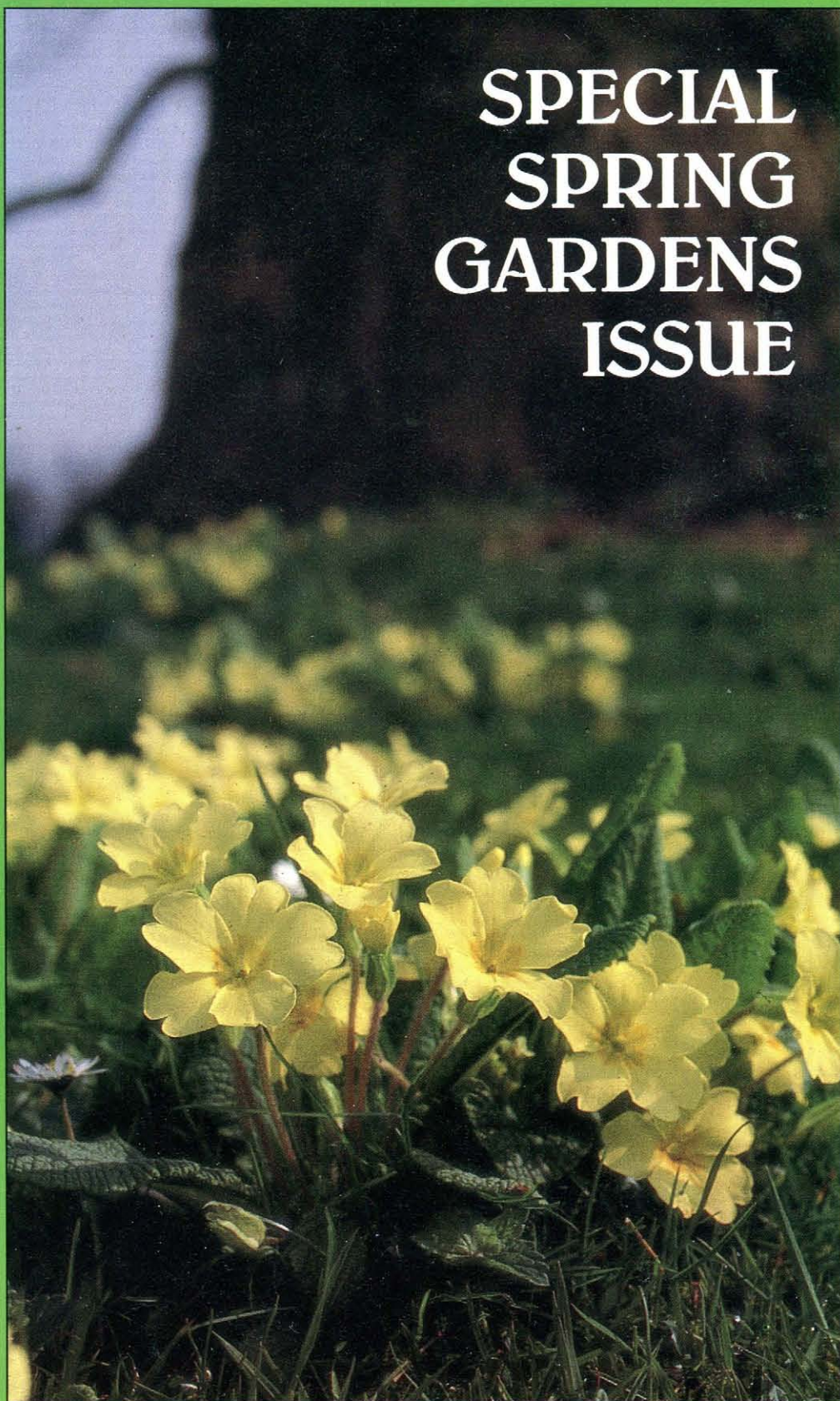


Pennine

magazine

PENNINE WOODLAND - THREAT OR PROMISE
● ROCHDALE ● LEEDS ● BURNLEY ● SPRING
BIRDS & FOLLIES ● NORTH IN REVOLT

**SPECIAL
SPRING
GARDENS
ISSUE**

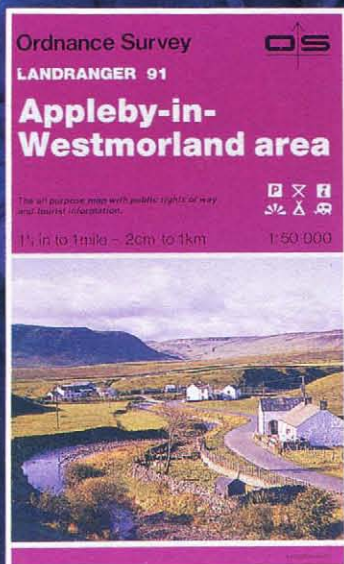


95p

March/April

Ordnance Survey LANDRANGER MAPS

The all purpose maps
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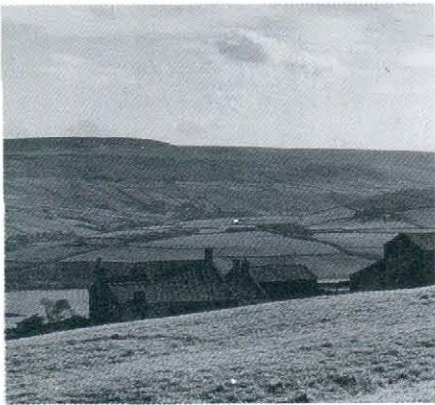
Maps, atlases and guides are available from bookshops and stationers throughout Britain.

First Column

The threat of a writ always enlivens the Editor's postbag. For that, if not the tone of his letter, **Pennine's** compliments to 'Livid of Littleborough'.

A grouse-shooting man, Mr. 'T.W.' took exception to "A Beaters Story" (Dec/Jan), the acid but not unhumorous recollections of a Barnoldswick reader.

Perhaps, as **Pennine** may no longer be allowed within shot-gun range of Littleborough a reply is wasted. Yet an important point has been raised. Should the Editor take a one-sided view, 'guesstimating' what readers want to hear? Or is **Pennine** a forum for more than one side of a case? Particularly in subjects which, like it or not, are part of the South Pennine scene.



Afforestation, for example, is featured on Page Two in a strong and controversial report. Influential local rambling interests may well disagree just as strongly. If so, glad to hear from them, (in print, not hot air!)

But to return to the grouse moor. In these times of shrinking farms and water authority sell-offs, commercial shooting is one way of filling the void and preserving our distinctive upland landscape.

Are we for it or agin it? Why not wait for the view from 'the other side', kindly promised in time for the Glorious Twelfth by a certain prominent Lancashire shot... His Grace The Duke of Westminster.

Hilary Darby

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Pennine Magazine ISSN 0261-2836

Pennine

March/April

Vol. 10 No. 2

NEWS & VIEWS

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4. **Diary.**
18. **Wild Campion & White Elephants.** *Whither now the M65?*
28. **Easter Diary.**



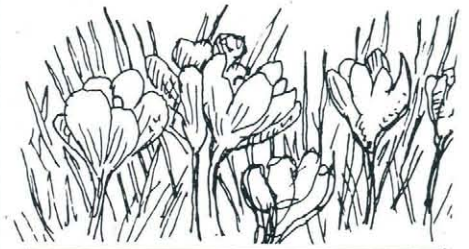
Photo above: Pace-egggers of the past.

PENNINE IDENTITY

10. **G & T On The Docks.** *Dave Behrens prowls the Leeds Waterfront.*
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Editor Hilary Darby
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Typesetting Meg Phipps

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Advertising Northern Advertising Agency Ltd., King Cross, Halifax. Tel: (0422)58468.

The great storm of 1987 in the South of England destroyed 15 million trees in 4 hours! Immediate Government cash and the rush to re-plant reflects public support for a wooded landscape.

150 years earlier a different kind of storm - the Industrial Revolution and its massive airborne pollution - hit the North of England and killed even more trees.

Now, belatedly, through an exciting project devised by Pennine Heritage in 1986 we are trying to repair the damage.

“**T**rees bring colour and texture to the landscape” says Peter Coats, Pennine Heritage’s South Pennines Woodland Project Officer, “and we haven’t got enough of them.”

In his South Pennines Woodland Report he advocates planting a further 1,000 hectares of woodland, each year for the next twenty years! Only then, he says, will our area begin to reach the European average for tree cover.

Trees are wonderful multi-purpose objects. They look beautiful throughout their life, reflecting the seasons and providing a wonderful amenity, give shelter from our wild Pennine winds, protect wildlife habitats, stabilise the soil on steep hillsides and help purify the air we breathe. And even at the end of their natural lifespan, they can be harvested as a magnificent renewable resource - timber - which, when properly treated and cared for, will continue to bring colour and texture to the home forever.

Trees are a vital feature in the landscape and a marvellous recreational resource. People love them. In their leisure time, they head for the woods to obtain a sense of peace and privacy. Open countryside can soon feel crowded. Forests “mop up” people, smothering sound and hiding the hordes.

But years of neglect and abuse have impoverished the woodland cover of our Pennine landscape. Whereas France and Germany have 30% cover, the overall British figure is a mere 9%. The European average is 22%, but the South Pennines have only 2% - and four fifths of that is in such bad shape that it cannot survive much longer without positive help.

It was not always so. The area was once totally forested. Early man cleared the hilltops, cutting and burning the timber to create pasture, foraging animals in the remainder until all

COMMENT

Root Problems

Pennine trees - a case for treatment?

the saplings were eaten and the woods slowly died. The weather did the rest, leaching goodness from the soils to create the open, wet moorland we know today.

Woodland persisted much longer on the steeper hillsides. As late as the mid eighteenth century, John Wesley commented on the beauty of Calderdale, with its hillsides wooded to their summits. Etchings prepared for a book to mark the opening of the Manchester and Leeds Railway in 1840 show fields surrounded by lines of fine trees, and many more small woodlands. The coming of the railway probably did much to change this, making it easier to obtain cheaper imported timber and less necessary for farmers to maintain their own woods.

Trees and woods do not live forever. They follow the normal life cycle, growing and eventually dying, and need looking after in between. When abandoned and left to their fate, they simply disappear. For example, Cock Hill Wood, Portsmouth, between Todmorden and Burnley, a prominent mixed woodland on the 1907 Ordnance Survey map is today marked only by a handful of woody geriatrics about to fall down and a scattering of lingering bluebells. Time, access by grazing animals and a century of atmospheric pollution have done their worst.

This is the picture throughout the South Pennines. And this is what prompted Pennine Heritage to launch the South Pennines Woodland Project. Advice and funding was sought from the Countryside Commission and the Standing Conference of South Pennines Authorities, and a Project Officer appointed.

In addition to experimenting with methods of woodland management and new planting, a survey of woodland in the South Pennines has been carried out, to assess the full extent of the problem - and the possibilities.

Forestry is a subject which raises fierce emotions. Whilst no-one wants to see the continued decline of our few remaining woods, few would want to see the whole area planted, nor welcome large blocks of commercial timber monoculture.

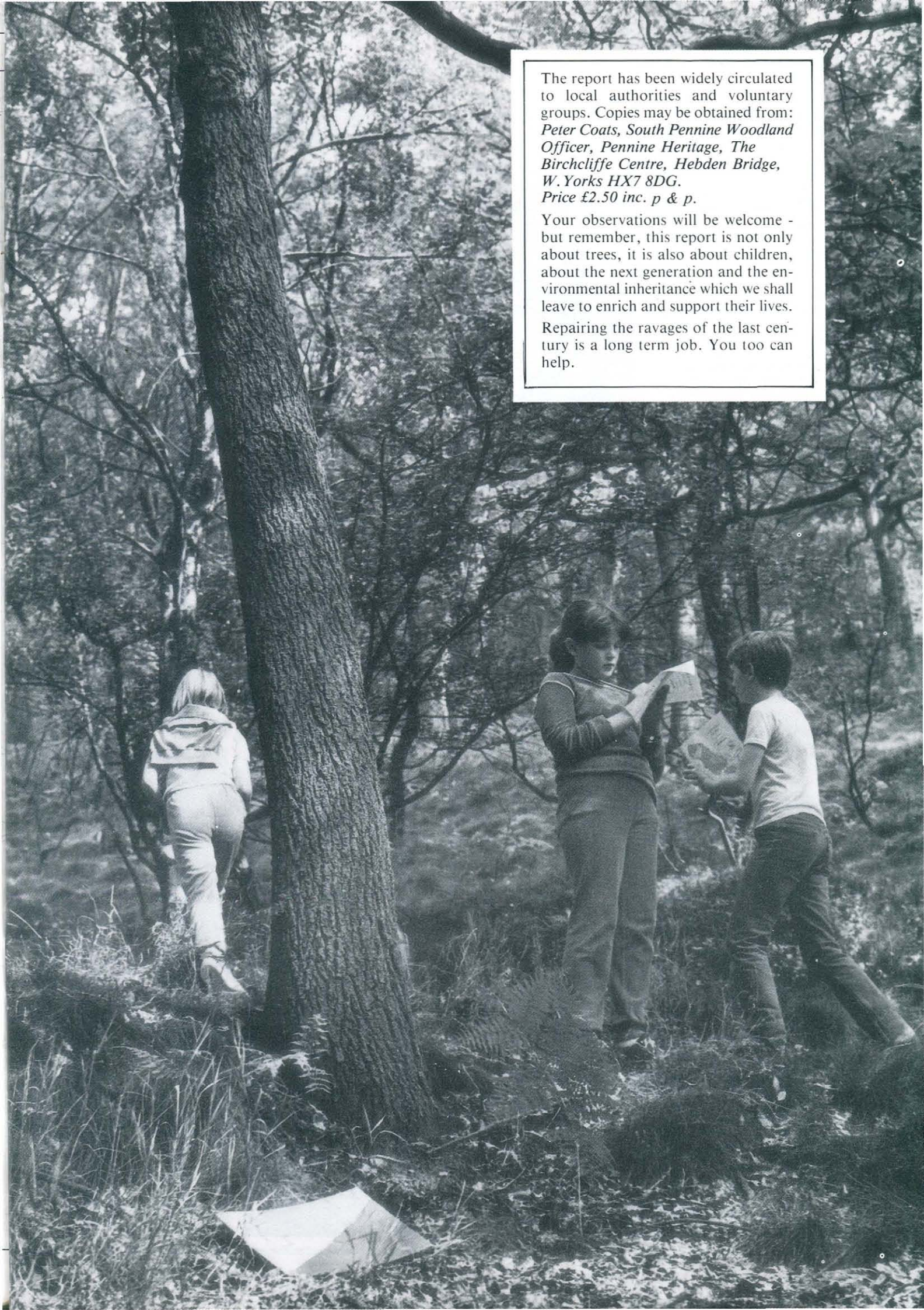
After careful consultation, Peter Coats discovered that there would be broad support from local authorities, landowners and amenity groups for extension of woodland cover in the area, provided that this did not encroach upon open moorland, sensitive habitats or better quality farmland. This still leaves plenty of scope!

The proposal is to establish a mixed, multi-purpose woodland network on the poorer steeper land, regenerating existing woods, recreating clough woodlands in the upper valleys, keeping below the moorland plateau and avoiding better quality agricultural land wherever it exists.

A mixed woodland of many species, both broad-leaved and coniferous. A multi-purpose woodland providing amenity, recreation and eventually some return in the form of timber and jobs, adding variety and richness to the local landscape and local life. An open woodland with walks and glades, not a dense dark plantation. A re-creation, many times over, of Hardcastle Crag, that most popular leisure destination, now owned and managed by the National Trust.

To lift Pennine woodland cover from 2% to 20% will require a continuous rolling programme over many years - but it has to start somewhere. As Peter Coats says in his report “Abuse of the area has created the treeless landscape we see today. Likewise it is only through our commitment and effort that we can halt this decline - or better still, reverse it.”

Photo Right: Children enjoying and learning about woodland on Pennine Heritage’s Environmental Play Scheme ‘Merlin’.



The report has been widely circulated to local authorities and voluntary groups. Copies may be obtained from: *Peter Coats, South Pennine Woodland Officer, Pennine Heritage, The Birchcliffe Centre, Hebden Bridge, W. Yorks HX7 8DG.*
Price £2.50 inc. p & p.

Your observations will be welcome - but remember, this report is not only about trees, it is also about children, about the next generation and the environmental inheritance which we shall leave to enrich and support their lives.

Repairing the ravages of the last century is a long term job. You too can help.

A FEATHER IN ITS CAP

Where was the birthplace of Europe's largest voluntary conservation society, a body currently celebrating its centenary this Spring? Didsbury, Manchester, where, in 1889, the **Royal Society for the Protection of Birds** came into existence.

With its half million members and £13 annual income, the RSPB has come a long way from its foundations at The Croft, Didsbury, the red brick home of solicitor's wife Mrs Robert Williamson. In February 1889, Mrs Williamson held a meeting for all gentlewomen who shared her horror at the destruction of birds to obtain their feathers for hats.

Eastwood, Greater Manchester, (see page 30) was only the RSPB's second reserve. Today it owns or manages 114 reserves covering 180,000 acres and is certainly one of, if not the, most powerful of all our environmental lobbying groups.



PICTURE POST

The famous 40s and 50s photographers, husband and wife Thurston Hopkins and Grace Robertson, have been lured up north by Rochdale & District Camera Club. The nostalgic **Picture Post** evening, on April 14th "is a rare event, not to be missed".

St. Aidans Church Hall, Sudden, Rochdale. 7.45pm. Tickets £2.50 on 0706 49241/41522.



JUST BE DISGUSTED

The Civic Trust writes to remind us that Saturday 22 April to Monday 1 May is **Environment Week**.

"There is a great deal of emphasis at the moment" says the Trust on the vital issues of acid rain, toxic waste, the ozone layer and tropical rain forests."

"But in Environment Week, we also aim to make people more aware of the importance of the quality of their surroundings... to go out and look and appreciate, or just be so disgusted they resolve to do something about improving where they live."

This year's special initiative is **Operation Eyesore**, sponsored by British Telecom, which encourages local people to nominate a local eyesore and do something about it. (One assumes they mean rubbish bags and wheelbarrows not bombs, although, with a number of large local authority and building society buildings, the latter is tempting.) Look out for a local campaign near you.

If the week inspires you to 'get stuck in'. The **British Trust for Conservation Volunteers** (NW) has a summer programme of training courses from fencing and dry stone walling to wildlife in ponds. BTCV, 40 Cannon Street, Preston. PR1 3NT. And **National Trust Warden**, Dave Finnis, needs voluntary rangers to help him manage 6000 acres of Marsden Moor between Huddersfield and Oldham. Tel: 0836 619556.



