

West Riding Woodcarvers' Association

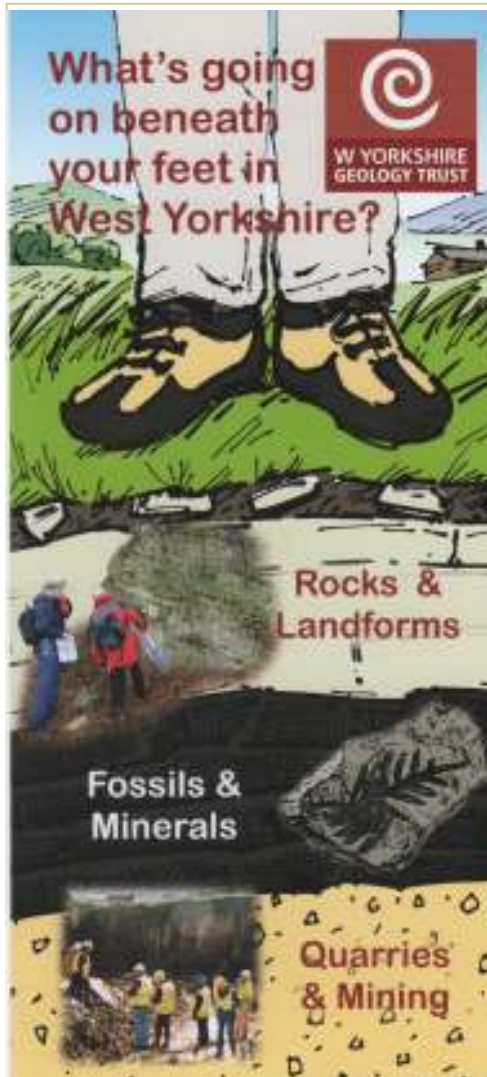


June 2013
Newsletter Issue 218

Patron
Dr Ingrid M Roscoe
Lord Lieutenant of
West Yorkshire

Life members
Anne Hobson
Albert Hobson

Alison Tynon West Yorkshire Geology Trust- 15th June 2013



Alison kindly stepped in at the last minute as our speaker for June and proved to be an incredibly interesting and informative speaker who took us all on a journey back in time. Her years of teaching came across in the entertaining and enthusiastic manner in which she held her audience spellbound.

I'm sure not many of us realised what was actually going on, and has been going on for millions and millions of years, underneath our feet. Mighty deltas, steamy tropical forests and dying seas of years gone past and all the evidence is still all around us in the quarries, cuttings and even the building stones of our local areas.

Assisted, by the always helpful Arthur, Alison managed to demonstrate the evolution of our planet by the unusual method of a knitted coloured scarf that stretched nearly the length of the room. At Arthur's end was the 'big bang' and way in the distant at Alison's end was the start of man's progress on Earth. To all our amazement we were informed that man's time on Earth only corresponded to a mere millimetre at the very end of the scarf. The rest was made up of hell type fires, glaciers and dinosaurs.

By means of slides Alison took her audience through the rocks and landscape of Kirklees, Calderdale and Wakefield. Way through the passage of time with various tales centred on such as the Holmfirth area where 320 million years ago massive rivers washing grit and sand into a delta that covered half of Yorkshire. Other references covered the greatest tropical forests the world has ever seen around the Wakefield area that eventually transformed into coal. Calderdale is all 'grit' stone, of course!



Meeting on Saturday 13th July 2013: Our speaker for July is a gentleman called Andy Lodge who has been recommended to us by Mark Raby the wood finisher who was our speaker in June last year.

Mark informs me that Andy is a very interesting and amusing speaker. Andy is a very accomplished turner who decorates his turnings by carving into them. He is also a top class stick maker. To be quite honest I don't really know much more about Andy but I've booked speakers on less information that have turned out to be first class. So turn up please and be entertained.

Meeting on Saturday 10th August 2013: It has been agreed between Jane and Adrian that the August meeting be **cancelled** this year for two reasons. One we are having difficulty finding a speaker but also on Saturday 10th August quite a good number of us will be at the Halifax Agricultural Show stewarding the display of the Forget-Me-Not children's hospice panel.

Meeting on Saturday 14th September 2013: We are still looking for a speaker for this date but things are looking positive.

