



Chris Hansell
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Working for wild Birds of Prey and their Habitats

Press Release

The Burning of Brow Moor

2013 marks the 10th anniversary of the 'great fire' on Fylingdales Moor and local history and wildlife conservation groups are celebrating this incredible landscape-changing event.

The wild fire that raged across Fylingdales Moor, North Yorkshire, between the 17 and 21 September 2003 devastated the vegetation and fragile peat soils of 2.4 square kilometres of heather moorland. Although controlled heather burning is a recognized habitat management technique, a fire out of control can do great damage.

However in 2003, the fire uncovered an incredible archaeological landscape largely hidden by the heather for decades. Features revealed included prehistoric field systems and rock art, a network of leats associated with the Stoupe Brow alum quarry, and many earthworks left over from military training during the 1939-45 war.

To mark the anniversary, the Staintondale and Ravenscar Local History Group along with the wild bird of prey conservation charity the Hawk and Owl Trust, who manage the moor on behalf of owner Sir Fred Strickland-Constable, are holding a series of events on weekend of 21/ 22 September at Ravenscar Village Hall and in the first car park past the Ravenscar Mast.

President | Chris Packham
Registered Charity No 1068565
A Company Limited by Guarantee in England No 3254207

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The village hall will hold a series of photographic, art and relic displays over the whole weekend and on the Sunday there will be a display of fire fighting equipment, barn owls and information illustrating conservation on the moor in the Ravenscar Mast car park – with a guided walk starting at 1.30pm

Commenting on the effects of the fire on wildlife and the environment Hawk and Owl Trust Ranger Chris Hansell said:

‘Whilst it was a disaster at the time it revealed the need for a plan to monitor and manage the moor. This is now in place and as a result the flora and fauna have recovered and are benefitting greatly.’

End

Notes to Editors:

Details of the events are on the attached poster.

For more information, interviews or images please call Chris Hansell on: 07591 567 338 or email chris.hansell@hawkandowl.org.



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**STAINTONDALE & RAVENSCAR
LOCAL HISTORY GROUP**
present

FLAMING HISTORY - THE BURNING OF BROW MOOR
REVELATIONS & RECOVERY 2003 - 2013

RAVENSCAR VILLAGE HALL
SATURDAY & SUNDAY SEPT 21st - 22nd 10am - 4pm

Photographic display and art work

plus

HAWK AND OWL TRUST

1st CAR PARK NEAR RAVENSCAR MAST

SUNDAY SEPT 22nd 10am - 4pm

Barn Owls
Fire Fighting equipment
Display - fire friend or foe?
HAWK AND OWL TRUST STAND
Guided Walk starts at 1.30pm