CONDUCT UNBECOMING

What could be more harmless than the archetypal railway buff? Yet a special plea from the **Keighley and Worth Valley Railway** asks for **Pennine's** support in administering "a first and final" wiggling to "fanatical railway photographers."

Why? Because the said 'enthusiasts', flocking to special events, have let nothing, including railside residents, trampled rose gardens, demolished fences and "bolting horses" stand between them and the trains!

What sounds like the Keystone Cops in print could in fact be a serious setback to the excellent work of the Railway Society, and its "good local relationship."

"For 25 years" says angry chairman Graham Mitchell, "we have worked to be good neighbours, and a positive part of everyday life in the Worth Valley. There can be no excuse whatever for distress caused by the trespassing of a tiny minority of railway photographers intent on capturing special shots."

As KWVR plans its special Spring programme, the message is "BEHAVE OR STAY AWAY!"

AN ODE TO FISH AND CHIPS

The Lancashire Authors' Association has published its fourth **Lancashire Miscellany**: a vintage tape selection of readings from 28 local authors.

For £3.50 (£3.75 in Europe or £4.10 in Australia ... yes we *do* have loyal expatriate readers) one can wander *On Th' Hills*, court *Sweet Nell Fro' Hathershaw* or gossip that *Eawr Sarah's Getten A Chap*.

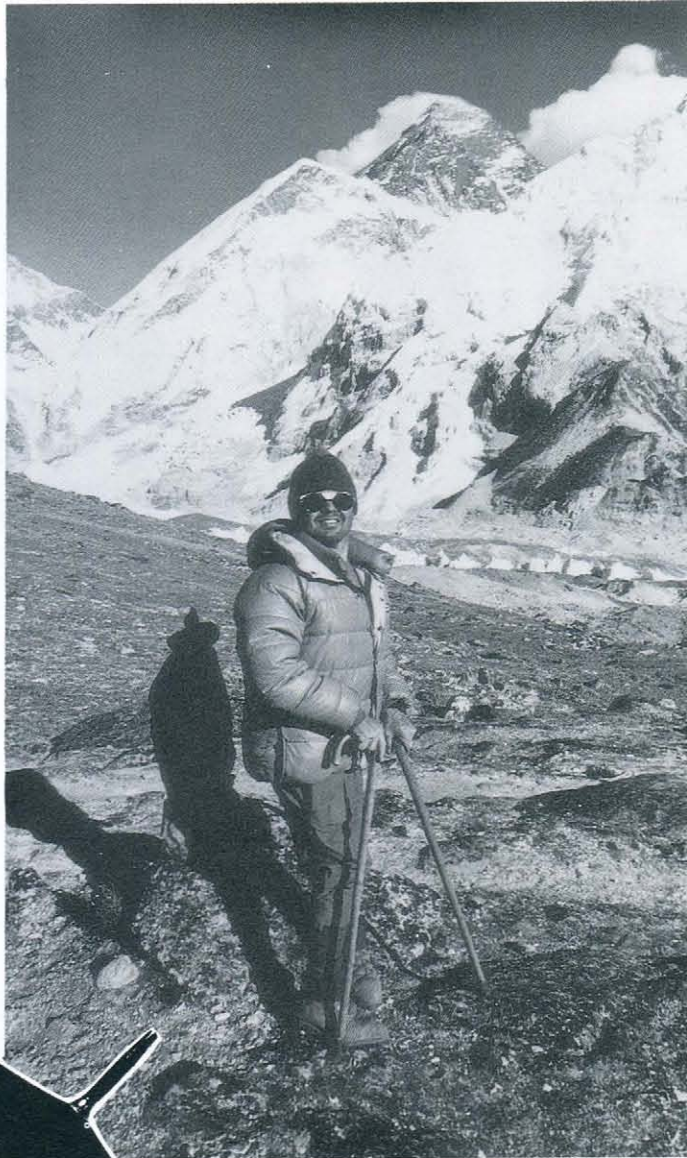
From Mr J D Cameron, Kings Fold, Pope Lane, Penwortham, Preston PR1 9JM.

WEBSTERS WINNER

Pennine is pleased to announce the winner of last issue's Spot The Difference Competition run by Samuel Webster & Wilson in celebration of 150 years of brewing.

Congratulations and 150 bottles of Webster's Anniversary Ale go to Mr G North of Guiseley, Nr. Leeds.

PENNINE ACHIEVER



What about a mention for a 'Pennine achiever' say BBC North-East and indeed, Bradford's John Hawridge's trek to the base of Everest is an inspirational story.

John, crippled with cerebral palsy, has recently returned from his 19,000 ft climb through the Himalayas. "It was worth every minute of the struggle" said 40 year old John, whose gruelling 15 day journey will be shown in a BBC documentary later this year.

A JEWEL RAID

Conservation and recreation interests in the Pennines have watched with alarm as the controversial **Water Bill** has progressed through Parliament.

Its proposed sell-off of the water authorities raises fears for the future of the vast tracts of open countryside at present in authority hands. (For example, as much as 60% of North West Water's land is in National Parks or Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty!)

Now the **Countryside Commission**, the Government's own advisor, is seeking to snatch "the jewels in the water authority crown" out of the jaws of privatisation.

In a commendable proposal to its political masters, the Commission is pressing for an amendment to the Bill: that 15 sites "of outstanding national importance" be transferred into the safer hands of conservation bodies such as the National Trust, the National Parks or the National Rivers Authority. (An additional Commission register highlights the scenic and scientific importance of a total of 300 sites worthy of protection.)

Of the fifteen sites in England and Wales, five are in the Pennines: the **Forest of Bowland**; the **Washburn** catchment, Nidderdale; **High Peak** catchment, **Goyt Valley** and **Ladybower** in the Peak National Park. (Plus Hawes Water and Thirlmere in the Lakes, and reservoir areas in the Welsh and Dartmoor National Parks.)

"There is already pressure" warns Commission Director Adrian Phillips "for the water industry to develop more profitable land uses. But many of these would be outside the protection of existing planning controls."

"On the other hand," enthuses Commission Chairman, Sir Derek Barber, "our recommendations would be the means of securing the future of some of our finest scenic heritage ... for everyone."

APRIL SHOWERS

What do you think of the forthright, critics would say aggressive, stance of **Greenpeace** in its defence of the natural environment? Certainly its lobbying against acid rain and the alarming pollution of the North Seas has implications right on our doorstep.

From the Greenpeace '89 Catalogue, two appropriate selections: **Coastline: Britain's Threatened Heritage**, famous authors, fine photos (£13.95 incl. p&p); or a rather splendid giant green broly, emblazoned Greenpeace: Stop Acid Rain (£20.20). Just in case April showers poison the Spring flowers. From PO Box 10, Gateshead NE8 1LL; queries on 091-4910033



THE LISTER CONNECTION

Lister's **Manningham Mills**, Bradford, one of the nation's most magnificent industrial monuments may soon become home to the Victoria and Albert Museum's first regional base. Permanent and temporary exhibitions are envisaged representing the V & A's rich diversity, with especial emphasis on their priceless collection of Asian art, sculpture, carvings and textiles.

Expressing his delight, Lister's Chairman, Justin Kornberg said "This is very much in keeping with the Lister tradition and most appropriate in the 150th anniversary of the founding of the company by Sam Lister, later Lord Masham. At one time he had more employees in India than in Bradford and was awarded the Albert medal in 1880 for services to the textile industry. His gift of the Cartwright Hall Gallery to the city and its proximity to the mill may have influenced this decision."

The V & A collection will occupy 100,000 square feet of exhibition space alongside the hotels, shops and offices of the £70M projected "Lister City" refurbishment of the Manningham Mill complex. Mr Kornberg went on to say that "the inclusion on site of the prestigious V & A will act as a lodestar attracting regional, national and international interest to the industrial, commercial, architectural and cultural riches to be found in Bradford and the TRANSPENNINE area."

First proposed by Binney and Hanna in their book "Preservation Pays" in 1978, this move by the V & A, following a similar one by the National Science Museum is a clear vindication of Bradford's policy of protecting and promoting its distinctive Pennine heritage and its visitor appeal - and a vindication too for those early lone voices who fought for this policy.



LIVING MEMORIES

That old man hobbling down the road; the old lady behind the lace curtain. How often have you thought someone should capture their memories before it's too late?

Now, an imaginative scheme, newly launched by **Yorkshire Television** will make it possible. The **Video History Project** will loan equipment and give free training to groups working (in YTV's area) to record local experiences and landscapes that may soon be gone.



"It's a natural progression to the fine in depth work of local oral historians" says Project Co-ordinator Frank Harris. "Now the new, light, easy-to-use video cameras have opened up extra opportunities for even more vivid pictures of the past."

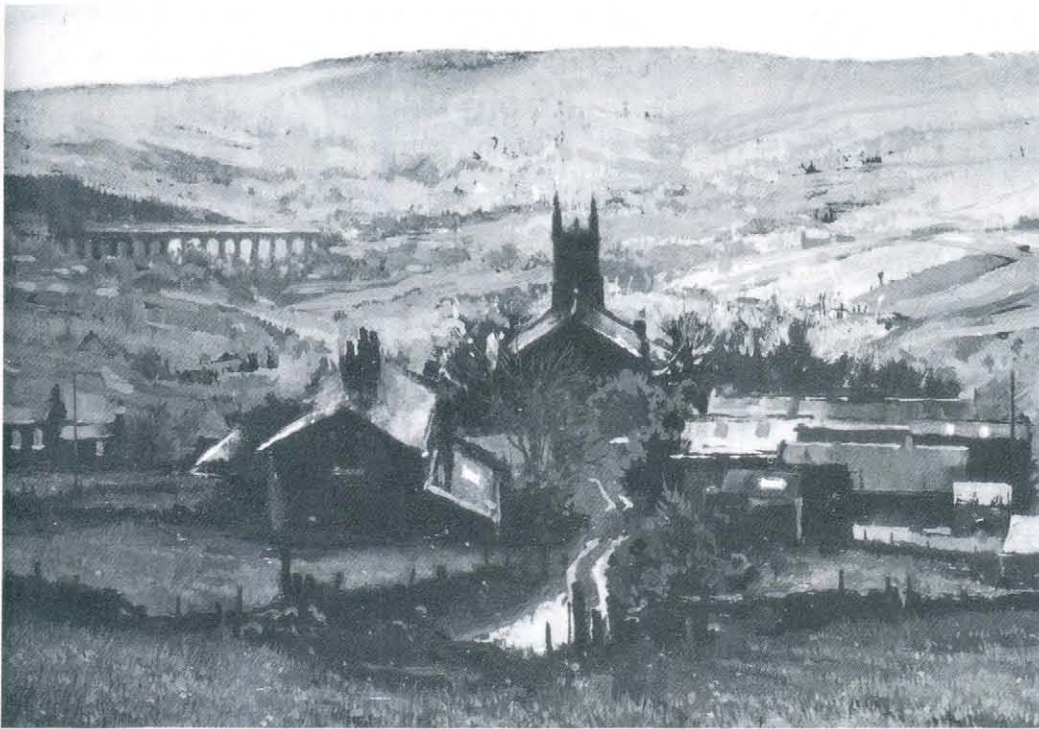
The project is the idea of YTV Director of Programme's John Fairley, who spoke ruefully to **Pennine** of how much material may already have been lost. "Ever since the days of filming *Hannah In Yorkshire*, I've been aware that a wealth of memories stretching back 80 years are fast disappearing. This

is our contribution to saving what's left."

A copy of each project video will be lodged in **Bradford's West Yorkshire Archives**. YTV praised the "enthusiasm and commitment" of Archivist David James in helping to set up "this exciting new source of raw, live history."

"First pick your theme and then contact me for an application form" says Frank Harris. "No subject is too ordinary if it won't be around tomorrow."

Write to Frank Harris, Video History Project, YTV, Television Centre, Leeds LS3 1JS.



DULL AND WET

The Winter Exhibition of paintings, drawings and sculpture by leading Northern artists is showing daily until March 18th at the John McCombs Gallery, Delph, Saddleworth. The oil painting shown is **Saddleworth Church; Dull and Wet** by John McCombs. Other exhibition work by artists and sculptors from the Manchester Academy.

IN BRIEF

Congratulations to... **Greater Manchester Countryside Unit**, winner of the top RSPB/Esso Award in the Industry Category for "outstanding contributions to wild bird and countryside conservation"... Also to **Skipton's Craven Court**, national runner-up in the 'Re-furbished' section of the British Council of Shopping Centres 1988 Awards. (The pleasing old covered alley of smart new shops is where the Editor did her Christmas shopping!)... And best of luck to the **Rochdale Canal Project**, which has reached the semi-finals of UK 2000/Wimpey Environmental Awards for its work to re-open the canal between Todmorden and Sowerby Bridge.

Watch this space... for news next issue of the April opening of the **Kodak Museum** in Bradford's National Museum of Photography. Its six galleries will look through the lens at 150 years of popular photographic history.

Staying in Bradford... Happy 75th Birthday to the sparkling, splendidly-revived **Alhambra Theatre**. (Given Birmingham has poached the dynamic Alhambra administrator Peter Tod, better take care of one of journalists' favourite theatre PR men, John Martin!) Seasonal highlights include royal gala performances in March and May, the dramatisation of Catherine Cookson's 'The Fifteen Streets' (18-22 April) and 'A Simple Man', the moving portrayal of L S Lowry by Manchester's Northern Ballet Theatre. (Mar. 7-11)

Finally, an interesting tribute to the Littleborough based **Langfield & District Moorland Conservation Society**, set up to preserve and improve 6,000 acres of Yorkshire - Lancashire heather moorland along the M The Society has received a £500 special award from the **Joseph Nickerson Heather Improvement Foundation**, for "a fascinating story of local endeavour". Winners trophy went to Richmond farmer, Sir Anthony Millbank.

CLEGG HALL BACKING

Confidence in Pennine Heritage's Clegg Hall restoration scheme (**Pennine Vol.6:2**) has received a further boost: the recent award of £1500 by the UK2000 INITIATIVE towards the cost of the highly specialized architectural study.

This detailed report includes nearly 40 drawings itemising all the work needed in the Phase I stage, expected to cost in the region of £300,000.

The pump-priming donation was obtained through the good offices of the Civic Trust UK2000 Project Office based in Liverpool who share Pennine Heritage's commitment to seeing the 17th Century Jacobean mansion near Littleborough secured against the ravages of time. Funds for the actual restoration work, estimated at a staggering total of £800,000, are being sought from a range of potential sources including English Heritage and the Getty Program.



PARTRIDGE IN A POT

"The best restaurant in the district" was the challenge thrown down by George Hotel, Huddersfield's Manager Stephen Milnes. The occasion: the recent opening of the hotel's up-market **Shires Restaurant**. The restaurant, in its "return to the best of classic English food" aims to appeal to those who "enjoy tradition... and English country life", admittedly not found on every corner in central Huddersfield.



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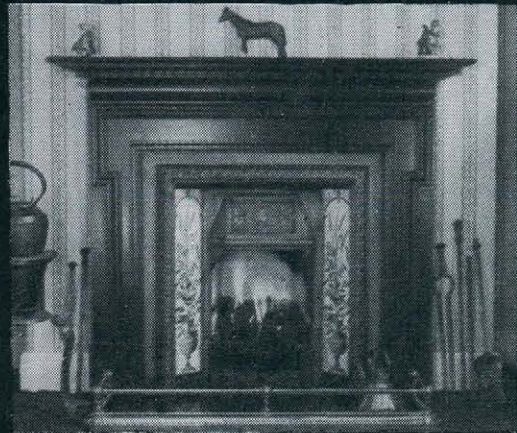
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In the television commercial, a young man with a building society account and a head full of styling mousse wakes up broke in his Docklands apartment, steps out to the cash dispenser and comes back with a bottle of milk and the Sunday paper.

It's not much of a plot but give the guy his due - he certainly knows how to live.

Only people in TV commercials *can* live like that. (Have you ever tried buying a paper with a £20 note?)

Now, even those who do not appear in TV commercials can have a dockside home.

The takers, apart from young men desperate for bottles of milk and the Sunday papers, include retired people and professional whizz kids who prefer the city to the suburbs. (Presumably, there are also the drunk drivers who can't now commute, and the businessmen who want tax write-offs in which to entertain their mistresses).

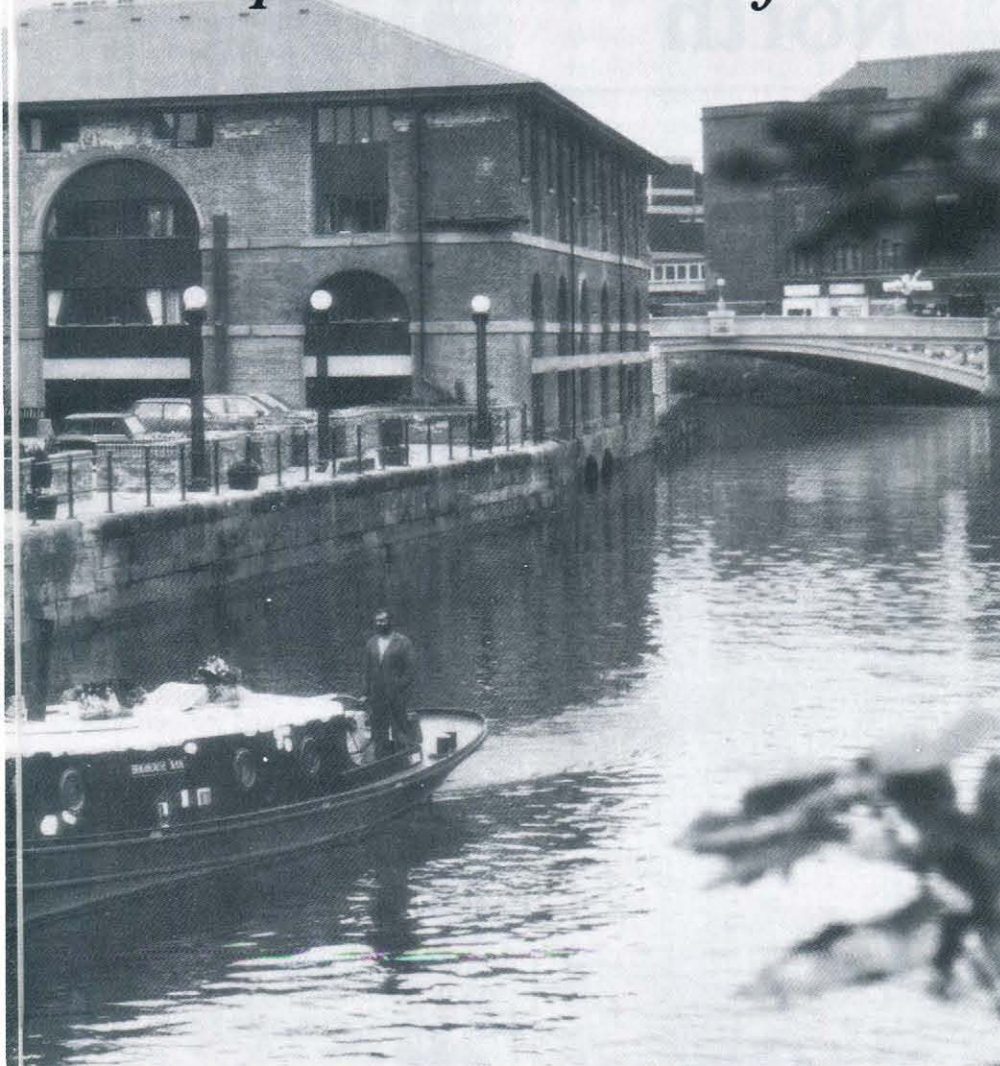
"Yes, a lot of people do buy them as second homes," said the man from

The man is indeed made of plastic, just like his cash card. The docklands culture which inspired him is not, though until recently it was largely unavailable outside London. The only people who inhabited northern docklands were dockers.

