



THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER

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**Upper Wensleydale
Newsletter**

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This web-copy does not contain the commercial
adverts which are in the full Newsletter.

As a general rule we only accept adverts from
within the circulation area and no more than one-
third of each issue is taken up with them.

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ing asked before any part of the Newsletter is
reproduced

**THE MAY ISSUE WILL BE
PRODUCED ON
May 1st AND 2nd.**

**DEADLINE FOR COPY:
THURSDAY
APRIL 25th**

Editorial

They say that things come in threes, and this month's editorial consists of a threesome of concerns - not including any comments about the Budget; there's been plenty written about that.

The first matter relates to making contact and searching for information. You would think that with the huge increase in modern technology this would be easier. Have you tried lately to contact someone whose phone number you do not know? The phone book gets progressively thinner, and there is no such publication for mobiles. In dealing with large companies or organisations it becomes harder to speak; they want you to email, which is fine if you have the name of the individual or if a conversation is not required. A recent inquiry to a very large organisation based in the Northeast found several web-listings all with a phone number which was unobtainable and no reply received from an email. Days later and much searching 'got through'. After explaining the difficulty, the phone numbers are still wrong. The Internet is full of out-of-date information. *Let's do our best to keep our own websites correct and advise others to do the same.*

The second. Let us now turn to roads. We wouldn't like to be the authorities who apportion how our taxes are spent and we know money is tight, but one concern, just as great as the rough or pot-holed state of our roads, is the dreadful lack, or poor condition of white-lining. These lines are vital along the edges and down the centres of our winding main roads, especially at night and in bad weather. Without the upkeep of these, personal accidents or collisions become much more likely. *Let's keep the councils up to date as to where we have found the greatest difficulty.*

Now to number three! A report on the most recent social and community attitudes reveals a steady decline, generation by generation, in younger people's concern for these. 'Millennials' as they are termed (those born roughly between 1980 and 2000 - the children of the post-war 'baby-boom') were less likely to think about social problems, make efforts to conserve natural resources, be interested in or participate in government, voting, contacting their representatives, participate in demonstrations or boycotts or giving money to political causes. The decline in environmental concern and action is markedly steep.

Remarkably, three times as many 'Millennials', when compared with their parents' generation, said they "made no personal effort at all to help the environment"

'Millennials' did show increased levels of community volunteering, most likely resulting from high schools encouraging community volunteering through school-organised programmes. In sum, these results primarily support the "Generation Me" (what a dreadful title) attitudes, with linear downward trends in civic engagement and community feeling. The data analysed suggest that the popular view of 'Millennials' as more caring, community oriented, and politically involved than previous generations is largely incorrect. *That's worrying; let's help to make sure that Upper Wensleydale bucks the trend. Of course, others may argue that as people grow older they become more socially, politically and environmentally aware. Discuss!*

Family History Group

The next meeting of the Upper Dales Family History Group is at **2.00pm on Wednesday, April 24th**, in Fremington Sunday School when the speaker is Paul Dryburgh who will be looking at the Family History Resources available at the Borthwick Institute of Archives in York. The Upper Dales Group is a branch of the Cleveland Family History Society; entry is free for members and non-members are very welcome at £2 each. On Saturday, May 4th, from 1.00 to 5.00pm there will be a drop-in Computer Club at Hudson House, Reeth for anyone who would like practical help and advice on getting started or getting further with their research. No need to book, stay as long as you like - £3 for the first two hours, then £1 per hour. For further details see the website :

www.upperdalesfhg.org.uk

or contact **Tracy Little - 01748 884759**

Craft Fair at Sycamore Hall, Bainbridge

Saturday 20th April, 10.00am – 2.00pm

on behalf of Sycamore's amenity fund, Everyone is welcome, entrance will be 50p and refreshments are available, Crafts to suit everyone and a warm welcome awaits all visitors. If anyone is interested in a table please contact:

Lisa on 07919896612

Love Music? Read on!

Where else can you hear:-

The greatest classical guitarist of his time, **John Williams**; the legendary choral composer and conductor, **John Rutter**; 'the patron saint of poetry' **Roger McGough**; soloists from the **Halle Orchestra**, woodwind and horn sections of **Northern Sinfonia**; 'the Pride of Lancashire' the **Leyland Band** direct from the European Brass Band Championship; 'Clue' favourites **Barry Cryer** and **Colin Sell**; and the 5th Reeth Lecture from **Lady Lucinda Lambton**?

All these and much, much more appear at the **Swaledale Festival**, two weeks of fabulous music, poetry, art, drama, comedy and walking.

The Festival opens with the sparkling 16 year-old recorder virtuoso and *BBC Young Musician of the Year* finalist **Charlotte Barbour-Condini** on **Saturday 25th May**.

Other Swaledale Festival delights are the dazzling guitarist-composer **Antonio Forcione**; the **Northern Early Music Collective**; the **Tetra Guitar Quartet**; **David Owen Norris** on *The World's First Piano Concertos*; traditional Irish music from **Niamh Ní Charra**; and local brass bands.

The Festival runs until June 8th and packs an exciting programme of over 50 events into a summer fortnight. Events take place in churches, chapels and intimate venues throughout Swaledale, Wensleydale and Arkengarthdale.

Check the website for programme details or to join the mailing list

www.swalefest.org or ring **01748 880018**. The Box office opens on **April 29th** but you can send in postal bookings immediately.



Mystery picture. Last month's was of East Beck Bridge on the path between Castle Bolton and Redmire Now where is this?

April Competition

These represent well-known phrases or words

1. FEATHERS IN THE LANDFILLS
2. FORSIFROMDEMATION
3. GLASS GLASS GLASS GLASS
4. D I V I S I O N
5. GSGE
6. RIPLETFALL
7. ENIG (Usually very dark)
8. HOROBOD
9. TTIIMMEE
10. NOONLATE
11. AN A FROM TITUS'S FOR SCOTLAND
12. OND (A long way off)
13. MOORLADS
14. AH! SO IT'S JOSEPH RULER!
15. ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

March Competition Answers

Roads, tracks and lanes in our area.

1. Beggarmans Road
2. Cam High Road
3. Craggside Road
4. Mire Bank Lane
5. Heads Bank
6. Thoresby Lane
7. Morpeth Gate
8. Langthwaite Lane
9. Witton Steeps
10. Holl Gate
11. Whiterow Road
12. Carpley Green Road.

Winner, **Jane Ritchie** of West Burton donated her £20 prize to The British Heart Foundation.

Air Ambulance Clothes Collection

Please bring bagged old or unwanted clothes, curtains, towels, bedding (not pillows or duvets) shoes, used ink cartridges and old mobile phones to St Margaret's Church by April 17th at 10am. Bags are available in the church and full bags may be left in the church.

Proceeds of the collection will be split between the Great North Air Ambulance and St. Margaret's Church Restoration Fund

Please ring Janet Middleton on **666070** if you need help getting things to the church.

**Middleham and Dales
Local History Group**

Tuesday 16th April, 2.00pm

Middleham Key Centre

The 5th John Rettie Memorial Lecture

The English Civil War in the Dales

David Cooke

John Rettie, a renowned international journalist, humanitarian and dalesman, was chairman of this group until his death in January 2009. This fifth lecture to honour his memory will be given by military historian, David Cooke.

In 1644 King Charles, in a letter to his nephew, Prince Rupert, wrote that if York was lost, so too would be his crown. From early 1642 until Christmas 1645, Yorkshire saw armies marching along her highways and byways, battles and skirmishes fought in her fields and her towns and castles besieged. The first overt act of defiance against the king and the first siege of the Civil War took place at Hull, the largest battle of the Civil War raged a few miles to the west of York at Marston Moor, and one of the longest continual sieges of the Civil War was at Pontefract. This talk tells the story of the campaigns fought between the King's supporters and their Parliamentary and Scots opponents for control of the county. Our area became caught up in the conflict, as soldiers marched through the Dales both Skipton and Bolton Castles were besieged.

David Cooke was born in Barnsley and is fascinated by Yorkshire's rich and long military history. He has had seven books published on various aspects of this subject. 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** or email dotandtonyk@btinternet.com

We would like to thank friends and neighbours for the beautiful flowers, cards, cupcakes and offers to walk the dog, following Mary's accident. Special thanks to James, Fell rescue and the ambulance crew. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.
Mary and Derek Hibberd and George (the dog)

**When Your Feet Hurt –
You Hurt All Over”**

Many people suffer with foot pain, recurrent injuries, back, hip or knee pain without realising that the problem is caused by their feet! Prescription orthotics can help with many conditions and ease the pain felt in not only the foot and ankle, but other areas of the body too. A specialised assessment of the feet combined with gait analysis can reveal dysfunction and its effects on the body, some of which can be corrected simply with orthotics, combined with manual therapy and rehab advice and exercises. So why suffer any longer? Call Reflex Orthopaedic Massage on **015396 24871**, www.reflex-om.com or follow my page on Facebook for further information.

