



# YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

[www.yvbsg.org.uk](http://www.yvbsg.org.uk)

Newsheet No 61

August 2010

## YVBSG Events For Your Diary

### Conference Review Day

Sunday 19 September 2010

Join us in Beverley for our Annual Conference Review Day on the discoveries and interpretations of the five buildings we surveyed in May 2010. Four of these are in Beverley (The Monks Walk public house; The Sun Inn; 11 Ladygate 'Legends'/'Just Julie'; 38 Highgate, the Minster Parish Centre) and one in the outlying village of South Dalton (Oak Cottage). Also on offer is a tour of either the Minster roof or the Guildhall.

Booking is essential – please complete and return the enclosed form to David Cook by Thursday 9 September 2010.

### Committee meeting

The next committee meeting will be held on Sunday 3 October 2010. If you'd like to raise any matters or suggest any future events please contact the Secretary, David Crook.

### More Early Vernacular Buildings in the Thirsk Area

Sunday 24 October 2010

A continuation, by popular demand, of our visit on 4 July 2010. This time some cruck and early stone buildings will be included in the itinerary, as well as timber-framed houses. It is hoped to include at least a couple of internal visits. Please note that the programme may be varied a little, depending on the availability of houses for internal inspection:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 10.30       | Assemble outside the Fleece Inn on the south side of Thirsk Market Place. Free parking on Sundays |
| 11.00-12.30 | Visits to villages north of Thirsk: Borrowby and Knayton (cruck, stone and timber buildings)      |
| 12.45-14.00 | Lunch in Thirsk (plenty of cafes/pubs or bring your own)  |
| 14.30-16.30 | Visits to villages south of Thirsk: Husthwaite and Helperby (timber buildings)                    |

If you would like to come, please contact Barry Harrison, 17 Whitby Avenue, Guisborough TS14 7AP, telephone 01287 633182, email [gyseburn@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gyseburn@yahoo.co.uk), by Tuesday 5 October 2010. Numbers will be restricted to a maximum of 25 – everybody welcome, whether or not you attended the first day.

### Annual Day School and AGM

Saturday 19 March 2011

To be held in Leeds. Full details and booking form with the next Newsheet.

### Annual Recording Conference

Friday 13 to Sunday 15 May 2011

To be held in Long Preston.

## Recent YVBSG events

### Visit to Birthwaite Hall and other buildings in the Barnsley area

A total of twenty-six members and friends ventured into South Yorkshire on Saturday 26 June 2010 for a most enjoyable day arranged by Kevin Illingworth. After coffee and cakes in the elegant surroundings of the west wing of Birthwaite Hall, we had a look round the house, which incorporates work by John Carr, and the extraordinary adjacent farm buildings. Further information is available in *A History of Birthwaite Hall, Darton*, by Martin Shepherd, published in 2005 by Mapplewell and Staincross Village Hall Ltd, telephone 01226 381006.

We then moved on to the Inn of the Black Monks for lunch and much debate on its features, which included chamfer stops, hoodmould stops and curious graffiti. The establishment opened specially to cater for us – it was currently closed and preparing to reopen as an Italian restaurant, Vecchio Mulino (81 Grange Lane, Barnsley S71 5QF, telephone 0871 426 9216). An added bonus was the kestrel's nest, complete with young kestrels peeping out, high in the gable wall.

The afternoon saw us in the impressive cruck-framed barn at New Hall Farm near Ardsley (photo right), which still retains some windbraces. The barn is in a somewhat sorry state at the moment but work will shortly commence to restore it as an educational centre for schoolchildren, and it should be open to the public on Open Farm Sunday in June 2011 and on Heritage Open Days in September 2011.

We thank the owners and occupiers of the buildings for their hospitality and for allowing access to their buildings, and of course Kevin for organising the day.

