



Civic Society News

February 2024



Next Speaker Meeting
Thursday 22nd February
In the Memorial Hall 7.30pm

Non-Members welcome £3 admission

Denton Park Estate



Owner, Nick Bailey and Estate Manager, Bernie Davies will be joining us to outline their vision.

“Denton Park Estate is a long-term conservation project on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales. The vision is to help contribute to the reversal of climate change and the national decline in biodiversity. All whilst producing great local food for local consumption. In short, we want to restore our part of Yorkshire’s land and estates to their former natural splendour. “



Photos: Luke Oyston

Dear Members,

February is going to be an interesting month with important budget decisions being made by Bradford Council and the planning appeal regarding the re-opening of Horn Cragg Quarry adjacent to Addingham Moorside.

We are currently busy with a number of projects. We are working with the Parish Council preparing the Spring '24 Edition of the Village Newsletter ready for circulation in March. Planning has begun for our contribution to Bradford City of Culture 2025, our Heritage Group is well on the way to designing our D Day exhibition for the Hub and the Environment Group is supporting Climate Action Addingham with ideas for themed weeks (see more in our Environment Group article).

You might be interested to read the article we had published in the **Yorkshire and Humberside Association of Civic Societies (YHACS) Spring Newsletter**. It outlines our Climate Action Addingham partnership with the Parish Council. Great progress has been made so far with a wide range of village organisations coming together to discuss how we can make a difference. If you belong to a village organisation do ask if they would like to join Climate Action Addingham. For more information contact the Parish Clerk (clerk@addingham-pc.gov.uk) or Rick Battarbee (r.battarbee@ucl.ac.uk).

If you'd like to read the article in the YHACS Newsletter just click [this link](#) and scroll down to pages 16 – 17. As well as our article there is a great range of news from Civic Societies across the region.

And I'd like to finish with huge **thanks** to trustee Gary Copping. Gary has been updating and giving some of our websites a new look, see the links below. Not only this, he has managed to induct our trustees and steering group members into the mysterious world of google calendars, so we should be able to avoid event clashes in the future!! Fingers crossed.

Here are our new look websites. Environment Group [click here](#) . CAA [click here](#)

But remember to come back here to read the rest of the newsletter.

Best wishes

Gill



ACS involvement in Bradford City of Culture 2025



As you know, the village is in the process of organising our village involvement in City of Culture 2025. There are great ideas being put forward, some linked to annual village events and some completely new.

Our Civic Society theme will be **Walks**. We know that the Bradford City of Culture team are very supportive of the idea of local walks highlighting culture and environment and we have plenty of scope for that in the society. We are just in the process of pinning down some ideas, and we'll keep you up to date.

Bradford budget cuts

The less good news on the Bradford front relates to the very significant cuts that the Council is planning.

Of particular consequence for Addingham will be

- o the proposed closure of the Ilkley Golden Butts recycling centre
- o the loss of grants for culture and heritage (excluding Bradford City of Culture 2025)

The Society Trustees have responded to the online consultation as a body of trustees with reference to the bullet points above. We have pointed out that our Society has a considerable membership but that our response cannot represent all our members. So if you feel strongly about any or all of the proposed cuts [this is the link to the public consultation](#), which ends on the 17th February. Bradford Councillors will make decisions about the budget at their meeting on the 22nd February.



ACS Treasurer

We have just said “Goodbye” to our treasurer Mike Williams. He will be off on his travels at the end of the month. There will be a short pause between treasurers, but don’t worry the finances are safe. We’ll be introducing our new treasurer asap.



If you find it difficult to hear our speakers – READ ON...



We have been very aware recently that although we have a state-of-the-art projector and sound system in the Memorial Hall we have found it difficult to link into the sound speakers which has made it difficult for some members. If that is you, don’t give up. We are in the process of addressing it, so fingers crossed for our February Speaker. Come along and test out the sound system.

