
Upper Wensleydale Newsletter
Issue 126—June 2007
CONTENTS

Editorial	2
Hawes Gala W/E	5
Life as a hill farmer	6-8
Parish Councils	9
Sun and wind-natural energy	11
Yorkshire Dales Society	12
Sorry about the marbles	13
Market House News	20
Borrowing Money	22
NRDLVA Charity Bike Ride	25
June Gardening	26
Letters	29
Hawes Gala—the early years	30-31
My favourite place	35
Park Ranger's Report	37
Hawes Cricket	38

Editorial

Yes, it's coming to that special time again for this special area... those 'traditional' hay meadows with their surrounding walls and each one with its stone barn. How old has something to be before it's a tradition? And it isn't just the landscape that's traditional.

Just think of the events up and down the Dale that add to the specialness of the area. The weekend we publish this issue it's the famous Bank Holiday West Burton Fair filling the Green, the hall and the chapel, with stalls, music, fun and games and Maypole dancing; at the end of the month it's the 40th Hawes Gala (see page); great traditions. Later on, in August, in time-honoured fashion, West Witton will burn Old Bartle, a tradition going back how long? (Please tell us) And there will be the lakeside service at Semerwater. Our villages still have their 'feasts' and sports and open gardens, quoits seems to be gaining in popularity again; what about wallops? (A sort of skittles if you didn't know!)

Palm Sunday saw the procession with a donkey in Redmire; Good Friday there were walks of witness with crosses; eggs were rolled in Aysgarth on Easter Sunday; and up in Gayle they still have their annual 'Camp meeting' in the summer— an outdoor service dating back to Primitive Methodist times. (Incidentally this more working-class branch of Methodism celebrates its 200th anniversary this year). Coming up we have the LVA Bike Ride, Flower Festivals and Art Exhibitions, Askrigg Produce Show, Thornton Rust Country Show (the 25th), the kids' King's Club, Muker and Moorcock Shows, all part of the yearly tradition. Musically, there's the annual Wensleydale Tournament, the Swaledale Festival (with its fair share of events around here too), the 'Bash', the

Wensleydale Chorus, in September the sounds of the long-established Band Contest in Hardraw Scar and towards the year end the Christmas Lights and all the carolling events. Quite a list!

And maybe there are traditions in the making. 'A Day in the Dales' at Duerley Bottoms Farm is fairly new. Askrigg enjoys its annual 'Tin pan bash' these days, and Burtersett has had its pleasant little show for a few years now (weather always fine!)

All of these events draw the crowds; people join in; they still (adults as well as kids) clad themselves in imaginative fancy dress. It's not always slick or sophisticated; some might even be 'old hat' but it is enjoyed, it is community and it is special.

Sadly, some things are in abeyance. Do we still hear the Bainbridge horn blown? Will Hawes have its Christmas shows again? Let's not let these community traditions die... or at least start growing some new ones – like the Thornton Rust Scarecrows.

Concert on New Organ

A concert will be held in Hardraw church on Friday June 22nd to celebrate the installation of the new pipe organ. The organist is Greg Smith, Director of Music at Ripon Cathedral choir school. Although the concert is at 7 for 7.30 pm, as over half the seats are likely to be reserved for donors and guests, please arrive early to ensure a seat.

Next issue

**The July issue will be produced on June 27th and 28th and will be distributed between June 28th and July 2nd
DEADLINE FOR COPY:
THURSDAY JUNE 21st**



Eunice

I was found last month by **David Middleton from Guildford in Surrey**, but where will I be this month?

hours to help out with this project, then please come down to Sycamore Hall well armed with spades and forks and help us make a start.

You will be well rewarded with refreshments and lots of appreciation!

If you can help at all, then please contact Michelle - Court Manager on **650809**.

Michelle Mottershead

Don't be caught out

Advance notice: the Settle to Carlisle railway line will be totally closed between Settle and Appleby from Sunday July 8th to Sunday July 22nd. There will be replacement buses.

We will give further details as soon as we can. These buses cannot usually call at Dent.

Men also!

We have been asked to point out that the special Open Evening organised by the Hawes W.I. is also open to men. The meeting on **Thursday, July 19th**, is about Titus Salt, the history of Saltaire, and the famous mill of 1853. Tickets £1.50

Kings and Queens of spades (and forks) wanted

Several months ago Sycamore Hall was kindly gifted some land at the back of the premises from North Yorkshire County Council.

We are now very eager to start developing this garden and we would like to make a plea for volunteers in the area to come along in their spare time and make a start in trying to clear the garden and help us with planting shrubs and plants and laying grass.

We will appreciate any help offered and we would also appreciate some expert advice from any keen gardeners out there.

So don't forget If you have any spare

Competition

June— midway through the year.

Each answer contains the letters 'MID'

1. Time for a dream
2. "——— toil and tribulation"
3. Sticky
4. They troubled the Israelites
5. Calm down, soldier!
6. He had a touch
7. Played havoc after pregnancy use
8. The Black Country is in them
9. It has a heart
10. Very little amount
11. Swarmers and biters
12. Only reveal it if it's nice
13. Delivery lady
14. Richard's home for a while
15. Trouble spot (for about 3000 years)
16. Dunghill
17. Wanting courage
18. On the leg side.

Last month's answers

LanCASTERton
PatrickBROMPTONon Swale
BentHAMbleton
ChopGATEShead
WhitBYland Or WhitLEYland
ScarBOROUGHbridge
RawtenSTALLingbusk
AldborOUGHtershaw
WestHOUGHTONleSpring
KettleSINGleton
RedCARTmel
TebAYcliffe
SummerBRIDGEhewick
PotTOsside
WilsDENshaw

The winner: Jennifer Johnson, Hawes

N.H.S. Dentistry .. Again!

We do have the latest information; it is the Primary Care Trust in THIRSK (!) **(01845 573856;** Kathleen Swan) dealing with the Hawes, Leyburn and Bedale areas and Bedale is now up and running.

We have been assured that the problem is not the availability of dentists; it is premises. The argument goes like this: although there is sufficient dental surgery provision in Hawes there is not enough NHS requirement for it there without being linked to Leyburn, where at Brentwood the premises are still having to be brought up to the required standards of room space, hygiene and decontamination safeguards for both patients and staff; so there is considerable internal adjustment going on.

The PCT in Thirsk assure us that things are now moving on with a further meeting last week, and they are "very conscious of our concern, and keen to see it sorted out"!

Not before time! Meanwhile, the temporary few hours' provision in Hawes still goes on, but you might have to go to Colborn for further treatment.

A.S.W.

Hawes Gala Weekend

From Wednesday June 20th

Flower displays in St. Margaret's church.

Businesses or persons wishing to display please take to the church Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning.

Friday June 22nd

Gala Disco; 1960s, 70s, 80s and 90s music celebrating 40 galas.

Hawes Market Hall, 10.30pm to late.

Admission £5.00

Saturday June 23rd

*Ruby Celebration Gala
on the Creamery field*

Fresh AM; Gus Dermondy (one man and his dog); "Elvis" 1968 come-back tour; Fairley famous family.

Fun begins at noon in the Market Square. Fancy dress parade at 1.00pm led by Richmond Town Pipe band and the Hawes Silver Prize band. Admission £3.00 by programme only. Under 16s free.

Any donations of cakes etc. for gala teas will be much appreciated. Please bring them to the marquee on gala day between 9.00 and 10.30am.

Tuesday, June 26th

"1968" evening at the Crown.

Come along and enjoy chicken and scampi in a basket. Will it be at 1968 prices?

Ring to find out: booking essential **667212**
Taylor's Fairground in Gayle Lane car park

Important notice

Due to "insurance" we can no longer use the Hawes Gala swing boats as they would not pass the safety test because of their age therefore we can't get insurance for them. We really have looked long and hard into this matter as we do realise how important a part they played on gala day. The same goes for the cross country races.

Help with gala teas

If anyone can serve teas, even for half an hour, it would be very much appreciated as

we are desperate for help in the marquee between 1.30 and 4.00pm. Please ring **667192** if you can help. **Sue Wood**

Gayle Ladies

Our annual outing will be a coach trip to Durham on **Thursday 28th June**, departing outside Hawes Market House at 9.30am, returning from Durham about 4.00pm.

Tickets will be £6 - £10 depending on numbers. All are welcome and places are still available.

Contact **Janet Jackson 667842** to book your seat.

Life as a hill farmer

It is some years since we carried an article featuring our upland farmers so we are pleased to have spent time with Martin Coates at Redshaw towards the top of Widdale. But first we include an interesting piece written by Martin

The stress of living under the new single farm payment regime has been akin to the onset of foot and mouth. Commonsense seemed to prevail in the outer regions of the United Kingdom, but the English region became a concoction from every interested stakeholder other than farmers themselves.

