

Upper Wensleydale Newsletter  
Issue 123 – March 2007  
CONTENTS

Editorial	2
Happy occasion at Castle Bolton	3
Murphy's Law Extended	4
The Old Diary Farm	5
How well is your house?	6
Before I lose my marbles	7
What future for our Post Office Network?	10
Music For India	11
Weather	12
Widdale School—beginnings	14
UWIPS	16
Hawes Youth Club	17
Sycamore Hall	18
Police Report	19
Heavens above	20
Habitats for Red Squirrels	21
Another letter to Elijah	22
Hawes School News	23

West Burton School News	25
Bainbridge School News	26
Memorandum of Understanding Between National Park & Trust	28
Letters	30
Life in Oz	31
Hambleton & Richmondshire Carers Centre	34
What's on Listing	36-37

**Published by**

The Upper Wensleydale Newsletter  
Old Station House,  
Hawes, DL8 3NL  
**Tel: 01969 667785 Fax: 01969 663559**

**e-mail: alan.watkinson@virgin.net**

Extracts of the Newsletter on the Web:  
**[www.wensleydale.org/newsletter](http://www.wensleydale.org/newsletter)**

Printed by Peter C. Wood, Peter H. Jackson and ASW and collated, folded, stapled by newsletter volunteers at the Wensleydale Centre, Yorebridge, Askrigg

**Committee:** Alan S. Watkinson,  
Rima Berry, Belinda Bond (Bursary student),  
Sue Duffield, Sue Harpley,  
Katherine Head (Kids' page),  
Peter H. Jackson, Alastair Macintosh,  
Pam Robinson, Janet W. Thomson,  
Lorna Ward.

## Editorial

What links?: the suspension bridge over the Menai Strait, the ports of Liverpool, Lancaster (or even Glasson Dock), the most popular carol “Hark, the herald angels sing”; Giggleswick and the Malvern Hills ... or for that matter, Laurence Olivier, John Wayne, Katherine Hepburn or W.H. Auden.

Got it? No? Well all these things or people are linked to significant anniversaries this year, 2007. But to what extent will they be recognised and celebrated?

It is just 100 years since Olivier, Wayne, Hepburn and Auden were born; no doubt we shall have plenty of re-runs of classic movies of the celebs of those days; and the poems of W.H. Auden are already filling air-waves.

The Malvern Hills near Worcester were the beloved area of composer Edward Elgar, born just 150 years ago, so we can expect much air-time given to his very English music, including possibly the “Giggleswick Scores”; did you know he had contacts with, and visited the school there?

It is now 200 years ago (and you’ll have caught on to this anniversary!) that the great Act to abolish the slave trade came to fruition (through the commitment of William Wilberforce, Hull-born and a Yorkshire M.P.) hence the reference to the ports of Liverpool, Lancaster and nearby Glasson Dock, all at the centre of slave-trading; and what about the “Dent connection” with the slave trade? Why not go and see the section devoted to this in the Dent Heritage Centre in the village. It might be worth noting that a number of the stately homes we now visit and admire were built on slave trade money! Many

people are asking whether the world is yet really free of slavery.

Back a bit further; it is 250 years since the birth in Scotland of Thomas Telford, that great engineer of the road, canal and bridge era. The A5 still essentially follows his London to Holyhead route (by the town of Telford) and through the Welsh mountains to Anglesey; the scary canal aqueduct at Pont-Cysyllte still carries an arm of his Shropshire Canal, and he master minded thousands of beautiful tunnels, bridges, docks and roads. Will he get the recognition he deserves? Do scientists and engineers attract equal attention and veneration as playwrights, authors or musicians?

And now 300 years back to 1707, and a huge proportion of us at Christmas or at weddings and certainly at funerals, possibly without realising it, celebrate and recognise the birth of Charles Wesley, the author of over 6000 hymns, including the famous carol mentioned at the top, or the rousing “Love divine, all loves excelling”.

It makes a change to be celebrating happy, non-military, anniversaries and to remember with thanks people sometimes overlooked who have made, and continue to make, quite an impression one way or another and contribute to that often-mentioned ‘quality of life’. But it isn’t only the famous or those from the past who deserve our thanks and recognition. Look around; every day we are presented with gifts of kindness, consideration and concern; it costs nothing to say thanks... and it also makes us feel better!



### **Eunice**

Eunice was found by **Mr and Mrs T. Harrington, Spennithorne, in the Elite advert.** Can you find me this month?

### **For further information...**

What's on at the Hawes Market Hall can now be heard on the radio at Fresh FM.

### **Happy occasion at Castle Bolton**

Margaret Moore is a senior member of our church at Castle Bolton and is always keenly interested in children and music - indeed she still plays the "organ" in church. She supports all the local church events, and wanted to put on a fundraising coffee morning in her house. She nominated the Bishop of Leicester's current appeal for the Children's Society - a charity that Margaret has supported long-term. Generally our coffee mornings, which also have a great importance for fellowship, have a moderate attendance and raise about £100-150. But it must be a measure of the affection and esteem that our local community has for Margaret that the house was packed and we raised (now) £300.50 - I stood at the door so that I could take admission moneys and sell a few plants which meant that I had to go in to get warm at intervals, when I could hardly hear myself think!

**Robert Hall**

### **Newsletter A.G.M.**

This will take place at **Sycamore Hall, Bainbridge, on Monday, March 19th at 7.30 pm.** You are welcome to attend.

### Competition answers

Places down the coast: Tweed to Humber:-

HORNSEA  
BLYTH  
RAVENSCAR  
FILEY  
WITHERNSEA  
STAITHES  
AMBLE  
SUNDERLAND  
TYNEMOUTH  
REDCAR  
BEADNELL  
SALTBURN

The winner was **Ann Saville,**  
**Guisborough.**

### March Competition

**A few more nursery rhymes:**

B.A.G.C.O.T.P  
C.A.D.D.  
S.S.M.A.P.G.T.T.F.  
D.D.B.P.I.T.W.  
G.P.P.A.P.  
G.G.G.W.S.I.W.  
B.B.B.D.G.A.H.  
T.W.A.C.M.  
M.M.Q.C.  
S.S.M.D.  
D.F.W.T.G.  
L.L.L.T.H.P.  
T.L.K.H.L.T.M.  
H.D.D.T.M.R.U.T.C.  
P.P.T.K.O.  
I.H.A.L.N.T.  
L.M.M.S.O.A.T.  
R.A.B.B.O.T.T.T.  
T.G.O.D.O.Y.  
H.D.S.O.A.W.

### Murphy's Law Extended

Light travels faster than sound. This is why  
some people appear bright until you hear  
them speak.

Change is inevitable, except from a

vending machine.

Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently  
talented fool.

The 50-50-90 rule: Any time you have a  
50-50 chance of getting something right,  
you've a 90% likelihood that you'll get it  
wrong.

If you lined up all the cars in the world end  
to end, someone would be stupid enough to  
try to pass them, five or six at a time, on a  
hill, at night, in the fog.

The things that come to those who wait will  
be the junk left by those who got there first.

The shin bone is a device for finding  
furniture in a dark room.

When you go into court, you put yourself in  
the hands of 12 people who weren't smart  
enough to get out of jury duty.

*(We are grateful to **Tony Philpott** –ex  
Thoralby and Gayle– for cheering us up  
from Down South)*

### **The Old Dairy Farm**

**KAREN AND ELAINE, Saturday,  
March 17th, at 7.30 pm**

'Unexpected, refreshing', these are the words that came to mind as I entered the premises owned by Paul and Pam Cajiao. They are the enthusiastic owners of The Old Dairy Farm small hotel and restaurant set in Widdale, at the very top end of Wensleydale.

First, I congratulated them on recently gaining a Tourist Board Five-Star rating for their guest accommodation. Those don't grow on trees!

I discovered, during our chat in the contemporary setting of their dining room, that they have been visiting the Dales for many years, staying in Dent, Leyburn and all around. They have another restaurant in Washington Old Village but were looking for a new challenge! Since moving in in April 2006, they have completely re-designed the interior providing three superb en-suite bedrooms, kitchen and dining room. They plan to extend the dining facilities and have a bar.

"Have the locals made you welcome?" was a question I asked. (After all they are from 'away'!) "Yes, very much so" said Paul. "People here seem more open-minded about incomers than where we come from, and we enjoy going to the local pub and chatting to people." Paul and Pam are dividing their time between the two businesses, and family are involved too, but they are very happy with their decision to invest in Widdale and have plans for further expansion, more bedrooms, afternoon teas.

Meanwhile, if you are looking for a superb place to eat in a stimulating and different environment, give them a call on **667070**. It is about three miles out of Hawes on the Ingleton Road.