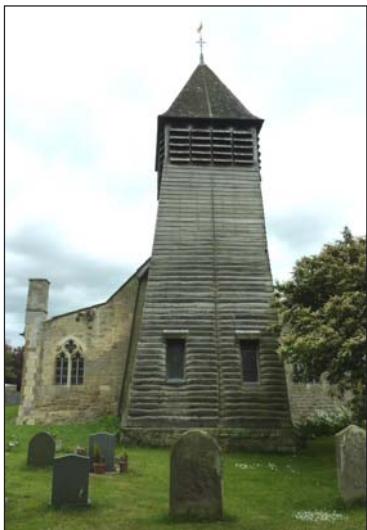


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## Recent YVBSG events (continued)

### Timber-Framed Buildings in the Thirsk Area

Another fully-booked event took place on Sunday 4 July 2010 when Barry Harrison led members on a tour of timber-framed buildings in and around Thirsk. The town itself offers a variety of framing, some of which can be readily observed in pubs for anyone who may wish to visit independently! The Cross Keys in Kirkgate displays the foot of a cruck blade in its gable wall (under scrutiny in the photo right) and comprises a double hearth passage plan which looks rather like a lobby entry arrangement from the outside but instead has a passage with a hearth backing onto it on either side and the flues coming together overhead. Examples of this plan type are more common further north, for example on the Tees plain, but this seems to be the most southerly one found so far.



We squeezed, a few at a time, into 15 Ingramgate, a two-cell cottage with a large fireplace and continuous outshut/aisle at the rear. Some of the original aisle timbers, having had to be replaced during renovation, stood in the back garden and allowed close examination of the aisle construction.

In the village of Carlton Husthwaite we visited the splendid Thatched Cottage with its firehood (not linked to the building's frame) and its close studding (added later for decoration?). A gallery inside provided good views and provoked much discussion of the timbers and their joints including those forming the hipped roof. In Sowerby we puzzled over 124-130 Front Street, now four cottages but what type of building was it originally, having a possible open hall in the middle and no evidence of fireplaces?

We also managed to fit in a church – St Mary's at Raskelf – which incorporates a timber arcade in the chancel and a timber boarded tower (see photo left).

We thank Barry and the building owners for an excellent day and look forward to more of the same in October!



### Next Newsheet

Many thanks to everybody who contributed to this newsheet. The next edition will be in November – please send any items that might interest other members to the editor by 31 October 2010.

### Yorkshire Buildings

*Yorkshire Buildings* 2008 is hot off the press and if you were a member during that year (even if you're no longer a member) you'll find your copy enclosed with this Newsheet – we hope you enjoy it. If you haven't received a copy and would like one, they are normally on sale at our day schools or can be ordered from Lorraine Moor at £4 + £1 p&p (cheques payable to YVBSG).

### Recent visit by CVHBG to the Fylde

I wish to thank the seven YVBSG members from the Halifax, Bradford and Huddersfield areas, who were among fourteen West Yorkshire members of the Calder Valley Historic Buildings Group at the Parrox Hall/Fylde visit on 17 July 2010. They travelled fifty to seventy miles on a showery morning, and their enthusiasm was much appreciated.

It was a little disappointing that no Lancashire YVBSG members attended, but instead the very dependable Joan Dickinson, chair of Chorley Historical Society, provided six members for the visit (they have attended YVBSG events in Yorkshire, and bought copies of *Doorways in the Dales!*). Two members of Galgate History Group and one from Chipping made a total of twenty-three people from five societies, from both counties.

At Bell Farm, the partly sawn-off bressummer beam was not without interest, but the Gloucester Old Spot and her six piglets were a big attraction. At Rawcliffe Hall, a secluded late sixteenth century courtyard-type house, we had access to a private area upstairs, where some decorated timber-framing survives at first floor level. This quatrefoil decoration, with coving under the eaves, is more typical further south in Lancashire and Cheshire, and beyond, but rare in Yorkshire. We all thought that seeing this was better than the World Cup or Christmas.

But the real gem of the day was an unlisted barn at Scronkey Farm, Pilling, where the local, original, thatch could be seen inside, protected by black-painted corrugated iron, typical of the area. Three forked purlins, shippon for eight cows, hand-made brick on a cobble-and-rubble plinth, completed the picture. Scronkey Cottage had a Shepley (Huddersfield) wheatstraw ridge.

The next CVHBG visit west of the Pennines is already being planned. Ideally this will have guests from societies in Lancashire and Yorkshire.

*Kevin Illingworth*



*Decorated timber-framing hidden away at Rawcliffe Hall. Includes quatrefoils and coving under eaves.*

## **Other events of possible interest ...**

Some of these events are publicised a long time in advance, so it's worth checking that they are still running before you go!

