

# **THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER**

**ISSUE NO. 177  
FEBRUARY 2012**

**Donation please**



**‘Gayle in Winter’ Richard Ross**



**Jonathon Woolley**



**Jack Sutton**

### Published by

The Upper Wensleydale Newsletter  
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**DEADLINE FOR THE  
MARCH ISSUE:  
Thursday February 23rd**

## Upper Wensleydale Newsletter

### Issue 177—February 2012

## Features

Editorial 4

---

Rainfall Figures 15

---

School News 16

---

Monies Raised 19

---

Mountain Rescue Team 23

---

Hopper's Sale 25

---

Hugh Kemp 26

---

What's On 21

---

Plus all the regulars

---

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<b>Thoralby:</b>	Sandra Foley, Shop	663205

## Editorial

There are two parts to this, one resulting from an 'Appreciation' email received, and one from a recent conversation with two of our esteemed readers the other day.

Part 1. A note of appreciation.

"We are sometimes apt to forget in the rush and bustle of Christmas preparations, all those people in our shops who work so hard to keep us supplied with everything we need. Rushing in and out as we do, grabbing our daily 'essentials', what would we do without them? A big thank you to them and we hope they eventually managed to enjoy their Christmas too!

While we're handing out the bouquets, one should definitely go to the Upper Dales Christmas Lights Committee for their hard work in putting on a really great display this year, it really is very impressive for a town the size of Hawes. Thank you to them, and also to HAOS for providing us again with a 'home grown' show this year.

Much has been made of the 'Big Society' recently; no-one has really any idea what is meant by it but one definition of it could be what we've seen in Wensleydale during the Christmas Season in terms of team effort, fund-raising, looking out for people, hard-work and fun! Happy New Year!"

Maybe we need to take this further. Without wishing to add to all the doom and gloom which is spread abroad just now, it seems fairly clear that the months ahead aren't going to be too easy. Many of our businesses rely heavily on the tourists who are not much in evidence just now, and won't be for a while. Some years ago when a local village shop was threatened with closure, it was pointed out that if locals would manage to spend a relatively small amount there each week, it could be saved. That is still so true. It surely isn't fair just to expect our businesses to be there only for our emergencies.

Part 2. The conversation.

Admittedly it was between some of our older members of the community and it was a pleasant morning! The gist of it went like this: what a shame that so many people

(especially the young ones) seem happier sitting in front of screens rather than being out in the fresh air. That then led on to the huge increase in the number and volume of on-line communications – email and texting often being preferred to the phone; excellent for quick exchanges but questionable for proper conversing. Responses made in haste (possibly even sent to the wrong recipient!) can make for confusion and embarrassment. With 'proper' face-to-face conversation, even better than the phone, we can see people or read them; that makes a huge difference to what we really think and feel.

So why not combine Parts 1 and 2? Spend a bit of time in the local fresh air (very fresh at times!), do some local shopping and have a chat with the people doing the same. As for the youngsters: play out!

## Sing for your Supper

Askrigg Village Hall Fundraising event on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7:30pm (doors open 7pm) in Askrigg Village Hall. Sausage and mash, a pudding, and entertainment by 'Askrigg Ladies Sing for Pleasure' ~ a bargain at £10 per ticket! Admission is by ticket only available from Eleanor Scarr **650216**; Andrea Moffiitt **650556** or Kath Alderson **650599**. Please call for more details

## Young Voices– Music by Candlelight

A big thankyou to all who attended Gayle Village Institute for the wonderfully festive evening on Thursday December 23rd. The children of the Young Voices Choir sang a range of lovely songs and Christmas Carols to a fully packed venue. Thanks as always go to Barbara and Stan Roocroft who donate a great amount of their time and effort with the children. It is easy to see that their hard work has produced a lovely, local children's choir. The much needed fund raising for the evening was in aid of Gayle Institute and we gratefully received £220 from the proceeds of the raffle and your donations.



### **Bainbridge School News**

Back from the Christmas holidays, and the children are in at the deep end! Well not entirely true, but swimming lessons have started again, and the children are enjoying their weekly visit to Catterick pool.

Class one were very excited to be making homemade lemonade. Lemon squeezers at the ready, they all had fun making and tasting their drink. I was told by my girls 'it was lovely, but it wasn't very sweet' which gave me a great image of lots of scrunched up little faces after tasting!!

We have two new starters in Nursery, Rosalyn and Poppy. We hope they settle in well, and are enjoying the Arctic and igloo experience in nursery class at the moment.

All pupils were given battery recycle boxes to take home before Christmas, and pupils have been bringing in their worn out batteries from old toys etc to send away. The school will be rewarded if we can gather as many together as possible, so if you have any to recycle please pass them onto school.

**Melanie Hammond**  
**Parent Governor**

### **The Friarage Hospital**

We have all been informed about the possibility of the Friarage Hospital losing facilities to James Cook Hospital in Middlesbrough and therefore further away from Wensleydale. The current independent review of services at the Friarage is complete and now under consideration.

Representations to our M P, William Hague are encouraged from everyone in Wensleydale to demonstrate our strength of feeling about the downgrading of the Friarage. Please write without delay to:  
The Right Hon. William Hague, M.P.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,  
King Charles St,  
London SW1 2AH.  
Please act now while we still have a hospital in Northallerton!

S.E.D.

### **1st Hawes Brownies**

Before Christmas we worked on and gained the Number Fun Badge. Thank you to Hawes Museum for inviting us to make three animated films. We had a great time. We also made and decorated small Christmas cakes, took part in the Christmas Toy Service at St. Margaret's and ended the term with a Christmas party at the Fountain Hotel. We said goodbye to 4 Brownies and welcome 5 more this term and we are looking forward to our trip to the York pantos.

### **Brownie Vacancy**

After 27 years as a leader I have decided to leave the running of Brownies to the younger leaders. Having made this decision, matters have become urgent as Jenny is no longer able to help with Brownies. We are therefore, urgently seeking someone to take on the Unit accounts and two helpers to join us who are able to attend weekly Brownie meetings. There is no remuneration for these posts but the rewards are priceless. The future existence of the Brownie Unit is dependent on the willingness of volunteers. Please contact me or the other guiders for more information.

**Linda Reynolds 667201**

### **Leukaemia Research**

A cheque for £2500 has been sent to Leukaemia Research. The money was raised at a Coffee Morning held at the White Hart Inn, and a Lunch and Raffle held at Stone House Hotel. The organisers wish to thank everyone who helped to make these events such a resounding success.

**Doreen Whitehead**

### **Hawes Gala Event**

VIVA LAS VEGAS Gala Ball at Simonstone Hall on **Friday 3rd February**  
It will start with welcome drinks at 7.30pm  
Disco and live entertainment from  
Elvis tribute Darren Rivers.  
Transport available.  
To book tickets: **667192**

## The Methodist Church Hawes



Rev Janet Park Tel:  
01969 667268



### INVITATION

#### CIVIC SERVICE for the Hawes area

Following the service held last February, we have decided to hold a similar service this year in **Hawes Methodist Church on Sunday February 19<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am.**

This service will be a thanksgiving for the town, celebrating all who live and work in the area, through the broad range of businesses and organisations that contribute to the well-being of the community.

We should like to invite everyone, as members of this community to attend; it will last about an hour and will be followed by light refreshments.

We look forward to seeing you on February 19th.

**Rev. Janet Park, Methodist Minister**  
*(on behalf of Churches Together in the Hawes area)*

### Middleham and Dales Local History Group

**Tuesday 21st February, 2.00pm –  
Middleham Key Centre**

*Unopened boxes* Keith Sweetmore, Archive Development Manager, North Yorkshire County Record Office.

In this talk Keith Sweetmore will discuss the County Record Office's fifty seven year cataloguing backlog and approaches to resolving it, including the scope for voluntary help. Special reference will be made to archive collections which shed light on the history of the Dales area.

The Record Office, which is situated in Northallerton, enjoys an excellent relationship with the family and local history community in Yorkshire through joint projects, volunteering and outreach events.

Annual membership of the group is £10 and visitors are welcome to attend individual meetings for a fee of £3. For further information, please contact **Tony Keates** 640436 email [dotandtonyk@btinternet.com](mailto:dotandtonyk@btinternet.com)

## Little White Bus, Latest News

Back by popular demand but note new route and timetable!

	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Gayle - Bus Shelter	11:10	13:00	14:10
Hawes - Market Place	11:15	13:05	14:15
Bainbridge - Sycamore Hall	11:25	13:15	14:25
Askrigg - Village Centre	11:30	13:20	14:30
Askrigg - Village Centre	11:30	13:20	14:30
Bainbridge - Sycamore Hall	11:35 *	13:25 *	14:35 *
Hawes - Market Place	11:45 *	13:35 *	14:45 *
Gayle - Bus Shelter	11:50 *	13:40 *	14:50 *

### Hawes & Villages Market Day Special

Every Tuesday in February and March

**Flat Fare £1.00 single for any journey**

(Sorry, bus passes not valid)

Timing subject to no request to call via Carperby or Aysgarth or stops en-route - passengers from / for these locations must book or tell the driver.