**S.H.**

### **Thoralby village hall**

**Wine, savouries and entertainment by**

### How well is your house?

Owners of traditional buildings in the Yorkshire Dales National Park can attend a free training day in March, at Grassington, to learn how to keep their properties in tip-top condition.

Organised by the National Park Authority, the event will cover a range of topics including:

- damp in buildings
- timber decay in buildings
- buildings change – the way that individual buildings develop over time
- building conservation principles
- employing an architect and running a contract

Mark Stephenson, the YDNPA's Building Conservation Officer, said: "The aim is for people to go away from the day with a new or better understanding of their property and of how a traditional building works.

"We recognise there is a need to get more information to them about how their buildings are constructed and the potential impacts that building work could have on the structure and appearance."

The YDNPA hosted the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings 'home owners' course at the Dales Countryside Museum at Hawes in 2004 and it held a two-day historic environment information course last April, which was very successful.

"We are hoping that this one-day course will become a regular event with different days concentrating on different aspects of looking after traditional buildings," Mark said.

The event will be held on March 3rd in the Octagon Room at Grassington Town Hall; numbers may have to be limited. If you are interested in attending, please write to Don McLellan at the YDNPA, Yoredale,

Bainbridge, Leyburn, North Yorkshire DL8 3EL or telephone **652337** or e-mail [don.mclellan@yorkshiredales.org.uk](mailto:don.mclellan@yorkshiredales.org.uk).

A full programme is available on the website at [www.yorkshiredales.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk).

### Annual 'Food for Thought' Evenings

A Lent series for everyone, organised by the churches in mid-Wensleydale. Come and enjoy a meal, listen to a speaker and reflect on an aspect of the Christian faith. This year's theme is based on 'the seasons of life'.

**Friday, March 9th** Winter— unseen growth; seeds of faith. **Redmire**

**Friday, March 16th** Spring— new life, light of life. **West Burton**

**Friday, March 23rd** Summer— full bloom, life in all its fullness.

**West Burton**

**Friday, March 30th** Autumn— mature fruit, the wisdom of later years.

**Redmire**

All evenings begin at **7.15 for 7.30 pm**

Tickets, £5.00 (£3.00 for young people at school), booked and paid for in advance, from **Anthony Day, Gordon Lodge, Redmire, DL8 4EH; 624171**

### **Before I lose my marbles**

*I lost one down the plug hole in the bath, so went to see Dr Aysca - he tapped his computer and told me he could get me a psychologist but there was a two year waiting list - BUPA could do it next day for £5000. I went home very despondent - then I thought I could get the local plumber - but they told me he might charge more than BUPA.*

*So it had to be DIY - but I cannot do DIY 'till I get my arthritis cleared up - so it is back to Dr Aysca or his computer.*

*Over 80 you cannot win!!*

**GUESS YOU THINK I'VE LOST MORE THAN ONE MARBLE**

Lets go back to the 1930s and let me tell you about Joe.

Joe lived at Thornton Rust - he was not a farmer but had a horse and cart (he rented a stable and enough land for the horse's free time). Joe was a carrier, but most of his time he was on contract to the Council Surveyor (Maurice Jubb).

His cart was painted red lead with his name on the side; it was spotless - not like the farmer's spattered with manure. The horse was brushed and groomed, black polished harness, brass fittings sparkled in the sun and from the horse's neck dangled an array of horse brasses!

The road men used to mow the grass verges in the summer with scythes - Joe's job was to rake it up and cart it away.

Why am I telling you about Joe?...

His wonderful dales name!

JOSEPH ALBERT CHRISTOPHER  
CALVERT DAWSON DENT DINSDALE

He was perhaps a relative of mine, my maternal great-grandfather's name was Dent - he farmed at Gayle Ing Gayle Ing must have been well down in the social order of the farming community!!!

**Michael Weatherald**

### **'Increasing opportunities'**

**Free confidential funding advice and  
Meet the funder**

**Monday, March 5th 7.00 to 9.00 pm  
West Burton village hall**

Do you have a good community project?  
Do you need a grant to make it happen?  
Dread wading through grant applications?  
Then call in.

Speaker: Judith Bromfield, Richmondshire Council for Voluntary services. Presentation on Full Cost Recovery for community and third sector organisations that are seeking to cover core costs. Refreshments provided. Children are very welcome.

**April 2nd**

Carperby Village Hall **6.30pm-8.30pm**

**TOPIC: Sustainable Development**

Speaker: Isobel Hall from Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust.

More details, Tel: **650980**



**So where are we this month? Last month's was Stalling Busk**

### **Postcard from...**

The wide tidal river is spanned by both rail and road and the old docks area continues to improve with a classy new foot bridge.

We've been to two theatres (a Georgian one, too!) and into the elevated park with its memorial at one side of the city and the castle at the other.

Plenty of students from the nearby university all mill around at lunchtimes in the pedestrian areas. It's still busy but if a motorway hadn't been put round it in the sixties, it would be much worse.

Looking forward to seeing you soon, but it isn't easy to get back to the Dales without your own transport!

Wensleydale Racing and the first race will start at 8.00pm. Now is your chance to own a race horse for only £2; businesses wanting to sponsor a race can do so for only £10.

For sponsorship, horse purchase and tickets ring **667192** or **667206**.

**Sue Wood and Mandy McCarthy**

### **Rodeo Race Night**

Hawes Gala Committee are organising a Rodeo Race Night with a cowboy / cowgirl theme, at the Fountain Hotel, Hawes on Saturday, March 24th, to raise funds for the 2007 Gala. The event is sponsored by

### **North Country Theatre**

...presents **“The Man Who Would Be King”**, a tale of contracts, comradeship and camels, by Rudyard Kipling.

This classic tale of adventure from the North West Frontier had been adapted for the stage by **Nobby Dimon**. “Don’t miss this thrilling, humorous and stirring story”.

It will be performed at the Dales Countryside Museum, **Wednesday, March 7th, at 7.30 pm.** Tickets, £7.50 adults and £5.00 for under 16s are available from the museum; they are going fast, so hurry!

( Other nearby venues: Reeth, March 24th and Leyburn, the Elite, April 4th)

### **A year’s supply**

Anyone wanting back copies of the Newsletter for last year is invited to phone **667347** where a set is available.

## **What Future for our Post Office Network?**

**Have Your Say.** The Government's consultation document on the future of the Post Office network can be found on [www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/page36024.html](http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/page36024.html) What does it say?

The Government says that post offices provide important services and that it is committed to a national Post Office network. It also says that some 4 million fewer people are using their Post Office each week than two years ago. So changes are being proposed. These include:

New geographical access criteria for the Post Office network.

Criteria to protect vulnerable people in deprived urban areas and also in rural areas.

Continuation of a new Post Office card account after 2010.

Support for a restructuring of the network, with up to 2,500 closures.

Support for Post Office Ltd to open new Outreach locations to provide access to services for small remote communities including mobile post offices and post offices hosted in other locations such as village halls, community centres or pubs.

The Commission for Rural Communities is responding to this consultation. You can submit your response online by going to the **Commission for Rural Communities website**. You'll have to be quick; the outcome is expected by March 8th.

**Kate Empsall** emailed us to say that her elderly aunt in Scotland has only a mobile P.O. for two separate hours a week and can't get up the steps. Kate also expresses concern about the future for our post offices in all our smaller villages in the newsletter area.

## **1st Hawes Brownies**

This time of year our thoughts turn to World Guiding and to this end we are working on the World Traveller and World Guiding badges. We have made "passports" and "visited" China, New Zealand, Belgium, Holland and USA. We are celebrating Thinking Day by attending a joint service with all Wensleydale Units at Leyburn Methodist Church.

**Linda Reynolds**

## **Local artists' work on show**

The reception area at the National Park Offices in Bainbridge is being used to 'showcase' the paintings of local artists. Judith Bromley's work shown in January will be followed by that of Piers Browne. Each exhibition runs for two months.

Anyone wishing to be considered for display should contact **Lesley Knevitt**, local number **650456**

## **Theatre coach trips**

Seats have again been provisionally reserved for the Royal Shakespeare Company's summer season in Newcastle.

Anyone interested in going should phone **663259 before March 15th**

### **Music For India!**

Many of you will be aware of the close links The Wensleydale School has with the Amala children's home in India. In the past years many students from Wensleydale have made the decision to visit the children's home, in an effort to help the children with their education and to discover and understand different cultures and meet new people in India.

