



# YORKSHIRE VERNACULAR BUILDINGS STUDY GROUP

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

Newsheet No 60

May 2010

## YVBSG Events For Your Diary

### Photographing Historic Buildings Training Day

Saturday 19 June 2010

This day was intended to offer training in preparation for the proposed *Timber-Framed Buildings in the Historic East Riding and City of Hull* project. Disappointingly, our bid for HLF funding was recently turned down (see below) and we have therefore decided to postpone this training until we have explored alternative options and found a way of taking the project forward. We apologise to all those who have already expressed interest; we hope to rearrange the event at some time.

### Next committee meeting

The next full committee meeting will be held on Sunday 3 October 2010, although a 'virtual' meeting to consider future events will be held by email during the summer. If you'd like to raise any matters or suggest any events please contact David Crook.

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

Saturday 26 June 2010

A day in South Yorkshire organised by Kevin Illingworth. We hope to visit the following buildings (travelling by car):

- West Wing, Birthwaite Hall, Darton (courtesy of Peter Thornborrow). The west wing of a large seventeenth century H-plan house has two storeys with attics and cellars. Followed by morning coffee/tea.
- Birthwaite Hall Farm (courtesy of the Crossley family). A range of decorated seventeenth century two- and three-storeyed farm buildings. The photo on the right shows a doorhead on the farm buildings.
- Mill of the Black Monks, Grange Lane (A633), Cundy Cross, opposite Monk Bretton Priory. We will have lunch at this publichouse/restaurant. Formerly a water-powered mill of 1635 (with earlier origins), it was raised six feet by hydraulic jacks in 1989-90. Many features of interest including spiral dripmould stops, 'goblet' chamfer stops (find them!), and early incised graffiti. The Mill, expected to re-open May/June, was visited by Peter Thornborrow's WEA members in the early 1990s, and by the YVBSG in 1999.
- New Hall Farm, Doncaster Road (off), A635, Ardsley. Visit to an early sixteenth century five-bay cruck-framed barn. Retains three cruck trusses (originally five). This barn will soon be converted into an educational centre for schoolchildren, and if the builders arrive before 26 June and erect scaffolding, the owner, Helen Rhodes, has suggested that we visit the barn at a later date.

Meet at Birthwaite Hall at 10.30am. The house is on the east side of the A637, about 1½ miles south of junction 38 of the M1 motorway and about 4 miles north-west of Barnsley. A landmark will be an LWB Landrover (colour: blue and limestone) at the entrance to the drive.

If you'd like to come, please telephone Kevin Illingworth on 01422 844941, leaving your phone number and saying whether you want to eat at the Mill. Numbers will be limited to 25.



More events overleaf ...

## HLF decides not to fund Timber Framed Buildings Project

In a letter dated 21 April the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) rejected the YVBSG application for a 'Your Heritage' grant to cover costs of the YVBSG-led *Timber Framed Buildings in the Historic East Riding and City of Hull* project. This was a surprise because the project team had thought that the application was a good one with a good chance of being accepted.

The reasons for the rejection appear, from the letter, to be significant. So, I have asked the project team and the YVBSG committee to send comments and proposals to me and then we will review our options for going forward. These are likely to include re-application to HLF, or to look for other sources of funding.

I would like to thank the project team and all those others, including our supporting organisations, who have been involved to date. Although application for an HLF grant was key in the formative project plan, this setback, in my opinion, does not put an end to the whole process and objective.

David Cook

# More YVBSG Events For Your Diary

## Timber-Framed Buildings in the Thirsk Area

Sunday 4 July 2010

An excursion to look at buildings with Barry Harrison. The proposed outline for the day is as follows:

- 10.30 Assemble outside the Fleece Inn on the south side of Thirsk Market Place. Walk around the town centre viewing urban timber-framed buildings.
- 11.45 Walk over fields (about 15 minutes each way) to see timber buildings in the village of Sowerby.
- 13.00 Lunch break.
- 14.15 Visit (by car) to timber buildings in villages south-east of Thirsk. Selection from Carlton Husthwaite, Husthwaite, Baxby, Coxwold, Thirlby and Kilburn.
- 17.30 Back at Thirsk.