## Fond Farewells

Two Curates will be leaving the Upper Dale at the end of January. Revd. Ian Robinson has recently been appointed to his first Living as Rector of Bedale and Revd. Michael Blanch is moving south to Eastbourne with Penny for family reasons.

To mark their departure, and wish them well in their new lives, there will be a special "Safari Farewell" on Sunday 29th January. The day will start with breakfast at Hardraw at 9.00am, moving on to Hawes for coffee at 10.30am; soup will be served at Stalling Busk at 12.00 noon and pudding at Askrigg at approximately 1.15pm. At each church there will be a short service of celebration and farewell.

Everyone is very welcome to come along to wish Ian and Mike all the best for the future.

## December/Christmas Competition Answers

### Find the link.

Example: Father CHRISTMAS pudding.

Mince _____	Bald	pie
Shadow _____	Day	boxing
Christmas _____	Stitch	stocking
Christmas _____	Day	present
Twelfth _____	Store	night
Mistle _____	Nail	toe
Yule _____	Book	log
Yule _____	Mark	tide
Christmas _____	Concert	carol
New _____	Ling	year
Brandy _____	Election	snap
Christmas _____	Table	card
Caesar _____	John	Augustus
Census _____	Less	form
Shepherds _____	R	pie
Shortest _____	Light	day
Church _____	Tent	bell
Little _____	Derby	donkey

**Competition winner: Barbara Roocroft, Gayle.** £20 prize donated to 'Dalesplay'

## This Month's Competition

### What do the letters stand for:

TC	=	27
TS	=	144
FMIK	=	8
BRN-BTN	=	73
DOTH	=	10
NDIP	=	20 (Pitifully small!)
L I'W'	=	5
RIY	=	3
RUTMRLT	=	2
YOOGIB	=	2012
TPM	=	1415 (24 HC)
TFLAB	=	88
COESC	=	7
LORNIM	=	4160
'S'OBWS	=	10
QIAS-B	=	8
PWA	=	70

## News From Sycamore Hall

I am writing this amid a wonderland of paper chains, baubles and fairy lights dancing from Christmas trees spiked with stars and fairies.

**Wednesday December 7th.** Take an 8-inch square frame, two drop blinds, two actors and what have you got?: the pantomime Aladdin. This is all that was required by Vicky and Ryan to entertain the residents and guests to a performance executed to perfection. We hope to see them again soon.

### Friday December 9th – Christmas Party

Once again we gathered in the lounge; Tony sat at the keyboard playing carols and songs. There were drinks followed by ample sandwiches, cakes and tea.

### Friday December 16th – Carols

The rendering of 'Nativity Rock' by Bainbridge School children launched a concert of songs for Christmas set in a melody theme from the birth of Christ to the final 'Celebration Rock'.

### Saturday December 17th – Young Voices

The appearance of blue and grey costumes all aglitter worn by the choir of girls and boys under the tuition of Barbara and Stan Roocroft set in motion a very enjoyable afternoon of carols and songs with 'Little Donkey' and the laughable 'Twelve Days of Christmas' being the highlights.

It's now Wednesday December 21st and Chris and Alice plus staff prepared a very much enjoyed Christmas dinner; "Oh yes!" with crack-ers and wine but no mistletoe alas, plus pre-dinner drink in the lounge with music. Compared with some hotels I reckon we come out on top.

**Derek Ramsden**

## Thanks

### Annual Christmas Charity Concert

Stan and Barbara Roocroft, Hawes Silver Prize Brass Band and the Aysgarth Singers wish to thank all the people of the dales and local businesses of Hawes who so generously supported this event on Friday December 16th. £1945 was raised for Marie Curie Cancer Care in the Dales. Thanks also to Pearl Coates and Barclays Bank for their contribution.

## Events in Carperby

In a beautifully decorated Institute with streamers and Christmas tree the Luncheon Club held their seasonal lunch December 8th, prepared and cooked by Margaret Woodcock, Joan Hodgson and Pat Percival. A quiz and beetle drive followed and proceeds of £200 were sent to the Air Ambulance Service.

On December 18th a Carol Service was held: a short Nativity play was presented by the children under the direction of Debbie Allenby and Debbie Ashcroft, followed by carols and readings organised by Janice Peacock. Ten members of Muker Silver Band provided the music, and refreshments followed.

On December 22nd and 23rd whist and domino drives with raffles were organised by Jean and Anne Moore and about £300 was raised for Institute funds.

Many thanks to all who donated prizes and refreshments, in particular Margaret Woodcock for providing mince pies for all the events.

On Christmas Eve Father Christmas arrived at the Wheatsheaf and distributed presents to all children, and on December 28th the children's Christmas party was held where games were played, tea provided and this concluded with a visit from Father Christmas. An enjoyable time was had by all.

**Anne Moore**

**Elizabeth Iveson and family** would like to thank everyone for their cards, kindness and support following the sad loss of Norman.

Thank you to Rev. Janet Park, Jack Thompson and the Wensleydale Pantry. A special thank you to Dr France, Miriam, Mary and all the staff at Hawes Health Centre. Also many thanks for the generous donations

## New Book

### Family Favourites from the Dales and Beyond

This book has been compiled to raise money for these charities which are desperate for funding in these challenging times:

Herriot Hospice Homecare  
Sarcoma UK

Marie Curie Cancer Care  
Yorkshire Cancer Care.

The book is available from:

JR Iveson, Hawes  
The Mulberry Bush, Hawes  
The Post Office, Hawes  
Masons, Hawes

Sykes House Tearoom and Shop, Askrigg

Copies can be ordered by post from:-

**JR Iveson, Main Street, Hawes,  
DL8 3QL; 01969 667409**

The book costs £9.00 in the shops. Please add £1.50 p and p; payment to 'JR and SA Iveson'.

The book was compiled with the help of Susan Woof and Margaret Bell without whom it wouldn't have happened. Nigel Jackson, my brother who works in the printing industry, put the book together.

**Sue Iveson**

## Church Coffee Morning

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February  
10:30am to 12 noon**

Kathy Firth, Park Lane House,  
Castle Bolton (**623913**)

## Newsletters by Post

This is the time for renewal; £8 in the UK and £15 for overseas. Please send the amount, payable to 'Upper Wensleydale Newsletter' to:

JANET W. THOMSON  
STONE HOUSE,  
THORNTON RUST,  
LEYBURN, DL8 3AW



## Heavens Above

This year's a really good one for planet spotting with all five naked-eye planets putting on a great display. Venus steals the show with the astronomical highlight of the year - a spectacular transit across the face of the Sun in early June. Before that, on April 3rd, it passes close to the famous Pleiades star-cluster - a beautiful sight if you can get hold of a small telescope or a decent pair of binoculars.

Venus is a dazzling 'evening star' at the moment, shining brilliantly low in the south-west. It will steadily increase in brightness as it pulls eastwards away from the Sun eventually outshining anything else in the sky - apart from the Sun and the Moon of course.

Transits of Venus are comparatively rare events. They only occur roughly every 100 years and come in pairs 8 years apart. The last one was in 2004 so after this year's, on June 6th, there won't be another until 2117.

The Red Planet, Mars, rises in the east in the middle of the evening during February, and is visible all night long. It doubles in brightness by the end of the month and its deep reddish-orange colour is unmistakable. At its closest on March 3rd, it's almost as bright as Sirius. Jupiter, the largest of all the planets, put on a terrific show last year and is still conspicuous high up in the south after dark. It slowly edges westwards over the next couple of months before fading into the western twilight in April. Saturn, with its spectacular ring system, rises shortly before mid-night this month and is still well up in the south-west before dawn. You'll find a waning gibbous Moon just below it on the morning of February, 21<sup>st</sup>. If you've a clear horizon you might just pick out the innermost planet, tiny Mercury, in the last week of February and the first one in March. Look for it shortly after 7 o'clock in the evening low in the western sky.

Finally this month, did anyone else see the spectacular bolide or fireball (an unusually bright meteor) spotted by Brian and Marney Peacock over Bishopdale on January 3rd at about half past six in the evening? It may have been part of the annual Quadrantid shower

which reached its peak on January 4th. If you did see it we'd be interested to hear from you. Have clear skies!

Al Bireo

## National Park Launches New Version of Phone app

More smartphone owners will be able to find out information about the Malham and Hawes areas following the completion of an official app for visitors. The National Park has now launched the Symbian version of the app - and work has already started on the next phase.

"We have now got the official smartphone app available across the four main phone platforms - iPhone, BlackBerry, Android and Symbian - which means more people can download information about the National Park at the touch of a button before and during their visit and discover things to see and do," said Karen Griffiths.