This year proves to be no different. We are going, with around twenty others, to visit Amala in the summer and have decided to hold a fund raising concert at The Wensleydale School on **April 14th**. The concert will feature music from *Acustic* and *Cantabile*. *Acustic* is our own group, performing a selection of acoustic songs, from old to new. *Cantabile* is the well-known local choir made up of pupils from The Wensleydale School. We will be holding a raffle and refreshments will be available.

Tickets are on sale now, at Post Offices in Askrigg, Bainbridge, Thoraby, and West Burton. If you are unable to attend, you can also make a donation at these locations. We will be very grateful for any assistance you can give in helping us raise funds for this cause.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact **Katie Dixon on 663270**.

**Katie Dixon and Ben Spence  
Skip on the Green**

The County Council's mobile rubbish skip will be on **Gayle Green on Saturday, March 24th from 10.00 am until 2.00 pm** unless filled earlier.

## Weather!

... is a frequent conversation piece, typically British, and certainly topical in 2006, when it felt that every time we looked out of the window – what did we see - rain! Every time we went out for a walk – what did it do - rain!

But is it just our imagination that it is getting wetter? Maybe we are being brain-washed about climate change and forgetting past years? Is it affecting our opinion on where we live?

Well, first of all, let us be positive. Even when it seems it is never going to stop raining, Wensleydale is still a wonderful place to live and to visit. The hills are shrouded in mist, sometimes with the tops above the cloud level. The waterfalls are at their very best, in true full flow. OK, so the rivers have broken their banks in places, but it just gives us a different watery perspective of the area.

Typical local chat includes questions about rainfall levels over the last few years. Is it getting wetter year on year? And where in the Dales is the rainfall heaviest/lightest? We don't have all the Met Office data at our disposal, but we do publish rainfall figures from Upper Wensleydale every six months in the Newsletter – so what do those figures tell us?

Surprisingly, that it has not been getting wetter and wetter, year on year, although 2006 was definitely a wet one but not the wettest. The average annual rainfall for the years 1996 (when the Newsletter first started publishing them) to 2006 were as follows

1996	994 mm
1997	1161 mm
1998	1433 mm
1999	1423 mm
2000	1774 mm
2001	1065 mm
2002	1659 mm

2003	892 mm
2004	1239 mm
2005	1139 mm
2006	1460 mm

Identifying the areas with highest/lowest rainfall is less easy because not all areas have had readings over the whole period 1996/2006, so whilst a true comparison is not achievable, below is the best we can do. (in brackets is the number of years for which data was available)

Bishopdale had an average annual rainfall of 1543 mm (over 7 years data)

Hawes	1509 mm (5 years)
Stalling Busk	1483 mm (10 years)
Burtersett	1355 mm (4 years)
Thornton Rust	1287 mm (9 years)
Bainbridge	1268 mm (11 Years)
Askrigg	1180 mm (10 years)
Carperby	1164 mm (4 years)
West Burton	1132 mm (11 years)

Newsletter area average

1294 mm (11 years)

There are lots of other questions about rainfall figures and maybe in time more analysis can be done, but for now we hope this has been of some interest to some of our readers. We wish you all the very best of health and happiness for 2007 and here's hoping it's a good one as far as the weather is concerned.

**P.H.J.**

### **BIB Babies**

BIB Babies is a local breastfeeding support group, led by mums, to help provide support and information for new and expectant mums. We have acquired some good magazines which the community midwives have agreed to distribute to expectant mums in the area. The magazines cover issues and problems that may occur from the newborn stage right through to weaning and beyond.

We shall soon be added on to the postnatal 'information of services' list, given out to all new mums from the Friarage Hospital. This will enable mums to find the information and help they need before any problems become too serious.

We also hope to purchase some more information soon, which we will be able to loan out. This should include a 'learning to breastfeed' DVD.

We continue to meet **Mondays 10.30 to 11.30am** at Dalesplay in Hawes. We have coffee and biscuits and a nice chat. All are welcome. Please contact **Charlotte Sowerby on 667728** for more details about the next session with Joyce Thorpe (La Leche League Breastfeeding Counsellor).

### **Annual Wensleydale Tournament**

This takes place from **Wednesday, March 21st**, with three days of speech, followed by five days of music. Programmes are available at the information centres and in shops, or for further details you may contact **Joan Foster 663368**

### Widdale School - beginnings

**O**n a September morning in 1930 Widdale school remained closed. If you had been there at the Snaizeholme junction on the Ingleton road you would have seen 19 children climb aboard a motor-cart and set off for school in Hawes.

**This was the end of 70 years** of education in a building sold in 1863 by John Terry of Askrigg to the Rev. John Oswald Routh and Richard C. Allen (a deacon of Hawes Congregational Church). The building is still there, right next to the phone box. The deed contained provision for educational purposes while giving the trustees the exclusive use of the premises for public worship.

The first schoolmaster was William Moore from Kirkby Stephen. He occupied the schoolhouse in 1871. By 1881 Miss Matilda Harvey of Bishops Stortford had succeeded him. She retired in 1900 when the school was closed for a time.

**Education for children aged 5 to 14 years was compulsory from 1870**, but it was fee-paying until 1891. In 1890 there were 9 children attending, 5 of them paying 6 old pence a week and 4 paying 3d. Only half the children of school age in the Widdale / Snaizeholme area went to school. The 1891 Census gives a total population of 108, including 18 children of school age. In Widdale 12 farms were occupied and in Snaizeholme 9. Older children were needed to help on the farm, and money would be tight for some parents.

When Widdale School reopened in 1901 under Hawes School Board, J. J. Brooksbank filled the post of schoolmaster. He had been the last Master of Hawes Grammar School before it closed in 1899. From 1901 until the School closed in 1930 the School Log and Admissions Register supply a detailed and fascinating picture of school life in a remote farming community.

(These books are now kept at Hawes School.)

From 1901 when there were 17 pupils on the register, numbers varied. They reached the lowest point of 14 in 1920, perhaps because of a drop in the birth rate during the Great War. The highest figure of 29 was reached in 1926. The most frequently occurring names in the Admissions Register are Sunter and Pratt (15 each), Bell (14), Moore (13), Metcalfe (8), Bousefield (7), Haygarth (6) and Harker (5).

Mr Brooksbank records in the Log that R. Mason of Hawes photographed the children at the school on September 14th 1904. **Does any reader have a copy of this photo?** Later photos have been found, and appear in Now Then for 2006, on sale at the Museum.

**Jean Day**

*(To be continued.)*

## **Dalesplay**

As we are experiencing increasing numbers please could you book your child in advance to avoid disappointment?

The little snowfall we experienced at the beginning of February helped immensely with our winter topic!

We have had a successful half term; our topic was 'Chinese New Year' - the year of the 'Boar'. Children who attended experienced different Chinese food and made their own banquet! Dragons, boats, lantern were some of the many art and craft activities we offered. The Chinese Restaurant was a huge hit with the children; they have had hours of fun cooking up all sorts of delights. Thank you to all who attended and we hope you had a fantastic time; your behaviour was superb.

We have received a 13 seater coach with a tail lift from the 'Variety Club' and are currently undergoing the process of recruiting a driver in order to provide a drop off and pick up service to and from the following schools: Bainbridge, Askrigg and West Burton.

If anyone is wishing to seek further information please do not hesitate to contact **either Di or Lou on 667789.**  
*(Dalesplay news continues on page 35)*

### **Photographs**

We are always pleased to receive photographs for inclusion in the Newsletter but the quality of reproduction depends very much on the clarity of the original— preferably in black and white. Although the *Ricoh* scan printing machine we use has some refinements it can't work miracles, so please ensure that submissions are as sharp as possible.

### **Refreshment Day**

In aid of Marie Curie  
(Cancer Care)

at Hawes Methodist Chapel

**Tuesday March 13th**

**10.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.**

Donations much appreciated.

Please take to chapel on the day

and is used to take out the residents on trips from Sycamore Hall. You do not have to be a relative to join the committee but you could be particularly valuable for giving feedback about the use of the minibus.

We need a few more members so that we are legally constituted. Decisions taken about the operation and provision of the minibus are not valid unless there are sufficient numbers at the meetings.

If you think that you can help, please telephone **Geoff on 650117**.

### **Swaledale Festival volunteers**

**Wednesday March 28th**

Annual Get Together to mail the brochures  
at Fremington Sunday School **Any time**

**between 6.30 and 9.00pm** Light

refreshments. New Festival volunteers

always welcome. We need help with

stewarding at concerts, transport,

refreshments, box office, miscellaneous!

Contact us if you can help. Thank You

**Tel 01748 884438**

Festival Dates 2007:

**Sat. May 26th– Sat. June 9th**

### **UWIPS**

Can you spare the time to attend two meetings a year?

