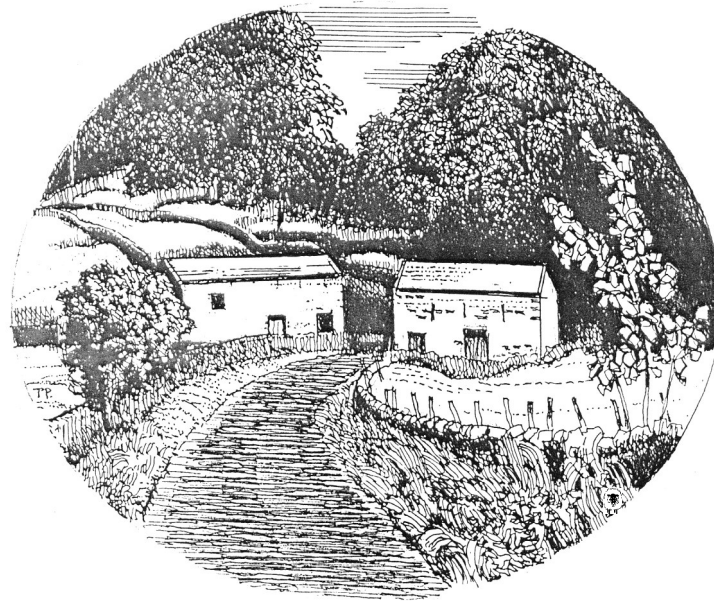


# **THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER**

**Issue 241**

**November 2017**

**Donation please:  
30p suggested or more if you wish**



Covering Upper Wensleydale from Wensley to Garsdale Head, with Walden  
and Bishopdale,  
Swaledale from Keld to Gunnerside plus Cowgill in Upper Dentdale.

## Guest Editorial

If 79.4 and 83 ring a bell in the back of your mind you probably pay attention to the regular articles in our newspapers about life expectancy. They are the World Health Organisation figures for men and women respectively in the UK in 2015. They don't tell us a lot. If you can read at all they are not very relevant because they are an average of how long you might expect to live at the time of birth and you must already be some way past that. Most of us are a long way past that and it is harder to get the figures for ages later than birth.

The figures are not completely irrelevant because they vary according to the place we live within the UK. They suggest that people living in areas with poor housing, higher levels of pollution, higher levels of unemployment, lower levels of income and poorer health care tend to die earlier. They can be used to argue for changes in social and economic policy.

It isn't possible to get the figures for an area as small as Upper Wensleydale but it is a reasonable bet that we live longer than people in most of the North – broadly people live a bit longer in the South than in the North and about 4 years longer in England than in Scotland. A casual inspection of our gravestones suggests that there have always been some long-lived residents in the Dales.

The latest debate is prompted by figures that show that, although life expectancy is continuing to increase in the UK, that rate of increase has slowed and is now considerable slower than in, say, Spain. Some argue that it is one of the prices of austerity. Some argue that it is because we had a significant once for all gain from a steep decline in smoking which is now built in to the figures. Others might even welcome the notion that life expectancy is not showing signs of increasing almost indefinitely.

Increased life expectancy is a key part of the argument for putting up the age of retirement. That is not much of a worry for current pensioners but perhaps it ought to be more of a worry than it appears to be for the middle aged and young.

It may be we are asking the wrong question. What matters is not so much how long we might

live but how healthy we are likely to be as we get older. On average, at present, men and women have about ten years of poorer health before they die, although poorer health is difficult to define. Whether or not we believe that death is the end it may be better to concentrate on keeping our health than simply lengthening our life.

**Joe Pilling**

## The Farmer Network

The Farmer Network is an independent not for profit organisation which seeks to provide support for farming families and their businesses. It has over a 1000 members and is run by farmers for farmers. It is based in Penrith and over the last six years it has helped 76 young people in Cumbria and the Yorkshire Dales to set up or develop a farming related business. It is funded by the Prince's Trust and the Prince's Countryside Fund.

The Network offers an Explore Enterprise course to budding entrepreneurs, explaining the paperwork and planning that goes into setting up a business, guiding them through how to secure funds and advising on every step of the way as their venture develops. The range of business types helped is wide, from agricultural engineering through sheep contracting services and home milk production to cheese enterprises and duck egg production.

Now the Prince's Trust has offered a further two years financial support, so there are new opportunities available. The project manager is Kate Gascoyne and those who want to learn more should contact Kate on **01768 881462** or mobile **07548 934282**. Her email is [kate@thefarmernetwork.co.uk](mailto:kate@thefarmernetwork.co.uk).

**N.P.**

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## Award for Alan Watkinson

In 1997 Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT) began delivering a range of charitable projects to support the landscape, environment, communities and economy of the Yorkshire Dales.

This year, to mark the 20th Anniversary milestone, the charity has given 20 cash awards to recognise the important contribution of some of the groups, organisations and individuals whose work helps to sustain and celebrate the Yorkshire Dales.

We are delighted to report that the late Alan Watkinson, the Founding Editor of this Newsletter, has been recognised by the YDMT in the YDMT Champions category – “Individuals who go above and beyond the call of duty for the benefit or appreciation of the Dales.” His award was presented to his widow, Mrs Shirley Watkinson.

We must also give our congratulations to other award winners from the Newsletter area.

Colin Bailey and BlueBoxt Productions received a gold award in the Sustainable Communities category – “Honouring the triumphs of community living, these awards recognise innovation, dedication and community spirit.”

Newby Head Farm received a silver award in the Access and Understanding category – “Recognising those who promote opportunities for a wider understanding of the Dales and its communities.”

Howsyke Farm (Silver) and Thornton Rust Kennel Field Trust (highly commended) in the Conservation, Heritage and Environment category – “Celebrating contributions to the natural landscape, environment and wildlife, as well as the built, scenic and cultural heritage features which make up the unique fabric of the area.”

**A.M.**

### Submission of articles

Please note that all submissions should comply with current copyright legislation. If submitted articles are not the original work of the person submitting them, then all relevant permission should be sought and granted for reproduction.



### Eunice the Ewe

Last month I was taking dance lessons in Janet Seymour’s advert on page 31 and the winner of the £10 prize is Carol Mellin of Oakworth, nr Keighley.

Where am I now? To enter for the £10 prize, please include your postal address if replying by email.

**THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE A JOINT  
DECEMBER/JANUARY EDITION  
WHICH WILL BE PRODUCED on  
November 27th/28th  
DEADLINE FOR COPY AND  
COMPETITION ENTRIES  
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 21st**

**Please note the new earlier deadline date.**



### Singing for Pleasure

This informal singing group meet on alternate Monday evenings in Leyburn. Please contact **Anne** on **622590** for the next date.

### Free Greetings

Once again the Newsletter is offering free Christmas and New Year greetings from readers and businesses. These can be submitted by email to [uwnlinput@gmail.com](mailto:uwnlinput@gmail.com) (preferred) or in writing at any of the drop off points on page 4. Deadline for receipt of greetings is **Tuesday November 21st**.

<b><u>In this Issue</u></b>	<b><u>Page</u></b>
Guest Editorial	2
Competition and Answers	4
Letters Received	9
Best Foot Forward	12
Notes from Thorney Mire	18
What’s Ons	20
Police Report	21
Doctors’ Rotas	24
Prunings	28
Autumn on the Farm	35
Heavens Above	37
Community Petrol Station	39

## November Competition

**Anagrams** - some UK Lakes, some European Countries.

1. GO HEN LAUGH
2. NOD MOIL HOC
3. ROT A PLUG
4. WIRE MENDER
5. JAB IN A RAZE
6. ROAD RAN
7. A THINKABLE SEA WETS
8. TEN WET DRAWER
9. LAW RESULT
10. ARK MOM CREWCUT
11. TIE TEN LICHENS
12. TEN ALE WANDERER

Please send your answers to the Newsletter by the deadline date on Page 3 and don't forget to nominate your charity in case you win.

## October Competition Answers

**Halls in North Yorkshire** (not all open to the public).

1. Burneston
2. Theakston
3. Ainderby Steeple
4. Braithwaite
5. Thornton Watlass
6. Bolton
7. Grantley
8. Markenfield
9. Kiplin
10. Sawley
11. Aldburgh
12. Aldborough

No one got the October competition all right this month so this month is a **Roll Over** - the prize will be **£40** for your nominated charity.

## All Aboard the Christmas Comet...

...from Garsdale to York on **November 25th!**

A festive charter train will run from Carlisle to York, with 5 hours in York. Garsdale is one of only six stops on the route. To book tickets, see <http://www.settle-carlisle.co.uk/>.

### Drop-off points and contacts

for news, articles, reports, letters, What's On dates, competition entries, suggestions and comments:

<b>Hawes:</b>	Community Office	667400
<b>Gayle:</b>	Sarah Champion 23, Little Ings	667006
<b>Bainbridge:</b>	Sylvia Crookes, 3, Bainside	650525
<b>Askrigg:</b>	Rima Berry, 8 Mill Lane	650980
<b>Carperby:</b>	Margaret Woodcock, Bella Cottage	663488
<b>West Burton:</b>	Nadine Bell, Margarets Cottage	663559
<b>Aysgarth:</b>	Hamilton's Tearoom	663423
<b>Redmire:</b>	Kevin Davis Westholme	624165
<b>Thoralby:</b>	Sandra Foley, Shop	663205

## Hawes Youth Club News

The youth club runs alternate Wednesdays at Hawes Market House for young people in school

years 7 – 11 with normally between 10 - 20 members attending each session. Activities are both indoor and out to try and accommodate everybody's interests. The club often does cookery or baking as well as arts and crafts.