**An Evening with
GINA LEISHMAN**

Friday 5th April 8.00pm

Reeth Memorial Hall

Join this New York based, Teesdale rooted singer/songwriter, composer and multi-instrumentalist as she shares her "ABCs of Living, Loving and Dying" through jazz, music hall, traditional and cabaret songs and stories. A solo performance, with surprise special guests. The concert is kindly given in aid of The Swale Singers (*who, for the first time will be performing in Askrigg as part of the Swaledale Festival*).

Tickets £10 at the door, or contact tel. no. **01748 886457**.

**East Witton Male Voice Choir with
Singing for Pleasure
Ladies Group**

Friday 3rd May at 7.30pm

St. Margaret's Church, Hawes

Tea and biscuits - Raffle - £6.00 at the door.

Proceeds for Restoration Fund

Askrigg School PTFA

Spring coffee morning

Saturday April 27th 10.00am to noon

Back room of the village hall

£2.50 including tea/coffee and cake

New Cash to Put More Power Lines Underground

More cash has been set aside to get rid of unsightly overhead power lines in the National Park, and residents and visitors are being asked to suggest areas where cables should go underground in the next few years.

Ofgem, the regulator of the electricity industry, is in the process of allocating funds for the undergrounding of more power lines in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Thomas Harland, the YDNPA's Planning Policy Officer, said: "We haven't received confirmation of our final allocation from Ofgem yet, but I think we can confidently estimate it to be about £3 million.

As part of an existing £1.8m five-year scheme, the YDNPA has worked with power suppliers on projects to put a number of overhead lines underground, including some from Dent Station to Cowgill and from Grimwith to Stump Cross.

Other schemes that are on-going include lines in Upper Wharfedale from Deepdale to Beckermonds and in Ribblesdale on Swarth Moor.

Ann Brooks, the YDNPA's Member Champion for Sustainable Development, said: "This is a very welcome initiative which, hopefully, will allow yet more undergrounding of electricity supplies within this National Park. I would commend Ofgem for their very positive contribution in helping to conserve the beautiful landscape that we all value and enjoy."

Anyone wanting to put forward a suggestion can contact Thomas on **652378** or email him at thomas.harland@yorkshiredales.org.uk.

Dales Business Conference

Middleham Key Centre is the venue for the annual dales business conference on **Tuesday 23rd April**. The keynote speaker is Gary Verity CEO of Welcome to Yorkshire who will be talking about the fantastic opportunities that the Tour de France and other regular events such as the Swaledale, or Walking & Book Festivals can bring to a wide range of businesses across the district.

Delegates will also be able to see hear some case studies from people who have used the various services that the Dales Business Forum have developed over the last 18 months including training, business mentoring and support, and the comprehensive websites and business database.

After a buffet lunch provide by Fairhurst's, there will be a series of workshops looking at the value of social media in business, marketing on a shoestring, alternative sources of finance, opportunities offered by superfast broadband and how to act cooperatively on procurement.

The cost of the event is £18 with lunch [£10 without] and bookings can be made via:

www.eventsinthedailes.co.uk or ring:

01748 825362 for more information.

St Oswald Castle Bolton Church

supports two missions regularly:-

Mission Aviation Fellowship, who have Mark and Sarah Newnham in Uganda, where Mark is an avionics engineer servicing aircraft that fly within Uganda, but also into Sudan and Congo supporting Mission activities and relief work. They will be staying with us for the last week of August.

Scripture Union UK, who have Neil Jackson, missionary especially to young people in NE England - he lives near Darlington.

What we raise from our spring plant sales enhances our own personal and corporate giving.:-

Plant Sales at Castle Bolton Church

Easter Monday 1st April: Home baking and refreshments in church, plants sales outside, **10.00am - 12.30pm**.

Similar sales will be held on the two Bank Holiday Mondays in May.

National Park's New Group for Young Volunteers

Young people are being given the chance to learn new skills in the National Park. The YDNPA has launched a Young Rangers group aimed at 11 to 16-year-olds who have an interest in the outdoors.

Catherine Kemp, the Authority's Outreach Officer, said: "The response has been amazing – there have been so many wanting to join that we are full up. And they all live either in the National Park or on its boundary, mainly in the Craven district."

They will be learning all sorts of practical skills and general knowledge about the natural environment that will hopefully help them in their school work and in their development as individuals. The young people have good teachers in the shape of former National Park Authority volunteers co-ordinator Rae Lonsdale, his wife Jean and Dales Volunteer Mark Barnes

Domino Drive

The Fountain Hotel, Hawes.

Friday 26th April at 8.00pm.

Refreshments available. Raffle.

***Proceeds to St.Margaret's Church
Restoration Fund.***

Jake, Fake and Aysgarth Station

Many people remember the Yorkshire singer/songwriter Jake Thackray with great affection. Audiences loved him for his fiercely intelligent lyrics, their satirical bite and his lugubrious style. Exquisitely funny, satirical, incisive, irreverent, witty and gloriously un-PC, and sometimes all of these at the same time, Jake was a one off; his poetry broke the rules yet worked beautifully. Performing in folk clubs led to appearances on local BBC programmes followed by national TV with regular slots on The Frost Report, The Braden Beat and That's Life. In nearly thirty years of performing he made over 1,000 radio and TV appearances ranging from a topical song in magazine programmes to broadcasts of live concerts on both radio and television. His EMI catalogue produced seven albums between 1967 and 1991. Sadly, Jake died in 2002 but his songs have recently enjoyed a revival thanks to honorary Yorkshireman, John Watterson. Over the last few years John has performed the songs of Jake Thackray at festivals, concerts, clubs, after dinner venues and – most specially – to members of Jake's family. During the early part of this year he supported Fairport Convention on their annual winter tour and now he's bringing his show to Wensleydale. Performing as Fake Thackray, John's act is a celebration of all things Jake. A talented guitarist and vocalist, John has that engaging quality that makes Jake's songs come to life again. The result is a highly entertaining, heartfelt tribute to one of the finest songwriters of the 20th century. Fake Thackray has received rave reviews from many luminaries of the folk world including Mike Harding, Ralph McTell and Richard Digance. The show is now touring the UK and will be coming to Carperby Village Institute on **Saturday 27th April**. Tickets are £10 in advance or £12 on the door. Call **663808** for tickets or further details. And the Aysgarth Station connection? All proceeds from the concert will go towards The Aysgarth Station Project. Since April 2011 a group of volunteers from the Wensleydale Railway have been engaged on a three year programme to refurbish the Aysgarth Station site in advance of the extension of the Wensleydale Railway from Redmire. Their plans, including visitor attractions and educational projects, are in need of funds so we hope you'll come along to the concert to help Jake and Fake raise some money.

Steve Sheldon

News from Sycamore Hall

Wednesday afternoon the 27th February saw a return visit by Tony Hill with his keyboard; he seems to have the flair to entertain people in a way which we all seem to enjoy. He played and sang, inviting residents to join in. Most interesting was his singing of the "Grandfather's Clock" and telling us the story behind the song and how it originated.

Much appreciated was a demonstration of the "handjive" by carer Dilys from the Day Room comparable in movement to an eastern belly dancer, very much action perfection, well done Dilys.

These afternoons are always attended by the friends of Sycamore and a certain lady usually accompanies them; I think we all knew her as Audrey (a character indeed), nee Percival. Seeing her reminds me of a day in the middle 50s when she turned out as goalkeeper for a local ladies eleven in a challenge match against the locals men's team (Gayle and Hawes'). How many people remember the occasion or better still how many people are still with us who played in the game? It was played at Hawes. I am sure the Newsletter would be pleased to hear.

This month sees the retirement of another stalwart carer Edward, starting at High Hall in 2000 as Handyman/Gardener and a certain amount of caring which led him to full time caring. He moved across to Sycamore with the big move and became a very well liked carer. He was a man of many talents, from changing a car wheel to fixing a kitchen shelf. We all recognised Edward for his versatile hands, his smile and joking attitude; he was a 100% man and will be very much missed by the residents.

Very much appreciated was the gift of a cheque for £200.00 from Hawes Silver Band to the Sycamore Hall amenity funds from the proceeds of their recent concert alongside Barbara's girls' choir. This will enable us to purchase a karaoke machine, something we have been wanting for some time. I am sure it will be put to good use for future entertainment by the residents who are very grateful indeed for this very kind gesture.

Derek Ramsden

Tea and Scones with stalls

Easter Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

1st/2nd/3rd April, 1.00 - 3.00pm

in St. Margaret's Church, Hawes.

For Church general funds

Remembering

By an Askrigg eye-witness

The Wensleydale Railway has been researched in depth by enthusiastic students; let me add situations I remember from the late '20s and early '30s.

A milk train ran from Hawes to London every night. The train came chugging up the dale mid-afternoon with empty churns – a



churn being a stainless steel container which held 10 gallons of milk. The train left Hawes at 7.00pm at which time

farmers were making for the stations with a wagon - a horse drawn cart with four wheels carrying perhaps six to ten churns; or a float, a specially designed horse-drawn two-large-wheeled cart with two churns and a seat for the driver. Each churn was carefully labelled with the farmer's address and dairy number (Today they would have been bar coded!)

The milk was off-loaded at the stations on to a fleet of four-wheeled trolleys – the same height as the carriage floor. On arrival of the London train the milk was quickly transferred to the open plan baggage vans. The milk was cooled on the farm with a "fridge" – a stainless steel grill with tap water running through. I often wonder what the condition of the milk was when it arrived in London overnight.

