



Handy Guide to HARROGATE

and District



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HARROGATE

**HANDY GUIDE
TO
HARROGATE
AND DISTRICT**

The details in this Guide are, of necessity, brief, but further particulars concerning routes, charges for admission, etc., may be obtained from the Harrogate Information Bureau, Parliament Street.

Photographs by Bertram Unné

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centuries in Harrogate, and the demand for daily medicinal baths under the ministrations of a highly trained staff, diminished. Though many doctors still retain a strong faith in the efficacy of the famous waters they were not sufficient to justify the Council in seeking to maintain an outworn tradition. Members were alive to the changing conditions and were prepared to progress with the times. With the coming of the National Health Service the tremendous value of the Royal Baths was seen and it is now playing an ever-increasing part in restoring people to health. In addition, there are still a large number of private patients each year.

The Council has also not been unmindful of the holiday side of Harrogate's attractions for the benefit of visitors who, perhaps, wanted a change from the perpetual seaside, and who realised there was rich benefit to be obtained from the restfulness of the town. Music, which at one time was a great feature of the Harrogate "season," is gradually coming into its own again. The time is not yet financially ripe for the re-introduction of a municipal orchestra, but we are fortunate to have concerts by world-famous orchestras from time to time. We have, too, dramatic and musical festivals, trade fairs, sports tournaments, flower shows, galas, all of which received national recognition.

Harrogate is famous as a "floral resort" with its artistically arranged settings in various parts of the town, and as a popular conference centre.

It is also a matter of pride that the Yorkshire Agricultural Society has established its permanent show-ground at Harrogate.

Prospect Square





Tulip Time

From a residential point of view, Harrogate has everything to commend it. First and foremost it is a very healthy town. It has something to offer everyone in the way of cultural and recreative facilities. It is the centre of some of the loveliest country in Britain ; its rates are reasonable, and its public services are admirably administered. The fact that Harrogate is the place of residence of a large number of West Riding business men who travel daily to and from the big industrial cities, often at the cost of valuable time, is an indication of the high esteem in which it is held.

HARROGATE'S HISTORY

Harrogate does not boast of any antiquity. It prefers to say it began as two villages—High and Low Harrogate—and that the discovery of the medicinal waters in 1571 started it on the road to fame as one of the best known spas in the world. Yet there are many who are convinced, as a result of research, that Harrogate was known to the Romans, and that it was their Centum Fontes—the town of a hundred springs. There are no fewer than eighty-nine springs, and no doubt the remainder will come to light some day. Since 1571 the spa water has dominated the town, and the use of the medicinal waters has been a main feature. In those early days the method of dealing with the waters at the Royal Pump Room, or Old Sulphur Well (just opposite

the entrance to the Valley Gardens) was indeed crude. Patients visited the spring, which was contained in a barrel minus top and bottom, and the water was scooped out with an iron ladle and tipped into glasses. In the cellar of the building can still be seen the original spring of sulphur water, which was one of the first springs to be discovered in Harrogate, and was the one that laid the foundation of Harrogate's reputation. The Tewit Well on the Stray was discovered by Mr. William Slingsby, whose memory is perpetuated by a stained glass window in the Pump Room.

Why Harrogate should be so favoured by nature with a bountiful supply of health-giving water is a question often asked by visitors. The explanation is that at some great depth beneath the surface of the earth is a valuable store of soluble minerals which impregnate the separate currents of water. Thousands of years ago a tremendous disturbance of the earth's crust took place, which resulted in a folding of the various layers of rock. The uppermost part comes to the surface at Harrogate, and thus we get the mineral waters seeping through the various strata, entirely unaffected by seasonal changes.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, fashionable London was accustomed to make an annual pilgrimage to the spa, and just prior to the first world war it was the resort of many famous people, taking the treatments. In fact it is said that at one period it would be possible to hold a Cabinet meeting at the Pump Room any morning during the "high season" by reason of the number of Ministers drinking the waters.

The Pump Room has now been converted into a Spa Museum, where an interesting collection of material relating to Harrogate and its springs can be seen.

Other wells are the Magnesia in the Valley Gardens, where the waters can be obtained, though the building is now used for other purposes; at St. John's Well, in Wetherby Road, one of the earliest in regular use.

The Royal Baths. The present magnificent suite of baths, built at a cost of £200,000, was opened by the Duke of Cambridge in 1897, and superseded the old Montpellier Baths which were bought by the Corporation for £9,000. The baths are reputed to be the finest in Europe, and they offer a large number of unique treatments, including the sulphur baths, the Harrogate massage douche, and the noted Fango mud baths. The

"mud," which is radio-active, is composed of silt, vegetation and other deposits which have accumulated for hundreds of years. At one time it was imported from Czechoslovakia, but some years ago deposits of a much superior quality were found on the outskirts of Harrogate and hailed as a discovery of great medicinal importance.

There is also the Deep Pool treatment which is proving so efficacious in the restoration of limbs crippled through rheumatism or injury.

At the counter, in the spacious main hall, can be obtained the drinking waters which were previously obtainable at the Royal Pump Room.

Additions to the building have been made from time to time, the most important being the extension on the site of the old Winter Gardens and opened in 1939 by the Lord Mayor of London (Sir Frank Bowater) who brought his own stage coach and horses, and was accompanied by his sheriffs and their ladies. Part of the building is the Lounge Hall, which is exquisitely panelled in Empire hardwoods, and the Fountain Court.

Harrogate Stray. Harrogate is noted throughout the world for its famous Stray, the name given to the stretch of "common land" so familiar a feature in the centre of the town, and naively referred to by those who lack local knowledge as a "field" or "that bit of waste land."

The name is derived from "estraier" (O.F.) meaning a piece of unenclosed land on which there is a common right of pasture. Grainge, the Harrogate



*West
Dark
Stray*

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Harrogate

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19 MARKET PLACE

(Opposite Market Hall)

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HIGH STREET, KNARESBOROUGH

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historian, says : " The land grazed or " strayed " over by cattle ; an extensive pasture is frequently called a ' stray ' in the North of England."

