

PLACE autumn conference

Sat. 29th September

Food and Sustainability – past, present and future

The date of this conference has been chosen to coincide with the York Food Festival. The morning session will be held at York St John University and there will be 4 presentations. We are delighted to welcome two speakers from the Leeds Food Symposium on food History and Traditions: **Peter Brears** will talk about changes in the working class diet and **Eileen White** will talk about changing markets and the role of the housewife. In York and Yorkshire, food production is everywhere. **Judith Ward** of City of York Council will provide a broad sweep over the history of allotments in York (food production at its most local) and provide some insights into the current situation and possible future developments. **Alex Hutchinson** from Nestlé (food production in an international context) will show us some of the Nestlé archives, thereby demonstrating how a very local company became a global concern. Ninety minutes will be allowed for lunch to allow delegates time to forage amongst the York Food Festival stalls in the city centre.

At Bedern Hall the focus in a very practical session will be 'From Field to Plate', ending with a non-traditional afternoon tea, the components of which will largely have been produced during the afternoon. Local flour (from the Holgate Windmill, we hope) will be used to bake bread to be eaten with Yorkshire cheeses (sourced locally) and pickles made from local ingredients. Locally produced cider (or tea, coffee and soft drinks) will be available to wash it all down. There will be discussion throughout the afternoon of the local production of food as we watch it being prepared for our enjoyment.

The conference fee will be £25.00 (£20.00 for unwaged/retired) for those who book before the end of July. After that the cost will rise to £30.00 (£25.00 for concessions). Please use the booking form enclosed.

Visit to Gayle Mill and the Wensleydale Creamery, Sunday 8th July

Join us in Wensleydale for a fieldtrip exploring two local enterprises: the Creamery, made famous by the Wallis and Gromit films, and Gayle Mill, which featured on the 'Restoration' TV programme sometime ago and was the subject of a talk at our spring conference in 2011.



Meet at the Wensleydale Creamery, Hawes, at 10.45am for a guided tour and cheese-making demonstration. Take packed lunch or eat in the Creamery café.

Walk or drive to Gayle Mill for a two-hour demonstration tour of the working mill, starting at 2.00pm. The tour includes tea/coffee and biscuits at the end.



Cost: £10.00 (including both tours). Numbers limited to 25.



Fieldtrip to Brompton by Sawdon and Foulbridge, Sat. 25th August

Meet at 10.30am outside Snainton village hall (SE 926822, off the A170). In the morning we shall visit the former Knights Templar Hall at Foulbridge Farm, by courtesy of Mr and Mrs Nutt, the owners of this remarkable building. Bring a packed lunch, which we shall eat on the village green at Brompton by Sawdon (home of George Cayley). The afternoon walk around the village will include: Hungate, an estate street with converted inn, chapel, almshouses and interesting farm architecture; a mill pond, a converted mill, and 'castle' hill. The Norman church where Wordsworth was married has interesting stained glass, including the 'Cayley' window. If time allows, we shall walk to West End, the 'Dolly Walks' and Low Hall.

Cost £5.00. Numbers limited to 20.

Please use the booking form enclosed for all events.

**REMINDER! Fieldtrip to Lower Winskill Farm,
near Settle, Sunday 17th June.**

Meet at the farm (SD 827664) at 11.00am.

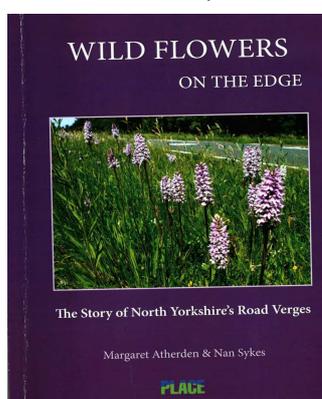
There are still a few places left on this fieldtrip, which was advertised in the January newsletter. The farm is a few miles north of Settle and is only accessible by car. If you wish to come and have not yet booked, please contact the PLACE Office right away.



EVENTS IN THE AUTUMN

Book launch

**Weds. 3rd October, 3.00 – 5.00pm
Bedern Hall, York**



You are invited to join us to celebrate the publication of this lavishly-illustrated new book on road verges, written by Margaret Atherden and Nan Sykes, to be published this summer. The book and other PLACE publications will be on sale and light refreshments will be provided.

Admission is free but please use the booking form to reserve your place.

PLACE Annual General Meeting, 12th May 2012

Our AGM this year was attended by 36 members and 2 guests and held in the Samwaies Hall, Wath, near Ripon. The minutes will be posted on our website in due course. On the following pages are summaries of the very interesting presentations by PLACE Fellows, Margaret Bastow and Peter Hills, who guided us around Wath Church and village.