The signalman was issued with fog signals – explosive devices which clipped on the rail. When the locomotive passed over the pad there was an almighty bang warning the driver of approaching fog. These fog signals must have had a limited shelf life and new ones were issued frequently, so the signalman had an ample supply. After a village wedding the bride and bridegroom together with guests made their way to the station to see the happy couple away on honeymoon. Pre-warned, the signal man had put half a dozen fog signals for an exploding firework display on the line ahead of the locomotive, which could be heard back in the village. So the wedding finished and the honeymoon started with a deafening noise.

Askrigg Station had a water tower situated alongside Paddock Beck. The storage capacity was 5000 gallons of water and was available

for the locomotives in case of need. There was no electricity. If a loco stopped to take on water the station porter had to hand pump water from the beck up to the tank some 30feet. The railway was always a playground for lads on summer evenings and week ends. One night the lads (I was not one of them) climbed the ladder, opened the valve and drained the tank, pity the poor old porter.

The platelayers were the custodians of the track. Each station had two or three usually resident in a railway cottage. Half way between stations a cottage was provided for another platelayer.

Thomas Martin from Hawes was a lonesome platelayer – he had to walk the track six days a week. From Hawes to Redmire, he inspected the rail left and right alternate days. He also had to check the fencing to make sure no livestock could get on to the track. Martin, as he was affectionately known, was in later years provided with a self propelled rail tricycle which he worked with a two handed lever, but the gradient down the dale was in his favour and the appliance did not need much energy, but life was not much easier. Martin now had to rail cycle to Leyburn. When he got there late afternoon the appliance was dismantled and sent back to Hawes on the 5.00pm passenger train. The platelayers used to have to walk to their work site perhaps pushing a wheeled bogey, but in 1930 a motorised rail truck was provided for the workforce, their tools and materials. The truck had a windscreen at either end – other wise it was open to the elements – it was known locally as "The flying bedstead".

The passenger train often brought a specially adapted truck loaded with cattle. The passengers had to wait while the loco shunted the livestock into the cattle dock. Most stations had a small field where cattle could be put out to graze awaiting collection.

A frequent sight on the station platform was a week-old calf laid in a sack with its head protruding, to be conveyed in the guard's van to some farm further down the dale.

In the Scottish racing season, sitting at my desk in Yorebridge Grammar School, I used to see "A horse box special", a train with perhaps 30 horse boxes from Middleham (loaded at Leyburn). Each "Box" housed two horses with a compartment for the stable lad to tend the needs of the mobile stable. The locomotive would be changed at Garsdale and

"The special" would continue to Lanark, Ayr and beyond.

Sometimes the train brought a "Mourning coach"; this coach contained a coffin decked with flowers, and alongside was a compartment for the bereaved family. All was off-loaded for a funeral at Askrigg.

There were frequent "trips" picking up passengers all the way up or down the dale. Sunday school trips to Scarborough, Morecambe and Blackpool; School trips to York and Darlington. I had a great disappointment – there was a trip to Liverpool – my mother took my two sisters and left me behind!

Perhaps the greatest occasion was a trip organised by the school; this was to London to see the 1935 King George V Silver Jubilee decorations. We had a great riotous overnight journey. Arriving in Marylebone about 7.30am we were breakfasted in a nearby bistro and then loaded into motor coaches for a full tour of the Jubilee route. The headmaster was furious – we all fell asleep.

It would be great to hear from anyone who was with me on these great days.

Michael Weatherald (1922 vintage)

Our Oldest Fan Club!

The Kent fan club is going strong and this month it is one of the younger members - Rex Tulett - who has spotted Eunice in the middle of the circle dancing illustration on page 33.

You will be pleased to hear that weather in Wensleydale has been a whole heap better than it has been down here in Kent. Fingers crossed this will continue for the Easter period. when we are due north again and, moreover, when lambing is in full swing.

As always, thank you to you and your team for the Newsletters. They give us such pleasure and are read by a wide range of fan club members these days. Our cottage in Wensleydale is used constantly by others when we are not there and many of them comment on how helpful the Newsletters are in giving them a true flavour of life in the Dales, not to mention the useful information about what is going on during their stay. We have now been receiving the newsletter for 15 years. I have finally started shedding early editions as our bookshelves are running out of space!

Best Wishes,

Sheila Birkin

Exhibition: Yoredale

The impact of lead mining on the fragile landscape of the National Park is the theme of a new art exhibition in Bainbridge during April.

Called '**Making a mark - lead mining in the Yorkshire Dales**', the display of work by Gargrave artist Bev Parker will be on show in the Yoredale offices in Bainbridge from April 8th.

It will be her first solo exhibition and focuses on lead mining sites in Wharfedale and Swaledale.

Bev, who worked for the Authority for 23 years, said: "I have always been interested in local history and archaeology, and my fascination for maps - along with a deep interest in the uplands - combine to stimulate my work.

Richard Burnett, the YDNPA's Director of Corporate Services, said: "The exhibition focuses on an unusual subject in a very unique way and we hope it will provide some food for thought to visitors and staff alike."

The exhibition runs until **May 24th** in the reception area of the offices, between **8.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.**

Five-a- Side

Yorebridge Sports Development Association are resurrecting the Wensleydale Five-a-Side Football League to be held on the newly refurbished Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) at Askrigg. Matches will be played on weekday evenings starting at 6.30pm or later to suit.

This popular competition used to be hotly contested by clubs and individuals from all corners of the Dales, and proved popular with regular footballers wanting to keep up their fitness level during the closed season. The Association has received support from Richmondshire District Council to host another competition in 2013.

The league is open to everyone, regardless of experience, and will start in May and continue for a number of weeks until concluded where a prize giving will be held with trophies and cash awards. Teams are welcomed from football clubs, workplaces, pubs and individuals who can either make up teams or we can put you in touch with others. Players must be aged 16 or over.

Further information can be found at www.yorebridge-sport.co.uk, or contact:

Jan Hale on 650060 or 07968 606571

Meet McIntyre's Meat !

I went to have a talk with Martin McIntyre at Borwins, Bainbridge, knowing as much about the meat production business as you could write on a stamp, and came out with a lot of food for thought.

Martin and his wife Lindsey set up the abattoir in 2001 and have, with a lot of hard work and many ups and downs now built a successful company with something like a 2,000 customer base. They handle stock not only from North Yorkshire but Cumbria, North Lancashire, County Durham and the Tees Valley, their busiest time being from December to July.

Martin left school with no qualifications and after a spell on a trawler (!) and working in local businesses he set up as a 'free-lance' slaughterer going from farm to farm. He has held a personal slaughter licence since 1983. He found himself faced with a decision, to give it up as the workload got heavier, or set up an abattoir of his own, his aim always to kill stock for local farmers. At this point Martin wanted me to put on record that the grant he got to set up in business cost *more* in consultants' fees than it was worth, and yet he wouldn't have got the grant otherwise. He was grateful to the YDNP Authority for their co-operation when he was setting up.

They now employ seven full-time staff and up to 20 or 30 when they are very busy.

Martin paused to tell me how difficult it is to get staff. There are Health and Safety and Insurance issues relating to under eighteens and it seems that not enough twenty-year-olds want to make a career of it, even though they would get fully trained. Looks like a good career for someone out there! (Some other employers in the dale will recognise this problem!)

I asked about regulations and the EU. "A nightmare!" was his comment. And of course with every new food scare to hit the headlines, it generates another mountain of paperwork.

"People need re-educating about food", he commented, "there is no such thing as 'value' meat. Everyone knows how much a kilo of minced beef costs in the butchers, so if you see an offer for twenty burgers for £2.50 in a supermarket, well, you can bet that you're not paying for beef!"

He talked about Supermarkets, about shopping locally and about supporting farmers, and celebrating the skills of animal husbandry, which we in Britain should be proud of. Our conversation ranged over such buzz words as 'Provenance' and 'Low Food Miles' and I was left in no doubt that Martin is a man who is rightly proud of this industry and of farming.

(I have to say that probably fifty percent of what we discussed, I couldn't have printed here, for fear of litigation!)

I'll let Martin have the last word, "Buy local meat, you won't find better, and support your local butchers and farmers!" I don't think we can disagree with that.

S.H.

Richmond Jam Charity Concert 7.30pm Saturday 20th April

In the Hall at the Wensleydale School.

The successful young jazz group from Richmond who have performed for three successive years in Richmond Jazz Festival are giving a charity concert in aid of the **Wensleydale School Sixth Form Amala Project** to help the students support the Amala Children's Home in India. Tickets £5 from **Kate Chorley 663531, Niamh Sheehan 650866** or on the door. Refreshments will be available in the interval. This event is being match funded £ for £ by Barclays Bank.

Thanks ever so much. Please get in touch if you would like to know more about the Amala Project.

Nigel Chorley

Blethermen - Irish Folk Concert in Askrigg Village Hall Saturday April 27th , 8.00 – 11.15pm.

Refreshments and a Licensed Bar and Raffle. Proceeds to the Sport and Fitness Community Centre, Yorebridge, Askrigg. Admission £12 in advance and on the night. The last occasion was a great success and we look forward to your support.

