



### **Welcome!**

We are very pleased to welcome on board the following new members:

Dr Vaughan-Williams, Mr and Mrs Hoyle, Mr and Mrs Reid and Mrs Burridge and look forward to meeting you at our 2020 events.

### **Membership**

The 50th Anniversary booklet has served as a great recruiting tool, making it easy to explain our work to prospective members. As a result membership now stands at over 350. The Trustees would like to thank all NCHT members for their loyalty and support.

### **Chairman's Report**

Across 2019 have enjoyed a varied programme of talks – we held a very successful joint meeting with Friends of the Dales when Nancy Stedman told us about Barn conversion issues in the National Park. Subsequent talks have included early Craven guidebooks, two millennia of shoes and some of the residents of The Folly over the centuries.

Summer events broke new ground. Judith Allinson treated us to amazingly varied flora within a few hundred metres of Colt Park, while David Johnson led us across Westmorland's limestone country to see some amazing gems of buildings. David also led us on a walk from Malham Lings in memory of Bill Mitchell, tracing how this tract of upland, now uninhabited, was occupied by our ancestors over past millennia. We are blessed with members like Judith and David who are willing to share their knowledge and to organise events which are full of enjoyable and relevant content.

The Journal continues to provide a yearly stream of locally historic people and places. Thanks are due to Maureen Ellis and Mike Slater for their long service as editors.

Maureen retired at the last AGM and Mike has retired as editor at this one, although continuing as a trustee. We welcome Michael Pearson as our new editor. We look forward to seeing his own stamp on the Journal and we wish him well.

The highlight of our publications programme has been the book "Time Please! Lost Inns, Pubs and Alehouses of the Yorkshire Dales". This has been greatly supported by David Johnson waiving his author's fee; by a grant from Stories in Stone which has effectively underwritten half of our costs; and by our committee members' time and effort in making the publishing and distribution a success.

Gwen Cleverley, who has served us with panache for the past 6 years, initially as our secretary, has resigned. At the AGM we presented Gwen with a bottle of wine as a small token of the Trust's gratitude, thanks and best wishes.

Planning issues are where it all started 51 years ago, and remain at the heart of our work - to foster interest in and care for the distinctive character and heritage of North Craven through our focus on planning matters, encouraging high standards of planning and architecture.

During the year we commented on a number of planning applications. Objections were made to several proposed modifications impacting distinctive buildings such as the old Nat West Bank in Settle and a property close to Hellifield Peel. We also continue to recommend that good records are made of interesting features before changes are made, such as at Paley's Farm Langcliffe. We, along with many others, objected to the proposed development of a tourism centre on the Hellifield Flashes. Our delight at the refusal of the plans was dashed by later news that the developer was, apparently, entitled to revert to an older approved application. We understand that Craven District Council is re-examining the legalities of this case.

Regarding the Local Plan, we made representation jointly with NCBPT to object to allocating land at Greenfoot Car Park, land south and west of The Falcon, and land south of Runley Bridge Farm, all in Settle, as suitable for housing development. The planning inspector's report on the Local Plan has recently been issued in which he confirms that, subject to a number of main recommendations, the plan is sound and is recommended for adoption. Unfortunately, he has supported the three development areas we objected to. The scrutiny of planning matters is an important part of NCHT's role and we would welcome help here. If members become aware of planning issues it would be appreciated if they bring them to our attention. And we need a new trustee who would help increase our capacity in this area.

In fact, more trustees are urgently needed if we want the work of the NCHT to continue as a vigorous promoter and defender of our heritage. The work need not be onerous – it can fit in around other commitments. If you value this area, please volunteer to contribute to its future.

John Asher

## Manorial Courts

In Tudor times you were probably under the thumb of your Lord of the Manor. Whatever might now be thought of current local government, it is somewhat entertaining to read of the 16th century manorial misdemeanors of the villagers, the affrays, the petty annoyances caused by a few anti-social characters, gossip/scandal-mongers, and disputes about debts. Some records of the two Settle and Giggleswick manor courts are extant, held in Leeds University or Chatsworth House and much progress has been made this year in transcribing them and making them

available on the Capturing the Past website [www.dalescommunityarchives.org.uk](http://www.dalescommunityarchives.org.uk).

