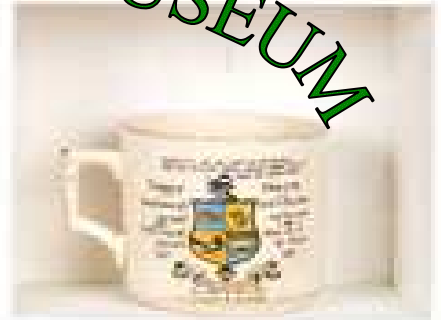


FRIENDS OF SWALEDALE MUSEUM

Newsletter No.20 Autumn 2015



Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter.

I'm not sure which success to start with, the Anniversary Party, the Tea Party, the membership numbers, or the talks. The 10th Anniversary Party, held at the Museum, was a huge success and great fun. There was drink, there was food, there was music, and there were Alan and Julia Thorogood dressed in 1970s clothes (Alan's still fitted him which was very impressive), and Julia's blonde wig was a triumph! The Tea Party held in the garden of Hudson House was, as usual, good fun with plenty of party food and some very attractive outfits. Yes, a shower did force us inside briefly, but we all gamely went outside again to finish our tea. Lots of new Friends have been signing up which is excellent news. Tracy has spent a long time sorting out how to mail the membership in the most efficient way without being blocked as spam by assorted servers and has succeeded in using Mailchimp to do this. The talks have been very well attended, particularly by Friends, and have, as always, been both interesting and sometimes challenging. I remember the Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Quiz as being both! The website continues to be one of the clearest and most attractive ones I have used, and the Facebook page appears to be getting more 'friends' and 'likes', which has to be a positive after a slow start.

The Museum is currently closed for a well earned winter break but we look forward to welcoming you through the doors in the new season.

Janet Bishop,
Chair of the Friends of Swaledale Museum



Alan & Julia Thorogood definitely took first prize for getting into the spirit of the evening at our 1970s themed summer party, celebrating 10 years of the Friends!

Visitors love the Museum's sun trap walled garden - so do the plants! This is the 2015 pear harvest from trees grown as traditional cordons against the wall



This season has seen a welcome upturn in visitors, after the disaster of 2014! Regular visitors returned, and new ones have arrived. We have also seen lots more children and Friends in the Museum. Some of our favourite comments in this year's visitors' book include those from the Thompsons from Leicester: 'We had a lovely visit as a family, interesting, interactive, lovely environment, thank you'; Elwyn Blomfield from Cumbria: 'Wonderful! So much information- and fun!'; Fosters from Gloucestershire: 'Love it - so imaginative and engaging'; Peter Hele from Essex: 'Brings our walks to life!'; Rossers from Devon: 'Excellent because so much of it relates to real people in the area'; Siddles from Bishop Auckland: 'We call every year, always interesting'

All this is heart-warming in the context of the closure of so many museums in the current economic climate. Many of you will know that the wonderful Yorkshire Dales Mining Museum at Earby shut this year. We believe that a local museum should be at the heart of the area, the first place visitors want to call to get an impression of the origins and development of the locale to enhance their visit, and the first place locals want to bring their friends and family, a place where what is local is valued. The support of the Friends of the Museum is crucial to our survival.

EXHIBITIONS

There has been an excellent response to this year's exhibition 'Text Message'. One of the many reasons for staging temporary displays is to gather information. No exhibition is the final word on a subject, merely a means of drawing attention to it. So we have been delighted to meet a relation of James Postgate, and benefit from the knowledge and generosity of descendants of John Spence, both printers based in Reeth. Many have also bought our specially printed cards from the posters. We are already working on the exhibitions for 2016. Roger Preston, a new Friend of the Museum is presenting a range of his new work: dramatic black and white photographs of the surface remains of the local lead mines. He has also been helping enhance the quality of many of John Hardy's photographs taken in the 1970s and 1980s which we have in the

