



Welcome!

We are pleased that the following have joined us during the last half-year, and hope to see you all at our various events: Mr and Mrs B Beattie, Mr and Mrs M Burnett, Mr and Mrs G Cleverly, Mrs N J Galvin, Mr H J Hill, Mrs D Parsons, Mrs D Robertshaw, Mrs B Slann, Mr and Mrs F Wall and Mr R Wilson. Those members with friends who might like to join, please get them to look at the website www.NorthCravenHeritage.org.uk or contact the Membership Secretary (tel: 01729 823205) or any Committee member.

The Chairman's Report to the AGM

I would like to open my report by recording my thanks to all members of your committee who have worked hard to deliver another successful programme of events during the year. My thanks also go to the numerous other members of the Trust who give generously of their time delivering programme cards, distributing the Journal, putting up posters, leading walks and other events, making coffee after lectures and maintaining the website. And of course a special thanks to Maureen Ellis and Mike Slater for another first class edition of our Journal.

I am sure you all know that Ethne Bannister, our President, was awarded a British Empire Medal in the last Honours List and I would like to go on record to congratulate her on this recognition for her unstinted public service in our local area.

During the year we have enjoyed another excellent, and varied, range of lectures from Charles Kingsley to vegetation change in a Yorkshire Dale to natural history on the Ribble and a history of Austwick Hall. We try each year to cover a variety of subjects to cater for different interests and differing aspects under the broad heading of 'heritage'.

Similarly our walks programme, including the Summer Outing, endeavours to cover a range of interests from historical buildings

to flora and archaeology. This year we included a special extra outing, when a party visited Levens Hall Gardens where they were taken around by the head gardener. All of these events have been well supported and, I think, thoroughly enjoyed by those who have come.

You may have noticed that our so-called 'Walks Programme' has tended to move away from a 'walk' to more of a visit to a place or area of interest. This has been a deliberate change of emphasis, because your committee have felt that we are not a walking club, per se, and that our members would be more interested in 'Events' rather than 'Walks'. You will see in our 2013 Programme Card that we have changed the title of this part of our annual programme to reflect this.

I would like to turn now to the issue of planning applications. As I am sure you will appreciate we, as an organisation caring for our local heritage, should be taking a critical interest in planning applications. We have been achieving this, in recent years, through the good offices of Ken Pearce and Sarah Smith, who have been monitoring and, where appropriate, commenting on planning applications.

This brings me to a broader issue of the running of the Trust. Our membership has for a number of years been between 350 and 400 people, a not insignificant organisation. In my judgement the biggest threat to our viability is a lack of members who are prepared to serve on the committee. In spite of repeated appeals for help in this quarter at the end of the AGM we were 'light' in numbers by 3 people. This throws an undue, and unfair, burden on your committee members. And I would once again appeal to members to consider joining the committee, if only for a couple of years.

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Finally I would like to draw your attention to our grant and fund raising activities in 2011-12. We made only one modest grant of £250 towards the cost of the 'Settle Study Report' (known as the StART Study). We also ran a coffee morning at The Folly in aid of The Folly Appeal to fund their purchase of the North Wing. This raised £458 which has been passed direct to The Folly.

Michael Southworth, Chairman.

Ken Pearce

After many years of service on the Committee Ken decided that he wished to 'retire' from duties at our recent Annual Meeting. During these years Ken has given unstintingly of his time to monitoring, and commenting upon, local planning applications, and our grateful thanks are due to him for this valuable aspect of our work.

Ken is now turning his attention to writing a book, whose publication we await with interest!

Report & Accounts for 2011-12

The Trust's Annual Report & Accounts are now on the website. If any member would like a paper copy, please contact the Secretary, John Asher (01729 825075).

Payment of subscriptions by standing order

There are now nearly 80 members who elect to pay their subscription by standing order, roughly double the number a year ago. We would like to encourage as many others as possible to pay in this way, and a standing order mandate form to take to your bank is enclosed with the membership card. As the cost of postage increases, this will save money for both the Trust and members and make it easier for the Treasurer to keep track. Thank you to those who have made the change.

Christmas party 2012

Fifty six members and guests enjoyed another excellent party in Austwick Village Hall on Friday 7 December. They enjoyed good food, good company, easy listening music and Mary & Mike Slater's North Craven Quiz. Thanks to Frances & Michael Southworth for organising another fine party.

Summer outing 2013

Dr. David Johnson will once again be leading us on one of his fascinating well-researched and informative whole-day outings into 'lands beyond Craven' on Thursday 13 June with *A Day in Kirkoswald*, near Penrith.

We will visit the 1760s water-driven flour mill at Little Salkeld; the 5,000-year-old *Long Meg and her Daughters*, one of the largest stone circles in Britain; *The College*, a private house with a history and the home of the Fetherstonhaugh family since they bought the estate from the Crown in 1590; *St Oswald's Church* which has Anglo-Saxon origins and a detached bell tower; and, if that's not enough, there is a ruined castle and fine vernacular buildings!

Car sharing should be possible for those without transport. Full details, with pictures, are on the website.

For this to go ahead **we must have your commitment by Easter**. Please send your cheque for £8/person (payable to *North Craven Heritage Trust*) to:

Dr. David Johnson
27 Ingfield Lane
Settle BD24 9BA (Tel: 01729 822915
email: d.johnson.50@btinternet.com)

Get your cheque book out now!

John Asher
Secretary