

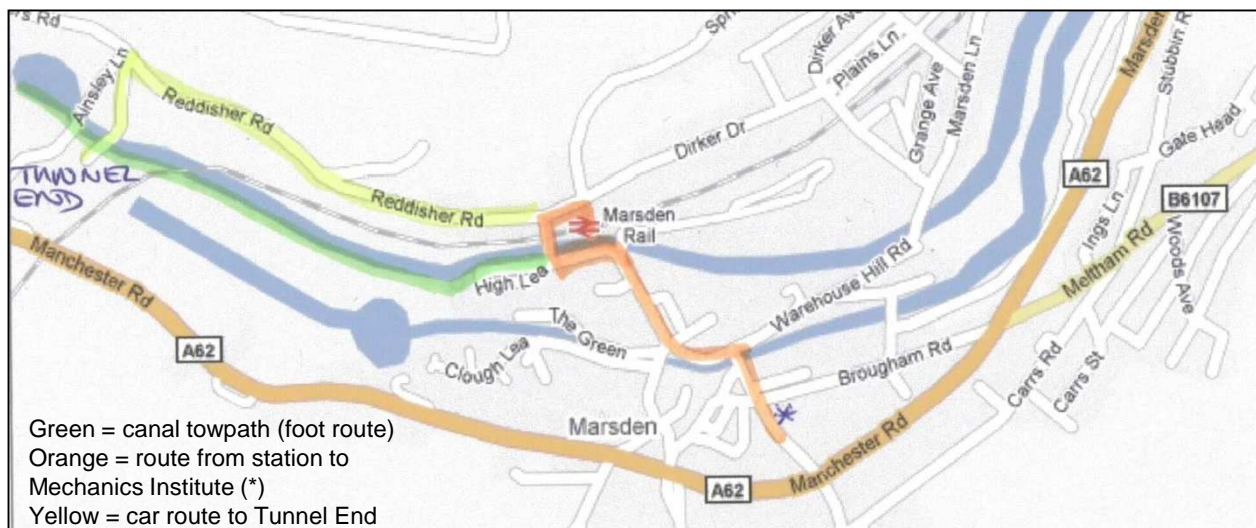
## PLACE Annual General Meeting Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2011

As advertised in the winter newsletter, the 2011 members' day and AGM will be located at Marsden, in the beautiful Colne Valley, by kind invitation of our partner organisation, the Huddersfield & Halifax branch of the Geographical Association. There is parking available at the Marsden Mechanics Institute for those coming by car. Marsden is easily accessible by train from Leeds (0908 or 1008 trains) or York (0840 or 0940 trains, change at Huddersfield). **The programme for the day is:**

- 10.15am Coffee and arrival at the Mechanics Institute
- 10.50am Welcome by Margaret Atherden and John Broadbent
- 11.00am Talks on the local area by Tom Lonsdale and Alan Stopher
- 12.30pm PLACE AGM
- 13.00pm Lunch (**please bring a packed lunch**)
- 14.00pm Walk or water taxi to Tunnel End
- 15.00pm Canal tunnel boat trip (**only for those who have already booked**).

