



September Newsletter

Third KYNP Course about to start

The Know Your North Pennines courses have been so successful that a third course is starting this October. As in previous years, the sessions will be held in the off peak winter season at a variety of locations around the area.

Managed by local people and led by enthusiastic and knowledgeable specialists, 'Know Your North Pennines' is an unforgettable and uniquely helpful training programme. The course gives business operators and their staff a fascinating insight into the history, heritage, geology, wildlife, culture, landscape and facilities of the North Pennines.

Any business that is on the front line of tourism - accommodation providers, pubs, visitor attractions, tourist information centres or local shops - is eligible. The course aims to build knowledge, enthusiasm and interest that can be communicated to potential visitors to influence their decision making and to actual visitors to enhance their experience when they are here. It also provides a networking opportunity for like-minded businesses to meet and strengthen business connections.

The first three sessions will be

- Geoparks Geology & Mining Wednesday October 15th
- Hill Farming Wednesday November 12th
- Music in the North Pennines Wednesday December 3rd

The new programme is planned to consist of ten all-day sessions over two years. It comes with accreditation of NVQ level 2 equivalent.

The course is heavily subsidised and costs only £120 for all 10 training days. The closing date for applications is September 12th, but places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

To find out more or to sign up for the new course contact:

Pam Forbes, 01388517365, pampeathill@tiscali.co.uk

www.knowyournorthpennines.org.uk.

KYNP becomes a Worldwide Training Model!

KYNP has been so successful that it is seen as the model for similar courses elsewhere. The generalised 'model' or 'franchise' developed by Pennine Horizons will be known as **Know Your Place**.

A **Know Your Place 'Toolkit'** will provide all the key success factors for a **Know Your Place course**, including how to attract participants and ensure that local businesses 'own' the programme. The **Toolkit** will offer guidance through the planning, delivery and evaluation of a new **Know Your Place programme** and will give all that's needed to plan and set up a course for each area. The toolkit will also help **new Know Your Place projects** design stationery, plan topics & training days, arrange speakers & venues, find insurance and most important of all help them search for funding!

Enquiries have already been received from several groups throughout the UK and we are currently working with Durham City helping them develop their own tailor-made programme..

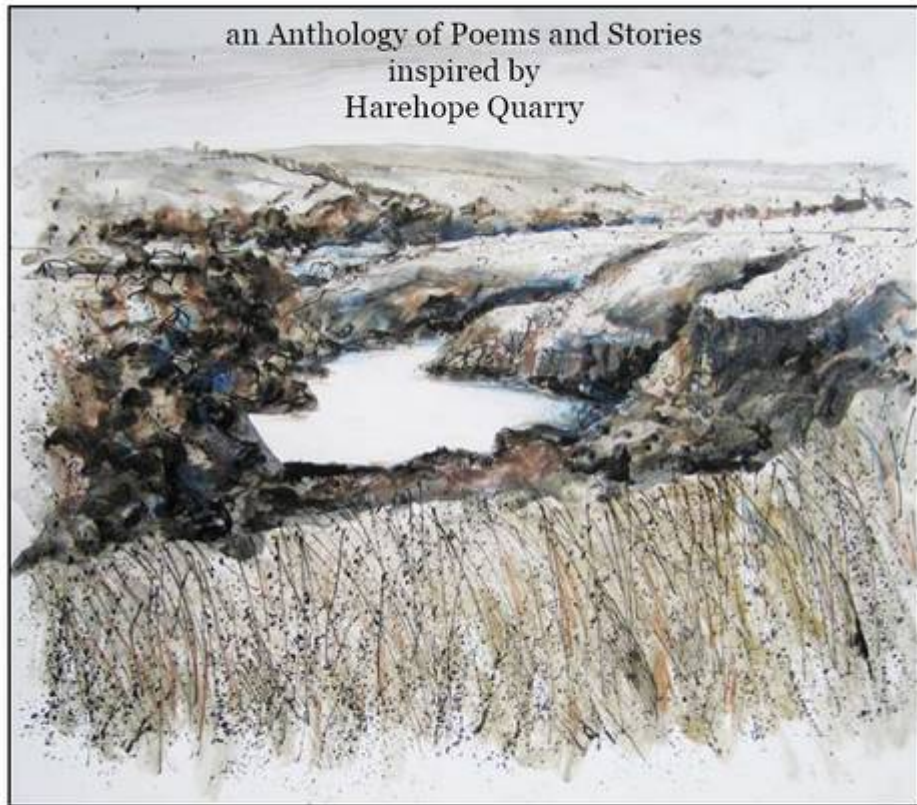
Know Your North Pennines
is a Pennine Horizons project
and is supported by