It was part of the Forest of Knaresborough, which used to be a popular hunting ground for the kings of olden times. In those days it was simply twenty thousand acres of waste land. It declined in prestige as a hunting ground, and little by little neighbouring landowners began to nibble at it. In the end, Queen Elizabeth appointed four Commissioners to ascertain its area. Nothing was done, however, and it was not until 1770 that George III approved an Enclosure Act in which it was directed that two hundred acres should be converted into a " stinted pasture " for the benefit of people resorting to Harrogate for the medicinal waters, and that those two hundred acres . . .

" shall for ever hereafter remain open and unenclosed, and all persons whomsoever shall and may have free access at all times to the said springs, and be at liberty to use and drink the waters there arising and take the benefit thereof, and shall and may have, use and enjoy, full and free ingress, egress and regress in, upon, and over the said two hundred acres of land, and everypart thereof, without being subject to the payment of any acknowledgement whatsoever for the same, or liable to any action for trespass, or other suit, molestation, or disturbance whatsoever in respect thereof."

It has been used as a landing ground for early aeroplane contests, the Royal Show has been held there, and during the last war part of it was ploughed up for food production. The public have been very jealous of the rights conferred by the Act of Parliament and have contended that anything that causes obstruction to the free " ingress, egress and regress " was an infringement. From time to time there have been many battles but always the public have won.

The Valley Gardens. These may be described as Harrogate's " Park," a floral addition to the Stray. A natural valley was transformed many years ago, by the addition of shrubs and rocks, and a stream was artistically improved by the construction of pools. In 1901 two fields, on which now stands the Sun Pavilion, were absorbed and new gardens were made. As part of the Valley Gardens, just above the Magnesia Well, is what is known locally as the Bogs Field. So long ago as 1430 it was known as " The Sour Acre " which suggests that the waters even then had some repute. It is here that

The Sun Pavilion



thirty-six of the eighty-nine springs come to the surface. No two of them are alike, though in many cases they are separated only by thin layers of shale. The springs are all covered and numbered, and these breaks in the floral arrangements are always a matter of interest to visitors.

Writing in 1871, Grainge says: "These springs present the most singular phenomena observable either at Harrogate or elsewhere in England, being sixteen in number, all mineral waters, rising in an acre of ground, and, most singular of all, no two are exactly alike. They have long been known and form an object of wonder and surprise to all beholders."

The Sun Colonnade. The glass-covered Sun Walk in the Valley Gardens, suggested as a necessary amenity so long ago as 1884, was opened in 1933 by Lord Horder, the famous physician. It is 600 feet long and opens out at two points into charming sun parlours, and ends with the tea pavilion and concert hall. The brick pillars, and the walls along the walk, are draped with climbing plants and present an attractive picture. In front of the pavilion is a spacious lawn fronting the bandstand.

The Royal Hall, the property of the Corporation, regarded as one of the finest concert halls in the country, was opened in 1903 by Sir Hubert Parry. It was a noted centre for concerts by the Municipal Orchestra, which, however, was disbanded in 1930 owing to the decline of

interest in municipal music. Before the first world war the Royal Hall attracted some of the finest artistes in the country, and was a rendezvous for all Yorkshire. Adjoining was the old Spa Concert Rooms, demolished some years ago owing to the unsafe condition of the building. The gardens behind the Royal Hall are delightfully laid out, and there are several public tennis courts.

The Grand Opera House in Oxford Street, often spoken of as one of the prettiest theatres outside London, was opened in 1900. In the days of touring companies it was a favourite theatre for the presentation of new plays, and many famous stage stars have appeared here. In 1933, in view of the difficulties of procuring suitable productions by visiting companies, the management decided to start a repertory company, known as the White Rose Players, which has developed as one of the best known in the country. In its ranks have appeared such well known artistes as Trevor Howard, Rosamund John, Sonia Dresdel, Philip King, and others.

Cinemas. Harrogate is well supplied with cinemas. The first to be opened was the St. James's in Cambridge Street, which about fifty years ago presented the youth of Harrogate with flickering pictures, with appropriate noises off. Then followed the Scala (now the Gaumont), the Odeon and the Regal, all centrally situated and supplying the latest features.

Birk Crag. A popular resort for residents and visitors. Birk Crag stands about 150 feet above the Oak Beck, and can be reached by turning right just beyond



*Birk
Crag*

the Church at Harlow Hill, by entering a gate to a field path at the top of Cornwall Road, or by turning right at Cornwall Road and entering a path half way down the hill. From the summit some magnificent views of the countryside can be seen.

Harlow Car. Within a stone's throw of Birk Crag the Northern Horticultural Society has established a trial ground for testing the suitability of new varieties of plants for Northern gardens. For the greater part of the year it is a fairyland of floral beauty, and well worth a visit. It is open to the public, who are asked to drop a coin in the box provided at the entrance gates.

Harlow Moor. The purchase of Harlow Moor from the Earl of Harewood was effected in 1897, for £25,000, and an additional piece of land above Harlow Moor Road in 1924 for £15,000. On the right, at the top of the slight rise from the Valley Gardens, stands the beautiful memorial erected by ex-servicemen of Harrogate to their fallen comrades of the first world war, in the form of a crucifix.

The Market Hall. The present Market Hall was built just before the outbreak of war, at a cost of £55,000, to replace a building erected in 1874, costing £6,000, and burnt down in 1937. The tower contains a clock, which, presented by Baroness Burdett-Coutts in thanksgiving for benefits received from Harrogate's spa treatment, is the only link with the old building.

