

THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER

Issue 245
APRIL 2018

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



Stacey Moore

A Happy Easter to all our readers

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

Guest Editorial

Digital developments in the last 25 years have had all sorts of unexpected and unintended consequences on the way we live our lives. An obvious result of the chance to record programmes to watch them later and of Catch Up, not to mention competition from Netflix etc, is that viewing figures for television programmes at the point at which they are scheduled have fallen steeply. Organisations like the BBC and ITV are changing to meet the new challenge but nothing suggests that they might go out of business altogether because of the way we watch television.

No-one seems to be certain about the ultimate impact on newspapers. Between January 2010 and January 2018 the sales figures for most national dailies have dropped dramatically. The Sun has gone from 3m to 1.5m and the Mirror from 1.2m to 6,000. It is not just the red tops. The Guardian's sales have halved from about 300,000 to about 150,000. The Telegraph has gone from 691,000 to 385,000. The Times has also gone down but not so much: 508,000 to 440,000.

It isn't so easy to get sales figures for local newspapers but there are lots of reports about them operating with far fewer staff than used to be the case in order to avoid working at a loss. There are no doubt lots of explanations but one may be easy internet access to detailed information about houses for sale which reduces the case for paid advertising in local newspapers.

Newspaper junkies in and around Hawes continue to have an excellent service including reliable delivery through the front door. In some of the bigger cities it is not so good with many of the corner shops going out of business and no-one offering delivery to the door.

On an optimistic view the sales figures don't matter all that much because many people must be reading their paper on line and paying for the privilege in at least some cases. The rather smaller drop in the sales figure for the Times may be because readers have to pay for access to the online version and it may be that they are keener on having a copy in their hand than, say,

the possibly younger readership of the Guardian.

There are stories that books are becoming more popular again and there is less use of kindles. If that is true it may be a good sign for print versions of newspapers.

Does any of this matter? Yes, because journalists hold public bodies and politicians to account. They get things wrong but they often get things right and they are often the source of stories that readers see in social media and don't realise have come to light through the old-fashioned press.

It isn't an answer to the uncertainty surrounding national and local papers but here in Upper Wensleydale we can be consoled that these digital developments don't threaten the Newsletter.

Joe Pilling

Hardraw Parish Church Council

The Annual Parochial Church Council for Hardraw Parish will take place on **Monday, April 9th at 7.00pm** at the Green Dragon Inn. The public are invited to attend this meeting.

Sue Foster, Churchwarden

St Margaret's Church Annual Meeting

The annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place in the church on **Sunday, April 8th at 11.30am**. All members of the general public are welcome to attend this meeting.

Dave Clark, Vicar of Upper Wensleydale

Amendment

The War Poets and the Diary of an Ordinary Tommy: Convergence, Class, and Transmission' contains an error in Page 10 in the March Edition of the Newsletter, concerning the date announced for my book-signing at Waterstones in Northallerton. This should have read, **'There will be a book-signing at Waterstones, Northallerton, on Saturday, April 7th from 10.00a.m.'**

Margaret Parry

Dairy Days Invitation

Dairying has been at the heart of the Wensleydale economy since records began and is still thriving today. A new 'Dairy Days' project, funded through the Heritage Lottery Fund and run by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, aims to research and then share the story of this unbroken thread.

Please come to a launch event at the Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes on Tuesday 24 April, from 10.30am – 3.00pm, to find out about the project and the opportunities on offer for you to join in.

The legacy of Wensleydale's dairying heritage is all around, from butter pats and kit stands to cheese press stones and dairies. What are less obvious are the memories of those whose forebears worked in this industry. If you or your family have been involved in dairy farming or processing milk in Wensleydale and would like to share your memories then we'd love to hear from you.

Another part of the project will involve delving into the stories behind the dairying objects held at the Dales Countryside Museum, finding out how they were made and used and connecting them up with the descendants of the families that once owned them. We will be recruiting people with an interest in learning more about researching museum artefacts and others who would like to learn how to do oral history recordings of people talking about their memories of dairying.

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.

**THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE
PRODUCED on
APRIL 23rd/24th
DEADLINE FOR COPY
TUESDAY APRIL 17th or earlier if full**



Eunice the Ewe

Last month I was helping out the Dales Sweep on page 32 and the winner of the £10 prize is

Jason Hogg of Gayle

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

The archaeological record of dairying and cattle farming in Wensleydale is another area which we want to explore. Our archaeology team will be offering training for people who would like to get involved in surveying farm buildings and conducting fieldwork on related farming sites in the Dale from Iron Age cattle pens through to nineteenth century barns. We will also be running a community 'Big Dig' over the summer of 2018 probably on a medieval stack garth site.

If you have old photographs or dairying utensils from the area then bring them along to the launch event. In the meantime, please sign up for our regular project newsletter by emailing me at the address below and do give me a call if you'd like to know more.

