

## Tales from DalesRail

### Dent Dreams John Barnes

*DalesRail may not be operating in 2020 but that doesn't stop us sharing our many interesting experiences about our journeys. We hope you will share your interesting stories, favourite walks, fascinating anecdotes and pictures about DalesRail. Please send them to [richard.watts.crl@gmail.com](mailto:richard.watts.crl@gmail.com) or Simon Clarke at [simon.clarke.crl@gmail.com](mailto:simon.clarke.crl@gmail.com).*

There are many good viewpoints in the Yorkshire dales and just now my mind has been wandering around thinking where I could be in normal circumstances, particularly with the weather being so good.

This is how a favourite author of mine describes one of them:

*What a vantage point. Words are inadequate to paint the landscape unrolled beyond us. The foreground of grey rocks and green sheep-bitten turf, with here and there a brown bog-pool fringed with treacherous green sphagnum, merges into the paler green of Airedale netted in a tangled bewilderment of stone walls. The high limestone plateau which holds secret hollows as well as the wonders of Malham rocks and Gordale Scar, and the shining levels of the lake we call Malham Tarn are ahead of us. Grizedales, Ewe Moor and Malham Lings, Prior rakes and Great Close – almost all we look upon was land of the great abbey of Fountains, near Ripon, which knew all there was to be known about medieval sheep rearing and the woollen trade”.*

*Regular DalesRailers will know this viewpoint as Nappa Cross at the watershed on Kirkby Fell.*



Nappa Cross looking to Malham Tarn.

## A Dream

I joined a walk at Dent,  
The leaders' name remains unclear  
Suffice to say she was severe,  
But all with good intent.  
The rules were read out loud  
To the assembled crowd,  
Don't get in front, don't lag behind,  
Keep in line and you'll be fine  
For if you trip or have a fall  
There is no blame on us at all.  
And just before we leave the station  
Have you got your medication.

I awoke whilst admiring the wonderful view from the summit of Great Knoutberry Hill (one of the best) But no!! I was in the Station Inn at Ribbleshead with a pint of beer in my hand. What a lovely day out!