In the afternoon, we visited **Thorp Perrow Arboretum**, where we were given a guided tour around the grounds (right).



Annual joint lecture with the Yorkshire Philosophical Society and the Royal Geographical Society

Tuesday 20th November, 7.30pm,

Tempest Anderson Hall, Yorkshire Museum

This year we shall be fielding a panel of speakers talking about the wildlife within York city walls, entitled '**Bats, bees and blooms**'. Entry is free to PLACE members. Be there!

A Yorkshire Christmas with PLACE

7.00 – 9.00pm, Weds. 12th December, Bedern Hall

Seasonal refreshments will form part of this exciting event but you will only learn more about it if you register your interest on the booking form or look at our website nearer the time (numbers limited). We shall have copies of the Friends of PLACE Calendar for 2013 on sale, so don't miss the chance to buy copies as Christmas presents.

There is still plenty of time to take photographs for the calendar – entries close on 30th September. Please send your digital images of the people, landscape or cultural environment of Yorkshire to PLACE as e-mail attachments: place@yorks.ac.uk

Wath village and church Margaret E. Bastow

Wath lies in the wapentake of Hallikeld in North Yorkshire [wapentake = a land division larger than a parish but smaller than a county]. Although there are many prehistoric remains in the vicinity, Wath did not appear as a village until Anglo-Saxon times. The name meaning 'a stream crossing' is apt because there is a stream at each end of the village. The plan is of the 'street village' type with cottages on either side of the main street and long garths behind the houses.



There was a church in Saxon times dedicated to St. Oswald. Parts of this survive in the walls of the nave and the foundations of the apsidal east end beneath the present choir stalls. Fragments of carved crosses are also preserved in a north wall. The Domesday Book records two manor holders with 6 carucates of land and 4 ploughs. It was worth 20 shillings and recorded as waste, probably the result of the Norman army's reprisals following northern resistance to occupation.

The Anglo-Saxons were dispossessed and Wath was given to Count Alan of Brittany, who, for the good of his soul, donated it to the Abbey of Mont St. Michel in France. The Abbot sent a group of monks to look after the village. They repaired the church and rebuilt the chancel in simple style and rededicated it to St. Mary. The low window in the south wall of the chancel may have been where they distributed alms to needy parishioners. The hinge hooks of the shutters survive and the much later stained glass depicts the parable of the Good Samaritan. This peaceful existence might have continued, but by AD1239 the then Abbot neglected his duties, so the villagers turned to the neighbouring Lord Marmion, who took over the manor. The subsequent dispute between the two claimants was to be settled by Trial by Combat. However, the Abbot had not realised that Marmion was champion swordsman of Northern England. The Abbot withdrew from the fight but complained to the Pope. No record survives of the result but the Marmions and their descendants continued to be Lords of the Manor until the 16th century, when the then holder, Thomas Parr, was dispossessed for supporting Lady Jane Grey's claim to the throne. The manor passed to William Cecil and his descendants until the 19th century, when the Marquess of Ailesbury was forced to sell it to Joseph Newsome. In 1920 the whole village was sold and the Manor was acquired by the Grahams.

Following the Reformation, the patronage of the church passed to Trinity College Cambridge. A substantial rectory was built to house a series of very good rectors and their families. There were three rectors of particular note: firstly Dr. Peter Samwaies, who founded Wath Grammar School and left money in trust for educational needs of the parish. Although the school no longer exists, the building survives with its foundation plaque above the door. The Trustees, after much hard work, have converted the old boys' school into a hall for the benefit of the village. Secondly, Dr. Cuthbert Allanson, whose son became Bishop of Calcutta, and who wrote well known hymns including 'From Greenland's Icy Mountains' and 'Holy, Holy, Holy'. Thirdly, Rev. William Collings Lukis, who was an internationally renowned archaeologist and supervised the restoration of the church in the 19th century. St. Mary's is a simple building that has never had aisles. It did not need enlargement as the population has increased very little in the last 1000 years. It has a tower at the western end housing a good peal of 6 bells and a well maintained organ played by an excellent group of local organists.



PLACE is very grateful to Margaret and Jane Bastow and Peter Hills for arranging such a fascinating morning in Wath.