Do you wish to improve the quality of life of an elderly relative or friend?

Then why not volunteer to serve on the (UWIPS) minibus committee? This committee provides and organises the use of the yellow minibus that gets people to and from the day care centre at Sycamore Hall,

### **Hawes Youth Club**

Hawes Youth Club has a new leader. She is Jean Osborne who is very experienced in working with young people, being a science teacher at Wensleydale School, running WOOSC (Wensleydale Out Of School Club) and running a summer school for year six children.

The Hawes Youth Club will continue, for the moment at least, to meet in the Market House on Wednesday evenings between 6.30 pm and 8.30 pm and all youngsters between 10 and 19 years old are encouraged to come along. The club is currently exploring the possibility of finding new premises to allow it to increase and extend the opening hours.

New helpers, particularly male and sporty, are always needed as is anyone with particular skills or interests who is willing to spend an evening or two sharing them with the young folk of the Upper Dale.

Please contact Jean on **625624** if you are interested in joining or willing to help.

**Jean Osborne**

### **Soup Lunches**

The Annual Mid Dale Lunches of soup, bread and cheese with tea or coffee will be held to raise money for Christian Aid.

Donations of Bread, cheese or homemade soup as well as help on the day, all gratefully received. Dates and times in “**What’s on**”

Contact **Evelyn Abraham 663243**

## Sycamore Hall

I had the pleasure of meeting Michelle Mottershead the manager at Sycamore Hall last week when we talked about the new building, the amenities and the role the centre hopes to play in the wider community as well as providing excellent accommodation and care to the residents. The Hall is owned and managed by Housing 21 (formerly the Royal British Legion Housing Association) in partnership with Richmondshire District Council and North Yorkshire County Council.

Sycamore Hall is an extra care housing development providing care and support services to older people. It aims to provide new housing with a choice for older people promoting independence while giving a range of facilities to enhance the local community. Some of these facilities include a hairdresser's shop and a function room which is available to hire (from £6.00 for half a day to £12.00 for the whole day) and a restaurant, all open to the community. Some local societies have already taken advantage of the excellent lounges including the W.I., Blood Donor Service, Bainbridge Arts and the local primary school.

The first phase of the building was opened in January 2006 when 16 residents from Sycamore Close moved in followed in January 2007 by 16 residents from High Hall. Ten new residents came from the wider locality housed in 37 one bedroom apartments and 5 two bedroom. The spacious accommodation has wheelchair access to all rooms, fully fitted kitchens including fridge, freezer, oven and hob,

walk in showers and the benefit of full central heating throughout.

This building gives the impression of entering a top quality hotel with relaxing décor and high quality finishes throughout.



The staff, helpers and residents are all helpful and friendly and certainly seem to enjoy living and working there.

I think I might put my name down now, although you do have to be registered with Richmondshire District Council's Housing Register.

**S.E.D.**

### **Police report**

**A**gain I am pleased to say that things are quiet on the crime front, although there are a couple of things I would like to mention.

Firstly at the beginning of February a diesel bowser and some saplings were stolen from the Widdale area. Obviously this is an isolated area, however the culprits must have got there in a vehicle. I have said this before numerous times, but if you see any suspect vehicles then please report them to us straight away; there are all sorts of things that can be done just with the number alone and any information we get can only help our community be a safer place to live.

I was appalled to hear that someone has again been causing damage to the bus shelter on Penn Lane, Hawes; this time they ripped the chain out of the wall which was securing the seat in there. I know without even asking that this is local youths who are maybe trying to send us back a message re the previous incidents of damage. A personal message to the offender - it ain't smart and it ain't clever and even if you think it's funny, the rest of us do not, so if you wish to continue with this sort of behaviour then be prepared to suffer the consequences.

I have a sneaking suspicion that we have a heating oil thief in our area. Now although no-one has reported this as a crime there has been evidence to suggest recently that tanks are being tampered with. I would strongly recommend that if possible you make your tank secure and if you find that some has been stolen let us know.

Lastly – as last month – on a personal note, I would like to make it known that my wandering coat was returned to me. Although it may have been removed

illegally it had been stored innocently and I am pleased that the holder had read last month's report. My faith in human nature is restored!

Anyway that's all for now, if you need any help or information please contact me or any member of staff at the community office and we will help you all we can.

**Dave Cousins, PC141,  
Community Beat Officer for  
Wensleydale**

### Heavens above

**T**his month's treat is a total eclipse of the Moon on the evening of **March 3rd**. It's the first for over 2 years in UK skies and weather permitting will be visible from start to finish.



through a steadily held pair of binoculars or a low-powered telescope. It's a good opportunity too for some spectacular photographs if you're a camera buff, but you'll need to use a telephoto lens and a tripod as exposures will be far too long for hand-held shots. Sadly totality ends just before midnight and then the Moon will slowly pull clear of the Earth's shadow until by 2.30 am it's back to its old self again. I seem to remember that bad weather ruined views of the last couple of eclipses visible from these parts, so for this one - here's hoping for clear skies

**Al Bireo**



Lunar eclipses occur when the Sun, Moon and Earth are directly in line and the full Moon passes through the Earth's shadow - well over 2000 miles across at the distance of the Moon's orbit. This month's eclipse begins shortly after 8.15 pm GMT but it may be a while before you'll be able to make out a slight darkening of the lower, left hand of the Moon's disc. Don't be put off if you don't notice anything happening for a while. When the Moon passes into the umbra - the deepest part of the earth's shadow - at 9.30 pm, the darkening effect will be much more obvious and the Moon's disc will look as if something has definitely taken a 'bite' out of it. No wonder people in less enlightened times used to think a ravening monster had attacked the Moon and was about to devour it!

Totality is reached at 10.44 pm when the Moon becomes fully immersed in shadow - its dimly lit globe a dramatic sight floating against the starry background. Unlike the sun during a solar eclipse it never entirely disappears from view, as the Earth's atmosphere acts like a giant lens and refracts sunlight into the shadowy area. It can change colour quite noticeably, however, usually taking on a reddish or coppery-orange hue though if there's a lot of dust in the atmosphere (from a volcanic eruption for instance) it can turn a surprisingly dim brownish-purple.

The Moon remains fully eclipsed for well over an hour, so you'll have plenty of time to enjoy the spectacle which is best seen

## Habitats for Red Squirrels

I would like to show readers how Jane and I are trying to make our woodlands in Snaizholme as user friendly as possible for the Red squirrel; but to make the woods undesirable for grey squirrels, and to look after the birdlife at the same time!

**40 years ago we planted several acres** of Norway Spruce, Noble Fir and Scots pine to be sold to the trade as Christmas trees. To give these trees protection ( and for tax purposes) all the Christmas trees were grown in plots surrounded by Larch and Sitka spruce. As Sitka has a tendency to start blowing down after its 40th year, we decided to clear fell most of the Sitka in the 1990s.

**The felling took place over 3 years** but we left a corridor of conifers between both ends of the woods together with several clumps of Spruce and Firs to give the birdlife protection in the colder months of the year. We also left a 2 acre block of Sitka untouched as the wood had not grown as fast as the rest. The intention was to clearfell it in another 5 years and then to replant with native hardwoods including Oak, Rowan and Hawthorn. This was before Red Squirrels appeared! Our neighbour, Mrs Hargrave was the first person to see Red Squirrels coming out of the wood near her house. A few weeks later other Red Squirrels appeared. As soon as the Forestry Commission (FC) and DEFRA heard about their arrival special Forestry Commission feeders were installed and these are designed to let the lighter Red Squirrels get to their special food (peanuts, sunflower seed and pine-nuts), but these feeders are designed to keep out the heavier Grey Squirrel.



**The situation has been helped by an interesting coincidence.** Both DEFRA and the FC have been encouraging us to bring back the Black Grouse last seen in our valley over 30 years ago. The food requirements of Black Grouse and Red Squirrels overlap. They both like Larch, Hawthorn, Willow and Alder. Black Grouse like Blackthorn, Bilberry and Juniper so we can now accommodate both species. Up to date no Black Grouse have reappeared apart from one solitary male two years ago but we think it is now just a question of time before they are back.

To ensure we keep the Grey Squirrels at bay, we have been asked by the FC to reduce the 2500 Sessile Oak and several hundred Sycamore Planted about 40 years ago. Both these trees are attractive to the Grey Squirrel and our target is to reduce the Oak to about 200. At the moment we have coppiced about half the Oak. By coppicing the Oak, they will grow up again, but will not produce acorns which the Greys love! Greys like stripping the bark off Sycamore. It is sad to reduce the Sycamore as it produces large numbers of insects for the birds in the spring and the tree is very wind-firm.

