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### **Stopping the Flood conference**



As advertised in the spring newsletter, this is a two-part al fresco event, considering various ways of working with nature to slow down the flow of water from the uplands and reduce flooding in the lowlands.

The first part takes place on **Weds. 26<sup>th</sup> April**, when we shall be visiting the Pickering 'Slowing the Flow' Project, led by Philip Roe of the Forestry Commission. **If you have already booked to attend this event or wish to join us, please note that the visit now starts at 11.00am at the visitor centre in Dalby Forest, not in Pickering (as advertised in the spring newsletter).** Please wear boots or wellingtons and bring a packed lunch.

The visitor centre is at Low Dalby, grid ref. SE 857875. From Thornton Dale (2 miles east of Pickering), go north on the road towards Whitby for c.1.5 miles, then turn right on to the Dalby Forest Drive. Follow the road for c.2 miles until you reach Low Dalby and park in the main car park near the visitor centre. Entry to the forest drive will be free for people attending this event. If you are intending to come via public transport and need a lift from either Pickering or Thornton Dale, please contact the PLACE Office.

The second part of the conference will probably take place on **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July**, when Zora Van Leeuwen (University of Leeds) and colleagues will tell us about their research work in **Coverdale**. Zora has been working on the impact of natural flood management measures, including large woody debris dams and re-meandering stream channels that have been artificially straightened. Project partners the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust and JBA Consulting have been creating a wetland in an adjacent valley. They will be able to show us some of these features in the field and explain the monitoring network that has been set up.

We are currently awaiting permission for this visit from the landowner. **Please register your interest in attending this session on the booking form. Further details will be sent when available only to those who book.**

### **PLACE Annual General Meeting and Members' Day, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May**

**As previously advertised, our AGM this year will be held in the Parish Centre, 38 Highgate, Beverley, HU17 0DN.** As well as the AGM itself, there will be a series of events, including a talk about Beverley Minster and guided walks in the afternoon. Full details appeared in the spring newsletter.

**If you have not already booked but wish to join us, please book a.s.a.p. The AGM papers will be sent only to those who book to attend the meeting (although they will also be available on our website).**

***Please use the enclosed booking form for all PLACE events***



The Middleton Viking

## VIKING YORKSHIRE

Our next short course will be led by Dr Robert Wright on the theme of *Viking Yorkshire*. This is a topical subject, as the new *Jorvik* exhibition has just opened. The course will be held on Thursday evenings from 7.00 to 9.00pm from May 25<sup>th</sup> to June 29<sup>th</sup> inclusive, in Bedern Hall, York.

- May 25<sup>th</sup>: The Great Invasion
- June 1<sup>st</sup>: Viking settlement
- June 8<sup>th</sup>: Jorvik
- June 15<sup>th</sup>: Art and architecture
- June 22<sup>nd</sup>: Eric Bloodaxe
- June 29<sup>th</sup>: End of the Viking Age

The cost for the whole course will be £25.00 (£20.00 for retired/unwaged). You can also book for individual sessions at a cost of £5.00 each. Please book and pay in advance.

## SUMMER AND EARLY AUTUMN OUTINGS 2017

### *Walking in the footsteps of William Smith*

PLACE is just about to publish a geological trail written by Peter Robinson (copies of which will be available to buy on the day). To celebrate this, there will be a walk around the geological trail on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, led by Peter Robinson and Richard Myerscough.

Meet at the end of Limestone Lane, Hackness (grid ref: SE 980899) at 10.30 for a prompt 11.00am start. The visit will end c.4.00pm.

From the A171 Whitby-Scarborough Rd. Turn right at Burniston just before the BMW garage and then take the first road left. Follow the road uphill to a T junction at the top. Turn left and follow the road to an angled T junction. Turn right towards Hackness in the hamlet of Suffield. Follow the road round a sharp bend to the left and turn along the minor road to the left. This is Limestone lane; follow it to the end.

From the A170 Pickering-Scarborough Rd. Turn left past the bridge at East Ayton and follow the road through Forge Valley to turn left to Hackness at the road junction from Scarborough. Follow the road past the Everley Hotel to Hackness and turn right by the village hall. Follow the main road past the church and up the valley. Close to the top of the hill just before the farm buildings turn sharp right along a minor road. This is Limestone lane; follow it to the end.