The group especially enjoy plenty of football and hockey in the main hall. Recently the club had been working with a musician, Alex Cromarty, who helped to write and produce our own song which proved to be good fun! Another event which proved to be popular was going to Snaizeholme with YDNP to help repair a footpath, arranged by Rachael Alderson – Dales Young Ranger Officer.

**Stella Dinsdale**



## Deluges in the Dales

When I came to live up here in Upper Wensleydale, I was told by a local that “tha don’t liv up ere if tha don’t like rain”. What he said was very true. Bearing in mind that we are all facing a worldwide climate change, the rainfalls we have been receiving are sometimes very considerable and not just related to the same period each year.

One night in September, there was a tremendous rain storm which had a major effect on Gayle and Hawes. Many houses were flooded and by the waterfalls in Gayle, a stone weighing about 4 tons was washed down the Gayle Beck about 20 metres. The locals had not seen or heard a storm like that before. The damage that these storms can cause is considerable. When there are storms, not only do the adjacent houses get flooded, but bridges, roads, walls can be structurally affected and farmer’s fields and livestock put in danger.

To the west of Hawes, the catchment area for rainfall is about 50 square miles. The area goes west to the Moorcock and between Great Shunner Fell in the north to Dodd Fell in the south. This is a huge area and will receive a large amount of rain water during a storm. This water will travel down to meet the River Ure west of Hawes, the tributaries being Hardraw Beck, Cotterdale Beck, Mossdale Gill, Widdale Beck and Gayle Beck. All these pass through farm land and wooded gorges before they reach the River Ure.

I think an answer to the problem is – with farmer’s permission - to construct a clay dam in the gorges on all the tributaries. Within the dam is a culvert designed to be large enough to allow through a maximum volume of water which would not cause flooding. When there was a large amount of rain, the excessive volume would form a temporary reservoir behind the dam and when the rain subsided, the water in the reservoir flowed through the culvert and down the river. The dams can be covered with foliage or even woodland and therefore not obtrusive to the public.

If this was introduced to Upper Wensleydale this would hopefully prevent damage not only to

items as listed above but also down river to York. If so the locals might say “By gum, I never got flooded yesterday” and the drivers of the Little White Bus say “Eh up, I can get over that bridge – super”.

**Stuart Armstrong**

*Within days of receiving this article we received the following press release from the National Park which seems to be in full agreement!*

## Flood Management Proposals

A practical guidebook for farmers and land managers on natural flood management measures – which is the first of its kind, and could be adopted nationwide – has been published by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA).

The free guide – a response to the devastation wreaked by Storm Desmond in December 2015 – sets out how Dales farmers can both protect their land from flood damage and contribute to the region’s flood defence system.

If, after heavy rainfall, we can slow the flow of rivers that rise within the Yorkshire Dales through natural flood management measures, then a number of our region’s towns and cities will be better protected. Our aim is for every farmer and land manager in the Yorkshire Dales National Park to have a copy of the guide. In the guide, the various measures that can be taken to achieve this have been grouped into three levels of intervention, according to their set up and maintenance costs:

- Level 1 measures such as cross drains in farm tracks and planting hedgerows are low cost and easy to install, yet very effective. They require minimum or no consultation with authorities such as the YDNPA or the Environment Agency.
- Level 2 measures such as creating an earth bund or a ‘leaky dam’ may require consent and may need contractors’ help to install them.
- Level 3 measures such as restoring the connection between a river and its floodplain need detailed planning and design and are usually high cost.



Autumn is upon us and we have been embracing the change in weather. The children enjoyed an outing to the park where we had fun playing on all the different equipment followed by a treat at the Firebox Cafe where we enjoyed cake and a drink. On our walk back to Dalesplay we noticed the falling leaves and collected the various coloured crispy leaves to make a display. We have learnt new autumn rhymes and read some interesting autumn stories; our favourite was 'We're going on a leaf hunt'. We have lots of fun activities for the half-term holidays and we are currently planning our annual Halloween walk.

If you are looking for flexible child care or a government funded place for your child please get in touch, come and have a look around and see what we have on offer. Dalesplay is a charity run nursery providing a much needed service in the dales. If it isn't used we run the risk of losing it. All our staff are fully trained and offer the best quality care for children in the dales. We are a small friendly team so please do give us a ring on 667789.

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We will be holding a teddy bear play session for parents to come along with their little ones, have a play and enjoy some cake to raise money for Children in Need on **Friday, November 17th from 9.30am - 11.00am**. Pop the date in your diary and come along to join in the fun.

**Joanne Fothergill, Manager**

## 2018 CHARITY CALENDAR

Images by ANDREA HUNTER

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## The Wensleydale School News

### New website, new video prospectus, same ambition

The Wensleydale School and Sixth Form has launched its new website and video prospectus.

The launch marks the end of a very busy 12 months for the Leyburn school, which has seen the staff and students receive their fair share of praise and accolades.

Julia Polley, Headteacher, said: "When you look back over all that has happened since this time last year, you realise just how much we have to be proud of. We celebrated some of our strongest sets of GCSE and A-Level results in recent memory, we were praised by Ofsted, competed against the likes of Eton College and a colleague was even named North Yorkshire's Teacher of the Year. As the saying goes success breeds success, so it felt right that we spend some time looking at how we champion and celebrate all that has been achieved so that this momentum continues."

"It is so hard to really express the ethos and aspirations of a school in a printed prospectus. That is why we thought we would create a video that better captures who we are, what we stand for and what we are able to offer our students. What I think comes across the most is

how confident, caring and talented our students are. They really are the strength of the school."

"Have a look at our website, watch the video prospectus and come along to our Open Evening. We would be delighted to show you why we are a school with a strong community and big ambition."

The school's new website also features a video prospectus, which includes interviews with staff and students.

For more information visit the school's new website on [www.wensleydale.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.wensleydale.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Andy Wilkison



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### Wensleydale Railway Update.

We are delighted to announce that thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we will be renewing level crossing equipment at Aiskew in November. (Well we couldn't cancel Santa could we?) This is fantastic and without your support our railway was in grave danger of having to cease running.

This week we won the British Museum 'Marsh Award'. This award recognises the hugely valuable contribution that volunteers make in helping museums engage with their visitors. Our restored station at Scruton is an absolute gem and has been providing amazing educational days out for local schools for some time. This award is testimony to the hard work of the team involved.

Our partnership with Upstairs at Institution has been shortlisted for an award as 'Café/Restaurant of the Year at a Visitor Attraction' at the Herriot Country Awards.

Our events this year have raised valuable income for the railway and have featured gin, prosecco, jazz and Disney productions. We are already looking at what we can deliver in 2018 and will be looking to partner with local businesses to continue our community focus.

Our popular Bedale Bonfire train will be

running with connecting buses from villages in the Dale. Please see the website for details and to book tickets.

Our Santa trains are always amazing and are now open for booking - we have plenty of choice and don't forget adults also receive a glass of wine and a mince pie.

[www.wensleydalerrail.com/santa-specials-2017](http://www.wensleydalerrail.com/santa-specials-2017)

Finally, something different for Halloween this year. The talented team who brought us Beauty and the Beast in the summer will be on the train entertaining children through the daytime. We may look to put on an evening special too with spooky cocktails.

[www.wensleydalerrail.com/halloween-spooktacular-saturday](http://www.wensleydalerrail.com/halloween-spooktacular-saturday)

Thanks to all our supporters and hardworking volunteers without whom there wouldn't be a Railway.

**Richard Holt**



**'Portrait' by Fuel  
Theatre.  
Wednesday  
November 1st  
6.00pm**

Racheal Ofori's 'Portrait' is a frank, fun and provocative look at the trials and tribulations of modern life as seen through the eyes of a young black woman. Inspired by Racheal's own experiences, Portrait uses music, poetry, humour and dance to examine identity and role models and challenge cultural stereotypes. After a hit run at Edinburgh and a successful UK tour in 2015, Racheal brings back her debut show for a 2017 tour. Directed by Kate Hewitt.

This play has been bought to The NASH by the Rural Arts OnTour scheme and is donation only! Young people from Richmond School will be performing a short curtain raiser as part of the show.

Age recommendation 12plus. Contact [emilyrr100@hotmail.com](mailto:emilyrr100@hotmail.com) to book your place.

The NASH, Hawes is located just behind St. Margaret's Church.

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## Letters Received

Dear Editor,

As a very regular visitor to Wensleydale, I spend a fair amount of time on the roads in the Dale and often find myself behind various tractors and other items of mechanised farm machinery on the road. Most of the time the drivers of the tractors etc, are really aware of other road users and are very considerate and pull over when they get the chance, to let faster traffic pass, for which we all are very grateful. However, I sometimes drive through the Dale in the dark evenings at this time of year (September / October) and often find myself behind a tractor, sometimes pulling a trailer full of silage bales or similar. Can I ask you to remind the drivers that they should not drive on the roads with the bright white "work lights" that illuminate the area to the rear of the tractor and perhaps the trailer bed switched on; it's like trying to drive with someone's front fog lights shining straight in your eyes from a height of 10 to 12 feet up. It makes it impossible to see past the tractor to judge whether an overtake is possible or not (it's also an offence to show a white light to rear of a vehicle and there's no exemption for tractors!). Incidentally, the driver of a tractor on the A684 on the evening of the 27th September 2017 between West Witton and Bainbridge at about 8.15pm, was towing a trailer full of round, black, silage bales, on a black trailer, in the dark, on a rainy night, with NO rear lights or reflectors on the trailer or load. There's no excuse for such behaviour.