It is hoped to arrange some internal visits, including a visit to the base-cruck hall at Baxby. Please be prepared to share cars for the afternoon visits. There is long-term parking (£2 per day) in the large car park just to the north of the Market Place. Advance booking is essential as numbers will be limited to 20. Applications to Barry Harrison, 17 Whitby Avenue, Guisborough TS14 7AP, telephone 01287 633182, email gyseburn@yahoo.co.uk.



*The Thatched Cottage, Carlton Husthwaite*

## Conference Review Day

Sunday 19 September 2010

A day to review the buildings recorded at the annual conference in Beverley in May. Details to follow.

## Recent YVBSG events ...

### Walkabout around the Howcans Potteries, near Halifax



This was kindly led by Stuart Crowther on Sunday 25 April 2010. We started by looking at the site of an excavation of the site of a pottery kiln at Pule Hill (SE092 272) dated to c1650. Pule Hill was the site of the first Halliday family potteries. Thereafter our walk took us past the second site at Bate Ain (SE 085 282) shortly preceded (on the walk north along Howcans Lane) by the third (SE 085 279). We saw evidence for clay mines in the hillside, part of the iron rail of a trackway, and spoil heaps at Bate Ain where there were fragments of saggars (clay vessels covering and protecting the pots in the kiln) and pot shards. In the nineteenth century the family moved into brick and tile manufacture. Howcans House, built by the family, is a semi-detached residence facing west with its back to the lane. The front has coloured and patterned brickwork walling, no doubt showing off their products. The walk concluded with a look at Brow Pit (SE 089 284, pictured above), the site of one of many former coal mines in the area, and said to be at the start of the Great Yorkshire Coalfield. A wide semi-circular stone wall was seen around a sunken circular depression at the top of the shaft. This is the site of a horse gin wheel, used to draw up and lower items down the shaft. Our thanks go to Stuart for leading this walkabout.

Further reading: *Yorkshire Potteries* by Oxley Grabham (1916, reprint 1971); article in *Halifax Antiquarian Society Transactions* 1938 on 'Decadent Local Industries'; copies of an item by Frank Atkinson in the *Halifax Courier and Guardian* (date not known) on 'Halifax Gin Pits'.

David Cook

### Vernacular Buildings of Market Towns

We thank David Cook and David Cant for organising another excellent annual day school on Saturday 13 March 2010, with a wide range of informative and thought-provoking talks. Suggestions for topics for future day schools are always welcome.

### Annual Recording Conference in Beverley

Again, our thanks go to David Cook for arranging a most successful and enjoyable recording weekend on Friday 14 to Sunday 16 May 2010. A total of five buildings were recorded, four of which were in Beverley (11 Ladygate, 38 Highgate, the Sun Inn in Flemingate, and the Monk's Walk pub in Highgate) and one in South Dalton village (Oak Cottage). Grateful thanks also go to Dave Evans, David Neave and Richard Myerscough for giving talks and leading walks during the weekend.



*Examining the building stones of Beverley Friary*

## 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!

### **Spout House, Bilsdale**

Until 3 October 2010

This thatched cruck-framed house of about 1550 is now open to the public for the summer, daily 10am to 4pm except Thursday. Originally a farmworker's cottage, in 1714 it became an alehouse, the Sun Inn, and remained so until 1914 (the new inn stands across the yard). It was renovated by the National Park Authority in 1982 using traditional materials and methods. Admission free. Eight miles north of Helmsley on the east side of the B1257. Well worth a visit.

### **Old Bentham**

Friday 29 to Monday 31 May 2010

An exhibition by Ewecross Historical Society in Bentham Town Hall. Entry £2.50. Enquiries: 015242 61382.

