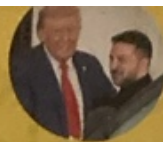


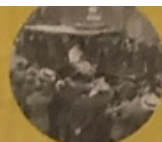
# POSTSCRIPT

THE YORKSHIRE POST • SATURDAY AUGUST 30 2025



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'Art of making extraordinary demands until the last moment'

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One Yorkshire city's history captured on postcards

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'My hope is that these images paint a picture of the spirit, stoicism and joy of these local farming families and communities today.'



IN FOCUS: Some of the images taken by Valerie Mather from the Fields, Folds and Farming Life, celebrating rural life in the region - the latest exhibition to open at Hardcastle Crag, a National Trust property in Hebden Bridge.



## RURAL LIFE CANDID MOMENTS

An exhibition in West Yorkshire aims to examine and celebrate the work of the region's farmers. Grace Hammond reports.

**T**HE farmers probably consider it more hard work than beautiful art - but visitors to an exhibition may have other ideas of the work on show at Gibson Mill at Hardcastle Crag near Hebden Bridge. The West Yorkshire mill was built in 1805 and was one of the first cotton mills in the region.

Now it serves a different purpose - Yorkshire farming life will be explored in latest exhibition.

Fields, Folds and Farming Life is the latest photography exhibition to open at Hardcastle Crag, a National Trust property in Hebden Bridge.

The exhibition captures candid moments from a year in the lives of upland farmers in Bransdale, a valley and surrounding moorland in North Yorkshire.

The exhibiting photographer is Valerie Mather, a Yorkshire-based documentary, travel, and portrait photographer. She says: "Photography has the power to capture a

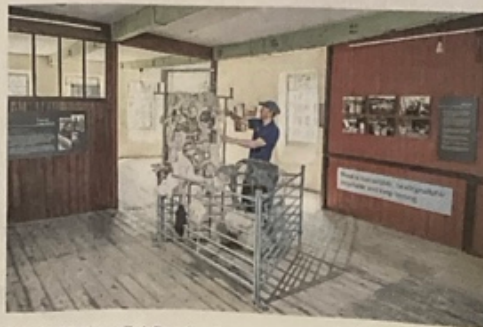
moment in history, and my hope is that these images paint a picture of the spirit, stoicism and joy of these local farming families and communities today."

Her photography, specially produced films and artwork, highlight the resilience and dedication of the farming community as they adapt.

Caring for the land is central to the National Trust's mission to protect places of historic interest and natural beauty. Chris Bryerley, Site Manager at Hardcastle Crag, said: "We are thrilled to be the latest National Trust property to show this exhibition, linking in with our Ancient Grasslands Project, a conservation project that is only possible thanks to the traditional farming practices used in Calderdale."

"Over the last 80 years, up to 97 per cent of ancient grasslands have been lost. This exhibition aims to celebrate the local farmers working to protect what remains."

Fields, Folds and Farming Life is open to visitors to Gibson Mill in summer, autumn and winter.



RURAL ART: Above, Chris Bryerley, site manager at Hardcastle Crag near Hebden Bridge with the exhibition by photographer Valerie Mather, Fields, Folds and Farming Life.