Not any more. Big old canalside warehouses in Salford, Leeds and Liverpool are being turned into bijou one and two bedroom flats. Whole styling mousse communities where once the people wore only Brylcreem.

G&T ON THE DOCKS

Dave Behrens on an up-market waterfront



Barratt's charged with selling the last two rooftop apartments at Victoria Quays in the shadow of Leeds railway station.

Victoria Quays, lining the water front of the Leeds-Liverpool Canal is now the nicest part of the city centre. That's astonishing when you remember that two years ago, not even the rats would go there.

Public and private interests have combined to transform a filthy, forgotten backwater into a beautiful place to live. Derelict warehouses which Leeds

had turned black are now resplendent in orange brick and green stained woodwork. It truly is an inspiration. When the builders have finished, residents will be able to peer over their Perriers at canal barges, boats and picturesque little iron bridges. Barratt's aren't the only people selling flats in the Leeds docklands, but they are the most noticeable. Inside their three old warehouses and one new block, apartments have been snapped up. Vacant plots now are as rare as Wedgwood at Woolworths.

When I got there, only two flats remained in the entire development. Luxury rooftop apartments in a Grade Two listed warehouse, the leaflet called them. The most exclusive to date, it said.

At last, life was imitating the commercials. I was already writing mental notes to the milkman and the newsagent as we climbed the stairs to number 95.

Life stopped imitating the commercials when the man from Barratt's put the key in the fluted glass-panelled front door.

I had seen the apartment before - on a thousand other Barratt developments. I may even have lived in it once in a former existence. My first essay in home-owning was - you guessed it - Chez Barratt in strictly non-Yuppie Cleckheaton.

A triumph of architecture and restoration Victoria Quays may be on the outside. Inside, would it be unfair to comment that it may as well not be an old building at all? Even in the docklands, it seems, every square foot is accountable - and original features get in the way. So out have gone the odd-shaped rooms, the exposed bricks, the interesting passageways, the beams and all the paraphernalia which made this a dockland warehouse and stopped it being just a building with rooms.

That's what it is now. With the added cachet of two bathrooms, the flats are neat, chic and unquestionably sought-after. They are also undeniably boxy.

"It's quite big, isn't it?" enthused the man from Barratt's. Yes, but only when compared with very small objects. And that's at an asking price of £106,000 plus £3,300 for a parking space. (Apparently it's around twice the size of some of the smaller flats.)

Perhaps strict 'portion control' on design was the price to be paid for pioneering. No-hope old buildings in no-hope areas in the no-hope North? A commercial gamble *and* an inspiration for which Barratt's can be praised. But now it's worked, any chance that the second wave could spare the odd lump and bump? Just for old times sake?

Perhaps it doesn't matter. The people snapping up the flats must like them and the rest of us need only look from the outside.

And you really should look. Just don't trip over the Sunday papers.

What is an 'English Garden'? The great formal park or the walled manor walk? The Victorian bedding plan or the rambling patchwork of the cottage garden?

Experts and enthusiasts disagree and what matter? The enjoyment of gardens, both one's own and other people's remains undisputedly the nation's favourite pastime. (It must be. Even current High Street stars NEXT have just made a foray into gardening-for-yuppies mail order.)

The English and their gardens - it's a long-term love affair.

The first gardens, as we would recognise them, were the villa gardens of Roman Britain. The second, the medicinal herb and kitchen gardens of the monasteries, and the sunny secluded 'pleasance' of the medieval lady, safe behind the castle walls.

Only with the comparative social stability of the late 16th century Tudor period did gardens 'come out of hiding'. However, their formal, geometrical style, secluded knot gardens, mazes and clipped hedged walkways, remained an inward-looking extension to the house itself, shutting out the untamed, unruly and debatable countryside beyond. (Very few examples survive, but readers holidaying in Angus, Scotland, should seek out the excellent reconstruction of **Edzell Castle's** 1604 walled garden.)

The flowering of Renaissance ideas in France, notably the unparalleled grandeur of Versailles, swept away the intimate Tudor and Jacobean garden. (See **Temple Newsam**.) Long straight vistas, stately avenues, water cascades, statues, fountains and formal terraces to see and be seen were the rage of late 17th century Stuart England. (See **Chatsworth, Levens Hall** and (next issue) **Bramham Park**, one of the finest surviving examples in Britain.)

The garden remained however a formal, rigidly stylised buffer between mansion and wild countryside. What changed it was no less than a revolution, one in which at least two great northern gardens played an early and vital part. (See **Studley Royal** and, next issue, **Castle Howard**.)

Experts date the celebrated 'jardin anglais' from the 18th century. In a revolt against French-style formality, the English Landscape Movement

Great Gardens Of The North

overtaken fashionable formality. "Nature abhors a straight line" cried William Kent, pioneering society landscape architect.

Above all was now prized the 'natural elements': the wild, the rugged, the picturesque.

Tree-lined avenues were felled and stately terraces levelled. Down came the 'frontier' between wild and tame. Rivers were 'captured' and indeed, mountains moved. In this, the heyday of famous Capability Brown, any self-respecting aristocrat had artificially created 'natural' countryside rolling right up to his front door. (See: **Chatsworth, Harewood, Tatton Park and Temple Newsam**.)

To this panorama of natural artifice, the Romantic Movement (c1800) added the vogue for grottos, Gothick follies and Chinese pagodas, the more the better, in an age of exuberant experiment (See: **Alton Towers**.)

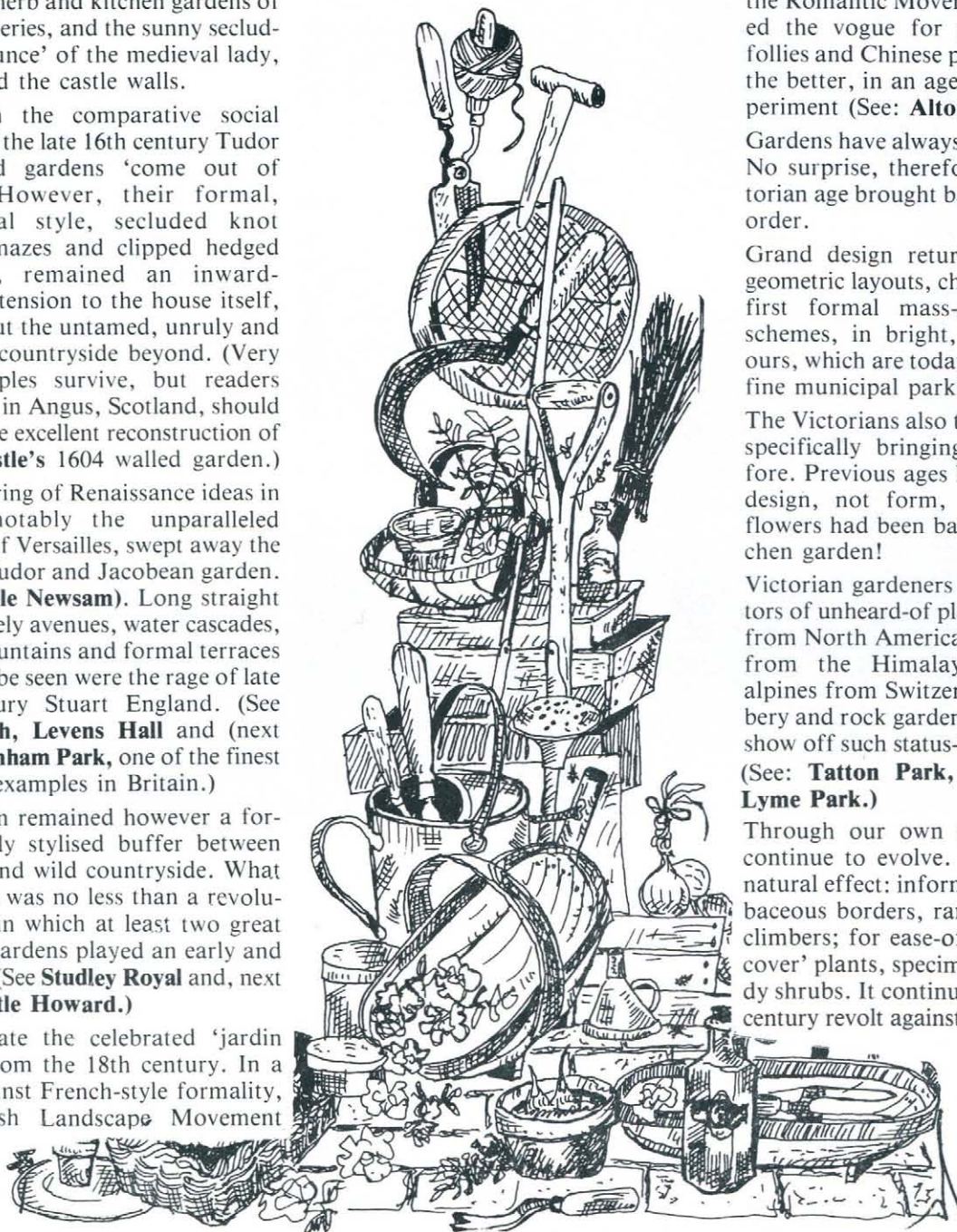
Gardens have always reflected society. No surprise, therefore, that the Victorian age brought back formality and order.

Grand design returned to classical, geometric layouts, characterised by the first formal mass-planted bedding schemes, in bright, contrasting colours, which are today preserved in our fine municipal parks.

The Victorians also take the credit for specifically bringing flowers to the fore. Previous ages had valued grand design, not form, and colour and flowers had been banished to the kitchen garden!

Victorian gardeners were avid collectors of unheard-of plants: new conifers from North America, rhododendrons from the Himalayas, rare ferns, alpiners from Switzerland. The shrubbery and rock garden were invented to show off such status-bearing treasures, (See: **Tatton Park, Harewood and Lyme Park**.)

Through our own century, gardens continue to evolve. The trend is for natural effect: informally drifting herbaceous borders, rambling roses and climbers; for ease-of-care in 'ground cover' plants, specimen trees and hardy shrubs. It continues the turn of the century revolt against labour intensive,



regimented Victorian formal gardens, epitomised in the celebrated gardens of Wisley, Hidcote and Sissinghurst. (See: **Harlow Car; Thorp Perrow.**)

Two current and growing fashions are the conservation-conscious 'wild garden' (see *A Natural Growth Industry* on page 38) and the water garden, already with its crop of specialist plant centres. One of Britain's finest 20th Century water gardens is at **Burnby Hall** near York. (See next issue.)



As for the cottage garden, so lovingly described in *Small Is Beautiful* (page 21), its pedigree is surprisingly short. That haphazard confusion of rambling roses, gay annuals and misty drifts of perennials is little more than a century old. Its roots: the rise of the middle classes and the gradual increase in leisure time of the working classes. No longer need the garden be the province only of the idle rich. Yet in squeezing together the formal, the studiedly natural and frankly wild, the cottage garden style which resulted unconsciously borrowed all the elements of the great gardens of the past.

With its richness of tradition and challenge of change, this splendid story of English gardens is right on our doorstep. Yet the many fine and historic gardens of the North and North Midlands perhaps receive less than their due.

Hilary Darby



In this, the first of a two part series **Pennine** has selected gardens of particular beauty in Spring and early Summer. Next to be featured - *Great Northern Gardens at their blooming Midsummer best.*

A recommended companion for garden hunters, is the neat and excellent Ordnance Surveys "Guide to Gardens in Britain" (£6.95). Its pocket-sized format manages to cram in more than 200 gardens, colour photos and maps. Concise, expert but chatty text on the gardens past and present, plus opening times, cafes, disabled access, and helpful 'garden at its peak' seasonal information.

Alton Towers, Alton (Staffs).

Behind the fun park's razzmattaz is a remarkable garden. Rich old man's folly? Perhaps, but its eccentric flamboyant style is an important part of English garden history. Founded early 19th century by Earl of Shrewsbury. No expense was spared to transform a barren valley to a lavishly landscaped park with temples and Chinese pagodas. Magnificent Spring rock garden and magnolias. Aerial railway!

Open East-Nov. daily. B5032. 4m E Cheadle. Tel: 0538 702200.

design, Box-edged flower borders and ancient beech and lime walks. Also beautiful 18th century park with mile-long oak avenue and vistas of River Kent.

Open: Easter-Oct, Sun-Thurs. Off A6. 5m south of Kendal. Tel: 0448 60321.

Studley Royal nr Ripon.

A disgraced politician's dream, the 1730s transformation of the wild, remote and craggy Skell Valley into glorious formal water gardens. Notable forerunner of the Landscape Movement's design revolution. Dammed and diverted river falls through canals and cascades to pools



Levens Hall nr, Kendal.

Unique and historic, one of the county's finest formal topiary gardens. Laid out, 1692, by pupil of Versailles garden designer, Le Notre. Astonishing and massive clipped hedge shapes within the original fashionable Stuart ground

and fountains. Wooded walks, rhododendrons, lilies, azaleas; follies, statues and a grotto path to spectacular views of Fountains Abbey.

Open daily ex. Christmas. National Trust. 2m SW Ripon. Tel: 076586 333

Harewood nr Leeds.

Hilly lower Wharfedale gave Capability Brown more of a landscaping challenge than usual. In shaping the setting for the Earl of Harewood's Carr and Adam house, he dammed streams, created woods and designed the serene lake views and woodland walks of this premier country seat. Sir Charles Barry's formal Victorian terraced garden; sunken 'Japanese style garden' fine early summer woodland walks; famous bird garden.

Open April-Oct daily. Junction A659/61 8m N Leeds. Tel: 0532 886225

Temple Newsam, Leeds.

Only traces remain (though restoration is in progress) of the formal Jacobean gardens surrounding the mellow Elizabethan house. (Birthplace of Lord Darnley, ill-fated husband of Mary Queen of Scots.) The spacious 900 acre park rolling to a hilltop temple is unmistakably the work of Capability Brown. Massed hillside rhododendrons and azaleas; grazing deer and rare breeds farm; woodland and lakeside walks; thousands of Spring polyanthus and in Summer, a fine rose garden.

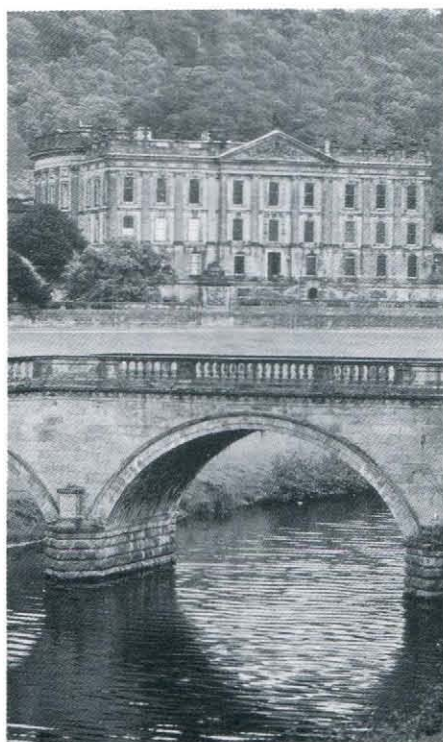
Open daily Tues-Sun. A63/A64. 2m SE Leeds. Tel: 0532 463510 Free (Leeds Council)



Tatton Park, Knutsford.

Showpiece National Trust Wyatt stately home. Its beautiful setting has evolved over 200 years, the work of the two great 'names': Humphrey Repton, the meres and woodland of late 18th century park, and Sir Joseph Paxton, the Italianate terraces, fountains and pool (1847). Tatton boasts the country's finest authentically-planted Japanese garden, complete with Shinto temple (1912). Also the Golden Brocks's fine May/June rhododendrons and azaleas, orangery, maze.

Open daily. A5034. 4m S Altrincham. Tel: 0565 54822



Chatsworth nr Bakewell. ▲

Spacious park surrounding famous ancestral home of Dukes of Devonshire. Its 'natural' green vistas, fashionably landscaped by Capability Brown, roll away to meet wild moorland. Traces of earlier, formal Stuart gardens, include the Great Cascade and Sea Horse Fountain. Paxton's renowned conservatories, (designer of Crystal Palace); fine rock garden, arboretum and pinetum; azalea dell and a mass of Spring daffodils.

Open: Easter-Oct daily. B6012. 2m south of Baslow. Tel: 024688 2204.

Lyme Park, Disley, nr Stockport.

Pleasingly mixed moorland and parkland landscape on edge of Peak District. Below the Palladian house (NT) spreads a formal late 19th century parterre of terraces, fountains and sunken gardens. Orangery; streamside ravine bright with primulas; Vicary Gibbs tree and shrub commemorative garden; special Spring and Summer planting-up of formal geometric beds.

Open daily. A6 8m SE Stockport. Tel: 06632 2023

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Open daily March-mid Nov. A6108/B6267. 10m NW Ripon. Tel: 0677 22480

Also note Leeds Council's botanical gardens, **Golden Acre Park**, for its developing collection of rare ornamental trees and shrubs. Open daily, free.

Harlow Car, Harrogate.

Last word to one of the most inspiring of post-war garden creations. Founded 1948 by the Northern Horticultural Society to make the most of our harsh gardening climate. The bleak hillside site is now splendidly landscaped, with astonishing plant variety. Peat terraces; limestone rock and bog gardens; woodland with rare species; bedding and vegetable trials; old roses. Join NHS at door for year's free entry.