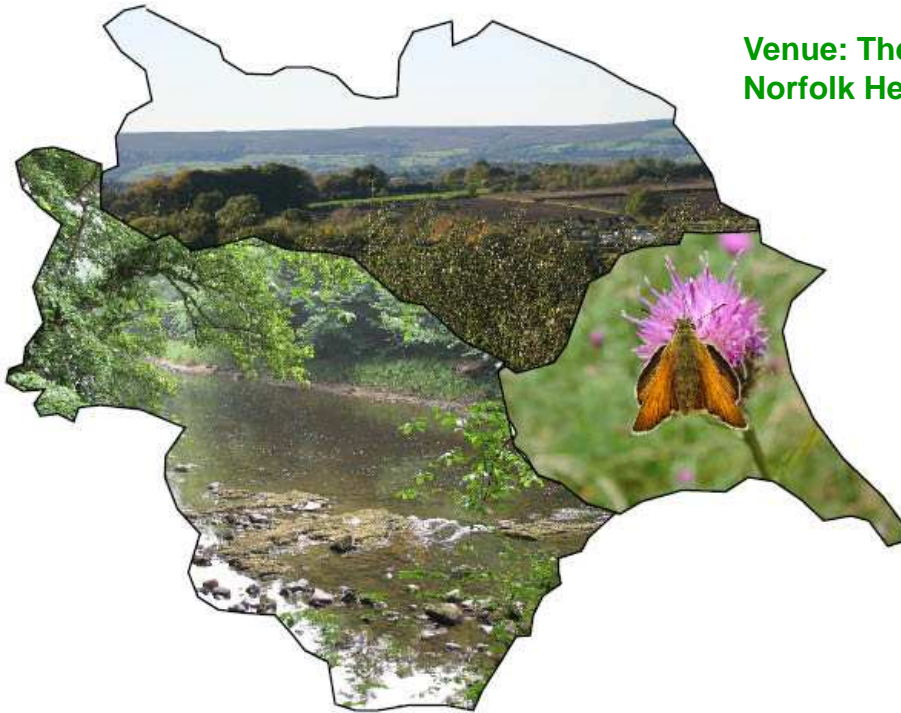
**At the AGM we shall be electing new trustees and reviewing the annual report and accounts (enclosed with this newsletter). AGENDA:**

1. Welcome and apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 2010 AGM
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Presentation of the Annual Report for 2010
5. Presentation of the Annual Accounts for 2010
6. Adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts
7. Election of trustees
8. Appointment of accountant for 2011
9. Programme of PLACE events for 2011-12
10. Any other business of which due notice has been given
11. Date and venue of next AGM.



**If you have not already booked to attend this event, please do so using the enclosed booking form. Copies of the full agenda and minutes of the last AGM will be available on the day and also on our website.**

## Autumn Conference, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2011, Sheffield



**Venue: The Centre in the Park,  
Norfolk Heritage Park, Sheffield.**

This conference, organised jointly by PLACE and South Yorkshire ECONET, will look at the changes in Yorkshire landscapes and wildlife over the past 50 years. Both losses and gains have occurred, owing to socio-economic, political, agricultural and commercial changes and fluctuating weather patterns. Conservation management and community involvement during the last 20 years have improved the picture for some species, whilst others continue to decline. Their varying fortunes will be explored through talks and displays.

9.45 REGISTRATION AND COFFEE  
10.15 Welcome  
10.20 *Setting the scene.* Ian Rotherham  
10.30 *Yorkshire's forgotten Fenland.* Ian Rotherham  
11.00 *'Woodman spare that tree': the rescue of South Yorkshire's Ancient Woodlands.* Melvyn Jones  
11.30 *Dial P for Polecat.* Colin Howes  
12.00 *Changes in Yorkshire's Bird Populations – winners and losers.* Keith Clarkson  
12.30 LUNCH AND POSTER DISPLAYS

13.30 *The Evolving Story of the River Don Fishery.* Chris Firth  
14.00 *Roadside Assistance: management and conservation of North Yorkshire's wayside flowers.* Margaret Atherden  
14.30 *The Conservation of Lepidoptera in Yorkshire.* Dave Chesmore  
15.00 TEA BREAK  
15.25 *The Cornfield Flowers Project.* Ian Carstairs  
15.55 FORUM AND CLOSING DISCUSSION

The cost of the conference is £20.00 (unwaged/retired £15.00), including tea, coffee and lunch. To book your place, please use the booking form enclosed.

