



YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

www.yvbsg.org.uk

Newsheet No 51

February 2008

YVBSG Events For Your Diary

Timber Framed Vernacular Buildings in Yorkshire

Saturday 8 March 2008

At the annual day school, to be held again this year at Leeds Metropolitan University Headingley Campus, we shall take a long overdue look at the historical, constructional and other aspects of Yorkshire's timber-framed vernacular buildings. Booking forms were circulated in November. The event is proving to be very popular and there are only a few places left, so if you're interested, book quickly! The YVBSG will hold its AGM immediately after the talks as usual.

Visit to Midgley and Luddenden

Sunday 13 April 2008

Walking tour to see buildings in Midgley and Luddenden. 10.30am to 4pm. Walking on minor roads and field paths, with some uneven ground. The area has a good selection of 17th, 18th and 19th century vernacular buildings and there will be time afterwards to appreciate the delights of one of two dated hostelleries – the Lord Nelson of 1634 (really) or Kershaw House of 1650.

Lunch break at Midgley Community Room – please bring a packed lunch. Tea/coffee/soft drinks will be available (and a loo!) with the shop open when we arrive there.

Cost £5. To book a place email davidjcant@hotmail.com or send a stamped addressed envelope for details to David Cant, 3 Middle Hathershelf, Halifax HX2 6JQ. Places are limited to 20 – so book soon!

Annual Recording Conference 2008

Friday 16 to Sunday 18 May 2008

The recording conference will be based in Burnsall, in the Dales. A booking form is enclosed with this Newsheet.



A walk around Thornton-le-Dale

Sunday 22 June 2008

A walk around Thornton-le-Dale, on the edge of the North York Moors, led by Barry Harrison. Meet at 10.30am by the village map in the public car park (pay and display) in the centre of the village. Finish around 4.30pm. You'll need to make your own arrangements for lunch – bring a packed lunch, or there are several pubs and cafes. As places will be limited to 25, please return the enclosed booking slip to Barry Harrison (telephone 01287 633182) before Friday 6 June.

Conference Review Day

Sunday 21 September 2008

A meeting in Burnsall to draw together and review the information gathered during the conference in May.

New light on old buildings

Our winter events are normally few and far between, but this year we decided to break with tradition and hold an event in January which promised to shed 'New light on some Yorkshire buildings – recent reports and dendro dating'. We received much positive feedback on the day, which included presentations on some of the intriguing buildings recorded

recently by the Group, and we hope to organise similar days in the future. We thank Malcolm Birdsall for putting together this event in a remarkably short timescale. If anyone who attended was inspired to get involved in recording work, they are warmly encouraged to contact David Crook or to come along to the recording conference in May.

Visit to Rotherham

We're still trying to fix a date for the visit to the Rotherham area, led by Peter Thornborrow, which has been mentioned in previous Newsheets. If you've contacted Malcolm Birdsall to make a provisional booking, you'll be notified when the visit is confirmed.

Notice of AGM

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 8 March 2008 at 4.30pm in the James Graham Building, Headingley Campus, Leeds Metropolitan University, Leeds. All members of the group are formally invited to attend.

If you are unable to attend the AGM and wish to raise any matter, you may do so in writing to the Secretary, David Crook.

Please send any nominations for officers or members of the committee to David Crook by Saturday 1 March 2008.

Next committee meeting

The next full committee meeting will be held on Sunday 9 November 2008, although a 'virtual' committee meeting will be held by email during the spring to consider future events. If you'd like to raise any matter or suggest any events please contact David Crook.

Next Newsheet

Many thanks indeed to everybody who contributed to this newsheet. The next edition will be in May – please send any items that may be of interest to other members to the editor by 30 April 2008.

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!

The Vernacular Architecture of Northallerton & District

Friday 29 February 2008

One of a series of talks organised by the North Yorkshire County Record Office in association with Northallerton Local History Society, looking at different aspects of local history. Each talk begins at 12.30pm and lasts for about 45 minutes. Entry fee £2 including light refreshments. Enquiries: North Yorkshire Record Office, Malpas Road, Northallerton, telephone 01609 777585, email archives@northyorks.gov.uk.

Rebuilding of Hellifield Peel

Tuesday 4 March 2008

Talk by Francis Shaw to North Craven Heritage Trust at Langcliffe Village Institute at 7.30pm. Enquiries to the secretary, Mr G R Bowring, email lawklandhall@austwick.org, telephone 01729 823551.