Open daily. B6162 SW outskirts Harrogate Tel: 0423 65418.

*Gardens may vary both their days and times of opening. Please check to save a wasted journey. See **Great Gardens of the North, Part Two (May/June Pennine)**, for the finest fern, heather and water gardens; Britain's best formal French garden and the brightest of Summer displays in our good old municipal parks.*



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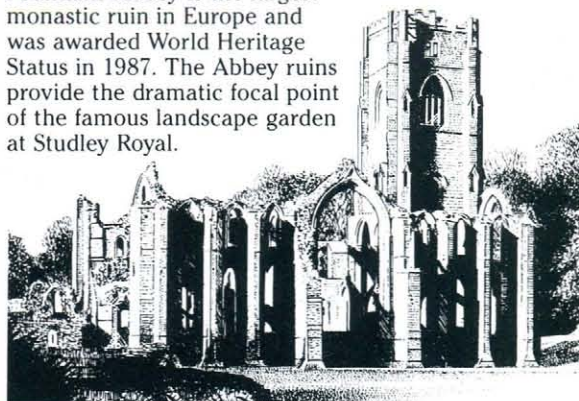


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The Pilgrimage of Grace

Next in the series **Days That Shook The Pennines**
David Boulton, Arts & Education Executive of Granada Television, writes of the fateful events of Spring 1537.

The months of March and April 1537, just over four and a half centuries ago, didn't so much shake the Pennines as rock them to their deep foundations. Pennine farmers were the shock troops of a rebellion against London by the whole of the North beyond the Trent.

For six months, North and South were at war - a civil war more than a century before the more famous one when a king lost his head and the whole country experimented with republicanism.

But the king in 1537 was Henry VIII, and he was a wiliier man than Charles Stuart. He kept his head, and it was the heads of his northern enemies which rolled.

By a smart piece of public relations, the rebellion came to be known as the "Pilgrimage of Grace". This gave it an aura of religious respectability, the rebels likening themselves to the noble fighters, valiant for truth, who had marched under Christian banners to the Crusades.

Religion was a part of their grievance, but only a part. At the heart of it was a fierce resistance to the North being southernised from London.

Henry's great reformation of church and state looked more like a London palace coup when seen from the North. First, Henry had come to rely



on a group within his inner council who virtually excluded the great land-owning barons of the North.

Second, the dissolution of the monasteries had a disproportionate effect on the North, where vast tracts of the Pennines had been under monastic control for centuries. To change all this at a stroke was to threaten the very fabric of the wool-based northern economy.

Third, the king's example in uprooting custom and tradition was already being followed by his nobles, who were seizing the opportunity to enclose common land, raise customary rents, and end their tenants' traditional security of tenure.

It had to be stopped.

So Roberts Aske, a young Yorkshire lawyer with the gift of the gab, was put in charge of a force which rose to 40,000 men. He called the rebellion the "Pilgrimage of Grace" and his men marched under a banner displaying the five wounds of Christ.

First Lincolnshire was roused, then the East Riding. On 16 October 1536 he captured York, where the archbishop joined him. Within a week the West Riding too was up in arms, the revolt spreading rapidly through the Pennines and into Lancashire, Westmorland, Cumberland, Durham and Northumberland. Many nobles joined the rebels, claiming later that their hands had been forced by the common people.

It was, at first, a bloodless revolt. Caught by surprise, Henry sent the Duke of Norfolk to buy time by negotiating rather than fighting. The North was given a month or so to formulate its demands, and Aske was promised the king's pardon on the strength of his claim that he was opposing the king's misguided counsellors, not the royal authority itself.

"Squire Henry means to be God and do as he pleases"

Martin Luther

Throughout November the Pilgrims debated their demands at Pontefract. And Henry prepared his military forces in London.

When they were eventually published, the Pilgrims' demands betrayed their very different and often conflicting interests. The Northern clergy wanted the monasteries restored and the privileges of the monks protected. The gentry wanted better representation for themselves within the king's council.

But most interesting are the quite separate demands from the small farming communities of the Pennines, the Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District. They demanded guarantees against their landlords, regardless of whether



Setting The Scene

Henry VIII is one of the most familiar names in English history, legendary not only for his marital excesses but for the aura of his absolute power which the passing of almost five centuries has not diminished.

Yet even at this pinnacle of kingship, the throne was by no means secure. It is against this background as a dangerous political threat that the ill-fated Pilgrimage of Grace must be set.

The brilliant Tudor dynasty was but one generation old, its precarious crown snatched within living memory from Richard III on Bosworth Field. When, in 1534, Henry VIII had severed ties with Papal Rome and declared himself Head of the new Anglican Church, not only Europe but England's fledgling stability had rocked. Was a man's loyalty now to his King or the Pope? These were dangerous times for a man to speak out, let alone join in the defence of "Holy Church, sore decayed and oppressed".

It is ironic that the Pilgrimage of Grace, which (in part) voiced secular Northern opposition to the King's progressive dismembering of the monastic houses, hastened their end. Indeed, royal retribution in Lancashire focused on the monasteries, and the head of Yorkshire's immensely powerful Fountains Abbey paid with his life.

they were their own local gentry or southern foreigners, and regardless of whether they were monks or gentry.

They wanted a promise that they would hold their land by "tenant right", which meant the landlord couldn't evict them or their heirs provided they paid the ancient customary rents.

They demanded that their rents and "fines" (traditional payments to landlords) should remain the same for ever. And, as a real smack in the eye to the Church under whose banner they marched, they wanted the payment of tithes - an ancient church tax - to be voluntary rather than compulsory, a demand which was to be taken up and pursued by later generations of Protestant dissenters, especially in the civil wars of the seventeenth century.

Henry had no intention of granting any demands, and when this became clear there was rioting in the North and a pitched battle at Carlisle. Aske pleaded with his Pilgrims to be patient, but his troops were suspicious of the king's delays - and they were right. They were also widely dispersed, and by early in the new year the Duke of Norfolk was ready to march northwards.

By March the Pilgrimage had collapsed. By April its leaders were on trial and by the summer they had been beheaded or hanged. Some two hundred went to the scaffold, including Aske who was hanged at York on 28 June 1537.

The North had suffered a crushing defeat. Henceforth it was ruled from London, its demands forgotten. That, at least, is the approved version of history as viewed from the metropolitan centre.

The truth is more complex. The great northern monasteries were destroyed and the northern gentry's independence was curbed. But what about the Pennine farmers' demands? Tithes remained to plague them, but the "tenant right" they wanted was successfully defended against their new landlords. Customary rents were maintained, even against later royal attempts to do away with them. In short, two of their three key demands had to be conceded.

So the "defeat" of March 1537 which shook the Pennines was not quite as overwhelming as it looked from London. But it was London which wrote the history books.



Wild Champion and White Elephants

I don't like thinking about motorways. I mean, I have to drive on them, and they come in very useful, but really, if possible, they don't bear thinking about do they?

This week those inevitable three coincidences came together and I left my sauntering along the M65 and swore round London along the M25.

The national press discovery that our motorway planners had a 300% error rate in their projections for usage of these two beauties - London's low and ours high - surprised no-one I know but presumably motorway planners don't actually live in the real world. Suffice it to say that if I say the M25 is twice as busy at minimum load as the M65 at peak any exaggeration is in reducing that guess from fourfold.

With enforced time for reflection, I remember reading in a recent **Pennine** that as a conservationist I must oppose the use of the old Colne-Skipton railway line as an extension of our motorway. (November's issue, **Down The Track**, which lobbied to use the track as a nature route.)

Government has served the North West, and our area in particular, pretty shabbily over the last few decades but the one area where we can't complain (indeed realistically we've done better than we deserve) is in motorway links to try to return us to our lost prosperity. Just compare us to the North East - or almost anywhere else in the country, and as for Scotland and Wales.....

Mind you they have refused to give us everything we need and we conservationists won a resounding victory when the Aire Valley Motorway was rejected because of the ruination it would cause to that lovely scenic area. (So how come a new 'dual carriageway' has just opened on the line of that proposal and never a word has been said against it?) What beauty has this given to the Valley that a *motorway* would have destroyed?

So let's go over to that lovely wild champion, mixed with stinging nettles, rising from damp (muddy?) footpaths which have enforested our old railway line.

Colne's John Belbin argues for the alternative M65 route extensions.

Truth to tell it isn't too bad - although as your picture shows in reality, many parts of it are unwalkable as undergrowth has spread across the old iron way. Of course we can clear this and create a path for... pushchairs and cyclists??? Have you ever *tried* using a pushchair on a bridleway? (Or a cycleway for that matter). And what of the cowslips then? But we conservationists will enjoy a firm, cindered,

open track instead of tarmac. (We will, won't we?) In truth it is hard to provide an environment which will satisfy a country lover and be easily accessible to wheelchairs.

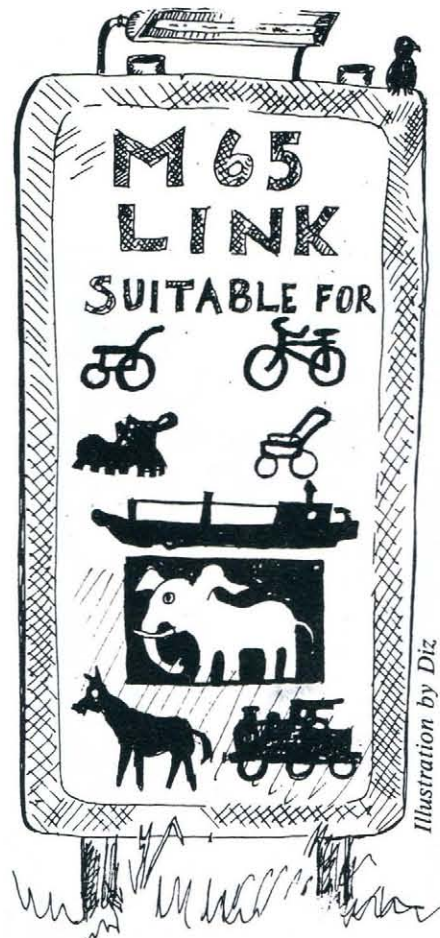
But it can be done, and, strange to say, there is one alongside that, pre-railway, motorway which runs for much of its path parallel to the Colne-Skipton line. We call it the Leeds-Liverpool Canal. Accessible to walker and cyclist, a bridleway in many places and, where adjacent to roads, possible for wheelchairs.

Nevertheless it would be nice to keep the old railway line for our recreation. But unless it is to remain the biggest white elephant of 20th Century transportation (and help to doom NE Lancashire to further stagnation), the M65 must go *somewhere*. And in the east this means a link *somewhere* to the A65/A650 which is slowly becoming a dual carriageway from the Lakes to the M1.

The original line (now lost in the welter of time) was to parallel the A6068 through the farm land, grouse moors and scenic wilderness of the Forest of Trawden, Ickornshaw Moor and Keighley Moor. If it keeps close to the A6068 it cuts farms (and villages?) in half. Further away it destroys some conservation areas and would cross the Pennine Way, Bronte Way and Pendle Way in areas which are at present near to some of the Yorkshire-Lancashire borders wildest unspoilt scenery.

Surely, as conservationists, we should be fighting *for* the M65 to be extended along the old railway line to the Skipton by-pass instead of to the Aire Valley 'non-motorway'? This line already exists - any environmental benefits on it are only the relics of man over the last two decades - it will cause minimum inconvenience to farmers, current villages on its line and need minimal, if any, demolition of property on its way.

Sure it would be nice to keep it but do we really need two such close-knit artificial tracks as the Leeds-Liverpool and the Colne-Skipton rail line? And, even worse, can we afford to let the M65 go anywhere else?

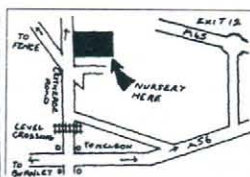


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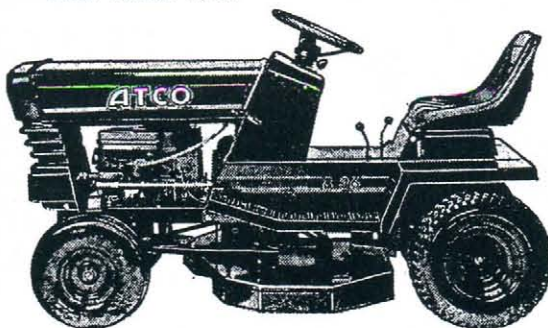
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Illustration by Diz

I surveyed with dismay the 13' x 8' garden. It consisted of three rose bushes on one side of the path, a concrete square on the other, and a large, thick, dusty privet hedge. How could I, a keen (if amateurish) gardener ever indulge in my hobby with so little scope?

I had just moved to the Calder Valley (an area where any gardens are rare due to the steep hillsides) from a house which had the luxury of a back garden measuring about 14' x 50' and a front garden larger than my entire new domain. Yet, six years later, I will soon look out on the annual riot of colour. Bees buzz, butterflies flutter, clematis climbs round the sitting room window. There are even roses peeping into the bedroom. The kitchen looks out on a small alpine plot and in Summer, a weeping standard bows down beneath the weight of its small red roses.

I even have a small "patio" (as estate agents jargon would call it) to sit on - that's when we have a rare summery day. Although I miss the happy hours I used to spend working in my previous large garden, I must admit there is more time to sit and enjoy a small one! The first chore was to pull up the privet hedge. No easy task, as the roots went down deep and had probably been there since the house was built around the turn of the century.

Once the hedge was out, it was surprising how much bigger the area looked. I was able to plant my Weeping Standard 'Excelsa' rose tree, plus hypericum, wiegelia and lavender bushes around the edge of the concreted square. (The thought of the effort and mess involved in breaking up the concrete was too much to consider - besides I had to keep my dustbin on some part of it!) So I persuaded my son to construct a little stone trough on top of the concrete. Having filled it with soil and a topping of small gritstones, I hopefully put in alpine and rockery plants and a dwarf conifer to give some winter colour.

Luckily, there is a low stone wall running round the garden. Every inch counted, so soon it was topped with several pots of varying sizes and shapes. In summer they are now an important part of the colour scheme, holding mostly annuals; petunias, lobelias and nasturtiums, in a bright tumble of blues and ambers. Also, for a small outlay, I bought a collection of geraniums and fuschias which are nurtured in the attic through the winter

SMALL CAN BE BEAUTIFUL...

How Meg Phipps Turned Her Plot Into Paradise

and placed out in pink and purple profusion at the end of May.

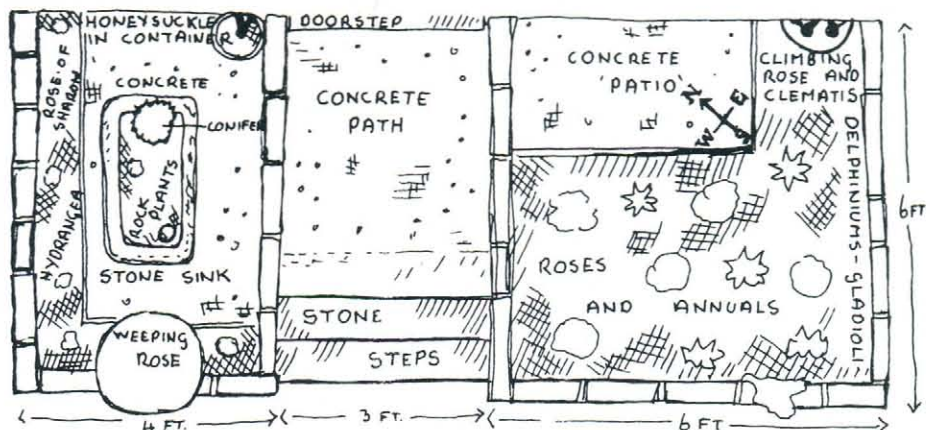
In the 'main garden' I decided to keep the three original rose bushes, a wise decision as with careful pruning every March, they have been very prolific.

The area against the dividing wall is planted with my favourite delphiniums, only room for two plants, sadly, but they produce several spires of the most beautiful deep blue. I intersperse these with yellow, red and salmon pink gladioli.

Clematis Jackmanii has twisted itself into the rose. They both seem to enjoy each other's company. The combination of the pale pink rose with deep purple clematis is very striking.

I have also been trying to grow a honeysuckle in a pot on my concrete 'side', but have not been successful so far. I live in hopes.

There are, of course, hundreds more dwarf shrubs and flowers to experiment with. The thing to remember in small gardens, is not to buy spreading



Lupins were tried one year, but were found to spread too quickly and had to be pulled up. (Also they seem to be the aphids favourite nosh!)

Montbretia, aquilegia, aubretia overhanging the front wall, a dwarf golden Spirea and a dwarf Berberis 'Rose Glow' are permanent residents. The latest acquisition is a Pieris 'Forest Flame', a red-leafed shrub which I'm told enjoys the peaty valley-bottom soil, as do rhododendrons and azaleas (But *do* remember to get *dwarf* varieties!) All this, and there is still room for some annuals such as snapdragon, marigold, and good old-fashioned Sweet Williams.

But there still remains the most important part of a tiny garden. If you want to get in as much as possible, you must grow 'up'.

I have a climbing rose, which has done very well and now is as high as the bedroom window. Next to this, a

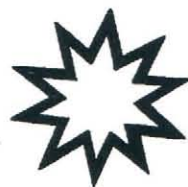
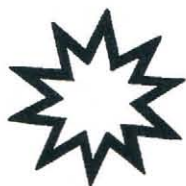
bushes or plants. (Anything marked 'ground cover' is definitely to be avoided!) Don't buy tall ones either. You (or your neighbours) don't want the view impeded by a high "jungle".

A word of warning. Because a small area of soil is giving home to so many plants, it needs to be fed regularly with a good fertilizer.

I haven't even mentioned hanging baskets or even the humble plant pot which can be hung over the walls of your house. Also window boxes, but unfortunately my windows open outward, so they are not suitable for me.

Yet I'm sure many people in the Calder Valley don't really need to be told all this. In Summer, everywhere I look there are hanging baskets and window boxes. In bright bravado, almost every available space seems to have its little 'garden'. So come on any Penniners in default. Let's make this the 'Garden of the North'!

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1-4 March

Opera North at Palace Theatre, Manchester.

1 March: Aida

2 March: The Flying Dutchman

3 March: The Love For Three Oranges

4 March: Aida

Details: 061-236 9922

1 March

Lunchtime Concert by Keith Swallow/Capricci Ensemble, Dewsbury Town Hall, 12.30pm
Details: (0484)513808

2 March

Folk Performance by Roy Bailey. Talbot Hotel, Burnley. 8.30pm. Details: (0282)21986.