### The following spring events were advertised in the winter newsletter:

- **Hob Moor – Historic Stray and Local Nature Reserve.** Field visit on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2.00-4.00pm
- **Millington Wood.** Field visit on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2.00-5.00pm
- **Dayschool on Bumble Bees, King's Manor, York.** Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May, all day. (Only a few places left)

**If you have not already done so, please book using the booking form enclosed.**

## PLACE in the Sun - Summer Fieldtrips 2011

### Archaeological excavation, Heslington East Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 3.00 – 4.30pm

The University of York Archaeology Department will undertake a final training excavation at Heslington East this spring with about 50 students. PLACE has been invited to visit the dig, led by Cath Neal. The main focus will be on the Roman remains, including a masonry building, some managed spring heads with organic deposits and a series of boundary ditches enclosing the site on the southern slope of Kimberlow Hill. The 2011 excavation will explore a probable timber building with ceramic roof and kiln to the north of the site, an enigmatic cobbled foundation near the western edge, and the area of activity outside the main boundary ditch to the east.

**Meet at the Grimston Bar park+ride farm gate at 3.00pm. Stout footwear is essential. Cost: £5.00. Please book using the booking form enclosed.**

### World War II walk, Skipwith and Riccall Commons, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July, 10.30am

As part of the Festival of Archaeology in July, the Friends of Skipwith Common are hosting a joint walk with PLACE, concentrating on the remains of World War II. Local finds and RAF maps will be on show. In the afternoon, Dr David Chesmore will show us the butterflies making the Common their home. At 9.30pm he will be joined by Julian Small of Natural England, who will arrange a moth trap to show us the night-flying moths. **Meet at 10.30am at the King Rudding Lane car park (grid ref: SE 643374).** From York, turn left (east) off the A19 into King Rudding Lane opposite Riccall Village. The car park is c.1.5 miles along this lane on the left. If you wish to stay for the afternoon or evening events, please bring a packed lunch. Wear boots/stout shoes. For further details, contact Jackie Ashcroft: [jackieashc@aol.co.uk](mailto:jackieashc@aol.co.uk). **This event is free!**

## Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June: Visits to Ripon Workhouse Museum & Garden and Markenfield Hall

PLACE has arranged visits to two sites in the Ripon area. Cost £10.00 per head. Prior booking is essential. Please use the booking form enclosed to secure your place and book by 31<sup>st</sup> May.



**The Ripon Workhouse Museum and Garden are situated in Allhallowgate in the centre of Ripon. Meet at the entrance to the Museum at 10.30am.** There has been a workhouse on this site since 1776 but the present elegant building dates from 1855. Our tour will give us an insight into the harsh conditions of life experienced by the poor in Victorian times. The Workhouse was almost self-sufficient, with its own teacher, chaplain and doctors. Inmates chopped their own firewood, did their own laundry and grew their own vegetables. A typical day's labour would be breaking stones for road-mending. The museum is housed in the former Male Vagrants section, where there are 14 cells in which these unfortunates were locked for the night.

After our visit we shall be in need of refreshment, so either bring a packed lunch or patronise one of the eating places in central Ripon before going on to Markenfield Hall.

**Markenfield Hall is a C14th moated house three miles south of Ripon.** Built in 1310 by John de Markenfield, this site is a Grade I listed building with a fascinating history. The Rising of the North assembled here in 1569, after which Elizabeth I confiscated the house, which became a working farm. We shall have a guided tour of the house and moat in the afternoon. Stout shoes are needed for the moat walk. Assemble in the car park at 2.00pm.





### Fieldtrip to Flamborough Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July

Richard Myerscough will lead this outing, with assistance from the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust. Meet at Selwicks Bay (Lighthouse), TA 255707, at 10.30 for 11.00am. There is a pay-and-display car park there and also toilets and a cafe. In the morning we shall examine the geology and coastal scenery of Flamborough Head. In the afternoon we hope to visit the RSPB reserve at Bempton (pay-and-display car park, free for RSPB members) and the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust nature reserve. Boots or very stout footwear are essential, as some of the walk will be steep. Bring a packed lunch and binoculars for the afternoon session.

