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Registered Charity No: 529709 An affiliated society of the British Science Association

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2012

Welcome to our last Newsletter of 2012 which is also a “first” for the Society. While many of you will be reading this after taking it out of an envelope in the usual way, some of you will be looking at it on your computer screen after clicking on a link from an email we have sent you.

This means that the Society has made a significant saving in terms of paper, envelopes and postage costs, and Frances and her team of volunteers have not had to spend quite so much time photocopying, packing and labelling.

We are of course very happy to do this for all those who prefer to continue to receive a traditional printed Newsletter, but if you would like to try the electronic method, please do visit the website and sign up (there are full instructions in the enclosed leaflet). If you find it less convenient, just let Frances know and she will put you back on the paper mailing list.

You should find the following with your Newsletter. If anything is missing, please contact Frances at The Lodge.

- Invitation to Winter Social
- Proposal for Tour of Turkey
- Information on new YPS website
- York Bibliographical Society programme
- Subscription renewal reminder (for members who do not pay by Standing Order)

Subscription Renewals

This is the time of year when we have to ask for a renewal of your subscription, due on January 1st. Members who pay by cheque or in cash will find a renewal form enclosed with this newsletter or, if you are receiving the newsletter electronically, we will be sending you a separate subscription reminder by email in the next few days. Please keep a look out for it.

And remember - this year for the first time you can pay your subscription via our website using Paypal. You don't need a Paypal account - just a credit or debit card will do. Simply go to the "Donate to YPS" page (click on the "Donate" link at top right of the Homepage) or the "Make a Payment" page and follow the instructions. Please state "Subscription" and your membership category in the "Purpose" box.

We would be very grateful if you could pay your subscription as soon as possible so that your membership cards can be sent out with our first newsletter of 2013, which will go out in late January or early February. Your 2012 card remains valid until then, so don't worry that you don't have a new one at the start of the year.

If there is no renewal form in your envelope, this means that either you pay by Standing Order or have already paid up to the end of 2013. You need do nothing, and your membership card will come to you automatically with the next Newsletter. Please don't hesitate to contact Frances at The Lodge if you wish to alter the amount of your Standing Order (to change to a different category of membership, for example) or you have any questions about your membership or subscription payments.

An invitation

to a reception, with wine, at 7-7.30pm on November 20th - before the lecture

The YPS is delighted to convey to all members and guests attending the November 20th lecture, *Bats, Bees and Blooms*, an invitation to attend a short reception before the lecture, to celebrate the achievements of a number of Yorkshire Sixth-formers.

This is being arranged in the atrium of the Yorkshire Museum by STEMNET, an organisation promoting Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths in schools. The young people involved all took part this summer in the Nuffield bursary scheme, which arranged placements for them working alongside professional scientists. As part of their work, they were each required to create a poster describing their activities. As a culmination to the process, they will be bringing these posters to the museum at about 5.30 pm on the day of the lecture, and showing them to a panel of judges, who, hopefully, will find them worthy of a certificate.

To give them some extra encouragement, we hope that members and others will arrange to arrive early for the lecture (up to half an hour), in order to view the posters and discuss them with the youngsters. To aid this, STEMNET have kindly offered to provide everyone with a glass of wine, or a soft drink.

Please note this in your diary, and plan to come in and support the next generation of scientists.

Another awards ceremony

Two of the stated aims of the YPS are the encouragement of students and the support of research and we are trying to open ourselves more and more to the younger generations: the popularity of our Family Lectures continues to grow; we are aiming our Café Scientifique lectures at a younger audience; and this season we are integrating two award presentations to students into our lectures, the first of which, the STEMNET Gold Crest awards, you have read about above.

A second award ceremony takes place on November 27th at the start of the lecture on *Cuisine and feasting at Stonehenge* by Dr Oliver Craig. At this ceremony we are pleased to be presenting our own YPS awards to students in the Department of Archaeology for their dissertations at both Post-Graduate and Undergraduate levels.

The Charles Wellbeloved Award is given for the best dissertation by an undergraduate student in the Department of Archaeology, and the Henry Ramm Award is a new award, offered by the YPS this year for the best Post-graduate dissertation. The awards will be presented by our President, Dr Peter Addyman, CBE.

It would be great if we have a good audience on November 27th, both to support the students and also to enjoy what promises to be a really interesting main lecture from one of the department's senior researchers, Dr Oliver Craig.