"The app is proving to be very popular indeed - we had something like 2,000 downloads in the first week when we launched the iPhone version. With online Virtual Visits - people can explore Ribblesdale and the towns and villages of Hawes, Malham, Buckden, Grassington, Reeth and Dent - and now Aysgarth - from their homes before they set out.

**Geocaching** - visitors can try their hand at using satellite technology to go on a hi-tech treasure hunt and learn about the National Park at the same time.

All the information can be found at:  
[www.yorkshiredales.so.uk](http://www.yorkshiredales.so.uk)

## Going Green

Further information can be obtained from Jill at the YDNPA Yoredale offices in Bainbridge or on the authority's website, [www.yorkshiredales.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk)

## **Vacancies on National Park Authority**

Dedicated volunteers are needed to help look after our beautiful National Park for the next four years.

The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, is hoping for applications to fill two vacancies on the National Park Authority. The successful candidates will be involved in making decisions that will affect the future of the National Park.

She appoints members to reflect the national importance placed on the Authority with responsibility for conservation, recreation, planning, access, land management and resources as well as reflecting both local and national interests.

The appointments will begin in May, or as soon after as practical, and are initially for up to four years.

Applications are particularly encouraged from members of ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, women and young people and the closing date is **Monday, February 13th**

Application forms and further details are available at [publicappts.defra.gov.uk](http://publicappts.defra.gov.uk) or from Chris Buxton at Natural England, Foundry House, 3 Millsands, Riverside Exchange, Sheffield, S3 8NH (telephone 0300 060 2745)

## **Hawes PTFA**

We would like to thank everyone who supported us at our Christmas Fayre. Without your support we would not have managed to raise a fantastic £1273.69. We hope next year will be even better as we try to provide a little bit of something for everyone. Also a huge thank you to Mrs Taylor for judging our decorated cake competition; it was brilliant for all the kids to see you again and they all deeply miss you, and a huge thank you to those who organised the event, manned the stalls and tidied away at the end. Well done everyone

## **The latest 'Now Then'...**

the annual magazine of the Friends of the Dales Countryside Museum, yet again makes some of the rich heritage of the Dales so easily available.

The articles range from Dr Christine Hallas' in-depth review of the development of the railway through Wensleydale in the nineteenth century to a fitting memorial to 104-years-old Mary Burrow of Hawes who died in November 2010.

The history of another local family, the Morphets of High Birkwith in Horton in Ribblesdale, is included as well as the first half of 'The Origins of the Upper Dales Folk Museum' by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby.

The report of the present museum manager, Fiona Rosher, shows how important a part this plays in the life of the Dales these days, with its fascinating programmes for all ages. And there is even a ghost story in this issue.

Copies of 'Now Then' are available at the Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes at £2 each.

## **Pip Land**

## **Gayle Mill Events**

### **Sunday 5th February – Demonstration Tours 11.00am and 2.30pm**

£10 adults £5 children (includes light refreshments). Tours last approx. 2 hours. To book 667320

### **Saturday 4th February - Bookbinding Course 10.30 a m - 4.30 p m**

Suitable for absolute beginners and those with experience. £20.00 including light lunch - Booking required.

### **Tuesday 14th February - Love Birds - Family Fun 10:30 a m - 4:30 p m**

Make traditional wooden bird boxes using hand tools. Celebrate St. Valentine's Day and support National Nest Box Week Drop in - Entry £2.00.

### **Saturday 25th February - Felt Glove Making Course 10.30 a m - 4.30 p m**

£35.00 including light lunch - Booking required

For all the above events, to make a booking or to find out more, call Samantha Belcher on 667320 or email [samantha.belcher@gaylemill.org.uk](mailto:samantha.belcher@gaylemill.org.uk)

**Exhibition**  
at the National Park Authority offices,  
Yoredale, Bainbridge

**January and February 2012**  
open 8.30am to 4.30pm  
Monday to Friday

**Jane Ellis and Brian Stokes**

Jane Ellis and Brian Stokes represent two very different and individual styles of work. Born in Nairobi and Essex respectively, they studied at Taunton and Wolverhampton, working in Arts Council funded studios, before moving to London where their children were born. Twelve years ago the family settled in Arkengarthdale.

Jane's strong use of charcoal and pencil in her latest ongoing work illustrates her commitment to drawing in all its guises.

Brian interprets landscapes in expressive watercolours. Themes and works are revisited over the course of years, taking anything from twenty minutes to twenty years to come to fruition. For more information about Jane, Brian or the exhibition please telephone **Lesley Knevitt** at the National Park on **652326**

**Clothes Collection for Air Ambulance**

St Margaret's Church, Hawes, will be collecting clothes, shoes, belts, towels, curtains and bedding (no duvets or pillow) to raise money for the Great North Ambulance and St Margaret's Church.

So as you think of having a clear out for spring, bag it up and bring it into the church any time from **Tuesday, February 7th**. Bags will be collected on **March 7th**.

Need help with delivery? Ring **Janet Middleton 667070**

**Surgery News**

**Drugs coming off patent**

When a new medicine is invented the pharmaceutical company making the discovery applies for a patent. This typically lasts 20 years, though extensions can be granted in some circumstances. It can take up to 10 years from the date a patent is granted to undertake clinical trials and obtain all the necessary regulatory licences to market the drug under a brand name. Once the patent expires, other manufacturers can produce the drug and market it under its generic name. This usually results in a large drop in the cost of the drug, with resultant major savings to the NHS. A number of drugs have recently, or will shortly, come off patent. These brands and their generic equivalents are listed below.

**November - January**

Nexium (esomeprazole)  
Femara (Letrozole)  
Aromasin (Exemestane)  
Bonviva (Ibandronic acid) – *replaced by Alendronic acid*.  
Actos (Pioglitazone)  
Zyprexa (Olanzapine)  
Xalatan (Latanoprost)  
Xalacom (Latanoprost / Timolol)

**Mid-February**

Aricept (Donepezil)

**Mid-May**

Lipitor (Atorvastatin)

As the generic versions become available, patients will be supplied with these instead of the brand. The dosages and instructions for taking the generic drugs will be exactly the same as for the brand, with one exception; due to supply difficulties, Bonviva has been replaced by Alendronic acid. This has to be taken once a week, whereas Bonviva was once a month. All patients previously taking Bonviva have been provided with a note in their medicine bag alerting them to this.

If you have any problems with, or require any advice about taking your medicines, please contact your surgery or pharmacy.

**Clive West**

## Prunings

### *A personal take on Plants, Propagating and other related rural ramblings.*

What a strange Christmas and New Year with such warm temperatures. I hope it bodes well for 2012. The snowdrops had already begun to peep through before the old year passed, and only now when the cold has arrived has nature put things on hold. In the greenhouse it is a different story as improving light levels, imperceptible at first, are beginning to have an effect. There is a discernable change in some of the cuttings I took late in the year, and tiny babies taken off the *Scabiosa Alpina* have just begun to show signs of growth. I always find it exciting when little snips of leaf and stem show enough spirit to survive.

One of the more annoying aspects of the winter season when there is not much growth possible is that I frequently run out of fresh parsley. The outside clump stops producing just when I need it most. I have a favourite soup: basically a Leek and Potato potage which came originally from Elizabeth David I think; and it is particularly important to put in a large handful of fresh parsley. It is delicious, popular with all the family, and very easy to make, but with dried parsley, just not the same. Of course I grew both curled and flat leaved plants, but when there looked to be plenty I gave some away. As one pot full of the insipid hot-housed supermarket offering is barely enough for a large pan full of soup, I am sure you will understand the problem. This year I cheated. When the supermarket plants were quite big I bought several. I split decent sized ones into four, re-potted them in one litre pots with good compost and placed them on the sand bed with bottom heat to get them going. It was amazing how much leaf they put on. I have moved them on to the benching to let them develop stronger growth, and I think I might have enough to last.

I was only just in time with my free seed order from the Cottage Garden Society, and if you are a member of the Royal Horticultural there is still time before the deadline.

Seeing the early snowdrops I did a little research and was intrigued to discover that the common snowdrop (*Nivalis*) that proliferates in the North, is only one of the 15 varieties of *Galanthus* which were listed in the RHS Plant Finder in 2010. *Galanthus plicatus* is also easy to grow, fairly common and likely to flower earlier. Most interesting was the fact that with careful selection it is possible to have snowdrops in flower from September

through until April. The broader leaved *G. elwesii* var. *monostictus* which has a single green mark on the inside of the flower, begins to bloom in October! Common varieties produce large clumps fairly quickly, but if you want to introduce new ones it works much better to buy them "in the green" when they are still flowering if possible. This way it is easier to verify that the plant is as described from the colour and markings, and it will establish very quickly. Dry bulbs bought in the summer have a poor success rate. Be warned however, Snowdrops hybridise readily, and although you might be fortunate enough to create a new plant, the special one you bought could be less vigorous and disappear altogether!