**Please use the booking form enclosed for both these events. Cost: £5.00 each.**

### Autumn visit to Buck Wood, Thackley Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> October

The visit will be led by Eileen White, Christine Alvin and Norman Alvin of the Friends of Buck Wood. **Meet at 11.00am in the Thackley Methodist Church room, on the corner of Thackley Road and Park Road, where refreshments will be available.** The event will start with a short presentation on the history and ecology of Buck Wood. Packed lunches can be eaten in the room before the afternoon walk. The walk will explore:

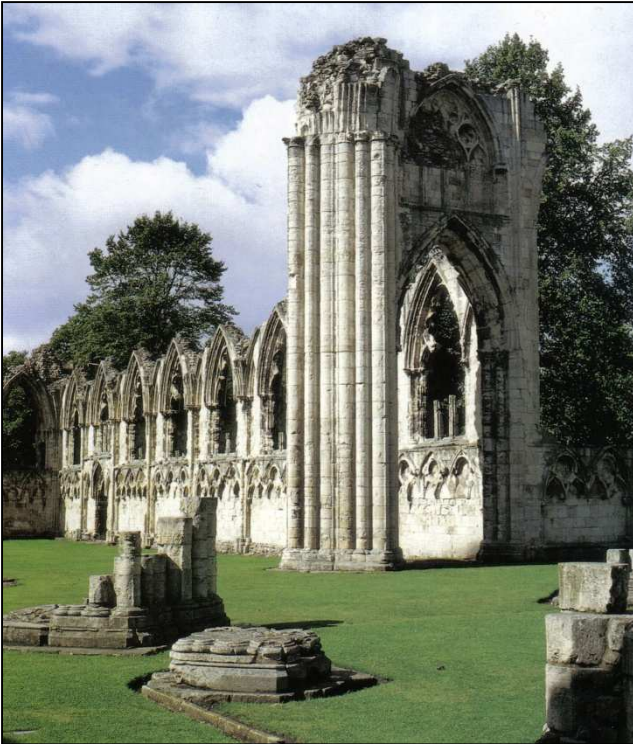
- the sites of the Open Air School and prehistoric enclosure
- the woodland and geology in the Aire Valley, down to the Leeds and Liverpool Canal
- the site of the manorial corn mill and goit and the C19th iron footbridge over the river.

Thackley is on the A657 between Calverley and Shipley. It is accessible via the 760 Leeds-Keighley and 610/612 Bradford-Shipley bus routes. The total walking distance will be about 3 miles, with some uneven and wet ground. Stout footwear is essential. For further details, contact Eileen White: 01274 610703.

Above right: woodland in the Aire Valley

Right: excavation of a quern and carved rock in the wood





St Mary's Abbey, York

## MEDIEVAL YORK

### A short course led by Robert Wright

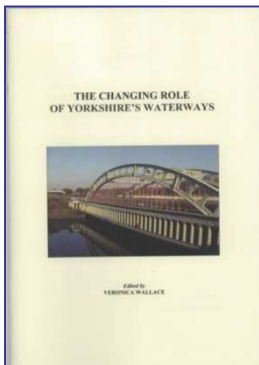
PLACE is pleased to announce that our next short course will take place in Bedern Hall in evenings (7.00-9.00pm) in June/July. The schedule is as follows:

- Weds 1<sup>st</sup> June: Roman to Saxon York
- Weds 8<sup>th</sup> June: Viking Age York
- Thur 16<sup>th</sup> June: Life in the Medieval City
- Thur 23<sup>rd</sup> June: York's Monasteries and Churches
- Thur 30<sup>th</sup> June: The Archbishops and their Palaces
- Weds 6<sup>th</sup> July: Late Medieval York

The cost for the course is £25.00 (£20.00 for unwaged/retired). It may be possible for people to attend individual sessions at a cost of £5.00 each but please check with the PLACE Office in advance, to make sure there is room.