The Yorkshire Society Heritage Summit May 11th and 12th in Hull

ACS is a member of the Yorkshire Society and last year you may remember that our Heritage Group had a stand at their 2023 Heritage Summit in Saltaire.

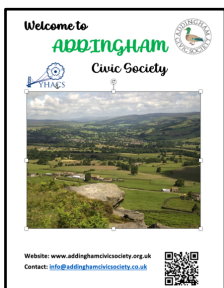
If you came along to our January Speaker Meeting, you would have heard Colin Speakman giving us a heads up about their 2024 Heritage Summit which will be held in the magnificent Hull Minster on Saturday 11th May. It sounds as if it will be an interesting weekend.

Our Heritage Group is signed up to have a stand to advertise their work. So do put the date in your diary and we’ll keep you up to date with details. Click [this link](#) to see to The Yorkshire Society website.



We are pleased to announce that the 2024 Yorkshire Heritage Summit will be held in Hull at the magnificent Hull Minster.

ACS New Members Booklet



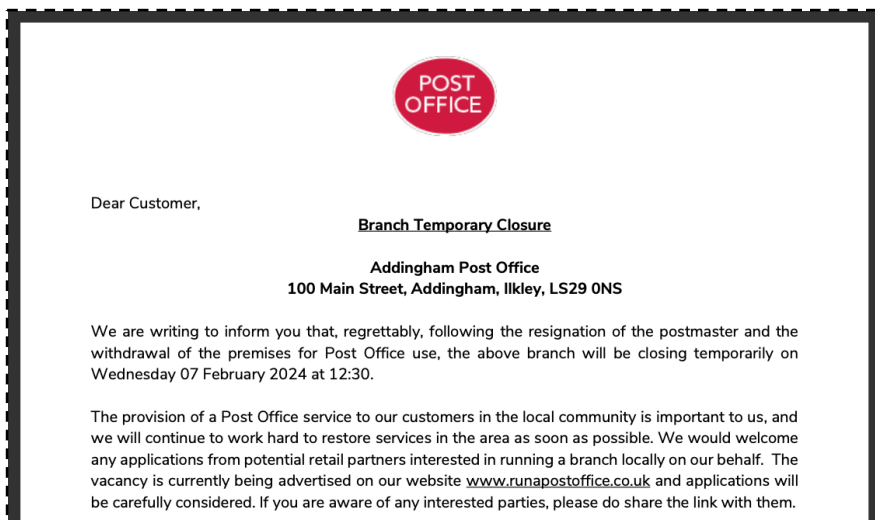
Some of you may not be aware that we produce a small booklet about the Society and its work. These are available from Trustees and at our Speaker Meetings. If you have family, friends or neighbours who might be interested in joining the Society do ask for a booklet to give them. They are free of charge and updated every year.

Alternatively, the booklet can be found on our website [here](#).

The Closure of the Addingham Post Office

Just in case you have missed this information, the Post Office has written formally to announce the closure of the Addingham branch on the 7th February.

To read the full letter [click here](#).



At our last AEG steering committee meeting we agreed it was time to stop organising annual Environment Weekends. They have been immensely popular and part of the annual village calendar. However, over the last few years we have found that most of attendees are either our own members or members of the wider public in the village and elsewhere who share our convictions about the environmental challenges we face. You might call it preaching to the converted. So following the very successful launch of Climate Action Addingham in 2022 we now intend to redirect our Environment Weekend energy and resources to help organise, under the auspices of CAA, a series of themed environment weeks over the course of the year.

This is the plan for 2024:

Zero Waste Week: March 11th to 16th
Wildlife Week: June 24th to 29th
Water Week: July 15th to 20th
Zero Carbon Week: September 23rd to 28th

For the upcoming Waste Week, in addition to the Big Plastic Count, we have three events planned so far:

Wednesday 13th March: a talk in Mt Hermon by Ian Benson “**What happens to our waste**”.