The War Memorial. Erected at a cost of £5,500, raised by public subscription, the Harrogate War Memorial in Prospect Square, was unveiled by the Earl of Harewood (grandfather of the present Earl) on September 1st, 1923, and with him on that occasion was his son, then Viscount Lascelles and Viscountess Lascelles, now the Princess Royal. The memorial is 75 feet high, and tapers from 9 feet wide at the base to 6 feet. A new plaque has been fixed to include names of those who fell in the last war.

Public Library. In 1903, Mr. Andrew Carnegie offered £7,500 for the erection of a free library. The Corporation accepted the gift and provided a site in Victoria Avenue. The new building was opened in 1906.

Municipal Offices. These are situated in Crescent Gardens, and occupy the site of the old Victoria Baths. They were opened in 1931 by Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister, now Lord Swinton.



The Valley Gardens

The Jubilee Monument. The Queen Victoria Monument, just outside Harrogate station, was erected in 1887 to commemorate Her Majesty's Jubilee.

Harlow Observatory. From the observation platform of this building, erected in 1829 at the top of Harlow Hill, can be seen York and Ripon, seven of the great battlefields of England, twenty market towns, seventeen castles, twenty-three abbeys, and nearly two hundred parish churches.

Turnpike Stone. In West Park is a stone pillar, 9 feet high. It was placed there in 1778 to mark the boundary of two turnpike roads.

The Royal Bath Hospital in Cornwall Road was founded in 1824 by Lord Harewood, and each successive holder of the title has taken a deep personal interest in its affairs. The present building was opened in 1889 by Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence. In 1925 when Princess Mary (now the Princess Royal) opened a new laboratory, she presented a portrait of the Duke to the Hospital, which is now playing an increasing and important part in the treatment of rheumatic diseases, and research into their causes.

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The Rawson Convalescent Home commemorates Miss Rawson of Nidd Hall who gave £9,000 towards its construction.

The Harrogate and District General Hospital in Knaresborough Road, built in 1932 on the most up-to-date lines, was opened by the Princess Royal who had laid the foundation stone in 1926. The cost was £112,000.

The Yorkshire Home for Incurables, founded in 1881, moved into its present building in 1902. There have been many generous additions and gifts since then, and the Home is maintained on a very high standard.

HARROGATE CHURCHES

Christ Church was consecrated in 1831. It took the place of a Chapel of Ease built in 1749 which served a growing number of parishioners until 1829. The present church was enlarged in 1862.

One of the favourite hymns of King George V, which was sung at his funeral, was "Peace, Perfect Peace," written by a former Bishop of Exeter (Dr. E. H. Bickersteth). During a holiday in Harrogate in 1875, he wrote those beautiful words while sitting on a tree-shaded seat outside Christ Church after hearing a sermon by the Vicar (Canon W. W. Gibbon).

St. Peter's Church is a daughter church of Christ Church. The first part to be erected was the Chancel, opened in 1871, and the church was finally consecrated in 1876. A feature of the church is its stained glass, and one particularly fine window is the congregation's memorial to those who fell in the first world war. It shows a figure of the angel of peace, with the shrine of honour, from a cartoon in "Punch" by Bernard Partridge.

Bilton Church was erected in 1857 to designs by Sir Gilbert Scott, and the whole cost, £30,000, was defrayed by Mr. William Sheepshanks.

St. Mary's Church was consecrated in 1916, and superseded another building in St. Mary's Walk, built in 1822 and condemned as unsafe in 1901. The fabric of the old building was afterwards bought by the Harrogate College and re-erected in their grounds. All Saints' Church at Harlow Hill is linked with St. Mary's.

St. Luke's Church is, like St. Peter's, an offshoot of Christ Church. It was consecrated in 1898 by the then Bishop of Ripon, Dr. W. Boyd Carpenter, a favourite preacher of Queen Victoria. Its tall spire is a notable landmark.

St. Mark's Church grew from an iron church in 1894, and was consecrated in 1905. The architect in his design had Fountains Abbey in mind, including the tower.

St. Wilfrid's Church, one of the most beautiful in Yorkshire, was designed by Mr. E. Temple Moore, and was begun in 1904. It was consecrated in 1914, but further building has since taken place, thanks to many generous gifts.

St. Andrew's Church, Starbeck, was consecrated in 1910, and followed a church built in 1888.

Pannal Church is the oldest in Harrogate. In 1312 it was set on fire by departing Scottish marauders.

Other Places of Worship in the town include :—

Baptist : Victoria Avenue.

Christian Science : Victoria Avenue.

Congregational : Victoria Avenue.
Bilton Grange.

Elim Hall : King's Road.

Methodist : Oxford Street (Wesley).
Trinity Road (Trinity).
Dragon Parade.
Grove Road.
Starbeck.
Skipton Road, Bilton (Bar).

Presbyterian : Victoria Avenue.

Roman Catholic : Robert Street (St. Robert's).
Skipton Road (St. Joseph's).
Woodlands Drive (St. Aelred's).

Salvation Army : Oxford Street.

Society of Friends : Oxford Street.

The Synagogue : St. Mary's Walk.

Theosophical Hall : East Parade.

Town Mission : Mayfield Grove.

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SHORT WALKS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Ripley to Hampsthwaite. Take a Ripon or Pateley Bridge bus as far as Ripley. Proceed down the road past the Castle, with the Church on the left, into Ripley Woods, noted for its bluebells. Then up the narrow lane on the left and on reaching the main road go down the hill to Hampsthwaite.

Harrogate to Ripley. Take a bus to Bachelor Gardens. Alighting at Knox, cross the old packhorse bridge and mount a slope on the other side of the road. Keep to the footpath, noting Knaresborough viaduct on the right, and finally reaching the main Ripon-Harrogate road just before reaching the bridge at Ripley Valley station. Bus to Harrogate.

South Stainley to Ripley. Starting at South Stainley (Ripon bus) take the road under the arch opposite the inn and keep to the footpath through farm, fields and woodlands to a lane which leads to Ripley-Pateley main road. Turn left to Ripley village.