*The Swaledale Museum is open for the 2016 season from 16th May, 10am to 5pm daily.
Groups are warmly welcome at other times by appointment.*

archive so we are doubly grateful to him. It was also in conversation with Roger, who brought in a handsome ceramic egg-cup, boldly decorated with the word 'Gunnarside' that inspiration for another show developed - a small display of 'Souvenirs of Swaledale and

Arkengarthdale'. We have a handsome gilded beaker 'A present from Keld', a little circular dish from Gunnarside, and a handsome polychrome jug with a scene from Thwaite. We are keen to see more of these ceramic (and other) souvenirs. Do you have any? On a visit to the Dales Countryside Museum, we found several glamorous items from Muker. Was this village ahead in souvenir sales? Do you have any of these items, do let us know!



'Presents from Muker' courtesy of the DCM, Hawes

DISPLAY

We are working on a cabinet acquired thanks to the Big Dig, that will set the stage for a review of the findings of the project for 2016, and be of lasting use as display space, always a pressing priority. This new piece of exhibition furniture required a re-think of the downstairs display, meaning you will need to visit the Museum in 2016 to see what we have done! Scenic View Gallery in Reeth have replaced a damaged display panel, which was urgently needed and produced an enhanced version of a photograph taken in Spence Level. The handsome result is much appreciated, and we are grateful to the Friends of the Museum for funding this essential work.

DONATIONS

We would like to thank Anthony Buxton for a most generous donation to the Museum in memory of his father, George who died in August this year. The Buxton family arrived in the dales from Derbyshire in the seventeenth century, along with the Barkers, settling predominantly in Gunnarside. When we took the Museum over in 2004 we noticed how interested visitors were in a family tree of the Buxton family, which by then was rather dog-eared and out-of-date. By extraordinary coincidence George and his wife popped in to visit, just as we were worrying about how to go about the research. His detailed knowledge of his Swaledale ancestors, his infectious enthusiasm, and generosity in sharing his research meant that we were able to create a new panel, enhanced with material from his family archives. This project rekindled the links that George's father had made with the Museum in the 1980s, and continues into 2015 as Anthony and his family have joined the Friends of the Museum. We will miss George's annual visits, his rapid-response emails, and his stalwart support of the Museum. However thanks to the generosity of the Buxtons we have a splendid archive of family research in the Library, objects in the Museum, and perhaps what is the most important firm links with the next generation.



The indomitable Hannah Buxton from George's family files. Hannah emigrated to Wisconsin with some of her family in 1849 when she was aged around 60

EVENTS

It has been a very busy year, with an action packed timetable. Our Wednesday screenings from the archive have proved popular with many Friends, who have also helped us add information. Special thanks go to Barbara Buckingham whose comments have been invaluable, and to those who have regularly attended. We also benefited from Anne Hewitt's weekly craft 'residence'. She has engaged and inspired so many with her thoughtful responses to our wonderful landscape in stitch, knit and weave. It has been a delight to hear animated conversations in the upper gallery, and be part of her evolving projects. The only problem has been a personal lust for her scarves, which she brought in along with her loom and sketch books! Hazel Townesend sold several copies of her book here at a special signing of 'I Will Not Kill' which centres on the experiences of the Richmond Sixteen incarcerated in Richmond Castle during the First World War. Thanks to all of you who came.

We have had lively sessions with the Middleham Local History Group with whom we explored 'Shopping in Reeth 1750-1950', and with the South Durham U3A group when we launched out on a social, economic and cultural history tour of Reeth Green. Via the Big Dig project we were delighted to welcome school children from Richmond and the dale to examine 'fragments' from our past: drawing, interpreting and re-contextualising. We had great fun, and were amazed by the children's interrogative skills. We have also been out and about giving talks and tours for Grinton Youth Hostel (at Richmond Castle) and Marrick Priory, where we focused on the fragments of glass which survive from the Priory which are in the Museum collection. We feel that the way forward is to attract more groups, whether for morning, afternoon or day educational events, or for hire - for example we host the Reeth and District Community Bus AGM here each year. So if you belong to a group - why not see what we can offer for a special customised event at the Museum?