WATH CHURCH: THE SOUTH TRANSEPT OR SOUTH CHAPEL

Peter J. Hills

The late James Lees-Milne advised, in one of his voluminous Diaries, 'One should always visit the parish church before the big house in order to learn the history of the land-owning families from the memorials' (*Ancestral Voices*, 1978, P. 277). The south transept, or south chapel, known as the Norton chapel, illustrates this remark with regard to the nearby manor and estate of Norton Conyers. 'Norton' ('North Town') is Anglo-Saxon, though this name was also owned by a medieval family who dwelt here following one named Conyers who can be traced from the late-11th to the mid-14th century. Sir Richard Norton, a chief justice, seems to have been in possession by 1398 and the chapel does contain two worn brasses (approx. 3 feet) affixed to the wall of Richard Norton (d.1420) in judicial robes and his wife. A later Richard Norton, who succeeded in 1557, was attainted after involvement in the 1569 Rising of the Northern Earls and so the estate was forfeit to the Crown. In 1574 the manor was granted to Sir Simon Musgrave; his grandson, Sir Thomas Musgrave, sold it to his son-in-law, Richard Graham, in 1624. The Grahams have continued to own Norton Conyers to the present day (only interrupted by a short break in the 19th century mentioned below); several of them are buried under the Norton chapel and thus the monuments there largely reflect their descent.



Richard Graham (d. 1653/54) was a younger son of a notorious family of border reivers; originally Scottish, they had migrated to the English borders in the 16th century. Richard went to London in 1616, where he came under the patronage of the Duke of Buckingham, the all-powerful favourite and minister of both James I and Charles I, being appointed Master of the Horse to the Duke. He accompanied Buckingham and Charles, then Prince of Wales, to Spain in 1623, when they went, supposedly incognito, on a hare-brained scheme to conclude a match with the Spanish Infanta. It was Richard who brought back the dispatches – so quickly that James said he must have had wings, which explains the wings as a crest on the Graham arms. Following the assassination of Buckingham in 1628, Richard (familiarily referred to as 'Dick Graham' by Charles) was made one of his Gentlemen of the Horse and a baronet (of Esk).

The oldest Graham memorial, on the east wall of the Norton chapel, commemorates Catherine, née Musgrave (d. 1649/50), mentioning that she left two sons and four daughters. George, the elder son, inherited the baronetcy and Netherby in Cumbria, which Richard had also purchased; Norton Conyers was bequeathed to the younger son, Richard, who was also made a baronet (of Norton Conyers) in 1662.

Ranald Graham, a younger brother of Richard, the purchaser of Norton Conyers, prospered in trade in London and, in 1655, bought the manor of Nunnington. As he and his wife, Susannah, née Washington (an ancestor of George Washington) were childless, he bequeathed Nunnington to his great-nephew Richard (son of George above), who also inherited the baronetcy of Esk and Netherby estate. Richard, 3rd Baronet of Esk, was created Viscount Preston (in the Scottish peerage) in 1681 and rose to be Secretary of State to James II on the eve of the 1688 Revolution. Thus the Graham fortunes were closely linked to the House of Stuart throughout the 17th century, Norton Conyers being visited by James I in 1603, Charles I in 1632 and James, Duke of York (later James II), in 1679.

The Graham estates at Nunnington and Netherby, after passing through the son and grandson of the first Viscount Preston, were eventually inherited by the latter's childless daughter, Catharine (d. 1757), who married William, Lord Widdrington, as his second wife. She divided the Netherby and Nunnington inheritance, the latter eventually passing to the Grahams of Norton Conyers. Bellingham Reginald Graham, 7th Baronet of Norton Conyers (d. 1866) succeeded, therefore, at the age of seven, to an inheritance of approximately 20,000 acres. However, through his extravagant lifestyle, this was squandered; Nunnington was sold in 1839 and even Norton Conyers was lost. His son, however, married an heiress and bought Norton Conyers back intact in 1882; thus the family portraits of both Norton Conyers and Nunnington continue to be displayed at the house.

It should be noted that Norton Conyers was visited by Charlotte Brontë in 1839, when, it is said, she learnt of the legend of the Mad Woman confined in the attic during the 18th century. For this and other reasons, Norton Conyers has been suggested as a possible original for Mr. Rochester's Thornfield Hall in *Jane Eyre*. It should however be noted that this claim has also been made for a Derbyshire property and there can be little doubt that the surname 'Eyre' derives from the family with branches widespread in that county.



Yorkshire's Forests in the twenty-first century

This conference, held in Dalby Forest Visitor Centre on Saturday 28th April, was attended by 35 people. Morning speakers were: Crispin Thorn: 'Forestry – an evolving agenda', Will Richardson: 'Sustainable Forest Management in the Private Sector' and Brian Walker: 'Langdale Forest'. It was followed by a cold but very enjoyable walk in the afternoon, led by Brian Walker. A summary of the conference will be published later in the year.