5 March

Manchester Camerata with the Halle Choir perform Elijah by Mendelssohn. 7.30pm at Free Trade Hall, Manchester.
Details: 061-8348363

8, 9 & 12 March

Halle Orchestra Concerts, Elgar, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky. 7.30pm. Free Trade Hall, Manchester.
Details: 061-834 8363

9 March

"The Birds and the Bees" Piers Adams - Recorder, Nigel Tilley - Harpsichord. Pendle Heritage Centre, Barrowford. Details: (0282)21986.

11 March

"Sitar, Steel Band & Show Songs". A mixed cultural venture. Organised by Yorkshire Youth & Music & the school. Silver Royd High School, Swallow Crescent, West Leeds Tel: (0274)307417

13 March

Lunchtime Organ Recital by Graham Cummings. Huddersfield Town Hall, 1.00pm. Details: (0484)513808

9 March

Jazz in Blackburn. Victor Brox (Vocals) Lol Coxhill (Sax) Dave Green (Bass), R'n'B. King George's Hall, Blackburn. Details: (0254)582582

12 March

Mid-Pennine Arts Assoc. present Dick Morrissey/Paul Davidson Trio at White Hart Hotel, Todmorden.

14-18 March

Skipton Music Festival
Details: (0756)2304

15 March

Lunchtime Recital, by Cordial Co., Sirens, Sealadies & All That Jazz, Dewsbury Town Hall, 12.30pm.
Details: (0484)513808

16 March

Halle Orchestra at Free Trade Hall, Manchester. Panufnik 75th Anniversary Concert. Details: 061-834 8363

17 March

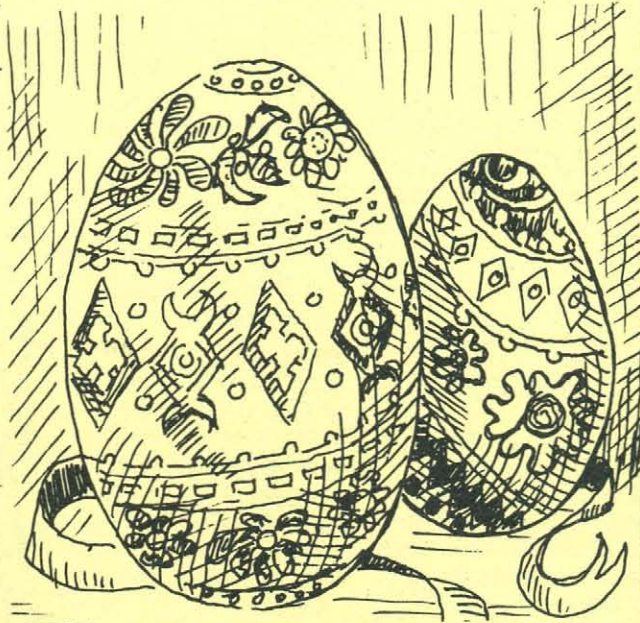
Spencer Davis, 25 year anniversary tour. at Grange Arts Centre, Oldham at 7.30pm. Details: 061-624 8013

18 March

Bradford Festival Choral Soc. & Northern Sinfonia Orchestra. (Conductor: Richard Hickox) perform Bach B Minor Mass at St. Georges Hall, Bradford. 7.30pm.

18 March

Halifax Choral Soc. present "Antonin Dvorak" at the Halifax Civic Theatre 7.30pm. Tel: (0422)51158.



19 March

Halle Orchestra Concert at Free Trade Hall, Manchester. Borodin, Rachmaninov, Shostakovich. Details: 061-834 8363

19 March

Orchestral Concert by Todmorden Orchestra at Town Hall, Todmorden, at 7.30pm.

20 March

Lunchtime Organ Recital by Jonathan Bielby, Huddersfield Town Hall. 1.00pm.
Details: (0484)513808

21 March

Orchestral Concert by English Northern Philharmonia, Huddersfield Town Hall. Details: (0484)513808

30 March

Halle Orchestra Concert Free Trade Hall, Manchester. Haydn, Beethoven, Zemlinsky. Details: 061-834 8363

23 April

Mid-Pennine Arts Assoc. present Kathy Stobart & The Stan Barker Trio at White Hart Hotel, Todmorden.

31 March & 1 April

'Zespol' Central Song & Dance Co. of Poland. 7.30pm. St. Georges Hall, Bradford. Details: (0274)752000

6 April

Jazz in Blackburn. 'Bop-Be'. King George's Hall, Blackburn. Details: (0254)582582

14 April

English Camerata play Haydn, Mozart, Schubert at Municipal Hall, Colne. 7.30pm. Details: (0282)21986

16 April

"Petite Messe Solonelle" by Rossini performed by Todmorden Choral Soc. Central Methodist Church, Todmorden.

Pennine Photographers ...

Interested in seeing your work in print, perhaps to build up your first portfolio - or simply as a top class amateur?

If you can supply professional quality B/W prints (7x5 min) on an occasional but reliable basis - Pennine wants to hear from you. Because any magazine profits are ear-marked for conservation projects we cannot pay photographers, but its a great way to add YOUR contribution to the South Pennine revival AND get your work noticed. Write with non returnable examples and a brief outline of your photographic interest to: The Production Manager, Pennine Magazine, Birchcliffe Centre, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8DG.

Pennine What's On

THEATRE

March-April

Celebrate 75 years of Alhambra Theatre, Bradford.
 'Til 4 March: The Dancing Years
 7-11 March: Sadlers Wells Royal Ballet
 13 March: Mary O'Hara
 14 March: Rose Marie
 18 March: Des O'Connor
 19 March: Mike Reid
 21-25 March: Wayne Sleep
 28 March-1 April: West Side Story
 2 April: Hale & Pace
 3-8 April: One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest
 10-15 April: The Misanthrope
 18-22 April: The Fifteen Streets
 24-29 April: 'Sugar'

Details: (0274)752000

2 March-1 April

A Taste of Honey by Shelagh Delaney. Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester. Details: 061-833 9833

3-11 March

The Railway Children at Halifax Playhouse. 7.15pm. (Hx.)65998

3 March & 7 April

Live Fridays at Octopus Studio, Bolton. An evening of short acts by local performers. Mixed bag of music, comedy etc. Details: (0204)20661

4 March

Theatre Roundabout present 'Howards's End' by E.M.Forster. Grange Arts Centre, Oldham. Details: 061-624 8013

7-11 March

Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet at Palace Theatre, Manchester.
 7th-9th: The Snow Queen
 10th & 11th: Les Sylphides, Petrushka, Theme & Variations.
 Details: (061) 236 9922

8-11 March

Dept. of Performing Arts present the Musical 'Babes In Arms'. Grange Arts Centre, Oldham. Details: 061-624 8013

8 March

Remould Theatre Co. in 'Steeltown'. Town Hall, Padiham. Details: (0282)21986

9 March-1 April

'Hapgood' Regional Premiere of Tom Stoppard's spy spoof. Leeds Playhouse. Details: (0532)442111

10 March

Remould Theatre Co. present 'Steeltown'. Octopus Studio, Bolton. Details: (0204)20661

'Til 11 March

'Mrs Warrens Profession' by George Bernard Shaw. At Harrogate Theatre. Details: (0423)502116

11 March-8 April

'Same Time Next Year' by Bernard Slade. Octagon Theatre, Bolton. Details: Bolton 20661.

13-18 March

The Crucible by Arthur Miller. Bradford Playhouse, Chapel St., Leeds Rd., Bradford. Tel: Bradford 720329

14-16 March

Pit Prop Theatre Co. presents The Case of Charlie Abbott. Octopus Studio, Bolton. Details: (0204)20661

14-18 March

Orpheus In The Underworld. At Halifax Playhouse. Details: (Hx.)65998

14 March

'Did You See That' performed by Nickelodeon. Nelson & Colne College, Barrowford. 8.00pm. Details: ((0282)21986

15 March

Lip Service in hilarious sell-out show 'Withering Looks'. Derby Hall, Bury. Details: 061-761 2216

16 March

Lip Service in 'Withering Looks'. Grange Arts Centre, Oldham. Details: 061-624 8013

16 March-8 April

'Having A Ball' by Alan Bleasdale at Harrogate Theatre. Details: (0423)502116



18 March

The Medieval Players present Dr. Faustus. Grange Arts Centre, Oldham. Details: 061-624 8013

21-23 March

Tara Arts Group present The Government Inspector by Gogol. Octopus Studio, Bolton. Details: (0204)20661.

24 March

Cleveland Theatre Co. present 'Educating Rita' at Public Hall, Haslingen. 7.30pm. Details: (0282)21986.

14 April-13 May

Far From The Madding Crowd by Thomas Hardy. Octagon Theatre, Bolton. Details: Bolton 20661.

2-8 April

'Come for the Ride' an evening with Patricia Routledge. Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester. Details: 061-833 9833

6-29 April

'Captain Swing'. Powerful Adventure by Peter Whelan. Leeds Playhouse Details: (0532)442111

13 April

'The Chaplin Obsession' Mime performance by Mark Saunders. Park High School, Colne. 7.30pm. Details: (0282)21986.

13 April-6 May

World Premiere of Dolores Walshe's play 'In The Talking Dark'. Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester. Details: 061-833 9833

17-22 April

'Comedians' by Trevor Griffiths. Bradford Playhouse, Chapel St., Leeds Rd., Bradford. Tel: Bradford 720329

18-21 April

'Safety in Numbers' Mathematical Adventure Play for 7-11 year olds. Grange Arts Centre, Oldham. Details: 061-624 8013.

20 April-6 May

The Cherry Orchard by Anton Chekhov at Harrogate Theatre. Details: (0423)502116.

CINEMA

14-18 March

Childrens Saturday Club with Auntie Christine - Disco & Film. 9.30-12.30. Hebden Bridge Cinema.

19 March

Tin Men (USA) at Halifax Film Club. 7.45pm Details: Hx.56992

March/April

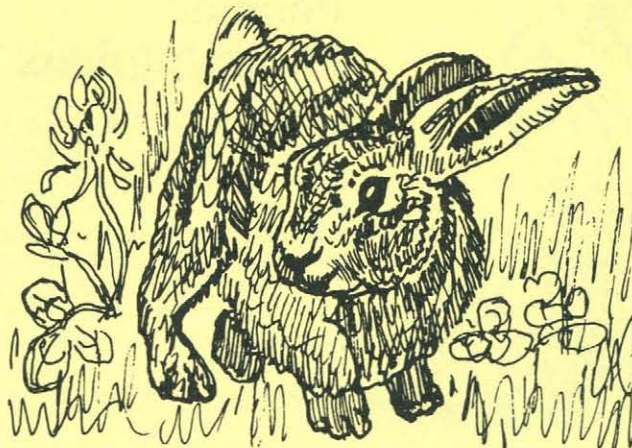
Bradford Film Theatre, Chapel Street, Leeds Road, Bradford. Tel: (0274)720329.

MARCH

1-4: Bird
 5: Mapantsula
 6-11: The Last Temptation of Christ
 19: Wuthering Heights & Jane Eyre(DB)
 20-22: Pascali's Island (6.00pm) & Stormy Monday (8.15pm)
 23-25: Stormy Monday (6.00pm) & Pascali's Island (8.15pm)
 26: Withnail & I & Dr. Strangelove(DB)
 27-1 April: Who Framed Roger Rabbit(6.00pm) & La Boheme(8.15pm)

APRIL

2: Body Heat & The Postman Always Rings Twice(DB)
 3-5: The Lonely Passion of



Judith Hearne(6.00pm) & Salaam Bombay(8.15pm)
6-8: Salaam Bombay(6.00pm) & The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne(8.15pm)
9: Rebel Without A Cause & East of Eden(DB)
10-12: The Dressmaker(6.00pm) & Red Sorghum(8.15pm)
13-15: Red Sorghum(6.00pm) & The Dressmaker(8.15)
23: Don Giovanni
24-26: High Hopes(6.00pm) & Patty Hearst(8.15pm)
27-29: Patty Hearst(6.00pm) & High Hopes(8.15pm)
30: The Unbearable Lightness of Being

SECOND SCREEN

MARCH
2-4: The Night is Young & They Live By Night(DB)
9-11: Distant Voices Still Lives (to be confirmed-please check)
23-25: Missing
30-1 April: Veronico Cruz

APRIL
6-8: A Handful of Dust
13-15: A Taxing Woman
27-29: Sacrificed Youth

March/April
National Museum of Photography, Film & Television, Bradford. Tel: (0274) 727488

MARCH
1: Aliens
4: Labyrinth
5: The Kid & College (DB)
7-8: American Graffiti & THX 1138 (DB)
11/12: Raiders of the Lost Ark
14: War Requiem
15: Mishima
18/19: Indiana Jones & The Temple of Doom
21/22: Moonwalker
25/26/28/29: Star Wars

APRIL
1/2: The Empire Strikes Back
4: Under Fire (to be confirmed-please check)
5: Rear Window & Blow Up (DB)
8/9: Return of the Jedi
11/12: U2: Rattle & Hum
15: Pink Floyd The Wall
16: Krakatoa, East of Java
18/19: Star Wars, Empire Strikes Back & Return of the Jedi (TB)
22/23: High Spirits
25/26: Tucker: The Man & His Dream
29/30: Playtime
(DB)=Double Bill

EXHIBITIONS

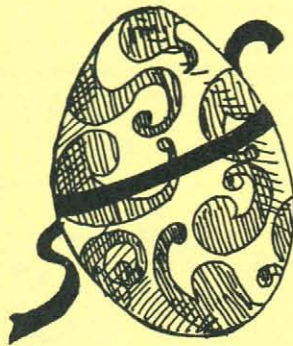
'Til 5 March
Bradford Festival Revue. Re-live the '88 festival through photos etc. Industrial Museum Bradford
Details: (0274)631756

4 & 5 March
Model Railway Exhibition at Assembly Rooms, Brighthouse. Details: (0422)59454

'Til 7 March
Opulence & Munificence (NW Nuseum & Art Gallery Service Travelling exhibition), Rossendale Museum, Tel: (0706)217777

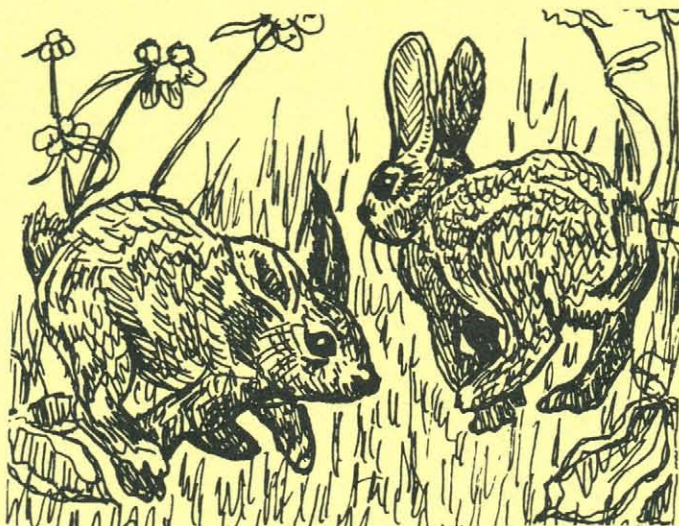
'Til 12 March
The Art of Lego. Cartwright Hall, Bradford. Details: (0274) 493313

11-16 March
150 years of Photography, Exhibition at Huddersfield Art Gallery, Princess Alexandra Walk.



11 March-2 April
Sacha Kagan Knitwear: 'Big & Little Sweaters' Industrial Museum, Bradford. Details: (0274)631756

18 March-21 April
N.W. Federation of Arts Societies Exhibition, Rossendale Museum, Tel: (0706)217777



18 March-7 May
Forms of Intuition. Painting & Sculpture by Houria Niati & Franklyn Beckford. Cartwright Hall, Bradford. Details: (0274)493313

23 March-21 May
Art & Computers: Computer Generated Images. Cartwright Hall, Bradford
Details: (0274)493313

'Til April 1989
25th Anniversary Exhibition by the Yorks. Archaeological Soc. Tolson Museum, Huddersfield

'Til 11 March
'It's Quicker By Rail' Railway Posters. Huddersfield Art Gallery, Princess Alexandra Walk.

11 March-2 May
From The Shogun's Domains - Japanese Decorative Arts. Cliffe Castle, Keighley. Details: (0274)758230

'Til 12 March
Action For Birds, RSPB Centenary Exhibiton at Colne Valley Museum, Golcar, Huddersfield
Details: (0484)659762

18 March-18 April
'Spring Fever' Display of ceramics & painted silk. The Gallery Downstairs, Burnley
Details: (0484)659762

'Til 19 March
Otters Exhibition at Oakwell Hall
Details: (0484)513808

18/19,24-27 March
Exhibition of Members' Work by University of the 3rd Age, Colne Valley Museum, Golcar, Huddersfield. Tel: (0484)659762

24-27 March
Yorkshire Dales Railway Society Exhibition, Skipton Town Hall. Details: (0756)2304

'Til 26 March
Commemorative Exhibition Ralph Chislett 1883-1964, Tolson Museum, Ravensknowle Park, Huddersfield. Details: (0484)513808

'Til 30 March
Exhibition of photographs & Paintings by Barry Mitchell & David Sim. Hebden Bridge Tourist Information Centre. Details: (0422)59454

'Til 1 April
Dewsbury Arts Group, Dewsbury Exhibition Gallery, Wellington Road. Details: (0484)513808.

'Til 2 April
Arts of Japan Exhibition. Bagshaw Museum, Wilton Park, Batley. Details: (0484)513808

'Til 3 April
'School Days' Exhibition. Dewsbury Museum, Crow Nest Park.

'Til 8 April
Exhibition of Water Colours by Cecil Hunt 1873-1965, Batley Art Gallery. Details: (0484)513808

'Til 9 April
Natural History Exhibition, Tolson Museum, Ravensknowle Park, Huddersfield. Details: (0484)513808

8 April-14 May
Trade Union Banners: 100 years of Women's Banners. Industrial Museum, Bradford. Details: (0274)631756

22 April-4 June
Earthen Shades by Shanti Panchal. Cartwright Hall, Bradford. Details: (0274)493313

'Til 23 April
125th Anniversary Exhibition Yorks. Archaeology Soc. Tolson Museum, Ravensknowle Park, Huddersfield

'Til 29 April
Mrs Sunderland Musical Competition Centenary Exhibition, Central Library, Huddersfield. Details:(0484)602334

'Til 29 April
'Striving for Excellence', Exhibition at Huddersfield Central Library, Princess Alexandra Walk.