Good luck! And whatever you grow, take time to enjoy it.

**Rose Rambler.**

## **Wensleydale Decorative and Fine Arts Society**

### **After Impressionism**

In **After Impressionism** Harry Fletcher concentrates on the painters who followed the Impressionists, artists who were released from the task of copying nature by the arrival of photography and who were free to speed up the process of experimentation. His talk will cover the influences of Seurat; how Cezanne paved the way for Cubism, through Picasso and Braque; Van Gogh and Gauguin's expressive use of paint; the heightened colour used by artists such as Matisse and Derain; the German Expressionist movement which further developed these ideas and lead on to Abstraction.

Harry is a portrait painter and practising artist. He has tutored in the History of Modern Art, Art and Design, and Art and the Environment for the OU and been an OU examiner and has lead art appreciation holidays around the UK, in France and in Spain.

This Society lecture is on

**Tuesday 14th February at 2.00pm Middleham Key Centre.**

Non-members are welcome at £5 per lecture, pre-booking is essential, membership and further information is available from the Membership Secretary, tel. **01748 886545**



***Mystery picture. The last one was of Arten Gill viaduct. First spotter: Kate Empsall, Askrigg***

### **Richmondshire Leisure Trust – Burst Activity Programme**

The BURST School Holiday Activity Programme offers children and young people of 5 years of age, all the way to 18 years, the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities over the school holidays. BURST runs in every school holiday throughout the year and each programme has a range of activities.

**Burst camp in Askrigg** at Yorebridge Sport and Fitness Centre has been running since the start of 2011 and since then has grown from strength to strength. The Ofsted registered multi-activity camp runs every school holiday during the times of 8.30am-5.30pm to suit the average working day. A range of activities which includes, arts and crafts, multi sports and playground games take place throughout the day as well as trips and single events.

An action packed week is planned for this February half term. More information can be found online at [www.rltrust.org.uk](http://www.rltrust.org.uk) or contact Richmond swimming pool on **01748 824581**.

### **Yes, It was Arten Gill**

Several readers correctly identified the last mystery picture and **Mason Scarr** from Bainbridge has sent in some interesting facts, gleaned from the *Lancaster Guardian* in the 1870s.

The view is from up the gill side looking southwest. The sloping ground seen through the southern end of the viaduct is the 'tip heaps' of soil and boulder clay dug from the long deep cutting between Dent Head and Arten Gill viaducts.

The viaduct is 235yards long and has 11 arches with a span of 45feet each, the same as those at Ribbleshead, Dent Head and Dandry Mire. The highest pillar is 120feet to rail level making it the highest of the four mentioned. It would have been about 50 to 60feet higher if it had been built as planned, i.e. below the waterfall, but by diverting the line slightly it passes over the top side and reduces the build by more than 50 to 60feet. "There was a waterfall of 60foot descent before the railway was built which is now partly filled with debris."

Another comment from the *Lancaster Guardian* might interest any builders reading this: "As no sand could be found in the neighbourhood, Mr Crossley, the head engineer, to overcome this difficulty suggested that burnt clay should be ground up with lime. This compound is found to be an excellent plastic which in a short time becomes almost as hard as cement."

The stone for the structure was dug from a quarry at the bottom of the gill and the huge blocks were carried by bogies to the staging and fitted in place using steam-assisted equipment. A stone weighing five tons was lifted in this way in 2½minutes. To lift the same stone by a 'hand-traveller' would have taken six men an hour.

### **The Wednesday Club**

**8<sup>th</sup> and 22nd February**

Afternoon Tea

Redmire Village Hall at 2:00p.m.

We can provide transport to and from the hall.

The Wednesday Club is organised by Bolton-cum-Redmire Parish on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays in the month and is part of the church's fellowship and outreach.

We often have a theme or a prayer, especially at the 'Christian Festivals'



## New Year Launch For:



### Yorkshire Business Aid

Yorkshire Business Aid is a not for profit organisation (limited company by guarantee without a share capital) that has been established to provide value for money business support to small and medium sized businesses and assist in meeting priorities to enhance the local economy, support employment opportunities and create an environment for business sustainability and growth. The initiative is just one of the outcomes resulting from the collaborative work between the Richmondshire based Business Associations, and a range of partners, under the umbrella of the Richmondshire Business Forum. They identified the need to find a way of providing continuity for Business Link services that were withdrawn at a local level.

More details can be found by visiting: [www.yorkshirebusinessaid.co.uk](http://www.yorkshirebusinessaid.co.uk) or **622888 Business Conference**

The Forum's 2012 Business Conference will once again take place at Middleham Key Centre on Wednesday 21st March. The Key-note Speaker will be Barry Dodd, Chair of the York and North Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership. There will be a networking lunch with market place of business support agencies and a series of bite size workshops to close which include: Planning and Mentoring, Social media for business, Tax changes and finance, The Marketing Mix – making it work for you, Time/ Stress Management, Energy Efficiency and Human Resources.

Final details of the event and how to book delegate places and market stand space will be circulated in due course.

### Prayer Fellowship

**Monday February 27<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm**

The Vicarage, Carperby

An opportunity to pray together for the Benefice, the community and the wider world. Hope to see you there.

What is Dalesplay?

We are a childcare setting offering care for children aged 0-14 years. We provide full day, sessional, morning, afterschool and holiday workshops for children in the dales. Dalesplay is run by a group of voluntary directors who give up their time and share their expertise to provide this service for families in the dales. Dalesplay is a non profitable organisation and all fees cover staffing who are at least level 3 qualified and have been CRB checked with very good references, insurance, utility bills and resources, food etc. We are a registered charity and endeavour to meet the needs of families in the dales. You can gain a better understanding by visiting our website [www.dalesplay.com](http://www.dalesplay.com) which also has a link to our blog.

This month the children have been celebrating Chinese New Year, learning about shapes and learning some new action rhymes. We have lots of fun activities planned for February half term;

Monday – clay workshop, Tuesday – baking workshop, Wednesday – cinema workshop, Thursday - T-shirt painting and Friday – planting workshop. All these workshops run from 2.00-3.30pm; book a place by contacting us **667789**.

Our Parents of Dalesplay have organised a Pie and Pea fundraiser with a quiz on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** at the Wensleydale Creamery Restaurant, **7.30pm**. Adults £7.50 and children £5. This is a family orientated evening so please feel free to bring your friends and family. Please reserve a place by contacting Dalesplay. Book early to prevent disappointment!

**Joanne Middleton**

### Health Walks

To avoid the worst of the winter weather there will not be any Health Walks in Upper Wensleydale during January and February. The programme will resume in March. For walks elsewhere in Richmondshire call

**William Gedye on 07710 739192**

## Rainfall in Wensleydale—2011

	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total for year
	<i>Measurements in millimetres</i>						
<b>Hawes</b>	101	155	153	173	103	313	1741
<b>West Burton</b>	47	101	79	101	55	134	N/A
<b>Carperby</b>	73	103	75	101	55	191	1034
<b>Bainbridge</b>	108	123	118	137	88	230	1406
<b>Stalling Busk</b>	85	125	142	145	89	257	1157
<b>Askrigg</b>	89	100	89	124	61	210	1181
<b>Thornton Rust</b>	94	117	103	137	75	191	1289

### Friends of Swaledale Museum

The programme of talks begins again on **Wednesday, February 15th, at 2.00pm** in Fremington Sunday School near Reeth when the speaker is June Hall on '*Folk Knitting Traditions across Northern Europe*'. Entry is £3 for Friends of the Museum and £4 for visitors. For more information phone 01748-884118 or email: [museum.swaledale@btinternet.com](mailto:museum.swaledale@btinternet.com) The full programme is available on the website [www.swaledalemuseum.org](http://www.swaledalemuseum.org)

### Marie Curie Cancer Care Street Collection

If you able to spare a couple of hours on **March 10th** to help this worthwhile cause, could you please contact **Kyla Collins, Community Fundraiser on 01904 436625/07545 421581 or 07875 743137**. Your support will be much appreciated, thank you. Many thanks.

**Marion Donnell**

### Hedge Layers Show off Their Talent

Expert hedge layers have been demonstrating and sharing their knowledge and skills with those that are relatively new to the art at an annual event in the National Park.

More than 20 hopefuls battled it out for the top titles in the fourth Annual Hedge Laying Competition, which was held at March Hall in Dentedale in December.

In total there were 22 contestants all working well under wet, cold and windy weather conditions, to produce laid sections of hedge in an excellent condition. In addition to the competition, an element of training in the craft of hedge laying in the Lancashire and Westmorland style was introduced for the first time this year as part of the Rural Skills Cumbria 'Work the View' programme, which funded the day.

Thanks go out to all of those people involved with the event, especially our hosts at March Hall and judges Edmund Capstick and James Middleton for their most valued contribution to the success of the day

## **Hawes School News**

### **Thank You**

We are very grateful to the Dales Community church for their generous donation of £100.00 towards school funds.