**Dave Middleton, Guildford**

I am writing as a resident of Askrigg to put down a personal marker about the long-term goal of full reinstatement of the original 40-mile railway through the dale.

I believe this goal is as important to the future well-being of Wensleydale, its businesses and local communities, as it was when first voiced at the founding of the Wensleydale Railway Association in 1990, and again in 2000 when Wensleydale Railway plc was established. It has been re-confirmed as the policy of the

Wensleydale Railway many times since, including in WR publications and in the independent 2017 socio-economic Arup report.

Some practical difficulties may follow the recent surprise announcement by WR plc's directors that they have decided to sell the prime Aysgarth station site to a third party – so far unnamed - but whom they describe as “a wealthy railway-focused individual .....[who] will operate the site as a ‘hobby’ railway, with public access on certain days of the year.”

However we should not allow these difficulties to distract us from the key goal of eventual re-connection of the local line to the East Coast main line at Northallerton and the Settle-Carlisle line at Garsdale, thus putting back a significant piece of the national rail transport network.

I should be pleased to hear from anyone who is interested in continuing to promote or support this long-term aim.

**Ruth Annison 650349**

### **Muker Public Hall**

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#### Notes from a Cycling Offcudmen 4

There is no doubt about it. We all need exercise. This is especially important for the elderly. When we retire many of us tend to sit around watching telly for hours and generally relaxing. The paunch enlarges and the muscles shrink. Evidently, according to the latest research, sitting for long periods is as bad as smoking.

I faced this problem a few years ago. I have always loved being active and generally getting about. I loved cycling and walking with my wife and friends in various parts of Europe. But gradually I realised that I couldn't do those things any more. Wear and tear over the years and a series of sports injuries to my joints lessened my mobility and strength. However I found gentle cycling to be ideal for me. Sitting on a saddle takes the strain off my long suffering knees, and the absence of lateral movement gave my legs the stability they need.

One of my favourite short trips is full of interest. I go past the garage at Hawes and on to Appersett. Just past the bridge is the remains of an ancient lime kiln. In the past farmers would burn limestone in order to make quicklime and use it to reduce the acidity of the soil. Then over the bridge and take sharp right turn on to the quiet road leading to Hardraw. The first hill gives you fine views to the right over the floodplain and the western edge of Hawes. Then you have a nice swoop down to Hardraw.

This small village has an interesting history. A few months ago a young lady, whom I used to teach, said their insurance company hinted that their property near Farfield Mill had a problem with flooding. When they asked for more details they were told that large areas of Wensleydale had been severely flooded in 1889. That's where Hardraw comes in to the story.

At noon on a fine day in July 1889 the villagers suddenly noticed a large dark cloud gathering over Great Shunner Fell. Suddenly an enormous wall of water came crashing into the village from the north. The bridge was virtually washed away and the adjacent inn, The Green Dragon, received massive damage. Tombstones and even coffins were washed away and a raging torrent rushed down

through Upper Wensleydale.

The Green Dragon has another claim to fame. In the eighteenth century it was felt that the moorlands and the fells of England and Scotland were wild, primitive and unattractive areas, places to be avoided. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist church, visited Redmire at this period and wrote in his diary a comment about those 'those horrid hills'. Then about 1810 the Romantic Movement swept Europe. It was all the fashion for travellers to seek and enjoy the fells and the waterfalls in the wilder areas of the country. The Green Dragon became a popular inn for the painter and the poet. Both Turner and Wordsworth visited Hardraw to sample the beauties of Cotterdale and Hardraw Force.

Hawes, fortunately, is still visited by thousands each year who have never read a line of Wordsworth!

Just past Hardraw the road rises steeply and then the labouring cyclist has the joy of dropping down past the turning to Muker, and a hundred yards later a right turn and then to experience an exciting plummeting swoop to Haylands Bridge. From that point it is a pleasant saunter into Town Foot and the High Street.

**Brian Davis**

#### **Sunday Schools and Children's Church in the Upper Dale in November**

**5th at 9.00am** Hardraw Children's Service. Junior Worship with Upper Wensleydale Sunday School (UWSS). Further information from **Gemma 650821 or Elizabeth 650671**.

**12th at 4.00pm** Remembrance poppies, Stalling Busk - UWSS as above.

**19th at 10.30am** Family Communion, St Oswald's - UWSS as above.

**26th 9.30am - 11.00am** Penhill Children's Church in Wensley Village Hall. Learn about God and the Bible in a fun way with activities. (Refreshments and newspapers will be available for parents). Further information from the benefice office **663097**.

**26th at 4.00pm** Advent Candles, Stalling Busk - UWSS as above.



## Hawes Primary School News

On Friday October 6th some of Y5's and 6's went to Leyburn Primary to play in a football tournament. The girls in our team were Gracie, Evie, Abigail, Brooke, Tia, Lauren, Macy and Lola. Despite the weather we pulled through and had a good time. Well done to all the teams and thank you to Leyburn for organising it.

By Evie and Abi



We went to a football tournament at Leyburn. Despite the awful weather we got on with the game. Our first match was against BAWB, and then we played Spennithorne, then Leyburn. We came second overall. We enjoyed it, especially winning two matches, 7 - 0 and 4 - 0.

By Alfie and Dalton

The boy's team have got through to the next round and will be competing against other schools at Richmond on **Wednesday, November 8th.**

## Vacancy

We are looking to recruit a midday supervisor for Tuesday and Thursdays from 11.55am to 1.10pm term time only, to help monitor the children over lunchtime. The vacancy is to start as soon as possible and the rate of pay is £7.97 (point 9) rising annually to £8.55 (point 13). If you are interested please contact **Miss Vasey** or **Dawn** on **667308** for further details.

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## Wensleydale's GOT★LENT

**Saturday 2nd December 2017**

7.15pm prompt

**Hawes Market House**

**Closing Date for entries**

**Friday 3rd November 2017**

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Entry Forms from  
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## Best Foot Forward

### Crossing the Ure 4

This is the last of the Ure crossing walks and is probably the easiest. It takes us from Aysgarth Falls Bridge to Wensley Bridge, a distance of only six miles with four crossing points.

Aysgarth Falls is officially the second busiest destination for visitors in the Yorkshire Dales. Anyone passing through Hawes on a summer Sunday might dispute that but it probably depends on how people are counted. Nevertheless it does get busy around the bridge, especially when there is plenty of water in the Falls on a fine day. It can look truly spectacular.

What few visitors are aware of is that the bridge was built in two stages. The original dates from 1539 and the join where the bridge was widened in 1788 can clearly be seen if you look underneath the main arch (the newer addition is on the downstream side). The leat drawing off water from the top fall used to power the mill, which started life as a cotton mill but has had several changes over the centuries. A scheme was put in a few years ago to generate hydro-electric power but this is no longer functioning.

As most of you will know, the best views of the Middle and Lower Falls are from the footpath on the north side of the river but the south side offers a more continuous route

downstream and still offers good views, at least of the Lower Falls. Below them the river widens out considerably, creating a delightful stretch of rapids and rocky islands. Beyond this we reach Hestholme Bridge where the A684 crosses Bishopdale Beck, one of the largest tributaries of the Ure. Ten minutes walk will give you a view of the confluence of this beck with the main river.

Only slightly further down we come to our last set of stepping stones at a place called Slapestone Wath. The stones here are truly giants but are still covered at high water. Despite their size one of the middle stones was shoved a short way downstream a couple of winters ago. Crossing the stones takes you onto the Thoresby and Redmire track but we shall stay on the south side.

The popular path keeps reasonably close to the river, undulating over glacial drumlins and therefore often well above the water level. At Redmire Force it is possible to get down to river level again and this is a lovely spot for a picnic. After more undulations we reach Lord's Bridge, so called because it was a driveway approach for Lord Bolton at Bolton Hall. This is a fine parapeted bridge with a central pier, wide enough for vehicles although there is no public access.

All that remains now is to walk through the woods (beware tree roots) on the south bank to reach Wensley Bridge, our last crossing point.

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Like the other two bridges on this walk it stands well above river level and is never flooded, even when surrounding fields are awash and the A684 is closed. A short walk up through Wensley brings you to a bus stop where you can return to Aysgarth. If you have to wait a while for a bus there's always the Three Horseshoes pub.

This series of walks from the source of the River Ure to Wensley Bridge would give a total distance not far short of thirty miles with twenty six crossing points on the way. Not many of us would manage that in one day but it does make four very interesting walks.

N.P.



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## Middleham and the Dales Local History Group

**Middleham Key Centre, Tuesday, November 21st at 2.00pm**

### Bits, Bobs and Bygones by Carol Cook

In her hands-on talk "Bits, Bobs and Bygones", Carol Cook will demonstrate the social history of life in the 19th century through examples of clothing and accessories from her collection of Victorian and Edwardian clothes.

Carol established and has run the Swainby History Group for 25 years and was Chair of the Cleveland and Teesside Local History Group for 12 years.