NORTH PENNINES AQNB PARTNERSHIP
Working together for the North Pennines



Collecting Stones

an Anthology of Poems and Stories
inspired by
Harehope Quarry



with illustrations
by
John Longstaff

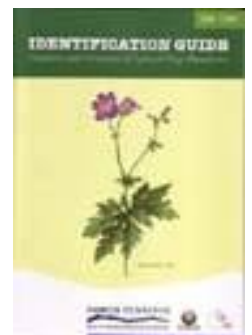
Collecting Stones is an anthology of poems and stories inspired by **Harehope Quarry** in Frosterley. Published by Vane Women Press and with beautiful original illustrations by John Longstaff (Cluff of *The Northern Echo*) the book has come about as part of Vane Women's outreach to rural areas and their passion for good writing.

The publication is sponsored by the North Pennines AONB Partnership with funding from North Pennines Leader+, Wear Valley District Council and Wear Valley Community Network.

Collecting Stones will be launched at The Hub in Stanhope on October 16th and will be available from then at the following outlets: Stanhope TIC, The Bookworm, Stanhope; Killhope Leadmining Museum; Alston TIC. Just in time for Christmas!

Other publications to look out for (at Killhope and other bookshops) are:

- **AONB Identification Guides** – Birds & Flowers available now, Rocks coming soon
- **Minerals of Northern England** by Brian Young and Bob Symes. A lavishly illustrated book written by two of the leading experts in this field. Brian Young is well known to "Know Your North Pennines" participants and Bob Symes was the curator of minerals at the Natural History Museum in London. Softback, £30.
- **West Durham - the Archaeology of Industry** by Andy Guy and Frank Atkinson. This hardback book was produced as part of the Mineral Valleys Project in West Durham, and updates Frank Atkinson's previous work on the subject. It is a very useful gazetteer with descriptions and illustrations of a huge number of sites, some very well known, some largely undiscovered. A must-have reference book for anyone interested in industrial archaeology. £25.



- **The Rocks, Landscapes and Minerals of Weardale** by Alistair Bowden. Another book produced within the Mineral Valleys Project, this is an introduction to the geology of Weardale written in an accessible way with suggestions for walks to see geology out in the field. The author takes the reader on a journey up Weardale from east to west, exploring the geology along the way. Softback £7.95.
- **History in the Landscape - the Archaeology and Architecture of Weardale** by Caroline Hardie and Niall Hammond. Also a product of Mineral Valleys, this book addresses the history and archaeology of Weardale and discusses it in a series of themed chapters. These include "Sacred Places", "Living off the Land", "The Growth of Villages" as well as further chapters including one dealing with mining and quarrying. Softback £9.95.

Green Tourism Promotion

The AONB Partnership Staff Unit is organising a 'Joining the Green Tourism Business Scheme (GTBS) Seminar' for tourism businesses in the North Pennines AONB & European Geopark – 16 October 2008 at Nenthead Mines Heritage Centre



To book your place on the Nenthead Seminar (including buffet lunch) please contact Paul Everson or Shane Harris at the North Pennines AONB Partnership, on 01388 528801 (paul@northpenninesaonb.org.uk or shane@northpenninesaonb.org.uk).

A green approach

More and more visitors are booking with businesses that take a green approach to their products and services. To help businesses to tap into this market whilst making cost savings, the Green Tourism Business Scheme (GTBS) provides an environmental accreditation that can be used to increase the marketing potential of tourism businesses.