### **KS1 Nativity**

I'm sure those of you who attended the Nativity, will agree it was delightful. All the children were brilliant and thoroughly enjoyed taking part. Mr Eldridge is grateful to all the staff for all their hard work and for organising the refreshments, and also to those who gave donations of mince pies etc, thank you. A special thank you to Carol and Sheila, after we all went home and put our feet up, they got out their buckets and mops and got us ready for the next day. As always we are very appreciative of both Carol and Sheila's hard work keeping the school spick and span.

### **Date in the Diary**

Thanks to everyone who supported this, and sorry to those who didn't get the diary. £195 was raised for the PTFA. The winners were – 1<sup>st</sup> Philip Lindsey - £100.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> Finlay Guy - £50.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Juila Blowes – £10.00.

### **Dales Countryside Museum**

Class 3 are very much looking forward to working with the Dales Countryside Museum this half term on a creative writing project. We shall be working with a professional poet to create verse about objects and landscapes unique to our Dale.

## **Askrigg School News**

### **Great North Air Ambulance – Bags 2 School Collection – Date for your diary**

As you know we had a very successful collection in October and raised £324 for the Air Ambulance and £216 for school; we have booked another collection for 24<sup>th</sup> April. If you would like to keep hold of your clothes, bedding, shoes and belts etc we would be very grateful for them after Easter. Thank you.

### **This term's topic**

The children enjoyed learning about The Vikings last term; this term our topic is Fairtrade ~ Class 1 already have a 'Linger Longer' Fairtrade Café in their role play area serving (amongst other things) Vegetable pasta bake and chocolate orange mousse!

## **Sponsored Read Week – 6<sup>th</sup> February**

Our PTFA, in conjunction with Usbourne books, are organising a sponsored reading week; the money raised will be used to buy books for our new library. As a school we are also taking this opportunity to put the finishing touches to our book corners in the classrooms.

## **Middleham and Dales Local History Group**

**Tuesday 21st February, 2.00pm –  
Middleham Key Centre**

*Unopened boxes* Keith Sweetmore, Archive Development Manager, North Yorkshire County Record Office.

In this talk Keith Sweetmore will discuss the County Record Office's fifty seven year cataloguing backlog and approaches to resolving it, including the scope for voluntary help. Special reference will be made to archive collections which shed light on the history of the Dales area.

The Record Office, which is situated in Northallerton, enjoys an excellent relationship with the family and local history community in Yorkshire through joint projects, volunteering and outreach events.

Annual membership of the group is £10 and visitors are welcome to attend individual meetings for a fee of £3. For further information, please contact **Tony Keates 640436** email [dotandtonyk@btinternet.com](mailto:dotandtonyk@btinternet.com)

## **No Losing Battle Here**

The National Park has done it again.

For the second year running, it has taken some of the top positions in the national annual Loo of the Year Awards.

Judges inspected the 10 public toilets owned or managed by the Authority and, like last year, gave one - the loo at the Aysgarth National Park Centre - a top, five-star rating and put the other nine in the four-star category.

## New Year Email Blues

Belated Happy New Year everyone but unfortunately last year ended and this year started with a miserable time for a large number of people having their email accounts hacked and abused.

Please take action now to avoid this problem! The biggest causes are simple passwords that are too simple (or used in too many places) and lack of care opening emails. If this happens to you the most common symptoms are not being able to login or receive your email because your password is rejected, the disappearance of all saved email and your address book or everyone in your address book receiving 'panic spam' asking for money. You may experience one or more of these symptoms the most common being the last one – all your contacts are told that you are stranded in some far off place without money or passport (or some such similar nonsense) and asking them to send money to help.

What can you do about this is if it happens? Basically the only way to get control back of your email account is to contact your email provider and ask them to change your password and also check that the security and account retrieval options in your account have not been changed by someone else. A sneaky trick often used by these scammers is to update your list of alternative contact addresses in your account so that when you change the password they also receive a copy of any confirmation emails. It is then easy for them to override your change or reset it again to lock you out. Make sure you check with your provider that this hasn't happened on your account.

A better solution is to prevent this problem from happening BEFORE it happens to you – here is a check list to protect yourself and your data:

*Make sure your email password is unique* – i.e. something secure and only used for your email account. If you sign up all over the internet using the same password you are asking for trouble. By something secure I mean the password should be as long as possible, contain

letters, numbers and symbols and not contain obvious names or words that appear in the dictionary.

*Look in your email setting* and see if it is possible to use HTTPS mode to access your email. This means 'use a secure connection' which is shorthand for saying that all of your email traffic is encrypted so that no one can read it as it travels across the internet. Most providers either don't have this option or it is switched off by default. GMAIL switched it on by default some time ago and Hotmail/Windows Live Mail has this option (Click on your name at the top right of the page and it is listed under the ACCOUNT section in the menu). Unfortunately I cannot find this option in BTinternet/ Yahoo mail.

*Make sure you backup* any important data – your address book and/or your important emails. Backing up your address book (or contact list) is usually don't by 'exporting' your contacts from the mail page (again look under options, you may need to click on a contacts or address book link first). To back up emails use the free Mailstore Home (which is an archiving solution) from <http://www.mailstore.com/en/mailstore-home.aspx>

The third part at least protects your information if the worst happens to you. As always let me know if you have any questions by dropping me a line via my website [www.dalescomputerservices.com](http://www.dalescomputerservices.com) and don't forget I am always happy to receive suggestions for future articles.

**Carol Haynes**

## Home made soup..

bread, cheese and tea or coffee will be served at the following venues.

Please join us, there is no set price just pop a donation in the jar as you leave.

The first two of six Lent lunches for CHRISTIAN AID 2012 will be held on FRIDAYS 24th FEBRUARY at REDMIRE VILLAGE HALL 2nd MARCH at THORALBY VILLAGE HALL between NOON - 1.30pm

**Evelyn Abraham, 663243**

## Doctors' Rotas as Supplied by the Health Centre

AYSGARTH SURGERY ROTA Wb - week beginning										
Wb	Feb 6th		13th		20th		27th			
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Mon	J	J	W	W	F	F	W	W		
Tues	WF	WF	J	J	W	W	F	F		
Wed	F	F	W	W	F	F	W	W		
Thur	J	J	J	J	W	W	F	F		
Fri	W	W	W	W	F	F	W	W		
<b>Doctors:</b> F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed <b>Morning Surgery:</b> 9.00 - 10.30 a.m. (no appointments) <b>Afternoon Surgery:</b> 4.00 - 5.30 p.m. (appointment only) <i>For appointments and all enquiries ring 663222</i>										

HAWES SURGERY ROTA Wb - week beginning										
Wb	Feb 6th		13th		20th		27th			
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Mon	WF	WF	J	J	W	W	F	F		
Tues	J	J	W	W	F	F	W	W		
Wed	W	W	J	J	W	W	F	F		
Thur	F	F	W	W	F	F	W	W		
Fri	J	J	J	J	W	W	F	F		
<b>Doctors:</b> F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed <b>Morning S'y:</b> 8.45-10.15 Tues till 10.45 (no appointments) <b>Afternoon S'y:</b> 5.00-6.00 Tues 1.00-4.00 (appointments only) <i>For appointments and all enquiries ring 667200</i>										

### Askrigg Village Hall – Amnesty!

Have you borrowed anything from Askrigg Village Hall and it is still at home waiting to be returned? As a community building we are happy for people to borrow things if the hall has not been booked by anyone AND arrangements are made with the caretaker (a donation to Hall funds is also welcome if you so desire). We seem to be missing some grey plastic chairs, a folding table and quite a lot of crockery. Can you help us to locate it, can you recall borrowing it and it is now gathering dust somewhere? Your help would be very much appreciated, there is quite a lot missing and we can't afford to replace it. If you have something to return please contact **Gwen Cloughton 650308**, **Dominic Gregson 650285** or **Kath Alderson 650599**, or drop it off at the Hall. Thank you in advance.

### On the other hand ...

Whenever there is a fundraiser in the Village Hall people are very generous and donate food very readily, quite often in non-disposable dishes. There is quite a collection of dishes, bowls etc (some of which are extremely attractive!) that obviously don't belong to the Village Hall, if you think some of them may be yours, please call in and collect them – we will put them on the window sill at the bottom of the stairs leading up to the snooker room. Thank you.

**Kath Alderson**

### Silence and Candlelight in Hawes Methodist Chapel

A soup and sandwich lunch with the opportunity to chat was the precursor to the Taizé service (postponed from December ) on 5<sup>th</sup> January at two o'clock in a candlelit chapel.

This popular service attracted many people who enjoy the contemplative silence which is the essence of Taizé. The light of the candles and the silence were enriched by readings prayers and the familiar Taizé chants.