Joyce Hampshire

It is with much sadness that we have received the news that Joyce Hampshire passed away suddenly on November 7th. Joyce and John became members of the Society in 1966 and she was a constant support over the many years in which John has played a leading and active role for us. Many of us have enjoyed Joyce's kind companionship and conversation on trips and at lectures, and she will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Joyce wished her body to be donated to the Department of Biological Sciences at Leeds University and did not want a funeral or a fuss, but John has been persuaded to arrange a gathering of friends which will take place at Strensall Village Hall on Monday 19th November from 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm. YPS members are welcome to attend.

Social Program 2013

As we prepare to bring the 2012 social program to a merry conclusion with our Christmas Social on December 7th, we are also busy working on an exciting and varied program for 2013. You have already received notification of the Tempest Anderson Bay of Naples tour organised by Andrew (Bone) Jones and Jim Spriggs, and information about a trip to Turkey proposed by Dennis Martin is included with this newsletter.

Alan Owen provides details below of two day-trips he is organising in April and May, and he is also considering tours to Ireland and Wales.

There will also be a number of other day and half-day visits, beginning with a behind the scenes tour of the Yorkshire Museum's Biology Stores at Birch Park on March 6th, a visit to York University Chemistry Department later in March, and a coach trip to Halifax on April 19th, organised by John Bibby, who ran the very successful tour of Hull earlier this year.

Keep visiting our new website - www.ypsyork.org - for updates. (If you would like to get straight to the Social Program page, you can use www.ypsyork.org/events/categories/activities/) We are also hoping to introduce a new, members-only page which will give inside information about events which are being planned, but are not yet finalised.

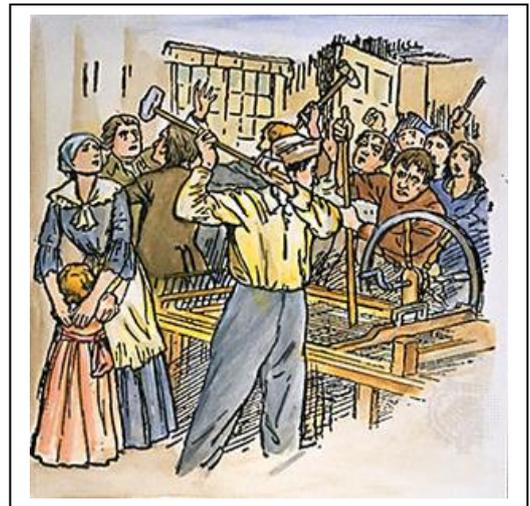
Margaret Leonard, Social Secretary

Some 2013 dates for your diaries

Inexpensive day trips with the YPS:

Thursday 11 April 'Luddites and Literature', a visit to West Yorkshire to some of the places involved with Luddite activity in 1812 and with Charlotte Bronte who wrote a book called *Shirley* about those troubled times.

Saturday 4 May A visit to Spalding flower festival during which we will visit Grade 1 listed Ayscoughfee Hall and gardens by the river Welland in Spalding, and also the Springfields Centre which has the area's bulb field show gardens and is also the place where the flower decorated floats for the procession through Spalding will start and finish. Britain's answer to Keukenhof! Should be a really enjoyable and colourful carnival day out.



(Image: ludditelink.org.uk, which has much interesting information about the Luddite movement in West Yorkshire)



Application forms to join these trips and more information will be sent out with the next newsletter in early 2013.

Alan Owen

Why not visit Selby?

On December 4th we shall for the first time be holding an outreach lecture in Selby, when David Lewis, a chemist and local historian will speak about an eminent Selby-born scientist. Why not come along? And be sure to tell your Selby friends!

Although little-known today, Smithson Tennant was in the vanguard of the huge expansion of scientific knowledge at the turn of the 19th century. With interests in earth sciences, medicine and chemistry along with an appreciation of European politics and culture, Tennant was a highly respected man of his time. Our lecture, in his home town, at the 251st anniversary of his birth, will discuss his Yorkshire roots, his scientific work, including discoveries of the elements iridium and osmium, his time as Professor of Chemistry at Cambridge and his European travels.