### **East Yorkshire Architecture**

Until September 2010

Modest exhibition of vernacular architecture at the Museum of East Riding Rural Life, Skidby Mill, near Beverley, telephone 01482 848405.

### **Rishworth's Hidden Corners**

Sunday 29 August 2010

This attractive village in a beautiful setting contains much of historic interest! Meet Anne Kirker at 2.15pm at Rishworth turning circle on A672. Car park next to Heathfield School. £3, no need to book. Full details at [www.CalderdaleHeritageWalks.org.uk](http://www.CalderdaleHeritageWalks.org.uk).

### **A Clitheroe Brennand Family with Slaidburn Origins and Distant Connections**

Tuesday 14 September 2010

Talk by Sheila Shaw to Ribble Valley Branch of Lancashire Family History and Heraldry Society, 7.30pm at Clitheroe Cricket Club, Chatburn Road, Clitheroe. Website [www.lfhhs.org.uk/ribblevalley/](http://www.lfhhs.org.uk/ribblevalley/).

### **Hellifield Peel and Broughton Hall**

Sunday 19 September 2010

Friends of Historic Houses Association visit (you need to be a 'Friend' to attend). £59 including three-course lunch. Enquiries: telephone 01462 896688, web [www.hha.org.uk](http://www.hha.org.uk).

### **Skipton Buildings and Local History**

Saturday 25 September 2010

Short lecture by Sue Wrathmell at Skipton Castle followed by a walk around the town looking at historic buildings. 10am to 3pm. £12 including coffee and biscuits. To book ring Roma Crossland on 01756 709627. Website [www.skiptoncastle.co.uk](http://www.skiptoncastle.co.uk).

### **Mapping the Past**

Saturday 25 September 2010

South Pennine History Forum annual conference at Saddleworth Museum Gallery, Uppermill. Talks on 'Mapping the Pennines in the 17th Century' by Alan Petford, 'Ordnance Survey Large-Scale Mapping' by Paul Hindle and 'Manuscript Maps of Saddleworth' by Mike Buckley. Also choice of workshops on 'Reconstructing Farm and Field' by David Cant, 'Peopling the Past: Urban Landscapes in the mid 19th century' by Alan Petford, 'Populating the Waste' by Mike Buckley, and 'The Impact on the Landscape of the Industrial Revolution' by Alan Schofield. £15 per person including lunch. Enquiries: telephone 0161 338 6555 or email [al@harropcourt.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:al@harropcourt.freeserve.co.uk).

### **Lakeland Architecture through the Centuries**

Thursday 30 September 2010

Talk by Andrew Lowe (former Conservation Officer for Lake District National Park) to Lancaster Archaeological and Historical Society at St Paul's Church Hall, Hala, Lancaster, 7.30pm. Visitors £2. Website [www.britarch.ac.uk/lahs/lahs.htm](http://www.britarch.ac.uk/lahs/lahs.htm).

### **Slaidburn**

Monday 4 October 2010

Talk by Chris Hall to Clitheroe Civic Society, 7.30pm at Ribble Valley Borough Council Chamber, Church Street, Clitheroe. £2. Enquiries: Pauline Wood on 01200 429187 or John Goodman on 01200 443571.

### **York Archaeology and History Day**

Saturday 9 October 2010

A free event at the Guildhall in York with talks and stalls showing the work of local archaeology and history groups, and books for sale from archaeological and history book sellers. For more details contact the Community Archaeologist, Jon Kenny, on 01904 658255 or email [jkenny@yorkat.co.uk](mailto:jkenny@yorkat.co.uk).

### **Documentary Sources of Home History**

Thursday 14 October 2010

Talk by Linda Turnbull to Skipton and Craven History Society, 7.30pm at the Swadford Centre, Swadford Street, Skipton. Visitors £2. Website [www.simplesite.com/Skipton-History-Society](http://www.simplesite.com/Skipton-History-Society).

### **Houses of Distinction**

Thursday 14 October 2010

Talk by Allan Mirfield to Bingley and District Local History Society, 7.30pm at Church House, Bingley. £1.50. Website [www.bingleyhistory.co.uk](http://www.bingleyhistory.co.uk).