Local friends like John Metcalfe frequently visit the woods to shoot any invading Greys. The National Park Rangers have lent us traps to catch them. These are baited with maize which the Reds do not like. Hopefully we will enjoy the company of these lovable little Red Squirrels for a few more years but we cannot be certain they will survive

The willows we are now planting ( The Purple, Goat and Grey willows ) were seen growing in the Hawes area in the 1850s by the Victorian Botanist John Gilbert Baker, a chemist from Thirsk. He later became curator of Kew Gardens.

**Hugh Kemp**

## **Wensleydale Railway Driver Experience days**

W. Fatherley (*Greenfield*)

### **Group bookings qualify for £100 saving!**

When four people book together for Wensleydale Railway's new Driver Experience Day, they can save £100 (£25 each).

Driver Experience days have proved very popular; They start with a welcome breakfast, followed by the all-important safety briefing, theory session and on-board practical instruction, before two sessions of driving a diesel multiple unit on the line. Gift Vouchers are available.

Many weekday dates are available up to the end of June for group bookings but not week-ends or school holidays.

A booking for one person on a Driver Experience day is £225 (£200 for members of the Wensleydale Railway Association). This is reduced to £200/£175 respectively when four people are included in a single booking and includes refreshments, with lunch in a nearby hotel. More details at [www.wensleydale.railway.com](http://www.wensleydale.railway.com) or tel: **08454 50 54 74**.

**Ruth Annison, WR Chairman**

## **Museum Friends meeting**

At the next meeting on **Friday, March 16th, 7.30 pm** Helen Bainbridge will speak on "Forgotten uses and lost memories": some mystery objects from the Swaledale Museum.

### **Another letter to Elijah**

Dear Sir, I had a letter from Mr. Garnett-Orme and he asked me to get a price list from you for Coal, Gascoke nuts and Groceries Etc.

Please forward same on to me at Greenfield (Do you supply Hay & Straw I will nor require any H or S till next October)

Yours truly,

## **HAWES SCHOOL NEWS**

### **Ghurkhas Visit Hawes School**

On February 22nd some Ghurkhas came to Hawes school from Catterick Garrison. They talked about a few things but the one that I found the best was when they were telling us about the kit they used on various challenges. After they told us about all the different things, we got to try out everything and they put on camouflage cream on us and it was just great I loved it!

**Maisy Dinsdale**

The Ghurkhas came to school to tell us about themselves. One of the things they taught us about was their cultures, geography and how to say some words in their language. We learned new things with them.

**George Metcalfe**

Another activity was learning to march and salute as they do in the army. We all enjoyed it very much!

**Ruby Sunter**

They also showed us some musical instruments and they let us play them. They taught us a song in Nepalese.

**Henry McCarthy**

### **Tesco computer vouchers**

Hawes school would be *very* grateful if you, your friends and families would kindly collect these very valuable tokens for us as we are trying to get enough for a laptop. If you have any tokens please give them to anyone connected with the school. Thank you for your help.

### **Round the World by Bike: a slideshow**

"After 4 years, 3 bicycles, 2 boats and a canoe, **Alastair Humphreys** is in town. 46,000 miles, 60 countries, 5 continents, 1600 days"

**Thursday, March 29th at 7.00 pm**

**Wensleydale Creamery, Hawes**

£10 per person to include lasagne (vegetarian lasagne), garlic bread and chips. ALL PROCEEDS go to Alastair's charity; *Hope and Homes for Children*.

Contact **Kudu Bikes** to book a place on this inspiring presentation. **666088**

[info@kudubikes.co.uk](mailto:info@kudubikes.co.uk)

**Martin and Kathy Lewin**

### **"Hidden Histories of the Dales."**

**March 23<sup>rd</sup> – April 19<sup>th</sup>**

This exhibition explores the theme of people of various origins passing through or settling in the Dales for thousands of years. The museum would like to hear from anyone in the community willing to share their own stories or research. Admission is free to the exhibition.

## WEST BURTON SCHOOL

### Help the children in Malawi

We are collecting unwanted shoes for the Blue Peter Shoebiz Appeal. Money raised will help orphans and other children made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS in Malawi. More than 600,000 children have lost one or both parents because of AIDS - that is one in every ten children. Blue Peter are hoping to create hundreds of community based centres to provide orphans and other vulnerable children with the protection, care and support that they so desperately need.

Simply bring your old pairs of shoes to **West Burton school** (before September) and help us to help them.

Thank you,

**Mrs C.A. Brotherton, Headteacher**

### JC:24/7

JC:24/7 is a Christian Youth Club, a kind of Church, started just over two years ago by a group of Christians in Wensleydale. It has aimed to continue the work of "King's Club," but throughout the year, with twice monthly meetings.

We have a small group of enthusiastic young people, who gave the Club its name (Jesus Christ: 24 hours a day / 7 days a week), designed its logo and "hoodies" and who have done much to shape what we do.

A typical meeting will include: games, worship and a "thinking time" about God, people and what the Bible has to say! It's fun, friendly and relaxed. We also go on trips out, hear Christian bands and meet with other Christian groups from other parts of the country.

Meetings are led by experienced leaders, who are CRB checked, and who seek to ensure that all who come along are made welcome and that Government "Safeguarding and Good Practice Guidelines" are followed. We do ask young peo-

ple to register with us, so that we have proper contact details and relevant medical information and also parental permission for you to be at our meetings.

Meetings are usually held in the Methodist Hall, Leyburn, from 7pm until 9pm on the second and fourth Sundays of each month.

If you think that you may be interested, please contact **Rev Richard Harris** on **01748 884486** or **Heather or Carol Sowerby** on **650412** or email [heather@carrendfarm.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:heather@carrendfarm.freeserve.co.uk).

## **BAINBRIDGE SCHOOL**

### **New Website**

Recently our school has launched a new website. We have nearly had two thousand visitors, we all saw the numbers rise up very quickly during half term!

Our website has not only got games on but it has a gallery with pictures of things happening at school, there is a section of class pages where each class in our school has its own page about what they have been doing in class, there is a curriculum page where you can find out what our school is learning about in topics this term. There is also a news section with the latest news and you can find out what we have been doing lately including what happened on Shrove Tuesday when some of the younger infants made pancakes. You can see our active mark which means we have been awarded a standard of national excellence in P.E and sport, there is also a bit about our new French Club and a

picture of January's floods in our school field.

We hope you can visit our website and if you wish to the web address is [www.bainbridgeschool.co.uk](http://www.bainbridgeschool.co.uk).

**Becky Williams, Year 6**

### **Pluto and the Sun**

Boiling burning red hot sun  
No-one can resist the hot orange planet.  
Lava leaking everywhere  
Just keeps on going.

**By Tom Year 3**

### **Space Man**

Staring at the sky,  
Peering through the stars,  
A little man all dressed in white I see,  
Crawling through the air,  
Even though he is not close, I feel his

excitement.

Marching slowly on the planets,  
Anyone can see him,  
No one but me is watching.

**By Stephanie Year 6**

### **White Tie and Tiara Ball**

The White Tie and Tiara Ball organised by the Hawes Gala Committee and held at the Simonstone Hall on Friday, February 2nd was a great success. £400 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support and Hawes Gala Funds.

**Sue Wood**



### Made in the Shade

I've just finished re-jigging a north border, a small patch of sour, compacted clay, hiding itself at the foot of a towering drystone wall. Decades back, these shadowy, cold areas were regarded as a problem, a place to where plants were consigned, as a stay of execution before the compost heap. With all the dry summers we now have, attitudes have changed. A north border, away from the sun's withering glare can provide an opportunity for adventurous planting, themed more on foliage than flowers.

I began by forking over the soil and digging in shed loads of compost as I went along. The existing 'September Charm' Japanese anemones ( beautiful!) I dug up and regrouped beneath the wall. The Hispanic bluebells (expletive deleted!) were relegated to the bin, a sealed container from which there is no escape. These aggressors, far sturdier than our dainty, native species, spread like a rash and can ruin a border with their invasive habits.

The first introduction was a *Fatsia Japonica*, the castor oil plant. I buy them as £3 houseplants from a certain famous supermarket chain – an absolute snip! Hardened off over spring into summer, these exotic specimens can survive almost anything a Wensleydale winter can throw at them, although shelter from wild winds is essential. This I surrounded with *Hosta sieboldiana*, a lot more slug-resistant than the thin leaved varieties. In summer, the blue luminosity of the foliage is particularly striking, contrasting well with cultivated soil. 'Hadsen Blue' is smaller but just as effective.