Kieran Fahy, 650 477

Best Foot Forward

Cabin fever is a dreadful affliction and the weather this last few weeks hasn't helped, so despite a cold north-easterly wind and the remains of snow on the tops I set off for a morning's tramp - had to be back for an expected phone call 'in the afternoon', which didn't come until 6.00pm!



I quite frequently walk along to Burtersett, up the bridleway past Yorburch towards Wether Fell, and then back steeply down to Gayle. This time, showing just how adventurous life can be, I set off the other way round! I like the path from the bottom of the Beggarmans Road up to what must be the narrowest of walled tracks leading to the remains of a small quarry and then swinging south-east to cross Blackburn Sike wherever you feel like a short jump.

The next kilometre up to the bridleway is very steep, but of course easier than coming down in slippery conditions. It's a pity the old large hut (at 883874) on the way to the Roman Road is tumbling down.



This morning's walk was to take me much further because I suddenly realised that the other bridleway from the Roman Road at Common allotments via Carlows to Countersett hadn't felt my feet on it for years. (It has been crossed many times going over from Burtersett to Marsett.) I'd forgotten how lovely and open it is, as it remains on the high ground, becomes dry on the limestone and has commanding views both north across the main dale, and south to Great Whernside and Buckden Pike. Pity about the biting north-easterly!

After about one and a half miles, it drops quite steeply down with a lovely view of Semerwater to join Crag Side Road just above Countersett, but before this I decided to wander on to the highest end of this rounded ridge where there is a prominent little mound. (My map was at home; felt I didn't need it round here, so had no idea of the name.)

Now let me tell you I think this spot is among the most impressive little places around. Turning round, the view westwards opens up the

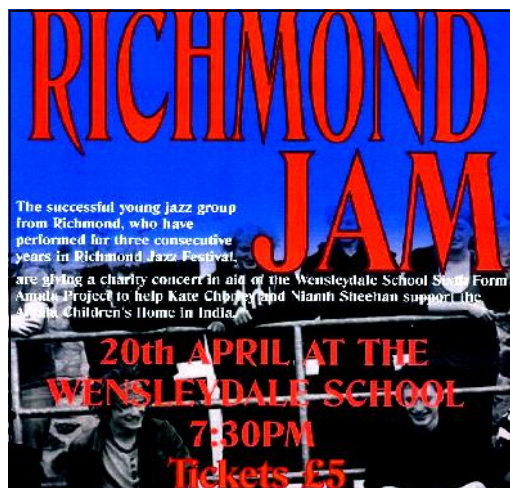
whole of Upper Wensleydale and the more distant tops on one side, and the lovely Raydale on the other. Eastwards the rest of Richmondshire is spread out. What a place, I thought, for one of those plinths with a circular viewfinder on the top! Would YDNPA let us dedicate such a thing to the UWNL?

And do you know its name? Talk about an uninspiring! It is simply: Crag.

My walk continued up Crag Side Road round Hawes End and down on the direct path to Horton Gill Bridge and waterfall, thence to Burtersett. Something else I didn't know: the track up to the old Burtersett Quarries and Levels from High Lane, is now a permissive path making an alternative route to the Roman Road and a chance to see the old workings.

From Burtersett, and home for lunch, there was a pleasant following wind!

A.S.W.



Wensleydale Society

The Society's Annual General Meeting, on **Friday 5th April at 7.30pm** in West Burton Village Hall, will be followed by a talk by Isabel Stirk on that family of literary geniuses "The Brontë Family".

Non- members are welcome at £1 per meeting and we make it easier to get to lectures by our return coach between Middleham and West Burton, which picks up in Harmby, Leyburn and West Witton, (details from **Eileen Jackson 622287**)

Our monthly walks programme for members adds to the enjoyment of Wensleydale and its wider environs, and is a wonderful way to get to know the area.

Newsletter Accounts March 2012 to February 2013

Income

Balance b/f	10545.16
Donations and postal subs	907.00
Boxes	3290.11
Adverts	10446.50
Sale of equipment (staplers)	877.99
Interest	63.06
	<u>15584.66</u>
	26129.82

Expenditure

Production costs	7930.50
Committee expenses and honoraria	1281.11
Software and computer services	173.00
Office rental	120.00
Donations and distribution costs	2442.76
Prizes	90.00
Equipment— box labels	228.00
Printer maintenance	324.16
Book/equipment award scheme	1748.77
Bank charges/ unhonoured cheque	79.00
	<u>14417.30</u>
Balance c/f	<u>11712.52</u>
	26129.82

The accounts were audited and approved on 14th March 2013 by Barry Wilcox, MCMI.

A change in our production method for the Newsletter during the year, and the introduction of new postal rates, made it necessary to increase both the cover price of the Newsletter and the rates charged to our advertisers. Despite the anticipated higher costs, the one-off sale of some of our old production equipment, and a number of generous donations from our readers, has helped to increase the annual income again.

Production costs have more than doubled since last year and the failure of equipment led to additional expenditure during the year. Thus, until our financial situation was stabilized, we felt unable to make as many large donations to charities as in previous years. However, we have been pleased to support seven local students with book and equipment grants during 2012/13 and we made several small donations to local organizations.

Donations arising from our monthly competitions have also supported a number of local and county charities: Bentham & District Pet Rescue, Citizen's Advice Bureau, Dalesplay, Gayle Mill Trust, Great North Air Ambulance, and the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Other donations included:

£100 Dalesplay Equipment Fund
£100 Bainbridge School PFA
£100 Gayle Institute
£100 Wensleydale Tournament of Song
£50 Spitfire Fund

J.W.T.

Wensleydale Decorative and Fine Arts Society

Ivories

Ivory is a smooth, creamy white substance which has been carved for 40,000 years. In the ancient world it was prized with gold and precious stones as a luxury material and the Greeks used it for colossal cult statues. Though ivory was often painted in the Middle Ages, its natural lustre, translucence and satin smoothness have always been appreciated.

True ivory is an excellent material for high-quality, small-scale sculpture. On Tuesday April 9th at 2.00pm the Wensleydale Decorative and Fine Arts Society lecture at Middleham Key Centre is '**Ivories**' by Maggie Campbell Pedersen. She will look at some of the uses of ivory, and how to recognise ivories from different species, e.g. elephant, walrus and whale, and their fakes. She will also describe the current trade bans covering ivories.

Maggie is a fellow of the Gemmological Association of Great Britain and an Associate of the British Institute of Professional Photography. Her work includes identification of organic gem materials, teaching, writing and research. She is the author of *Gem and Ornamental Materials of Organic Origin* and the publisher of the online information archive *Organic Gems*.

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**

Thornton Rust Mission Room

To raise funds for the Mission Room there will be a **table top sale and produce stall** on Saturday May 4th, 10.00am to 5.00pm in the Thornton Rust Village Institute.

Refreshments will be available including a soup and sweet lunch served 12.30 to 1.30pm (£4.00) and afternoon tea, 2.00 to 4.30pm (£3.00). Everyone most welcome

Newsletter Annual Report

Now in its 18th year, the Upper Wensleydale Newsletter continues to be widely circulated and read locally, and by many people who receive it by post; and the constantly improving web-version keeps being 'hit'. All this would be far less easy to achieve if it were not for the very large number of people voluntarily involved, and our active and dedicated committee offers its thanks to them.

These include the regular feature-writers, front cover artists, those who supply the many 'what's ons', the reporters of past events, the letter-writers, our final page layout compositors and proof-readers.

The biggest change this last year has been the transfer of printing and production from a 'do-it-ourselves' exercise in Askrigg, to a professional one at the Wensleydale Press in Hawes. Quite frankly, it was becoming an impossible volunteer task and we are very grateful to the Press for the way in which things now work. We would like also to put on record our appreciation to Yorebridge Sports and Recreation for the regular room-use and storage facilities over many years.

That isn't all; without our distributors and local contacts, and the many shops and other outlets where Newsletter copies are made available, our coverage would be nothing like as good. We endeavour to meet the needs of our advertisers by not swamping the Newsletter with too many adverts so they are easy to see and locate. Even so, they are our mainstay and number about 120.

As we have often said, our aim is to hold together the community of Upper Wensleydale from Wensley westwards (plus the very tops of Swaledale and Dentdale which relate to Hawes for doctors, the Mart and shopping), and although Hawes and Askrigg/Bainbridge are the biggest centres we are keen to include a balance of articles, news and features from the whole area, to be relevant to all age groups, to inform, educate and hopefully occasionally to amuse.

Maybe the secret of our achievements is that, save for a few headaches and worries, we all enjoy it!

A.S.W. (for Newsletter committee)

Festival Celebrate Wild Flowers of the Dales

The Flowers of the Dales Festival 2013 has started, bringing together 130 wildflower-inspired events taking place across the Yorkshire Dales until November.

Events include guided walks, photography courses, cookery and craft events, children's activities, bat walks and bumblebee talk. Many of the events offer a free day out for all the family and often a chance to learn something new. Locals and visitors alike are encouraged to get involved.

The Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT) is co-ordinating the Festival to bring together this series of fun and informative events designed to encourage people to explore and enjoy the Dales landscape and the glorious range of wildflower species which thrive here.