29 April-26 May
Paintings by Lillian Fletcher at Rossendale Museum, Tel: (0706)217777

OTHER EVENTS

March

Guided Walks in Calderdale. Details: (0422)59454

1 March

Slides of Canada by Mr K Rawson, Trinity Methodist Church, Todmorden.

2 March

Talk "An Introduction to Local Trees & Woodland by R Robertshaw. Calder College, Todmorden.

5 March

'Nature in Springtime' Guided walk. Meet Neil Windett at 11am at junction of Orchard Road and Shop Lane, Kirkheaton. Details: Kirklees Countryside Service. Hudds.22133 ext.3704

11 March

Littleborough Civic Trust Dinner & Dance at The Littleborough Coach House. 6.30pm. Details: Littleboro.78849.

11 March

Pottery Workshop with Gordon Cooke at The Gallery Downstairs, Burnley. Details: (0282)21986

11 March

Audio Visual Lecture "The Changing Earth" by N Duerden. Calder College, Todmorden.

11 March

WATCH Group meeting for 8-13 yr olds. Herb Garden Special. New House Hall, Brackenhall 10.00am. Details: Hudds.22133

11/12 March

Steam enthusiasts weekend at Keighley & Worth Valley Railway. Details: Haworth 45214.

13 March

Lent Lecture at Halifax Parish Church Hall at 7.00pm.

13 March

Practical Writing Workshop with Liz North. Talbot Hotel, Burnley. 7.30pm. Details: (0282)21986

19 March

The Citroen Aerial Display Team. Acrobatics on skis. At Ski Rossendale, Rawtenstall. Details: (0706)217777 ext.243.

25 March

Come & see the Britannia Coconutters dance through the streets of Bacup. 10.00am-4.00pm Details: (0706)217777



26 March

Easter Egg Special on Embsay Steam Railway. Details: (0756)2304.

23-27 March

Rossendale Festival. Lots of exciting events. Details: (0706)2127777 ext. 243

26-31 March

The Bronte Parsonage Museum, Haworth. Open every day during Easter week 11.00-5.30pm. Details: Haworth 42323.

27 March

Antique & Collectors Fair. The Sports Centre, Helmshore Road, Haslingden. Details: (0706)217777 ext.243.

31 March

Floodlighting Ceremony at East Riddlesden Hall, Nr. Keighley. 7.30. Hall opens 2.00 Good Friday for the season and all Easter week. Details: Keighley 663390

1 April

Spring Clean! Help to Tidy Up the Countryside. Meet Tunnel End, Marsden 10.30. Details: Hudds. 846062

8 April

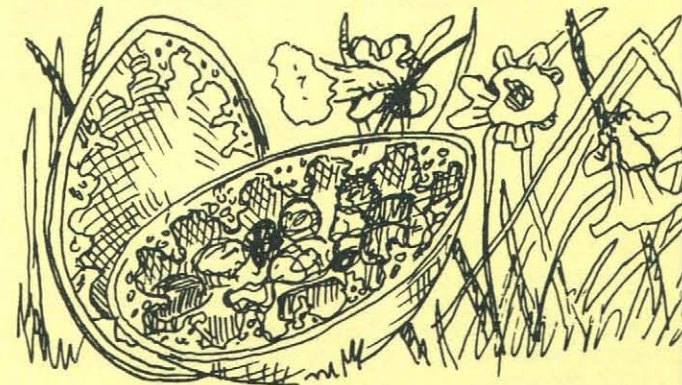
WATCH Group meeting for 8-13 yr olds. 'Eagles & Tawnys' 10.00am. New House Hall, Brackenhall. Details: Hudds. 22133 Ext.3704



Add your voice to Pennine

We welcome articles from readers on South Pennine People, Places and Issues. (Approx. length 700 or 1,400 words to fit single/double page).

PLEASE keep a copy as Pennine unfortunately cannot take responsibility for lost material, nor promise publication. Any magazine profits are earmarked for conservation projects. For this reason we are not able to pay contributors, although we welcome their interest.



13 April

Springtime madness. Fun & dancing at Chickenley Community Centre, Dewsbury. In aid of Kirklees Badger Group. 7.30pm. Details: Hudds. 22133

15 April

Spring into SCOSPA. Meet a ranger. Lots of leaflets & information. Tunnel End, Waters Road, Marsden. 10.30am. Details: Hudds. 846062

16 April

Guided Walks. 'Highfield Farm in Spring' and 'Woodland Wildlife'. Details: Kirklees Countryside Service. Hudds.22133

24 April

'A Day in the Life of the News Team' Talk by Olwyn Hocking of BBC. Central Library, Rawtenstall. Details: (0282)21986,

25 April

Poetry Readings 'If This Be Love', Arbela Productions (Sylvia Syms etc.) Accrington & Rossendale College, Rawtenstall. Details: (0282)21986

27-29 April

Harrogate Spring Flower Show. Details: (0423)68966.

30 April

Rotary Club 'Boundary Walk', Todmorden.

BRADFORD

ART GALLERIES & MUSEUMS



From the Shotgun's Domains - Japanese Arts & Crafts
11 Mar-2 May at Cliffe Castle Museum & Gallery
Spring Gardens Lane, Keighley. 0274 758230

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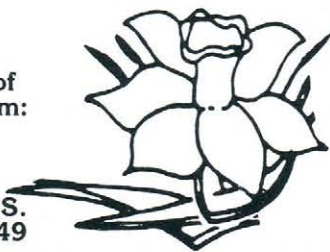
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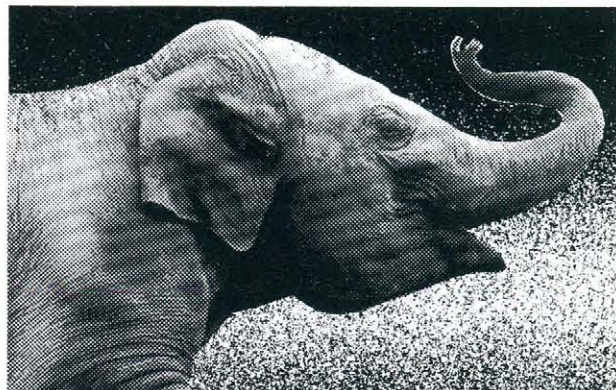
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Easter Diary

A special selection from the celebrations and events across the South Pennines.

PACE EGGING

No one knows how old are the traditions of the Easter mummers' Pace Egg plays now enjoying a welcome revival across the region. The name is held to be a corruption of 'Pasch Egg', from the latin liturgical term for Easter.

The Calder Valley's unique Midgley Pace Egg Play was

revived in 1951 by Calder High School. The Black Prince, Tossport and company can be seen in: Mytholmroyd (Church Street 10am); Hebden Bridge (St Georges Square 11.30am); Midgley (2 pm); Luddenden (2.30pm); Heptonstall (3pm); Todmorden (4 pm).

(Another successful recent pace egg revival, by Littlemoss High School, will take to the streets at lunchtime, 17th March in Droylsden, Tameside, outside the Pig on the Wall!)



EASTER WORSHIP

Easter is of course the greatest festival of the Christian calendar. In **Pennine's** home town of Hebden Bridge, the parish church of **St. James** welcomes locals and visitors alike to its Easter worship. Good Friday (March 24th) A Way of the Cross for children 12 noon; Easter Eve (25th) The Easter Vigil 8pm; Easter Day (26th) Holy Communion 8am and the Easter Eucharist 10am.

FAIRS & FESTIVALS

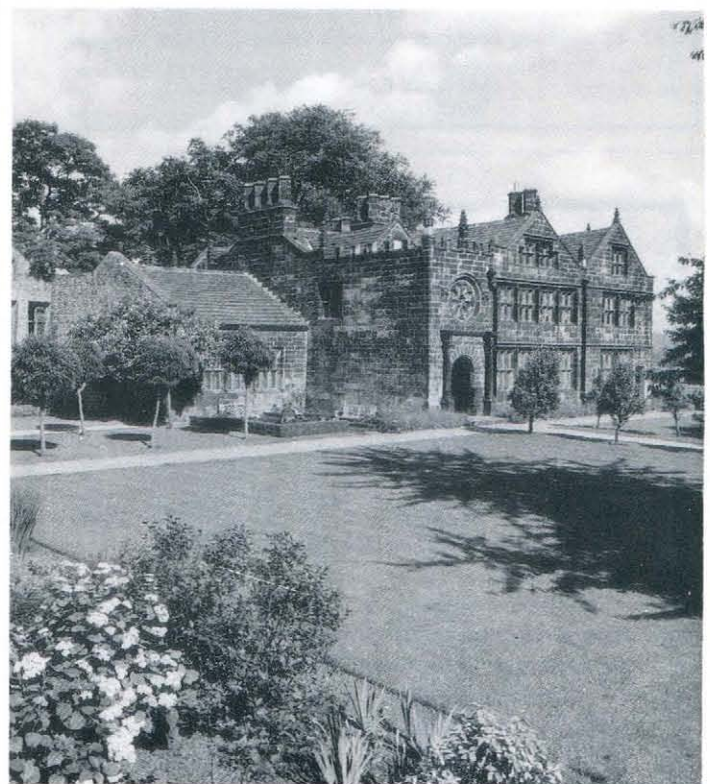
Rossendale Festival, fairs, exhibitions, theatre, live music, March 22nd-27th; **Halifax Civic Theatre**, Easter Sunday and Monday Fair; **Tunnel End, Marsden**, Easter Craft Fair, 26th March; **Holmfirth** Open Air Easter Craft Market, 25th March.

CURIOSER AND CURIOSER

One of the most bizarre of Pennine Easter goings-on *has* to be the world-famous Britannia Coconutters. Their day-long dance from Britannia through the streets of Bacup takes place from 10am-4pm on Saturday March 25th.



Photo: courtesy of Rodney Collinge.



SPRING CLEAN

Many of the region's fine old houses re-open to the public at Easter.

Among them is **East Riddlesden Hall**, Keighley, which gives an extra welcome to the Spring on April 2nd with the first of the year's Riddlesden Revels (2-5pm).

The programme includes Early Music from Estampie, dancing with the Arbeau Dancers and craft demonstrations. It also features Bingley's Gilbert and Sullivan Society with extracts from Ruddigore. The light opera's characters were actually based on the Murgatroyd family who built East Riddlesden Hall.

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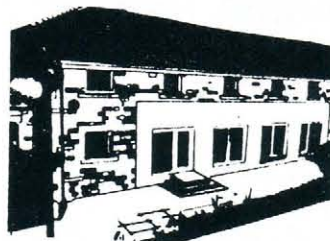
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SPRING · SPRING · SPRING

Pennine joins in the greatest show on earth.

As the song in the musical warbles, “Birds are a-twittering, they’re all baby-sitting, Spring, Spring, Spring!” Certainly those flustered and frantic days of harassed parenthood and first fledgling flight are some of the best in the bird watchers calendar. In this, the RSPB’s centenary year,

Pennine reviews what’s ‘hatching’ in some of the Society’s reserves and other important wildlife sites across the North. We also suggest two nature walks: at RSPB Leighton Moss Reserve near Carnforth and RSPB Fairburn Ings north of Ferrybridge. As the RSPB points out, one need not

be an expert to enjoy birds (and other wildlife) in their natural surroundings. The society’s reserves, with their hides and nature trails make a fine family day out and, believes RSPB President Magnus Magnusson, “an understanding and enjoyment of birdlife is the first step towards creating a better world for both birds and people.”

Spring at Leighton Moss

A lush green and silver landscape of shallow reed-and-willow-fringed meres with a backdrop of limestone hills. (Within the Arnside-Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.)

Like all fresh water marshes, this habitat is particularly precious. So many natural marshes have already been drained, despite the fact that they are one of our richest plant and wildlife environments.

Breeding birds include teal, tufted duck and coots plus the major Spring 'stars', rare bearded tits and Britain's largest concentration of bitterns. The limestone hills are noted for their glorious, rare wild flowers, some growing at their most northerly limit, thanks to the maritime influences of nearby Morecambe Bay.

Paths from the RSPB information centre circle the meres, a three mile walk on level ground. Red and roe deer can be seen in the woods and the Lower Hide, hidden in the reeds, gives one of the best, extremely rare, chances in Britain to watch otters at play. (Try dusk or 4 a.m.!)

Access: daily till sunset ex. Tuesday. Entrance charge.

Route: M6 to Jct 35, A6 and turn-off to Yealand Redmayne. RSPB Leighton Moss Reserve, Silverdale near Carnforth.

Spring at Fairburn Ings.

What a contrast to the natural sylvan beauty of Leighton Moss, yet an RSPB site of great interest and optimism. The Ings are man-made marshland, created from the abandoned wasteland of mining subsidence, complete in places with a backdrop of cooling towers!

Since its establishment in 1957, on land leased from the National Coalboard, the reserve has become a fine example of wildlife conservation in industrial areas. Birch, alder and oak now disguise the spoil heaps and woodland paths explore this breeding ground of willow warblers, blackcap and lesser whitethroat.

The open water of the shallow lakes is particularly important for wildfowl and, in passage, easterly Spring winds bring arctic and common terns. Red-shanks, snipe and lapwing are now breeding on the shallow pools or 'flashes'.

Raised causeways and boardwalks, with hides and information boards, lead visitors into the marsh with its wetland plants, insects, birds and small mammals.

Good roadside views over Main Bay from layby near Fairburn; weekend information centre.

Access: at all times.

Route: A1 to just north Ferrybridge, turn-off Fairburn. RSPB Fairburn Ings, nr. Ferrybridge, W. Yorkshire.



Photo Above: Tawny Owl

OTHER SPRINGTIME SITES

RSPB Bempton Cliffs, Flamborough Head nr. Bridlington. Spectacular 445' cliffs with the largest breeding colony of seabirds in England. Includes puffins, shags and Britain's only mainland colony of gannets. Also excellent for Spring cliff top flowers. Hides: information centre; parking.

Dark Peak, Derbyshire. The Snake Pass south from Glossop into the bleak high moorland of Kinder and Bleaklow is a favourite roadside stop for bird watchers. At its best in Spring and early Summer for the distinctive calls of curlews, golden plover, snipes and drumlins. Also afforested Ladybower Reservoir for its waterfowl and woodland birds.

RSPB Eastwood, Cheetham Park nr. Stalybridge, Greater Manchester. A woodland and streamside reserve in a steep-sided valley. Nesting nuthatches, treecreepers and tawny owls; waterside kingfishers and herons. Open 1st and 3rd Sundays each month.

Gouthwaite Reservoir nr. Pateley Bridge, N. Yorkshire. Unclassified road to head of Nidderdale for wood, willow and garden warblers, greater-spotted rare green woodpeckers. Occasional sightings in Spring of ospreys travelling north.

Martin Mere nr. Ormskirk. Our nearest Wildfowl Trust Reserve, of international importance as wetland site. (See November '88 **Pennine**). Open daily.

Ribble Estuary, N. Lancashire. One of Britain's finest river estuaries for birdlife. South shore, Nature Conservancy owned. Thousands of overwintering birds and spectacular Spring passage.



Our own **South Pennines** have a wide variety of Spring wildlife environments, ranging from the open moortop and the Valley-side pastures, to the woodland and streamside habitats of the steep-sided Pennine cloughs.

On the tops, look out for the long down-curving bill of the curlew, which lays its clutch of three or four olive-brown eggs in April or May, and on sunny days, the tawny fluttering of the Small Heath Butterfly and Emperor Moth.

Farming practises of liming and burning, have improved the rough pastures of the Pennine slopes. In Spring, lapwings nest in the dry grass; the Small Copper Butterfly flies from its dock leaf refuge and the russet-and-black Wall Butterfly shelters on sunny wall stones.

Yellow lesser celandine, pink herb robert and white carpets of wood anemone peep in the Pennine clough woodlands. Marsh marigolds and meadowsweet grow in the damp valley bottoms and the perky black-and-white dipper, diving and walking on the river bed, is happily at home in our fast-flowing northern streams.

Most South Pennine local authorities have active countryside warden services whose walks and talks often include the natural and wildlife of the region. Phone your town hall or tourist information centre for the Spring and early Summer programme.

As for the growing 'townie' bird population, last word to the new RSPB/AA **Complete Book of Birds** on "feeding birds.. a tradition in Britain dating back many years. You should only provide food between October and April. After that there should be sufficient natural food for the birds to find. Tired parent birds might be tempted to feed their young on indigestible food such as peanuts which could kill them."



The Coal Strike of 1912

Seventy-seven years ago this April, Britain hovered on the brink of industrial shutdown. John Cole records the Rochdale reaction.

Local industry was not of course entirely textile-based. Engineering, hat making and mining, amongst others, all made significant contributions, at one time or another, to the local economy. For centuries disputes had raged over the ownership of minerals - particularly coal - throughout the ancient Parish of Rochdale. Coal-mining intensified as steam gradually replaced water power in the local factories. Industrial relations in mining were always volatile both nationally and locally with strike action becoming increasingly common and increasingly bitter.

The years immediately before the First World War were marked by outbreaks of intense industrial unrest described by some commentators as "unorganised revolt". It seemed to many that millions of people in those days still had no share in the nation's increased prosperity. Poverty was widespread and in certain industries pressures from the members pushed the trades unions into confrontation with both the employers and the government.

"The most far reaching industrial trouble in our national history" (Rochdale Observer 2 March 1912) arose from the demand by the Miners' Federation for a minimum wage. When the coal owners refused to meet for negotiations strike notices were issued, and by the beginning of March more than a million miners had stopped work. Sixty per cent of coal owners were in fact said to be sympathetic to the miners' demands and the government swiftly intervened with the Coal Mines (Minimum Wages) Bill.

As the Rochdale Observer noted on 2 March it was "the first time in history that the British government had been compelled to take effective, vital control of a fundamental industry." However the Bill did not receive an easy passage and Rochdale's two major collieries - Butterworth Hall (employing some 300 men) and the Jubilee Colliery (with about 200 on the payroll) were soon idle. Only the Waterloo pit in Buckley Lane and the



Photo left: Homeward bound with fuel aboard.

Photo above: Waiting for Coke outside the gas works.

Knowl Colliery, Greenbooth, both of which employed non-union labour, remained in operation.

The Coal Mines Bill was impeded in its progress by the inability or unwillingness of government to actually quantify the minimum wage, and so as the days lengthened into weeks factories faced increasing problems as coal supplies dwindled. The strike naturally brought hardship to the community as "the difficulties of poor folk in securing fuel grow more acute daily."