I stood back for an overview and a leg-stretch. It looked incomplete. Something low and creeping might put the finishing touches to it. London Pride mixed with

*Ajuga reptans* 'Burgundy Glow' provides reds, greens, blues and whites as well as low growing ground cover for the front of the border. Finishing with this, I walked away, resisting my usual urge to over plant – most of what I've used loves rich, heavy soil and I don't want them fighting for space too early on.

Apart from the *Fatsia*, the plants mentioned can be propagated by division, so if your neighbour has any, do some swapping, it's what gardening is all about, and if you're a bit tight like me, saving a bob or two is always fun!

**Ed Gardener**



### **Memorandum of Understanding between National Park and Trust**

Two organisations that work together to look after the Dales have cemented their partnership with a formal agreement.

The National Park Authority Chairman Carl Lis and Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust new Chairman of Trustees, His Honour Peter Charlesworth have signed a Memorandum of Understanding between their respective organisations and planted a commemorative tree at the YDMT's donor woodland, Pasture Wood, Grassington.

YDNPA helped to set up YDMT in 1996 as an independent charity that aims to support the well-being of the Dales. Since 1997 the Trust has undertaken more than 600 conservation, heritage and education projects worth over £15 million and recruited over 30,000 supporters. This year it will be celebrating its tenth anniversary.

The Memorandum of Understanding has

been drawn up to set out clearly respective responsibilities – how the two organisations interact, monitor, report and review arrangements.

*The picture shows Jon Avison, Head of Park Management; Carl Lis, Chairman of YDNPA; Peter Charlesworth, Chairman of YDMT; and David Sharrod, its Director.*

## Doctors' rotas as supplied by the surgery .

AYS GARTH SURGERY ROTA											Wb - week beginning										
Wb	26Feb		5Mar		12Mar		19Mar		26Mar		Wb	26Feb		5Mar		12Mar		19Mar		26Mar	
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Mon			FA	F	W	A	J	F	JA	J	Mon			WJ	WJ	JA	J	AF	A	WF	WF
Tues			WJ	WJ	JA	JA	FA	FA	WF	W	Tues			FA	FA	WF	W	J	J	JA	JA
Wed			FA	A	FW	F	AJ	C	JA	J	Wed			J	J	A	A	F	C	W	W
Thur	F	F	WJ	J	JA	A	WF	W	WF	F	Thur	A	A	F	F	W	W	J	J	A	A
Fri	J	J	A	A	F	F	W	W	J	J	Fri	WF	WF	WJ	WJ	JA	JA	FA	FA	WF	WF
Sat	Emergency service only										Sat	Emergency service only									
Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed											Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed										
Morning Surgery: 9.00 - 10.30 a.m. (no appointments)											Morning S'y: 8.45-10.15 Tues till 10.45 (no appointments)										
Afternoon Surgery: 4.00 - 5.30 p.m. (appointment only)											Afternoon S'y: 5.00-6.00 Tues 1.00-4.00 (appointments only)										
For appointments and all enquiries ring 663222											For appointments and all enquiries ring 667200										

### Wedding Dresses Wanted

St John's Church in Garsdale is staging a **Wedding Dress, Christening Gown and Flower Festival** on **Saturday, Sunday and Monday the 25th, 26th and 27th of August** (over the bank holiday weekend) to raise much needed funds for repairs.

We are looking for anyone who was born, lived, was married or has other connections with Garsdale and would be able to lend a wedding dress, christening gown or photographs for display.

We are also seeking the loan of mannequins (male and female), donations of flowers, food etc as well as practical help at the event.

Anyone wishing to renew their wedding vows will be most welcome to do so on the Sunday but should let us know well ahead.

Please contact me in relation to any of the above. **Pauline Hasted 017683 72011**

### Would you like to write and research?

We are looking for people who might be interested in projects researching the history, or things of interest, within the smaller hamlets and settlements in the Newsletter area (for example, Appersett, Sedbusk, Cubeck,

the Newbiggins or Thoresby), which could then feature in future issues. If you think you might be interested, please contact us: **667785**

### Stacking chairs need a new home

We have approximately 20 stacking chairs available if anyone would like them. Please contact Hawes school Tel: **667308** if you are interested.



## Letters

Dear Sir,  
The trippers on page 28 of the Upper Wensleydale Newsletter (*Post card from..*) were undoubtedly in Bridgnorth on the first day and then went to Ironbridge. I thought the letter 'Men are just happier people' was marvellous.

Yours sincerely,

**John de Quincey, Shrewsbury**

Re: Mystery Picture, issue 122; School House Farm and Old Schoolroom, Stalling Busk— 1959. "I know 'cos I was there!"

**(Mrs) Rita Robinson, Northallerton**

We two 'off-comers' have been coming to Wensleydale for over fifteen years, originally to Pat Hesketh at Thoraby and then on to Sue and Steve Duffield (*in Thornton Rust; Ed*). We usually make several visits in the year.

Early on we picked up and read the Newsletter with a great deal of both enjoyment and interest. We loved Wensleydale from the first day, have walked many miles, and can't of course avoid coming across little bits of extra knowledge about buildings and places which seem very familiar. The recollections and philosophies of your writers strike loud chords with a couple in their 70s one of whom fondly recalls harvesting in the 1940s (school harvest camps) with horses, binders and haywains etc! This was on the Dorset/Wiltshire border.

Possibly we have seen all too few different Newsletters, but yours has a special quality. We read the editorials and give them due thought. Sometimes I get as far as wondering whether I agree with everything you say! But most strike a

sympathetic chord and it's impossible to hold the conviction that any of what you say can't be right.

We have left a small token of our appreciation of Wensleydale and particularly of its Newsletter. We hope to continue our visits for a while yet.

With our very best wishes,

**Barbara and Ian Ross, Reading**

After the floods and terrible winds we've suffered this winter, I'm sure everyone has noticed the amount of litter that has escaped bin bags left out and blown around. I took an empty carrier bag and picked up litter from my house, up Moor Road and had filled it by the time I reached the turn off to Reeth! May I suggest if you're going for a walk, putting a carrier bag and plastic glove in your pocket. You'll be amazed at the amount you can collect in a short stroll. I did draw the line at picking up the pieces of a hand basin and pedestal in the ditch just along the Reeth Road!

**Rachel Dechezeaux**

## West Witton Village Hall

West Witton Village Hall should reopen in late March after a major refurbishment. Look out for local notices.

## Life in Oz

*(It seems that many of our readers have contacts in Australia and keep going— Editor included; this article is from someone who went, and stayed!)*

I worked in Wensleydale from 1991 until 1995 when my husband and I left to see if we would like life in Australia. We're still here 12 years later so I suppose it must have something going for it! I was employed by the Health Authority as the Community Physiotherapist for Wensleydale, and used to have weekly clinics at Hawes and Aysgarth surgeries, as

well as doing home visits. During this time I met Brenda Stirling who was then working at Thornton Lodge, and lives in Askrigg. I have kept in touch with Brenda and her husband John ever since, and she kindly saves up the Newsletters and sends them out to me here in Australia.

I live in Hervey Bay in Queensland, about 3 and half hour's drive north of Brisbane. It is a tourist town and is the jumping off point for trips over to Fraser Island, a World Heritage site, and the largest sand island in the world. Hervey Bay is also the whale watching capital of Queensland, if not Australia, with hundreds of hump backed whales visiting the calm waters of the Bay each year between July and November.

**I thought readers may be interested to hear about rural life in Australia from my perspective –** I am again employed as

a Community Physiotherapist in a farming area, but life here is quite different! For a start there is the weather.



There is no snow or ice and very rarely fog. However there is also no rain. For the past 10 years there has been very low levels of rainfall and now it is getting desperate. We are all obsessed with saving water and have lots of restrictions regarding watering the garden. It is also extremely hot and can be very humid. It was 35 degrees Celsius this week, and one night didn't drop below 26 degrees. On the plus side it never gets really cold even in winter – we Poms can't help but smile when the locals are shivering and it's a pleasant 18 degrees.

The farming landscape is also very different, not a sheep to be seen. As for the cows – Friesians are unheard of here,

instead they have Brahman cattle, the ones with the big humps on the neck that are sacred in India. I think they are more drought resistant and tolerant of the harsh climate. No fields of corn either. Instead, we have sugar cane as far as the eye can see. Pineapples, mangoes and lychees are commonly grown, but it is far too warm for apples and pears. Instead we manage to grow orange, mandarin and grapefruit trees in our garden.