The 'hybrid' system adopted for England could be described as nothing other than a total fiasco. According to DEFRA there have been numerous unforeseen difficulties. They had constantly been warned of problems but ploughed on regardless.

The greatest mistake made was to try and do too much in a short time to establish the 'hybrid' single farm payment regime. This scheme which only applies to England is made up from an historical value of each farm (i.e. the combination of sheep premium, suckler cow premium, beef special premium, slaughter premium and arable area payments which were allocated to each holding in the financial year 2001/2002) plus a value for each hectare farmed by each farmer. On top of this the farms were then split into three categories, **English moorland, English Severely Disadvantaged Area, and English non-Severely disadvantaged**. To make matters worse they then embarked on a mapping scheme to measure the size of every single field in England, from the smallest pony paddock to the largest open fell.

The human resources Department of DEFRA were advised to reduce staff by

1000 at a time of change unprecedented within the agricultural and environmental departments. While this upheaval was going on, two new schemes were introduced to try and encourage a more environmental approach to farming. **The entry-level environmental scheme and high-level stewardship scheme** were introduced by the Rural Development Service. In the midst of this turmoil, the management at Defra decided to scrap the Rural Development Service, English Nature and Countryside Agency and form a new agency called Natural England, now in place.

Now for the practical implementation.

Every field on my farm has changed size during the mapping exercise. Some of my fields disappeared and I gained some of my neighbour's fields. I also gained fields around North Yorkshire which would have been very nice if it were



true, but I suspect some farmer somewhere will be disappointed that half of his fields were missing from his mapping process. One of my fields appeared to be six small paddocks from the mapping satellite so I received six 10 digit field numbers for one small parcel of land; one field was split down the middle and it took me 18 months of haggling to show that the other half was mine.

Because my farm lies between two different categories of English Moorland and English Severely Disadvantaged Area I had a further problem. Someone with a red pen in Reading decided he could tell the difference between the two from an ordnance survey map. I had to then employ an ecologist to do a thorough

survey to convince our man in Reading that indeed some of my land was SDA and not Moorland. It is important to have your land categorised correctly as the payments per hectare vary wildly from £22 per hectare for moorland and £160 per hectare for SDA. If I had land that was non SDA I then could have claimed up to £190 per hectare.

I decided to apply to put the whole farm into stewardship scheme; it is the type of farm that the RDS were looking for as it has been relatively untouched by fertilisers and chemicals for generations. I had to have all my maps in place and correct before an application could be made. This took 18 months, and the map chase took me from Northallerton to Newcastle, back down to Leeds and eventually to our friends in Reading. Reading then told me that the mapping process had been contracted out to a private firm and I was not allowed to contact them but to wait patiently for the mapping process to take its course... after which we were then informed that the high-level stewardship scheme was short funded and a successful application would be at best a long shot.

My 2005 single farm payment came in December 2006! The full amount of the 2006 payment might arrive by June 2007. My HFA payment (I've not even explained this scheme to you) for 2005 which was meant to be paid in March 2006, has still not arrived. The entry-level scheme which was promoted widely at great expense is now run out of money and new applications will be filed pending further funding.

I've got to say that RPA staff have been very polite and as helpful as they can but when 2000 new recruits have been taken on, on a temporary basis with very little

knowledge of past or present schemes it is incredibly difficult for them to understand what's going on.

Oh yes there is the little matter of the farm having to be *cross-compliant* before I can even claim my single farm payment. This little wheeze was introduced by DEFRA to catch hard-working farmers out by sending lots of little booklets, with lots of little print to try and confuse them even further as to which way is up.

I am just still sane, and you have had only a short abbreviation of the last 18 months on the trials and tribulations of a hill farmer.

Martin Coates And now about Martin

In fact Martin looked quite relaxed but it was a lovely day with the sun streaming in from over the fells. He's the third generation of Coates at Redshaw, his grandfather having come from Chapel le Dale in 1946. There were then 19 farms in Widdale/Snaizeholme; there are now three! The only move Martin has ever had was "across the landing". He might have bought in Snaizeholme once, and Fran (his wife) "would have loved it"; she'd even have relished living at Cams House, the more remote the better!

It was an eye-opener to learn that so much of Martin's time is taken up in paper work and recording for officialdom, and the maintenance of walls (12 miles), fences, gates and drains, takes up more time than seeing to the livestock. They had a 5-year plan to completely tidy and renovate the whole area "Which has got a bit behind", Martin admitted. There are 60 gates, and only 6 would swing! His walls mainly on peaty ground can rise and fall six inches between frost and thaw, so there is constant maintenance.

And what of the future? Martin sees

upland farmers becoming part-time (he already does some business advising), but with the Stewardship scheme enabling them to keep some stock and maintaining the landscape value. He himself is involved with the National Park in management to improve the wild flower stock, planting to encourage wildlife and the recording of grass-types, birds, and an interesting historical review going back 250 years looking at everything from old buildings and sheepfolds to boundary markers. Although the supporting documents are inches thick he finds it fascinating and thoroughly supports the National Park in the maintenance of the area. "There has to be give and take", he says. When he and Fran have been to other areas, not within the National Parks or AONBs, he wonders why they went!

We did, of course, talk about 'the free market' v 'intervention'; the dominance of supermarkets; and the demise of auction marts at Sedbergh, Masham and Hellifield, releasing valuable land for 'development'. "Where next?" we wondered.

I tentatively asked Martin if he agreed that farmers had received support and subsidy over many years, that were not as forthcoming for the steel, coal or fishing industries. He agreed and could justify it; and we both agreed that as more and more pressure is put on open countryside, more livestock farming is concentrated on the lowlands further south, then the maintenance of upland lifestyle and landscape for the benefit and well-being of all becomes more important. He would prefer to be full-time but if the developing system keeps upland farming alive, then it's worth it.

And his new lambing shed this year has helped a lot!

A.S.W

Blossoms and Brass

Bellerby Open Gardens

Sunday 24 June 2007 11.00am – 4.00pm

Both garden and music-lovers will enjoy a relaxing day out in a dozen varied gardens and follow a Scarecrow Trail. Brass band lovers will be entertained the prize-winning Leyburn Band playing between 2.00pm and 4.00pm.

Admission is £3, children under 16 go free and there is free parking. Refreshments will be available throughout the day. An added attraction is a Festival of Flowers in St John's Church, which will run for the rest of the following week.

For further information contact

Kitty and John Weedon, 622596

Parish councils

Here is the full list of members of our local parish councils from this May.

Askrigg

Bruce Fawcett; James Hodgson
Allen Kirkbride, Greta Kirkbride
John James Percival

Aysgarth (Aysgarth, Bishopdale, Thoraby, Newbiggin and Thornton Rust)

Robert Clive Walker, Peter John Windle,
David William Wood, Lynda Bayne,
Alison Elizabeth Hume Sayer,
Jane Huntinton, Jake Jacobs
Brian Thomas McGregor,
John Dinsdale, Penny Noakes

Bainbridge

Brian Robert Brown, Yvonne Peacock,
Geoffrey Barrett Keeble,
Robert Derek Kettlewell,
Thomas Wilfred Tennant

Burton cum Walden

Jane Other Ritchie, Mark William Stanley,
Bill Woodbridge, Gail Christine Dent,
George Rowland Dent

Carperby cum Thoresby

John Ralph Amsden, Anne Moore,
David Stanley Brampton, Nick Oliver,
Malcolm Edward Pounder

Hawes and High Abbotside

Sheila Alderson, Deborah Ruth Allen,
John Blackie, Andrea Caygill,
Christine Mary Grainger, Sara Jane Mason
Kevin Michael Nugent, Tony Fawcett,
Walter Head, Stewart Hunter,
John Albert Sunter

Muker

Raymond Calvert, Bryan Porter,
Philip Thomas Metcalfe, Ernest Whitehead,
Trevor Linley Reynoldson

Preston under Scar

Sue Craven Anna Kathleen Hacket Pain,
Christopher Edward Harrison,
William Marmaduke Iveson, Eric Pounder

Redmire

Christopher Ford, Andrew Martin Jordan,
Emma Janet Robinson, John James Scott,
David William Shields

West Witton

David Frederick Bentley, Nick Burgham,
Jane Elizabeth Chapman, Lilian James

Dent

Jock Cairns, Ann Wilson, Graham Dalton,
Margaret Fothergill, David Hartley,
Peter Knapton, Ken McClurg, Jenny Pilgrim,
Geoffrey Woof

Garsdale

Barbara Donaldson, Neil Haworth,

Tommy Todd, Graham Scarr, Neville Woodfine
Ian Calvert, Ian Squires, Pauline Fozard.