Visitors are welcome at £3 per meeting. For more information contact **Tony Keates 640436**, [dotandtonyk@btinternet.com](mailto:dotandtonyk@btinternet.com)

## Whist Drives at Gayle Institute

Come along to Gayle Institute on a Monday evening to enjoy a friendly game of whist. All are welcome whatever their level of skill. (Or lack of it!)

October	30th
November	13th, 27th
December	11th (Xmas Whist) plus Fun Night (Date to be arranged)
January	8th, 22nd, 29th
February	12th, 26th
March	12th, 19th

**Mary Hugill**

## A Big Thank You

The Bay Tree Café in Hawes raised £1,374.77 from the coffee morning held on **Tuesday, September 19th** for Macmillan Cancer Support. Many thanks to everyone who supported and donated to the event.




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## History in the Dales

This is the first of an occasional series in which we will feature some of the interesting historical and archaeological sites in the Upper Dales.

### Bronze Age Cairn, Addleborough

There are the remains of a cairn prominently situated on open access land on the north crest of Addleborough, overlooking Wensleydale. A cairn is a mound of rough stones, often built as a memorial or landmark, although sometimes simply as an agricultural feature to clear land for farming. This cairn is believed to mark an early Bronze Age (circa 2000-1500 BC) burial site. Prehistoric funerary cairns are typically constructed on hilltops or in visually prominent skyline locations. There has been some natural erosion of the site over time, as well as man-made changes.

It is visible as a low stone mound, largely turf-covered and with a maximum diameter of 10.5m and 0.6m high.



Several large boulders are exposed across the cairn, and have varying amounts of cup marks on them. One example has at least 30 cup marks of a few centimetres across. There are also distinct channels which appear as ring segments, and highlight particular cups.



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Abstract cup and ring marks are decorative features that are found quite frequently in upland areas, and are a form of prehistoric rock art. It appears that for geological reasons, rock art is a little more unusual in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, than in other upland areas. The cairn is designated as a scheduled monument.

An Ordnance Survey triangulation pillar was situated on the north side of this site. However, its location meant that the cairn was suffering significant footfall and livestock erosion during the 1980s and 90s. The pillar was removed several years ago, and the condition of the mound improved following this. (The old triangulation pillar can be seen at the right hand side of the photo.)

**Hannah Kingsbury  
Historic Environment Apprentice, YDNP**

### Tinsel and Turkey

**Thoraby Village Hall** invites you to  
a **Tinsel and Turkey Christmas Lunch**  
on **Sunday 26th November**  
at **12.30 for 1.00pm**  
Ticket only: £13 per person  
Ring **663747** or **663076**

### Yorebridge Education Foundation

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### Penhill Poachers Christmas Collection.

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**Saturday, December 2nd.**

**Doors open at 7.00pm.**

St Bartholomew's Church, West Witton,  
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Licensed Bar. Tickets £8 from

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### The Arts Society Wensleydale

Former senior art and antiques detective Malcolm Kenwood, will share his fascinating autobiographical journey from rural beat officer to international specialist investigating the criminal art world in his lecture Artbeat, on **Tuesday, November 14th at 2.00pm** at the Middleham Key Centre.

As former Recoveries Director for the Art Loss Register, the international database for stolen cultural property, he has a fund of fascinating, entertaining, and sometimes

disturbing stories. Malcolm's first-hand experience of the criminal art underworld, their origins, methods and corrupt dealings in the trade has proved invaluable to many audiences as diverse as police conferences to auction house staff, New Scotland Yard, Interpol and the FBI.

The society is keen to attract new members who will receive a warm welcome. Visitors pay £8 a lecture, refunded if they join. Please contact **Ros Higson on 01765 635244** [rosalindhigson@btinternet.com](mailto:rosalindhigson@btinternet.com) who will be delighted to provide more details.

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### Leyburn Bowls Club

Quiz night

**Thursday, November 30th at 7.30pm**  
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### Lottery cash for Wensleydale Railway

The Wensleydale Railway Association (Trust) has received initial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for the Leeming Bar Station House Restoration project, it was announced today. Made possible by National Lottery players, the project will see the restoration and refurbishment of the Grade II Listed Victorian period Station House at Leeming Bar. It is planned to carry out the restoration work during 2018, to include authentic interior spaces for use by schools and community groups. This will involve a recreated Board Room, Waiting Room, Ticket Office and Tea Room designed in the style of the Station Master's Parlour. Integral to the project will be delivery of a heritage education and engagement programme, designed to re-engage local people with the railway and its story.

Development funding of £22,000 has also been awarded to help the WRA(T) progress their plans to apply for a full grant which if successful will total £368,000.



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## Notes from Thorney Mire

### Autumn

A recent trapping programme in our wood has revealed that the grey squirrels have not returned and the red ones are still in residence. Hedgehogs were also found which is good news as these little creatures, which are looked on with affection, have been declining in recent years. Since the year 2000 their numbers have decreased by half in rural areas and in urban areas by a third. They are now on the British ten most endangered species list. Why these not so cuddly mammals with five to seven thousand spines on their backs, hosts of up to five hundred fleas and a liking for spreading saliva on their spines are so popular is a mystery. I blame children's story books. See an illustration of a motherly hedgehog wearing an apron and you are a fan for life.

Looking through the window I saw a flash of reddy-brown go across the field in the direction of the wood. I wasn't sure what it was, maybe a fox? A few seconds later a roe deer ran across the field in the same direction, so it was a fawn I had seen. Deer used to be a common sight around Thorney Mire but in the last few years, if they were around, they were keeping a low profile. I hope they are making a comeback. A few years ago when I was walking down our lane on one of those lovely sunny, it's good to be alive days, I came face to face with a roe deer in an adjacent field. She looked at me and I

looked at her. In the long grass I could see a pair of brown ears. I thought they might belong to a rabbit. Then the ears stood up and it was a fawn. Not wishing to upset the mother I moved on for a few yards and then noticed another pair of ears in the grass and a second fawn revealed itself. Deer hide their young in the grass away from predators while they feed. I didn't see another doe, so was this mother child minding? I don't know, but it made my day.

For a few days the rowan trees down our lane looked resplendent with their abundance of red berries standing out in the sunshine. Walking up the lane a few days later a flock of about twenty to thirty goldfinches flew in front of me landing on the rowan trees and treating them like a fast food outlet. When I caught up, they moved on to the next rowan tree stopping off on the hawkweed for a quick snack of seeds on the way. The trees now look ragged and forlorn, but at least the birds are not hungry. The juicy looking rose hips in the hedgerow are left alone and rot on the stems. Maybe they will be needed if we have a harsh winter.

Birds seem to spend a lot of their time looking for food. Going further afield, recently in the Lake District I saw a cormorant fishing on a narrow Lakeland beck just below a waterfall. It dived beneath the surface, swam upstream against the strong flow of the water and appeared some twenty yards later below the waterfall, it then rode down on the current to calmer waters. It repeated this several times and on its fourth attempt its efforts were rewarded and it emerged with a fish. It manoeuvred the fish until it was head first in its beak and swallowed it whole. It was a fair sized fish and I thought it might sustain it for a while, but no, with little thought for getting indigestion, off it dived again. It seemed to expend a lot of energy in the pursuit of catching dinner as most of the dives resulted in it being unsuccessful. I think if I had the choice of being a cormorant or a heron, I would choose the latter, then I would only have to stand motionless on one leg and wait for an unsuspecting fish to swim by. On second thoughts, I would stand on two legs, the concentration of scanning the water for fish would probably make me doze off and I could end up falling in the river. **Sylvia Turner**

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## Churches Together in Upper Wensleydale

### Advent Taizé Service

To mark the start of Advent Churches Together in Upper Wensleydale are holding a Taizé Service at Gayle Chapel on **Monday, December 4th**. The event will start at noon with a hearty soup and bread lunch followed by the service itself at **1.00pm**. So make a start to the Advent season by joining us for the occasion. All are welcome to attend.

### Toy Service

This year the Churches Together in Upper Wensleydale Toy Service will be held at **10.30 am Sunday, December 3rd** at St. Margaret's Church, Hawes. All toys donated will be taken to The Salvation Army for distribution. All are welcome to attend this service. All donations of

new toys will be gratefully received and help make the Christmas of children who might not otherwise receive a present. Please leave the toys unwrapped so the distributors can choose the appropriate age and sex of the children who will receive them but you may wish to donate wrapping paper with the toys.

Graham Di Duca

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

### **November**

Running until **22nd December** – Voices from the Land. An exhibition of portraits, landscape images and reflections from farmers about life in the Nation Park in 2017 at the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes.

Charity Christmas Cards are on sale at the DCM until the end of December.