### **Traditional Farmhouses in and around the Forest of Bowland**

Tuesday 19 October 2010

Illustrated talk by Kevin Illingworth for Chipping Local History Society at St Mary's Community Hall, Longridge Road, Chipping, 7.45pm. Enquiries: Jean Fone on 01995 606511. Website [www.chippinghistory.org.uk](http://www.chippinghistory.org.uk).

### **Investigating the Past – using structures and documents to understand buildings in their historical context**

Tuesday 19 October 2010

Talk by David Cant to Halifax Antiquarian Society, 7.30 at Halifax Central Library. Website [www.halifaxhistory.org.uk](http://www.halifaxhistory.org.uk).

### **Beverley Local History Book Fair**

Saturday 23 October 2010

To be held at the Beverley Archives & Local Studies Service Treasure House, 10am to 4pm, free admission. A unique opportunity to buy books, pamphlets, maps and other ephemera produced by local history organisations. Enquiries: Pamela Martin, telephone 01482 392795.

### **Burnsall and its Buildings**

Thursday 4 November 2010

Talk by Alan Stockdale to the Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group, 7.30pm at the Soroptimist Rooms, 28 Otley Street, Skipton. Website [www.uwhg.org.uk](http://www.uwhg.org.uk).

### **Parceval Hall**

Monday 8 November 2010

Friends of Historic Houses Association visit (you need to be a 'Friend' to attend). £44 including lunch. Enquiries: telephone 01462 896688, web [www.hha.org.uk](http://www.hha.org.uk).

### **Late Medieval Yarm and the Vale of Mowbray**

Tuesday 9 November 2010

Talk by Barry Harrison to Northallerton and District Local History Society in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Hall, Thirsk Road, Northallerton at 7pm. Fee £2. Enquiries: Mike Sanders, telephone 01609 774662.

### **South Yorkshire Archaeology Day**

Saturday 20 November 2010

An opportunity to hear about recent projects from the archaeologists involved. Details available nearer the time – please email [syorks.archservice@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:syorks.archservice@sheffield.gov.uk) or write to South Yorkshire Archaeology Service, Development Services, Howden House, 1 Union Street, Sheffield S1 2SH.

### **West Yorkshire Archaeology Advisory Service Day School**

Saturday 27 November 2010

Annual Day School at the Royal Armouries, Leeds. Hear about recent archaeological work in West Yorkshire, both above and below ground. Tickets £12 from Becky Harlow on 0113 344 1681, email [bharlow@wyjs.org.uk](mailto:bharlow@wyjs.org.uk), or you can register online at [www.archaeology.wyjs.org.uk](http://www.archaeology.wyjs.org.uk).

### **Long Preston: documents and landscape**

Thursday 2 December 2010

Talk by Tony Stephens to the Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group, 7.30pm at the Soroptimist Rooms, 28 Otley Street, Skipton. Website [www.uwhg.org.uk](http://www.uwhg.org.uk).

# Courses on vernacular architecture and related topics

A few courses forthcoming in the autumn, both within the region and further afield ...

## Tracks, Walls and Field Barns in the Yorkshire Dales

The Yorkshire Dales is famous for its walls and fields that are served by field barns and scattered farmsteads. This course will look at the history behind these features and will outline the reasons for the fascinating countryside we see.

Tutor: Alan Barnett. Ten Thursdays from 23 September 2010, 2pm to 4pm at Kirklands Community Centre, Main Street, Menston, West Yorkshire. Fee £60. Run by WEA Aireborough Branch, Yorkshire and Humber Region, 0113 245 3304, [www.wea.org.uk/yh/](http://www.wea.org.uk/yh/).

## Buildings of the Marsh

We will journey through the many styles of buildings on the Marsh, from the round house of the British through to the Lincolnshire Mud and Stud, and so on to our brick buildings. We shall trace their origins through to the present day.

Tutor: Stuart Sizer. Seven Thursdays from 23 September 2010, 10am to 12 noon at Immingham Resource Centre, Margaret Street, Immingham, North East Lincolnshire DN40 1LE. Fee: £42. Run by WEA Immingham Branch, Yorkshire and Humber Region, 0113 245 3304, [www.wea.org.uk/yh/](http://www.wea.org.uk/yh/).

## The Geology of Buildings of the Southern Yorkshire Wolds

This course looks at the buildings and geology of the Southern Yorkshire Wolds that form part of the historical landscape. You will explore this area looking at the landscape and underlying geology, and relate buildings and the building materials to the local geology.