### **Ryburn Swifts & Stones**

Sunday 30 May 2010

A walk to see various types of former industrial activity and several interesting buildings. One steep ascent is involved. Stout footwear and outdoor gear recommended. A Calderdale Heritage Walk, £3. Meet Anne Kirker at 2.15pm at Ryburn Reservoir car park off the A58, signed 'Swift Place' approximately 1¼ miles south-west of Ripponden. No need to book. [www.CalderdaleHeritageWalks.org.uk](http://www.CalderdaleHeritageWalks.org.uk).

### **Cowside and Kilnsey Old Hall**

Saturday 12 June 2010

ASPAB Yorkshire Regional Group visit to two important seventeenth century vernacular buildings in Upper Wharfedale. Starts 2pm, £6. To book, contact Ray Wilson, Padside Hall, Thornthwaite-with-Padside, Harrogate, HG3 4AN, email [rwilson@padside-hall.co.uk](mailto:rwilson@padside-hall.co.uk).

### **Ryburn & Baitings**

Sunday 13 June 2010

Following on from the above walk on 30 May, we continue upstream taking in farming, early industry, roads, the moors and more of those interesting buildings. Outdoor gear as for 30 May. A Calderdale Heritage Walk, £3. Meet David Nortcliffe at 2.15pm at Ryburn Reservoir (see above).

### **Open Farm Sunday**

Sunday 13 June 2010

Farms throughout the country are open to the public today, offering a potential opportunity to view some interesting farm buildings! For a list of open farms, see [www.farmsunday.org](http://www.farmsunday.org) or telephone 0247 6413 911.

### **Oakwell Hall Living History Tours**

Sunday 13 June 2010

Craft demonstrations and costumed guided tours of Oakwell Hall, Nutter Lane, Birstall. Tours at 1.30pm, 2.30pm and 3.30pm. Also held on 11 July, 8 August, 11 and 12 September 2010. Tours are free but normal house admission charge applies. Places limited so please book by contacting Kirklees Council on 01924 326240. Web [www.friendsofoakwellhall.org.uk](http://www.friendsofoakwellhall.org.uk).

### **The Sheriff Hutton: Mighty Might and Idyllic Slumber**

Tuesday 15 June 2010

An evening stroll around one of North Yorkshire's most popular villages. Archaeological consultant Ed Denison will take us across the site of Bulmer's late eleventh century castle and John Lord Neville's later fourteenth century fortress. A York Archaeological Trust event, £8, 7pm at village hall car park. Booking essential on 01904 615505.

### **Buildings of the Lake District: Vernacular Architecture in Context**

Wednesday 16 June 2010

Mentioned briefly in the last Newsheet, details are now available for this coach tour with Andrew Lowe – contact the Centre for North-West Regional Studies on 01524 593770. £24. Departs from Lancaster University and includes Ambleside, with its range of building styles and dates but with vernacular architecture at its heart, and Troutbeck, a virtual time-capsule from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

### **Heritage of Linton**

Saturday 19 June 2010

An easy four mile walk visiting an ancient church and finding out the connection between the village inn and the architect of Castle Howard. Part of Grassington Festival. 2pm to 5pm, £3. Parking at Grassington National Park Centre car park. To book, telephone Grassington Festival Box Office on 01756 752691.

### **Markenfield Hall**

Sunday 20 June to Saturday 3 July 2010

Last chance this year to visit this beautiful moated house near Ripon which is open for only 28 afternoons a year. Entrance includes access to the Inner Courtyard, Undercroft, Great Hall, Chapel, Four Poster Bedroom and Moat Walk. Open 2pm to 5pm, £4 per adult and £3 for children/concessions. Enquiries: telephone 01765 692303, [www.markenfield.com](http://www.markenfield.com).

### **Outlaws and Nuns**

Sunday 4 July 2010

Visit the private Kirklees Estate near Clifton with nunnery site, gatehouse, 15th/17th century Home Farm buildings, and Robin Hood's Grave. Guides: Margaret and David Nortcliffe. Calderdale Heritage Walk, £4, 1¼ miles, must be booked on 01422 843831 or at Hebden Bridge Visitor and Canal Centre.