Harrogate to Almascliffe Crag. Go by Bradford bus as far as Rigton Lane end (second lane), at the top fork to the left. Cross a stile just past the farm to a well marked track along the hedge side. On the return pass left of the farm to Rigton. Turn left at the village, and where the road takes a left incline keep straight on by a path and over a plank bridge, eventually coming out at Brackenthwaite Lane. On to Burn Bridge for a bus to Harrogate.

Hampsthwaite to Birstwith. Bus to Hampsthwaite and then proceed along Birstwith road for a short distance. Just past a building on the right take to the field through a gate which leads to the river bank. The path comes out at the mill at Birstwith. Short, but very delightful.

Harlow Car to Harrogate. Take a bus to Harlow Hill. Continue past the cemetery and take first turn on right (Harlow Car road). Almost opposite the entrance to the hotel take a footpath on the right. This is the Mile Walk, planted by the Corporation, which leads to the Pine Woods, and, after crossing the road, through Harlow Moor to the Valley Gardens.

Harlow Car to Beckwithshaw. As an alternative route, turn in at the hotel drive and bear right on a footpath which goes through a plantation and comes out at Pot Bridge. Turn left on the road to Beckwithshaw and left again at the junction to Harlow Hill.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

The visitor to Harrogate has a wide choice of sports and pastimes.

Golf. Harrogate is highly favoured with three first-class golf courses, each having its own particular features which makes a visit to all most desirable. The Clubs are, Harrogate, whose 18 hole course at Starbeck was originally laid out by Sandy Herd; Pannal (on Leeds-Harrogate road) for which Major C. A. Mackenzie was largely responsible; and Oakdale to the west of the town, laid out by Dr. Alister Mackenzie, and opened in 1914. There is also an excellent course at Knaresborough belonging to the Knaresborough Golf Club.

Racing. There are many racecourses within easy distance of Harrogate: Doncaster, York, Wetherby, Catterick, Manchester, Ripon, Thirsk, and Redcar.

Cricket. Yorkshire County matches are to be seen at Headingley (Leeds), Bradford, Sheffield, Huddersfield, and on the Harrogate cricket ground in St. George's Road where Yorkshire Council matches are played almost weekly.

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FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT—continued.

Tennis. There are hard courts in the Valley Gardens, the Royal Hall Gardens (where the annual tournament is played), and at most of the hotels.

Riding. Hacks and hunters can be obtained from local stables, and riding is allowed on Harrogate Stray.

Swimming. There are public swimming baths at High Harrogate and at Starbeck.

Boating. At Knaresborough, Wetherby, York and Boroughbridge.

Miniature Golf. There is miniature golf and putting in the Valley Gardens, and putting on West Park Stray.

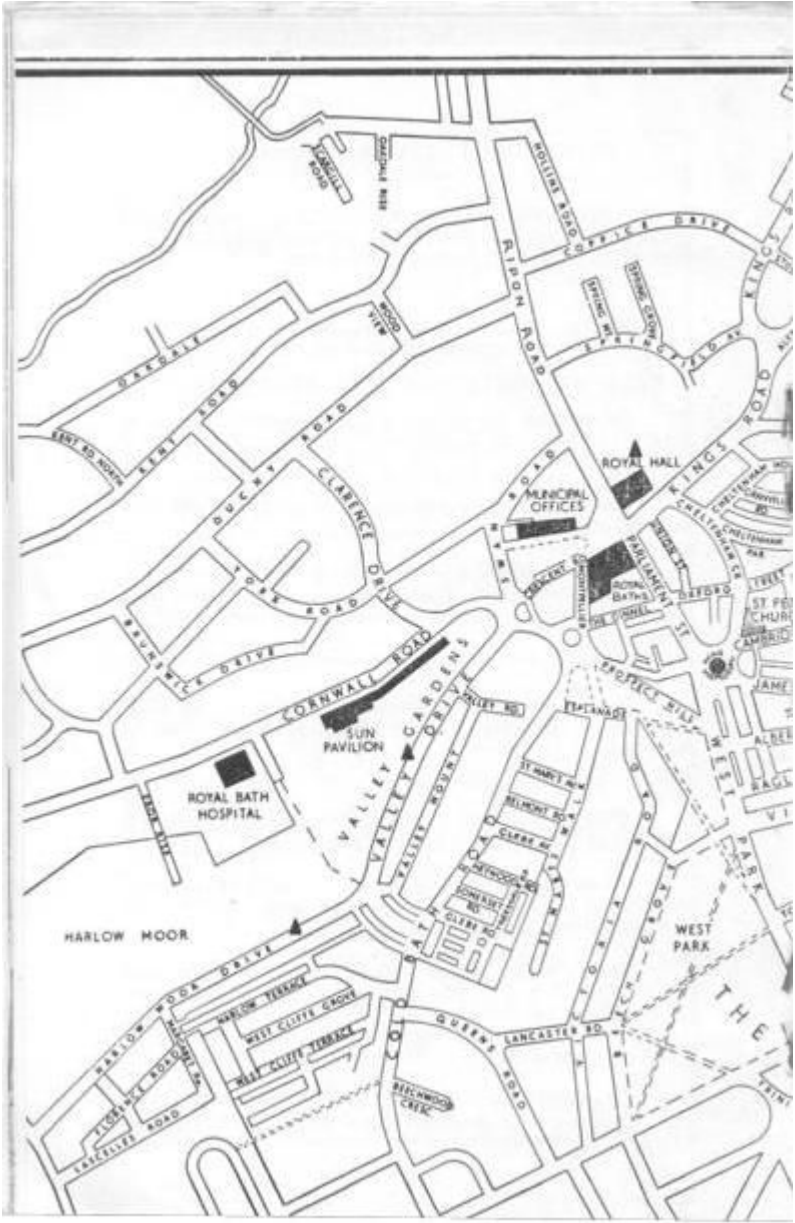
Bowls. Games are obtainable at the Valley Garden's green (flat green) or most crown green clubs in the town.