Perhaps the single most successful aspect of 2015 has been the Friends of the Museum talks. This year we have seen full houses for most of them. We started off with the friendly competitiveness of the quiz 'So You Think You Know Your Swaledale and Arkengarthdale?' which accompanied the AGM, followed with a packed house for Tim Laurie's opening talk on 'Prehistoric Roundhouses', and Keith Sweetmore's 'Three Lost Properties'. The next two talks moved from landscape and buildings to objects: Mary Hubbard's research on knitting sticks (for which she brought part of her amazing collection for us to handle) and Marion Moverley's innovative talk which united the worlds of tea drinking and Methodism, both making full use of items from the Museum collection. Ann Henderson's powerful and moving talk took us to the unexplored arena of Women's Suffrage and Swaledale, with a call for help to discover how this movement, so widely supported and reported upon in the North, must have impacted on the dales. Tim Laurie's earlier talk created the demand for part two, and the season came to an end with presentations on the various aspects of the newly formed Local History Group.

Screenings from the Archive & Reserve Collection
Every Wednesday afternoon in July, August & September. Full programme in the Spring Newsletter.



Some of the audience admiring a very small part of Mary Hubbard's collection of knitting sticks.

RESEARCH SUPPORT

As part of our work as a Museum we are always helping people with their research, the following gives a flavour of the variety of requests we tackle, and the knowledge hub of which we are the centre. We were delighted to assist Gillian Figures with her work on Keld in the First World War for her Keld Heritage Centre Talk, and Sue Nicholson who is working on local schools. She was able to consult various log books

and develop her project into a major recording exercise (*see more of this later in the Newsletter on page 5*). The daughter of Major John Parry came to the Museum hunting for information on Parry's time in Reeth with the RECCE Corps. The Longstaffs of Darlington 'Found old family photos I didn't even know existed. Brilliant!', while Dan Mercer, of the Newcastle Scouts found us 'very interesting on lead mining for our research expedition'. John Place consulted his grandfather's account books, as part of his publication on James R Place; while Grant White came in with a photograph of his grandfather John Booth, and we were able to take him directly to the house he lived in. This work continues throughout the year.

We also benefit from the research of others. Pippa from Darlington has helped us identify several of our mystery objects, including the strange wooden 'spoon-like' object (*below right*) that has eluded identification for over 12 years. This we now confidently know is the handle to a tithe bag, of which an example survives at St Cuthbert's in Darlington. She is now working her way through several other objects. Thank you Pippa!

Thank you to those who have helped with Museum duty, giving us a break from our daily commitment, and to the sterling work of the Committee. We depend upon you as Friends to come to events, bringing your visitors to see us and telling everyone about us. We cannot survive without you, and deeply appreciate your support. We look forward to seeing you when we re-open on 16th May 2016, with another action packed programme and new things to see and do. In the meantime if you have any suggestions for events, activities, displays or good ideas which you think we might develop, let us know!

*Helen Bainbridge
Curator*



Earlier in the year Hazel Townesend launched her new novel, 'I will not kill', based on the story of a group of conscientious objectors imprisoned in Richmond castle facing the death penalty during the Great War.

The idea for the book came out of a project which she undertook while studying for a degree at Ripon College. During her research she came across the story of the Richmond Sixteen, mostly men from Yorkshire and the North-East of England, and felt their story was worthy of a wider audience. Hazel says: "As a Quaker myself, I have some sympathy with them, and I realised that there was a story to tell."

During the course of the war, when it became obvious that not enough men were signing up voluntarily, the government introduced the Military Service Act, requiring most able bodied men to register for military or naval service. Most complied although some registered but refused to fight, enlisting instead into the non-combatant corps. Others, such as the Richmond Sixteen, refused to register at all, and were deemed absolutist conscientious objectors. Eventually they were sent to the Western Front and sentenced to death. Although this was never carried out for fear of creating martyrs, they did receive lengthy prison sentences.