The lecture starts at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall in Selby, which stands at the crossroads/traffic lights at the far end of the main street from the Abbey. There is a car park adjacent (free in the evenings); if coming from York, turn left at the traffic lights (in the direction of Doncaster), then immediately left into the first side road. The car park is on the left at the bottom of the road.

For those without a car, travel to Selby is still possible:

By rail: Adult return fare: £6.70
 Leave York 18:18, arrive Selby 18:42
 Return Selby 21:21, arrive York 21:43

By bus: Return fare: £5.20
 Service 415 : leaves York Piccadilly 18:10
 arrives Selby Bus station 18:57
 Return Service 416 :
 leaves Selby Bus station 20.50 or 22:20
 arrives York Piccadilly 21.28 or 22:58



Bus and Rail stations in Selby are adjacent, and it is about a 10-15 minute stroll to the Town Hall. Go towards Selby Abbey, turn left along Gowthorpe (Selby's main street) and the Town Hall is 1/4 mile on left. Taxis are usually available at the rail station, but may be more difficult to casually arrange at the Town Hall.

Thank You from Anne Smith

I would like to take this opportunity to thank so many of you who supported me during Bill's illness and after he passed away.

During the time Bill was bed-bound at home, we received many letters and cards with good wishes, and had regular visits from members often bearing gifts of books, poems, CDs, tasty food and flowers. These were really appreciated by both of us, as were the visits to see Bill in hospital during his regular admissions there. It was so good to know that we were not alone with our problems.

After Bill's death, I was overwhelmed by the kindness and sympathy shown to me. The cards and letters coming daily with wonderful tributes to Bill were a great comfort to me and to the family. My children said they have always known that their Dad was special, but that it has been wonderful to find that so many other people thought so too. The attendance of so many of you at the Service of Thanksgiving for Bill's life made it a special occasion for all the family.

Bill was deeply interested in the YPS in all its facets and I know how much time and thought he put into his years as Secretary. We all miss him so much – he is irreplaceable. As often as I can I shall attend lectures and join in social events. I shall never forget the support and kindness shown to me by members of the YPS. Thank you all so much.

Sincerely,
 Anne Smith

Website and E-Mail news

WEBSITE - WWW.YPSYORK.ORG

The Yorkshire Philosophical Society website is seeing more and more use, and is winning a lot of compliments - do take a look. By playing with it you will be amazed at how much there is in the way of information on YPS news, events and lectures, not to mention the articles from our Yorkshire Scientists project, which will now start featuring on an ongoing basis. There is also video coverage of some of our recent lectures which you can find on the past events pages. For some past events, you will also find links to books and reports from members plus there is the opportunity for you to leave your own reviews, links and notes on lectures using the members' comments facility.

E-MAIL BULLETINS

We hope that those of you who have signed up for e-mail bulletins are finding them useful. Again we have some very positive feedback from members - particularly on the reminders for lectures and social events. It is very easy to sign up for these bulletins, and the insert with this newsletter, which you should keep near your computer for reference, will tell you how to do this.

Volunteers for Museum Gardens

There will soon be volunteer positions advertised by the Yorkshire Museum

- staffing an information point and
- plant-mapping in the Gardens

These positions will be open to public recruitment, but if you have an interest and an appropriate skill, Fiona Burton (Volunteers Manager) and Alison Pringle (Head Gardener) will be pleased to consider your application.

News from other Societies

Yorkshire Gardens Trust Small Grant Scheme

The YGT extends its annual invitation for applications for its Small Grants Scheme, which is able to make grants to help important parks and gardens in the county. This year up to £6000 is available in total (maximum single grant is the

lesser of £2000 or 50% of the total cost of a project).

The closing date for applications for the 2012-13 Small Grant Scheme is 30th November 2012. Full details of qualifying criteria and an application form are available from The Lodge or at www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

York Bibliographical Society

As usual at this time of year we are happy to distribute the programme of our friends at York Bibliographical Society in return for their promotion of our lecture programme. We hope you will find it of interest.

Books for Christmas

If you are looking for a Christmas present for someone who is interested in World War II, the following are on sale at the Lodge:

- *Dear Ray* by Sara Goodwins - follows the story of one couple's war through their letters - £13.95
- *A Cog in the Wheel* by Adelaide Lubbock - the diary of a former singer working with displaced persons in post-war Austria - £9.95
- *Invading America 1943* by Clifford Cole, a radar expert who was part of a group of British servicemen touring the US to encourage support for the war - £18.95

Or for a local perspective:

- *War Comes to York, July-October 1939* by David Rubinstein - £5.00

A third of the cover price of all these goes to the YPS.