- 1 Play 'Portrait' at The NASH, Hawes. 6.00pm. See page 8.
- 3 Wensleydale Society Lecture at West Burton. See page 24.
- 4 Burtsett Institute are providing refreshments at Hoppers Sale in the Market Hall. Proceeds towards the upkeep of The Institute.
- 5 Hawes Fireworks Display 6.30pm See page 30.
- 5,19 Walkers' Event Trains on Wensleydale Railway, £5 per adult fare. Details phone **01677 425805** [www.wensleydalerail.com](http://www.wensleydalerail.com).
- 10 Domino & Whist Drive, Muker. See p.9
- 10 Deadline for Shoe Box donations. See page 32.
- 11,12 Remembrance Day. For special services see page 27.
- 12 Hawes and District Gala AGM at the Board at 7.00pm. See page 25.
- 13,27 Whist at Gayle Institute. See p. 14.
- 14 Arts Society Wensleydale. See p. 16.
- 15 Nightmares in Norfolk by North Country Theatre in West Burton Village Hall. Phone **663373** for details.
- 17 The Missing Bronte at 7.30pm at the DCM, Hawes. A talk by Juliet Barker. Part of the Friends of the Museum annual lecture programme. Free - donations welcome.
- 17 U3A meeting at LACC. See page 24.
- 17 Dalesplay Play session for Children in Need. 9.30 to 11.00am. See page 6.
- 17 The Quo Experience at Reeth Memorial Hall. Tickets available from Reeth Post Office or phone **01748 884759** or visit [www.reethmemorialhall.co.uk](http://www.reethmemorialhall.co.uk) - tickets half price for under 16's.

- 21 Middleham and Dales Local History Group. See page 14.
- 22 Upper Dales Family History Group meets in Harmby. See page 31.
- 24 The Soul Lounge Breast Cancer Charity event at the Garden Rooms, Tennants. Phone **621146** to book.
- 25 Moorcock Air Ambulance Christmas Fair. See page 24.
- 25 Christmas Comet to York. See page 4.
- 26 Swale Singers rehearsal. See page 29.
- 28-1 Dec Dick Whittington and the Caribbean Pirates. See page 36.
- 30 Quiz Night Leyburn Bowls Club p. 16.

### **December**

- 1,3 Dick Whittington and the Caribbean Pirates See page 36.
- 2 Theatre by Bus to York for matinee of For Love or Money. **663259** for full details.
- 2 Wensleydale's got Talent. See page 11.
- 2 Carols by Candlelight at Hawes Junction Chapel at 7.30pm. See page 32.
- 2 Nightmares in Norfolk by North Country Theatre in Reeth Memorial Hall. **01748 884759** for details.

### **Gayle Mill Events**

**Demonstration Tours – Sunday November 5th at 11.00am and 2.30pm** £12 A two hour tour where you get to see the original 1879 machinery working! Includes light refreshments.

**Gayle Mill Christmas Fayre – Saturday November 25th 10.00am – 4.30pm** – Admission Adults £2.50 Children 5-16 years Free

Our annual Christmas Fayre rounds off the year; come and enjoy a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie whilst choosing those special Christmas gifts. Our range of wooden and craft products tenderly made by our own volunteers will be on sale, together with craft demonstrations by our expert tutors. Order and collect your unique Gayle Mill Christmas Trees. Christmas raffle, tombola & Askrigg Hand Bell ringers at **2.00pm and 3.00pm**. Lots of festive fun under one roof!

## Police Report

Welcome to another edition of the Police report, as usual the following are incidents reported to North Yorkshire Police that have occurred roughly in the area of mid to upper Wensleydale.

### September

**15th** Road Traffic collision, damage only on the A684 between Leyburn and Bainbridge.

**17th** RTC injury on the B6255. Motorcyclist hit loose gravel and lost control.

**18th** RTC minor, A684 West Witton, other vehicle failed to stop.

**18th** RTC minor, A684 Wensley.

**19th** Theft of purse from shopping bag, Hawes.

**20th** Theft from a motor vehicle where a Stihl stone saw and Mikata drill were stolen.

### October

**1st** RTC serious A684, Aysgarth, Car v Motorcycle.

**7th** RTC damage only A684, Worton.

**8th** Injury B6255 Snaizholme area, motorcycle v dry stone wall.

**12th** Attempted theft of step ladders at West Witton noticed by householder and persons made off.

**13th** Burglary, Aysgarth, the householder had gone out leaving door unlocked.

**14th** RTC damage only A684 Worton, vehicle hit standing water causing collision.

**15th** RTC damage only (but messy) A684 Wensley, overturned slurry trailer.

Thank you to those of you who report suspicious persons or vehicles; there were six occurrences in the area covered by this magazine and checked out. As a result of one such report received from a resident in Swaledale, involving males going door to door selling goods, one male was reported for the attempted theft of money from an honesty box used for sale of eggs and a Vauxhall Vivaro van was seized. The driver, who only had a provisional licence and therefore no insurance,

was subsequently reported for the offences.

Now the dark mornings and evenings are upon us, prior to setting off in your vehicles, it would be good practice to check that all your lights are in good working order. This also includes any trailers that you may be using. Stay safe...See and be seen.

Going back to the burglary in Aysgarth, please ensure that when you leave your property, it is secure and now is the time to start leaving a light on or using timer switches. Do not make it easy for the criminal element.

And finally, the quote, "Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results". Albert Einstein.

To contact **North Yorkshire Police:101 (Non-emergency). 999 (Emergency only).**

If you have any community issues you would like to address or discuss, contact me, PCSO 5232 Don Watson via the Force Control room or email:

[Donald.watson@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Donald.watson@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk).



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## Music in the Dales via Facebook

When I was about 12 years old I had a handful of cello lessons with a visiting teacher organised by my school. I really enjoyed it, but I had a bad experience playing in a concert before I was ready which put me off and I stopped playing. I always regretted stopping but never saw a way as an adult of starting again. Wind the clock on some 43 years and a neighbour lent me her cello to see if I could remember anything! I couldn't remember much at all but I got the bug, found a teacher, bought a cello and at that point my life turned upside down!

Not only did I get obsessed with playing the cello every moment I could, I rapidly joined an amateur orchestra and most surprisingly discovered that there are a lot of musicians on Facebook. I started making friends and soon realised that not only was I getting to know amateur cello nuts like myself but I was even

chatting to professional musicians and performers. Gradually friendships developed – particularly with cellists.

In 2015 I invited a cellist friend, Corinne Morris, to come and visit and offered to organise a concert for her while she was here. There was a good turnout on that Wednesday evening in May when Corinne, with pianist Nico de Villiers, gave a dramatic and moving performance. People who heard it were surprised at the quality: this “friend of Carol’s” gave a performance that would have been well received in any concert hall in London. The question people asked was “When is the next concert?”

It had never been my intention to organise more concerts, but so was born Wensleydale Concert Series. More concerts appeared sporadically in 2015 but through 2016 and 2017 concerts were organised regularly and we have just completed our second season. Almost all of the musicians that have played for us have been contacts I have made through Facebook and they were very generous accepting lower than normal fees to help us get started.

During 2017 things needed to get a little more organised and we established the concert series as a registered charity, which was very exciting. We have also started looking for sponsorship and funding from Arts bodies to help give the series a firm financial basis and to keep it going for many years to come.

Already we have 2019 planned and it is an exciting year ahead. For the first time we are inviting musicians from overseas to come and play, and not all of them are personal friends. (Well not yet!) Highlights include: March – a Sunday afternoon concert with Eboracum Baroque - (a group playing on period instruments), April – a piano recital with a pianist visiting from Australia, May – a truly amazing cellist is coming from Washington DC (USA) to give a solo cello recital and a cello workshop, June – a string quartet visiting from Sweden and joined by Nico de Villiers who played in our very first concert to play piano quintets, July – a clarinet and piano recital, August - a violin and piano recital, September –



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a Sunday afternoon concert with a String Trio.

There will be a final concert in October which is still to be arranged (all concerts are on Saturday evenings at Aysgarth church, except the two Sunday afternoons which will be at Carperby village hall). Full details will be available on the website shortly at [www.wensleydaleconcertseries.co.uk](http://www.wensleydaleconcertseries.co.uk). To get regular news and updates visit the website and click "Newsletter" and sign up for our regular emails, and/or join us on Facebook and/or Twitter (links on the website).

To see a small sample from 3 concerts, including from that very first concert visit this address (which takes you to YouTube): <http://tinyurl.com/wcseries>.

This was an unexpected change of direction in my life and I am very grateful for the support and encouragement of friends and locals and practical help so generously given.

On top of that my cello obsession continues ... I now travel regularly to London for lessons with Corinne who gave our first concert.

My next column will be another music column in December for Christmas – back to computers in January.

**Carol Haynes**

**Les Alderson, Bainbridge** would like to thank his family, friends and neighbours for all the good wishes, cards and gifts received during his recent illness and all who visited him. They were much appreciated.



