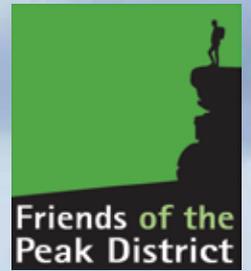




## South Yorkshire

Campaign to Protect Rural England



# Annual review 2018

We are the Peak District and South Yorkshire branch of CPRE, the countryside charity. We want a thriving, beautiful countryside rich in nature and playing a crucial role in our response to the climate emergency. We know that engaging with our natural environment, especially near to where we live, is vital for our mental and physical wellbeing.

We're determined to promote the countryside and its communities to enable more people than ever before to benefit from it. We're aiming for a countryside that's valued, enjoyed and understood by, and accessible to, everyone, now and in the future.

# Our achievements in 2018

## Organisation and people

Andy Tickle stepped down as director in August 2018 and took on the role of Head of Campaigns. The charity owes him a debt of thanks for taking the helm for six years, in difficult times. Tomo Thompson was subsequently appointed as the new full-time director (the role was later renamed as Chief Executive Officer). Our membership recruiter, Rob Parratt, left in April. We welcomed four new business members: Thistle Trekking, campsites.co.uk, Ecclesall Design and Peak Cottages.

## Planning

- During 2018 Matt Marsden (a Masters student at Sheffield Hallam University) continued to add valuable resource to our planning work, both on casework and more complex policy and local plan issues. After volunteering with us for two years, Matt is now employed full-time in the planning department at Barnsley Council.
- We examined 110 new planning applications in 2018, and undertook detailed work on 23 cases (eg. written submission, site visit, engagement in appeal). A notable success was influencing the refusal of a large residential scheme at Elnor Lane, Whaley Bridge (High Peak), which would have harmed the landscape and particular setting of the Shallcross Incline, a distinctive heritage asset. Our overall effectiveness (our position being recognised in and/or directly influencing in the decision) was 65 per cent.
- We opposed a highly inappropriate housing development, in a key transitional landscape between the edge of Buxton and the national park at Leek Road on a site that had already been rejected by High Peak Borough Council during the development

of their recent Local Plan. The proposal was refused and then appealed and will feature again in 2019.

- We learnt part way through the year that the Hepworth's site, a former refractory works in Loxley Valley, had been sold to developers, Patrick Properties. We worked to engage the local community in the master-planning process, and organised a training workshop.
- Our work to influence local plans included written consultation stages for Doncaster and North-East Derbyshire. We commented on Derbyshire County Council's Minerals and Waste Local Plan, including new proposed policies on fracking for shale gas. The Barnsley Local Plan was adopted, completing our work for the time being. We also gave evidence at the Public Examination of the Peak District National Park Authority's revised Development Management Document.
- We engaged positively with Breedon Cement, the new owners of the Hope Cement Works, as they continue to plan for an extension to the limestone quarry, probably within the current permission area.

## Campaigns

### Take Back the Tracks

- PDNPA placed a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) on Wetton Hills Lane, near the Manifold Trail, banning all recreational motor vehicles.
- Derbyshire County Council consulted on a TRO to protect Jacob's Ladder, between Stoney Middleton and Eyam, from recreational motorised users.
- Details of repairs to Chapelgate (which had been closed to all users since 2016) and to Hurstclough Lane, are still to be resolved.

### Sheffield green belt

- Our campaign went on hold through much of 2018, as the publication of the new Local Plan kept being delayed, but we continued to work with local communities in north and west Sheffield and worked on a number of cases with serious implications for the green belt.

### Fracking

- Our fracking work was very busy in 2018 with refusals for exploratory drilling at Harthill (Rotherham) and Eckington (NE Derbyshire), both being appealed and then allowed after contentious public inquiries. To help local community groups prepare for the inquiries, we held a weekend long training course, which was funded by a members' appeal plus additional grants from the Campaign for National Parks' Fighting Fund and Friends of the Earth's regional campaign.
- The Harthill inquiry was problematic from the start with Rotherham's case collapsing even before the inquiry opened. The local group, Harthill Against Fracking, went to the courts citing prejudice to third parties but lost, sadly. At Eckington, the local

group took a major role at the inquiry, fielding a number of expert witnesses but still lost.

- We also worked closely with CPRE nationally, to lobby against government proposals to water down the planning system in respect of fracking.

### Undergrounding

- Lines undergrounded included stretches at Pobjreen (near Oldham) and Derbyshire Level on the edge of Glossop.
- We recruited a volunteer undergrounding officer, Graham Barrow, from Bollington, who has landscape and heritage experience and is working hard to identify new schemes and work with the utilities on the west side of the national park.
- We also continued to work with National Grid to ensure the delivery of the pylon undergrounding scheme at Dunford Bridge: we participated in stakeholder meetings and had an input to the national stakeholder advisory group meeting when they made a site visit.

