

Donation to YDNP - Gunnerside Boardwalk



Members of the Club have helped pay for repairs to a flood-damaged riverside walk near Gunnerside in Swaledale.

We donated £2,500 to the National Park Authority, so that rangers and volunteers could extend a boardwalk beside the River Swale.

The then club president, Greg Richardson, and the secretary, John Hopkins, came out to inspect the finished job in September (see photo).

Greg said: "We so enjoy walking in the Yorkshire Dales, and supporting the ways that we walk is really what we want to help with, particularly when funding for such improvements seems to be at a premium. This is a very nice piece of work and great value. I never thought we'd see this amount of work for the money that we've given."



Member Champion for Recreation Management at the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Lizzie Bushby, said: “As a fast flowing upland river, the River Swale provides wetland which stores carbon, reduces downstream flooding, filters water and is an important wildlife habitat. The dynamic river processes are however a maintenance challenge for our ranger team, as footpaths are eroded and can be regularly washed away.

“The attraction of riverside routes is that they are level and relatively sheltered. The path along the river near Gunnerside is quite narrow and a stone aggregate surface could be swept away in a flood, so the boardwalk should work well and be a long-lasting solution. Our sincere thanks go to Harrogate Rambling Club for making the work possible.”