Reduce energy bills

The GTBS equips members with the knowledge and expertise to help make their businesses more sustainable by reducing energy usage and bills as well as providing a marketing edge.

The Green Tourism Business Scheme began in Scotland in 1997 and now has over 1,700 members in the UK. Visit www.green-business.co.uk or call 01738 632162 (gtbs@green-business.co.uk) for more details on the scheme.

Greening Your Tourism Business Grants

For tourism businesses in the North Pennines AONB there is an added incentive for joining the GTBS - the Greening Your Tourism Business Grant Scheme. This innovative grant scheme is only available to tourism businesses in the North Pennines who are existing members of the GTBS or who are intending to join.

Grants of up to £500 are available at a rate of 50% for any work associated with gaining credit under ANY Measure in the GTBS. Examples of work include: micro-renewables; energy efficiency projects eg. additional insulation or energy efficient light fixtures; recycling facilities; installation of self-closing taps in public wash rooms; provision of secure cycle storage options etc. etc. etc.

For more information on eligibility contact Shane Harris or Peter Samsom at the AONB Partnership on 01388 528801 (shane@northpenninesaonb.org.uk or peter@northpenninesaonb.org.uk)

Whitley Castle

Whitley Castle Roman Fort on Castle Nook farm just north of Alston was the focus of the Know Your North Pennines training day on archaeology in February 2008. At the time Stewart Ainsworth of English Heritage had just started an archaeological survey of the impressive fort and the immediate area and was already enthusing about the things he was finding. English Heritage completed their investigations in the summer and a geophysical survey, to investigate remains buried beneath the turf, is scheduled for later in the year. Thanks to the English Heritage survey we now realise just how well preserved the earthworks and the buildings are. We've learned that Whitley Castle was part of a very complex landscape, which developed at the same time as the fort. Also, the place wasn't abandoned when the Romans left this part of the world in the early 5th century but continued to be a focus of activity long after their departure.



Whitley Castle

Courtesy of
NPAP/ Paul Frodsham'

It is obvious that the Roman Fort and the other historic buildings like the bastles, together tell a great story about the development of the North Pennines landscape and that there is lots of scope to let visitors to the area find out about this story. The question of how best to do that has been occupying a small steering group, including owner and former KYNP student Elaine Edgar, for the past few months. With the help of some North Pennines Leader+ funding the options have been very comprehensively worked through and a development plan has been drawn up. In the short term Elaine will work with the North Pennines AONB Staff Unit, English Heritage and Natural England to develop some high quality interpretation, allowing visitors to explore the fort at their leisure. In the longer term the steering group hopes to apply for funds to develop a set of buildings close to the fort providing 'under cover' interpretation, refreshments and possibly sales of farm and other local produce.

If you want to find out more about English Heritage's work on Whitley Castle you can go to their website www.english-heritage.org.uk and do a search for 'Whitley Castle'. Elaine can provide group tours of the site by arrangement. You can contact her on 01434 381773. Also keep a look out for guided walks and new publications via www.northpennines.org.uk, and North Pennines News

Newsflash!

One North East has announced the shortlisted finalists for this year's prestigious **Regional Tourism Awards**. Certain of an award are three "Know Your North Pennines" businesses. Emma Wilson and Chris Tarpey at **East Briscoe Farm Cottages** are up for an award in the category of "Sustainable Tourism", the "Self Catering Holiday of the Year" includes Verona and Mike Woodhouse's flat at **Station House Catton**, and **Killhope** is competing in the "Small Visitor Attraction of the Year" category. Congratulations to all three, and let's hope all scoop gold!

New 'Easy Access Path' at Derwent Reservoir

A new 'easy access' path along the shoreline of Derwent Reservoir in County Durham will enable more people to get closer to the special landscapes and wildlife of the North Pennines.