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## Greetings and Acknowledgements

**1st November**



**Happy 21st Birthday,  
Laura**

Lots of love from Mum,  
Dad, Emma, Matty, Jack  
and Family

## CONGRATULATIONS LAURA

**Happy 21st Birthday  
1st November 2017**

Lots of love from  
Grandad, Gran, Sue, Funky, Matt,  
Ted, Lilly, Mark, Ellie, Megan and Noah  
**Xxx xxX**



**Eileen and Pete**

We would like to thank all  
family and friends for the  
lovely cards, flowers and gifts  
received on the occasion of  
our **Golden Wedding Anniversary**

**Jill and Roger Lofts** wish  
to thank family and friends  
for all their cards and gifts  
on their

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Wb	Oct 30th	Nov 6th	Nov 13th	Nov 20th	Nov 27th	Wb	Oct 30th	Nov 6th	Nov 13th	Nov 20th	Nov 27th
Day						Day					
Mon	FB	FB	FB	F	FB	Mon	P	P	P	P	P
Tues	Fam, Ppm	F	F	F	F	Tues	Pam, Bpm	PB	PB	P	PB
Wed	P	P	P	P	P	Wed	F	F	F	F	F
Thurs	B	P	B	P	B	Thurs	F	F	F	F	F
Fri	P	P	P	P	P	Fri	B	B	B	J	B
<b>Doctors:</b> B- Brown, F - France, P- Pain J-Jones (locum), C - Closed <b>Morning Surgery:</b> 8.45-10.15am Tues till 10.45am; no appts <b>Afternoon Surgery:</b> 5.00- 6.00pm Tues 1.30-4.00pm; appointments only <i>For appointments and all enquiries ring 667200</i>						<b>Doctors:</b> B- Brown, F - France, P- Pain J-Jones (locum), C - Closed <b>Morning Surgery:</b> 9.00-10.30am ; no appointments <b>Afternoon Surgery:</b> 4.00- 5.30pm appointments only <i>For appointments and all enquiries ring 663222</i>					

### Wensleydale Society

November's meeting is on **Friday, November 3rd at 7.30pm** in West Burton Village Hall when the speaker is Jon Sibley. His topic will be 100 Squadron RAF Leeming. Non-members are welcome for a small charge of £2. Membership is £5 per year. Refreshments are served after the meeting. Transport for a small fee is provided from Middleham, Harmby, Leyburn and West Witton. Please telephone **622287** for further information. The Society also has a regular walks programme. Information about this can be obtained at the meetings.


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### Leyburn & District U3A

The regular monthly talks programme is held on the third Friday of the month. Non-members are welcome for a small charge and committee members are available to answer questions and provide information about all the interest groups currently running. November's speaker is Edward Brown, and his topic is Life as a Builder. Leyburn Arts & Community Centre is open from **10am** and the talk begins promptly at **10.30am on November 17th**.

### Moorcock Inn Christmas Fayre

**Saturday, November 25th**

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### Hawes and District Gala AGM

Hawes and District Gala will be holding the AGM on **Sunday, November 12th at 7.00pm** at the Board Inn, Hawes. Please come and support this meeting as a final decision will be made about the future of the Gala.

This year saw the 50th gala. Ask yourself do we stop now and say "they were the good old days" or do we carry on the tradition?

Come and help us make this decision.

**Louise Raw**

**Hawes and District Gala Secretary**



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### The New Face of Whites

After the (long anticipated) retirement of Kevin and Pat White from Whites of Wensleydale in Hawes, we wondered what would happen to the shop. Would it become another café or gift shop? I'm delighted to report that the new owners, Wayne and Wendy Hallam, intend to retain the name Whites of Wensleydale ("It's a well established brand in the dale" said Wayne) and proceed essentially along the same lines as before selling a very similar range of clothing – with a few tweaks.

Wayne and Wendy and their dog, Douglas, come from West Bridgford in Nottingham and have been coming to Hawes every year for many years in their motor caravan. They have two children, a son who works for the NHS in Nottingham and a daughter who is just starting her degree course at Newcastle University. Wayne was for 40 years Service Manager for a grass cutting equipment company while Wendy was a local government officer. They wanted to retire but felt that, with a daughter still at university, they needed to keep earning for a few more years. Fed up of city life they decided to move to the country and set off on a

completely new venture in a location which they already knew and loved, Hawes. They decided to buy Whites.

This was quite a step as they had no experience of selling clothes, had never run their own business, had never kept formal account books and, to add a little extra spice, had never before worked full time together. Wisely, they have retained the services of Emma, Shona and Jackie, who know the ropes.

Travelling in their motor caravan was a major source of relaxation with regular trips to France and Germany as well as to the Isle of Man ("It's quiet at the height of summer and inexpensive – once you've paid the ferry charges") and of course, to Hawes. The motor caravan has had to go but has been replaced by a Lexus Hybrid.

Wayne likes technology – hybrid cars and gadgets of every kind. Look out for the electric credit card wallet in the shop window. He also has a head for heights, having been a paraglider in his youth ('till his mother told him she wouldn't look after him if he had a bad accident!) then started training as a pilot in both fixed wing aircraft and helicopters but found it rather an expensive hobby and never completed his training. He has flown drones but says that he now only has indoor drones.

As they get to grips with the business and, as the winter approaches, Wayne and Wendy hope to spend some more time enjoying the area. Will they get involved with the Hawes Christmas lights? Wayne has already agreed to help and I'm sure he will be drawn further into that activity.

We welcome them to the Upper Dale and wish them every success. If enthusiasm and confidence are what's needed, Whites of Wensleydale will surely flourish under its new ownership. **A.M.**

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## Remembrance Day Services

A short service at Bainbridge Cemetary on **Saturday, November 11th** starting at **10.45am** to remember the fallen from both wars, particularly from the Parish.

Special Services will be held on **Sunday, November 12th** as follows:

**9.30am** St. Oswald's, Castle Bolton  
**10.30am** St Margaret's, Hawes  
**10.30am** St Oswald's, Askrigg  
**10.45am** Holy Trinity, Wensley  
**11.00am** St. Andrew's, Aysgarth

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## Mystery Picture

Last month's picture was of the Ure Force  
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## Prunings



We have enjoyed the sort of conditions that could, in theory, lead to a final blaze of Autumn splendour. The theory is that as the trees have had a fairly wet summer they are in good condition and could hold their leaves longer, in addition the warmth

and the bright sunny days encourage the trees to make more sugar which gives the rich red pigments. If, at the same time we have cooler nights this helps kill off the green chlorophyll so that the colours show through. However, heavy frost simply kills the leaves so they fall off anyway, and if the wind and rain are persistent they will have the same effect overnight.

Driving around it seems that lots of people's geraniums still look lovely and mine have turned very scruffy. Perhaps my tubs are a little over-exposed to the elements, and the high rainfall makes the flowers look messy. I will not, however, make the same mistake as last year when I left them too long and no-one had any decent winter pansies left when I wanted them. I already have the pansies and it is just a case of biting the bullet. It always seems a shame to pull out plants that are still bright and cheerful. I am assuming that the bulbs in the bottom will have survived!

It's the time for thinking about colour for next year, and filling up gaps with low maintenance plants and shrubs. Laurel is a useful plant because it can be shaped and pruned, but it is quite expensive to buy. No problem! It can be grown quite successfully from seed. I noticed an abundant supply in Leyburn. There is a big healthy tree hanging over the wall just by Leyburn Hall gates and it is dropping juicy berries onto the cobbles. You may know of another source. The best way to get successful germination is to crush them and put them in a jam jar of water and let them fester. Use rubber gloves as they are toxic. In common with many trees and shrubs they are normally distributed by birds. To prevent the seeds being digested by the

birds they carry a coating which protects them from the birds' digestive juices. It also inhibits germination. The acidity in the water when the mould has formed removes it. Once cleaned up they can be sown in seed compost and left outside to let the frost get at them as would happen in the wild. It will be next spring before anything happens, and quite a while before they are big enough to be problematic, but they will do very well in tubs and planters whilst they are small. Many of our berried shrubs loved by the birds can be treated in the same way.

On the "Don't think I'll bother" front, the webmaster of the British Fuchsia Society has published a recipe in Garden News for a jam made from Fuchsia berries. On the "much more interesting" front, The Telegraph has published a collection of articles by Professor Ken Thompson. The author is a biologist and gardener and the book is entitled "The Sceptical Gardener". When I have finished with "Cormoran Strike" I shall dip into it.

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

## Rose Rambler

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### **Come and Sing Messiah**

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We'll provide tea and coffee, cakes and biscuits at half time to keep your strength up. It doesn't matter if you've never sung in a choir or not done so for many years. This is your opportunity to bring alive or revive your singing skills.

If you have your own music, please bring it, or we can provide it if you let us know in advance. The cost? £10, which we shall give to the Farming Community Network, a charity that supports farming families through difficult times.

To book, or if you have any questions, phone **01748 886974** or email [andrew@bedfords.me.uk](mailto:andrew@bedfords.me.uk).

The Swale Singers plus orchestra, organ and soloists, will perform Messiah in St Oswald's Church Askrigg on **Saturday, December 9th at 7.00pm.** **Andrew Horn**



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NOTE: WE WILL BE CLOSED 31ST OCT to 10TH NOV  
OPEN AGAIN FROM 11TH NOVEMBER

## Remember, Remember The Fifth Of November

Gunpowder, Treason and ... Our Fireworks Display In Hawes!

This is another reminder to put this date in your diaries as the annual display is on the Community Field near the Museum starting at **6.30pm**. It's free admission but we do like a donation, if possible, to help our budget for next year. We have had some super donations of money and food etc already, and we are most grateful for your assistance. If you see a pink collection jar in a shop and you have some spare change, you may care to consider us as a worthy

cause at this time of year. Thank you to everyone who has contributed in the past.

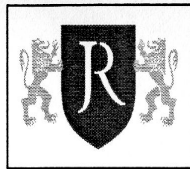
The bonfire has started to take shape - pallets around the outside to give it stability; we are aware that the field is a bit muddy at present so if you can help with the fire don't get your car stuck by driving on to the mud!

The Fireworks display starts at **7.00pm** accompanied with an amazing soundtrack and the best set of fireworks yet! Don't forget you'll probably need your wellies and a torch, plus could you have some change to spend at the food stall. We probably cannot cope with £20 notes all the time.