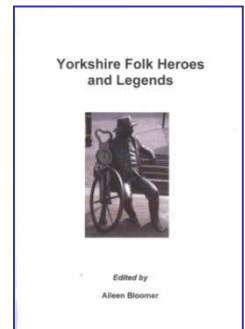
***This course is sure to be popular, so please book without delay – booking form enclosed.***

## New PLACE publications!

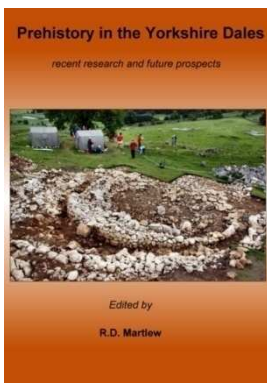


**The Changing Role of Yorkshire's Waterways.**  
Ed. Veronica Wallace.  
Proceedings of the 2010 conference in Goole.  
Price: £2.50 + P & P. See order form enclosed.

**Yorkshire Folk Heroes and Legends.** Ed. Aileen Bloomer.  
Proceedings of the 2010 conference in Knaresborough. Price: £2.50 + P & P. See order form enclosed.



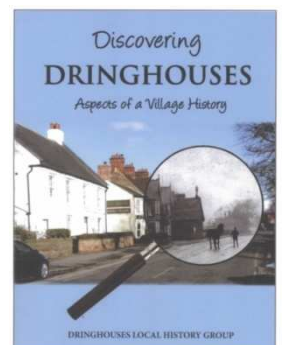
**Coming soon: Prehistory of the Yorkshire Dales.** Ed. Roger Martlew. Proceedings of the 2009 conference in Grassington.



## New books by PLACE members:

**People, Places and Species – a History of the Study of Wasps, Ants and Bees in Watsonian Yorkshire.** By Michael Archer. See order form enclosed.

**Discovering Dringhouses.** This book contains a wide variety of material, researched and written by Elizabeth Smith (PLACE member), Dorothy Reed and Alan Ramsbottom. 106pp, 140 illustrations. Topics include the evolution of the main street; the Roman settlement; Samuel Parsons' map (1624); the Knavesmire; Seven Lost Houses; the Brickworks' Legacy; Dringhouses Cemetery; Knavesmire Wood; Aldersyde House, and WW II casualties. Price: £8.00 from Liz Smith (01904 703970).



## Report on short course, Introduction to Archaeology



Looking at the Roman and Medieval walls in Museum Gardens



Examining some of the finds at DIG

**Andrew (Bone) Jones certainly attracted a large crowd for his first short course for PLACE: 65 people turned up the first week!**

**The course introduced us to many different aspects of archaeological work and included visits to several major attractions in York. PLACE is extremely grateful to the York Archaeological Trust for their support with this course.**

**We are planning a follow-up visit to Blansby Park on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May. It may be possible for a few extra people to join us. Please contact the PLACE Office if you are interested, to make sure there is room.**

Bone pointing out the plaque at the base of the multangular tower, Museum Gardens



Visiting the Micklegate Bar Museum, where some people tried on the armour



Having fun in the discovery area at DIG



## Research Projects

### Roadside Verge Surveys

More volunteers are needed to monitor the flora of road verges in the North York Moors National Park. If you have basic botanical identification skills (or are willing to learn), you can join a very enthusiastic team of people keeping an eye on the most important sites. Many of the verges are now managed by conservation volunteers from the National Park and we are beginning to see improvements in the plant diversity. The records collected by PLACE members will allow long-term changes in the verge flora to be monitored in the light of climate change and other pressures. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact the PLACE Office.



### Fieldwork at May Moss

May Moss is the largest area of blanket peat in the North York Moors National Park. Part of the site was planted up with conifers in the 1980s but the Forestry Commission is now removing the conifers and trying to restore the peat bog. This will increase the Carbon store and control the flow of water from the bog, thus reducing the risk of flooding downstream. PLACE is helping to monitor changes in the vegetation along fixed transects across the bog and in the former radiation hazard area behind Fylingdales Early Warning Station. Anyone who would like to take part in this botanical monitoring work is invited to contact the PLACE Office for details of the planned fieldwork this summer.



