

THE DAILY REGISTER & TOURING GAZETTE



"The Voice of the Moors"

**MONDAY
AUGUST 17TH
2009**

The Worsley Arms: some History

In 1830 the Hovingham estates were inherited by Sir William Worsley and he set about spending money with a vengeance! He drew up plans for tunnels under the River Thames, spent large amounts on 'influencing' local voters (as a would be MP!) and drew up plans for a resort to compete with Harrogate - Hovingham Spa!

The plan called for a new carriage road with imposing lodges, public baths and of course an inn. Of this 'wish list', only the Worsley Arms Hotel was built - and that was on a reduced scale if you study the poster in the hotel's entrance lobby!



The Hotel was run by the Garbutt family for many years after it opened, with a brewery set up by William Garbutt in the building to the rear of the main hotel. The brewery was eventually taken over to end up as part of Tetley's!

Among its famous guests have been Sir Lawrence Olivier, Jeremy Irons & Anthony Andrews who stayed here while filming "Brideshead Revisited" at the nearby Castle Howard.

"THE OBJECT OF THE CLUB IS TO FURTHER THE INTERESTS OF THE OWNERS AND DRIVERS OF MG CARS"

On this Date..

Mae West was born in 1892

F D Roosevelt Jr was born (1914) and died (1988)!

Rudolf Hess died in Spandau prison after 46 years there (1987)

And also ...

President Bill Clinton admitted to an 'inappropriate relationship' with Monica Lewinsky in 1998

The Registration Act came into force, requiring registration of all Births Marriages & Deaths in Britain in 1836

Hovingham Spa Station



Travel Tips

Hillclimb: The steepest road in Yorkshire is Rosedale Bank Top (1:3) which we bypassed today!

Petrol: There will be fewer garages easily accessible on Tuesday! If you are running low on petrol let someone know before departing.

Parking: Car parks in the National Park ask for a parking fee to help cover the costs of road and verge care in the Park. They usually charge a 'daily' rate but are cheaper after 4 p.m.

Trains: Despite the picture to the left, there is no station left at Hovingham! It closed to passengers in 1953 & freight in 1964

Route Notes & Jottings

For each day of the Tour, additional notes will be included in the Daily Register. The notes for tomorrow's Tour are overleaf.

North York Moors Railway

The North Yorkshire Moors Railway operates steam trains along an 18 mile line between Pickering and Grosmont, through the heart of the North York Moors National Park.

The NYMR is one of the most historic lines in the North of England. Its origins go back a century and a half, and was an important trade link between Pickering and Whitby. Following a meeting in 1831 George Stephenson was asked to report on building the line of simplest construction and the complete 24 mile stretch of line was opened in May 1836.

The line operated for well over a century during which modifications were gradually made and steam locomotives took over. In the 1950's traffic began to dwindle and by 1965 the line operated its last passenger service.

In 1968 a meeting was held by people keen to re-open the line. Through a major fund raising scheme and help from the County Council, sufficient funds were raised to re-open the line in stages and by 24 May 1975 the line was again open between Grosmont and Pickering.



Heartbeat Country

Heartbeat has been a long-running TV series; since its first screening on Friday 10th April 1992, the show has run to over 350 hour-long episodes. And it all began with Nicholas Rhea's true life 'Constable' books.

In March this year a decision was taken to stop filming further episodes - although the door may be open a crack for a return at some future date!

Goathland features as Aidensfield; Grosmont Gallery as a garage ; Pickering as Asfordley; and the police station itself? Well, that's some 60 miles away in Otley!

In Goathland the hotel, garage, shops and station are all recognized worldwide as 'Aidensfield' properties although being set in the 1960's they seem to have missed the Y-types from their line up of classic cars!

The single track road we follow across the Moor is for a large part along a Roman road little changed by modern times. Wheeldale Road, the actual Roman relic, is still visible and usable as a walk just north of Cawthorn.

Owned now by English Heritage, the road is thought by many to one of the finest still usable in northern Europe!

Kirkdale Cave

(We are passing by but not stopping - see below!)

William Buckland was involved in the excavation of Kirkdale Cave in Yorkshire, and he published an account of the discoveries in 1822 and in 1823.

He found abundant bones of hyenas, young and old, as well as remains of other large mammals

These discoveries formed an important part of Buckland's attempt to reconcile the new findings of palaeontology with the Bible.

He argued that the cave creatures had sought refuge there at the approach of The Flood in the time of Noah and that they had perished under its waters.

Despite this interpretation, Buckland's work at Kirkdale Cave was important as one of the first systematic excavations of a cave and the beginning of the teasing apart of the complex environmental changes during the European Quaternary Sub-era!!

(The cave is difficult to access, being 15ft up a vertical quarry face and with no easy parking nearby. However if you want to know more, just ask)



Figure 1.2 An imaginative drawing of William Buckland transported back to Pleistocene times at Kirkdale Cavern, Yorkshire - a hyena den full of bones of Pleistocene mammals. (After Buckland, 1823.)