From 1828 to 1834 Sir John Johnson employed William Smith as land steward to the Hackness Estate. Whilst living at Hackness, Smith geologically mapped an area bounded by Barnscliff to the north, Cumboots to the east, Mowthorpe to the south and Broxa to the west. This map, entitled *Stratification in Hackness Hills*, was the last map to be made by William Smith and was published in 1832. The original map remains in the ownership of Lord Derwent and is housed in Hackness Hall.



During the walk visits will be made to the Hackness Rock Pit, from which rock was quarried for the construction of the Rotunda Museum, and the site of Smith's home in the grounds of Hackness Grange. The circular walk follows an easy to moderate route of approximately 4.5 miles along public foot and bridle paths through woodland, along roadsides and across farmland with some stretches of moderate to steep inclines. The main aim of the walk is to identify the position of each of the geological boundaries by change in landform, land use, soil type, drainage and botanical assemblage, using much the same methods that William Smith used. Bring a packed lunch but note that refreshments and toilets are available at the Everley Hotel halfway along the walk. Wear stout footwear or walking boots.

**Cost: £5.00 per head (payable on the day). Numbers are limited to 20 people, so prior booking is essential.**



### Ampleforth Abbey tour, Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June

The Benedictine abbey at Ampleforth was established over 200 years ago. Situated on the southern fringe of the North York Moors, it includes a church, public school, gift shop, visitor centre, café and orchards. **Meet in the visitor car park at 10.15am.** Our private tour will start at 10.30am. After being shown around the cider orchards, we will have a break for lunch, when we can sample the excellent café, before looking at the abbey church and the rest of the site. **The cost will be £10.50 per head and we need a minimum of 20 people. Please register by 31<sup>st</sup> May at the latest but pay later (when we know we have enough people).**

### Visit to Norton Conyers, Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

**Peter Hills will lead a tour of Norton Conyers, near Wath, starting at 3.00pm.** The house and grounds will be open to other visitors but should be fairly quiet at that time. Sir James and Lady Graham will meet the party and give a short talk. There will also be an exhibition of vintage garden tools in the garden, presented by Robert Addyman, and plants for sale. There are no refreshment facilities in the house but you are welcome to bring your own picnic and eat it in the grounds or visit *The George* in Wath, before the tour starts. **The cost of the visit is £15.00 per head, payable in advance. Book by 30<sup>th</sup> June.**



### ***This Exploited Land of Iron: a visit to the Rosedale area on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August, led by Tom Mutton***

Following the fascinating talk on this project by Louise Cooke in February, we have arranged a fieldtrip to see some of the remains of iron working on the North York Moors. **Meet at *The Lion Inn, Blakey Ridge (SE 679997)* at 11.00am.** Bring packed lunch and wear walking boots. The walk will be c.4.5 miles long. **Cost: £5.00 per head, payable on day. Please book in advance.** Further details will be sent to those who book.

### Swaledale walk, Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August

We are joining with the Royal Geographical Society for a walk of 6.5 miles from Richmond to Willance's Leap, led by Margaret Atherden. We will explore some of the geology, geomorphology, vegetation and archaeology of the stunning Swaledale area. The walk will include some uphill sections, so walking boots are essential. Bring packed lunch. **Meet in the Nun's Close long-stay car park in Richmond (SE 168012) at 11.00am. This event is free but please book in advance.**



### Dark Skies event, 7.00 – 9.00pm, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October

PLACE is turning its attention to the night sky this autumn, with a visit to the astronomical observatory at Lime Tree Farm, Hutts Lane, Grewelthorpe near Ripon. From the village, follow the signs for "The Hutts" and the guiding red lights. We will be introduced to telescopes both inside and outside the observatory and, if the sky is clear, will be able to observe the moon and stars. There will be a presentation by Martin Whipp and tea and biscuits will be provided. **Meet at the observatory at 7.00pm, wearing warm clothing and boots. Binoculars will also be useful. The cost is £5.00 per head, payable in advance. The number is limited to 20 people, so please book early.**

## **“Mr Wesley’s Men” move west: the 18<sup>th</sup> century Yorkshire migration to Canada**

Almost 250 years ago, in a three year period, over a thousand Yorkshire men and women sailed from the ports of Liverpool, Hull, Scarborough and Whitby to Fort Cumberland in Nova Scotia. Most were Methodists, leaving tenant farms for the promise of land in the recently acquired British territory on the extreme north eastern edge of what were to become the Atlantic provinces of Canada. Amongst them was a fifteen year old boy from Huddersfield, William Black who became the galvanising force of the Methodist communities of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, establishing Methodist chapels throughout the territory, beginning among the farms of the Chicegno Isthmus and gradually developing his personal evangelising circuit over an area about the same size as the whole of England. Having received a religious conversion, William became a preacher and corresponded with John Wesley but was unable to return to England to attend a Methodist training school. However such was the respect in which he was held that he was accredited as a minister by the elders of the community.