Rhubarb Forcing Shed Tours

Friday 7 and Saturday 8 March 2008

Visit a different type of Yorkshire building! Yorkshire is said to be the first place in the world where sheds designed for forcing rhubarb were built. These long, low buildings form a unique part of the landscape. E Oldroyd & Sons Ltd have five generations of experience in forced rhubarb production and each year tourists from far and wide flock to their farm at Carlton to see the rhubarb growing in the dark and being harvested by candlelight. Tours will be held this weekend as part of the Wakefield Festival of Food, Drink and Rhubarb, but you can also visit individually from January to March. To book, please contact E Oldroyd & Sons Ltd, Ashfield House, Main Street, Carlton, Wakefield WF3 3RW, telephone 0113 282 2245. Price £7.50.

Wakefield Civic Quarter Tours

Friday 7 and Saturday 8 March

Also as part of the above Festival, explore some of the fascinating aspects of Wakefield's cultural and architectural history on a guided walk round some of the back streets of the city. Led by Kevin Trickett, president of Wakefield Civic Society, who will also explain some of the exciting plans for the city's development. Places are limited so please book early by phoning the Wakefield Tourist Information Centre on 0845 601 8353.

York Minster Masons' Loft

Saturdays 8 and 15 March 2008

Special tours at 10am or 1pm as part of National Science Week. Sessions last two hours and include a tour of the Minster that focuses on the architecture and structure of the building. The tour will also visit the rarely seen Masons' Loft and Chapter House roof (access by spiral staircase only). Tickets are free, but limited, and must be obtained in advance. Please call 01904 557224.

Living with a Listed Building

Saturday 8 March 2008

A day for owners of traditional buildings in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, intended to give owners a deeper knowledge of how to look after their buildings. Topics will include: damp, timber decay, the way buildings develop over time, employing an architect and running a building contract, sharing a house with bats and wild birds, and the importance of lime. To be held in Grassington Town Hall. To book, please write to Don McLellan at YDNPA, Yoredale, Bainbridge, Leyburn, North Yorkshire DL8 3EL, telephone 01969 652337, email don.mclellan@yorkshiredales.org.uk.



Buildings of Hebden Bridge

Tuesday 1 April 2008

Talk by Alan Petford to the Halifax Antiquarian Society, in Halifax Library, 7.30pm. Enquiries: Mrs C D McDonald, 13 Grandsmere Place, Halifax HX3 0DP or email mail@halifaxhistory.org.uk.

North Yorkshire County Record Office Open Day

Saturday 5 April 2008

This free event, 10am to 4pm, will include behind the scenes tours of the Record Office, local societies' displays, talks and advice and 'try it yourself' sessions. Further details from the County Record Office, Northallerton, telephone 01609 777585, email archives@northyorks.gov.uk.

Visit to Hellifield Peel

Saturday 5 April 2008

Visit organised by the Yorkshire Dales Society. Meet at 2pm in public car park, Black Horse, Hellifield, for short walk and guided tour of the Hellifield Peel (as seen on Channel 4's Grand Designs) by owners Francis and Karen Shaw. Tickets £5 per head including light refreshments. Please book via YDS Office, Town Hall, Cheapside, Settle, North Yorkshire, BD24 9EJ, telephone 01729 825600, web www.yds.org.uk, not later than Thursday 27 March, sending a cheque made out to the Yorkshire Dales Society. Numbers are limited and tickets will be on a 'first come first served' basis with YDS members taking priority over non-members.

Historic Photos of the Dales

Wednesday 23 April 2008

Talk by Kathryn Jenner of the Leeds Archive of Vernacular Culture, 7.30pm at the Swaledale Museum, The Green, Reeth, telephone 01748 884118, web www.swaledalemuseum.org. £2 for museum friends and £3 for non-friends.

The Restoration of Ripon Workhouse

Thursday 24 April

Find out about the history of the workhouse at the Mercer Art Gallery, Harrogate, 2pm, £3. View images from the past and discover the ambitious plans for restoration, with curator Anthony Chadwick. Booking and payment in advance required. Enquiries: Harrogate Museums and Arts, 01423 556188.

An Urban Panorama: Yorkshire Towns 1700-2000

Saturday 26 April 2008

University of Bradford day school with Paul Jennings and George Sheeran. For details, please telephone 01274 233217/233216 or see website www.brad.ac.uk/events/dayschools/.

Family and Local History Fair

Saturday 10 May 2008

Organised by Huddersfield and District Family History Society, 10am to 4pm at the Quayside Suite, Huddersfield University, admission £1. See various family and local history societies, bookstalls, postcards and other displays. Enquiries: 01484 859229, www.hdfhs.org.uk.

More events of possible interest ...

More Marsden History

Friday 30 May to Sunday 1 June 2008

Local exhibition by Marsden History Group. Open Friday 12-5pm; Saturday 10am-5pm; Sunday 10am-4.30pm, at Marsden Junior School, near Huddersfield. Enquiries: Judi Thorpe on 01484 843614.