Nearly 15 years after the original inspiration Hazel has finished her fictionalised account of their story and came to the Museum in August to sign copies. The book is on sale at the Museum during the season and also from Castle Hill Bookshop in Richmond.



Hazel signing a copy of her book for Museum visitor Graham Chandler



Two of our great supporters, George Buxton and Lawrence Barker together in the Museum in 2010.

Many of you will already know that in June this year Swaledale lost one of its great figures, Lawrence Barker. Lawrence played a very special and integral role in the development of the Museum. He was one of the earliest supporters of the venture, not only loaning objects from his extensive collection, but also sharing his deep knowledge of the dales. We were honoured that this support continued after we took the Museum over in 2004. Lawrence was a touchstone for us, and so many aspects of the Museum benefit from his influence. So great was our debt we organised a special conference to celebrate the pivotal role he played in the understanding of our local heritage. I can do no better than direct you to Duncan Bythell's appreciation of Lawrence which appeared in the *Proceedings*, published by the Northern Mines Research Society in 2011. We will miss his regular visits, his advice and wry humour, but his legacy lives on in the fine collection in the Museum, and the fascination it inspires in all our visitors, past and to come.



Mystery Object

There were no suggestions for the previous Mystery Object (right) from Witney Museum but if they ever find out what it was we'll report back! This one is a little hard to see without taking the whole page for the photo but it was unearthed on a local rubbish dump a few years ago. It's about 4 inches tall, made of cast lead and looks as though it should have been fixed on top of something - it certainly wouldn't stand up by itself. Some details are very finely done, the fingers and the cravat for example, but the face is quite rough and there are no feet. First reactions are that it looks like a monkey dressed as a cobbler. Any suggestions welcome!



Phil Batman is a retired professor of pathology who is researching kinship families in some rural and urban areas of Yorkshire which saw massive migration in the 19th century, including Swaledale. He was born in York, lives in Ilkley, and fell in love with Swaledale many years ago.

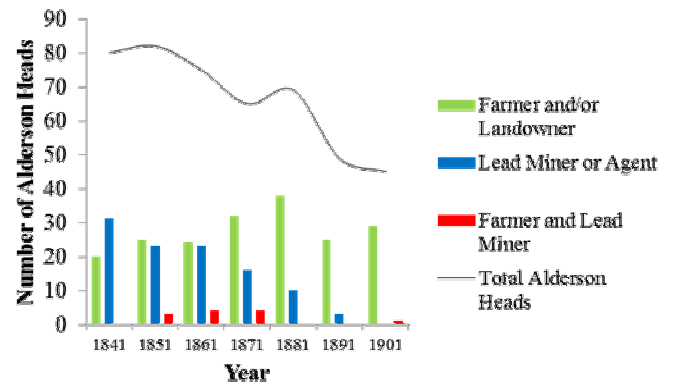
A study of kinship families in some rural and urban regions of 19th century Yorkshire

The aim of this PhD study is to look at the structure of 'core' or kinship families and the factors which influenced their survival or decline in markedly contrasting regions of England, namely some districts of York and rural Swaledale throughout the nineteenth century. Each of these study areas experienced significant migration in the nineteenth century, namely Irish immigrants in York following the potato famine, railway workers in York during the railway era, and lead miners in Swaledale.

The Alderson family network was the largest kinship family of Upper Swaledale in the mid-nineteenth century. There were 80 households in the dale headed by an individual with the surname of Alderson in 1841. The family declined relentlessly through the second half of the century, with a faltering resurgence in 1881. This decline in Alderson heads across the dale is attributed overall to the decline of families engaged in the lead mining industry. Families engaged in farming, however, remained buoyant throughout the century.