What's On at the Dales Country-side Museum, Hawes

Exhibitions

May 20th – June 3rd

“Love is in the Air” - Bollywood comes to Yorkshire! Photographic exhibition celebrating Dales views and images of India, accompanied by South Asian love poetry and song lyrics from famous Bollywood films. There will also be examples of kites made by groups in Keighley and the Dales. A series of free events coincide with this exhibition – detailed below.

Events

Tuesday 29th Traditional Dry Stone Walling Demonstration. 2.00 – 4.00pm

Wednesday 30th Art in the Park – creative fun for children 2.00 – 4.00pm. Booking essential

Thursday 31st Bollywood event - Kite making, two sessions from 11.00am – 1.00pm and 2.00 – 4.00pm
Booking essential, children under 8 must be accompanied.

Friday 1st June Bollywood event - Storytelling with a south east Asian flavour - suitable for all the family 2.00 – 3.00pm.

Sunday 3rd Bollywood event – a family day of Kite flying, dance, music, food, activities, and much more from the Dales and Indian sub-continent. Free event. 12.00 – 4.00pm

Contact the museum 10.00am – 5.00pm every day: **666210** or hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk

Talent show

A talent show with raffle and refreshments will be held at Askrigg Primary School on **Wednesday June 27th at 6.00pm.**

Please support this show which has been arranged by pupils **Kate Chorley and Jack Stevenson** to raise money for musical instruments. Donations at the door.

Live Music

Fifth annual event

Askrigg Football Pitch

Saturday 21st July 2007 8.30pm till late

**Ray & The Teenbeats
and Sounds Familiar**

Tickets £10.00

Bar & Hog Roast available

Tickets available from:

Allen Kirkbride, 650325

Lesley Williams 650060 or 07968 606571

Colin Bailey 07711 211169

Friday 20th July

- Junior Party on the Pitch

Disco , £2 on night

8.00-10.00pm 11years and over

**Proceeds in aid of Yorebridge Sports
Development Association**

Sun and Wind - natural energy.

Please book as early as you can.

**Date and Time: Friday June 29th 2007,
9.30 am till 2.00 pm.**

Who is this event for?

Householders and individuals wanting to learn more about the practical application of solar and wind power. Trustees, Directors and Committees operating community buildings who are seeking to reduce energy use. Businesses and companies who are exploring ways of reducing present and future energy use. Regeneration and community development practitioners. Policy and planning professionals exploring the options, implications and compromises of renewable technology.

Who will be there?

Speakers and exhibition stands from leading companies, technical specialists and professionals in the fields of renewable energy, energy reduction and grants available include:

Sundog Energy Ltd
Energy Equity Ltd
Microgeneration Yorkshire
The Business Environmental Forum
Energy Efficiency Advice Centre
IPA Energy + Water Consulting
Yorwoods
Richmondshire District Council

Case studies in practical application of solar and wind technology. The exhibition includes examples of wind turbine and solar systems and 'hands on' assessment of energy use. This is the ideal event to gain first hand knowledge and experience from leading professionals.

Venue: Dales Countryside Museum

Delegate fee: £6.00. Delicious homemade summer buffet lunch and refreshments are included.

The Re-vive Partnership

email: info@re-vive.org.uk

www.re-vive.org.uk



The Society, the voluntary organisation with about 1600 members which keeps an eye on the Dales National Park and the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, held its AGM at the Falls Country Club at Aysgarth last weekend.

The Chairman, Dr Malcolm Petyt, gave a very full and competent report of the year, outlining the walks and talks programme, the 'Yorkshire Dales Review' and 'Dales Digest' publications, and the move of the offices from Otley into Settle Town Hall with ensuing refurbishment.

There has been much activity supporting two linked organisations: the Yorkshire Dales Green Lane Alliance and the Public Transport User Group plus new work in public transport provision with the Forest of Bowland Area.; and the usual commenting on priorities of the National Park and monitoring of planning applications as appropriate.

The Society paid special tribute to Fleur Speakman, having stepped down as joint secretary, a post held since its inception over 25 years ago. The staff now consists of Colin Speakman, Consultant secretary; Helen Noble, Chief Executive; Anne Webster, Administrator with a Council of Management drawn from the whole Dales area, and a host of other volunteers.

The formal part of the afternoon was followed by a spirited presentation by Anne Keily about the trials and tribulations of owning Yore Mill!: the almost-ready turbines to put power back into the National Grid, the huge financial demands of repairing the listed building and plans for future development as a heritage centre.

The afternoon concluded in a rather different manner from previous AGMs with musical entertainment from Anne Keily's husband.

Ken Willson Award

This year's winner of the £500 is Pippa Rayner, the Making Hay Project Officer of the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. In the end there were four nominations from the Dales area and judging was tight.

Thanks for the Bookpod

The Upper Wensleydale Community Office has contacted us to express the thanks of the Library staff for our Newsletter gift of the required special bookshelf there. It now boasts a suitable plaque.

Sorry about the marbles!

"I was only joking about marbles and the doctor last month", writes Michael. This is his last piece of a much-appreciated series but he invites any reader who would like his memories of a particular topic written about to let us know.

It has been good to have comments and interest conveyed to me from Old Dalesfolk, New Dalesfolk and the ones in between. I do hope I have spurred a few old timers with village memories to record the past – write them down or just talk to someone and let them use their paper and ink! But before I go let me tell you about Askrigg Railway station:

Askrigg was LNER but Hawes was LMS. The first passenger train was 6.45am and the last 8.45pm. The signal men worked two shifts – early and late.

The Station staff comprised: The Station Master (with gold braided hat), clerk, two porters and 4 platelayers (to maintain the track). The passenger train brought Leyburn boys and girls to school at Yorebridge (Sometimes when they misbehaved the head master could shout from his study to the station platform! And he was only 5' 4" - but he had been a Cambridge cox).

The train conveyed farmers and wives to market, saw families away on holiday and sadder occasions in the two wars. There were cheap excursion fares to Middlesbrough for football matches (3/6d; 17p). In the summer a 10/-; 50p. Runabout ticket gave unlimited travel for a week to Darlington, Ripon, Harrogate and Leeds.

I recall going on a Sunday School trip to Redcar, and seeing my mother and sister off on an excursion to Liverpool – this day was marred by the train being involved in a fatality near Hellifield.

There were special horse box trains from Leyburn taking Middleham horses to Scotland; the horse box would have two horses

with the stable boy on his own in a compartment alongside.

We had an excursion from Yorebridge in 1935 to London to see the Jubilee Decorations (King George V Silver). We travelled overnight and so most of us slept in the coach touring the Jubilee route.

I recall Sunday troop trains returning with an overseas regiment from Liverpool to Bellerby Camp. Unofficial exercises sometimes – couples going on honeymoon; the Station Master would put fog signals on the line which the locomotive detonated with a deafening roar!!.

Trucked cattle and loose horses always came by passenger train, the passengers had to wait while the animals were shunted off to the unloading bay. The station owned a small field where animals could be grazed awaiting collection.

The passenger trains carried parcel traffic – and more than parcels: new motor cycles, calves in a bag with head protruding and every day a very small jute bag – yeast for John Leyland – all this was conveyed with the guard; poor chap, his compartment always smelt of fish!

Alas sometimes the train would unload a coffin – a dalesman returning to his roots. There was one goods train each day which brought coal, timber, cattle-feed, cement etc. I recall it taking away: felled timber, scrap iron, roofing slates (from Hawes).

The Station Master sold coal. Coal was sold by the load – a load was as much as the horse could pull so if you lived on the level you could have a larger load (weighed) than if you lived up the hill! There was a weigh office and weigh bridge; if you arrived with your horse and cart there was a rope you pulled which rang a bell which alerted the station master, the horse and cart were weighed (the tare weight) – you then went to the coal cells and helped your self to coal – with a shovel

– a choice of coal: Glass Houghton, West Riding Nuts, Prince of Wales, and Whitwood (expensive and only burnt on special occasions). Returning to the weigh bridge the horse and cart were again weighed - the gross weight – deducting the tare from the gross gave the nett weight which is what you paid for. If you did not have a horse and cart Mannie Halton was the haulier (or James Peacock for Bainbridge – great, great grandfather of the present coal merchant) Mannie would get 5/-; 25p, for carting a load up to 2 miles.

And so I ramble on, time to go now.

Cheerio.

Michael Weatherald

Carperby Open Gardens

This is our 14th year and will be held on **Sunday 1st July from 11.00am to 5.00pm** We expect to have more than 15 gardens open and the usual superb refreshments will be available all day in the Village Hall Muker Silver Band will entertain from 3.00 to 4.00 pm on the green. All we need now is a sunny day **Pat Jackson 663740**

Gap girls

We had a wonderful evening listening to the GAP Girls in Carperby village hall-wonderful to be inspired by the inspiration of the young. - and about a couple dozen folks put their hands into their pockets and well over £100 was raised to help the work in Swaziland that the G-Girls went out there to help.