Looking after buildings of the National Trust

Friday 6 June 2008

Learn more about the National Trust's buildings at a lecture at Ormesby Hall, near Middlesbrough, 12-12.40pm. Book online at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/events (after 3 March) or telephone 01670 773939 (after 31 March).

And on that farm he had a barn ... and a barn ... and a ... Guided Walk

Wednesday 11 June 2008

A mostly easy four mile walk along the riverside and Dales Way between Kettlewell and Starbotton, looking at the buildings that would have been associated with the original farming practices in the Dales. Stout footwear, waterproofs and a snack required. 1pm to 5pm, £2. Maximum participants 15. Booking essential – telephone Grassington National Park Centre on 01756 751690. Details about further walks at www.yorkshiredales.org.uk.

Buildings of Kirkby Malham

Thursday 17 July 2008

A guided walk with Robin Bundy and Kevin Illingworth. Meet 7pm at Kirkby Malham Church, SD 895 610. Enquiries to the secretary, Mr G R Bowring, telephone 01729 823551, email lawklandhall@austwick.org.

Dendrochronology Project update

In the last Newsheet we reported that core samples for dendrochronological dating had been taken in November from two cruck-framed buildings in different parts of the county, Glebe Farm at Octon on the Yorkshire Wolds and Delves Cottage at Egton on the North York Moors.

Glebe Farm is an extremely rare survival of a standing cruck-framed building on the Wolds. We were very happy to hear that the two pairs of crucks were successfully dated to late 1670 or early 1671. As these dates are perhaps later than we would normally expect to find full cruck construction, they pose interesting questions! A case study on Glebe Farm will be published in a future edition of *Yorkshire Buildings*.

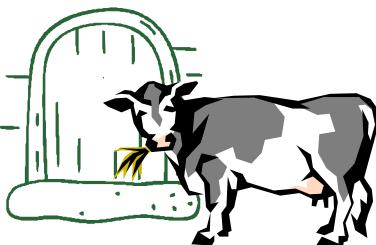
Unfortunately the timbers at Delves Cottage proved to be undateable, but we hope to be able to dendro-date an alternative North York Moors cruck building soon.

New exhibitions

The National Trust has launched two new exhibitions, both located in Dales barns. For further information, telephone 01729 830416.

Townhead Barn in Buckden has a new permanent exhibition on the landscape of Upper Wharfedale, its habitats and how it has changed through time, and how its inhabitants have adapted to these changes. Open most Sundays throughout the year, and from 22 March to 25 September on Saturdays to Thursdays, from 10am to 4pm.

Town Head Barn in Malham hosts a recently revamped farming exhibition including interactive and audio displays. Open most Sundays, and from 23 March to 26 October on Tuesdays to Sundays, from 10am to 4pm.



Historic Farm Buildings Group

The Historic Farm Buildings Group would like to increase its membership in order to widen its field of expertise, increase its public profile, and be a source of new, invigorating ideas. This national group welcomes anyone interested in old farm buildings, publishes a twice-yearly *Review*, and organises annual weekend residential conferences which include visits to farm buildings of historical interest. This year's conference will be held on 5 to 7 September 2008 in Derbyshire and will include a talk by Professor David Hey on agriculture in the county in the 17th and 18th centuries, together with visits to planned farmsteads of the early 19th century around Belper and to field barns and surviving farm buildings in and around the village of Bonsall, near Matlock.

For more information about the group, please contact the Secretary: Andrew Patterson, Penrhyn, Quay Road, Goodwick, Fishguard, Pembs SA64 0BT, or see website www.hfbg.org.uk. The annual subscription is £15.

Some recent publications

The Yorkshire Church Notes of Sir Stephen Glynne (1825-1874), edited by Lawrence Butler. Yorkshire Archaeological Society, November 2007. Sir Stephen Glynne was one of the greatest church enthusiasts of his time, visiting over 5500 churches in England and Wales, and making careful notes and sketches of their architecture, plans and furnishings. This volume contains architectural descriptions of 400 Yorkshire churches and abbeys compiled during his many visits, providing an extremely accurate and valuable record of the fabric and fittings before their removal in restoration or the total demolition of churches. Publishers Boydell and Brewer are offering the book at a discounted price of £22.50 (normally £30) to YVBSG members until 31 May 2008. Orders can be placed by phoning 01394 610600, faxing 01394 610316, ordering by email at trading@boydell.co.uk or ordering online by going to www.boydell.co.uk/souk.htm. Please quote offer code 08061 – if ordering online, write the code in the box at the bottom of the page. Postage £3 within UK, £6.50 rest of world.