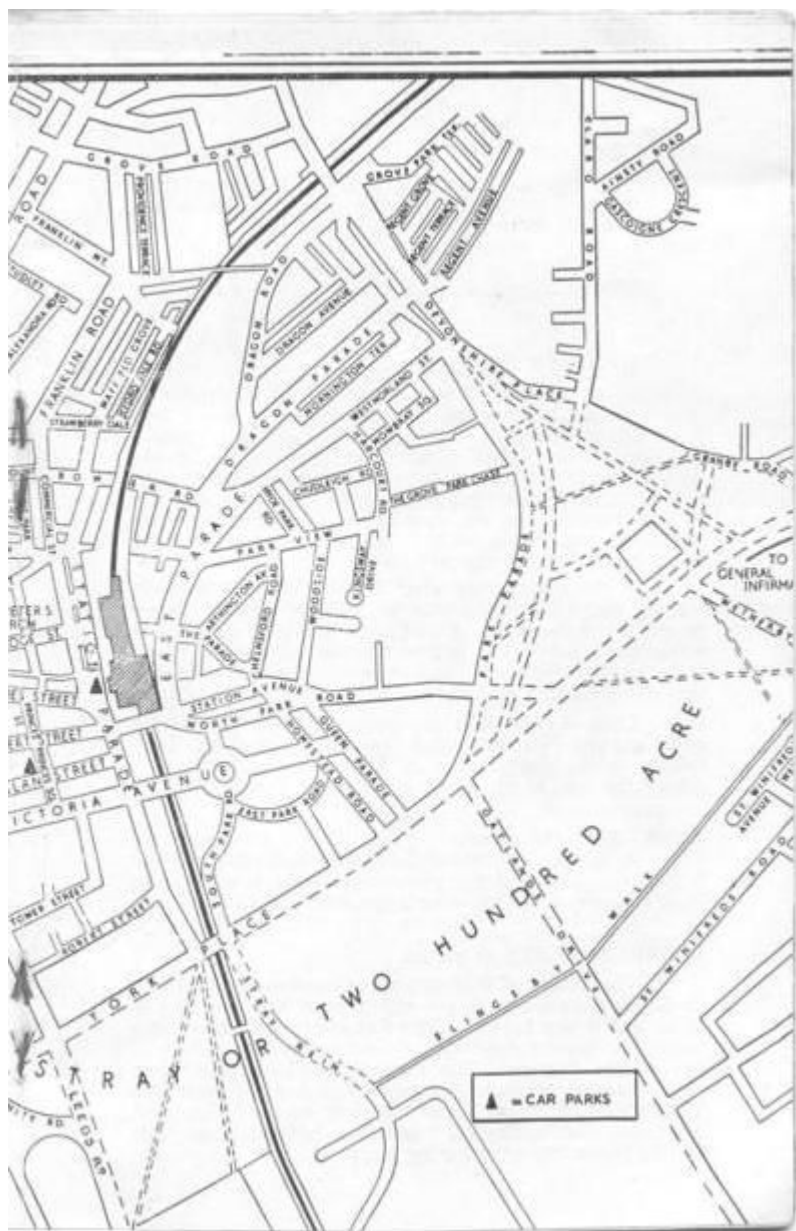
Fishing. Selection of good trout fishing within easy distance of the town. Mostly fly water.

River Nidd. Pateley Bridge Club, 5 miles, trout and grayling, 5/- per day. Knaresborough, mixed trout and coarse fish, 2/- per day.

River Yore. Ripon Piscatorial Club, trout and coarse fish, 2/6 per day. Ripon Anglers' Club, good trout fishing on Laver and Skell, narrow streams, day tickets 10/-. Jervaulx Abbey Estate, 2 miles good trout water, 3/- per day.

River Wharfe. Burnsall and Grassington, both excellent fly water, Burnsall 10/- per day, Grassington 5/- per day.





▲ = CAR PARKS

ALDBOROUGH (13 miles).

This was the principal city of the Brigantes before the Norman Conquest. It was then known as Iseur, and later, when the Romans came, as Isuriam. It is of special interest to antiquarians for a large number of Roman remains have been found and can be seen in a museum, open daily, 6d. The tessalated pavements are particularly interesting.

ALMIASCLIFFE CRAG (5 miles).

A conspicuous landmark south of Harrogate is Almiasliffe Crag (pronounced Ormscliff), a name said to be derived from the Celtic—"al" a rock, and "mias" an altar, and it is believed that it was used by the Druids. It is also said that at one time it was customary to light a bonfire each May 1st as a memorial to the old fire or sun worship. At the summit of the Altar rock are shallow basins which are believed to have contained the water used in the Druidical rites.

A story connected with Almiasliff is of a young woman crossed in love who, in a fit of despair, threw herself from the topmost rock, but the wind caught her voluminous skirts and bellowed them out like a parachute so that she landed safely on the ground. It is said that she lived to a ripe old age in a neighbouring village.

Little Almiasliffe is another group of towering rocks, on the Norwood road, near Beckwithshaw. They belong to the Corporation of Harrogate, and were the gift of the late Major F. H. Fawkes, of Farnley Hall.

AYSGARTH (34 miles).

A feature of this delightful Wensleydale village is the river Ure and the picturesque falls, consisting of three cascades tumbling over ledges and rocks.

BLUBBERHOUSES (9 miles).

The village of Blubberhouses, on the main Skipton road, was noteworthy, some eighty years ago, for its silk mills, and it was here that the Rev. Robert Collyer, who became a famous American divine, worked as a boy in one of the factories. The name "Blubberhouses" has often puzzled visitors. It probably derives from the Middle English "blo," meaning black or livid blue, and from the Middle English "berg," a hill, together with the old Norse "hus," meaning house.