Thursday 14th March: **Pop-up refill shop** open in Mt Hermon, 10.00 – 11.30 am

Saturday 16th March: spring clean **village litter-pick**, AEG with the Scouts and Parish Council

But each week needs to be much much more than a few events organised by the Environment Group.

We want to find ways to engage with the whole village so that everyone is doing their best to meet the environmental sustainability goals we have set ourselves

(see <https://www.climateactionaddingham.info/index.php/objectives>).

So we are asking everyone to sign up, spread the word and encourage other groups you are members of to come up with ideas and take part.

Thank you!



The 2023 Photo Competition

These are the winning images from the Humour Category, judged by David James, and includes the overall winning image by Ann Clark.



1st Anne Clark with
‘Morecambe’.



2nd Don Barrett with
‘Sleeping Elf’



3rd Don Barrett with
‘Nothing Happened’

Next Month, we will show the winning images in the Landscape Category

Special Request for the Walkers among us

Don Barrett is in the process of updating Walk 4 in the Walks book to include the new Blue Plaques. Please could you contact Don if you have noticed any problems or inaccuracies with any of the walks which need correcting at the same time.

Don’s email address is: donbar01@gmail.com

The Story of the Addingham Bypass - Part 2 Which Route for a Bypass?

By Jonathan White, ACS Heritage Group

Proposals for Consultation in 1972

The Yellow Route

Crossing Church Street (and leaving St Peter's Church isolated from the village!) and requiring a river diversion by the Suspension Bridge (can you imagine that!) it would have proceeded to a junction with the Bolton Abbey road north of Bark Lane and climbed up to cross the disused railway line embankment and beyond.

The Red Route

From the cricket ground and a new junction with Church Street it would have passed between houses on Park Crescent and Wharfe Park, crossing Town Beck to the north of Aynholme Drive and what is now the Primary School (and just for good measure through the bottom of my garden!). Imagine the housing loss and the north part of the village being cut off.

The Green Route

The existing Ilkley road would have been improved and diverted by the cricket field heading off near the bend by the present Co-op and forming a junction with Bolton Road at Aynholme Bridge before crossing the old railway line near Bridge 55 on Back Beck Lane. (The school would have been cut off as would even more of the north part of the village!)

The Blue Route

Following a similar route to the purple one as far as the 'Saints' residential area it would have rejoined the A65 at the Silsden Road junction with a link to Main Street near Town Beck. (The existing, twisting uphill A65 from the junction with Moor Lane would not have been avoided and remained particularly hazardous to heavier vehicles in both directions.)

The Purple Route

So, the overwhelming first choice (86%) was for the **PURPLE** route (the next best being the Blue Route at 6%!). It appeared also that unless this route was built the majority preferred no bypass at all! Favouring this route too were the local authorities directly concerned, West Yorkshire MCC, Bradford MDC and Addingham Parish Council. What happened next? (To be continued)

Who Dun It? We still don't know!

By members, John and Lesley Hutchinson

Those of you came to our October Speaker Meeting "The Bradford Police Museum" will remember not only the fascinating talk given by David Hardcastle but the opportunity to clamp your spouse/friends in handcuffs and try on a bit of police kit.

During his talk David invited everyone to go along to a trial at the Bradford Police Museum, formerly Bradford Crown Court. The event was the creation of an 1888 murder trial with never reached the courts.

Members, John and Lesley went along to the trial, this is what they said :

"Attached are the photographs of our visit to Bradford Police Museum, (formerly Bradford Crown Court) following the visit by David Hardcastle, to speak to the Civic Society in October last year.

The trailer is in your Civic Society email dated 26th October 23 and sets the scene really well.

You can watch the trailer [here](#).

The murder, which occurred in 1888, never got to trial as the defence counsel persuaded the judge to throw it out of court. It was always considered that a "guilty" verdict was a forgone conclusion.

