



# NEWSLETTER

## Yorkshire Philosophical Society

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### A new look to the Newsletter

For as long as I can remember, our clerk Frances has commissioned, collated, printed and packed the YPS quarterly newsletter - quietly and efficiently nudging members into submitting their contributions. At long last we are in a position to give her some assistance, and this newsletter will see Sally Kingsley working alongside Frances.

This inevitably means that the format and style of the newsletter will probably change over the coming months, so, as it does, we say a big thank you to Frances for having regaled us for so long with her own friendly journalistic style - she will continue to mastermind the packing and distribution of the hard copy newsletters... and we give a warm welcome to Sally.

### ...and a changing Website

With Patrick Mason, our webmaster, immersed in his PhD on Biomass Technology (and therefore taking a backseat as far as the website is concerned), we are really grateful to Sally Kingsley for stepping in to manage our website.

Sally is in the process of updating the site and you will notice subtle changes creeping in over the coming months.

We will be making the website more 'newsy', and while we may not initially match the BBC or Yahoo, we are intending to bring interesting news items about the Society and on science-and-society related topics on a more regular basis. So if you have Society news items, or if you come across a general news item which you think may be of interest to our members, please email: [web@ypsyork.org](mailto:web@ypsyork.org). The website will become as interesting as you help to make it!! *Stephen Lusty, Chairman*

### With this Newsletter

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

#### Single day excursions

- Visit to York Masons' Lodge
- Visit to Howsham Mill
- Visit to Acomb Cold War Bunker
- Visit to York Racecourse
- Tour of North Lincolnshire

#### Multi-day tour

- 6-day tour to Southwest England

Opportunities to give us your views on

- President's Evening
- A proposed trip to Montenegro

And of course

- 2015 Membership Card (or a subscription reminder if you have not yet paid)

## Opportunities within YPS

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO BECOME A MORE ACTIVE MEMBER ?

We are coming up to that time of year when we review our activities – and that always brings opportunities to volunteer for a wide variety of small but important tasks within the YPS. You might be surprised to know that some 45 people are actively involved as volunteers with YPS – either as active members of project groups or as Trustees.

Most of the YPS roles below are manageable within an hour per week time commitment, and all involve contact by email and the occasional meeting.

Volunteering for YPS activities is fun and socially, very rewarding.

### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

#### SOCIAL GROUP COORDINATOR

To coordinate and communicate with events organisers - Alan Owen is acting Social Group Coordinator, but would welcome an assistant to shadow him and ultimately take over the role.

#### EVENT ORGANISERS

To organise one or two events/outings per year.

#### VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE WINE

in the Lodge after lectures.

### LECTURE TEAM

#### LECTURE RECEPTION TEAM MEMBER

Being a welcoming presence at the lecture reception desk, being a listening voice for the Society, answering queries, taking donations where appropriate and encouraging people to join YPS.

#### LECTURE AUDIENCE TARGETING

Interesting contact with other institutions/ organisations to ensure their members know about specific upcoming lectures.

### FINANCE GROUP

#### HON TREASURER TO THE SOCIETY

Roger Pinder completes 5 years at the end of 2015, and is looking for a possible successor to shadow him for the remainder of the year.

### MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

YPS is looking for someone to step up to this new role. It will entail listening to existing members, and ensuring that knowledge of the Society's activities reaches both existing and potential new members.

### Other YPS Groups that you would be welcome to join:

- Finance Group
- Social Group
- Communications Group
- Annual Report Group
- Museum Gardens Group (sub-groups: Geological Map Project, 'History of Museum Gardens' Project)
- Café Scientifique

If you feel that you might like to be involved and have something to contribute to any of the above Society functions - or if you are interested in becoming an active member of any of the other YPS groups, please contact Frances in the YPS Lodge Office - Tel: 01904 656713, email: [info@ypsyork.org](mailto:info@ypsyork.org).

### Lodge Closures

The Lodge will be closed on the following dates, when Frances will be on holiday:

- Friday 6 March
- Wednesday 1 April (and the Easter Bank Holidays immediately following)
- Monday 8 to Friday 12 June inclusive

## The YPS Geological Map fund-raising campaign

We initially set ourselves at the YPS a target of £30,000 towards the creation of the 'walk-on' geological map to be installed in Museum Gardens in the summer of 2015.