Left: The party looking at remains of rabbit warrens in the forest

A new research project between PLACE and the University of Bradford: Islamic Architecture in Bradford

During the 1960s and early '70s many people migrated from the Indian sub-continent to the UK. Many were male Muslims who had come to find work here to support their families. Their intention seems to have been a sojourn here, eventually to return home. However, by the late 1970s and 1980s, it was becoming clear that many were settling rather than sojourning and were raising families and putting down roots. Bradford is typical in this respect, with many men coming from Pakistan to work in the textile industry. Religious observance did not create a problem in the early days – a room in a house might be set aside for prayers. But as Bradford's Muslim population grew, purpose-built mosques began to appear and continue to do so. PLACE in partnership with the University of Bradford is carrying out a short research project assessing the impact of Islamic architecture on Bradford's urban environment. This will include creating a photographic record of many of the city's mosques, small and humble, as well as grand, and charting the spread of Islamic institutions around mosques. This is giving the city an individual appearance and one that is highly visible in the physical environment. The project will continue until probably the autumn of 2013. PLACE and the University hope to be able to report on the project in a dissemination event soon afterwards.



Darfield Street Mosque



Horton Park Mosque

Contact: **George Sheeran** g.sheeran3@bradford.ac.uk

REPORTS ON SPRING FIELDTRIPS



This year's spring fieldtrips all had a heritage theme. In March we visited **Myton Grange Estate**, where Nick Ramsden gave us a tour of Home Farm and the Stud Farm. The estate was in the hands of the Stapylton family for three centuries until it was sold to the Ramsdens in 1932. Major Henry Miles Stapylton created a model farm in 1864, based on self-sufficiency and using the latest technology. It featured housing for animals, grain storage facilities, a dairy, a blacksmithy and a slaughterhouse. Steam power was used to pump water from the River Swale and a narrow gauge railway was installed to move materials around the farm. The Stud Farm was built in 1870 to indulge the Major's passion for Morgan trotting horses. Most of the original features remain, including the stables, a covered exercise area, groom accommodation and a magnificent coach house entrance. Nine thousand horses assembled here before

going to war in 1914-18. In the second world war, the stables were used to store sugar. The architecture of both farms is now being restored under Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) funding from Natural England. As well as a tour of the buildings, we had a trailer ride around the farm. Still a mixed farm, it now includes several conservation measures, e.g. wide field margins, strips sown with wild bird seed and a small wood. Grey partridge, corn bunting, barn owls and tree sparrow are benefiting. Three species of bats occur on the farm, with a colony of Natterer's bats in the water tower. The farm is visited by school groups, who learn about modern farming and wildlife conservation.

April saw us in South Yorkshire, visiting the **Elsecar Heritage Centre and New Hall Barn**. The former ironworks and colliery workshops at Elsecar have been converted for use as an antique and crafts centre. A range of individual outlets now sells direct to the public and there is also an information centre, where visitors can learn about the history of the site. Despite the cold weather, the centre was busy on the day of our visit, with lively activities for children and a dog show for the Weimaraner Society (right). The afternoon was spent looking around a 16th century cruck barn near Barnsley, which is being lovingly restored by the owners, David and Helen Rhodes, with HLS funding from Natural England. New Hall was part of the medieval manorial site owned by the de Bosville family and stands in a wider landscape rich in archaeological remains from the prehistoric period onwards. After an interesting slide show from Helen, we were shown the Barn (right), a grade II listed building, which is used for school visits and contains various artefacts connected with the farm. The wooden beams have been dated by dendrochronology to 1529. We also had a tour of some of the other buildings on the site, e.g. the old mill. **Thanks to Margaret Nieke for arranging both these highly enjoyable fieldtrips.**



By late May, the weather had turned hot and sunny for our visit to **Hardcastle Crags and Gibson Mill**. This National Trust property lies just north of Hebden Bridge and is approached on foot through lush woodland beside the Hebden Water. We were guided through the woods by Karen, a NT volunteer, and her dog Beau. Many of the trees were planted by the 1st Lord Savile in the 1870s to enhance the approach to his shooting lodge, but the resulting mixture of native and exotic species has produced a stunning landscape and provides habitats for a wide range of plants and animals, including the northern hairy ant. The ground flora was at its best, with sweeps of bluebells, an unusual profusion of pink purslane and abundant ferns. The river was used for milling in the past and there are signs of this activity in the form of weirs, mill ponds and wooden sluices. At Gibson Mill, we were treated to a fascinating tour by Mike Troke. Built in the early nineteenth century to produce cotton yarn for the textile industry, the original mill was expanded in the 1860s with the addition of a warehouse and weaving shed (now housing the café). An engine house for the original steam generator is now used as a wood store. In the 1890s, as the cotton industry declined, the mill became an entertainment emporium and was a popular venue for visitors in the 1920s. The top floor was converted into a restaurant and the weaving shed was used for roller-skating and dancing. Boating took place on the mill pond and wooden pavilions were built to serve refreshments. The mill was given to the National Trust in 1956 but its restoration had to await Heritage Lottery funding in 2005. The mill is now run as an exemplar of environmental sustainability. Power is provided by a combination of hydro-electricity, biomass generation and solar power. Low-energy appliances are used, everything possible is recycled (including sewage!) and products are locally-sourced. Historical and environmental interests combined to make this a very memorable trip.