At the gasworks in Dane Street, coke was still being supplied cheaply to the public but in such small quantities that up to 3,000 people were queueing daily for the rationed supply. As the Observer reported: "All sorts of vehicles were pressed into service - basinettes, mail carts, trolley cars ... and the customers were of all ages from little children, who had to be lifted to the office window to get their tickets to grey-haired old men and

women." Women and children arriving at dawn were provided with breakfast from the gasworks canteen.

When the Miners' Federation finally recommended a return to work on 6 April, still without a satisfactory definition of their "fixed minimum wage," there was widespread relief. In Rochdale the mills, the engineering works, the ironworks, as gasworks and the daily life of the town gradually returned to normal.

*The Coal Strike of 1912 is an extract from John Cole's new book **Rochdale Revisited - A Town and its People**, a collection of articles about "ordinary people... in this rather special northern town."*

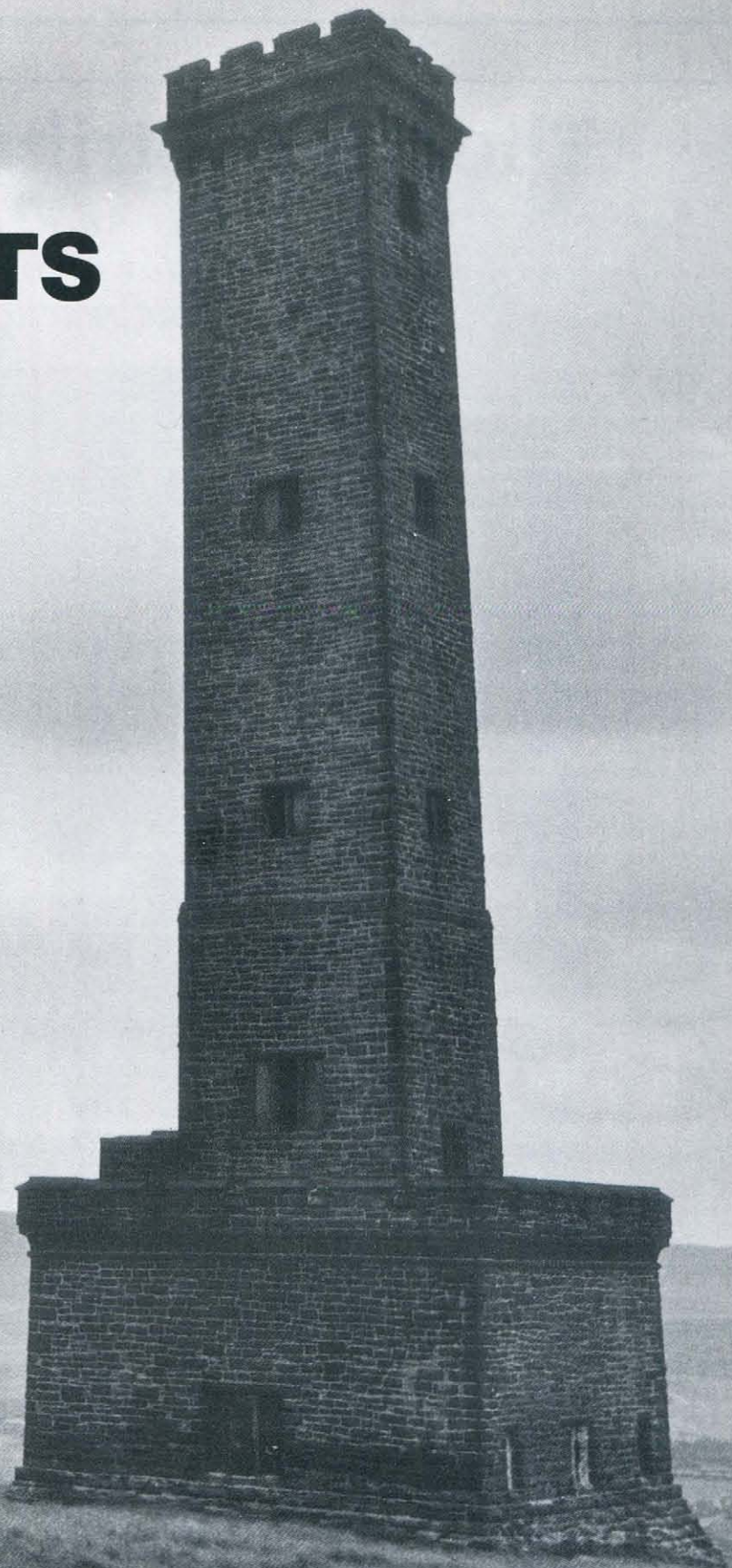
Carefully researched, with many contemporary photographs, it is published, at £4.95, by George Kelsall of Littleborough who rightly comments that it is "not just another book of old photographs, but real popular history."

MONUMENTS TO A MOOD

*Pennine Steps
Into The Fanciful
World Of Follies.*

*Photos: Right - Stoodley Pike,
Todmorden.*

*This page - Peel Tower, Holcombe
Moor.*



In this, the season of mad March hares and April fools, what could be more frivolously fitting than a folly?

Practical jokes in stone, these 'monuments to a mood' by definition almost defy definition. 'Folly: a costly structure that is (considered) useless' runs the Concise Oxford Dictionary's dry attempt. Not only dry but incomplete. What of glorious English eccentricity? Obscure obsessions and neighbour's feuds? Not to mention the improbable local legends which adorn all *proper* follies?

Follies came into their own in the great English landscape gardening movement of the 18th century. Soon, no noble's labouriously crafted vista was complete without its classical temple or Renaissance grotto. Even those most noted of architects, Paine, the Adam brothers, Nash, Vanbrugh, Carr, had no option in designing follies of increasing grandeur for their status-conscious patrons.

By the 1820s, the fashionable heyday was over. But not so the folly. Having earned its place in English country scene, it has, ever since, popped up as the mark of a man with more money than sense. Even in our own thrifty, no-nonsense North.

As befits our high open skylines, the tower is the most common Northern folly.

Blacko's **Stansfield Tower**, looking out over the Pendle countryside was built in the finest of folly traditions, by a rich businessman vainly coveting a view of distant Morecambe Bay.

Peel Tower on Holcombe Moor was erected by the citizens of Ramsbottom in memory of Bury's Sir Robert Peel. It was designed, in true Northern fashion, by committee for the resulting huge sum of £10,000. The neo-baroque splendour of Lancaster's vast **Ashton Memorial** speaks for the romantic soul of a linoleum manufacturer, whose third wife it commemorates. Darwen's ornate **Jubilee or Victoria Tower (1877)** served dual purpose: to honour the said sovereign and to celebrate victory in a battle with the local squire for open access to the moor.

Belmont's 62' tower, built in the reign of George III, enjoys a rare distinction. It is one of the country's few follies which claims a resident ghost.

The obelisk of Todmorden's **Stoodley Pike** can be seen from miles around. It was planned by local worthies in 1814 after the surrender of Paris to the Allies.



Photo: Christine Hardman.

Work stopping when Napoleon inconveniently escaped from Elba and re-starting at the news of Waterloo resulted in a strange, unbalanced creation. It fell down in 1854 at the outbreak of the Crimean War. "An ill omen" gloomed the Halifax Courier. The 'model' still standing, which marked the peace of 1856, has the prudent addition of eight sturdy buttresses.

Moor tops are not the only places graced by a flourish of follies. In an echo of more elegant times, Northern parks have their share. **Lever Park**, on the banks of Rivington Reservoir, with its lakes, terraces and a huge sham ruin replica of Liverpool Castle, is an early 20th century tribute to the famous soapmaker's zeal.

The overgrown fate of **Cliviger's** lost pleasure gardens was a subject in a recent issue of **Pennine**. Two other folly landscapes, in municipal hands, have fared somewhat better.

Roundhay Park, Leeds, 800 acres were laid out for a local magnate in the 1820s, complete with sham castle and rustic hermitage. Tiny curiosity, **Oakworth Park**, in the Worth Valley, was the private paradise of millionaire inventor Sir Isaac Holden. Between 1864 and 1874, specially imported

French and Italian labourers transformed the hillside into a twilight world of caves, grottos and even a fake fossil tree.

Mill chimneys are surely too functional to join the ranks of follies. Yet for ostentation and extravagance, many have a claim.

Lister's Pride, the 250' 'spire' of Manningham Mills, Bradford was modelled in its golden stone magnificence, on the Renaissance Palazzo Vecchio. Similarly, the initial chimney of **Tower Works** Leeds, was inspired by the Lamberti Tower in Verona and its second, by no less than Giotto's Florentine campanile.

But 'folly of follies' must surely be awarded to the **Wainhouse Tower** above Halifax, one the country's finest.

The stunningly ornate, 275' mill chimney, built in 1875 at a cost of £14,000, was never used. Instead its owner retained his creation as an 'astronomical and physical observatory'.

Local gossip delighted that the 'tower of spite' spied on and enraged neighbouring industrialist Sir Harry Edwards with whom Wainhouse had a life long feud. Of course.

Intensive Care With A Duster

*Anthea Boulton
on a secret
winter world.*

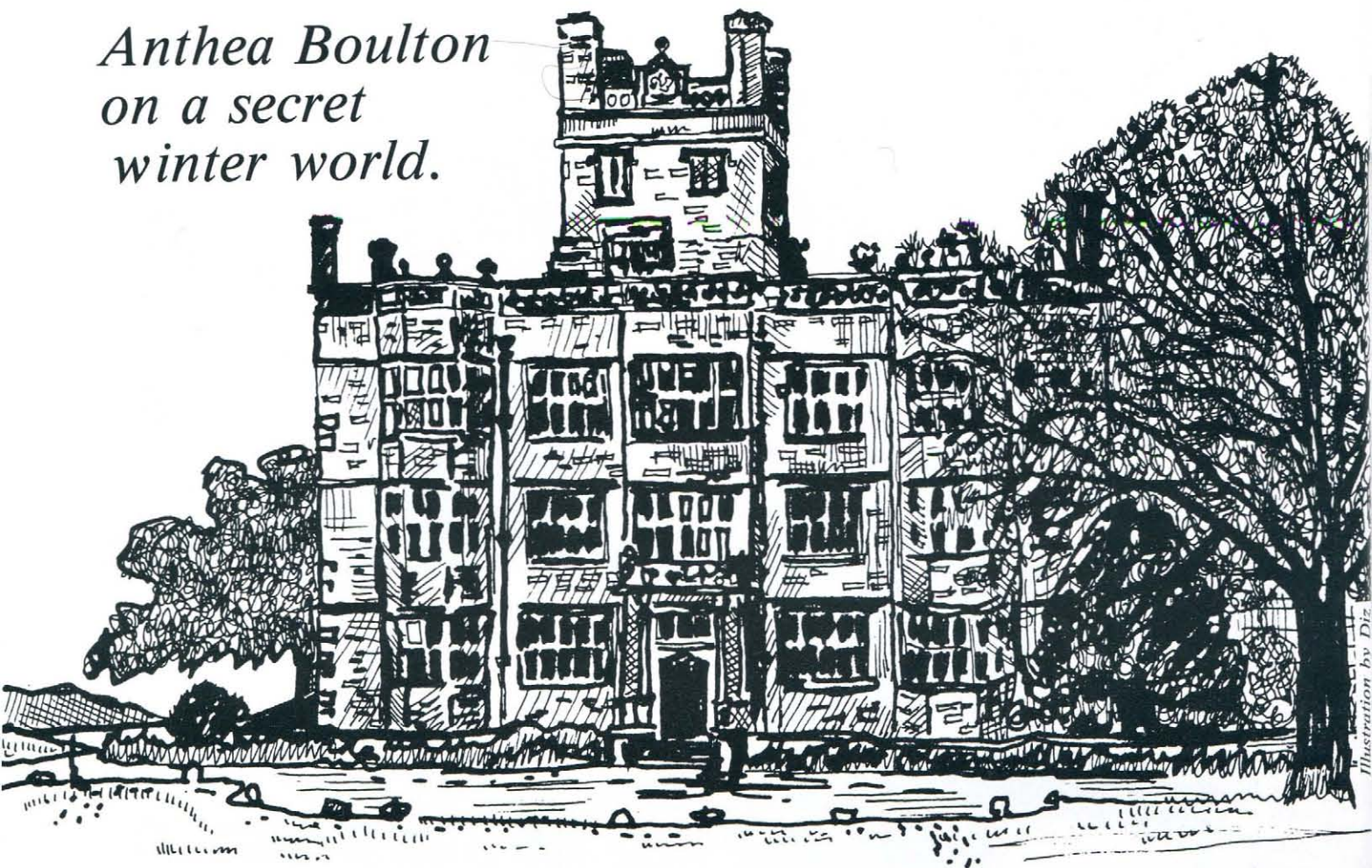


Illustration by Diz

On Good Friday, one of the Pennine's finest houses, Gawthorpe Hall in Padiham, emerges from winter hibernation and opens its doors to the public for another season.

As they walk through the elegantly furnished rooms, observant visitors may detect an extra gleam on the brass or woodwork, or a whiff of beeswax; but few of them will realize just how much work has gone into caring for the house while it was "resting".

To you and me, housework may be just another boring chore. But to the professionals who work in historic houses such as Gawthorpe, housework is elevated to an art - and an art with a history that has been practised winter after winter through the generations.

Gawthorpe was built between 1600 and 1605 by the Shuttleworth family, who continued to own it until 1970, when it was taken over by the National Trust. After 1669 the house fell into neglect but its glory was revived in the middle of the nineteenth century by Janet Shuttleworth and her husband Sir James Kay.

The pair engaged the eminent architect, Sir Charles Barry, (designer of the Houses of Parliament), to restore and refurbish Gawthorpe and it is Barry's sumptuous furnishing scheme which has been re-created by the Trust for the benefit of visitors today.

Original wallpapers have been reprinted, curtains have been conserved and re-hung and many items of furniture have been returned, on perma-

nent loan through the generosity of the present Lord Shuttleworth.

All of this makes Gawthorpe Hall a rather special place to visit. It also presents quite a problem for Sheila Stainton, official housekeeper for the National Trust, and for her assistant Caroline Rendell, who has specific responsibility for Gawthorpe.

"Dealing with the contents of a house can seem like treating patients in intensive care - in both cases you're working to preserve life", is how Caroline puts it to the team of cleaners she trains at Gawthorpe Hall.

"We have to create the right environment. Of course, that depends a great deal on the weather!"

"We must control the light, the temperature and the humidity. As light

fades natural materials such as textiles, paper, wood and feathers, Gawthorpe has had to instal blinds and cover windows with special film to absorb ultra violet light."

"The temperature should be kept steady, at something below 15 deg.C in winter and changes in humidity can be the most damaging of all. For instance, damp can warp paint on priceless canvases or rare inlaid wood. Its control is critical."

As Caroline spoke, I thought of my own home: sun streaming onto carpets and curtains, temperature swinging with the central heating timer and the humidity going berserk with steamy baths and boiling cabbage. But then, unlike the National Trust, I'm not conserving my home and its contents for the sake of future generations.

All this talk about "whirling hygrometers" (used to test humidity), ultra violet filters and the rest prompted me to wonder how so many of the Gawthorpe furnishings have managed to survive without these benefits.

"Good housekeeping" said Caroline. "No-one had ever heard the term 'positive conservation', but they certainly practised it."

"Covering furniture and excluding light when rooms were not in use goes at least as far back as the eighteenth century; and some of the recipes for household preparations have been handed down through the generations and are still in use today."

The last member of the family to live at Gawthorpe was the Honourable Rachel Kay-Shuttleworth, whose famous textile collections can be seen and studied today at the Hall.

Miss Rachel, as she was known, was born in 1886 and brought up at Gawthorpe. As a young woman she was, of course, surrounded by servants. Returning to the Hall in her later years, times were very different. Yet with just one elderly companion she gamely tackled blocked gutters and leaks in the roof and fought to see that the house was preserved. What would she think now, if she could see the house restored to its former glory!

For the small, but efficient, band of cleaners who care for Gawthorpe today, the task is demanding but brings its own rewards.

Take Bill, for example, up a ladder in the Drawing Room, cleaning the exquisite plaster frieze which runs round the walls. "It's wonderful", he said, "I never realised there was so much

detail. Mermaids and sea monsters, lions and serpents and great bowls of fruit - you see it all so well from up here."

Bill and his colleagues are, of course, professionals. They'll have nothing to do with fluffy yellow dusters or old cotton vest polishing rags.

Instead, they have butter muslin, mutton cloth and above all, brushes, in every size, shape and material. Banister brushes, black leading brushes, radiator brushes, brushes for putting polish on, others for taking it off. For some jobs they'll use a hogshair fitch, for others they'll choose a finer fox-hair brush and for very delicate work such as picture frames and gilded metalwork only a ponyhair brush will do.

Then there's the matter of what polish to use. For wood it has to be beeswax. (No aerosols please!)

In **The National Trust Manual of Housekeeping**, joint author, Sheila Stainton gives this recipe:

shred or grate the beeswax, put it into a screw-top jar and cover it with turpentine for a week or two, stirring occasionally. The resulting polish should have the consistency of a smooth paste and it may be necessary to add more turps. to get it just right i.e. very soft for marquetry, harder for plain woods.

At Gawthorpe some of the wood is so precious that the most careful treatment is to leave it alone. In the Drawing Room for example the fine original panelling is polished only every other year and simply buffed to a soft sheen in between.

Now, the great winter clean' is over for another year. Carpets have been relaid, curtains rehung, ornaments are back in their usual places - in fact, everything looks just as it did before.

That, of course, is the whole point of the exercise. Unobtrusive, the work may seem, but it's thanks to the housekeepers, past and present, that houses such as Gawthorpe are still here for us to enjoy, and will be here for many years to come.

Gawthorpe Hall open March 24th-Oct 31st; Tues-Sat; also Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday afternoons. Craft Gallery and Shop open daily ex. Monday. For lively series of craft courses, send SAE to Education Officer, Gawthorpe Hall, Padiham nr. Burnley.

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If you've already got fairies at the bottom of your garden, and consider gnomes passe, give a thought to the latest of gardening trends: *weeds*.

"A weed is only a plant in the wrong place" says Matthew Corder of **Landcare**. "A dandelion in your lawn is a flower in the countryside."

For Matthew and his partner Anne, weeds are a natural growth industry. Landscape architects, their fledgling design consultancy specialises in bringing nature back into our everyday lives ... and our back gardens.

"Until the last ten years" says Matthew, of Paris, Huddersfield, "nature conservation had focussed on protecting specific, isolated sites of exceptional scientific interest. Hence National Nature Reserves and Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Only recently has there been a growing awareness of the value and potential of the 'bits in between', from our parks and private gardens to our acres of derelict land."