Tutor: Richard Myerscough. Five Wednesdays or Saturdays from 29 September 2010, 2pm to 4pm, with field trips. Fee £89. Enquiries: University of Hull Centre for Lifelong Learning, telephone 01482 465666, [www.hull.ac.uk](http://www.hull.ac.uk).

## Heritage Open Days 2010

Thursday 9 to Sunday 12 September 2010

Heritage Open Days celebrates England's architecture and culture by offering free access to properties that are usually closed to the public or normally charge for admission.

Some of this year's Yorkshire highlights include: an architecture walk in Hull; a presentation by David Neave on the forthcoming Pevsner guide to Hull; a tour of Foulbridge, the Knights Templar hall near Snainton; the 15th century timber-framed Bolton Percy Gatehouse; the hidden wall painting at Shandy Hall, Coxwold; the manorial barn at Whiston near Rotherham; as well as numerous churches, chapels, industrial and other buildings. Watch out for local publicity or see the online list of events at [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk).



## Call for papers

The University of Liverpool's Centre for Manx Studies and Manx National Heritage will be holding a vernacular architecture conference at the Manx Museum in Douglas, Isle of Man, from 22-25 June 2011. *New Light on Vernacular Architecture: Studies in Britain, Ireland and the Isle of Man* will bring together scholars and practitioners from a variety of different disciplines to identify and encourage new directions, new approaches, and new interpretations in the study of vernacular architecture in Britain, Ireland, and the Isle of Man.

The Call for Papers has now been announced on the conference website at [www.liv.ac.uk/manxstudies/VernacularArchitecture.htm](http://www.liv.ac.uk/manxstudies/VernacularArchitecture.htm). More details about the conference will be added here in due course. The conference organisers would welcome papers on all aspects of vernacular architecture from within the British Isles, particularly those exploring new directions, interpretations and approaches to the subject. The current deadline for abstracts is 30 September 2010. Submission details can be found on the conference website. If you would like to be added to the conference mailing list, please email Dr Catriona Mackie at [c.mackie@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:c.mackie@liverpool.ac.uk), telephone 01624 695 777.

## Recording opportunities

If you're interested in hearing about any opportunities for joining YVBSG recording teams throughout the year, please let Tony Tolhurst ([enquiries@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@yvbsg.org.uk)) have your email address so that he can add you to his circulation list.

## Tutor needed ...

The Middleham and Dales Local History Group (members from Wensleydale, Swaledale and Coverdale) would welcome the opportunity to have some tuition (during 2011) on interpreting and recording vernacular buildings. Possible talks might include:

- An introduction to vernacular buildings in the Dales (dating etc)
- Building materials and building methods eg roofs, woodwork, bricks, stones and plaster
- Recording vernacular buildings – how to do it!
- A field visit (or two) recording actual building(s)

The group meets in the Key Centre at Middleham normally on Tuesday afternoons – but this arrangement could be varied depending on commitments of possible speakers. A fee and expenses are available.

We would be most grateful to any members of YVBSG who might be interested in providing one or more of these sessions. Please contact Isobel Jenkins (telephone 0113 267 2486, email [i.jenkins@education.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:i.jenkins@education.leeds.ac.uk)) to discuss topics, arrangements, feasibility etc.

## ... another tutor needed

The University of Hull is looking for someone to teach an eight-week module on the vernacular buildings of East Yorkshire as part of the part-time degree in archaeology at the University on Thursday evenings from February 2011. The fee is around £1470. If you are interested or know of anyone who could help, please contact John Walker, email [j.walker@hull.ac.uk](mailto:j.walker@hull.ac.uk), or Dr Peter Halkon, Lecturer in Archaeology, Department of History, University of Hull HU6 7RX, email [A.P.Halkon@hull.ac.uk](mailto:A.P.Halkon@hull.ac.uk).

**Chair:** David Cook, 23 North End, Sedgefield, County Durham TS21 2AZ. Tel 01740 620098, email [dcook0@talk21.com](mailto:dcook0@talk21.com)

**Secretary:** David Crook, 18 Sycamore Terrace, Bootham, York YO30 7DN. Tel 01904 652387, email [yvbsgenquiries@btinternet.com](mailto:yvbsgenquiries@btinternet.com)

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