Some families, however, grew in number or migrated into the dale in the second half of the nineteenth century as the lead mining industry collapsed. Steady increases in the number of farming households and families engaged in trades and crafts accounted for the success of these kinships. Some families were tied to the land, including gamekeeping and shepherding, and others supported a rural population in diverse ways, such as innkeepers, stonemasons and millers. A few men even prospered in lead mining despite the collapse of the industry, notably George Reynoldson whose family combined mining with keeping the King's Head Inn in Gunnerside.

Phil Batman - pabatman@aol.com



Occupations of Alderson household heads in Swaledale

Neil Richardson contacted us from Australia about his Rukin ancestors:

The Rukin Family in Swaledale, are true survivors. Close to extinction in the late 17th century, the decision of John Rukin to move to away from his birthplace ensured that the Rukin family is still with us today. The first recorded Rukins in England were located in Graystoke near Penrith in 1580; by the time 1700 came along their numbers were in single figures. Looking for work forced John Rukin further afield, and about 1715 he made his way eastwards to Arkengarthdale where he found work and, more importantly for the Rukin clan, found a wife in Elizabeth. This liaison saved the family from extinction. Michael Rukin, the son of John, together with his wife Mary Hunter produced three sons and four grandsons, ensuring the future of the Rukin dynasty. Life however was not easy for the Rukins, who worked the lead mines of Arkengarthdale. Around 1820 the price of lead dropped, this downturn forced many to look elsewhere for work, some headed for the coal mines of West Yorkshire, Burnley and Rochdale. The remaining miners bought or leased small parcels of land, mainly in the Muker and Keld area. The income from sheep and dairy was supplemented with mining coal deposits. The Rukins today are still in Swaledale, with small numbers in the Burnley and Bradford areas. A family group moved to Canada during the First World War, and now live in British Columbia and Alberta. Small numbers of the Rukin clan moved from Eastern Europe to the USA. Links to this group are still being researched by the author. The Rukins have links to many other local families – wives include Mary Hunter, Eliza Stoddart, Betty Metcalfe, Mary Harker and Dinah Coates.

To learn more about the Rukin Family see the Rukin Family History Page on Facebook or contact Neil Richardson by email: neilricho@hotmail.com

Neil Richardson (3rd great grandson of John Rukin, b 1811 Arkengarthdale)



The Beast Returns to Reeth!

We were delighted to welcome Ralph Alderson and his wife Pamela to the Museum in September when Ralph stood beside the 1948 pantomime poster that was in this year's exhibition. Ralph was the original Beast!

As part of SWAAG's Big Dig I have been researching the history of local schools. Some schools such as Muker, Fremington and Arkengarthdale can trace their roots back to the seventeenth century but there are many 'lost' schools in the Dales which closed long ago.

From 1863 teachers were required to keep a daily log and these records make interesting and sometimes poignant reading, painting a vivid picture of life in the Upper Dales in Victorian times. Just getting to school was a challenge; children walked long distances in all weathers without the benefit of modern waterproof clothes or even welly boots. Children of large families were needed to help out with the care of younger siblings, with the cooking and washing or on the farm, harvesting, cutting peat, salving sheep; school must have sometimes seemed irrelevant. With no mass immunisation or antibiotics, contagious diseases could be devastating to a community and schools were frequently ordered to close for weeks at a time to reduce the risk. Pity then the poor teacher (whose school grant depended on attendance) faced with isolation, huge classes, epidemics, untimely harvests, snow and flood.

Life was tough but the Dales people were tougher and there is plenty of happiness and laughter in those log books. An inspector visiting Muker school was surprised to find 'in such a retired district', a sunny, airy classroom and happy, engaged pupils. There were school treats, sports and outings, visits and gifts from the local gentry.

I would love to find out more about local schools in the Victorian era and perhaps earlier. I am searching through records online, at the County Record Office as well as the museums in Reeth and Hawes but I feel sure there is more material out there in the community. Where are the records of those old lost schools of Swaledale and Arkengarthdale? I would be especially grateful for any information about archive material from any of the following schools: Keld (first opened around 1800), Thwaite, Muker (the Free Grammar School, 1678, and apparently three elementary schools over the years), Gunnerside, Low Row, Feetham, Fremington and Crackpot. There is a wonderful story to tell. Can you help me put the jigsaw pieces back together?