"Many people want to see more trees, more wild flowers and more wildlife, not only in the countryside, but in town. Urban Wildlife Groups are setting up all over the place. In fact, so great is the interest that not only farmers and developers but politicians are radically changing their attitudes."

Landcare was founded ten months ago, to turn this new environmental awareness into practical action through *creative conservation*.

"We specialise" says Matthew "in re-creating or, if necessary, artificially constructing natural habitats. Using ecological principle of natural soil/plant/wildlife relationships, we create the landscapes that Nature, given half a chance, would establish herself."

Several years work with Kirklees Council gave the Corders the chance for experimental work in natural solutions to landscape problems.

"We found the approach particularly suited to difficult situations" says Matthew. "In fact, it could be said to thrive in adversity which is why it's an ideal approach to reclaiming our unloved, unused urban acres."

Hence a building site in Elland is about to burst into natural Spring glory, courtesy of Corder-style creative conservation. "Grit, clay and rubble, you're talking about a very acid environment. We've planted ox-eye

A Natural Growth Industry

Why Paris wants Pennine to eschew paraquat.



Rowan.

daisies, self heal and yellow rattle. Nice and showy for a public site and not too fussy."

A Morley development site is also set to blossom, this time with a wild hedgerow border of "hawthorn, dog rose, elder and isolated hedgerow trees such as ash, wild cherry and rowan."

Local industrialists have not been slow to see the benefits of a pleasing natural environment, not only in terms of staff morale, but, in these greener-by-the-minute-days, in terms of corporate public relations.

However, the Corders are happy to work on more modest schemes.



ox-eye daisies.

An old peoples' home at Harrogate will shortly boast a semi-woodland border and a number of private gardens may well revert to bogs. Bog gardens that is, complete with pond and a marshland environment of flag iris, purple loosestrife, water mint and meadowsweet. To be followed by the damsel flies, frogs, insect-eating birds and small mammals which form the rich cycle of natural life. A seductive contrast indeed to the comparative formality and order of the cautious Great British Garden.

"Of course each environment is different" warns Matthew. "Like any other profession, we give free consultations, look at the soil and terrain and advise on what is realistic."

One suspects Anne Corder takes a more passionate view. "It's important to listen to the spirit of the place. To have a feel for its contours and to sense its natural energy and rhythms."

From a western point of view, perhaps an unorthodox enthusiasm, (though one with a growing number of British proponents.) In the East however, no self-respecting Chinese mandarin would have dreamed of building his house, let alone his garden, without due consideration to the best configuration of forces in the earth.

In that subtle alliance alone, Peking and Paris, Huddersfield should prove more than a match for the sterile green-lawn-and-lollipop-tree brigade.

Local sites of creative conservation include: Cliffe House, Shepley, Huddersfield; Spen Valley Bird Sanctuary, Dewsbury; Southern Wasteland Scheme, Stanley Marsh and Stanley Ferry Flash, Wakefield.

Further reading; City Wildscapes, Smyth and Shipman; Promoting Nature in Cities and towns, Emery; A Guide to Habitat Creation, Baines and Smart.

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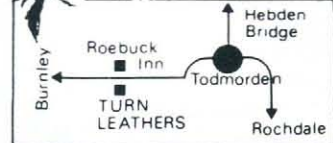
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I little thought my life was to take on a new direction when I set out one sunny evening last May to visit the house a friend was restoring in Staffordshire.

The lovely old early 17th century house needed even more work than usual. While it stood empty, two boys had joy-ridden a mechanical digger through it!

Our chatting about the work in progress and plans for the house in the future led on to speculation about its past.

The new window put in up there, the signs of a vanished outbuilding, the blocked up doorway. They told the story of the bricks and mortar but not of the people who made the changes or why. Hardly seasoned when Cavaliers fought the Roundheads, which side had the silent old house taken? What had it seen since?

As an historian, I was able to suggest some possible lines of enquiry. Afterwards, I was struck by the thought that here was a situation faced not only by my friend. Tired of city life, crowded suburbs and 'little boxes', more and more people were attracted to the beauty and character of our old traditional houses. All around them were the tangible remains of the past but the human stories and dramas were lost.

Carolean Historical Services was born. Its aim; to offer an exclusively researched insight into peoples' most treasured possession, their home.

Just months before that fateful Staffordshire visit, I had taken early retirement from teaching, looking for ways to combine a life-long interest in local Lancashire and Pennine history with my experience of historical research.

It seemed to me that the busy professional people buying up our fine old houses had neither the knowledge and certainly not the time to unravel their own 'home story'. Was I right? Was there a market for the Service out there?

Fittingly perhaps, beginnings were humble: a one-time farm labourer's cottage at Scarisbrick. As a first assignment, uphill work. Even so, it produced an interesting reminder of the largely forgotten but once flourishing South West Lancashire linen industry. The former name of the house had been Nogginer's Cottage, 'noggin' being the waste from flax used to make cheap cloth.

From that first commission, and since, my search begins with the house deeds. Not as straightforward as it sounds.

HOME TRUTHS

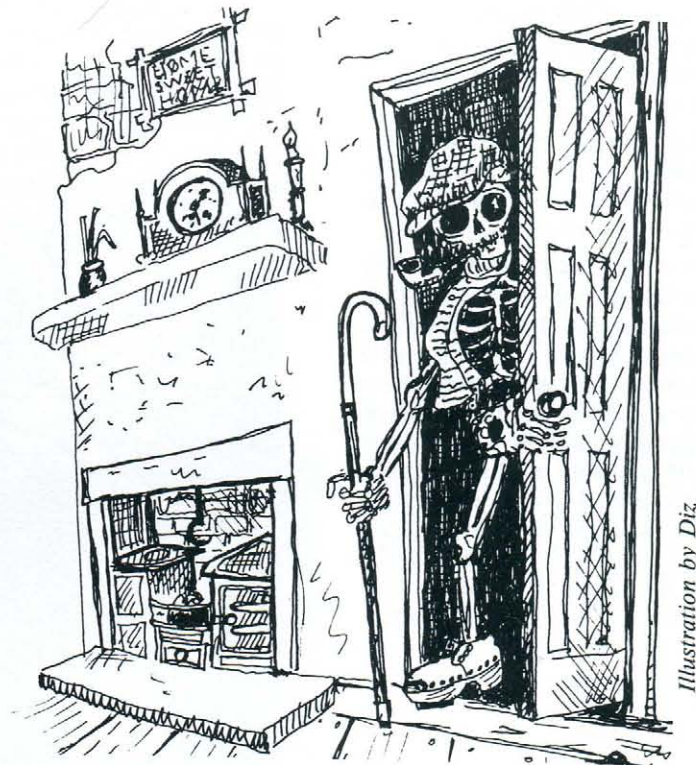


Illustration by Diz

David Brazendale looks for skeletons in the closet.

Modern land registration procedures make it no longer necessary to keep the old deeds to prove a title. Thus many solicitors and building societies are disposing of them.

The deeds help to establish the *chain of occupancy* of the house, the vital initial framework for research. The hunt then broadens to the masses of family and official papers held in County Record Offices up and down the country. Turning up wills and inventories is a real bonus. These 'capture' the contents and furnishings of the house at one moment in its past.

It's really a jigsaw process, with inevitable hitches. For example, houses until quite recently were identified by the occupier's name, not by an address. That can make it very difficult to pick up the trail if records are missing.

But almost every house, however humble, has a story to tell. (If we just *can't* trace one, only a nominal charge is made.)

However, the more important a house has been, the easier the research. At present for example, I'm working on

a 17th century Lancashire longhouse near Preston. It's a splendid listed building with crucks construction, but I can't tell you too much more. The house history in its own bound volume, is going to be a surprise birthday present from the lady to her husband!

I enjoy the human insights. The bevy of seven unmarried brothers and sisters who ran the Preston farm in Victorian times. The struggles at Nogginers Cottage to repay the rent arrears and its remortgaging to the 'Chip Potato Dealer'. Sometimes the stories are more tragic. At Diggle in Saddleworth for example, the paper mill owner's son was knocked down and lost his leg on the nearby railway line.

In just nine months of work it's been the start of a new world. Not just of the past but of the present as I travel round the North meeting people from such widely different backgrounds.

Of course, I can't always turn up a skeleton in the closet. But with luck, there'll be one in there somewhere!

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Knowl Moor, Owd Betts and the Ashworth Valley along the Rochdale-Rossendale border are familiar landmarks to many natives of Rochdale and Bury. Yet, the valley which lies beside and links these familiar places is little known and often even unrecognised by its name - the **Cheesden Valley**.

This lack of renown very much belies the character, charm and industrious past which is held within this forgotten valley.

Explorers tracing the Cheesden Valley follow the line of the Cheesden Brook from its source on the hills behind Owd Betts on Scout Moor. They discover a changing vista of landscapes which gradually transform from open moorlands in the north to a deep gorge in the south bounded by cliffs of sandstone, shales and clay with small clearings amid richly wooded slopes, all overlooked by more fertile farmlands. In among are clues to the valley's past communities, its industry, its times of prosperity and of change.

Today the moors seem empty and almost desolate, patterned with rush, broken stone walling and the occasional sycamore. And yet, these very walls and sycamores provide a key to understanding the valley's past identity. Closer investigation will show that the trees, originally planted for shelter, mark the sites of old farmhouses some of which vaguely retain their pattern amid the rush and nettles and the remnants of stone walling indicate the numerous field boundaries of many past settlements in the area.

In 1851 there were 97 adults and 72 children living on a small part of these moors. The 1834 Township Survey records that the same area of moors was occupied by buildings which included 17 farmhouses, each with on average approximately 15 acres; various cottages and houses; 2 public houses with brewhouses and stables; a dairy; a pottery and clay mill; clay pits and stone quarries.

The infertile moors could not alone sustain so large a community. Therefore its living was, in a typical Pennine manner, supplemented through the commercial use of the physical resources of the valley. Abundant local supplies of gritstone and clay and high levels of rainfall provided materials for reservoirs, lodges and channels which, together with the fall of the Cheesden Brook over shelves of rock from the high moors to the deep valley, provided the power for the mills which developed eventually along the



TURNING OVER THE STONES

Judith Schofield of Littleborough Civic Trust finds lessons in a hidden landscape.

length of the Brook. The narrow and rich but wet seams of the many coal mines in the area later supplied additional power for the mill engines.

Although a few of the mills predated the 19th century, the 1800's saw an explosion of industry with 16 different mill sites in existence at one time within the Cheesden Valley, some with their own clusters of worker's cottages. The

character of the mills varied from small moorland concerns operated by part time farmers to a towering multi-storey complex at Birtle Dene situated towards the southern end of the valley. Yet today the legacy left by this outburst of enterprise and effort lies tumbled in the grass.

The demise for such a massive investment of materials, money and effort

was sudden. Shortly after 1900 only the small mill at Washwheel remained in operation. Even the Birtle Dene complex which opened in 1824 was closed by 1894. The reasons? Competition from large main valley textile mills and the purchase by the Water Authority of the moorland farms for catchment grounds prior to the construction of Ashworth Moor Reservoir in 1898. Problems of increasing costs

ly from an academic, historical and archaeological perspective, hold an almost magical quality in their woodland setting a wonderful stage for the riotous imagination!

Along the valley, ruins of other mills, lodges, underground flues, water channels and cottages are dimly discernible. Spotting them depends both on the astuteness of the viewer and the time of year. It is amazing that as a result

Agricultural policy have led to major debate about new opportunities for agriculture, forestry, recreation and environmental conservation. Recent Government initiatives propose schemes to take marginal land out of production; to grant aid new farming enterprise from woodland management to farm shops, open days to nature trails. It may well be that the Cheesden Valley, always marginal land and near large leisure-seeking populations, is about to find its pattern of life changing once again.

This is surely then the time to look to the valley's future; to its 'countryside management', the term used for the planned and positive coordination of potentially conflicting interests in farming, tourism and conservation.

Informally local farmers have already shown an enthusiastic response to growing visitor numbers. Several are working with local Groundwork Trusts in planting hedgerows, creating wildlife wetland habitats and holding farm open days. Walking trails, leaflets and a visitor centre are other possibilities, but planning for this visitor pressure is already timely and soon may be critical.

Is there in fact a case for 'zoning' the valley on paper? For appointing a project officer to pinpoint and 'manage' areas where agriculture, leisure and conservation each take their proper priority, *before chance for conflict occurs*? An ambitious plan but it *can* be achieved.

Indeed Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council as the local authority responsible for a major part of the valley has been looking to future management proposals which, in principle, have already been warmly received by the relevant Committee. Frustratingly however, these proposals are now floundering due to the Local Authority's lack of finance and labour - even though English Heritage has offered cash grants for part of the vital conservation work in the valley.

Positive action must be taken soon if significant landmarks are not to be lost.

In the meantime, the Cheesden Brook still tumbles through its forgotten world and grass grows over the stones. Please remember the enjoyment and delight the valley offers to those who seek it out and help to ensure its special value remains secure.

An excellent booklet by Messrs. Sandiford and Ashworth, **The Forgotten Valley**, is available locally.



Photo above: Cheesden Lumb Mill.

of obtaining coal and lack of an adequate transport route along the valley all contributed to the sudden desolation. The cottages at Deeply Hill remained, still supplied by coal from Wind Hill Colliery. But the tramway which supplied the tiny community was to close in 1909. By the mid 1950's these cottages too were abandoned and subsequently dismantled for their slate and stone.

What then is left standing in the classic Pennine landscape of rags-to-riches-to-rags? Ironically, the most significant survivor is probably the earliest mill in the valley - Cheesden Lumb Lower Mill with its three storey facade archway and waterfall. It now provides an attractive focal point for picnics and walkers but is in urgent need of stabilisation. The ruins of the mills at Deeply Vale whilst important not on-

of the growth of the lush vegetation in so short a time the uninformed rambler can in summer pass by the once huge Birtle Dene completely unaware of the existence of a past empire.

The explorer in the lower Cheesden Valley finds a somewhat different picture. Whilst the small moorland farms were amalgamated through their purchase by the Water Authority, farms on the lower more fertile lands have continued on a more gradual trend of amalgamation and this retained their viability. (Incidentally, farmers here are still very dependent on secondary incomes to support a moderate lifestyle.)

Yet in the lower valley too, times of change are coming.

The current economic climate and the consequences of the EEC's Common

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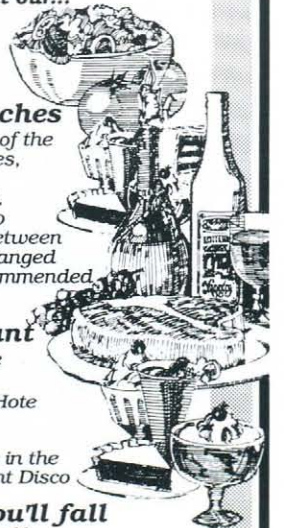
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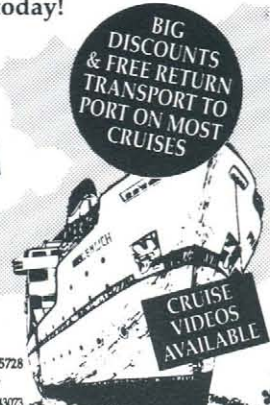
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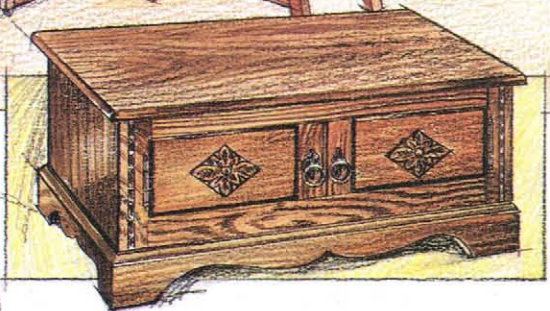
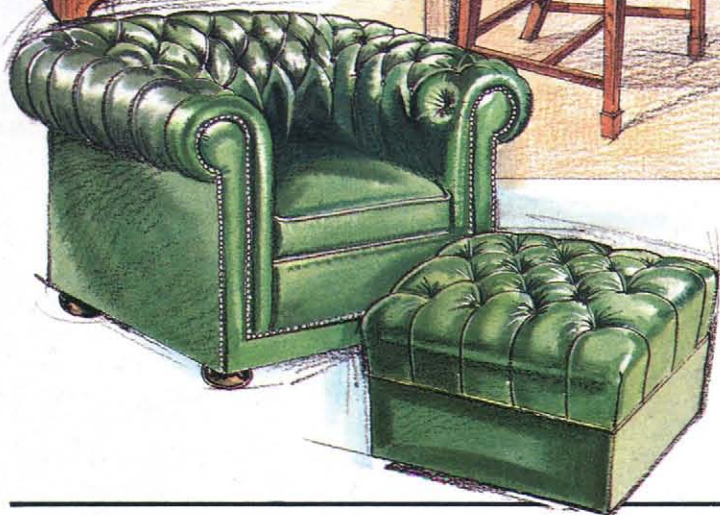
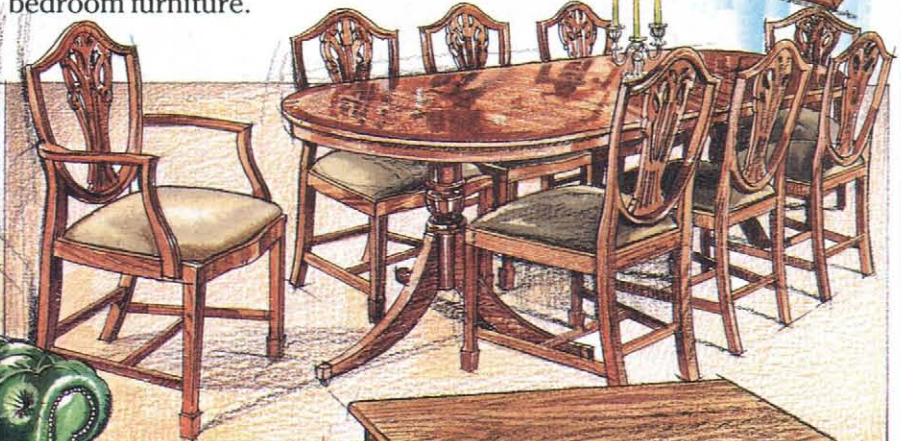


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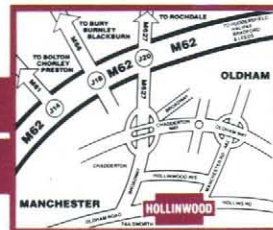
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