular walk, the route is south
west following Roxby Beck, then
north east to Dalehouse. Over the
A174 to Cowbar and then a short
stretch of the Cleveland Way west
back to the start. No dogs please.

Saturday 9 November 2019 SWAINBY CIRCULAR

Walk Leader: Kath Mair. Contact phone number 0797 4288056 Meeting Place: Holy Cross Church, Swainby (GR478020). Roadside parking throughout village. Meet time: 10.30am Distance: about 6.5 miles
Through village, across fields and forest tracks to meet junction of Cleveland Way and Coast to Coast route. Continue on the CW up and over the moor, then via plantation to Coalmire Lane and back to Swainby. There are two shortish steady climbs.

There is no walk in December, but NYMA members and walkers are invited to

A FESTIVE CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER 1PM THE WAINSTONES, GREAT BROUGHTON

This will be a 3 course meal with coffee or tea at £16.95. Numbers are limited and the hotel requires menu choices in advance. Please contact Heather Mather: 01287 669104 or

heathercolin67@gmail.com by **Friday 8th November** for details of the choices on offer.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

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Ian Carstairs OBE

Chairman

Tom Chadwick

Vice Chairman

Adrian Leaman

Council Members

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

Association Treasurer

Brian Pearce - brian.pearce11@btinternet.com

Association Secretary

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

Membership Secretary

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

Walks Coordinator

Heather Mather - 01287 669104

NYMA

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

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