### Foxholes Chalk Quarry, Yorkshire Wolds



PLACE is supporting a group of organisations developing a management plan for this important geological site on the Yorkshire Wolds. We visited the site in 2010 (above), when the need for scrub removal and a fence to prevent fly-tipping was evident. The plan is to erect an information board, so that the site's geological features can be appreciated by both school parties and the general public.

**The PLACE spring conference took place on April 2<sup>nd</sup> on the theme of *Yorkshire's Historic Landscapes and Buildings at Risk*. It was held at York St John University and attended by more than 90 people. Talks covered a wide and fascinating range of subjects, including: air photography, excavation in caves, Environmental Stewardship, the River Foss navigation, sites on the public forest estate, World War II remains, Gayle Mill and a Victorian library in Leeds. There were also several displays and bookstalls. *We plan to publish the proceedings of the conference later this year.***

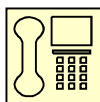


## To contact PLACE:

### By post:

PLACE Office,  
York St John University,  
Lord Mayor's Walk,  
York,  
YO31 7EX.

N.B. This is a  
'virtual' office and  
is not staffed.



### By phone: 01904 766291

(N.B. this is the Chief Executive's home number).

### By e-mail: [place@yorks.ac.uk](mailto:place@yorks.ac.uk)



### Website: [www.place.uk.com](http://www.place.uk.com)

## PLACE Board and Officers

Ms Jackie Ashcroft  
Ms Aileen Bloomer  
Ms Barbara Hickman (Chair)  
Dr Michael Hopkinson (Treasurer)  
Professor David Maughan Brown  
Professor Terry O'Connor  
Dr George Sheeran  
Ms Veronica Wallace  
Dr Steve Watson

## Chief Executive and Company secretary:

Dr Margaret  
Atherden

## OTHER NEWS

PLACE will be having a bookstall at the event in Grassington Town Hall on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> April on *Archaeology and the Historic Environment in the Yorkshire Dales National Park*. If you are attending the event, perhaps you could help on our bookstall for part of the day?

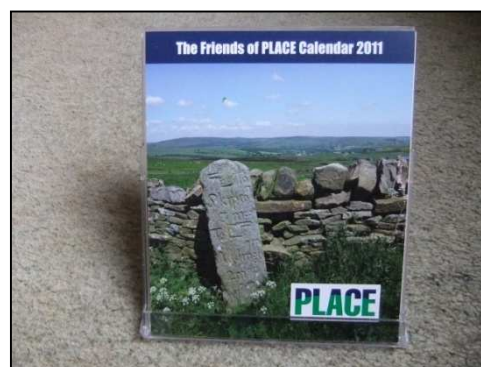
Do  
you use  
social  
networking,  
e.g. Facebook or  
Twitter? If so, would  
you be prepared to help  
PLACE develop such  
networks? Please contact the  
PLACE Office if you can help.

The Historic Parks and Gardens Study Group has just published its final report on the survey of sites in the Nidderdale AONB. A total of 250 sites has been found, including major parks (e.g. Studley Royal, Hackfall), gardens and orchards. Copies of the written report and/or DVD are available from PLACE member Marie-Anne Hintze: [admin@hpg-nidderdale.co.uk](mailto:admin@hpg-nidderdale.co.uk)

### York Food Festival 2011: Mini-Festival in May

York Food and Drink Festival takes place in September each year but this year there is to be a Mini-Festival in May as well. There will be free demonstrations in the market place, a festival cafe, 'tasting events' and various stalls selling food. For more information, go to: [www.yorkfoodfestival.com](http://www.yorkfoodfestival.com)

In September 2012, PLACE will be holding a conference on the theme of food, to coincide with the York Food Festival. Further details next year.



### PLACE calendar

The 2011 Friends of PLACE calendar proved very popular and sold out in early January. **Now is the time to be taking shots for the 2012 calendar!** Any good pictures of landscapes or buildings in Yorkshire are welcome, especially places that PLACE has visited recently. Digital images should be sent by e-mail attachment to: [place@yorks.ac.uk](mailto:place@yorks.ac.uk). Please do not send more than 3 pictures at once.