Part of the three-year Living North Pennines project funded with almost £2m of Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) money and run by the North Pennines AONB Partnership, the 1.6 km path links Durham County Council's Pow Hill Country Park and Northumbrian Water's Derwent Reservoir.



The level all-weather path is designed with both cyclists and walkers in mind, but the needs of people with mobility difficulties have also been considered, with disabled parking at both ends of the route. There are easy-to-use self-closing kissing gates along the way.

Later in the year a self-guided trail leaflet and an audio-visual trail will be available for download from the North Pennines AONB Partnership website – www.northpennines.org.uk – which visitors can use on their iPods or mobile phones. Visitors will also be able to enjoy shorter extracts of the trail information by winding self-powered MP3 units set at intervals along the path.

The audio-visual trail will include descriptions of the flora and fauna that can be seen around the reservoir, and the history of the reservoir's development over the last 40 years.

The Derwent Reservoir access path has been developed by the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership in association with Natural England, Durham County Council, and Northumbrian Water Limited

NORTH PENNINES MANAGEMENT PLAN

The formal Consultation Period for the draft of the statutory North Pennines AONB Management Plan (2009-14) will be running from 4th September 2008 until 31st October 2008.

The AONB Partnership Staff Unit is running a series of eight drop-in Consultation Events across the North Pennines to give people the chance to get involved. The event at St John's Chapel took place on 4 September and the others will be at Kirkby Stephen, Middleton-in-Teesdale, Castleside, Alston, Allendale, Castle Carrock and Melmerby. The Plan will also be available for viewing at www.northpennines.org.uk throughout the Consultation Period.

“We are very proud of the efforts of the Partnership and those others working and living in the AONB in meeting the challenging aims of the first Management Plan, covering the period 2004-09,” said Chris Woodley-Stewart, North Pennines AONB Officer and Geopark Manager. “Now is the time to be thinking ahead to what we can jointly achieve over the next five years.”

The draft plan arises out of provisions in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000; the duty to produce the plan is placed on the area's nine local authorities and the AONB Partnership Staff Unit is producing the plan on their joint-behalf. The draft plan has arisen out of an initial 'scoping' consultation with many groups and individuals with an interest in the conservation of the natural beauty of the area.

The main purpose of the new Management Plan, like the existing one, will be to:

- Identify the special qualities of the AONB, and highlight those at risk of change;
- Map out the vision for a future of the AONB, agreed by those living and working in the area;
- Identify general principles of management and policy, supported by working Objectives and Actions, which can be developed over the lifetime of the Plan.

The plan does not set out to deal with all of the issues facing the North Pennines. Rather it addresses, in keeping with the purpose of AONB designation, the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty and those social and economic activities which in themselves contribute to that aim. The plan isn't about preventing change, rather the Objectives within it are about managing inevitable change in the ways most sympathetic to looking after the area's special qualities for future generations.

If you want to read and comment on the draft plan, you will be able to find it on the AONB Partnership's website (www.northpennines.org.uk) from the 4th September. You can comment using the online comment form or you can also request an electronic version/paper version of the comment form by e-mailing info@northpenninesaonb.org.uk or calling 01388 528801. The closing date for comments is the end of the Consultation Period on 31st October 2008.

There will also be a chance to comment on the draft plan at a series of 'drop-in' consultation events:

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|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • 11 September (3-7pm) | Masonic Hall, Kirkby Stephen |
| • 17 September (3-7pm) | Middleton-in-Teesdale Village Hall |
| • 23 September (3-7pm) | Castleside Village Hall |
| • 1 October (3-7pm) | Alston Town Hall |
| • 7 October (3-7pm) | Allendale Village Hall |
| • 15 October (3-7pm) | Castle Carrock Watson Hall |
| • 22 October (3-7pm) | Melmerby Village Hall |

Copies of the draft Plan will also be available at the Wolsingham Show (6-7 September).

For further information about the plan visit www.northpennines.org.uk or call 01388 528801 (info@northpenninesaonb.org.uk).

**Know Your North Pennines 3 is part funded by
the North Pennines AONB Partnership's Sustainable Development Fund**