The records for Settle run from 1547 to 1558 and 1579 to 1605. Those for Giggleswick run from 1558 to 1598. They were partially translated from Latin in earlier years by Brooke Westcott, paid for by Roy Price. We have now added the headings and lists of tenants (about 180 of them), which were missing, but more work is needed by an expert to fully translate the proceedings of the courts. The Lords of the Manor in both cases were the second and third Earls of Cumberland, Henry then his son George. The two courts were held twice a year and followed each other on the same or following day. We do not know where they were held, in the absence of any manor house. The Earls appointed stewards to run the courts and collect the fines. Essentially all the tenants paid tuppence every time as a sort of agreed fine for taking firewood from the Lord's woods. Further large fines were paid for transgressions of the bylaws.

Not yet seen is another set for Giggleswick 1610-1673 held at Chatsworth. There is therefore much more work to be done but the cost is not trivial and expert help is required.

Mary and Mike Slater

## News from The Folly



Following Anne Read's retirement, Heather Lane has joined the board of the North Craven Building Preservation Trust as Honorary Curator of the Museum of North

Craven Life at The Folly. Heather is an Oxford-educated Chartered Librarian who has spent most of her professional life in Cambridge. In 2004, she was appointed Librarian and Keeper of Collections at the Scott Polar Research Institute, where she established the new Polar Museum. She chaired the University of Cambridge Museums Steering Group, overseeing the strategic direction of the eight university museums and the Botanic Garden. She subsequently spent a year as interim Chief Executive for Scarborough Museums Trust, before managing the project to redevelop the University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge. Heather moved to Hawskwick in 2015 and runs a cultural heritage consultancy, advising organisations across the UK. She is looking forward to working with trustees, staff and volunteers on the development of The Folly and Zion Chapel. New volunteers are always welcome at The Folly; for further information, please email Heather via [curator@ncbpt.org.uk](mailto:curator@ncbpt.org.uk)

## Archives

The NCHT archives are now held on the top floor of the north end of the Folly. All items have been scanned and images placed on Google Drive accessible only to trustees of the committee. On the NCHT website the item 'Trust Documents' is listed but scans of individual items cannot be seen on-line: please contact the Journal editor to arrange to see a scan of these held in the Folly store. Actual documents will probably last longer than electronic copies if these are not updated electronically ensuring that the latest software is compatible. However, the .jpg format is so widely used that the risk of incompatibility is very low. It is now unlikely that as many items as in the recent past will be held in paper form so the future storage issue will not be problematical. Irreplaceable items will be retained but annual business paperwork will be kept only in electronic format. The Folly archives have now

moved from storage in Chapel St and have been moved to the Folly. The south end garage has been fitted with moveable shelving to take the various solid artefacts and made dry and secure.

Mike Slater

## Planning Matters

We have growing concerns regarding Craven District Council's management of the planning process as applied in the North Craven area. The recently adopted Craven Local Plan 2012-2032 says the right things about the need to protect heritage assets and respect conservation areas but the response of the Council to some recent planning matters and the fact that they have no heritage officer on their staff worries us. An example is the potential development of Whitefriars car park in Settle, an outline scheme of which was tabled at a recent public consultation. The proposed scheme is totally out of keeping with the special architectural and historic interest of the conservation area and would damage the setting of this charming market town. We have objected to this. As well as continuing to scrutinise planning applications, and responding accordingly, we will endeavour to raise our concern politically that conservation policies need to be followed by planning officers and members of the planning committee. Failure to do this will damage the built heritage of North Craven that we all cherish.

Mark Corner

## Your contact details

As we are hoping to send an extra newsletter by email during the year, if you change, or have changed, your contact details, particularly your email address – or have acquired an email address – please let Anne Webster, NCHT Secretary, know.

We don't want you to miss out!

Anne's contact details are:

Email: [amw.1@btinternet.com](mailto:amw.1@btinternet.com)

Tel: 01729 824 844.