And it's an absolute myth to think that aches and pains are less problematic in a warm climate – it makes no difference! In fact there could be even more people with arthritis here than I ever met in the Dales. I used to travel about the dale in my trusty little Nissan Micra which was ideal for getting up narrow lanes and twisty roads. Here, I am provided with a V6 Holden Commode station wagon, which is huge and powerful, and very comfortable for the long distances I travel. I have been unintentionally misled many times – “Oh we're *just* off the highway, turn at the service station and look for the house with the blue roof” (**40 kilometers after turning at the service station I find them!**).

**Isabel Read**

*(To be continued in the next issue)*

### Silva Service!

**F**or this article I was asked to do an interview, so I wracked my brains to come up with a suitable subject and of course, someone to interview. After a lot of thought I decided to report on the experiences encountered by those who set up businesses in the dales. For this I decided to interview the owners of Beckindales Café in Hawes, Nigel and Silva Metcalfe who moved from London to take over the café in 2004. I spoke to Silva on the phone and asked her some questions about what it was like for her and her husband when they took over a well established local business.

**B.** Hi Silva, Why did you decide to move to Hawes?

**S.** Nigel and I both liked the area and we had visited it many times before for walks and rambling. We saw a business and decided to take the opportunity; after looking at many places we found that the café in Hawes ticked all the right boxes for us.

**B.** Did you encounter any difficulties?

**S.** No, we didn't encounter any at all, it's different to all the stories about rural communities being unwelcoming and the people are very nice which made the transition easy for us.

**B.** Why did you choose a café?

**S.** Nigel has always enjoyed cooking and cookery and had always wanted to become a chef but became a teacher instead. It was just the right stage in our lives for a change so we decided to go for the café.

**B.** What did you change about the café when you took over?

**S.** We changed very little and kept it as a continental café to keep the contrast between the other cafés and restaurants in Hawes. We introduced a few more things including meat as it had been a vegetarian

café. We also provided more customer info and made sure the place was 'walker friendly'. We tried to make sure we welcomed all and everybody.

**B.** Is there anything you miss about the city?

**S.** Not that much at all; apart from the fact that the temperature is a couple of degrees warmer and there were lots of shops to browse and look through. I certainly don't miss the daily one and a half hour each way commute to work.

**B.** Do you find the lack of facilities hinders your business?

**S.** Not really, if there were more offices and more businesses it might mean more trade but the undeveloped nature of the area is what attracts the visitors. I was also pleasantly surprised by the diversity of shops and services. More facilities might mean business that is evenly spread through the year but then we wouldn't get the influx in the summer.

**B.** Do you use local produce?

**S.** Yes most of the produce we use is local, we get meat from the local butcher and we also use the local greengrocers and supermarkets. Some of our specialist goods come from a supplier in Sedbergh.

**B.** What do you think the best and worst aspects of country life are?

**S.** The best aspect is that people really look out for one another, not like in cities. The worst aspect would have to be the lack of shops to browse. It's definitely been a positive experience, I thought the novelty would wear off after about a year but it never has.

**B.** And finally, do you have any plans for the future?

**S.** Our only plans for the future are to go on holiday! There should be a time during

the quieter months but there's always some kind of maintenance to do or something else that takes up our time, so a holiday would be lovely.

**B.** Thank you very much for your time Silva.

So, in conclusion starting a business in the dales, at least for Nigel and Silva, is a positive experience and the only downside appears to be the lack of shops and the difficulty in finding the time to go on holiday!

**Belinda Bond, Bursary Student**

### **Hawes Grammar School Trust**

If you are currently in full time higher or further education and live in the parish of Hawes then you are eligible for an award of £30 towards the cost of books/materials related to your chosen course. If you feel that you are eligible for the award then please contact me for further details.

We are looking for someone to join our committee. We meet once a year for a short meeting of approximately 30 minutes. If you would like to join us then please contact me.

**Rebecca Alderson 667760**

### **Hambleton and Richmondshire Carers Centre**

According to the 2001 census of Great Britain there are over 6 million carers in this country. That is one person in eight spend a few, to over 50, hours each week caring for someone to enable them to stay in their own homes. These could be parents looking after an ill or disabled child, a spouse looking after an ill or ageing partner, a person looking after their parents who are ill, disabled or ageing or even a child looking after a parent who is ill; it could be a neighbour and friend doing odd jobs. Carers come in all shapes and sizes. It is estimated that carers save this country £57 million per year doing such vital work.

The Carers Centre is an organisation which gives help, support and advice to carers throughout Hambleton and Richmondshire. We run a number of carers groups so carers can meet one another, go on trips out and just get out of the caring situation for a break. Our two Young Carer Support Workers do a lot of work on a one to one basis with children who are carers. They also take them out on activity breaks so they can make friends with other children who are in the same situation as they are.

Our Adult Support Workers visit people in their own homes or anywhere it is convenient to talk over problems. They can help them to claim benefits, give emotional support and advice on who to contact for additional services such as sitting services, adaptations to the home, respite arrangements and much more.

We have a Changing Lives worker who can help carers to access educational opportunities or give help and advice to those carers who might wish to return to the work environment.

The office is open **Monday to Thursday 9.00am until 4.00pm and 1.00pm on a Friday**. If you are a carer or you know someone who is and would like to take advantage of this service please do contact us on **01609 780872** or call in and see us at 32 High Street, Northallerton.

We are here to help. **Kate Fleming**

## **Dalesplay News (cont)**

or visit the website, [www.busybees.co.uk](http://www.busybees.co.uk)

“Ring-a-Ring-a-Rosi’s” Music sessions are coming to Dalesplay. Mrs Keatinge is attending Dalesplay to run music workshops for babies plus.

They will be held on a Monday morning from 10 to 11.00am. The dates are as follows: March 19th, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> and May 14th. £3.50 per child. Parents/Carers are welcome to stay and join in the fun.

To help raise funds for comic relief we will be dressing in red. There will be a contribution of 50p each to take part. (All proceeds to Comic Relief)

### Easter Holidays.

We will have festive art and craft activities, a baby lamb coming to visit, stimulating play, games and lots more to offer.

### Taffy Thomas.

On June 1st Taffy Thomas will be presenting amazing story telling sessions throughout the day. Under 5's in the morning; and the afternoon will be for the older children. At 5.00pm Taffy and all will dress in their p.j.s with a cup of hot chocolate and experience magnificent bedtime stories.

### Modern Dance

From April we will be providing a dance workshop for children aged 7 years plus. Lesley from YSDA has kindly offered to come along and implement these workshops. There will be six sessions in total.

To book a place for your child then please contact Dalesplay **667789** or email us on [info@dalesplay.co.uk](mailto:info@dalesplay.co.uk).

### Busy Bee Vouchers:

Dalesplay are registered with the Busy Bee Voucher Scheme. If your employment is registered with this scheme you may be entitled to part of your childcare tax free. For more information please ask Dalesplay

## **MARKET PLACE AND GREETINGS**

### **Shuttleworth**

Eileen wishes to express her sincere thanks for the beautiful cards, flowers and good wishes received which made her 90th birthday a truly memorable day

Happy 30th Birthday

**Amanda**

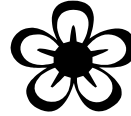
From the Fountain Darts Teams

**HAPPY 9th BIRTHDAY TOM**

Lov n' stuff Mum, Ade and Luke,  
XXX

### **SUMNER**

Geraldine would like to thank all who sent cards and flowers following her short stay in hospital



Congratulations to Tilly and Craig

Mr & Mrs Smith

Married 7.2.07

Love from

Kath Keiron and Briony

### **WHAT'S ON LISTING**

***Transfer these dates to your diary!***

### **Chain Store Kids' Clothes Sale**

Monday March 5th from 6.30pm at Askrigg School.

Entry £1 including tea and coffee.

There will also be a raffle

Organised by Askrigg School PTFA

### **Herriot's in Hawes**

has a variety of part-time positions available between Easter and October.

These include housekeeping, waiting on tables, general kitchen duties and reception. Hours to suit, pay dependent on experience. Please telephone

**Richard or Andrea Bateson on 667536.**

### **A give away!**

Sturdy 11ft long wooden "gallows-type" post suitable for B and B sign.

*(This has become available as it blew down and the present owners took that as a sign they should reduce their trading!)*

**Tel: 667785**

### **M a r c h**

2 Bed Push in aid of Hawes Gala. Askrigg to Hawes. Leaves Askrigg 10am.

Ring **667202** for more info.