Now in its fifth year, more than 13,000 people have attended wildflower-inspired events, and the Festival is growing in popularity each year.

The full Festival programme is available online now – got to www.ydmt.org and click on Resources.

Or to receive a copy by post please send an A5 stamped self-addressed envelope (36p postage) to Flowers of the Dales Festival, YDMT, Old

Post Office, Main Street, Clapham LA2 8DP. Free copies of the programme will also be available from visitor centres in the area in the coming weeks.

Places are limited at some events, so please book early to avoid disappointment.



Askrigg Hay Meadows

Written in 1942, how much has changed—or not? It is amazing that this was written in the middle of the second world war but planning for the future.

Reconstruction in the Yorkshire Dales by JOHN DOWER

III. The Open Air

NEXT to farming among the users of the Dales country comes recreation—*open-air* recreation in its broadest sense, both active and passive, both through walking and other outdoor exercise and through the contemplative enjoyment of natural beauty. To the large and growing body of visitors, from neighbouring industrial areas and further afield, this recreational value will, indeed, appear supreme; though a little consideration should show them that the aspect and delight of the countryside they visit are everywhere dependent on the maintenance of farming use. To the Dalesfolk themselves the pleasures of their native moors and valleys are no less dear because they are more familiar. To visitors and residents alike, the Dales are a reservoir of physical, mental and spiritual refreshment—a natural refuge of priceless worth from the strain, clatter, congestion and artificiality of our machine-ridden civilization. It is a beautiful country which must be kept beautiful. It is a country well-fitted and already, in considerable measure, by custom freely open for rambling and other forms of enjoyment, which must be made progressively more fully and widely open on an assured basis of public right.

To keep the Dales beautiful—do not let us underestimate the magnitude and difficulty of the task. We may stoutly deny the pessimists who tell us that England's beauty must perish, that we fight a losing battle against the forces of disfigurement and destruction: against the ubiquitous motor-car, with its accompaniment of noise, roadside advertisements and petrol-pumps, and against the type of 'country-lovers' who express their affection for unspoilt countryside by spotting them with pink-roofed week-end bungalows and decorating them with trails of litter. But we must as stoutly resist the optimists who hold that, since the beauty of our country (or what's left of it) has survived till now, it will automatically go on surviving, and who blindly trusts that, if

some preventive action is found necessary, 'they' will take care of it—*they* being Westminster or Whitehall, or anyway, somebody other than ourselves! In truth, the task is urgent, heavy and never-ending, but it can be done: and, however much the local and central 'planning' authorities may provide the powers and the machinery, it is primarily for us, the people of the Dales, to do it.

It is broadly true to say that, while we enjoy beautiful landscapes in the mass, we make or mar, preserve or destroy them in detail. It is the whole effect of a harmonious view, the general impression of a picturesque village, even the sum of a succession of views as we pass along a valley or across a moor, that that quickens our appreciation and lives in our memory. But every scene, every piece of Dales country that our eyes and minds so instinctively unify, is in fact a complex assembly of varied features, natural and man-made—the wild almost always in some degree moulded by man, the artificial as time passes coloured and clothed by weather and vegetation. If we would preserve the scene, we must preserve its significant features and we must ensure that no discordant new features intrude upon it. It is not, of course, a question of preventing *all* alteration. Nor is the job by any means entirely negative and restrictive; the positive and creative side may in practice bulk less large, but it is not the less important. Merely to maintain rural beauty, and the fertility on which it depends, needs constant attention and frequent effort, not least in the care and replacement of woodlands and hedge-row trees. With rare exceptions, it is far better that timber should be felled when mature than that it should be kept on into stag-headed and lop-limbed decay; but for every tree that is cut down at least two should be planted—or better still should *have been* planted in some nearby position well in advance. There are plenty of places, especially in the lower valley land, where we could go further and, like the 'improving' landlords of the 18th and early 19th centuries, deliberately enrich the landscape for the benefit of future generations by skilful new planting and other adjustments. Many more detail changes essential or desirable on other grounds—not least the wide-ranging agricultural improvements discussed in my last article—can be fitted into their surroundings without harm and even with enrichment, provided their position and forms are carefully and sympathetically designed.

**Wensleydale Writers'
New Anthology
'Flights of Fancy' published in aid of
our Air Ambulance services
Launch social evening April 8th**

After the success of the anthology, 'Trains of Thought', published in aid of the Wensleydale Railway, the Wensleydale Writers have produced their second volume of poetry and prose. All members of the Writers have contributed and it is illustrated throughout by a member of the group. The theme of this volume, 'Flights of Fancy', and profits will be donated to the Air Ambulances that serve our area.

Wensleydale Writers have been growing in strength since their founding in 2007 by three enthusiasts; last year they welcomed Mike Amos, recently of the Northern Echo, as their President. "The written word still prospers at the hands of the Wensleydale Writers" says Mike.

It is hoped that this publication will be at least as successful as 'Trains of Thought'; produced in 2010 it has been possible to donate several hundred pounds to the Railway.

The book will be launched on **April 8th at 7.30pm**, with a buffet and wine social evening in Wensley Village Hall, when it will be available at a special price, after that date the price will be £4.50 from local businesses. Tickets for the launch party are available from **Helen on 01969 640237 or Hazel 01969 622110**. For more information about the Writers, the book and the launch please phone either of the above people on their numbers.

TASP

The Aysgarth Station Group
Wensleydale Railway
Welcome to The Aysgarth
Station Heritage Site
Come and Celebrate with us
The 10th Anniversary of
Wensleydale Railway
2003 - 2013

Our aim is to provide the opportunity for everyone who visits the site to enjoy themselves, while learning about the story of this important Victorian Station and how the coming of the railway influenced people's lives and shaped history in the Dales.

Telephone: 07779658315
railwaystation@hotmail.co.uk

Heavens Above



The beautiful ringed planet, Saturn, is at its biggest and brightest for the year this month. It reaches *opposition* - the time when it's directly opposite the Sun as seen

from the Earth - on April 28th when it will be visible all night long. You'll find the planet reasonably high in the south-east by mid-evening shining brightly in the constellation of Libra (the Scales). It's slightly yellowish in colour and really stands out in this rather dull part of the sky.

Exceptionally good binoculars might let you glimpse its biggest moon, Titan, but you really need a moderate sized telescope to get a proper view of the planet's spectacular ring system. The rings themselves measure nearly 170,000 miles across but are only a few miles thick at the most. They're not solid - a solid ring would be quickly torn apart by Saturn's powerful gravitational pull - but consist of millions of chunks of dark ice and rock ranging in size from bodies hundreds of feet across, down to minute particles not much bigger than a grain of sand.

Saturn is the sixth planet out from the Sun and takes just under 30 years to complete its orbit. With a diameter of 75,000 miles it's only beaten by Jupiter in size, but its density is so low that if it was dropped into a big enough bowl of water, it would float! Like Jupiter, Saturn has an impressive family of moons. Over 60 have been discovered so far. The largest, Titan, with a diameter of 3201 miles is a good deal bigger than our own Moon. The recent Cassini-Huygens mission to Saturn discovered lakes and rivers of liquid methane and possibly active volcanoes on its inhospitable surface.

Three of the four other naked eye planets Mars, Venus, and Mercury, aren't well placed for viewing this month but you still have time to catch Jupiter now well over in the west where it sets around midnight. If you're out and about on the evening of April 14th look out for an impressive conjunction between the giant planet and the waxing crescent Moon. Around 9.30 pm they're only a couple of degrees apart - a beautiful sight in the deepening darkness. Have clear skies!

Al Bireo

West Burton School News

The half term started on a high with a Fairtrade Coffee Morning. The coffee morning was held in West Burton village hall, where the children dressed up as characters from poems, to celebrate World Book Day. The money raised will be given to the Amala charity supporting the school in India. The morning was a brilliant success raising £60.45 from the stalls and the donations from the refreshments.

As the half term went by pupils were preparing for the Tournament of Speech, a poetry competition, and they were all excited as they enjoyed it very much. Every class that we entered we won 1st place. Freya, Rebecca, Sophie Sharp and Myles won 1st places.

We were also awarded a bursary for the whole school's contribution to the speech classes.

We are looking forward to the whole school singing in the Tournament of Song.

During the last week of term we will be celebrating Easter with a BAWB day and an Eastertingle service in the chapel.

Joe Beaton and Myles Robinson

Bainbridge School News

Recently PSCO Watson and PSCO Braddick came into school to talk to us about internet safety. We learnt a lot.

We have been going for swimming lessons at Catterick Pool each Wednesday over this term.

On 7 March to mark World Book Day we dressed up as a character from our favourite book and spent our World Book Day vouchers on the bookstall run by Castle Hill Bookshop of Richmond.

On Red Nose Day (Friday 15 March) we paid £1 to dress up as our favourite TV character or celebrity and also bought red noses. The school collected £20 plus £60 from the sale of red noses.

Mr Moore has been off school since November following an operation and whilst he's been away we have had Mrs Bell teaching us in Class 2 (Mammoths). We have been learning about co-ordinates and graphs and doing lots of tests with her.