Medieval Wall Paintings in English and Welsh Churches by Roger Rosewell, due for publication in March 2008, is the first major illustrated study of this unique medieval art form for almost half a century, surveying the images and iconography that made the medieval church a riot of colour. The book includes information on paintings to be found in churches in Bedale, Easby, Pickering and Wensley and also in Fountains Abbey, Kirkstall Abbey and Ripon Cathedral. Again, publishers Boydell and Brewer are offering a discount on this book to YVBSG members – normally priced at £39.95, a discount of 25% means it is offered at £29.96. Please order as for *The Yorkshire Church Notes* above, quoting code 08061.

Almshouses in the West Riding of Yorkshire 1600-1900 by Helen Caffrey. Mentioned in a previous newsheet, this publication is now available at a greatly reduced price of £5.99 (was £12.95) from Postscript Books, www.psbooks.co.uk, telephone 020 8767 7421. Postage £1.80.

Interested in teaching?

The University of York Centre for Lifelong Learning is currently putting together its programme of adult evening and day classes for 2008/9, and as always, they are looking for new tutors who would like to teach on their behalf.

In particular this year, they would like to add courses in archaeology and local history to their 'learning for pleasure' portfolio, though they would be pleased to hear from anyone who has an interesting course idea in any field.

Most courses are offered one evening a week with 10 sessions per term, though they can be flexible and offer shorter classes during the day or at weekends. Tutors are paid an hourly rate for teaching time, and all classes take place on the Heslington campus on the outskirts of York.

If you'd like to find out more, please call the Centre for Lifelong Learning on 01904 434620 or email lifelonglearning@york.ac.uk with a CV and a general indication of the subjects you would like to offer.

Yorkshire's historic pub interiors

In the first-ever project of its kind for Yorkshire and Humber, CAMRA (the Campaign for Real Ale) is consulting widely to identify what public house interiors of genuine historic value are left in the region today. Few pubs have survived the tidal wave of modernising change of the past three decades and CAMRA's initial surveys suggest that, of the 6000 or so in this region, the proportion could be as depressingly low as two percent.

In a field which has been largely ignored by mainstream conservationists, the first draft of CAMRA's *Yorkshire Regional Inventory*, listing pub interiors of special historic interest, is an honest attempt to promote some debate and shared vision, among a diversity of professionals, about this dwindling heritage. Launched at the end of 2007, the aim is to identify and boost recognition for the pub interiors that most deserve to be spared from insensitive change.

The consultation documents have gone out to all the region's local planning authorities, to civic and amenity societies, to English Heritage, relevant regional organisations and to many others with a professional interest in the historic built environment or the licensed trade.



The hope is that professionals and other interested parties across Yorkshire and Humber will be willing to share their opinions and knowledge, and help put the Inventory into a final shape that will

have widespread support. The documents can all be found at

www.YorkshireRIPubs.org.uk

and comment and feedback from across the region is very genuinely and warmly invited. Please write to David Gamston, 9 Fulfordgate, York YO10 4LY, or email Yorkshire.pubheritage@camra.org.uk, by 31 March 2008.

Compendium of YVBSG articles

Some time ago we thought it would be useful to publish a selection of articles previously printed in the YVBSG journal, *Yorkshire Buildings*. Regrettably no-one has yet been able to spare the time to organise this, although a start was made on considering which articles should be reprinted. If any member is interested in taking this project forward, please contact David Cook.

Websites worth watching

Three websites which have been mentioned before in Newsheets, but have become increasingly useful as more information is added to them:

Victoria County History online

www.british-history.ac.uk

Seven volumes of the VCH for Yorkshire are now available online here and offer useful information on the county.

Images of England

www.imagesofengland.org.uk

A reminder about this site which provides listing descriptions and photographs of many of England's listed buildings. You should register to make the most of the searching facilities.

Ritual Marks in Historic Buildings

www.apotropaios.co.uk/ritual_marks.htm

This intriguing website was around some time ago, but has now reappeared under a different name.

SPAB in Yorkshire

The SPAB Yorkshire Regional Group has published its programme for spring 2008. YVBSG members are welcome to attend events if spaces are available. Further information and booking form from Ray Wilson, Padside Hall, Thorntwaite-with-Padside, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG3 4AN, email rwilson@padside-hall.co.uk.

- Hornby Castle – Saturday 15 March 2008. Starts 2pm, £7.
- Wakefield Cathedral and the 14th Century Bridge Chapel – Saturday 19 April 2008. Starts 1.30pm, £8.
- Pendragon Castle and Lady Anne Clifford – Saturday 17 May 2008. Starts with lunch 12.30pm. £7.
- Hackfall: The Grade I Listed Woodland Gardens and Folly Ruins – Saturday 7 June 2008. Starts 2pm, £7.
- Gibside Hall and Traditional Building Craft Skills Fair – Saturday 12 July 2008.

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