How they came to go to this rocky coastal region and their role in establishing Nova Scotia as a British Canadian rather than an American enclave takes us back to the turbulent period of Anglo-French conflict sixty years earlier. In 1713 the French, who had claimed the whole of the St Lawrence and Mississippi valleys, plus the area around the Great Lakes and Hudson’s Bay, ceded most of these territories to the British at the Treaty of Utrecht. One of the areas occupied by French settlers was the colony of Acadia: on the extreme east coastal peninsulas and islands at the mouth of the St Lawrence; established in 1604. The main French colony, set up at Quebec in 1608, was much more profitable for France, being closer to the main fur-trading native tribes, and the Acadian population were left to fend for themselves as fishermen, small farmers and coastal traders.

They were mostly quite willing to accept English control and even to swear allegiance to the Crown, but in 1755 the British government decided to evict them, which it did brutally. Some 15,000 were shipped to Louisiana, the southern half of French America, and a third of them died on the voyage. The rest remained semi-nomadic until they were allowed to return in the 1760s. By then the French had been pushed back beyond the Mississippi, but the Americans were increasingly demanding independence from Britain. At first reluctant to accept ownership of Canada, the UK Government now began to see its political and economic advantages.

Faced with a much emptier colony Michael Franklin, the Governor, fearing annexation by the Americans, set up a recruitment campaign in England, offering 500 acre plots to new settlers for this rather barren region. It was the Yorkshire Non-Conformists who responded, with the first passengers sailing from Liverpool in 1772. The shipping agent promised a voyage of no more than twenty days: it took 46 and when the first cry of “land ahead” went up the passengers discovered they had not reached North America but Ireland. But eight other ship loads followed. Typical was the Albion, a 150 ton ship built for 75 passengers but carrying over 150, which took 53 days for the voyage!

They had received little incentive: they paid their own fares unlike the American Loyalists who, following the American War of Independence, were paid their relocation costs from Boston and New York to Halifax, Nova Scotia and the Annapolis Valley region. The main attraction for Non-Conformists (and Catholics) was freedom of religious practice, and to escape increasing agricultural rents in England. Their Non-Conformity was echoed among the Loyalists by the followers of Henry Alline, an itinerant preacher, contemporary of William Black, who established the “New Light” movement, later subsumed in the Baptist and Congregationalist churches. As in England, the Non-Conformists provided a lay ministry and social structure to rural and working class communities.

Unfortunately rifts emerged between some of Alline’s followers and the Wesleyans. The former developed a strong “Antinomian” character, arguing that once converted the soul no longer sinned, so that “sins in the body” were no bar to salvation. Effectively this could be interpreted as a form of predestination which meant that behaviour was less important than belief. The Methodists kept to the scriptural doctrine that “faith without works is dead” and themselves to the Methodist Episcopalians who provided a theologically preferable partnership with the Nova Scotia itinerant circuits which Black continued to lead. Black was eventually appointed Superintendent for Methodists in North Eastern Canada. He remained an active missionary and inspirational leader of the Nova Scotian Methodists, travelling great distances, because of the shortage of ministers, until ill health curtailed his activities in about 1829, dying five years later. He became regarded as the “bishop” of the Methodists, a surviving link with the English Wesleyan movement and by all accounts a gentle, kindly and well loved pastor who can truly be regarded as the father of Methodism in Atlantic Canada.

With the arrival of the 20,000 Loyalists the security of the Atlantic coast settlements became more sure. The Methodist Yorkshiremen rose up to defeat the Eddy Rebellion of 1776 which tried to seize New Brunswick. The battle at Fort Cumberland, where they had first established their chapel, was decisive in curtailing American ambitions. The Loyalists mostly populated Halifax, but the coastal areas were gradually peopled by Scots settlers, and other Englishmen who established shipbuilding and repair ports such as Yarmouth and Grimsby to service industry and trans-Atlantic trade. By the 1780s the Maritimes were becoming more prosperous and the Yorkshire migration as a distinct movement was over. But the early Methodist heritage survives and is celebrated by the Tantramar Heritage Trust, whose website records the names and origins of a 10% sample of the original hardy migrants, showing they came from all over the towns and villages of our county. Although they have been overshadowed by later mass migrations, the 1056 colonists were vital pioneers in the establishment of the Maritime Provinces.