Bolton Abbey



BOLTON ABBEY (16 miles).

Bolton Abbey, which stands in a picturesque setting on the banks of the river Wharfe, was founded in 1121, at Embsay, by William de Meschines and Cicely, his wife, and was removed to Bolton about 1154. According to a legend, their daughter married William Fitz-Duncan, nephew of the King of Scotland. Their younger son, called "The noble boy of Egremont," so it is said, was out hunting with his hound in the woods between Bolton and Barden, and when he reached the Strid he attempted to jump the narrow chasm across the raging torrent as he had often done before. On this occasion, however, the hound hung back on its leash and the unfortunate boy was precipitated into the water below never to rise again.

This story of the foundation of the abbey is generally accepted, but it is said that the "boy of Egremont" was actually a witness to the charter of translation of the abbey from Embsay to Bolton.

Part of the abbey is still used as the Parish Church. Open daily. The journey can be made over Blubberhouse Moor or by way of Ilkley.

The Strid (near Bolton Abbey).

The Strid is the name given to the narrow chasm in which the river Wharfe pours with great swiftness. It is about five feet across and eighty feet in length. Year after year visitors to the spot attempt the jump, which

in point of distance is not difficult, but the slippery rock, worn smooth by thousands of daring people, makes it a risky procedure.

The Cavendish Memorial.

Near the churchyard is the Cavendish Memorial erected to the memory of Lord Frederick Cavendish, Chief Secretary to Ireland, who was murdered in Phoenix Park, Dublin, in 1882, within twelve hours of his arrival to take up the post. Hartington Seat, nearby, is a charming bower seat from which a splendid view can be obtained.

Barden Tower.

Barden Tower, two miles from the Strid, was originally the residence of Lord de Clifford, who, because of his barbarities, became known as the "Butcher." After his death his estate was confiscated, and his son Henry became a shepherd, until, on the ascension of Henry VII, his property was restored. During his early life he was unaware of great heritage, and when at last it was returned to him he preferred his shepherd life for many years.

BOLTON CASTLE (37 miles).

Situated near Redmire, in Wensleydale, Bolton Castle was the prison of Mary Queen of Scots in 1568.

BOROUGHBRIDGE (11 miles).

This town originated in the days of the Conqueror, and in later years was the scene of a battle between the Earl of Lancaster and barons associated with him, and the Royal forces under Edward II. The chief objects of interest are the Devil's Arrows, three large stone obelisks, the tallest of which is 30 feet 6 inches in height, and weigh from 30 to 36 tons each. Antiquaries are divided as to their origin, but legend says they were shot as arrows by the devil to destroy the town.

BRIMHAM ROCKS (9 miles).

Brimham Rocks, which are off the main road to Pateley Bridge, are well worth a visit. There are boulders weighing between twenty and fifty tons, and they are of varying shapes and sizes. Some of them are curiously grotesque. They stand over a thousand feet above sea level and cover more than fifty acres.

Comprised of millstone grit, they are said to be Druidical remains, but this theory is now discounted, and the belief is held that they are simply upheavals of nature which have been carved into strange shapes by the wind and rain in the course of thousands of years.

A small charge is made for admission.

BURNSALL (23 miles).

Described as one of the prettiest villages in the North of England, set in the valley of the Wharfe.

BURNT YATES (7 miles).

This is visited on the way to Pateley Bridge. Of interest from the fact that Fountains Abbey extended as far as the village, one of the gates being there, hence the name. The derivation of "Burnt" is uncertain.

*Brimham
Rocks*



BYLAND ABBEY (32 miles).

Near Coxwold can be seen Byland Abbey, built in 1177 by monks who, with their abbot Gerold, fled from Furness in Lancashire in consequence of the inroads of the marauding Scots. Some years previously they set out but their efforts were not successful and they returned to Furness to be met with a cold reception. They tried again and reached Thirsk where they were aided by Lady Gundreda, mother of Roger de Mowbray, and settled not far from Rievaulx, but later they moved to the site of the present abbey. A feature of the ruins is the lovely rose window. Open throughout the year, 6d.

COXWOLD (30 miles).

At Coxwold is Shandy Hall, the home of Lawrence Sterne from 1760 to 1767, where he wrote "Tristram Shandy" and "Sentimental Journey." At Newburgh Priory (now a private school) is a vault which is said to contain the bones of Oliver Cromwell. At the Restoration they were disinterred from Westminster Abbey and passed into the hands of his daughter Mary, the first Lady Fauconburg.

Neither is open to the public.

FEWSTON (8 miles).

This was at one time a centre for spinning flax and silk, but the mill is buried beneath the huge Swinsty reservoir belonging to Leeds Corporation. Also buried is the old homestead of Edward Fairfax, one of the famous Elizabethan poets and great uncle to Lord Fairfax who became a noted Parliamentary General. Fewston Church has been twice burnt down, and consequently many valuable records have been lost.

FOUNTAINS ABBEY (14 miles).

Fountains Abbey, near Ripon, nestling in a lovely setting, is said to be one of the finest Cistercian ruins in the country. In 1132 some of the monks of St. Mary's, York, distressed at the laxity of the Benedictine rule there, decided to break away, and appealed to Archbishop

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*Fountains
Abbey*

Thurstan of York, who found them a site on which to build a new monastery. This was in the secluded valley of the Skell. For a time they lived a life of great hardship, with only the trees to shelter them, and subsisted on what herbs they could find. When the spring came they started work on their new abbey, and by 1247 it was completed. Eventually the wonderful building, which had been added to by subsequent abbots, was surrendered to Henry VIII, and later was sold to Sir Richard Gresham.