Christmas Holiday

The Lodge will close for Christmas at midday on Friday 21st December and re-open after New Year on Wednesday 2nd January.

We would like to wish all our members

*Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year*

THE NOW FAMOUS! YPS CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

ST OLAVE'S HALL, MARYGATE, YORK
7.00-9.30 PM, FRIDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2012

THE COST: £13 for a whole evening of ENTERTAINMENT, GOOD FOOD and DRINK and GOOD COMPANY
(Yes, I know it sounds impossible, but I think we can do it for that amount if we fill the hall and, of course, if we do all the work ourselves.)

DRESS CODE: As you like it.
FOOD: The same good savoury buffet as before from CUEBALL Club.
DRINK: Wine, beer and soft drinks at reasonable prices.
ENTERTAINMENT: Live Music and Lively Readings, Conversation, Carols Round the Piano.

Please bring a small wrapped prize for the Mystery Raffle.

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I/WE WANT TO COME TO THE SOCIAL

Names

Phone and email

Send your booking to: KATE CARTWRIGHT, SUGAR HILL FARM,
STOCKTON LANE, YORK YO32 9UA (**NOT TO THE LODGE !!!!**)

Please enclose a cheque for £13 per person, made out to YPS

OR

Book on the website using the "Donate to YPS" page (click on the "Donate" link at top right of the Homepage) or the "Make a Payment" page to make payment by credit or debit card via Paypal. Please make sure to state "Christmas Social" in the "Purpose" box. *Please do not tick the Gift Aid box, as payments for events do not qualify for Gift Aid.*

NB No sae, thank you. No tickets. I will phone or email you if the social is cancelled or altered. Just note the date and time, book, pay and come. Let's try to keep life simple.

PROPOSED YPS MEMBERS TOUR OF TURKEY

Dennis Martin has been researching various Tours of Turkey and from discussion with Voyages Jules Verne believes they can offer a high quality Private Tour off the back of their standard tours to Turkey.

Full details of the Voyages Jules Verne trip programme is in their brochure *Wonders of the World* at www.vjv.com Suggest anyone interested also orders new VJV catalogue due to be published shortly on 0845 166 7008 though content will be very similar to current brochure.

Basically the proposal in sequence would be as follows – prices are approximate per person assuming couples sharing though brochure gives supplement rates for single rooms:

Suggested travel date would April/May 2013

Part A – Train from York Station to Manchester Airport	£26
Part B – Two night extension in Istanbul to std VJV holiday in order to have a private visit to the newly discovered enormous archaeological site of the old port at Yenikapı in Istanbul one day + private visit on another day to site in/near Istanbul but not on std tourist agenda	£145
Part C – 8 nights tour from <i>Istanbul to Ephesus</i> as per VJV brochure with return to UK from Istanbul.	£1395
Part D – 6 nights additional to convert <i>Istanbul to Ephesus to Grand Tour of Turkey</i> as per VJV brochure with return to UK from Istanbul.	£500
Part E – Train from Manchester Airport to (say) York Station	£26
Supplement for Manchester flight rather than Heathrow	£80
Estimated Total Cost for whole of A to E above	£2100

Notes

1. Flight time from Manchester is 11.30 am arrive 17.30pm Istanbul.
2. Flight time from Istanbul is 8.15 am arrive Manchester 10.30 am.
3. Deposit likely to be £250 with final payment due 9 weeks before travel.
4. Various modest discounts start if party of 20 people take the private tour.
5. Advantage of group private tour is ability to shape tour to group interests.
6. There are just two minor optional supplements – early morning balloon ride for £135 in rural Turkey and Whirling Dervishes Ceremony for £27 - details in the brochure.
7. Costs above include breakfast and dinner and a couple of lunches but exclude insurance and tourist visa.

Purpose of this notice is to establish level of interest and people's preferred dates, so if interested please complete form below and return directly to Dennis Martin at 74 Cedar Glade, Dunnington, York YO19 5PL (dennismartin@btinternet.com)

I would be interested in joining stages A + B + C + D + E (please delete as appropriate)

My preferred dates for people would be(please indicate)
 Name and address and email if possible:

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