I am pleased to report that we are within sight of achieving this – thanks to your very generous donations. We have received more than 140 donations from members and local societies and trusts, and every single donation is playing a big role in closing in on our target.

In February our map designer is submitting her final design proposals, and we will therefore be firming up on the final map specification before the end of the month.

***We still need to make one last push in our fund-raising, so if you intended to make a contribution but have not yet done so, please do it - your contribution could make a real difference in helping us select and deliver the optimum map specification.***



### YORKSHIRE SCIENTISTS AND INNOVATORS - NEW ARTICLE PUBLISHED ON THE YPS WEBSITE

**George William Lamplugh** (1859-1926), geologist and geographer, who launched his lifelong interest in glaciology in Yorkshire. Researched and written by YPS member David Rowe. See the full article at: [www.ypsyork.org/resources/yorkshire-scientists-and-innovators/george-lamplugh/](http://www.ypsyork.org/resources/yorkshire-scientists-and-innovators/george-lamplugh/)

### President's Evening at the Churchill Hotel, 22 October 2014



SHARON & STEPHEN LUSTY AND JEAN MATTHEW, PHOTO BY TONY STANFIELD

Our President Professor Jim Matthew welcomed some 65 YPS members to a traditional President's Evening at the Churchill Hotel. After an excellent meal in this graceful environment Jim's guest speaker, Dr. Ron Clayton (History Department, University of York) entertained us with a humorous exposé on the relationship between history and fiction. The occasion was also used to thank senior society members Barbara Weatherley and John Hampshire for their longstanding contributions to the Society.

As the Churchill closes its doors on the hosting of private dinners, we will look forward to a continuation of this very enjoyable evening in a different environment in the years to come.

*Please see the enclosed flyer to help us choose the format for future President's Evenings.*

**Ideas for visits** Over the last few years our programme of events has included a very popular series of "Behind the Scenes" visits to attractions in York organised by Graham Williamson, but he admits that he is now running out of ideas. If you know of anywhere in York or nearby where a small group of curious people, who wish to spend an hour or so finding out what goes on, would be welcome, please do get in touch via The Lodge. (And if you would like to organise such a visit, Graham will be happy to advise.)



## ONE-DAY LIFESTYLE TOUR OF NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE

WED 1 JULY 2015

This eclectic coach tour contrasts three very different lifestyles - those of the founders of Methodism, the landed gentry, and of Grimsby fishermen. See separate flyer for details, or enquire at the Lodge.



## 6-DAY STUDY TOUR OF SOUTHWEST ENGLAND

MON 6 TO SAT 11 APRIL 2015

Many people are unfamiliar with the stunning scenery of the Plymouth area, which will form the backdrop to this 5 night/6 day study tour. The main themes will be the rich maritime, mining, and railway heritage of South West England but, as usual for YPS trips, many extras will be thrown in to suit most tastes. See separate flyer for details, or enquire at the Lodge.

## Some dates for your diary...

Tuesday 24 February  
Day visit to Ripon Museums

Wednesday 11 March  
Visit to York Masons Lodge  
(flier enclosed)

6 – 11 April 6-day tour  
to Devon (flier enclosed)

Wednesday 15 April  
Visit to Howsham Water Mill  
(flier enclosed)

Tuesday 28 April  
Visit to York Cold War Bunker  
(flier enclosed)

Tuesday 19 May  
Visit to York Racecourse  
(flier enclosed)

Wednesday 1 July  
Visit to Lincolnshire  
(flier enclosed)

13 – 18 September  
6-day tour to Kent

Wednesday 21 October  
President's Evening

Look out for more events in  
the next newsletter!

## finally, A tip from the Social Secretary...

YPS car drivers interested in a Gourmet Taste of Leicestershire short break might consider visiting [www.stayplayexplore.co.uk](http://www.stayplayexplore.co.uk), where there are several interesting choices from £129 per couple