The visitor to Fountains is advised to take in the "Surprise" view seen from a slight hill before reaching the abbey proper. It is an exquisite and impressive picture of these marvellous ruins, and one that will be most remembered. Some time should be devoted to a tour of the abbey to appreciate its wondrous beauty. The nave in particular is remarkable for its fine proportions and its majestic east window. It is 358 feet in length, and instead of the pavement which existed at one time it now has a beautiful carpet of green. The Nine Altars, the Choir, the Chapter House, the Cloisters, and the fine Tower which stands 168 feet high, are features not to be missed.

Fountains Hall stands at the West end of the Abbey grounds.

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GOLDSBOROUGH (7 miles).

A pleasant little village off the beaten track on the York road. Goldsborough Hall, built in 1625, was for some years the home of the Princess Royal and the late Lord Harewood.

GREENHOW (15 miles).

It was here at one time that lead mining was carried on, and the curious state of the land is evidence of some of the workings.

HAMPSTHWAITE (4 miles).

When the Scots invaded Yorkshire, Hampsthwaite Church suffered by fire, but according to records, William de Stuteville built a church there in 1175 and dedicated it to Thomas-a-Becket. It has since been rebuilt on occasions, and was last restored in 1902. It was here that ancestors of William Makepeace Thackeray resided, and held the office of Parish Clerk. Thackeray is believed to have visited Hampsthwaite on one occasion. The churchyard is the resting place of Amy Woodforde-Finden, the famous composer of "Indian Love Lyrics," who lived in the village for some years, and died on March 13th, 1919. In the church is a beautiful monument on which are scenes representing some of her best-known compositions.

*Knarebro'
Castle*



HAREWOOD (7 miles).

Harewood village is on the main road to Leeds. Harewood House, the Yorkshire home of the Princess Royal, was built in 1761 at a cost of £100,000. It is believed to be one of the finest specimens of Corinthian architecture in England.

The church contains the tomb of Sir William Gascoigne, Lord Chief Justice, who committed the Prince of Wales (afterwards Henry V) to prison for an affront to the Bench. The castle was built soon after the Conquest.

HAWORTH (28 miles).

Famous as the home of the Brontes, Haworth has a very interesting museum at the Parsonage, which contains many articles used by the noted sisters.

ILKLEY (17 miles).

This was the Olicana of the Romans. The Cow and Calf Rocks are worth a visit by reason of the magnificent view to be obtained, and so too is Heber's Gyll, where a Swastika stone of great age can be seen.



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at
Knaresbro'*

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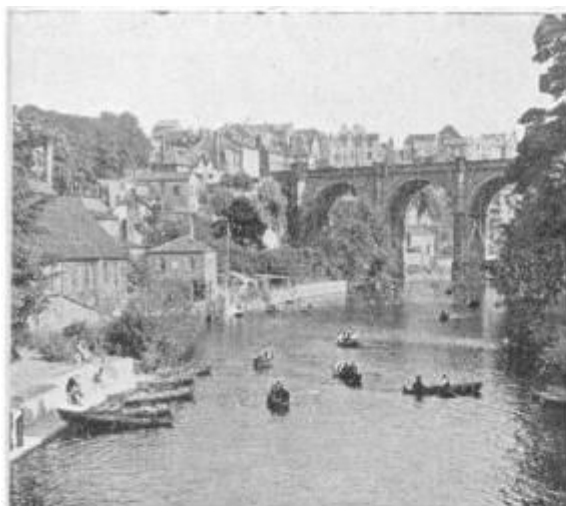
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*The river
at
Knaresbro'*

JERVAULX ABBEY (26 miles).

This was founded in 1150 by a small party of monks who had started to build at a place called Fors, just beyond Askrigg. One day the Earl of Richmond called at the monastery and noticed their poverty, and when he learned of the struggle these devoted men were making he granted them a site at Jervaulx, which offered greater possibilities. Little remains of Jervaulx today, but there is sufficient to give an indication that it was an extraordinarily beautiful building.

Jervaulx can be reached from Tanfield. Open weekdays.

KILNSEY (32 miles).

This little vilage in Wharfedale is known mainly for its celebrated Crag, which stands like a massive sentinel. A road by the back of the inn leads to the summit.

KNARESBOROUGH (3½ miles).

This picturesque and ancient town, three and a half miles from Harrogate, stands high above the river Nidd. It is specially noted for its castle, its Dropping Well, its Mother Shipton prophecies, St. Robert's Cave, and "Blind Jack." The castle stands majestically above the river. It was built by Serlo de Burgh, who came to this country with the Conqueror, and it subsequently passed through various hands as a royal building until



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it was demolished during the Parliamentary War as the result of a strong attack by Lord Fairfax. It was here that the four knights who murdered Thomas-a-Becket took refuge in 1170, and it was one of the prisons of Richard II, and the apartment in which he was kept is still known as the King's Chamber. Open every day, including Sunday.

The town itself is very old. It is believed that the Saxons had a fortress here, and coins of the Emperor Claudius have been found in the locality.

Market day is Wednesday.

The Dropping Well, which can be seen while going along the Long Walk, is one of the curiosities of Knaresborough; its fame is world-wide. A small stream which rises from a limestone rock trickles slowly over a jutting rock at this point into a shallow basin below. Just beneath the top of the rock numerous articles such as gloves, hats, sponges, are placed to be "petrified." This is caused by the water dropping steadily upon them and encrusting them with particles of limestone. In the inn at the far end of the walk are examples of the petrifying quality of this water, as well as the visitors' book which contains the signatures of famous people who have visited the well.



*The
Dropping
Well*

St. Robert was closely associated with Knaresborough. He was a pious youth, son of a Lord Mayor of York, and was born in 1160. He entered a monastery in Northumberland and then went to Knaresborough to live the life of a hermit in a cave cut out of the rock. St. Robert received grants of land from King John, and such was his power that he used tame stags, which roamed the district, to draw his plough.

Mother Shipton, whose prophecies are widely known, is said to have been born in a cave in this neighbourhood in 1488. She died in 1561 at the age of 73.