Sue Nicholson - newsheep2@hotmail.com; 01969-622985

Many children away on account of preparations being made for a Tea Festival on Friday & also because the mothers are cleaning ready for Gunnerside Fair. Holiday on Friday afternoon by reason of there being a "Band of Hope Tea Festival" in the Wesleyan Chapel

This snippet from the 1871 Muker school log book gives some idea of what the teachers were up against: 'Many children away on account of preparations being made for a Tea Festival on Friday & also because the mothers are cleaning ready for Gunnerside Fair. Holiday on Friday afternoon by reason of there being a Band of Hope Tea Festival in the Wesleyan Chapel'



Fiona Gibson visited the Museum in search of information about the time her father, Major John Parry, spent in Reeth during WW2 when he was CO of the RECCE Training School based in what is now the Burgoyne Hotel. She sent us this photograph of him (*left*) taken around the time. Some people might remember that one of his exploits was to bring a pack of 16 beagles from Kent to Reeth on public transport – taxi and train! – which he then hunted in Swaledale and Wensleydale for the remainder of the war. Please pass on any memories via the Museum when it re-opens and Helen will see that Fiona gets

Many of you will know about Reeth's famous 'Parliament' of gentlemen who sat in the shelter on the green and put the world to rights. This is the oldest known photograph of 'Parliament'; all we know is that it's 1897 or earlier because it pre-dates the shelter which was built to mark

Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. Can you identify an ancestor? Or do you have any other photographs of 'Parliament' through the years? Please let us know!



Is anyone related to the couple commemorated by this plaque? We believe it was originally in Healaugh chapel but was later moved to Keld. However Keld Methodist chapel has now been sold and the plaque needs a home. Contact Kevin Pellatt if you can help on nydcpaperclip@gmail.com or 01748 - 886963.

Does anyone remember June and Audrey Corbett - evacuated to Reeth from Sunderland during the Second World War? A list of evacuees from February 1940 says that they were both billeted with 'Mr H Horn, Fremington'. June's daughter is researching this period and would love to hear from you via the Museum.

Judith Spotswood writes:

I have two original paintings, bought by my father, by a lady who lived in Muker in the 1950's & 60's. I cannot remember her name but the initials are V. S. I wonder if you know anything of her? I would be very grateful if you could give me any information. *There's a possibility that the name might be Vera Simmons – can anyone confirm this?*

Friends' Programme of Talks 2016
All to be held in the Museum at 7.30pm

Wednesday 18th May

Friends of the Swaledale Museum AGM at **6.45 pm** followed by the second *So You Think You Know Your Swaledale and Arkengarthdale?* Quiz - we challenge you to come.

Wednesday 1st June

LEAD MINING - DOUBLE LAUNCH

Roger Preston will discuss the background to, and techniques used in, his Swaledale Museum exhibition *The Eye of the Beholder* focussing on photographs of the local lead mines AND David Joy will introduce his new book *Men of Lead, Mining in the Yorkshire Dales*.

Copies of the book will be available at a special reduced rate on the night.

Wednesday 15th June

Will Swales - *Harkerside Hill Farms 1700 to the Present*. This talk explores Will's research for his forthcoming book. Come and learn about the fascinating stories of feuds, hardships, and triumphs among the hill farmers of Harkerside, together with an account of the radical changes in some aspects of farm life. See <https://willswales1.wordpress.com/>

Wednesday 29th June

Shaun Richardson will introduce *Swaledale and the Cold War: Surveying the Royal Observation Corps Bunker at Grinton*. Come and tell us your story -if you remember the bunker, or were in the local ROC at the time of its construction and operation.