Robert Hall

Walking conference

The long-established activity of walking in the countryside is taking on an increasingly robust role in the rural economy. This will be acknowledged at a conference to be held in Hawes on **Saturday June 30th**, organised by the Settle-Carlisle Enterprise Network (SCeNe) and chaired by Dalesman's editor, Terry Fletcher.

Walkers buy outdoor clothing and equipment, maps and guidebooks; they prepare picnics and travel plans – and off they go. Organised walking holidays and walking festivals increase 'dwell time' in the countryside and thereby the walkers' contribution to the rural economy as people eat, shop and stay in the area.

Pubs and publishers; petrol stations; bus and train operators; cafes and tearooms; B&Bs, TICs, farmers, national parks and conservation organisations (and many more) all have a stake in this emerging rural industry.

Ramblers, hikers and strollers enjoy guided walks, themed walks, long-distance walks, farm trails and celebratory walks. Keynote speaker Colin Speakman will address the issues, including how businesses and walkers can co-exist for mutual benefit. Lively programmes and effective networking are the hallmarks of SCeNe's annual conferences and, of course, the day will take advantage of the buslink connection from Garsdale station.

For the programme and booking form, please send an SAE to SCeNe, The Community Office, Hawes, North Yorkshire DL8 3RA.

Hawes Mums and Tots

Any mum, dad or carer with a baby/toddler under two years is very welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings in the Methodist rooms.

We meet in term-time from 10.00 to 11.30am for an unstructured time with toys for the children, coffee for the mums—and plenty of chat.

Contacts: **Shirley Watkinson 667785**
Heather Caplin 667625

Second award for National Park officer

Louise Williams, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's Limestone Country Project Officer, has won a second award in two years: the Young Achievement Award in the inaugural Yorkshire Rural Awards organised by the Dalesman magazine. Louise has spent the last four years working with local farmers to re-introduce traditional, hardy breeds of cattle to the limestone uplands around Ingleborough, Malham and Wharfedale. She has been the driving force behind the project, helping to restore 2,000 hectares of internationally important habitats.

North Yorkshire Police

Just a very quick note this month as I know the Ed. has not got a lot of space.

Hawes Gala – there is a change in the way this is being policed (not my doing may I add); the result is that we shall not be stopping traffic at all for the parade, so I would ask that you all bear this in mind and treat the road with caution as traffic will be allowed to move all the time. The gala committee have put things in place to protect the parade whilst it is moving and forming up. That's it –Ta!

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



Mystery Picture: Brenda Bowe of Askrigg was the first to ring in to identify Nappa Hall last month.

William On William

You could be one of the first in the area to hear William Hague talk about his latest book. *William Wilberforce: the life of the great anti-slave campaigner* is the extraordinary story of a politician who shunned all honours, titles and ministerial positions yet became one of the most influential Britons in history. William Hague is generously giving this first talk locally on his latest book, for the benefit of the Swaledale Festival, at The Zetland Centre, Richmond, on Friday June 22nd at 7.30 pm Tickets cost £12 adults and £6 children and students, and are available from the Festival Box office **01748 880019, Richmond and Leyburn TICs.**

Yorebridge Sport and Fitness news

What a fantastic evening we had on Saturday 5th May – our 5th annual barbeque to raise funds for the Yorebridge Sports Development Association. The weather was almost summer-like and obviously added to the enjoyment of the crowd of people that turned up!

We would like to send a big thank you to the team at Kudu Bikes who spent the evening impressing us all with their stunts and riding skills and to everyone who helped in any way to make the event so enjoyable.

Thank you also to everyone who came to the event – your generosity helped us to raise £1156.00 towards the continuing provision of community sporting facilities throughout the Dale.

Anyone interested in finding out more about Yorebridge Sport and Fitness and the services and facilities we have on offer, should call **650060** and speak to **Richard or Lesley** or if you prefer to email, our address is admin@yorebridge-sport.co.uk.

With a smile...

On another occasion, a man making heavy breathing sounds from a phone box told a worried operator:

I haven't got a pen, so I'm steaming up the window to write the number on.

Gayle Mill - Slow Progress

Completion of the restoration work at Gayle Mill is taking far longer than any of us associated with the project might wish, and inevitably the rumour machine is in operation. It is time to set the record straight.

Gayle Mill and its related water-supply system is owned by **North of England Civic Trust** and the management, scheduling and funding of the restoration work is their sole responsibility. The work covers the mill building, the weir, the leat system and the turbines, but will not now include restoration of the mill pond, because of insufficient funds. At present, the contractors are completing scheduled work on the weir and leat system and doing snagging jobs at the mill.

Once the scheduled restoration work is complete and all the turbines and generators have been commissioned, the mill will be leased to **Gayle Mill Trust** to operate as a business. Gayle Mill Trust (GMT) is a formally incorporated not-for-profit company. It is composed of local people (some of whom have spent many years campaigning for the restoration of Gayle Mill and planning for its future) and experts from the timber-based industry. It was established with no visible means of support, other than through public donations and the personal generosity of its directors who all give their time voluntarily and waive their expenses. GMT has now secured funding to underpin the first year of operation at the Mill and to appoint a full-time salaried manager, but more will be needed before the business can be built up to become self-supporting.

Activities will be:

Production of timber-based goods,
provision of a mobile saw contract service
and production and sale of electricity.
Training and education related to wood

working and renewable energy.

Heritage services, including opening the mill to the general public.

Friends of Gayle Mill is a registered charity with about 300 members from across the UK and even some from abroad. Their purpose is to support the mill through activities such as fund-raising, preparation of promotional material and providing voluntary assistance to the running of the mill. The Friends have already loaned GMT £1000 to employ a fund-raising consultant, and have pledged funds for the purchase of ancillary equipment (such as chain saws and forestry hard-hats). Once the mill is open they will also act as tour guides.

GMT has been promised many completion dates, ranging from Easter 2005 and is as frustrated as anybody with the delays. However, when all is said and done, progress is far ahead of any of the other projects featured on the BBC Restoration Programme, even though the Gayle Mill project was not a prize winner.

Mike Thomson,

Secretary of Gayle Mill Trust and
Vice-Chairman of Friends of Gayle Mill

Hawes Market House news

There has been plenty of activity over recent weeks and lots more is planned, all of which is designed to provide the community with a better, brighter and more vibrant centre.

The Lottery grant has provided a new kitchen area which is receiving compliments from users; the CCTV has been fully installed to cover the premises internally and externally, providing increased security and safety for those hiring the Market House.

At the time of writing this, there is still a big blue 'site office' sitting in the car park but it should be gone soon as related building work is now just about completed at the site opposite the Market House.

We have benefited from having a low wall built for us at the rear of the car park, which will, when painted, improve the look of that area. An outdoor play area for the playgroup children is the final stage of the award. The lighting in the main hall is to be replaced by modern, low energy units very soon and further improvements will be made when funds are available.

There is a full summer diary of Sales, Craft fairs, table-tops etc as well as the ongoing regulars such as badminton, bowls, brownies and youth club. Watch out for news of a concert, a light-hearted evening of Shakespeare, and a Lottery Award Celebration Day (provisional date for this 18th August) which will include a free-of-charge children's entertainment.

Something to think about. As well as the good work of our caretaker, the Market House, as with all Charities is dependant on voluntary help to run it. With an eye to the AGM coming later in the year perhaps there are some folk out there who might consider joining the Market House team and giving a few hours a month. It is var-

ied and interesting work for active people who would like to give some of their time helping to run a worthwhile community resource.

If you would like to know more, have a chat with either me, **Sue, (667475)** or **Peter Jackson (667842)**. If you do decide to 'give it a try' you would be welcome to sit in on a few meetings first, to see what goes on before making your mind up.

Why not try something different today?

Sue Harpley
For the Hawes Market House
Trustees



Heavens above

The summer solstice falls on the June 21st- the longest day - and from now until late August the night-sky never really gets properly dark. There's still plenty of things on view for the keen stargazer, however - you'll just have to stop up that little bit later in order to see them.

Dominating the southern sky is the Summer Triangle, a distinctive asterism or star pattern christened as such by Sir Patrick Moore more than 40 years ago on the BBC's 'Sky At Night' programme. The name seems to have caught on and is still going strong - like 'The Sky At Night' itself. The programme recently celebrated its 50th anniversary with the redoubtable Sir Patrick *still* at the helm! The Summer Triangle is easy to pick out as its distinctive shape is formed by three of the brightest stars in the sky - Vega, Deneb and Altair. Brilliant blue-white Vega is unmistakable and marks its western corner (as you look at it) with Deneb, a good deal fainter, at the eastern one. Altair, in the constellation of Aquila the Eagle, lies at its sharply pointed southern tip. Although Deneb is by far the faintest of the three, in reality it's a powerful super giant with a luminosity more than 250,000 times the sun's.