Right: Pylons near Dunford

Cover photo: Heather over Hounkirk  
©Tim Mackey



## Projects and events

### Honouring our green belt heroes

In late October, members and VIPs, including the Lord Lieutenant of South Yorkshire, the Master Cutler, our President Dame Fiona Reynolds and national CPRE Chief Executive, Crispin Truman, met to celebrate the restoration of the graves of our founder, Ethel Haythornthwaite and her husband Gerald, the 'power duo' behind the towering achievements of our organisation in the twentieth century. We were very proud to involve the modern company TW Ward CNC in the project and have them sponsor the plaque which now marks the public appeal and restoration.



### Magnificent Walk

Our annual fundraising Magnificent Walk started at Holme in the north of the region, with approximately 80 participants. We thank the Fleece Inn who hosted us for the day, and to all the volunteer marshals who make this event possible.

### Peak District Boundary Walk

The response to our boundary walk has been excellent: many walkers and completers have shared their experiences with us. In December a plaque was unveiled at the Kings Head pub in Buxton, the start and finish of the route. We are most grateful to the Peak & Northern Footpaths Society for their financial contribution to the plaque.



## Transport

- During the year Transport for the North (TfN) published its draft transport strategy, just before it gained its statutory powers as a subnational transport body. Working with other transport activists across the north we continued to press TfN on the importance of respecting both designated and non-designated countryside, and campaigned for TfN to assess the impacts of its plan to reduce emissions to within the target set by the Climate Change Act.
- Particular schemes in the transport strategy were of great concern: the proposed new dual carriageway connecting Manchester and Sheffield would see major upgrades to the A628 corridor with only a short tunnel under the high moors. The great environmental damage that was forecast either side of the rejected longer tunnel would at least have protected the national park. As major road improvements within a national park are against all policy, we objected strongly to this proposal. We continue to press for a new rail link to be considered as part of a

strategic approach to improving connectivity between northern cities.

- The first step in the dualling of the A628 corridor would be Highways England's bypass of Mottram with a link road to Glossop. The programme, intended to alleviate congestion on the A57 through Mottram, underwent its statutory consultation and led to objections from us and other local authorities. Air pollution along the corridor is significant and High Peak Borough Council declared an air quality management area around Tintwistle.
- HS2 Ltd consulted on a draft environmental statement of the routes north of Birmingham. It showed that the route would have profound impacts on landscape, tranquillity, wildlife, local communities, and access to open space and nature. Disappointingly and despite our previous response to the plans, the document failed to present the high quality design and mitigation measures that are required to make the proposed permanent landscape changes acceptable.

### Thanks

Huge thanks go to all our members and supporters without whom we would not be able to undertake our vitally important work. We also wish to thank particularly our many volunteers who carry out so much work for us.

### Plans for the future

Whilst reserves allow, and in line with the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan, we will continue to invest in ways to attract new members, and to increase our efforts to encourage legacy giving. We will of course continue to address key threats to the landscapes of the Peak District and South Yorkshire.

### Reserves policy

The trustees' current reserves policy states that the equivalent of a year's planned expenditure should be kept in reserve to ensure that the charity could continue to work through a period of unforeseen difficulty. The trustees assess the reserves policy on an annual basis.

Planned expenditure for 2019 is £225,466. Free reserves as at 31 December 2018 were £293,579 (unrestricted funds excluding fixed assets). Our strategic plan objectives include spending our 'excess' reserves on (a) increasing charitable activities and (b) investing in growing the organisation's membership and capacity. £95,902 was also held as restricted funds at the year end.

# Finance report

## Financial Review

In most years, legacies provide essential funding and memberships form the second largest source of income.

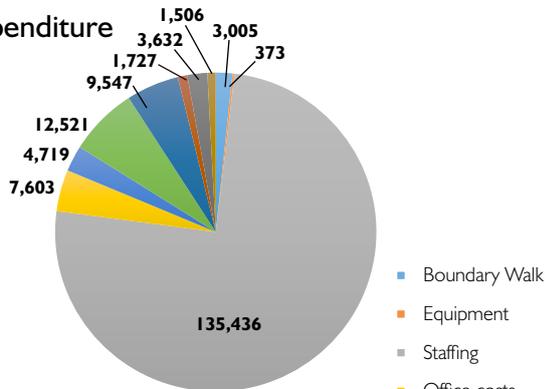
Please consider leaving us a legacy in your will.

Our total income for 2018 was £93,415 compared with total expenditure of £180,069. Our restricted funds reduced by £36,948 from £132,850 to £95,902. Overall our unrestricted funds decreased by £49,706 from £343,658.