Left: the group looking at a nest of northern hairy ants in the woodland

Right: Mike Troke organising the group at Gibson Mill



SHORT COURSES

York: Medieval to Modern was the title of our last short course, presented by Robert Wright in the spring. In a series of six evening lectures, Robert covered the centuries from the end of the Medieval period to the end of the last millennium with his usual panache and high level of scholarship. The course was attended by over 50 people and was followed by an evening at the Merchant Adventurers' Hall in York. We were given a guided tour of the building by Lauren Marshall, including the great hall, the committee room, the undercroft and the chapel. Cheese and wine concluded the very enjoyable evening.



Coming soon: Another course by Andrew (Bone) Jones, this time on: **Yorkshire Heritage: a world resource.** Jan/Feb 2013

Six Yorkshire Castles – the next course by Robert Wright. April/May 2013

Details of both in the next newsletter

PLACE is now on Twitter! You can follow us @PLACEYorkshire and receive automatic notification of updates to our website. Please let us know if it works well.

The rising cost of postage will lead us to make some economies in 2013:

- You will only receive two newsletters a year, one at the beginning of the year and one in the summer.
- If you do not pay your subscription by standing order, you will get your membership card with the next newsletter after we receive your payment, rather than as a separate mailing.
- If you do not have e-mail, please include a stamped addressed envelope if you wish to have confirmation of any bookings made. Those of you who have given us an e-mail address will receive confirmations via e-mail (so make sure you let us know if you change your e-mail address!).
- We are also increasing the price of postage for books sold through the post (see the list of the reverse of the booking form).

New publication!

The book to accompany the short course by Michael Hopkinson, given last autumn, is now available. Price £2.50 + £2.00 P & P.



Research grants available in 2013

As announced at the AGM in May, we have decided to offer small grants to people undertaking independent research on themes relevant to PLACE. Watch the next newsletter for details of how to apply!

Summary Annual Accounts for 2011

During 2011 we spent our money on:	£'000	
Conferences & Field Trips	1,838	22.0%
Short Courses	1,781	21.3%
Publications	2,215	26.5%
Research	200	2.4%
Administration & running costs	1,735	20.7%
Trustee costs & AGM	340	4.1%
Depreciation	262	3.1%
TOTAL	8,371	100.0%

Which was funded through....	£'000	
Donations & Gift Aid	423	4.6%
Friends Subscriptions	1,330	14.3%
Investment Income	34	0.4%
Conference & Field Trip Fees	2,420	26.1%
Short Course Fees	3,470	37.4%
Publications - Sales & Royalties	1,505	16.2%
Grants	100	1.1%
TOTAL	9,282	100.0%

All activity is within the general objects of the charity and therefore within unrestricted funds.
At 31 December 2011, the unrestricted funds were represented by the following assets and liabilities:

Unrestricted Funds

Fixed Assets	525
Current Assets	
Debtors and book stock	897
Cash at bank and in hand	9,243
Current Liabilities	(245)
Total	10,420

These summarised financial statements are not the statutory accounts but a summary of the information relating to both the Statement of Financial Activities and the balance sheet. For a more detailed explanation of the Charity's Financial position please refer to the full financial statements, available from the PLACE Office. They can also be downloaded from our website: <http://place.uk.com>
The full financial statements were approved by Trustees on 27th March 2012

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

Website: <http://place.uk.com>



Chief Executive and Company secretary:

Dr Margaret Atherden

PLACE Board and Officers

Mr Adrian Bailey
Ms Aileen Bloomer (Chair)
Dr Michael Hopkinson (Treasurer)
Ms Hilary Moxon
Mr Richard Myerscough
Professor Terry O'Connor
Dr George Sheeran
Mr Brian Walker
Ms Veronica Wallace

Congratulations to Adrian Bailey and Richard Myerscough, who were both elected to the Board for the first time this year, and to George Sheeran and Veronica Wallace, who were re-elected. Many thanks to Jackie Ashcroft, and David Maughan Brown, who both stood down this year after many years of service on the Board.