

Sustainable Water

Dawson Crossley Field

The Dawson Crossley Field is a small piece of land with approximately a 100 m frontage along the river bank. It was donated to the village by John Crossley and Joshua Dawson to the Overseers of the Poor of Addingham in 1685-6. There is a blue plaque erected by Addingham Civic Society at the entrance to the field to commemorate the donation. It is a field for the free use of all and gives Addingham residents the right to fish along the river bank. However, a rod license from the Environment Agency is required. Trout, grayling and chub are the main species.



In very high river flow the field becomes flooded. The sandy surface of the Dalesway path through the field is the result of suspended sediment being deposited during storm events, most recently in early 2020.

On the bank of the river at this point there are massive slabs of dressed stone, remnants of the former mill. Looking upstream you can see the tunnel under the former mill building used to house the water wheel. Dippers have nested in the tunnel for many years.



In the summer stands of Himalayan balsam usually grow along the riverbank.

Although this has an attractive purple flower it is an invasive non-native species spreading rapidly along water courses in the UK. The Environment Group has been eradicating it from becks in the village (see SW 9), and in

2021 it will join with other volunteer groups along the Wharfe to start eradicating it along the river.