© Michael Hopkinson March 6<sup>th</sup> 2017

## REPORTS ON PAST EVENTS

### Aldbrough walk



Left: walking along the levée beside the River Ure

Richard Mallows

Right: the group near the site of the Roman wharf



Despite the gale-force winds of storm Doris, twelve brave souls ventured on a walk around Aldbrough on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, to celebrate the publication of *The PLACE Book of Winter Walks*. Led by author Margaret Atherden and her trusty companion 'Bertie', they explored the remains of the Roman town of Isurium Brigantum. The route passed the site of a Roman wharf, the church of St Andrew – built over the Roman forum, the site of the Roman amphitheatre, and the boundary earthworks on west, east and south sides. Many of the modern roads follow Roman lines. One third of the Roman town's area lies north of the present village and is visible only as crop marks.

The group also noted the site of the 1322 Battle of Boroughbridge, near Milby Lock; the Elizabethan Aldbrough Hall, and the old courthouse and stocks on the village green. A cup of tea in Boroughbridge made a welcome finale to the visit.

### Visit to Hull

To mark Hull's year as City of Culture, 36 PLACE members participated in a very enjoyable walk round the historic centre of Hull on 9<sup>th</sup> March, led by Richard Leggott, who grew up in the city. We were blessed with sunny, warm weather and were able to pop in and out of museums and galleries as we wished, as they are all free in Hull.

Starting at the statue of Philip Larkin at Hull Paragon Railway Station, we made our way to Victoria Square, the Edwardian centre of the town where are located the Ferens Art Gallery (an outstanding local collection, with works by Hals, Lorenzetti and Canaletto) and the Maritime Museum (inside the old Dock Offices with displays on the history of shipping in the Humber as well as the whaling and trawling industries). We then did a circular tour of the medieval town, seeing what was left of the old walls at the remains of the Beverley Gate, walking by the splendid late medieval church of Holy Trinity (currently being restored) and visiting the Museums Quarter in the High Street (comprising the excellent Hull and East Riding Archaeological Museum, the Anti-Slavery Museum in Wilberforce House and the Museum of Street Life). We also walked along the side of the River Hull and saw the Humber from the old ferry terminal (wonderful views) and also the former Humber and Princes' Docks and the Humber barrier (below).

Richard Leggott.



John Watts

## OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

### Royal Geographical Society walk

Members of PLACE are invited to join the RGS in a walk in Bronte country on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July, starting at 10.30am at Haworth railway station**. The walk, led by Charlotte Derry, promises to go beyond the tourist trail to discover the wild forces which shaped the landscape and find out why it holds such sway on our imagination. The walk will end c.1.00pm and be followed by lunch in a local café. This is a free event but please book in advance by e-mailing Chris Speight at [gschris@cspeight.plus.com](mailto:gschris@cspeight.plus.com)



### Calling all botanists!

PLACE is still involved in surveys of the vegetation of May Moss on the North York Moors. Dates for the survey this year are: Thurs. 8<sup>th</sup> June, Thurs. 6<sup>th</sup> July and Thurs. 3<sup>rd</sup> August. If you would like to join in this year, please contact Margaret Atherden via the PLACE Office for further details.

**PLACE subscriptions are due on 1<sup>st</sup> January each year. If you have not paid for 2017 (or do not have a standing order), please send your subscription a.s.a.p.**

*We take DATA PROTECTION very seriously. All personal data, e.g. addresses, are kept on a secure database which is updated regularly. We will only use such data for PLACE administrative purposes and never pass them on to third parties. We do not engage in active fund-raising activities.*

*All our events are open to the general public. Children are welcome, provided they are accompanied by a parent or guardian. Dogs on leads are allowed on most outings, subject to the agreement of the leader.*

**We sometimes take photographs at events for publicity purposes. If you do not wish to be photographed, please tell the event organiser at the time.**

### 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. Messages may be left at any time)

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

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



*Please remember to tell us if you change your e-mail address or other contact details!*

### PLACE Board and Officers 2016-17

#### Chief Executive:

Dr Margaret Atherden

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(Chair)

Dr Jean Dixon

Ms Christine Handley

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Mr Richard Myerscough

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*The next newsletter is due in September*