**Lucy L, Mia and Lucy S
Y5 Mammoths**

National Park Logo Offer

Businesses in the Yorkshire Dales are being reminded that they can get help boosting their trade.

More than 60 have already applied to use the National Park's famous Swaledale ram's head logo in connection with their marketing material - and some versions of the logo can already be seen on company websites.

Sarah Nicholson, the National Park's Communications Officer, said: "There has been a fantastic response to our offer and it's obvious that a lot of local businesses realise there is tremendous potential for an increase in trade by associating themselves with the National Park.

"The new locator logos come in five eye-catching designs and help businesses and event providers identify their activity or product as being in or of the National Park. Applicants just choose which are most appropriate for them.

"I would like to stress that the logos are not a quality mark and they don't represent an endorsement, funding or any other support by the Authority," said Sarah.

There is no charge to use the new locator logos, but applicants must be registered with the Intellectual Property Office as licensees permitted to use the trademark. This normally costs £50, but the fee is being paid by the Authority in the first year of the scheme to encourage take up and it lasts in perpetuity.

Find out more and download the application forms at www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/logo

Doreen and Thomas Raw
wish to thank everyone for their
cards, flowers and kind wishes after
Doreen's recent fall.

*Editor's note:-We apologise
for the late insertion of this acknowledgement*

**Audrey Stringer would like to thank
friends and family for their kind wishes
during her recent hospital stay.**

Prunings

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

The snowdrops have been wonderful, nodding their cheery heads in defiance of wind and cold, but sadly, much of the time they were hidden under the white blanket! Strange how we shiver and bemoan our fate through the miserable weather and then, as soon as the cloud breaks, smile at our fellow strivers and remark on the wonderful day. Thank Goodness for optimism.

I've been out looking for those encouraging signs, you know, the ones you really notice when the sun shines. They are there of course, but they take more finding in filthy conditions. It was good to see the hazel catkins blowing in the wind. Brave daffodils are peeking out, and the dwarf types are quite well advanced. They will only need a burst of sunshine to be glorious.

For most garden plants temperature is a key to growth. Light levels are very important, but the lengthening days will only result in fresh shoots when the ground temperature is high enough. Covering soil with black plastic is a well known way of warming it up. Compost bags are often black inside, and cut up, will do an excellent job. They need secure anchors though or the hedges end up draped with "witches knickers".

This has been a winter to test the hardiness of many species. Lots of gardeners in the North grow plants which are suspect, but some may be surprised by the survivors. It is not so much temperature, but excess water that finally sees off our precious marginals. If something has overwintered successfully, think about where and how you planted it. Was it sheltered, well drained? Do the same with your next acquisition. My Grandfather, who took up the post of Head Gardener in 1900, (I barely remember him) had instilled a few rules into my mother. One of her favourite quotes was, "Shove a shovel 'o grit in't 'ole."

And she always did. It was amazing to see what she grew.

The estate where he worked built extensive heated greenhouses at the turn of the 20th Century and he was able to grow grapes, peaches

and even oranges. As children my mother and her younger brother would sneak in to the greenhouses to shake the peach trees. They were allowed to eat the fruits that fell, but as the fruit was netted it took some effort to persuade it to fall! Guests in the House at Christmas received an orange in their stocking, and my mother remembered that if there were fewer guests than usual, she and my uncle were given the spare oranges. How lucky they were: eating home grown oranges before the First World War. In his day her father used the latest technology to grow things that we now consider commonplace, but he never neglected the simple techniques, and after he retired he took an allotment and grew vegetables.

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

Rose Rambler.

Can You Help?



A valuable eternity ring was lost in Hawes on **Friday 8th March**. It has great sentimental value. If anyone has found this ring or can give any information please ring **Mrs Joice** on **01779673469** or contact **Jane or Simon** on **666122**.

Greetings from Mrs Maggie Homer

It is 60 years since Mrs Horner left Hawes where she used to run the fish and chip shop. As she now knows very few people mentioned in the Newsletter she is to discontinue her postal subscription. I

In conclusion she writes,
"Greetings to all I still know. We are a ripe old age now."

Bird's Eye View of a Dales Landscape

There was a rare treat for members of the Upper Wensleydale ladies' luncheon club when guest speaker Miles Johnson took them on a virtual tour of 10,000 years of Dales history. Seen from the air, using data scanning equipment linked to GPS satellites, previously hidden features of an otherwise familiar landscape were shown in stark and sometimes surreal detail. Miles, countryside archaeologist for the National Park, showed how the **LIDAR** (light and distance airborne ranging) system used by the authority, laid bare the patterns of lost medieval villages, Neolithic circles, ancient burial grounds and even man-made rabbit burrows.

"Technology allows us to see the landscape as never before, by digitally removing the ground cover such as walls, trees and other vegetation," he said. "We see these amazing medieval landscapes outlined which are so characteristic of Wensleydale. It was an area of important buildings, powerful people, large-scale game management, mainly for deer-hunting but even, strange as it may seem now, rabbit-hunting."

"Knowledge of the historic landscape had increased enormously in the last three decades" said Miles, "and the work of the archaeology and historic environment team had everyday practical implications. Our job is to conserve and enhance the land and increase understanding of our cultural heritage and the natural beauty of the region. But we also have an input to the planning process and advise farmers who are conducting environmental audits, as well as an educational role." Important archaeological sites in the Dales which were under threat from heavy footfall also had to be identified, recorded and protected. Miles will be talking about the recent moorland LIDAR survey results at the annual day school, Archaeology and the Historic Environment in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, on **Saturday, April 13th**, at Grassington Town Hall. The fee is £15 or £12.50 for students and YAS members. Email her on info@yorkshiredales.org.uk or call **652338**.

Betsy Everet

Premiere Planned for National Park Film

An award-winning film centred on the stunning scenery of the National Park is due to begin a countrywide tour later this month.

Lad: A Yorkshire Story is the tale of teenager Tom Proctor, who comes to terms with the death of his dad through a friendship he forms with National Park Ranger Al Thorpe.

It has already won the Golden Oosikar - the main prize - at the Anchorage International Film Festival and writer/director Dan Hartley, who based the story on his own experiences growing up in the Dales, also picks up a best feature film prize at Worldfest in Houston, Texas.

The character Al Thorpe was modelled on the late Al Boughen, who was a Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority Ranger in the 1980s. Mr Hartley, who used to live in Austwick, said that, as a teenager, Mr Boughen was his mentor and inspiration for several years.

The film was shot at National Park and National Trust sites. Mr Hartley worked closely during the making of the film with National Park Authority Rangers and officers.

"I felt it was essential to give the film an authentic and contemporary voice and so I used people from the community who had never acted before and used role play and workshops to devise the script," Mr Hartley said.

"The result, I think, is a film that is both honest and inspirational. The Dales is quite simply one of the most beautiful places in the country and it was a privilege to capture both the stunning landscape and the strong sense of community that thrives there."

Alan Hulme, the YDNPA's Head of Ranger Services, said: "It is fantastic that the film not only captures the spectacular scenery of the Dales, but it also recognises the role that Rangers play in local communities across the National Park. Much of this work goes on unseen and much is taken for granted by locals and visitors alike, so it is really gratifying that the film captures the work of people like Al Boughen who keep the Dales as such a special place to live in or to visit."

The tour dates are:

27th March, Skipton, Premiere at Plaza Cinema. (Invitation only)

28th March, Settle, Victoria Hall; **7:45pm**

29th March, Skipton Plaza Cinema - for a week **8.15pm**

Hawes School News

Boccia

On Tuesday 12th February two year four pupils went to Catterick Leisure Centre to play Boccia.

The game of Boccia (pronounced 'Bot-cha') is a non-contact sport which relies upon an accurate throw and good strategy skills of the player. The game is similar to bowls with the principal aim being to get your balls closer to 'the jack' than your opponent.

Both pupils managed to score points for their team.

Frankie said "It was great when we played Boccia because I haven't played it before. " "I liked rolling the balls." We were called "Team Good Looking."

Jack said "It was good helping Shannon (a year 4 girl from another school) to play Boccia." " We played a lot of games and we won some".

James and The Giant Peach

On Wednesday 6th March, Class 2 went to see James and The Giant Peach at Darlington Theatre. I really enjoyed watching the show because it was very funny and adventurous. All the costumes were fantastic and everyone in Class 2, including the teachers loved the show!!

Jenna Drury Y3



Comic Relief

We would like to thank everyone who baked and/or bought cakes for Comic Relief Day, and also all the children, who looked magnificent in their outfits. With your help we raised £137.85.

Tile and Biscuit Making

Class 3 have been working with Jane Sammells from Dales Countryside Museum and Mr Sedgley on Monday afternoons. The group working with Mr Sedgley were making tiles and were very busy moulding, cutting and painting all sorts of pretty designs, like cupcakes, fish or their own initials. They were also looking at old mosaics and designing their own.

Jane's group were making biscuits. We made Granny Preston's ginger biscuits and oatcakes. We made our oatcakes with black pepper and fennel in them. My favourite biscuits were Granny Preston's ginger biscuits.