The case related to the alleged murder of a young boy, John Gill, by the milkman, William Barrett, who he helped out. We were provided with a map (which I've unfortunately not kept) showing where the milkman lived, where the boy lived, where the body was found and where one of the witnesses lived.

There were 2 juries, one on each side of the court. I took the pictures and Lesley was in the jury opposite.

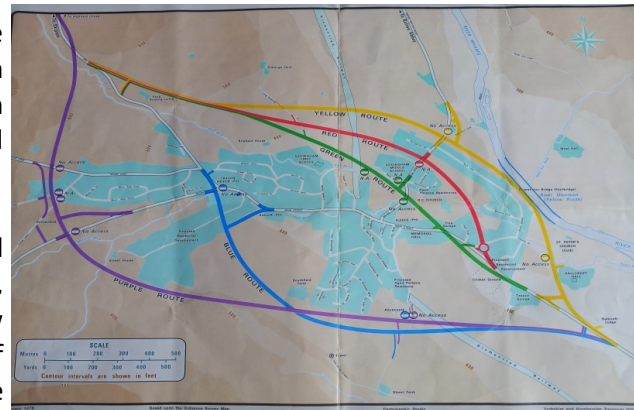
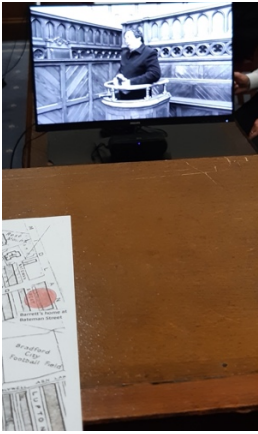


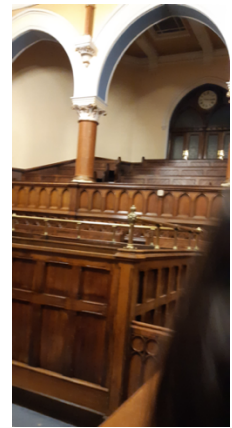
Photo courtesy: Bradford Police Museum



Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3

Picture 1 shows a witness appearing on a TV recording dressed in period clothing and giving their statement. It also shows part of the map on the bottom left of the picture.

Picture 2 shows the jury opposite with Lesley in the middle of the back row looking in her handbag for a pen and the clerk summing up the case for the prosecution and the defence.

Picture 3 shows the rest of the court. Our jury retired to reach a verdict into the well to the bottom right of the viewing seats, and the other jury to the equivalent space on their side.

We can recommend going. It was great fun.

I won't tell you our verdicts as I believe they periodically redo the trial....."

And indeed the event is being staged again on Friday the 1st March.

For details contact:

City Hall, Bradford 07597 604213 or info@bradfordpolicemuseum.com

Young Volunteer Opportunities with ACS

Do you know someone who is applying for their first job, the Armed forces or is planning to go to university in the next couple of years? Is someone you know undertaking a Duke of Edinburgh Award or on a Gap Year?

Employers and Universities tend to look favourably on applicants if they can demonstrate through their personal statement that they have spent time on some voluntary work, regardless of which career path they take.

Have they considered volunteering with, for example,



- Saplings* (Junior Environmental Group)
- The Environment Group*
- Climate Action Addingham*

The Heritage Group – sorting and uploading photos to the archive; sifting for duplicate photos; researching the history of the village and surrounding area.

Maybe they have skills we haven't even thought of and want to do something else which benefits the young people and other residents of Addingham. The Addingham Civic Society has experience and has won an award for working with young people and youth groups.

If you would like to discuss potential volunteering opportunities, please contact us:

chairman@addinghamcivicsociety.co.uk

And finally....

A Huge thank you to all our speakers, contributors to the newsletter, volunteers, and subscribers.

If you would like to include anything in our next newsletter, please ensure that you send it to me before Friday 23rd February.

acsnewsletters1@gmail.com