For the first time the singing was accompanied by a recorder quartet which included the Methodist minister Janet Park, Mary Rose Kearney, Gwen Clark and Pat Whitehead. Ann Chapman the Anglican priest in charge who had been going to play was unfortunately called away and unavailable at the last minute.

The prayerful atmosphere in the candlelit space enabled the congregation to reflect and meditate in silence in a most moving service. This has become a feature of ecumenical life

### St. Oswald's, Askrigg

**Saturday February 4th**

**10.00am – noon**

Coffee morning, raffle and book stall in the Village Hall



## More Blessed to Give...

**As usual we print a list of the monies raised which we have heard of, for charities over the Christmas period.**

Carperby Luncheon Club, for Air Ambulance  
**£200**

Askrigg Christmas Tree Festival Concert for British Heart Foundation  
**£870**

Annual Charity Concert, Hawes Market Hall for Marie Curie Cancer Care  
**£1945**

Hawes Methodist Church Carols by Candlelight and United Christmas day service, for Action for Children  
**£247**

Hardraw Church for 'Stop2nite' for the homeless  
**£100**

St. Andrew's Aysgarth + Thoraby carols for St. George's Crypt  
**£437**

Christingle, St. Andrew's for Children's Society  
**£77**

Preston under Scar carol singing for Children's Society  
**£109**

Bolton cum Redmire for St George's Crypt  
**£387**

Food for Thought evenings for Bible Society  
**£315**

(Bolton cum Redmire Harvest for Water Aid)  
**£400**

West Witton crib service for Children's Society  
**£126**

Marsett Chapel for Red Cross  
**£25**

Aysgarth Methodist Church for Action for Children and Children in Need  
**£166**

West Burton Methodist Church Nativity and carol singing for Action for Children  
**£485**

**That's a total of nearly £6000.**

## CPRE News

### The Campaign for the Protection of Rural England

The principles of your local CPRE group are to protect the countryside of Wensleydale, Coverdale and Bishopdale and to help local people who live there.

The Wensleydale branch of CPRE was left a legacy by a generous benefactor, Isobel Paton.

To date we have given financial support to Gayle Mill's educational projects and to the restoration of the banks of the River Cover; supported the Wensleydale Flyer bus service and helped with the feasibility study for the Belterby-Leyburn cycleway/footpath.

Further minor support has been given to the protection of an ancient barn and hay meadow at Horsehouse; seats made at Gayle Mill have been provided for Semer Water and West Scafton; and we have funded field restoration near the River Bain Hydro Scheme.

CPRE Wensleydale has also paid for training courses for local apprentices, provided a non-slip floor and a community fridge for local shops and bought some instruments and music to support Hawes Silver Band.

Wensleydale CPRE Branch may be able to help your project as long as it is within CPRE's principles of protecting rural England. Why not write to the committee and ask for support? There are no conditions attached providing your project is of value to the life of our Dales. Please address your request to **Dr K. Whalley**, Brook House Farm, Newbiggin, DL8 3TD. We look forward to hearing from you

### Upper Dales Family History Group

Our November speaker was Tony Eaton, author of *Sunters - High, Wide and Mighty*, the story of the Sunter family from Swaledale and their haulage company whose wagons were once a familiar sight on roads all over the country.

Tony began with some family background and had many photographs of the Sunter brothers and sisters and their various vehicles. Tom, the eldest of four sons, learned to drive during the First World War and began the business by buying a Model T Ford with which he moved a sideboard to Newcastle for £5. He also used it to take advantage of the growing tourist industry, driving visitors on tours of the dales. Buying a couple of lorries enabled him to haul timber for the Forestry Commission and as the business expanded two of his brothers joined him, taking the decision to move out of the dale and down to Northallerton.

The family were not only interested in lorries though and Tony showed several photographs of Tom's other vehicles, including racing cars which were put through their paces on the sands at Redcar.

During the war the company thrived with the transport contract for Catterick, running coaches to ferry soldiers on leave back and forth as well as hauling vital materials for the war effort. However real success came some years later when the company won a contract from the British Nuclear industry to move 12 massive heat exchangers to Bradwell in Essex. Tony had many photographs of the specialist machinery they brought in for this project and others like it, and of some of the tight corners they had to negotiate en route.

Many of their loads broke records, including the 221 foot long nitric acid column which could only be transported to ICI on Teesside by removing lamp posts from the road side and flattening paths through the middle of roundabouts. Legislation in the 1980s requiring all long loads to be broken down into parts for transport put an overnight stop to Sunters speciality and the firm eventually closed in 1986.

There is no meeting in January but a Com-

puter Club for anyone interested in getting started with researching their family on the internet or looking for ideas to get further, will be held from **from 1.00-4.00pm on Saturday, February 11th**, at Hudson House in Reeth. No need to book, stay as long as you like - £3 for the first 2 hours then £1 per hour. Contact **Tony Keates 640436**

**Tracy Little**

### Gayle's Hens

I was asked to write about hens kept locally. I remember Johnny Wharton from Honeycott used to show White Wyandots and uncle Bob Spencer from Gayle (Flyer) and Tunstall from Aysgarth used to send birds down to shows in London on the 6.30am train from Hawes.

Bob Spencer had Anchonas; he had to vaseline their combs in winter. A few of the Gayle men had Rhode Island Reds crossed with light Sussex because they were sex linked, brown ones were pullets and white birds were cocks. Some of the men had black, brown and white Leghorns crossed with a Rhode Island red cockerel.

I had some blue Andalusians from Preston, lovely birds. I sold a lot of eggs for sitting; of course there were a lot of other breeds: Will Summers, Bantams and Morans.

As you can imagine Gayle Allotments were a hub of activity— who could have the best hens and gardens, men like Jimmy Spencer, George Alderson. Wilf Ward, Tommy Alderson, Bob Clark, Will Johnson Bob Lowis Joe Iveson and Jim Burton, all characters in their own right.

**Richard Dinsdale**

### Men's Prayer Breakfast

**Saturday February 4<sup>th</sup>  
Sycamore Hall 8.30am**

Speaker. Bishop James Bell

Further details from **Ian Ferguson 650685**

## WHAT'S ON LISTING:

### January

- 29 Safari Farewell to Curates

### February

- 1 Church Coffee Club at Castle Bolton.
- 3 Wensleydale Society; West Burton Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 4 Coffee morning for St Oswald's, Askrigg in back room of Village Hall.  
4 Prayer Breakfast; Bainbridge, 8.30am.
- 7 Hawes Drama Group reads 'The Mousetrap' by Agatha Christie. Gayle Institute 7.30pm
- 7 Afternoon Bible study at Gordon Lodge, Redmire
- 8 & 22 Wednesday Club at Redmire.
- 11 Family History Group; from 1.00pm Hudson House, Reeth.
- 12 10.30am - Cafe Style Service with Bishop John at St Oswald's, Askrigg
- 14 YDPNPA Planning Committee; Yoredale, 1.00pm
- 15 Carperby W. I. 7.30pm in the Institute; 'Botswana and Zambia'
- 15 Upper Wensleydale Ladies' Luncheon Club, at Rose & Crown, Bainbridge 12 noon. Speaker Val Gladman "Are you a Policeman?" All welcome
- 17 Museum Friends, 7.30pm: 'How to make antique-and how to make it valuable'. Mark Litter, Tennant's Auction House
- 19 Civic Service in Hawes Methodist Church;
- 21 Shrove Tuesday
- 21 Middleham and Dales History Group, Key Centre, 2.00pm.
- 22 Ash Wednesday service at St Margaret's, Hawes 7.00pm
- 22 Ash Wednesday Service at St Oswald's, Askrigg. 10.00am
- 22 Family History Group lecture in Harmby. 2.00pm
- 24 First Christian Aid Lunch for Lent; Redmire from noon.
- 25 Charity Concert at Carperby.
- 27 Prayer Fellowship at Carperby.

### March

- 3 Sing for your Supper at Askrigg.

## King's Club Information

Next summer's King's Club dates are:

July 31st to August 3rd; 6-10 years at Askrigg School, 11-15 years at Low Mill. The Family BBQ will be on August 4th from 5.00pm at Askrigg School.

## Christians Together in the Dales:

### Spring Meeting

### Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March

### Communication, Communication, Communication

### Communicating God's Way

with Jean Boyd

The Methodist Church Hall, Middleham, 10:00am to 2:30pm

Charge for the day £5

(this includes coffee, tea & biscuits on arrival and at lunchtime).