Evie Vose Y5

Every Monday afternoon Class 3 takes part in two activities. The first one is baking biscuits with Jane. Half the class goes to the canteen to bake and so far we have baked Granny Preston's ginger biscuits, Rhys' chocolate chip cookies, oatcakes with herbs and Izzie and Hannah's biscuits. We like Granny Preston's ginger biscuits and Rhys's chocolate chip cookies best.

The other half of the class are working on design and technology with Mr Sedgley. We are making tiles to build a mosaic. We each created our own design.

Eddie Johnson Y5

Gayle Mill What's On

For further information on any activity 'phone **666210**

April

- 6 Simple Book Binding; 10.30am to 4.30pm. £30 per person—booking required.
- 7 Demonstration Tours; 11.00am and 2.30pm. £12 per person
- 20 An Introduction to Basket Weaving; - 10.30am to 4.30pm. £50 per person, booking required
- 27 Tradition Hay Rake Making Demonstration. 1.00pm—4.00pm. £2 entry

Notes from Snaizeholme

At this time of year, half way through March, you would normally be looking for the early spring flowers. Today, the snowdrops are out and it is snowing quite hard. When it got light this morning, a quick glance out of the window made me think there was a thick mist, but a second look made me realise that I was looking at the hillside opposite which was white with snow. On going out to feed the squirrels it was definitely thawing, but now it is steadily snowing again.

The squirrels who have been feeding very happily together through the winter have suddenly started having mad chases up and down the trees. I don't think this can be mating play. The females will have almost certainly given birth. It is said that if the February family fails they may produce a second one in late summer. I am still enchanted by the great variety of colour in these red squirrels. Even in their thick winter coats they vary between an almost pale peachy colour to a deep brown with virtually black tails. I am delighted to hear that with help they are increasing their territory in the Dales.

The bird life in Snaizeholme has remained very active through the winter. Chaffinches are still our commonest small bird with coal tits a close second. I'm pleased to report that two goldfinches have remained in residence through the winter, and I have already seen my first male siskin of the year resplendent in his beautiful breeding colours. Great, and blue tits abound; the robins are beginning to get seriously argumentative with each other, and the gentle dunnocks are courting.

Of the ground-feeding birds we seem to have become the home of many blackbirds which come over in such large numbers from Scandinavia early in the winter. Wood pigeons, stock doves, magpies, jackdaws and rooks are regular visitors, and the greater spotted woodpeckers have started their spring drumming.

My greatest delight over the last few weeks has been the daily viewing of a very handsome roebuck. With his three-point antlers still in velvet and his brown winter coat he comes every afternoon to feed on the mixed corn I scatter for the pheasants, and recently rabbits. I am reliably told that there is also a roe doe in the neighbourhood, but she doesn't come for my corn.

The pussy willows are swelling and promising spring, but as yet no sign of gold.

I find myself wondering what is happening in



the Snaizeholme beck. I can no longer get down to it. Are there any water voles? Do sand martins still nest there? Are there any dippers? It is sad not to be able to see the beck life, but I still delight in the nature around me, so close to home.

Jane Kemp

Askrigg School News

Gayle Mill Visit

Last week we went to Gayle Mill. I found out that they don't have a water wheel, they have three turbines instead. Turbines are basically a metal water wheel that has been shrunk.

The Victorians used a type of wood called pitch pine to make the mill race, but in modern times this was replaced with elm, but there was one small problem; elm likes getting wet but hates getting dry so it gets really cracked and the water drips through.

Think again modern people, you're not always right!

Roland Hodgson Year 2

The Pirates are coming!

This year, our summer production will be The Pirates of Penzance by Gilbert and Sullivan. Performed at the school in July.

The show has been cast and lunchtime rehearsals are underway!

Mr Armstrong has been lucky to secure funding for this production from the Kendal and District Gilbert and Sullivan Society where he is a member.

Police Report

Well, Spring is meant to be just around the corner but the weather is still so changeable. So please make sure your car is fit for the journey, plenty of washer fluid in the windscreen washer bottle (in cold weather washing up liquid and water is not sufficient as it freezes easily), lights are maintained in good order and tyres are checked for tread depth.

It's been a strange month for crime. Autocrime has emerged as a strong trend , particularly theft of diesel fuel from vehicles. A car was broken into on Little Ings and computer repair tools stolen. Catalytic converters are being stolen from under vehicles particularly 4x4s and vans. This is due to their higher ground clearance allowing offenders to gain access to the underside where they cut the exhaust pipe leaving the vehicle owner with a hefty bill. There are catalytic converter marking kits available which help identify stolen "cats" but if you can park your vehicle securely in a garage or suchlike so much the better. Prevention is better than getting your "cat" back after the damage has been caused!

Sheds throughout the Leyburn Police area have been broken into. It is mainly garden power tools that are targeted at this time of year with the gardening season starting up in earnest. Make sure your shed has a good quality locking device fitted. Remember it is no good fitting an expensive padlock to a shed if the hasp is weak or secured by short screws. The hasp part is better bolted through the door cross members and shed frame and consider a backing plate or washers on the inside to resist any attack. Shed alarms are relatively inexpensive – and cheaper than replacing stolen items or a rise in insurance premiums!

Offenders are still taking heating oil in large quantities. This has been the subject of several recent articles. I cannot believe they have not been seen by us or someone else as they must be using a pump and large lengths of hose to a vehicle with a tank. Please report any suspicious vans in your area promptly and help us catch these culprits.

House burglaries are still occurring throughout the dale. Do not make it easy for them by leaving open windows or doors when you go out. Get into the habit of making sure that your house is locked and the windows secure before

leaving. If you have an alarm then please use it. A good proportion of house burglaries are opportunist committed at insecure premises which are preventable.

If you can offer any information that may help us to solve any of the above crimes contact either myself on the number below or have a word with PCSO Don WATSON. If you see suspicious activity ring 101 or if you suspect a crime is being committed 999.

Thanks as always

Andy Foster PC826
Leyburn Safer Neighbourhood Team
Wards of Addleborough and Hawes & High
Abbotside
Telephone 101
SNTLeyburn@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Happy 30th Wedding Anniversary



MARK and JANET
April 16th
Love from Jim,
Sandra ,Stuart, Beth,
Hannah and Martin
XXX

Upright piano/pianola



AVAILABLE FREE
to be collected from
West Burton:
Charles Wood-
663676

Richard Dinsdale
Happy Birthday to a special
Dad and Granddad

Surgery News

Dr Holubecki-France

Dr Holubecki-France has been taken ill with a serious physical illness. It is likely that he will be on sick-leave for many weeks to come. Drs West and Jones will be taking on extra sessions, locum doctors are being recruited to provide extra cover.

The existing surgery rotas for March will be subject to change, so if you wish to see a particular doctor, please telephone your surgery to check who is on duty that day.

NHS 111

From April 9th*, a new service will be available for non-emergency calls out-of-hours. From this date, call the following numbers for assistance once your surgery is closed.

For serious life-threatening medical emergencies, dial 999 as before

For medical problems that cannot wait until your surgery re-opens;

Between 18.00-18.30 and 08.00-08.30 Monday-Friday, call the out-of-hours call centre on **0845 056 8060**. The out-of-hours call centre will only be available during these times.

Between 18.30-08.00 Monday-Friday, weekends & bank holidays call 111.

Do NOT call the surgery out-of-hours. You will not be redirected as at present, you will instead hear a message giving the above telephone numbers and will have to re-dial.

The NHS 111 call-handlers will take your details and will direct you to the most appropriate NHS service. NHS 111 is available 24/7 but I would recommend that you call your surgery during working hours. You can contact your surgery 08.30-18.00 Monday-Friday. Hawes surgery **667200**. Aysgarth surgery **663 222**. NHS 111 replaces the NHS Direct service.

I believe that the above arrangements will be subject to change in the coming months, and will let you all know as soon as I know anything.

These changes were imposed by the Dept of Health. I will leave you to speculate about how much consultation took place beforehand.

* This is the situation as I write. Two proposed launch dates were cancelled at short notice in March.

Clive West

Ranger Report

A note to dog owners during lambing time and the bird breeding season.

The next few months are crucial for wildlife and farm animals alike, and dogs can cause lasting damage if they are allowed to roam free.

The breeding season - which lasts until 31 July - is a very sensitive time for birds and domestic and wild animals as they give birth to and then raise their young. We would advise owners to keep dogs on a lead to reduce the risk of unintentional disturbance.

There are some simple rules under the Countryside Code that pet owners must remember. The most important is that on most areas of open country and common land - known as 'access land' - you must keep your dog on a short lead between 1 March and 31 July, and all year round near farm animals.

Rangers and National Park Centre staff are only too happy to give advice to anyone who is concerned about going into an area that may be used as a breeding ground by wildlife.

More information about the Countryside Code and dogs can be found on the National Park Authority website at:

www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/dogs.

Ranger area gets bigger

Following a recent reorganisation of the National Park Authority's Ranger Service, my area has now expanded to include Buckden Parish.

How we can help

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 Access Ranger Paul Sheehan or me on **666226** or **662912**.

Nigel Metcalfe.