Wednesday 20th July

Helen Bainbridge & Marion Moverley - *Read All About It! Swaledale and Arkengarthdale in the Newspapers* - scandals, sensations, long hidden secrets and more culled from the 19th and early 20th century press.

Wednesday 24th August

George Edward Brown will give an informal talk on *Remembering Haverdale Mill, Low Row*, a very special opportunity to hear this personal history of one of our landmark buildings.

Wednesday 21st September

Sue and Les Knight, will present *A Date with Lichens* explaining how they can be used to understand historic air pollution from smelting in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale. The evening will include time to look at lichens under the microscope.

COST: £3 for Friends and £4 for Visitors

More information: 01748 884118

museum.swaledale@btinternet.com

Please watch the local press for occasional alterations to time/date & posters and, if coming from a distance, **please check with the Museum** before setting off.

Advance booking recommended

A recent email to the Museum

To whom it might be of interest:

I came across your site, 'Swaledale Museum' on the internet. I lived in Swaledale for 5 years. My parents owned the Bridge Hotel at Grinton. Keith & Hilda Williamson. We got to know many of the local people well, especially Julie Thorpe, Olwyn and Dorothy from Fremington, who helped us at the hotel, Miss Pedley of the Post Office, Grinton, Alan Raw, Lance Barningham, Major Smalley, Tatey Thompson who built the dry stone wall of the car park, Trevor Porter, Terry Thorpe, and many more.

By the time we arrived in Swaledale, Crackpot Bill as he was known, lived above Fremington Hall. He'd ceased to work by this time. He was a most interesting and characterful person, as any will testify. He was a regular visitor to the Bridge Hotel. I took to writing poetry a while ago, and recently penned a little rhyme in memory of Ol' Bill....bless him. He had lived at Crackpot as a young man, and had been married there also.

I was looking at the images for Crackpot on the internet, and wondered if anyone had any idea which house he might have lived in, as I intend to make drawings to accompany my poems. It's wonderful to know of the existence of your Museum. So many wonderful memories of the area. My wife Mary and our two boys, Leo & Rapha, live in Ecuador, South America these days. Hilda lives with us and is 91 next birthday. Sadly my Father, Keith died in 2006. We hope to visit Swaledale next Summer. The boys and Mary can't wait to see Yorkshire and the Dales after everything I've told them.

Best regards,

Stuart Williamson - stuart@portraitsculpture-online.com

Crackpot Bill

Memories of Swaledale

Crackpot Bill, of the village of Crackpot
Lived halfway to the edge, above Fremington Hall
A roaring log fire took care of his bacon
And dried out his socks and his gaiters and all
When it got to 5:30, nothing would stop him
Regardless of weather, or the state of the path
He'd don his tweed flat cap, and strap on his gaiters
And head for the local, for a half and a half

Jacket and jodhpurs, of impervious material
Kept out the worst and prevented a chill
And a pocket specific for his pipe and his baccy
With a very small bowl, for 'borrowing a fill'

He'd been married at one time, still fond of the ladies
He'd sidle up smiling, most romantic-ally
Muttering such pleasantries learned on the moorland
Nothing coherent, perhaps fortunately

Crackpot Bill is long gone, as is much of his world
Though it's hill-farming country and beautiful still,
Each time has its flavour and kindles it's odd bods
Though non so eccentric, I suspect, as Ol' Bill

Stuart Williamson

October 2015

If you have any memories or reminiscences of Swaledale & Arkengarthdale, or anything else relevant to local history which would be of interest for the Newsletter, the Committee would love to hear from you. We can't promise to use everything in full, but all contributions, however small, will be very welcome! Please contact Helen on 07969 823232 or email: museum.swaledale@btinternet.com

KNITTING CAFE & CRAFT GROUP

Not just for Knit Wits! All sorts of crafts have been turning up so bring along whatever you're into. Everyone welcome, all at 2pm on Thursdays in a number of venues around Reeth throughout the year. For details of dates & venues please contact Christine Price ewellprice@hotmail.co.uk or 01748-884406.