We also know that some pets can get spooked by fireworks - so if you leave lights on in the house and a radio / TV on, that will help to cover up some of the noise and lights that startle the animals. We have also been told that horses are more peaceful if they are oriented towards the fireworks so that they can see what is going on.

We are still a small committee and we try to manage this big event as well as we can, but if you feel you can give a hand in helping us on the night or next year, please contact us.

**John Snow (Chair Fireworks Committee)**



**Robin Jessop**

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## Upper Dales Family History Group

The new season of talks began in September with David Scrimgeour on 'Early Asylum Life'. He had begun his research into the West Riding Pauper Lunatic Asylum, later known as the Stanley Royd Hospital, Wakefield, by looking into primary sources for the history of the building itself and had then discovered that the original case notes for the patients were preserved at the West Yorkshire Archive Service.

This month's meeting is on **Wednesday, November 22nd**, at **2.00pm** in Harmby village hall near Leyburn, when the speaker is Dr David Severs on 'Wensleydale Clockmakers and their clocks'. David began to research historic clock making in the dales after discovering the craft in his own family tree and has recently been involved in an exhibition of more than 60 grandfather clocks, wall and table clocks, watches and barometers at Tennants Garden Rooms in Leyburn.

Non-members are very welcome at £2. For further details phone **07432 677783**, email [moverley.yorkshire@outlook.com](mailto:moverley.yorkshire@outlook.com) or see the website [www.upperdalesfhg.org.uk](http://www.upperdalesfhg.org.uk) for details of all events and the worldwide email discussion group.

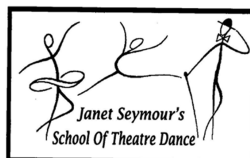
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## Operation Christmas Child

Just a reminder that the shoe boxes need to be given to the Community Office in Hawes by **Friday, November 10th.** Please

add a £5 cheque to cover transport or donate on line, gift aided if possible.

Guidance on contents from [www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/](http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/)

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\* Subject to functions



### Blueboxt Needs Your Aviva Vote!

There are lots of exciting things happening with our voluntary community group.

Our Young musicians are busy making plans and rehearsals are underway for our Christmas Concert (see date in December issue).

We have just heard our 'Get Musical' project has been accepted for the 2017 Aviva Community Fund.

Now we need your help and support to make it to the next stage.

Please help and cast your vote for our project.  
**Voting closes on Tuesday, November 21st.**

The details were not available when the UWNL went to print so PLEASE find out more and vote.

Simply,

i) Go to our website [www.blueboxt.co.uk](http://www.blueboxt.co.uk) which will provide the link to our project page.

ii) Go to Aviva <https://www.direct.aviva.co.uk> search for BlueBoxt

Productions 'Get Musical'.

iii) Find BlueBoxt on Facebook, like our page and we will share the information.

iv) email [info@blueboxt.co.uk](mailto:info@blueboxt.co.uk).

v) contact Colin Bailey - 07711 211169

Thanks for your support.

Colin Bailey

### From the Archives of June 1996

#### NOW OPEN...

The hole in the wall cash dispenser at the Midland Bank in Hawes. It was officially opened on May 23rd by Mary Burrow, aged 90, who had never used one before.

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### Over The Edge

A much loved childhood friend has gone over the edge of the waterfall.

The big rock under the waterfall in the middle of Gayle beck has been forced over the edge and pushed into the side. It now sits forlornly in the shallows, in pride of place no longer. The giant rock shaped like a crocodile's head no longer rules the river.

A mighty flood in late September, never seen before by the residents living beside the beck, washed the massive stone from its home of, who knows how many years, over the fall. Gayle beck now looks sad and bare without it in its usual position.

The rugged stone saw many hours of play by the village children. Who remembers having picnics there, pop and crisps spread out? After bathing in the river we sat on the warm rock to dry out. It was a place to sit and count how many minnows we had caught. Out on the rock our parents couldn't hear the escapades we were planning. A big stride and a hurried scramble and we were up to the next level of the falls.

We are going to miss that old stone! Anyone any ideas how we can get it back?

**Friends of the Big Rock**

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### The Prayer Tree in St Margaret's Church

We would like everyone to be aware that we have a prayer tree in church and it stands near the Baptism Font at the back of the building. Everyone is most welcome to call into the church at any time to write a request on a prayer card. These are kept in a basket by the tree.

We pray for the requests every Tuesday morning at the 10.30am service. If you prefer you do not need to mention full names. Whatever the need may be: yourself, a family member, a friend, at home or at work, an illness or bereavements or perhaps you feel a need for peace, guidance or strength for a particular time. We would like to help you in this way.

**Tricia Pantlin**



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## Autumn on the Farm

The autumnal months are a busy time for sheep farmers. Three annual breeding lamb sales at Hawes Auction Mart have taken place during September and October and this year the average price per lamb was down slightly on last years' prices. Over thirty thousand Mule Gimmer lambs born in our area in the spring will be enjoying the better weather on farms further south now and most will give birth to their own lambs in the spring of 2018. Our own Swaledale gimmer lambs born in April and May will soon be transported in a wagon to low lying dairy farms for the winter. They are smaller than the Mules and will therefore not be ready to

have their own lambs until the spring of 2019.

All our Swaledale sheep have recently been dosed to eradicate "liver fluke" developing in their lungs. This years' wet summer has increased the likelihood of this disease in sheep. Liver fluke can be fatal. They have also been injected against "foot rot" which is a very painful condition and a lame sheep does not thrive. To prevent mites and other infestations in their wool sheep are generally dipped in a solution in either a dipping tub or sheep shower. This year we have used an alternative treatment. The liquid solution is poured directly along the sheep's' back from the neck to the tail where the wool naturally parts. It spreads throughout the fleece. This will protect the sheep from these parasites during the winter months.

Our pullets (young hens) are just starting to lay their first eggs. Their eggs are smaller than your average egg, but what they lack in size they make up for in taste, delicious. The size of the eggs will gradually increase as they grow and develop into hens.

Although October has been very wet at times, the mild weather and abundant grass has allowed our dairy cows to stay out during the day until last week. They are inside for the winter now, out of the bad weather and have unlimited access to silage all day or night. If you could choose, would you rather be a sheep or a cow at this time of year!

**Mrs Farmer**

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### Dick Whittington and the Caribbean Pirates

This year the award winning Wensleydale Music and Theatre Group will be staging a variation on a theme of a much loved and traditional pantomime – Dick Whittington.

Come and enjoy a great evening of family entertainment and follow the story of our hero Dick and his cat who, together with Alice, Alderman Fitzwarren and a host of characters, set sail for Morocco to buy dates only to find that Captain Birdseye's route is via the Caribbean to recover buried treasure. How will it all end? Come and see. With such well known songs such as *In the Navy* (Village People), *The Last Night of the World* (from

Miss Saigon) and *You Can't Stop the Beat* (from Hairspray), this panto will delight audiences of all ages.

Performances are at **Hawes Market House, 7.30 pm Tuesday, November 28th to Friday December 1st** with a matinee at **2.00 pm Sunday, December 3rd**. Doors open a half hour before each performance. Tickets, £9.00 for adults and £6.50 for U12s, are available at Hawes Community Office and Library tel. **667400** open from Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.30pm, Saturday 9.00am to 12.30pm. You can also book on-line at [www.wensleydalemtg.co.uk](http://www.wensleydalemtg.co.uk).

Subject to demand The Little White Bus is offering a £7.00 return service from Leyburn, Redmire, Carperby, Askrigg, Bainbridge, West Witton, West Burton and Aysgarth for the Tuesday performance in Hawes. Advance bookings only, reservations to be made no later than **Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>**. Book early if you want to use this service. It only has 16 seats! Please contact the Community Office on **667400**. **Graham Di Duca**

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## Heavens Above

The nights are really beginning to lengthen now, and we get proper darkness as early as 7 o'clock at the start of the month. Amongst the stars the changeover from autumn to winter is very noticeable. Most of the summer constellations have drifted well to the west and the three bright Summer Triangle stars are beginning to lose their former dominance – Altair (the southernmost of the three) is quite low in the west and sets well before midnight, but Deneb and Vega are still easy to see further round towards the north.

By 8 o'clock mid-month Andromeda and the Great Square of Pegasus are high in the south-west – a good opportunity to try and glimpse the famous Andromeda Galaxy, M31. It lies just above the mid-point of the top chain of stars trailing away from the Square's top left-hand corner. It's the most remote object easily visible to the naked-eye though you'll need a dark location, and a moonless night, to catch sight of its hazy oval patch.

Almost overhead lie the rich constellations of Cassiopeia and Perseus. Cassiopeia's 'W' shape is very easy to pick out; the straggly inverted 'Y' of Perseus a bit more difficult. Midway between the two, good binoculars reveal one of the showpieces of the evening sky – the famous Double Cluster - a lovely pair of star clusters sparkling side-by-side in the inky blackness.

Later in the evening some of the winter stars climb into view – Auriga the Charioteer with its bright yellow leader Capella, Castor and Pollux the Heavenly Twins, Taurus the Bull, and around 10 o'clock, Orion, the grandest of all the constellations. Trailed by his faithful

hunting dogs, Sirius and Procyon, he dominates the southern sky right through the winter.