For naked eye observers the Triangle's chief glory is the summer Milky Way streaming down past Altair towards the south-eastern horizon. Binoculars will give you an even better view but you'll need to be well away from artificial lights on a moonless night, to really appreciate its splendour. Keep an eye out too for the red-giant star Antares smouldering very low-down in the south during the summer months. Its name means 'The Rival of Mars' and it's the reddest of all the bright stars. Not too far away this summer is the giant planet Jupiter which reaches opposition on June 6th. Mars itself is poorly placed for

viewing at the moment but will put on a magnificent show later in the year. In the meantime there's still an opportunity for you to glimpse Venus (now in it's crescent phase) shining spectacularly in the western evening sky long after sunset.

Finally, we have two full moons this month - one on the 1st and the other on the 30th June. The second full moon in a month is often called a 'blue' moon but I'm not sure why as it's not such a rare occurrence as you might think. Have clear skies!

Al Bireo

Borrowing money

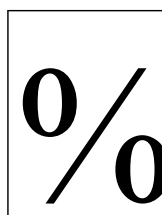
One of our occasional financial articles

During our lifetimes, most of us will borrow money, many of us several times and for a variety of reasons and purposes. Whilst a whole range of complex issues may arise during the course of obtaining and then repaying the borrowings, it might be useful just to run through the more salient points.

By far and away the largest amounts of borrowing most of us undertake are the mortgages to buy our homes. At the same time, these are also likely to be the cheapest loans, primarily because they are secured by way of a legal charge against our homes, assets which the lending institutions know we will do our utmost to protect our ownership of. Because of relatively low rates of interest charged and the long repayment terms normally involved, mortgages are also, generally speaking, the easiest to service. For example, £1,000 borrowed on a mortgage over, say, a typical 25 year term, will, in recent times, have cost appreciably less than £10 per month to repay, whereas the average personal unsecured loan (see below) will frequently cost the best part of £50 per month. Nevertheless, the range of mortgages nowadays available is vast and, frequently, it will be a good idea to use a qualified Mortgage Broker who will have access to sophisticated computer software to assist in identifying the most suitable source and type of borrowing in each particular case. However, it is wise to always give due care and attention to two particular fundamentals. Firstly, the LTV ratio (Loan to Value) expresses the amount of the loan as a percentage of the value of the property being purchased. Whilst some institutions have on occasion been prepared to lend 100% of the value, a more sensible approach would be to aim for a ratio in the region of 80% and certainly no more than 90%. Secondly, the

factor by which the amount borrowed represents a multiple of the borrower's income has also tended to be stretched in recent times, with reported cases of some institutions lending up to six times annual income. Again, a more responsible and prudent approach would probably limit this multiple at around four times income.

Personal or specific purpose loans are



frequently taken to fund the purchase of cars, domestic and leisure equipment etc. These are generally unsecured short-term (under five years) borrowings and these will usually be obtained from one of the clearing banks or possibly the lending institution who have also provided the home mortgage. In the case of these loans, it is clearly important to shop around for the lowest possible interest rate available and certainly to avoid, if possible, the double digit percentage rates which most institutions are only too happy to offer. It is also important to recognize that, unlike with the home mortgage, the underlying purpose, e.g. the asset being purchased, is unlikely to have any major residual value and it is probably therefore sensible to take on as short a term commitment as possible. Also, try and avoid any extra costs, such as arrangement fees, and think very carefully about the merits of any payment protection insurance policies offered alongside the loan. This latter point also applies to mortgages and such policies have frequently **(continued over the page)** been the focus of some quite critical appraisal in the financial press.

An overdraft on a bank current account is normally a short-term flexible way of borrowing relatively small amounts and can be very useful for a variety of purposes. Nevertheless, again, it is important to consider carefully the rate of interest

being offered, in order to avoid the somewhat penal and unfair rates sometimes demanded. It may be difficult in the case of a personal overdraft to obtain a rate under 10% but certainly it would be sensible to consider carefully whether there was a need to pay more than 1% per month. Again, it is important to be aware of any arrangement fees being imposed by the lenders.

Lastly, but certainly nowadays not least, the borrowing most of us incur on our credit cards. To bring this article quickly and quite properly to a conclusion, **PAY THEM OFF IN FULL EVERY MONTH!**

Bob Tunstall

Snaizeholme spring

I have a small group of Larch Trees, I hesitate to call them Bonsais because of my ignorance about Bonsais. They are growing in a stone sink which came out of Tow Hill about 35 years ago, and the trees themselves came from the forestry block behind Mirk Pot when it was felled in about 1993. They had seeded themselves naturally, and are now about 2' 6" high. Each year they grow very small Larch Cones.

There is a small bowl of water beside them for the birds, and it is impossible for me to express my delight when I see, as I often do, small birds perching in their branches (perhaps twigs is more accurate). The other day I watched a Green Finch and a Gold Finch perching there at the same time. It made that day a special one.

Now, this Spring, this dry, hot Spring, (At present it is raining greatly needed cats and dogs!). Once again nearly all the flowering trees and shrubs have produced a beautiful show of blossom, and once again the bird population has hugely increased. The Dawn Chorus has been, and still is, magnificent. The numbers, particularly of Green Finches, has grown enormously and it isn't until this year that I have come to appreciate the great beauty of their song. I had always associ-

ated them with their rather harsh call. Now I find myself confusing them with the delicate song of the Gold Finch.

One, perhaps not quite so welcome, addition to our nesting list is the Jackdaws. They have found a good nesting site, and a few pairs have settled noisily in. I believe that not long ago I was congratulating myself on my bird feeders (no table - no big birds, I thought). I hadn't considered Jackdaws. One of my long tube feeders has perches at the bottom. These were about 1.5" long. Very

quickly I began to see one Jackdaw perched on each side emptying the feeder in minutes. I cut the perches to 1" long. The Jackdaws weren't bothered. So then I cut them to half an

inch. Now, one Jackdaw at a time, one foot on the perch and one holding on to the mesh of the feeder, manages with a lot of wing flapping, to continue feeding. You have to admire these persistent clever birds.

The last year's Roe Fawn that lost its mother, and spent the winter looking very poor and skinny, has survived and has recently been seen looking very healthy, and the pair of fawns, one of which was very tiny, and kept getting left behind last year, are now both looking strong and healthy as well.

Back to bird news; last year a pair of Ring Doves dropped in on us for a day or two and then left. This year a pair were with us, came and fed when called, were seen with nesting materials in their beaks, and then one only came to be fed, but we could still hear them cooing happily to each other, but now they are gone! I'm afraid some predator must have attacked their nest.

The number of Willow Warblers is down this year, and I haven't yet seen or heard any Blackcaps. The Bullfinches didn't stay ei-



ther but several male Siskins and Goldfinches are regularly at the feeders which must mean that their mates are sitting nearby. I saw our first young Blue tits yesterday.

Jane Kemp

Sadly sagging

Yes, that is the case with the roof of Thornton Rust Institute and as a result the walls are being pushed outwards. To stabilise the structure and to prevent further damage some considerable building work is required and although the exact form of this is still being debated, the cost will not be less than £10,000 and could be £20,000.

The Newsletter has been able to donate £1000. We are sure the treasurer of the Institute, **Allan Cook, 663626** would be pleased to hear from you.

N.R.D.L.V.A. Charity Bike Ride

On **Wednesday 13th June** The L.V.A. are again holding their charity bike ride from Hawes to Leyburn with approximately 220 riders.

The ride is due to start outside the Crown Inn, Hawes **at 10.30am** and heads off down Dale, stopping off at the various hostelrys on the way, and finishing at the Golden Lion, Leyburn at around 3.30pm.

May the N.R.D.L.V.A. apologise in advance for any delay and inconvenience that this may cause on the day. This is their 21st year of the bike ride and so far to date they have raised £165,714. Last year alone the L.V.A. and its riders raised a staggering £17,000. All money collected is shared to local causes in Wensleydale and Swaledale. Please help us to help others by sponsoring your Licensees and friends.

Angus, Bike Ride co-ordinator

Free Drama and Music Workshops

HAOS are delighted to have been awarded an 'Awards for All' grant from the Big Lottery to run three workshops open to all members of the community (minimum age 11yrs). Final details are nearing completion; Nobby Dimon (North Country Theatre) and Joan Foster (Mosaic Music) will lead the sessions between 10.00am and 4.00pm. Places are limited so please book early. Participants need to bring a packed lunch. For final details and booking please contact:

**Colin Bailey 07711211169 or
colinbailey@craven-college.ac.uk**

Sunday 8th July – Drama Workshop;
Leyburn, with Nobby Dimon

Sunday 15th July – Drama Workshop;
Hawes, with Nobby Dimon

Sunday 29th July – Music Workshop –
Joseph and his Technicolor Dream Coat;
Carperby, with Joan Foster



June gardening

Herbal Remedy

It's always a delight to find a privately owned garden centre, an out of the way jewel where can be found oddities and rarities seldom stocked by the big 'chains'.