2 West Burton village hall Soup Lunch for Christian Aid 12 noon to 1.30pm

2 Wensleydale Society talk on The Georgian Theatre in West Burton Village Hall at 7.30 pm

4 Monthly United Church Services for the Dale. Leyburn Methodist Church 7.00 pm

4 Sponsored Bed Push from the Fountain, Hawes to the Crown, Askrigg in aid of Hawes Gala and back from the Crown to the Fountain in aid of Askrigg children's funds. Start time 10.00 am in Hawes

5 Chain Store Kid's Clothes Sale, Askrigg School 6.30pm. See page 36.

5 "Increasing Opportunities" in West Burton Village Hall from 7.00 pm see article page 7.

5 Lent Group meeting Hawes Methodist Church 7-9.00 pm

6 Annual Leaflet and Information

Exchange at Tennants, Leyburn

6 Hawes Drama group. Gayle institute at 7.30 pm

## WHAT'S ON LISTING *Transfer these dates to your diary!*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>7 Thornton Rust village Hall. Talk by David Pointon about his visits to the Gambia. 7.30 pm</p> <p>7 North Country Theatre, Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes, 7.30pm. See page 9 for details.</p> <p>9 Soup Lunch at Aysgarth Village Institute noon–1.30pm</p> <p>9 Food for Thought evening. See page 6.</p> <p>9 William Hague Surgery at Community Office, Hawes 2.30–3.30pm</p> <p>10 Wensleydale Society Walk. Meet at East Witton at 10.30 am</p> <p>10 Live band Pulse at the Fountain, Hawes in aid of the Mid Summer Bash. 10.30 pm to 1.00 am. Tickets £5 on the door.</p> <p>11 Table Top Sale for Hawes School in the Market House</p> <p>12 Lent Group meeting Hawes Methodist Church 7–9.00 pm</p> <p>13 YDNPA Planning Committee meet at Yordale House, Bainbridge at 10.30 am</p> <p>13 Coffee Morning for Marie Curie at Hawes Methodist Rooms, 10.00 am</p> <p>14 Pie and Peas Supper at Stalling Busk with local Slide Show at 7.30 pm. Proceeds to Swaledale Fell Rescue.</p> <p>16 Soup Lunch at Thornton Rust Village Institute noon–1.30pm</p> <p>16 Friends of the Dales Countryside Museum. 7.30 pm See Page XX</p> <p>16 Food for Thought evening. See page 6.</p> <p>16 Ladies Darts Presentation Night at the Fountain, Hawes. Disco to follow.</p> <p>17 Gayle Fellowship Rally. 7.30 pm</p> <p>17 Thoraby Village Hall event 7.30 pm See page 7.</p> <p>18 Mothering Sunday</p> <p>18 St Bartholomew's, West Witton. Mothering Sunday Service at 10.00 am</p> <p>19 Carperby Parish Council AGM in the Village Hall</p> <p>19 Lent Group meeting St Oswald's, Askrigg 7–9.00 pm</p> <p>19 Newsletter A.G.M. See page 2.</p> <p>21 Wensleydale Tournament begins. See page 13.</p> <p>21 AGM at St Matthews, Stalling Busk at</p> | <p>7.30 pm</p> <p>23 Soup Lunch at Thoraby Village Hall noon–1.30pm</p> <p>23 Food for Thought evening. See page 6.</p> <p>24 Mobile Rubbish Skip in Gayle</p> <p>24 Rodeo Race Night for Hawes Gala. Fountain Hotel, 8pm See page 8.</p> <p>25 Ladies Day Special Service. Hawes Methodist Church at 10.30 am followed by lunch in the Wensleydale Pantry</p> <p>26 Lent Group meeting St Oswald's, Askrigg 7–9.00 pm</p> <p>27 Coffee Morning for the Alzheimer's Society. Hawes Methodist Rooms, 10.00 am to noon</p> <p>27 YDNPA full Authority meeting at the Key Centre, Middleham 10.30 am</p> <p>28 Coffee and Scones at Askrigg School from 10.30 am–11.00 am at the school. Cost £1.50. Proceeds for the School Council.</p> <p>28 Swaledale Festival volunteers meeting, See page 16.</p> <p>28 AGM at St Oswalds, Askrigg</p> <p>29 Gayle Ladies. "Queen Victoria the Artist" by Ann Thomson at 7.30 pm</p> <p>30 Soup Lunch at Carperby Village Institute noon–1.30pm</p> <p>30 Food for Thought evening. See page 6.</p> <p>31 Away Day for the Congregation of St Oswald's, Askrigg, to look at the New Vision of the Church</p> |
|---|---|

### April

- 1 April Fools Day
- 2 "Increasing Opportunities" funding fayre and Meet the Funder event, Carperby Village Hall, 6.30-8.30 pm.

<b>Index to Advertisers etc.</b>	<b>Page</b>		
Aardvark pictures and framing	14	Paul's Pizzas	7
Advertising rates and contacts	40	Peacock, coal merchant	22
Bainbridge Vets	12	Peacock, Hazel	30
Bainside Arts	8	Pennine print services	9
Balloons for Parties	22	Peter the Plumber	30
Bayford oil	27	Porter, outside caterer	24
Bayne, Lynda; medical herbalist	11	Post Office, Hawes	40
Bushby; joiner etc.	9	Punchard; plumbing;	40
Carrs Billington	20	R and B Construction	13
Chainsaw Sculptures	33	Raw, Steve; decorator	9
Chair workshop	15	Redmire Taxi	23
Cleaning Services	25	Reeth Garage	11
Cockett's butchers	3	Rock and Gem Shop	40
Cockett's restaurant	27		
Competition	4	Scully, Neil; carpet fitter	11
Coppice coffee shop	16	Sedbergh Golf Club	19
Craske; electrical	5	Simonstone Hall	22
		Sportsman's Inn	4
Dales Carpet Cleaning	25	Sticky Ginger	14
DDR, Domestic appliance repairs	19	Stone House Hotel	25
Deadline dates	2	Stonescapes	34
Doctors' rotas	29	Strings without Tears	4
Dog House (grooming)	24	Sumner, Geraldine; jeweller	17
Dovetail	13	Sweepin' the Dales	17
Drop-off points and contacts	3		
Elite Cinema	39	Thompson, UPVC windows	35
Ellis, private hire	16	Turnbeck Boarding Kennels	10
		Virtually New	26
Farfield Mill	17	Webb, ironing service	40
George Inn	32	Wensleydale Electrical & Plumbing	20
George and Dragon Inn	5	Wensleydale racing	18
Ginger Tree; holistic health	13	Wensleydale Storage Solutions, WSS	34
Global Travel	33	Wensleydale Tree Services; D. Allen	16
Hartle; butcher	7	What's Ons listing:	37
Hearing Aids	37		
Herriot's restaurant and hotel	24	White Rose Hotel	3
Iveson, J.R. T.V. and Audio etc.	35	Wilmore; Green designs	9
		Window cleaning etc.	29
Jackson, Daphne; osteopath	33		
JWA, chartered architects	33	Yore Mill Craft Shop	6
Kearton; dressmaking etc.	15	Yorkshire Dales Society	13
Kingfisher; tree surgery	38	Yorkshire Foot Clinic	35
Kitty's Tea Room	19		
Kudu Bikes Ltd	39		
Lathwell Graphic Design	34		
Leyburn Natural Health	15		
Littlefairs	15		
Lord, Stephen; decorator	11		
M.F.W. Aga and Boiler service	22		
Mallerstang Flag	26		
Mason Bros.	26		
Mulberry Bush	24		
Old Dairy Farm	5		
Old Smithy Antiques	28		

### **Beginners' Family History Day**

A day course for budding family historians will be held in Swaledale in May when there will be an opportunity for complete beginners to get hands-on experience of some of the different avenues of research open to them. The day will include a practical introduction to making the best use of the many resources now accessible on the internet, a workshop session on reading old documents especially parish registers, an opportunity to visit the Swaledale Museum, and an overview of the family history sources available at the North Yorkshire County Records Office in Northallerton. A bookstall will run throughout the day selling Swaledale, Arkengarthdale and Wensleydale census booklets as well as a wide selection of general family history titles.

The course, organised by the Upper Dales Family History Group, will take place at Hudson House, Reeth, from 10.00am on Saturday, May 19th, at a cost of £12 per person. Due to space limitations, places are strictly limited and advance booking is essential. For full details and to request a booking form contact **Tracy Little (01748) 884759**.

### **Mid Summer Bash**

The Mid Summer Bash now has its own website. Visit [www.midsummerbash.co.uk](http://www.midsummerbash.co.uk) to see the line up and attractions including a hog roast and two new bars. This Year's event will take place on Saturday, **July 7th** on its new venue, the Hawes Community Field. This year the main beneficiary will be Yorkshire Cancer Research. For further details visit the website or contact **Diane Blades** on **667480** or at Spar on **667232**.