



## Welcome!

We are very pleased to welcome on board the following new members: Mr and Mrs Bolton, Mr and Mrs Lugton, Laurel Phillipson, Mr and Mrs Rawstrone, Mr and Mrs Skipsey, Miss Walton.

We look forward to meeting you at our 2017 events.

## Chairman's Report

Our events so far this summer have been shown to their best under sunny skies. At the beginning of May we visited Browsholme Hall. The day was set in context by a talk from Ruth Thurnhill "Creating a Brownian Style Landscape at Browsholme Hall" followed by a tour of the gardens, lunch and a tour of the hall. Even for those who had been to the Hall before, it was good to enjoy such an in-depth visit in each other's company.

At the beginning of June David Johnson led us on his 15<sup>th</sup> Summer Outing around 'Pele Towers in the Penrith Area'. At Clifton Tower we were able to look round a partially derelict pele, giving a clear idea of their construction and later 'gentrification'. After refreshments and fantastic scones at St Andrew's Church, Dacre, a pair of personable and informative local guides led us round a seventh century Northumbrian monastic foundation, now overlaid by the Norman church. In the afternoon we were treated to a small jewel of a stately home, Johnby Hall. Henry Howard, the current owner, showed us round their family home (again developed from a pele) with warmth and panache. Tea provided by Anna Howard rounded off the splendid day.

Many of our members continue to support Stories in Stone projects. David Johnson has been leading a programme of recording and targeted excavation at the deserted farmsteads at Thorns, south of Gearstones. Later in the Newsletter there

is an account from Mike Slater of the 'Capturing the Past' project.

The Historical & Archaeological Projects Fund (set up at the last AGM as the successor to the North Craven Historical Research Group) has given its first grant of £500 to St Helen's Chapel project in Malham, to help with post-excavation work.

Do remember how much more we do to support North Craven's heritage over and above our talks and events programme! If you have a research project that needs funding or other support, or if there is a planning issue that concerns you, let us know. Better still, if North Craven matters to you, come along and help on the committee, or with setting up for talks. Just give me a call on 01729 825075.

John Asher

## Capturing the Past

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

The NCHT has accumulated its own archives over the years and is supportive of efforts to preserve historical information and make it easily accessible. As part of the Ingleborough Dales Landscape Partnership programme funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, the 'Capturing the Past' contribution is now well-advanced. A website has been set up to act as a regional hub for historical information which includes links to the NCHT website and other relevant sites. Currently the new website covers the parishes around Ingleborough, but in due course is expected to be extended by the Yorkshire Dales Society to cover a wider area when the YDS takes over funded responsibility for maintenance of the site.

Material is being added to the website all the time and several projects are underway to catalogue, scan and upload images and

transcriptions of documents and ephemera of value held by individuals, parish councils and local history groups. For example, the wills and inventories for Clapham parish up to 1603 have been transcribed and await analysis, transcriptions of the extant manorial court records for Giggleswick, Horton, Ingleton, Lawkland and Settle are gradually being made, the large collection in the hands of Horton History Group is being processed, two trunks of records dating from around 1700 held by Lawkland parish meeting are being sorted, various property indentures await transcription, and discussions are in the pipeline with other parties. A large number of volunteers is associated with this effort.

A considerable amount of information has now been made available but the search boxes on the site need some improvement. It is possible for the user to add comments and additional information about any page and such will be very helpful in making improvements. The job is not yet finished! Do have a look.

Michael Slater

## Historic Buildings Fund

We would like to encourage applications for grants from our Historic Buildings Fund. Please see the NCHT website section on Grants where the criteria are shown. Members- please keep your ears to the ground to identify suitable applications!

## Your contact details

If you change, or have changed, your contact details, particularly your email address – or have acquired an email address – please let Penny Lowe, our administrator at the Yorkshire Dales Society, know. Her contact details are:  
Email: [office@yds.org.uk](mailto:office@yds.org.uk)  
Tel: 01756 749400. Thanks!

## News from The Folly

The recent opening of the Coffee House in the ground floor of the north range signals the first phase of the transformation of The Folly into a major all-year-round visitor attraction for our part of the Yorkshire Dales. The Coffee House is now open daily from 9.30 to 4.30 and enables people not only to enjoy excellent coffee, tea, soft drinks and a range of home made foods but also to experience one of the most interesting parts of this historic building. The north range houses the former 'domestic' rooms of The Folly and includes a second magnificent inglenook fireplace, complete with fixing holes for a 17th century roasting spit and a fine example of an 18th century beehive oven. In the next few months the intention is to furnish the space with some small original items which we know from Richard Preston's probate inventory were present in the house at the time of his death in 1696. More details in the next Newsletter!

In addition to the opening of the Coffee House, the Parlour in the south range of The Folly has been partitioned off to create a self-contained space which can be let out to local groups for small meetings, workshops, special events etc. both in the daytime and evenings. Please do contact us for further information if you are interested. Meanwhile, the museum continues to flourish on the first and second floors of the centre and south ranges, with a full programme of exhibitions and talks for the remainder of this year

All in all, a landmark year for The Folly and there are even more exciting developments to come!

Anne Read