The maximum of this month's Leonids meteor shower is predicted for the evening of November 17. With no Moon to spoil the view, you might see between 10-20 an hour during peak activity. Every now and again the Leonids produce a spectacular meteor storm with thousands of shooting stars streaking across the sky in a matter of minutes. Nothing like this is forecast for this year's display but – you never know! Have clear skies!

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<b>Index to Advertisers</b>	<b>Page</b>	<b>Iveson, J.R. T.V. and Audio</b>	<b>27</b>
Accountants, O'Reilly, Hawes	14	Jemima and Co	12
Advertising Rates and Contacts	40	Jeweller, Sumner, Hawes	13
Atkinson J.T., Builders Merchant	16	Joiner and Cabinet Maker, Bushby	13
Aysgarth Country Store and Fuel	29	Joiner, Snaizholme	6
Aysgarth Falls Hotel	30	Kennels-Bladesdale	33
Aysgarth Garage MOT	27	King's Arms, Askrigg	7
Bainbridge Village Store	29	Logs, Seasoned Firewood, Hawes	17
Bear Cottage Interiors, Hawes	25	Logs, Seasoned Hardwood	8
Berry's, Farm Shop and Café	33	Massage, Elements of Being	7
Boiler and Aga Service, M.F.W.	24	Monumental Sculptures, Parkin and Jackson	8
Bolton Arms, Redmire	13	Moorcock Inn	17
Builder and Plasterer, M. Moore and Son	36	Music Tuition, Colin Bailey	33
Builder, Dinsdale John & Ted	17	Northern Tank Service, storage tanks	26
Builder, Peacock,	31	Optician-Mike Addison	22
Builders, Moore and Blackhurst	28	Orthopaedic Massage, Reflex	23
Building and Restoration - Michael Watkinson	18	Osteopath, Jackson Daphne	30
Building Contractor, Andrew Hawkins	6	Paintings bought	32
Building Services, Fothergill M	36	Pet and Wildlife Supplies, Rhodes, Hawes	7
Butchers, Cocketts, Hawes	26	Pharmacy, Hawes	27
Butchers, Hartle, West Burton	33	Physiotherapy, Health Fusion	37
Cakes and Speciality Bakes, Mrs McCake	14	Picture Framing, Wensleydale Press	19
Cakes and Sugar Flowers	21	Plumbing and Heating, Parfitt J	16
Carpet Cleaning, Eco Dry	16	Post Office, Hawes, Bainbridge and Askrigg	35
Carpet Fitter, Neil Scully	9	Potty for Crafts	37
Carrs Billington, Hawes	24	Print Services, Pennine Print	29
Chainsaw Sculptures	2	Property care and maintenance	19
Chimney Sweep, Dales Sweep	32	Reeth Garage	12
Coach Excursions-Bibby's	25	School of Dance	31
Coal Merchant, Peacock	19	Scrap Car and Commercial Collection	13
Cockett's Restaurant, Hawes	27	Septic Tank Treatment	17
Computer Services, Dales	32	Sewing Needs; Kearnson	14
Computer Services, Penninotech	23	Solicitor, Hall & Birtles	35
Corn Mill Tearoom, Bainbridge	17	Solicitors, McGarry	11
Crown Hotel, Hawes	25	Stage 1 Cycles	37
Cumbria Stove Centre	19	Sticky Ginger	36
Dales Web Solutions	40	Stone House Hotel	11
Decorator, Steve Raw, Hawes	6	Sykes House, Askrigg	36
Edgley Garage, West Burton	25	Taxi, Private Hire, Redmire	29
Electricians - Teasdale	34	Taxi, Private Hire, Street Cars	25
Estate Agent, Jessop Robin	30	Tea Shop, Mill Race, Aysgarth	40
Farmers Arms, Muker	21	Vets Bainbridge	25
Floor Coverings, Peter Allen	13	W.C.F Fuels	36
Garden Centre Wensleydale, Leyburn	29	Waltons of Hawes	9
Gardening and Landscaping, Boddy	32	Websol; Portable Appliance Testing	34
Gardening; Sadler	31	Wensleydale Creamery, Hawes	16
Garden Maintenance, Lambert Tony	11	Wensleydale Longwool Sheepshop	31
Gayle Mill Timber Services	35	Wensleydale Tree Services, D. Allen	28
G-TEC	13	White Rose Hotel, Askrigg	14
H&M Craftsmen, Ingleton	22	Window Cleaning Services, Garsdale	17
Hairdressing, Cut The Mustard, Leyburn	27	Yorebridge House, Bainbridge	32
Hairdressing, Edie Peacock	33	Yorkshire Foot Clinic	34
Hairdressing, Fringe 'n Freckles	7		
Hairdressing, Sycamore Hall	26		
Hamiltons Tearoom	6		
Healing Collective, Swinithwaite	31		
Herriots, Hawes	34		
Hoppers Removals	19		

## Community Partnership Take Over Petrol Station

Hawes is thought to be the very first community in England to take over its own filling station to guarantee there is fuel available locally 7 days a week. The Upper Dales Community Partnership, a not-for-profit community company, backed by North Yorkshire County Council, is to lease the filling station in Hawes from November 1st this year. During the 3 year lease it intends to stage a community share offer to purchase the petrol station so the local community can own it in perpetuity, like the growing number of communities that now own their pubs.

In recent years rural filling stations have all but disappeared so the nearest alternative full-time filling station from Hawes would require a 36 mile round trip along winding roads. Hawes is so remote it is one of a small handful of communities in the UK that receives a Government fuel duty discount of 5p per litre, passed on in full to customers, to address the high cost of delivering a tanker of fuel.

“We see the retention of a filling station as absolutely essential to the well-being of our Upper Dales communities,” said County Councillor John Blackie, who has been the Executive Chairman of the Upper Dales Community Partnership since it started 20 years ago. “We feared it might fall prey to property developers as so many others have done. Hawes retails a million litres of fuel annually to local people and tourists including 2,500 litres a month for our community transport service The Little White Bus. So you can see how dependent we are on having fuel available every day of the year.”

The Community Partnership will keep the filling station staffed and open 7 days-a-week. It intends to extend the current opening hours by installing a self-service credit/debit card operated 24/7 fuel pump. It also will seek



to install a public charging point for electric cars to keep abreast of modern technology.

“We fully back this initiative as the filling station is a vital community resource” said Carl Les, the Leader of North Yorkshire County Council. “The County Council is totally committed to the sustainability of our rural communities, transforming the way things are done to keep services going. For this reason we have given long-term support to ensure the success of the Upper Dales Community Partnership.”

The Community Partnership is no stranger to providing local services. From the building off the Market Place in Hawes provided by the County Council it operates a one-stop Community Office incorporating the town’s library, an internet café, the Police station, a Council enquiry / cash desk, and The Little White Bus community transport company which is the sole provider of local bus services throughout Wensleydale and Swaledale. In 2014 the Hawes Post Office and Sorting Office was under threat of closure, and was successfully incorporated into the Community Office as well. Soon the Partnership will also be operating a community land trust to build affordable houses to rent to stem the outflow of local young families who cannot afford to buy a house locally. The Partnership now has 19 employees and a team of 45 volunteers, who mainly drive the 10 Little White Buses, including 5 provided by the County Council.

“The key objective of the Upper Dales Community Partnership is to retain the accessibility of as many essential services as we can locally for the benefit of local people,” said Cllr Blackie. “In doing this we have built upon the self-reliance and independence that are the renowned characteristics of our local communities”. He added: “The Community Partnership is a national beacon of rural social enterprise but none of this would have been possible without the wholehearted support of North Yorkshire County Council, which has enthusiastically engaged in helping us to deliver all that we have achieved. Because of this Hawes can keep its filling station when so many others in the UK are but a distant memory”.



## Leyburn Arts & Community Centre - Events Calendar

Richmond Road, LEYBURN, DL8 5DL

### CINEMA £6 (Concessions £5)

**Fri 3 Nov** (5pm & 7:30pm) **Gifted** (12A) 1hr 40m  
**Tue 7 Nov** (7pm) **Chocolat (2016)** (12) 1hr 59m (Exploring Film - Subtitles)  
**Fri 10 Nov** (5pm & 7:30pm) **Alone in Berlin** (12A) 1hr 40m  
**Fri 17 Nov** (5pm & 7:30pm) **Hampstead** (12A) 1hr 42m  
**Fri 24 Nov** (5pm & 7:30pm) **My Cousin Rachel** (12A) 1hr 46m

### EVENTS

**Thu 2 Nov** (7pm - £11/Cons £8.50/U18 £6) **Portrait** (Music, poetry, humour & dance)  
**Fri 3 Nov** (10am to 5pm - £15, includes materials & tea/coffee) **Computer Workshop**  
 (Design & make a Christmas Card using MS Word. Bring a packed lunch.  
**Sat 18 Nov** (7pm - £7.50, includes pie & peas) **Race Night** (Enjoy the thrill of the race)  
**Mon 4 Dec** (7pm - £7, includes a glass of wine) **Fashion Show** (Ladies fashion from BUZZ. Children's fashion by Hannah Russell)

**Tel:** 01969 624510 **Email:** admin@oldschoolhouseleyburn.com **Web:** oldschoolhouseleyburn.com  
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**Contacts for adverts:**

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**Barry Cruickshanks, Ashfield, Hardraw:**  
**667458**

For elsewhere: **Sue Duffield, Fellside,**  
**Thornton Rust: 663504**

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**Founded in 1995**  
**by the late Alan S. Watkinson**