

Archive Alive!

- celebrating North Craven past and present



Cover of a programme detailing May celebrations c. 1895

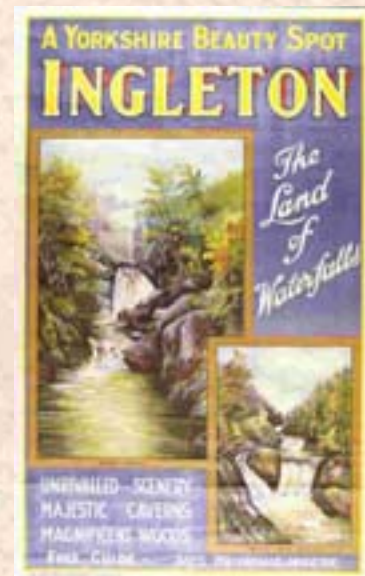
The 'Archive Alive!' project has been running since June 2008 at the Museum of North Craven Life in Settle and culminates in an exhibition which runs from 7 April to 23 June this year. The exhibition celebrates the wealth of fascinating material contained in a collection of local archives and the innovative projects which they have inspired.

The collection, purchased recently with a Heritage Lottery Fund grant, contains all sorts of books covering the archaeology, geology, flora and dialect of Craven and many guidebooks to Craven,

Langcliffe Country Dancing Group have learned some of the dances collected locally by Leta Douglas in the 1930s and published in '6 Yorkshire Dances' still available from the English Folk Dance and Song Society today. This reflects the tradition in performance folk art such as Maypole dances and mumming which are also featured in the exhibition.

Further projects look at tourism in Clapham and Ingletton, flowers, poetry, the history of Hellifield, Settle businesses and Craven in the Victorian and Second World War periods. There really is something for everyone! A programme of events for families and talks runs alongside the exhibition.

For more information contact:
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Advertising poster from the 1930s

reflecting the growth of tourism in the area as the railway network expanded. There are also photographs, posters and pamphlets on a huge variety of themes.

Through events at the museum and projects with schools and community groups the archives have been 'brought alive' in some surprising and creative ways. For instance, Pioneer Projects at the Looking Well Studios in Bentham have made a film based on material about the Waterfalls Walk in Ingletton and created a withy archway into the exhibition, complementing photographs of arches made to celebrate coronations in towns and villages in North Craven.

Below: Maypole and children in Giggleswick in 1895 with Edith Swallow, May Queen (centre front in a pinafore and short sbawl)