One such outlet we found last week, whilst holidaying in Northumberland. Only small but full to the brim with every plant you could possibly want; as I entered, the words 'child' and 'sweet shop' sprang to mind. One hour later and 20 quid lighter I came out laden with a variety of herbs and a new project looming. Such a great feeling! The idea was already taking shape in my mind, the important thing was to get it down on paper. I'll describe my plan.

Massive herbs for the back of the border are thin on the ground but lovage and angelica will do the job. Both grow 6ft high and attract insects. Early deadheading of the angelica will stop it seeding and ensure survival for the following year but it is only short lived so have replacements ready by sowing seed direct, in autumn or spring. A couple of clumps of tansy wouldn't go amiss either. The fern leaved variety grows up to 3 feet and has very strongly scented foliage and bright yellow flowers. I'm going to surround these with purple sage; I love the soft, scented leaves and rich flowers which act as one of the best bee magnets. Mixed with these will be clumps of Hidcote lavender, a free-flowering favourite of mine and as hardy as they come. Just remember to prune new growth each year, after the flowers have faded otherwise plants soon become leggy and end up a right eyesore.

Nearer the front I want golden marjoram; last year I counted nine tortoiseshell butterflies on a clump of it in Bainbridge so that's good enough for me. I'm steering well clear of mint which, I've found, will grow through six inches of concrete and

swamp any unsuspecting border. If you're desperate for mint, plant it in a bucket but don't add drainage holes as this plant won't play by the rules and will escape through them; one of life's opportunists.

At the front some 'Powis Castle' Artemisia should look fab. It won't flower but the silver foliage will contrast nicely with ground hugging mats of plain and golden thyme.

A very basic herb garden maybe, but an easy one to manage and just imagine weeding round that lot in summer – quite a perfume.

Ed Gardener

Advance notices

(Full details next month)

Friday July 13th

Hydro Vision Event at the Dales Countryside Museum, for all with an interest in hydro electricity and restoration of old mills. £6.00 fee.

Bookings: 650980

Thursday July 19th

Summer trip to Gretna Retail Park from Askrigg, Bainbridge, Hawes. £8.00 deposit

Bookings: 667512

Saturday July 28th

St Margaret's Hawes Summer Fayre

Spotlight on Ingleborough

Following the success of the Spotlight 2006 celebration of Ingleborough and its National Nature Reserve, there is to be another week of events, **June 25th – July 1st**, pulled together by Natural England, Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust's Learning in Limestone Country team and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

The weekday and evening activities will include themed led walks and talks, including bat watch, landscape photography, butterfly research, archaeology, fascinating geology and fabulous flowers, all led by experts in their field.

The **Family Fun Day this year will be SUNDAY JULY 1ST**. Through the theme 'Footprints on the Hill' the day will celebrate the qualities of this ancient place, following our footprints through time in this well-trodden but noble landscape. There will be models to make, footprints to cast, treasure trails to follow **so put on your boots and come and join us!**

For the full and exciting list of what's on , look at www.naturalengland.org or www.ydmt.org

Doctors' rotas as supplied by the surgery .

AYSGARTH SURGERY ROTA										Wb - week beginning	
Wb	28May		4June		11June		18June		25June		
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	
Mon	C	C	FW	F	W	W	JA	F	FA	A	
Tues	WJ	WJ	A	A	FA	A	WF	WF	WJ	WJ	
Wed	A	A	W	W	W	W	JA	J	A	A	
Thur	W	W	A	A	A	A	WF	F	WJ	W	
Fri	A	A	F	F	W	W	J	J	A	A	
Sat	Emergency service only										
Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West , C - Closed											
Morning Surgery: 9.00 - 10.30 a.m. (no appointments)											
Afternoon Surgery: 4.00 - 5.30 p.m. (appointment only)											
For appointments and all enquiries ring 663222											

HAWES SURGERY ROTA										Wb - week beginning	
Wb	28May		4June		11June		18June		25June		
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	
Mon	C	C	A	A	FA	FA	WF	W	WJ	WJ	
Tues	A	A	WF	WF	W	W	JA	JA	FA	A	
Wed	J	J	F	F	F	F	W	W	J	J	
Thur	J	J	W	W	F	F	A	A	F	F	
Fri	W	W	A	A	A	A	WF	WF	WJ	WJ	
Sat	Emergency service only										
Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed											
Morning S'y: 8.45-10.15 Tues till 10.45 (no appointments)											
Afternoon S'y: 5.00-6.00 Tues 1.00-4.00 (appointments only)											
For appointments and all enquiries ring 667200											

Upper Dales Family History Group

This month's meeting will be held on **June 27th at 7.30pm** in the Dales Countryside Museum. The guest speaker is John Titford of Family Tree Magazine on 'Barking up the Wrong Tree'.

John is a professional genealogist, bibliophile, author, lecturer and TV presenter, whose CV ranges from appearances on Richard and Judy to guest speaker at 'The National History Show' at Olympia. His interests and breadth of knowledge span a fascination with old documents, an interest in the records of settlers throughout the British Empire and publications on dialect and the meaning of surnames, all leavened with a 'sparkling sense of humour'.

Non-members are, as always, very welcome - admission £1. For further details please contact **Tony Keates 640436** email dotandtonyk@btinternet.com or see the website at www.bishopdale.demon.co.uk

**Play it again:
born again musicians**

Mature rhythm guitarist, bass and drummer require fellow musicians to form a band for pleasure/jamming with a view to occasional local performances.

If you enjoy a variety of good music: pop, rock, country or folk, contact **John on 663952 or Andrew on 663301.**

Venue for jamming / practice available in Upper dale / Aysgarth area. Go on, have a go- you might enjoy it and we can't do it without you!

John Raine



Letter

From abroad ...

As a regular and faithful visitor of the Yorkshire Dales, I'd like to make a (modest) contribution to your pleasant newsletter.

I first visited your area in 1998 and since I've been there so often that I can't say how many times.

I'm used now to stick to a very comfortable Edwardian B&B in Askrigg. Do you see where I mean?

I like your wonderful and exceptional area which gives me a feeling of "never changing".

Oddly enough, I never see anyone from my country when I'm visiting and hiking in the Dales. Our people prefer to spend their holidays in France, Spain or Turkey; and frankly speaking: who knows in Belgium about James Herriot, The Wensleydale, Hawes ... Driving left upsets many, as quite a lot ignore that pub food is excellent. It is also true that England is much more expensive than Belgium.

By the way: a pub is something quite different here; it's a place where you only have a drink; if you want to eat, you've to go to a "brasserie" or restaurant.

See you as soon as possible; I miss the Dales !

**Pierre-E Defossez
6690 Vielsalm
Belgium**

Hawes Creamery blaze

It happened at about 4.30 am last Sunday morning; it is thought a faulty thermostat in a machine triggered the fire which caused extensive smoke damage to some of the buildings and to three wax-dipping machines.

Over 30 fire fighters tackled the fire which was controlled after five hours.

The better news is that there was minimal stock loss, and with the moving of some plant to other buildings and to Kirkby Malzeard, production should continue well. There will however, be a big clean-up operation.

... but on a lighter note, on hearing the news, we'd a brief email: "Welsh rarebit in Hawes today?" and a letter to a national newspaper read " ...more smoked Wensleydale, Gromit?"

Hawes Gala– the early years

On June 23rd the 40th Hawes Gala will be recognised with a 'ruby' celebration. But how did Hawes Gala come into being? Whose idea was it and what did the first few Gala's look like?

Well, back in 1967 there was an annual Hawes Sports Day but it was an event for the adult male population and the book-makers, consisting of Trotting races, motorcycle races and a Fell Race up Stags Fell. Some of the 'Dads' felt that it would also be a good idea to have an annual event for the kids and following several informal discussions outside the school gates a meeting was arranged for all interested parties and the first Gala Committee was formed.

Some of the early Committee members were Chris Heseltine, Derek Ramsden, Roger Stott, Allen Dinsdale, Derek Ellis, Keith Calvert, Dennis Fawcett, Harry Airey and Harry Hanson. Margaret Ward who was the Secretary for seven years was the only female member in the early years. Perhaps the man most deserving of the title of 'Mr Gala' was the late Frank Iveson. Frank was the Gala Chairman for the first twelve years and dedicated a great deal of his time and effort in ensuring the Gala's success. The Committee meetings were held in the members' own houses and the visits to Harry Airey's house were fondly remembered as Jean Airey used to provide the meeting with a generous quantity of her wonderful scotch pancakes and bannocks.