In a cave nearby was found, in 1758, the skeleton of Daniel Clark, for whose murder Eugene Aram was subsequently hanged.

Blind Jack, otherwise John Metcalf, blind from the age of six, yet became a noted maker of roads, a horseman, a soldier in the Scottish wars, packman, smuggler, and musician. He died in 1810 at the age of 93.

LEYBURN (32 miles).

One of the lovely parts of Wensleydale. It is here that visitors can see the famous "Leyburn Shawl" which tradition tells us derives its name from the fact that Mary Queen of Scots dropped her shawl at this spot when attempting to escape from Bolton Castle.

MARSTON MOOR (16 miles).

The scene of the famous battle of the Civil War is two miles from the village of Long Marston, on the Leeds-York road.

MIDDLEHAM (30 miles).

Middleham, which lies beyond Masham, is noted as a centre for racing stables. In history it is famous for its Castle where Edward IV was imprisoned.

MIDDLESMOOR (22 miles).

Middlesmoor stands at the head of Nidderdale, and from a point near the ancient church a wonderful view of the valley can be seen.

NEWBY HALL.

Newby Hall, near Ripon, is one of the smaller country houses, rich in charm and beauty. It now belongs to the Compton family, but was formerly the property of William Weddell, who, about the middle of the eighteenth century, was a notable collector of art treasures. He engaged the famous architect Robert Adam, who re-designed and extended the house in order to provide a setting for his antique sculptures, tapestries and



Ramsgill

pictures. In 1792 the property passed to the third Lord Grantham, who later became Earl de Grey.

The house contains amongs its many treasures, a lovely set of Gobelin tapestries, made about 1766, and among the statuary is a figure of Venus, originally in the Barberini collection in Rome. Nearby is the exquisite Newby-cum-Skelton church, built by Lady Mary Vyner in 1871 to commemorate the death of her son Frederick Grantham Vyner who was murdered by brigands in Greece in 1870. [See advertisement].

PANNAL (3 miles).

Pannal is now a suburb of Harrogate, but in the past the records printed "Pannal-with-Harrogate." The name is said to be derived from the timber built hall (pan-hall) which stood on the site of the present hall. It is an old village, though not noted in the Domesday Book. The church, dedicated to St. Robert of Knaresborough, was partly destroyed by fire in 1312 by the Scottish troops which made it their headquarters when they invaded the North of England. There is an old stone just inside the entrance gates which was formerly used as a cover for graves during the days of grave robbing.

PATELEY BRIDGE (14 miles).

This little town takes its name from "pate" the name for a badger, and "ley" a field. It is a good centre from which to explore the many attractive glens and woods of the district. Not far away is How Stean,

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PLUMPTON ROCKS (4 miles).

A formation of rocks situated about four miles down the Wetherby Road, in pleasure grounds, consisting of woods and a lake. A charge for admission is made.

RAMSGILL (18 miles).

This charming village, which lies beyond Pateley Bridge, is now perhaps best known as the birthplace of Eugene Aram, whose crime of murder at Knaresborough was immortalised by Tom Hood and Lord Lytton. There is a lovely ghyll that is well worth exploring.

RIEVAULX ABBEY (34 miles).

Founded in 1131, this was the first Cistercian abbey in Yorkshire. It is two miles from Helmsley. Its founder, Walter Espic, had lost a son in a riding accident, and he promised to devote much of his wealth to God,

*Upper
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and to this end began Rievaulx, as well as Kirkham, for a colony of monks from Clairvaux. The abbey prospered and the founder himself was buried there. Open daily, except Sundays.

RIPLEY (4 miles).

It is not known when Ripley was founded. The earliest record is the Domesday Survey of 1086. It can be reached by branching left at the traffic island just beyond Ripley Valley Station.

The Castle is believed to date from the 12th century, though it has been rebuilt and enlarged at least twice.

It is recorded in a manuscript in the Castle that Cromwell passed a night there after the battle of Marston Moor. In the absence of her husband, the Protector was received by Lady Ingilby, who met him at the gate with a pair of pistols in her apron, and expressed the hope that neither he nor his soldiers would conduct themselves in an unseemly manner. She escorted him to the main hall and kept watch over him during the night. Bidding him a grim farewell in the morning she said "It is well you behaved in so peaceable a manner for had it been otherwise you would not have left this house with your life."

In the centre of the village is the old market cross, and on one side are the parish stocks. On the Church wall can still be seen the marks of bullets fired by Cromwell's soldiers, and in the churchyard is an ancient kneeling cross. The lower stone is 15½ feet in circum-



*The
Stocks
at
Ripley*

ference, and 2 feet high, and has eight evenly spaced sculptured openings. The upper stone contains a deep socket for holding the shaft of a cross.

Ripley Woods are well worth a visit.

RIPON (11 miles).

This is the second oldest city in England. It received its Charter from Alfred the Great in 886. The Chief Magistrate was known as the Wakeman, and the custom of sounding the Wakeman's Horn in the Market Place has been carried on from that day to this. Ripon is noted for its Cathedral, which originated when a company of monks settled there in 657. It is built in various styles from Early Norman to Later Perpendicular. It has a central tower and two others are situated at the west end. The nave is 87 feet wide.

Ripon is a city of great historical interest. The Wakeman's House, the home of the first Wakeman, who afterwards became Mayor, is rich in valuable exhibits. The Hospital of St. Mary was founded by Archbishop Thurstan for the use of lepers. Thorpe Prebend House is also interesting. The obelisk in the Market Place, built in 1702, is 82 feet high.

*Ripon
Market
Place*



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SKIPTON (22 miles).

An ancient market town noted for its castle, which dates back to the Conquest. The Church contains some magnificent tombs.

SPOFFORTH (6 miles).

Spofforth possesses the ruins of a Castle which once played a very prominent part. It was the home of the Percy family, and is mentioned in records as long ago as 1224.

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