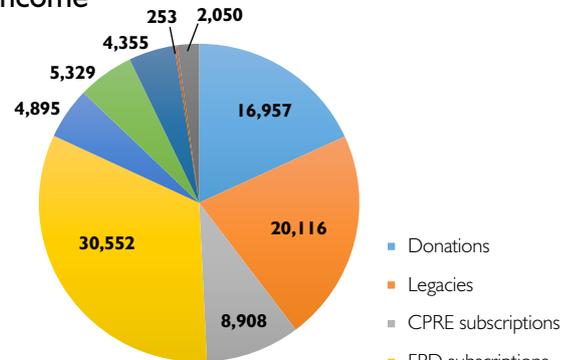
Income	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Legacies	20,116	144,464	1,150	145,121	67,013
CPRE South Yorkshire	8,908	9,151	8,979	8,938	7,614
Friends of the Peak District	30,552	35,734	33,020	35,978	35,899
<b>Total membership income</b>	<b>£39,460</b>	<b>£44,885</b>	<b>£41,999</b>	<b>£44,916</b>	<b>£43,513</b>
<b>Memberships at 31 May</b>					
CPRE South Yorkshire	350	382	386	401	405
Friends of the Peak District	692	769	732	687	695
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,042</b>	<b>1,151</b>	<b>1,118</b>	<b>1,088</b>	<b>1,110</b>

Annual accounts summary	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2018 £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
<b>INCOME</b>					
Donations	5,511	11,446	16,957	24,922	20,925
Legacies	20,116		20,116	144,464	1,150
CPRE subscriptions	8,908		8,908	9,151	8,979
FPD subscriptions		30,552	30,552	35,734	33,020
Merchandise		4,895	4,895	8,798	2,279
Events	70	5,259	5,329	2,772	2,238
Fundraising		4,355	4,355	6,168	1,985
Investment	253		253	6,534	8,190
Grants		2,050	2,050	10,019	-
<b>Total income</b>	<b>£34,788</b>	<b>£58,827</b>	<b>£93,415</b>	<b>£248,562</b>	<b>£78,937</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Costs of generating funds	10,985	16,876	27,861	41,788	35,980
Charitable activities	71,982	78,524	150,506	139,848	123,917
Governance costs	1,597	105	1,702	1,889	2,401
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>£84,564</b>	<b>£95,505</b>	<b>£180,069</b>	<b>£183,525</b>	<b>£162,298</b>
Net outgoing / incoming resources before investments	-49,776	-36,678	-86,454	65,037	-83,361
Investment gains / losses			-	13,141	36,360
Total funds brought forward			476,508	398,330	445,331
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>£293,952</b>	<b>£95,902</b>	<b>£389,854</b>	<b>£476,508</b>	<b>£398,330</b>

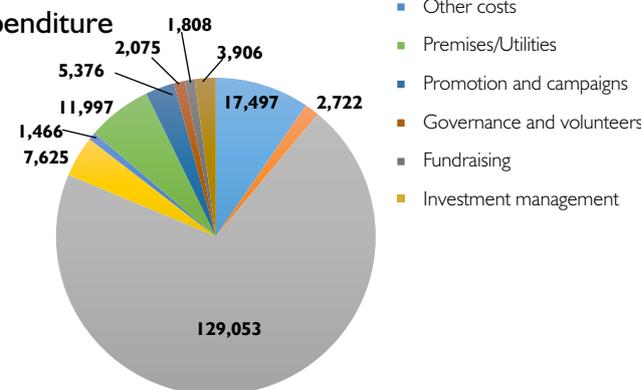
2018 Expenditure



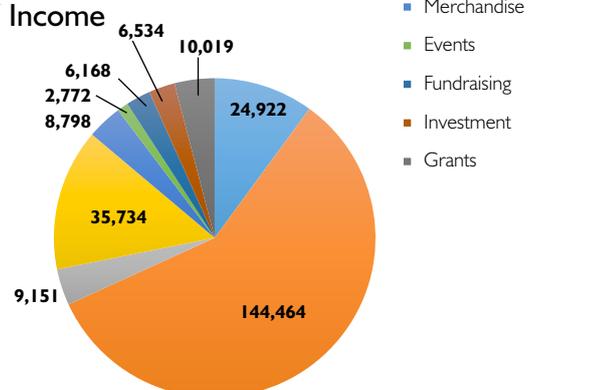
2018 Income



2017 Expenditure



2017 Income



**Staff:** Chief Executive Officer (from August 2018) Tomo Thompson. Director (to August 2018) and then Head of Campaigns, Andy Tickle. Administration and Finance Officer, Susan Belt. Fundraising and Marketing Co-ordinator, Julie Gough. Membership Development Officer, Rob Parratt (until April 2018). Consultant Planning Officer, Andrew Wood.

**Board of Trustees.** Chair: Chris Heard. Vice Chair: Andy Topley. Honorary Treasurer: Andy Brightmore (until July 2018). Other Trustees: Jenny Aldridge, John Anfield, John Hoare, Robert Hunter, Faith Johnson, John Lambert (until July 2018), Les Sturch, Yvonne Witter.

**President:** Dame Fiona Reynolds. Vice Presidents: Julia Bradbury, Jack Burling, Baroness Morris of Yardley, Anne Robinson, Professor John Tam. Ambassadors: Mark Cocker, Bella Hardy, Helen Mort.

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