It was agreed that the two major elements of the Gala Day would be Children's races and a Fancy Dress Competition. They required prizes and prizes required cash so the first task for the Committee was to organise door-to-door collections around the whole of the Upper Dales advising folks of the plans and seeking donations. Derek

Ramsden remembers that this massive undertaking raised £156 - a not inconsiderable sum for 1967.

Prize funding secured, the Committee now turned its attention to the sideshows and Gala promotion. In order to reserve the 'cash' for prizes it was decided that everything needed would be made by the local volunteers rather than 'bought in'. Side-stalls and signs were designed, constructed and painted and even the bunting was home-made. Cheese-cloths were obtained from the dairy, cut into shapes and dyed in several vats and hung out to dry on Derek Ramsden's washing line, resembling as some neighbours commented 'a year's supply of knickers'.

In subsequent years the group built a huge children's slide and the wonderful swingboats still used up to the present day. It was decided to organise some events for the Main Street and someone came up with the idea of a Roman Chariot race with a difference - the chariots would be pulled, not by horses, but by goats. The chariots were designed and built so as to hide the Charioteers' legs (which were actually the main source of propulsion) with shafts and harnesses for the goats. These proved a great success on the day with the goats being encouraged to proceed in the correct direction by someone walking in front with a supply of carrots - which worked for some goats but not for others!

The early Galas were held on the field across the road from the School and preparation usually began about four days earlier with an army of volunteers removing cow-pats from the field. Thomas Raw brought his new 'sit-on' mower along to cut the grass and then the work could begin to erect the stalls and bunting. The Committee had help from many other locals in these early days as the Gala turned into a true community event.

Hawes Silver Band were ever-present from year one and led the Fancy Dress Parade through the town. The Gala Queen rode in Kit Calvert's Irish Jaunting Cart pulled by his black and white horse Dolly, with Kit dressed in his top hat and waist-coat.

The first occurrence of a 'guest band' resulted from a phone-call that Chris Heselstine received from an Officer at Catterick Garrison. He said he needed to organise an event to give his men a 'day-out' from the barracks and could they come and play at the Gala – free of charge! On the Gala Day a full Scottish Regimental Band turned up and marched down the High Street – the like of which had never been seen in Hawes before and the memory still brings lumps to the throats of those who saw it. The band were treated to tea in the Market Hall, courtesy of Mrs Worth and the W.I. but required no funding or expenses.



Mr Sootheran, the Midland Bank Manager, became the Gala Treasurer and used to sit all afternoon in his little wooden pay kiosk on the field. Prize-winners were given tickets and then had to go up to the kiosk to collect their prize-money from Mr Sootheran. All children were given a picnic box and a glass of 'pop'.

Committee member Keith Calvert was the original 'mike man' and in subsequent years this task was taken on by Derek Nevill, the school headmaster, who had the advantage of knowing the name of every local child on the field.

Some of the early Gala activities included Donkey Rides for the kids, bed-pushing up a steep hill, egg-throwing, shovelling 1 cwt of coal through a hole and a competition to see who could peel an apple with the long-

est unbroken strip of peel. Originally there was a 'bonny-baby' competition but it was dropped after some 'non-winners' took umbrage at the judges decisions.

One of the early events was a piano smashing competition in which up to six teams had to break up a piano into pieces small enough to pass through a small hoop. Surprisingly there seemed to be no problem acquiring six pianos a year to be smashed up!. Another popular event was a challenge to the young men of the town to 'bag' a piglet that had been covered in lard. It would not be approved of today but was a source of great entertainment at the time.

The early Galas always ended with a 'Gala Ball' held in the Market Hall at which the following year's Gala Queen would be selected.

The townsfolk of Hawes owe a great deal of thanks to those involved in conceiving and organising the early Galas and creating an event that has helped to bring visitors to the town and provided enjoyment to local children for the last forty years. See you on the Gala Field on the 23rd June.

B.C.

Castle Bolton plant sale

It didn't rain this year for the plant sale on 7th May and we raised over £180 to be divided between our Mission partners: Mission Aviation Fellowship and Scripture Union.

Mid-summer trip

There will be a trip from Hawes to Keswick, with high tea at Pooley Bridge on **Thursday, June 21st**. The fare for the coach will be £8.00 or £9.00 (depending on numbers) and the tea £7.50. Please book with **Shirley Watkinson**, Old Station House. **667785** with £8.00 deposit by **June 14th**.

Swaledale Festival 2007

Guided Walk 2 - Wensley

29 May, 10:00 am

This 10 mile circuit along the River Ure returns to Wensley before the late afternoon concert.

Oliver Coates, cello

Holy Trinity Church, Wensley, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

29 May, 5:00 pm

A remarkable musician plays Bach, Crumb, Bloch, Firsova and Saint-Saëns

Mary, Queen of Scots

St Andrew's Church, Aysgarth, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

29 May, 8:00 pm

Julia Doyle, soprano, and James Weeks, harpsichord

Muker Silver Band

Muker Public Hall, Muker, near Richmond, North Yorkshire

30 May, 8:00 pm

Guided Walk 4 - Family Walk

1 June, 1:30 pm

An easy 3-mile walk around the waterfalls of the pretty wooded valley of Mill Gill.

Gamelan Sekar Petak

Bainbridge Meeting House, Bainbridge, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

1 June, 5:00 pm

A perfect introduction to the evocative soundworld of the gamelan. Ideal for families.

King's Camerata

St. Oswald's Church, Askrigg, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

1 June, 8:00 pm

Grieg and Elgar.

Darlington Youth Orchestra

St. Oswald's Church, Askrigg, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

3 June, 5:00 pm

Young musicians with outstanding talent.

Guided Walk 6 - Keld

7 June, 11:00 am

An easy 6 miles finishing at Keld in plenty

of time for the late afternoon concert.

Harriet Mackenzie, violin

Keld Chapel, near Richmond, North Yorkshire

7 June, 5:00 pm

Harriet Mackenzie is an outstanding young violinist

Leyburn Band

St Andrew's Church, Aysgarth, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

9 June, 2:00 pm

For full details pick up a programme, ring

01748 880019 or visit the website

www.swaledale-festival.org.uk

Events on the Wensleydale Railway.

Trains run every day over the Spring Bank Holiday week-end and then Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays until July 8 when daily services resume for the summer holidays.

Regular services are ‘turn up and go’ including WR Guided Walk from Leyburn station at 11.20 on June 29 but booking is required for special events such as the evening train journey and Hog Roast at Leyburn (May 30), Day Out With Thomas (June 9/10) and the Anniversary Inspection Special (July 4). Local events that can be reached using WR scheduled services include Finghall Barrel Push (Bank Holiday Monday, May 28) and Cream Teas at Redmire village hall (May 28 and June 24) – no need to book for these but check details by phoning **Leyburn TIC; 623069**. **To book for special events**, phone WR on **08454 50 54 74 EXCEPT** for Swaledale Festival Walk from the train on May 31 (tel 01748 880 018) and Midsummer Night’s Excursion on June 22 (tel Dalescare on 01677 425806). There will be a special late afternoon train from Bedale and Leeming Bar to Castle Hills, Northallerton on Father’s Day (Sunday June 17). See www.wensleydalerailway.com or phone as above.

Life’s like that...

Customer: I’ve been ringing 0800 2100 for two days and can’t get through; can you help?

Operator: Where did you get that number from?

Customer: It was on the door of the Travel Centre.

Operator: Sir, they are the opening hours.

HAWES SCHOOL NEWS

Tesco Computer Vouchers for Schools

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 tokens for a laptop. If you have any tokens please give them to anyone connected with the school. Thank you for your help.

Drugs: Be prepared!

Help the children and young people in our Community

Meeting for Parents and Members of the Public
Hawes School
12th July 6.30.

Dummy drugs will be on view so that adults can be informed and know what to look for! The session will be led by David Uffendal, North Yorkshire's Drug Awareness Consultant and will be supported by PC Cousins. Look at the drugs and ask as many questions about them as you like.

Flower display and demonstration

At THORNTON RUST INSTITUTE

Saturday June 16th

Doors open 2.00pm

AFTERNOON TEA INCLUDED

IN PRICE OF £6.00.

TEL. **663504** FOR TICKET

Raffle of flower arrangements.

BDMC



Eight cars set off from the Station Yard Hawes for the 12 Villages Rally. It was pretty miserable and rained for most of the evening. However this did not deter the contestants, all arrived back safely to The Crown Askrigg and seemed to have enjoyed their evening out.

The aim was to choose 12 villages plus 4 grid references points to visit. There was a list of clues to answer a question at each village and an item to collect from each grid reference point. This had to be done in the shortest possible mileage. The village names had to be worked out at first as they were all listed as anagrams and would you believe some contestants tried to bribe the organisers with sweets for help to solve some of these! The list included Gunnerside, Downholme, Starbotton, Hubberholme, Spennithorne and Thwaite.