Meeting on Saturday 12th October 2013: We have a full day booking for the return of Thompson Dagnall. Many of you will remember Thompson from previous visits and for those who haven't had the pleasure of meeting him do yourself a favour and keep this date free. He is a terrific speaker. I have an agreement with Thompson that if he runs out of conversation, very unlikely knowing him, that he will finish the day off by singing to us. He is a member of a very popular folk group, so popular that I can't remember its name, but you can just imagine him playing his guitar with his old leather cap over his eyes.

Forget-Me-Not Children's Hospice Panel:

We had a very good turn out for the viewing of the panel by club members on the evening of Tuesday 18th June, a few days before the official opening by Princess Beatrice on the Friday 21st. Unfortunately a number of the moving carvings didn't work quite as expected, we think because of the change in the atmosphere between Derek's workshop, which is at the bottom of his garden and a home for millions of spiders, and the very warm hospice building. Just a slight change in temperature would be enough to tighten up Graham's spindles, belts and pulleys that are attached to the motors that work the moving parts.

On the positive side we did what we promised and managed to get the panel in situ before the official opening but, unfortunately, for us the beautiful stone carving of the two little girls managed to command most of the attention of the media. Not that the media went overboard, especially the dreadful Friday edition of the now defunct Halifax Daily Courier.

Adrian and Graham attended the opening where we were allocated just the two places. Adrian has written the following for your pleasure:

Appropriately dressed Graham and Adrian arrived at the hospice, passed through two sets of security before being met by their designated hostess for the afternoon, Gina Fielden. (We all remember Gina receiving donations from WRWA at both Shepley and Meltham).

We had to endure copious glasses of wine (non alcoholic) along with canapés, for an hour before the royal party arrived. HRH Princess Beatrice of York had Dr Roscoe at her side continuously, but discreetly. The royal party were shown around the hospice before joining the guests who were located in the lounge/dining area. Dr Roscoe insisted that her 'carving colleagues' were introduced to Princess Beatrice; they paid appropriate homage of course and the Princess enthused about the panel.

The royal party and the guests then proceeded outside to the stone sculpture of the two little girls, which was covered over. (A commemorative plaque was secured to the base of the sculpture). Following a short and well delivered speech, the Princess formally unveiled the sculpture and acknowledged that the two girls were there. One of the hospice children presented the Princess with flowers and a commemorative gift. Afterwards the royal party took their leave.

A glass of pimm's was then taken on the lawn after which we all proceeded back into the hospice lounge for afternoon tea. All guests viewed the panel which received great applause and compliments to the high standard of craftsmanship overall.

A very enjoyable afternoon. Adrian

The plan is then to display the panel in the Huddersfield Parish Church from the 25th July to the 31st July then at the Halifax Agricultural Show on Saturday 10th August followed by a week in the Wakefield Cathedral, and I'm sorry I'm not sure of the date. More details will follow soon.

Holmfirth Art Show

Stewarding Schedule for the show:

I understand that Sunday 7th July is fully covered.

Monday 8th July:

10:00 to 12:00am Frank Greenwood, George Crawshaw, Margaret Myatt
12:00 to 2:00pm David Hey, Colin Pratley
02:00 to 4:00pm Peter Keene, Dennis Farmer
04:00 to 6:00pm Peter Keene, Arthur Brook
06:00 to 9:00pm Margaret and Geoff Brumfield

Tuesday 9th July:

10:00 to 12:00am David and Barbara Holt
12:00 to 2:00pm Adrian and Anne Lindley
02:00 to 4:00pm Arthur Brook
04:00 to 6:00pm John Dean, Bryan Hodgson
06:00 to 9:00pm Margaret and Jeff Myatt

More stewards are required. Please contact Margaret.



I think Graham must have been at the bar!

Mike Hadfield has a box full of very good veneers that he is willing to give to anybody in the club who can use them.



More Limericks from John Farrar. (Only because I've run out of things to write)

An Indian carver called Singh
Made a piece in the shape of a ring
After lauding its merit
He ran out of credit
When told it was nothing but bling

An African carver called Black
Whose workplace was merely a shack
Would carve you a flea
Or a frog up a tree
For the price of the shirt on his back

Overgate and Kirkwood Hospice

The club has been invited to look round the new extension to the Kirkwood Hospice and 50 places have been booked, by Jane, on Tuesday 18th July at 7:20pm.

If you intend to have a look round, and have the opportunity of renewing your acquaintance with our millennium panel, then please let Jane know.

Dennis, Bryan and I have a meeting arranged with the architects at Overgate Hospice on Monday July 15th at 9:30am. We understand that the wall the panel is mounted on is planned for removal to allow the building of a new entrance.