### **Addingham in Wharfedale**

Friday 9 July 2010

This township at the east edge of Craven is remarkably rich in history. Alison Armstrong will lead a leisurely all day walk for the Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group, looking at the steep fields and farms above the village. Meet 10.15am on grassed area at the bottom of St Pauls Rise, south of Main Street, SE077498. Street parking on St Pauls Rise. Bring stout footwear, suitable clothing, food and drink. Visitors £2.50. Website: [www.uwhg.org.uk](http://www.uwhg.org.uk).

### **Tour of Historic Yarm**

Tuesday 13 July 2010

Meeting of Northallerton & District Local History Society, guided by Yarm Civic Society. 7pm. Non-members are welcome at £2 per person. Details from Mike Sanders on 01609 774662.

### **Visit to the Fylde area of Lancashire**

Saturday 17 July 2010

A Calder Valley Historic Buildings Group event organised by Kevin Illingworth, to include:

- Parrox Hall, Preesall (listed Grade 2\*). An early seventeenth century H-plan house of whitewashed brick, not normally open to the public. Has always been owned by the Elletson family. Morning coffee/tea/biscuits here.
- Bell Farm, Pilling. Lunch in the tea room of this seventeenth century Grade 2 listed farmhouse, built of (rendered) handmade brick, on a high cobble plinth, seen in the tea room. Steeply pitched roof, formerly thatched. Three-unit plan. Housepart is normally reserved for bed and breakfast guests, but we will have access to this, where the spere and part of the bressummer survives. Corbelled chimney stack outside.

More buildings to come, possibly Rawcliffe Hall (16th century), a caravan park 'country club'. If you'd like to come, please telephone Kevin on 01422 844941, leaving your telephone number.

*continued over ...*

## More events of possible interest ...

### Festival of British Archaeology 2010

Saturday 17 July to Sunday 1 August  
Annual event co-ordinated by the Council for British Archaeology, involving hundreds of special events across the UK. The full programme will appear at <http://festival.britarch.ac.uk> or contact the CBA, St Mary's House, 66 Bootham, York YO30 7BZ, telephone 01904 671417.

### Barley Hall's 650th Birthday

Friday 23 and Saturday 24 July 2010  
Built with timbers that were felled in the summer of 1360, Barley Hall has witnessed hundreds of turbulent years in York's history. Come along and celebrate its birthday! On the Friday at 7pm, a specially commissioned dance interpretation of the history of Barley

Hall, with candlelit supper and music (£10, booking essential on 01904 615505). On the Saturday, enjoy dances and medieval games from 11am to 4pm. For further details, see website [www.barleyhall.org.uk](http://www.barleyhall.org.uk).

### Walking with History

Sunday 1 August 2010

A North York Moors National Park event. Join Assistant Ranger Jim Hall on this five mile walk taking in the villages of Appleton-le-Moors and Spaunton. Discover a medieval planned village and its environment. There will be a historic archive in the village hall, a 15-minute presentation, and tea and biscuits after the walk. 1pm to 4pm, free. To book, telephone 01439 772738 or call in at the National Park Centres at Danby or Sutton Bank.

### York Minster Stone Carving Festival

Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 August 2010

Over this weekend up to 80 masons, carvers, sculptors, and stonework apprentices from the UK and abroad will congregate in York to celebrate the craft of stone carving. Each participant will interpret the festival's theme 'Nature's Form and the Fabulous' in stone. The festival will be held in the grounds of The Minster School, Deangate, York and will be open to the public from 8am to 6pm on Saturday and 8am to 5pm on Sunday. On Sunday at 3.30pm the finished stones will be sold by auction, with proceeds to York Minster fund and York Against Cancer. The annual Minster Stoneyard Open Day will be held on Friday 13 August 2010. Web [www.yorkminster.org](http://www.yorkminster.org).

