



## Welcome!

We are pleased to welcome the following new members who have joined us since the last newsletter: Mr. A.A.R. Bowring, Mr. and Mrs. A. Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. I. Fleming, Mr. and Mrs. P.D. Kelly, Prof. and Mrs. G.A. Randell and Mr. D. Tayler.

Existing members, do encourage your friends, or perhaps new neighbours, to have a look at our website ([www.northcravenheritage.org.uk](http://www.northcravenheritage.org.uk)) where they will find lots of interesting information about the Trust itself and also links to other like-minded local interest societies. The North Craven Heritage Trust is also an associate member of the Yorkshire Dales Society which, inter alia, entitles NCHT members to free participation on YDS guided walks and winter lectures – look at our website (under "about us" and "links") for details. So all the more reason for joining NCHT!

## 2014 – a flying start!

Our talks programme got off to a flying start with the butterflies of Upper Winskill then descended to sea level in the ports of Morecambe Bay. Many thanks to Tom Lord and Hilary Walklett for sharing their knowledge with us; and to Marian Parry and her helpers for the refreshments.

More recently we have enjoyed another of David Johnson's off-the-beaten-track explorations of an area outside North Craven. This year's Summer Outing took us to the 17th century Low Hall in Dacre, Nidderdale; then on to Wath in the Ure valley to view the 13th century parish church and the 14th century Norton Conyers. Mrs Holiday, our informative hostess at Low Hall, has passed on the proceeds of our viewing fees to the National Gardens Scheme and refugees in Nepal.

Please make a note of **our next events:**

- Wednesday 16 July 2pm we meet at St. Leonard's Church, Chapel le Dale for a 4 mile walk through prehistory on the Ingleborough Terraces.
- Thursday 7 August 2pm we take in a 3 mile walk on 18th century roads west of Settle, starting from Giggleswick Station.
- Wednesday 3 September at 2pm we visit Dry Rigg Quarry.
- Thursday 2 October at 7.30pm in Austwick sees the start of our autumn talks when Frank Gordon takes us on a graphic tour of the Dales through the eyes of Turner and his contemporaries.

Please join us, and let us have suggestions for future talks or events.

## NCHT website

Our web maestro Frank Woodhams has made some substantial alterations to the website to accommodate our growing demands for accessible information, especially historical information for our archive; and for our charitable grant-giving activity. Do refer to it!

## Charitable grants

As you know, our charitable activities in support of North Craven Heritage include making grants for academic research; and for the restoration of our older churches and places of worship.

We have re-launched our scheme with Lancaster University offering bursaries of up to £1,500 to encourage MA students to research aspects of North Craven's heritage. If you know of anyone who might be interested, ask them to have a look at the website or put them in touch with a member of the Committee.

We have offered a grant of £1,000 to St Michael the Archangel, Kirkby Malham Parish Church, towards their appeal to help remedy problems associated with the roof.

NCHT members' support for these funds is increasingly important in the light of rising educational fees and building costs – and to illuminate and preserve our heritage.

## Planning Applications

We have reviewed all of the planning applications pertaining to the civil parishes of North Craven submitted to the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) during the period in the context of the Trust's aim "...to help safeguard the distinctive beauty, history and character of the North Craven area".

Comments/objections have been submitted to the Authority where deemed appropriate. A number of applications were for large portal frame agricultural buildings, which the Park Authority does its best to make blend into the landscape through the cosmetic related conditions it applies.

We also responded to consultation regarding the proposed permitted development right for an agricultural building to change to residential use, notably for us traditional barns. We were pleased that government decided that National Parks are to be exempt from the barn conversion proposals and that the Park Authority will retain its local planning control over such changes of use. To improve coordination with other heritage related organisations on such matters as planning we now have representation on the Yorkshire Dales Society Policy Committee.

The YDNPA is now consulting on its draft Local Plan (2015-2030) that will guide the way planning decisions are made in the

Park in the future. The draft plan includes the proposed approach to conserve, enhance and bring back into use heritage assets. We will be responding to the consultation before the July 28<sup>th</sup> deadline and if any NHCT members have comments we would be pleased to incorporate them in our response. The draft documents can be found on the YDNPA website.

## Clapper Bridges

With the objective of improving the protection of clapper bridges in our area, one at least of which has been damaged, we aim to identify and record as many as we can find and, where appropriate, seek additional heritage protection for them. We would be grateful to members if they would let us know the clapper bridges they are familiar with or come across in their North Craven wanderings. A clapper bridge is "a structure designed to carry a trackway across a river by means of one or more large, flat stone slabs, either resting directly on the river banks or supported on dry-stone piers."

## ....and finally

At the AGM in October we will be bidding farewell to two members of our Committee –they have served 'good stints' and our thanks will go with them.

Their departure will leave gaps which we need to fill. We have only four formal committee meetings a year, so demands on your diary will not be heavy. We would welcome new members who are interested in any aspect of the Trust's activities – and we welcome new ideas. For more information – without obligation – speak to any committee member or ring me on 01729 825075.

John Asher