There was also a list of 15 Car Models which had to have the correct Car Make added to them and 5 questions from the Highway Code to answer – driving at 70mph uses up to 30% more fuel than driving at 50mph was the answer to 1 of the questions. All found these questions quite challenging.

A dandelion flower head and stalk was to be brought back and the longest stem to be used as a tie-breaker and (I am sure not many people know this) but there is new species of dandelion now found in the dales with the name of 'Tulip'! This also had a long stalk but not to beat the winning 67cm brought in by Fred Scarr and Andrew Foster who were also last month's rally winners - Well Done. 2nd last month were Neil Pearson & Matt Foster.

The next rally is on Wednesday 20th June which will be organised by Tim and Karen Prudden, telephone **650355** for details. All Welcome.

Netta Davison

My favourite place...

When you think of the Dales, do you think of places like Aysgarth Falls and The Creamery at Hawes or even the various walks and attractions? Or do you, like me think of the village of Bainbridge? A village often forgotten as 'the place between Aysgarth and Hawes'. Perhaps I'm biased as my first few years were spent in Bainbridge but I think it's a great place and the perfect image of idyllic country life.

Bainbridge has it all; a village green complete with stocks ready for any villains who should pass through, a butcher, a shop, a tea room and even a post office; a rarity nowadays in the Dales. The people of Bainbridge are always helpful and there's a real community spirit among the various inhabitants.

Not only does Bainbridge have a school, a retirement home, a chapel and a pub, it has the shortest river in England, The Bain and a Roman Fortress up on Brough Hill. Surely a place steeped in such history should be a figurehead for the Dales but it still remains less popular than Hawes or Leyburn.

With a population of about 438, Bainbridge is one of the bigger villages around here and it has many, many things to offer, I've always loved sitting on the green taking in the scenery or enjoying the annual barbeque. Since I was little it has always been a pleasure to be in the Dales and being in Bainbridge surrounded by trees and beautiful scenery is the perfect way to while away the long summer hours.

Now for something completely different; I'm sure you're all awaiting the follow up to last month's article. Well now for the results... I would like to congratulate Sarah Metcalfe on her appointment as Head Girl of The Wensleydale School and well done to Colette Cowley on her appointment as

deputy. And as for the boys, it was a close race, but the new Deputy Head Boy is Geoff Southgate – Well Done Geoff. Commiserations to all who were unsuccessful and I wish the new team the best of luck in leading the school.

Belinda Bond, Bursary student

Travistrek



This is blind Scott Cunningham with his guide dog, Travis, and last week they passed through Hawes walking the Pennine Way for 'Guide Dogs for the Blind'.

Since becoming blind in 1993, Scott from Larkhall in Scotland has been doing long walks for this charity, led by Travis, and has already raised over £40,000 and hopes after the Pennine Way to make it £50,000.

For more details: www.travistrek.co.uk

Community Office

June Sessions: Card Making, SKYPE, Digital Cameras, E-Bay

We need more people in order for the classes to run, so please sign up! Let us know what classes you would like to see here. Call **667400**.

Dales Harvest update

Things are picking up pace, and we have lots to look forward to. Advertising material should be ready by the end of May, so look for the bright shiny Dales Harvest logo in a tea shop near you!

Thanks to Di Blades for kindly donating money and a trophy to sponsor a dry stone walling competition. We are getting great feedback from exhibitors who wish to come, and we are also going around town inviting businesses/organisations to take part. If we haven't approached you yet, please don't worry - we will!

If anyone has any input or assistance that they can give it would be most appreciated. We are looking for sponsors, advertisers, exhibition space and more exhibitors, and also volunteers to help out. We need everything from sign painters to bus conductors!

Contact me at the Community Office
Wed - Fri 9.30am to 4.30pm, on **667400**,
or e-mail: uwcp@hotmail.co.uk.

Mick Rhodes

Communication...

... there was the caller who asked for a knitwear factory in Woven.

Operator: Woven? Are you sure?

Caller: Yes, that's what it says on the label: Woven in Scotland.

Park's Ranger report

Since my last report National Park staff and Dales Volunteers have completed this year's coppicing in the north western part of Freeholders Wood, adjacent to the Middle Falls at Aysgarth.

The aim of the coppicing is to create a variety of woodland habitats – clearings, thick bushy growth and more mature trees. These diverse conditions attract a wide range of plant and animal species. The open glades provide ideal conditions for woodland flowers, while the thick coppice is favoured by nesting birds. A coppiced woodland is therefore a rich habitat for wild plants and animals, much richer than a uniform stand of mature trees. Once cut, the coppiced timber is stored and then collected by the Freeholders of Carperby.

Anyone walking through the wood will have noticed the wire mesh 'gen guards' that are used to protect the new coppice growth from deer and rabbits. The guards will remain in place till the new shoots have established themselves. The guards will then be removed for reuse on future coppicing. This is an ideal time to visit the wood and the waterfalls, with the spring flowers in abundance and the wood floor carpeted with bluebells.

We have also undertaken some coppicing work within Riddings Field to encourage plant growth on the knolls adjacent to the main falls path. Other works at Aysgarth have included repairs to the car park surface and, hopefully by the time you read this, the white lines and car parking bays will have been repainted. On the subject of car parks, there is now an annual charge of £30 for the residents' car parking passes which are available from National Park Centres. We are regularly monitoring car parks to check for tickets and up-to-date passes.

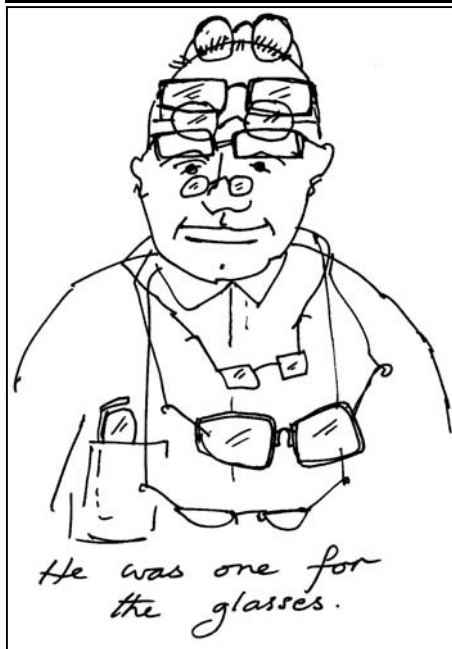
One of the footpaths through Forelands Plantation near West Burton is still closed owing to windblown trees and forestry works and will remain so for the near future. Alternative routes are marked from each end of the closure. Further footpaths in the plantation may be closed whilst the felling work is taking place. Notices and alternative routes will be placed at each end of the footpaths affected and information will be available from the Aysgarth Falls National Park Centre.

Also we are receiving notification of 28 day discretionary closures on open access land on the significant areas of moorland within the National Park which will take effect from mid-May onwards. For more information on the areas and times of the closures contact your Area Ranger or nearest National Park Centre. The closures do not affect public rights of way across open access land.

I would like to remind you that if you encounter any problems whilst using public rights of way or open access land you can contact either **Paul Sheehan** on **666157** or me on **662912**.

Nigel Metcalfe

A LETTER TOO MANY



Hawes cricket

In the last issue I mentioned that the tree planted in memory at the Cricket field had been destroyed by people not sympathetic to our cause! However a correction must be made for there is a

feeling that the tree may have been destroyed when sheep were on the field. However, such is the power of this local magazine (*keep it up, we like this kind of kindness! Ed.*) that Andrew Craske from Bainbridge was soon on the phone and has very generously offered to replace the tree and this will be done at the first home game of the coming season.

The season commenced with a couple of away games the first being at Thorpe Perrow on the 20th May and the first home game is Sunday **17th June** against Leyburn. Sunday fixtures are becoming increasingly hard to come by but all told **n i n e g a m e s a r e** arranged. Steve Raw and his wife Louise have become the backbone of the club and Steve, along with others it must be said, have tended to the pavilion and ground whilst Louise has organised cake stalls in the Hawes market hall to raise funds for the club. The Juniors training evenings will commence on **Thursday 7th June** at 7.00p.m. Any interested young people and parents to help should turn up that night. **Raye Wilkinson (Secretary)**

Advertising

Boxed adverts: £5, £10, £15

There is a one-third reduction for three issues or more, so for twelve issues the totals are

£40, £80 or £120

Greetings etc. £2.00

What's ons (non-commercial) are free

Contacts:

For Hawes area and westward: **Lorna Ward,**

Whilst we try to make sure that all information is correct we cannot be held legally responsible for omissions in articles, listings and advertisements or for any inconvenience caused thereby. Views expressed are not necessarily the views of the committee. Articles by committee members just use initials for the by-line. Please ask before reproducing any part of the newsletter.

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