Area Ranger (Lower Wensleydale)

Red Nose Thanks

The staff at Beckindales in Hawes would like to thank all those who gave raffle prizes, did the baking and contributed at their Comic Relief Coffee Morning which raised **£200**

Landscape Features Old and New

Not that a recent incident at the Kilburn White Horse on the edge of the North York Moors was exactly hushed up, but it has now come to light that last month in the middle of the meat-food scandals a daring scheme by pranksters was foiled as they were in the process of carving a large 'beef-burger' on the hillside next to the horse. There were fears of copy-cat incidents and that others might 'try it on' also.

Creativity in the landscape is by no means new, and not always too serious. Certainly the feature in the Vale of the White Horse in Oxfordshire is both ancient and very dramatic, and there are others similar. However, the famous Giant at Cerne Abbas in Dorset (where, on seeing it, one little lad apparently expressed the view that its most provocative bit was 'the wrong way up'), could be Roman, Saxon, Celtic- or even a 17th century political satire.

In the present day both large and small features appear in many places. The Antony Gormley 'Angel of the North' or his cast iron men staring out to sea at Crosby are now accepted and appreciated within the landscape.

Some others may not be so popular. Timber carvings often proliferate in woodlands, as at Grizedale in the Lake District, where some critics say they distract from the natural beauty rather than enhancing it. Even our own Museum now has its little sculpture trail on the old railway track.

Now to the most interesting and serious bit; a group of local artists are looking at the possibility of a very large white art work cut into the hillside, obviously not of a horse in this area, but of a local breed of sheep. The proposed location is the prominent escarpment, facing south, on Ellerkin Scar above Woodhall, and clearly visible from all along the Dale. The proposal is for a Swaledale ewe, and to our surprise the group has approached the Newsletter to inquire whether we would permit the image we use of 'Eunice the Ewe' (see our page three girl) to be the basis of this work. Our committee is still debating the matter but is inclined to look at it seriously, especially as

such art works in other places attract huge numbers of visitors. This could be a great tourism boost for many years to come.

It isn't clear into exactly which category for a planning application this would fit, and it could prove very interesting. Watch this space!



The children have been very busy making their Mother's Day cards and gifts and making Easter hats and decorations. During the school holidays they will be able to enjoy an Easter egg hunt around the premises.

From Good Friday until Easter Monday the shops in Hawes will be displaying some eggs for us and you can pick up a clue sheet from Dalesplay or The Old Sweet Shop in Hawes to take part in the hunt for our eggs. It is £1 per entry and the winner will receive an Easter surprise.

Easter holiday activities at Dalesplay will be held 1:30 – 3.00pm and will all cost £1.50. All sessions need to be booked in advance.

Easter crafts – 2nd April
Easter egg hunt – 4th April
Cinema Muppets – 8th April
Junk box modelling – 11th April

If you have 2 year olds they could be eligible for a free 15 hour funded place. There is a certain criterion that you need to match on the form to be eligible and it is for children who were born between 1st January and 31st March 2011 to have a place from April 2013, between 1st April and 31st August 2013 a place from September 2013 and between 1st September and 31st December 2013 for a place in January 2014.

For more information please contact Dalesplay as we have the forms available here to see if your child could be eligible for a place.

For any information please contact Dalesplay 667789.

Louise Cloughton



DCM What's On

28 March 'till 14 April

"Textures, Light and Inspiration". -

Exhibition of work by contemporary makers and members of the Brigantia Group

April

- 2 Easter cake tasting; 10.00am to 3.00pm. Sample cake from the Museum cookbook
- 2, 9 Dry stone walling demonstration. 12.30 to 3.30pm. A practical demonstration and talk about the history of this craft.
- 6, 13 Easter Crafts. 10.00am to 4.30pm. Drop in, have fun and make something to take away. Entry £2.
- 7, 14 Pathfinder Introduction. 12.30 to 4.30pm. Basic navigation course covering low level walks. Children must be over 12 and accompanied by an adult. £10. please book
- 11 Make your own felt and beaded jewellery. 10.00am to 4.30pm. Drop in activity for families. £2.
- 12 Farmhouse Kitchen; 10.00am to
- 13 3.00pm The Museum farmhouse kitchen brought to life with Museum Friends in costume
- 19 1Harlow Carr Gardens; 7.30pm. A Talk about 60 years of the gardens by Angela Hudson. Part of the Friends of the Museum lecture programme. Entry £2.
- 21 Pop up Food Fair; 10.00am to 3.00pm. Free local food fair show casing producers and makers

Please note: CHICKS will be hatching in the egg incubator over the Easter weekend in the museum reception.

Penhill Benefice Coffee Morning

Friday 5th April 10.00am – noon

Methodist Church Hall, Leyburn

Cakes and Home Produce for sale as well as a Traidcraft Stall

Do come and join us

Easter Church Services

Good Friday 29th March

Penhill Area -The Stations Of The Cross

- 9.05am Preston-u-Scar, outside church
- 9.35am Redmire, top green,
- 10.00am Castle Bolton Green,
- 10.50am Carperby Cross,
- 11.20am Thornton Rust Institute;
(meet outside Mission Room)
- 11.50am Thoraby upper green,
- 12.15pm Newbiggin,
- 12.50pm West Burton Market Cross,
- 1.25pm Wensley Bolton Hall Gates,
- 1.45pm West Witton opposite
Wensleydale Heifer,
- 2.15pm Aysgarth Village Green.
- 2.30pm United service at Aysgarth
Methodist Chapel

Hawes Area - United Walk of Witness

- 10.00am Leave from Gayle arrive at...
- 11.00am Service at Hawes Methodist Church

Other Good Friday Services

- 9.30am St. Margaret's, Preston-under-Scar
- 10.15am St. Oswald's, Castle Bolton
- 1.30 pm Meditation in St Oswald's,
Askrigg
- 2.00pm St. Bartholomew's, West Witton

Easter Sunday 31st March HC: Holy Communion

- 6.30am Son-rise service; Pen Hill
- 9.30am HC and baptism, St. Oswald's, Castle Bolton
- 9.30am St. Margaret's, Preston-u-Scar HC
- 9.30am St. Bartholomew's, West Witton HC
- 10.30am St Oswald's, Askrigg HC
- 10.30am Aysgarth join Bainbridge Methodists H.C.
- 10.30am Hawes Methodist Church
- 10.30am St Margaret's Hawes HC
- 10.45am West Burton Chapel 'Shake-up' service
- 11.00am Family Communion with activities for children St. Andrew's, Aysgarth
- 11.00am Holy Trinity, Wensley HC
- 2.00pm Marsett Chapel
- 2.30pm Evensong at St Matthew's, Stalling Busk.
- 6.30pm Gayle Chapel H.C

WHAT'S ON LISTING; please add these dates to your Diary

April

- 1 Castle Bolton church plant sale, coffee and cakes; 10.00am to 12.30pm
- 1-3 St. Margaret's tea and scones; See p.7
- 2 Coffee Morning and stalls, Hawes Methodist rooms, 10.00am to noon
- 2 Hawes Drama Group reads two one act plays. Gayle Institute; 7.30pm.
- 5 Wensleydale Society, 7.30pm. See p.11
- 5 An evening with Gina Leishman..See p.5
- 5 Penhill Benefice Coffee morning. See p.24
- 6,20,27 Gayle Mill events. See p.19
- 8 Wensleydale Writers event; See p.15
- 9 Coffee Morning and stalls, Hawes Methodist rooms, 10.00am to noon. Churches Together event for "School in a box"
- 9 YDNPA Planning committee. Yoredale, Bainbridge, 1.00pm.
- 9 Decorative and Fine Arts Society; 2.00pm. See p.12
- 11 Film 'Best Exotic Marigold Hotel'. Oak Room, Thornborough Hall, Leyburn.ring: **622023** for details
- 16 Local History Group; see p.5
- 17 Carperby W.I. Nora Lewis. "Nursing in the Navy, part 2". 7.30pm.
- 17 Ladies Luncheon Club, Rose and Crown, Bainbridge. Noon; then Dawn Webster "Kiplin Hall, past, present and future". **663742** for details
- 18 Hawes W.I. "Town cries" by Barry Heap. Methodist rooms, 7.00pm.
- 19 Museum Friends; "60 years of Harlow Carr Gardens", 7.30pm.
- 20 Richmond Jam Charity concert for 'Amala'. See p.11
- 20 Sycamore Hall Craft Fayre. See p.3
- 20-21 'George and the Dragon' event at Bolton Castle. 10.00am to 5.00pm.
- 21 North Yorkshire Dales Methodist Circuit: services 11.00am.
- 24 Gayle Chapel Gift Day. 6.30pm
- 24 Family History Group See p.3
- 25 Film 'Insomnia'. Oak Room, Thornborough Hall, Leyburn, ring **622023** for details.
- 25 Gayle Ladies; 'My needle and I'. 7.30pm.
- 26 Domino drive. Fountain, Hawes.. See p.6
- 27 'Fake Thackeray' event. See p.7
- 27 'Blethermen', Askrigg. See p.10
- 27 Bainbridge Chapel Gift Day: 2.00 to 4.00pm.
- 27 Askrigg PTFA Coffee morning. See p.5
- 29 Swaledale Festival box office opens
- 30 Settle-Carlisle Walking Festival "Ride2stride" begins