Remember to bring your Bible and a Packed Lunch

*'Christians Together in the Dales' is a group of Christians who enjoy fellowship together, who seek to share and to learn more about their faith through 'Fellowship Days' held twice a year. These days are held in the spring and in the autumn. (In future they will be held on the second Thursdays in March and October.)*

Contact numbers. **Mrs. Jean Boyd 663474 and**

**Mr Paul Robson 623775**

## Settle-Carlisle Walking Festival

**May 1st - 27th**

*\*\*Accommodation providers – please tell visitors about this event.\*\**

**A week of walks, talks and music will take place along the Settle-Carlisle railway, starting on May 1st.** A small team of volunteers, led by Chris and Tony Grogan of Saltaire, has compiled a programme of events for various locations. This team will also publicise the festival, with support from Northern Rail and the Friends of the Settle-Carlisle line (FoSCL)

**[www.ride2stride.org.uk](http://www.ride2stride.org.uk)** Full programme details are given on this website

## Police Report

I'm sure most will know by now but the national non-emergency number has been changed. This is the number to use to call your local police. **This number is 101.**

Flooding has occurred on the A684 both between Worton and Aysgarth and at Wensley Bridge road several times over the last couple of months. Flooding occurs regularly at various times throughout the year so it astounds me how many occasions locals get caught out by this. The flooding often reaches depths of between 2 and 4 feet on the road surface. There are not many vehicles able to cope with these depths, so to avoid a hefty bill please don't attempt to drive through it. I find it beyond belief that people drive around the "Road Closed" signs and still get stuck.

The diversion for the closure between Aysgarth and Worton is to take the road from Aysgarth to Thornton Rust and then to Cubeck and down to Worton or vice versa. It is only a narrow road and therefore care needs to be exercised and patience required to use the passing places. Alternatively to avoid both flooded areas travel down the other side of the valley from Bainbridge across to Askrigg, or across Aysgarth Falls to Carperby, and then just follow the road. Heavy vehicle drivers need to be aware of the 18 tonne weight limit in Askrigg.

**Farmers please be aware.** There has been a spate of theft of Land Rover and trailer spare wheels. The latest was 13<sup>th</sup> January at Leyburn Auction Mart. Please be vigilant when at local Livestock Auctions and report any suspicious activity to us promptly. After all you tend to know who attends these events and who looks out of place!

Several sets of Christmas lights were stolen from various locations in Hawes sometime around New Year, however so far only one victim has reported this. The offender went prepared to take them as cable ties were cut to enable one set of lights to be taken. This would have taken several minutes. I cannot imagine people would travel far to commit this type of crime. Do you know something that will help?

Land Rover Defenders are still being targeted for theft. The only way we can tell if the right person is driving it is to stop it so please bear with us. A few seconds of your time is surely better than a massive rise in insurance premium or a multi thousand pound bill for replacing your vehicle. Recovery rate for Land Rovers is low as they are very easy to dismantle - apparently.

Thanks as always

**Andy Foster PC826**  
**Leyburn Safer Neighbourhood Team**

## The Upper Dales Mobile Skip Service

**Saturday February 18th**  
Gayle Green  
**9.00am - 1.00pm**

Refuse including large bulky items and recycling materials including plastic and cardboard all welcome.

**WARNING** - Please note that NO waste must be dumped the night before the skip visits on Gayle Green, or on the day before 9.00am. This places the mobile skip service, which is of huge benefit to us as a local initiative in the Upper Dales, under threat of complete withdrawal by NYCC, as it is interpreted as illegal fly-tipping.

Enquiries - County Councillor John Blackie **0796 758 9096**

## Hay Meadow Drama on DVD

Many of us saw the play *Sward! The story of a meadow* at the DCM or one of the village halls in the dales last summer. Now it is available on DVD. The play was written by Simon Corble and the performance by Blaize Theatre Company was recorded for the DVD at the Victoria Hall in Settle in mid June. *Sward!* has plenty of laughs but it raises some important issues about conserving our environment.

The DVD is available from the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. At £1 per copy it is heavily subsidised, although a £4 donation is suggested. It can be ordered from [www.ydmt.org](http://www.ydmt.org) or email [info@ydmt.org](mailto:info@ydmt.org) or phone **01524 51002**.

## Wensleydale Railway at Half Term

Trains will run daily from Saturday February 11th to Sunday February 19th and also the following weekend, Sat/Sun 25/26 February.

As soon as possible, train timetables will be available from the Post Offices in Hawes and Askrigg; the Community Office, the Dales Countryside Museum and the Ropeworks..

## Mountain Rescue Team

The start of 2012 is an excellent time for Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team (SMRT) to thank the residents and shop keepers of Upper Wensleydale for their support during the last year, whether by contributing on our Hawes street collection day in August or by making donations throughout the year in our collection boxes in shops and pubs around the area. Like all mountain rescue teams in England and Wales, SMRT is a charity which receives no government support and is funded entirely by public donations and by the work of team members (all volunteers). It costs over £20,000 a year to keep the team in operation and we are very grateful for all your support.

This is perhaps a good opportunity to say a little about SMRT and its activities. Despite its name the team's area of operation covers not only Swaledale but also all of Wensleydale, in fact everywhere within the Swaledale and Wensleydale watersheds as far east as the A1 and as far west as the Moorcock and Tan Hill. The team is based in Catterick but several team members live in Upper Wensleydale or Upper Swaledale, which means that we can usually be on the scene of an incident around Hawes (say on Great Shunner Fell or Widdale Fell) in an hour or less of being called out. And if we are faced with an extended search needing more manpower than our own team members can supply, we can call on the resources of our neighbouring teams – the Upper Wharfedale team to the south, the Cave Rescue Organisation in the Three Peaks area, the Kirkby Stephen team to the west, and the Teesdale and Weardale team to the north. SMRT operates under the authority of North Yorkshire Police, and often in close co-operation with the other emergency services – the Yorkshire Ambulance Service, Fire Brigade, RAF Search and Rescue, and the air ambulances working in the region.

All team members are fully trained to handle any possible mountain or fell emergency. In particular all members are trained in life support techniques and we include several professional “medics” in our ranks. We also have specialist units, including a “swiftwater” rescue unit and an underground unit (for cave or mine incidents). And as implied above, we have many training exercises throughout the year with our neighbouring mountain rescue teams and the other emergency services so that we can always operate as efficiently as if we were just one unit.

2011 was a fairly busy year for us, with (at the time of writing in mid-December) 26 incidents since the start of the year. These have involved not just helping visitors and walkers to our region who have had an unfortunate accident or got lost on the fells, but assisting local residents, particularly during the snowy weather early in the year and during the floods which hit us later the year. We hope you'll never need us, but if you do, we'll be there! In an emergency on (or under) the fells, just ring 999, and ask for Police then Mountain Rescue. Enjoy your days outdoors and keep safe!

**Tony Harrison, Burtsett (on behalf of Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team)**

### Hilda Thwaite

All the family would like to thank everyone for the many letters and cards of condolence and sympathy received following Hilda's death.

A special thanks to Wendy, Diane and Carol her carers, Jack Thompson for organising the funeral, Reverends Malcolm

Stonestreet and Ann Chapman for a lovely service and to Jackie and the girls at the Wensleydale Pantry. We appreciate the kind donations received in memory of Hilda which will be shared between St. Margaret's Church and Hawes Health Centre.



## Wensleydale Words

Happy New Year from everyone at The Wensleydale School and Sixth Form!

Students returned to school on Monday January 9th with real purpose. I greeted students as they arrived and they were well-dressed, polite and – unlike me – wide awake and ready to start the new year with zeal. Year 10 and 11 students, in particular, came back with a palpable sense of determination, which is just as well as they had important modular exams to sit. They behaved with maturity and seriousness throughout the tests and we now look forward to receiving great results for them in the spring.

Looking back, it was a busy end to 2011. We ended the term on a high with our annual presentation evening on December 16th. The evening was well-attended and acted as a celebration of students' successes and talents. As well as prize-giving, we had stunning musical performances from a range of students, and some excellent poetry-readings.

The school's Christmas Concert took place on December 19th and featured the best musical talent the school has to offer in the form of Cantabile and Showstoppers, and ended with the singing of Christmas carols. Our musicians were also in demand in the community over the festive period, at Thornton Rust and Brentwood Lodge.

Also in December, Year 7 student Alicia Hayden won a national poetry competition designed to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World Wide Fund for Nature with her poem, Leopard. Well done to Alicia!

The school's new 'Activities and Leisure Club' got off to a flying start last half-term with ten-pin bowling and ice-skating trips, as well as a shopping expedition. There are plenty more activities planned for this year including a trip to X-Scape near Castleford, a must for all budding skiers!

Post 16 students have been busy, too. They organized fund-raising events for Children in Need which helped raise over £1000 for the BBC charity. Post 16 students have also been completing UCAS applications for entry to university in September. Their courses of choice this year include Mathematics and Accounting, Animal Science, and Radiography.

The Multi-Use Games Area (or MUGA) has now been completed and looks fantastic. We hope it proves a useful community resource.

I'll end this month with a sports round-up: In **football**, James Dawson, James Dinsdale and James Wise have played Area Football this season. In the Area Football cups, Year 11 excelled themselves by beating Richmond and Bedale to reach the final. In the County Cup, Year 8 Boys face a tough game against St Aiden's in the semi final. In The ESFA cup, Year 8 Boys reached the last 32 schools in England but went out on penalties against Richard Rose

School, Cumbria. The girls continue to excel in the county football cups. The U13s, 14s and 16s have each reached the semi finals in their respective competitions and we are expecting at least one of the teams to win a cup in 2012.