## Tutor required

The Middleham and Dales Local History Group (members from Wensleydale, Swaledale and Coverdale) would welcome the opportunity to have (during 2011) a four or five session course in interpreting and recording vernacular buildings. The group meets in the Key Centre at Middleham on Tuesday afternoons but a vernacular buildings course may need to take place at a weekend. If anyone is interested in leading a course, please contact Isobel Jenkins on 0113 267 2486 or [i.jenkins@education.leeds.ac.uk](mailto:i.jenkins@education.leeds.ac.uk).

## Some recent books

*Manningham: Character and diversity in a Bradford suburb* by Simon Taylor and Kathryn Gibson. English Heritage, May 2010, £9.99. Available from English Heritage Publishing Sales, telephone 0845 485 9910 (quote reference FLY201 to obtain free p&p). The story, through its buildings and landscape, of Manningham's development from a thinly populated rural township to a fully developed, mostly middle-class, fashionable, 19th century city suburb full of civic pride and high-quality architecture. It examines how the suburb and its buildings have continued to function, following the decline and disappearance of its traditional industries.

*I Never Knew That About Yorkshire* by Christopher Winn. Ebury Press, April 2010, £9.99. A collection of facts, figures, historical diversions and snippets of interest. The book takes us on a journey through the county, uncovering hidden places, legends and secrets, and looking at some of Britain's best architecture, most ravishing scenery and some of its most influential and individual characters.

## New Enquiries Secretary now in action!

In the last Newsheet we asked for a volunteer to take on the new role of Enquiries Secretary. We're delighted to report that Tony Tolhurst came forward and has now taken over from Dave Crook in handling all the general enquiries received by the group, including requests to record buildings.

As a former Secretary of the group for many years, Tony has plenty of experience in this area! If you would like to be added to an email list which Tony will use for circulating enquiries to help provide responses, please let him know. Contact details are given at the foot of this page.

Dave Crook will retain all the other duties associated with his role as YVBSG Secretary, including the servicing of committee meetings and AGMs, and general correspondence.



## Committee 2010-11

The committee as elected at the March AGM comprises:

- David Cook (Chair)
- Dave Crook (Secretary)
- Jacky Quarmby (Treasurer and Membership Secretary)
- Malcolm Birdsall (Archivist)
- Tony Tolhurst (Enquiries Secretary)
- Lorraine Moor (Newsheet and Web)
- Alison Armstrong
- David Cant
- Gill Cookson
- Barry Harrison
- Tony Robinson
- Joyce Williams

## Membership fee

The AGM in March approved the committee's proposal to increase the annual subscription, so from January 2011 the annual membership fee will rise from £7 to £10.

## Next Newsheet

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

**Chair:** David Cook, 23 North End, Sedgfield, 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)

**Treasurer/Membership Secretary:** Jacky Quarmby, 16 Mount Pleasant, Guisborough TS14 6RA. Tel 01287 636834, email [jacky.quarmby@btinternet.com](mailto:jacky.quarmby@btinternet.com)

**Enquiries Secretary:** Tony Tolhurst, 11 Hall Park, Heslington, York YO10 5DT. Tel 01904 410091, email [enquiries@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@yvbsg.org.uk)

**Archivist:** Malcolm Birdsall, Cherry Trees, Stubby Lane, Draycott in the Clay, Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 5BU. Tel 01283 821605, email [malcolm@brhc.co.uk](mailto:malcolm@brhc.co.uk)

**Yorkshire Buildings Editorial Team:** David Cant, Tony Berry, Beth Shurter, Tony Robinson. email [editor@yvbsg.org.uk](mailto:editor@yvbsg.org.uk)

**Newsheet and Web:** Lorraine Moor, 102 Queen Victoria Street, South Bank, York YO23 1HN. Tel 01904 632124, email [ism1@york.ac.uk](mailto:ism1@york.ac.uk)