In **hockey**, Year 8 girls played in a County Tournament in York at the end of last term and finished 6th. The Player of the tournament was Beth Wilkinson for a superb goalkeeping performance.

In **badminton**, Wensleydale were crowned the U14 and U16 doubles champions at Richmond. Congratulations to Hannah Cloughton (U14 Area singles champion), James Dinsdale (U14 champion), Caroline Busby (U16 champion) and Tom Readshaw (U16 semi finalist).

**Matt Bromley**

## **Hoppers' Sale – a Wensleydale Institution and a Family Business.**

Ebay has its uses but I have several times enjoyed being both a buyer and a seller at Hoppers' Sale. Recently Jean Lambert (nee Hopper) told me of the history of this much valued local service. She described how both Dales folk and regular vendors from the North East, Cumbria, Lancashire, London and the South West attend the sales.

The history of Hoppers' sale goes back to 1886 when Jean's grandfather, Joseph Hopper, was a farmer living up at Scarr Top, near Bainbridge. In those days even a small farm had hired help and Joseph decided to set up an additional business alongside the farm. For a short time his brother-in-law, Richard Pratt, joined the firm so it became Pratt & Hopper. In 1914 Joseph bought Yorescott Farm and ran a new business of auctioneer and wool broker, Mr Pratt no longer being part of the firm. As a wool broker Joseph arranged for the collection of fleeces from the area and for their sale following transport by train to Bradford. He also sold property, farms and livestock. Many of these sales were conducted on the premises, selling the livestock, sheep, cattle and house contents on the same day. Some sales of property were held in local inns.

Advertising was printed in the Wensleydale and Swaledale Almanack and sales were publicised by means of printed notices produced at Hiscock and Mason of Hawes or by Elwood's at Leyburn and displayed on bill boards in the villages, one being just outside the Gents WC in Hawes, opposite Cocketts butchers shop. These sales pre-dated the auction mart buildings and Joseph Hopper went on to become one of the founding members for both Hawes and Leyburn Auction Marts

The family sale business continued through the generations with Jean's father, also a Joseph Hopper, but known as Redvers, and followed later by Jean and her husband Bill Lambert, from Walden. Redvers was well known and he and his father sold cattle and sheep at Leyburn, Hawes, Reeth and Masham. In addition some Dalesbred sheep were sold at Kilnsey.

In 1970, following the death of Jean's father, Jean and Bill took over organising the selling of property and farms. By this time the auction sales were becoming much larger and they realised that a catalogue would be needed. Jean progressed from her father's old typewriter to word processor to computer to produce the catalogue and run the sales.

Auctions were held in various village halls, such as Askrigg, Bainbridge, West Burton and Aysgarth plus in the room in Leyburn above Wrays ironmongers where furniture had to be carried upstairs. However Jean realised a larger hall was needed and began regular bookings of Hawes Market House. Here she now has first choice of the dates although the December sale has to take place in Askrigg because of the pantomime requirements at Hawes.

The sales have grown considerably so that at a recent one there were 57 different vendors and over 1000 lots to auction. Jean says one of the attractions of these sales is that family, staff, vendors and purchasers are all good friends with many coming for a number of years. One friend from Redcar came to every sale for 40 years. At one sale she came in late, put a fancy candlestick on the table and smiling said "Please sell this again!" The first time she sold it Hoppers got a good profit for her, she then found it appearing again in a car boot sale and paid very little for it, so it was back to Hoppers' Sale to make another good profit.

Being a family business Helen, Jo-ann, Fiona and Rachel are four grandchildren who help at the sales, sorting out lots and holding up items for the public to see. When they were younger Jean's two daughters Liz and Jane and also son William helped too so it has always been a family business.

The auctioneers are part of the family too, one being Jean's son David Lambert, who also runs Bright's furniture removals and the other being Jean's son-in-law Brian Carlisle. David's wife Christine is the auctioneer's clerk who books the lots in as they arrive. Claire, William's wife, will be in charge of small items after they have sold at a sale in Askrigg. Other staff who help on sale days are also friends including one who has been working with the Hoppers for 35 years.

Some of the outdoor sales were memorable. Jean remembers a sale at Hillary Hall, near Hurst in Swaledale. The owner wanted the furniture put outside for viewing and insisted that the sale could only begin after all present had joined her in singing "Beautiful Swaledale". One lady always brought her knitting to the sales and as she raised her hand to loosen the ball of wool, with a smile on his face Jean's father would say "are you bidding Nelly?" to which she answered a very firm "no" and everybody laughed. One delighted vendor had bought a Beswick belted Gallo-way bull at a car boot sale for £5 and Hoppers' sold it for £1050.

In 1986 Jean was encouraged by customers to celebrate the 100 years of Hoppers' Sale so, for an Askrigg sale, she made a large fruitcake, suitably iced, and staff found themselves some Victorian clothes to wear. There were a number of speeches with memories of earlier days and everyone was offered a slice of cake with a glass of wine.

Internet connections and mobile phone signals are not always reliable hereabouts but on only one occasion, since Jean took over in 1970, has a sale been cancelled and that was owing to the snowy conditions last December in Askrigg. For those who want personal, friendly service and a good day out in Hawes there's not many that can match Hoppers' Sale – and you can usually get good tea and cakes too!

**Pamela J. Robinson**

## In Memoriam: Hugh Kemp

My first encounter with Hugh Kemp was in the early 1980s when Margaret and I drove down into Wensleydale and found our way to Barn Cottage which the Kemps had just advertised for sale. We were straight away invited to spend a weekend there in Snaizholme to 'See how you like it - no obligation'. We came, saw, and were conquered by their old converted barn in the remote, high valley where in 1967, having bought it with its assorted dwellings (all of them empty and mostly uninhabitable), he and Jane set out to repopulate it, along with their three sons, assorted cats and dogs, with trees and the birds which came to nest in them - it soon became a bird sanctuary - and also with holiday-makers who rented their four, by then renovated, cottages.

For years we came just for holidays and weekends and later it became our permanent home. As there was only an old shed between us and Mirk Pot farmhouse, where Hugh and Jane were living, we became friends and for many years we shared many experiences. So, now far away in the soft south, we were deeply grieved to learn of Hugh's death on 27th December, and though there may be others better qualified to do so than me, I should like to pay tribute to someone who, to us at least, always seemed the archetypal Yorkshireman. For, as Hilaire Belloc once memorably put it:

*He does not die that can bequeath Some influence to the land he loves ...*

And surely that was just what Hugh achieved. He did indeed come from long-established Yorkshire farming stock and from his father he learned to love reading, from his musical mother he derived the artistic flair in which she warmly supported him. His Quaker upbringing led him to choose the mines as an alternative to National Service though his time underground as a 'Bevin Boy' was not one he much cared to dwell on. But when he finally reached the Ruskin School of Art in Oxford it seemed he had found his true *métier* as a painter. In his fascinating autobiography we can also discover intriguing sidelights on his student days: among them vacations in France on a shoe-string, chancy solo canoe voyages, and an idyllic painting holiday in Italy.

Painting didn't pay the rent, nor did being a lock-keeper, but his life-long skill with his hands led him to single-handed rebuilding of ruined crofts in the far Hebrides. His first marriage left him with a small son, but here he met up with Jane again (he had been with her in student days but nothing had come of it then.)

After some successful rebuilding enterprises in Kent, in the course of which he incidentally learnt how to plant and grow trees, the quest for more (and I suspect remoter) land led them eventually to Mirk Pot and Cow Hill in Snaizholme, with ninety acres.

When they first saw it Mirk Pot was snowed up and at Cow Hill, where they lived at first, 'the living space was waist-deep in manure!' It may be they didn't then foresee their life-time's labour there, but what Hugh started off as a way to earn himself a living slowly yet ineluctably turned into a one-man odyssey of reclamation and conservation. As he once said to me 'I used to plant conifers as a cash crop, now I hope my hard-woods will be an inheritance.' Nor did he just mean for his heirs.

For Snaizholme, with its new oaks and hazels, its waters, deer, birds and flowers and nowadays its delightful red squirrels too, has become a refuge for all the creatures of that natural world Hugh so much loved to dwell in. I think we can truthfully say:

Where now a wayfarer in Snaizholme sees What was bare fell-side turned a world of trees; Deep in the woods his strong, skilled hands once made, Hugh rests at last beneath their cool, green shade.

**Trevor Johnson, Henley**

*Hugh's wife, Jane, has for several years written her much appreciated quarterly pieces on the wildlife there for the Newsletter and we send her our condolences and best wishes. Ed.*



**Jack Sutton**



**‘Buttertubs’ Jonathon Woolley**





**‘Across the Dale’ Jack Sutton**