Karen Griffiths

YDNPA Dairy Days Project Officer

karen.griffiths@yorkshiredales.org.uk

01756 751619

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Annual Report

The last year has been one of major change with the sad death of our founder and editor from its inception until he handed over the reins in April 2017 after 21 years. Alan died on 14th July 2017.

Alan always did a lot – he wrote almost all of the editorials, created most of the puzzles and personally drove the whole Newsletter process. He also set up alternates, committee members who could carry out each of the defined processes needed to produce a Newsletter – or so we thought. It was only when Alan stepped back that we realized just how much work and the commitment he personally put into the Newsletter.

We agreed from the outset that no one committee member could commit the effort that Alan had contributed and Barry Cruickshanks and I decided that we could split the role of editor and so we work as co-editors handling roughly alternate issues. This has worked well with Barry offering much support to me and developing a more structured approach to Newsletter preparation and assembly that has eliminated the traditional “jigsaw” - manual juggling of individual items in order to construct a complete Newsletter.

Sarah Champion indicated 12 months ago that she did not want to continue assembling the jigsaw and has confirmed that her subsequent personal commitments endorse that decision. Adrian Janke decided in March this year, that he no longer wished to continue with jigsaw assembly. Thus we will adopt fully the spreadsheet assisted assembly process devised by Barry. We must record our thanks to Sarah and Ade for the many years of support and commitment that they gave to the Newsletter.

The committee members have been superb in their support of Barry and I starting as a game of swans (according to the OED game is the collective noun for a group of non-flying swans) paddling like fury under the surface while trying to maintain an air of calm and control on the surface in order to maintain Alan’s standards and produce a seamless series of Newsletters. We have been strengthened further by Kevin Davis from Redmire who has joined the

committee and brings considerable Microsoft Publisher expertise, a fairly rare skill. We are now in a fairly stable situation and, from the comments and letters that we receive, I believe that we are succeeding.

An innovation has been the introduction of “Guest Editorials” and we now have a group of five guest editors, each of whom contributes on an occasional basis.

Circulation with a print run of approximately 1750 copies per issue in summer is similar to last year although the number distributed by Masons, Newsagents, is slightly down; contributors at well over 100 is similar to previous years and the number of advertisements is steady at just under our top limit of 33%.

Finance is very healthy. The take up of book and equipment awards has been quite low and we will take steps both to increase the value and to promote this scheme further with a clarification that the awards are for equipment as well as for books; we are formulating a Founder’s Award with an annual prize.

We have been fortunate to be the beneficiary of two significant donations this year, one from a donor who prefers to remain anonymous and the other from Mrs. Shirley Watkinson who passed on to the Newsletter the cash element of the posthumous award made to Alan Watkinson by the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust which recognised Alan as “a local hero in view of his exceptional contribution to the community”.

I can only thank the committee and the dozens of supporters of every kind who have helped make the last year of the Newsletter possible.

A.M

Friends of the DCM

The talk in April will be given by Mark Newman from the National Trust and is entitled ‘The Archaeology of Fountains Abbey’. This event will take place on **Friday, April 20th** but please note the earlier start time of **6.30pm**. This is because of a clash with a musical event at the museum starting at **8.00pm**.

Our lectures are free and I do hope that this earlier time will not inconvenience our regular audience and any newcomers who may wish to attend.

Sue Foster, Chair

Newsletter Accounts March 2017 to February 2018

Income

<i>Balances b/f</i> [includes £40 of unclaimed cheques from 2016/17]	<u>8809.62</u>
Donations & postal subs	8678.88
Collection boxes	3721.80
Adverts	9776.20
Interest (Skipton BS)	<u>39.16</u>
	<u>22216.04</u>
	31025.66

Expenditure

Production costs	9345.00
Distribution costs	676.16
Donations	895.00
Committee expenses & honoraria	500.00
Room rental	10.00
Prizes	110.00
Book grant scheme for students	1018.28
Equipment	0.00
Refund to advertiser	0.00
Computer software & hardware	<u>0.00</u>
	12554.44

Balance c/f **18471.22**

31025.66

The accounts were audited and approved on 14th March 2018 by Barry Wilcox, MCMI.

The most significant fact to note this year is the receipt of two large donations, one for £1000 from Shirley Watkinson (arising from a

posthumous award to Alan from the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust), and the other for £6833.68 from anonymous donors. These, together with the many small but most welcome donations that we have received from our readers, have put us in a strong financial position for the year ahead.

We have been pleased to support four local students with book and equipment grants this year, amounting to £1018.28, and we donated to several charities on behalf of our monthly competition winners: Dales School Hydrotherapy Appeal, Friarage MRI Scanner Appeal, Freedom from Torture, Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, Hawes Community Primary School PTA, RNLI, the Yorkshire Air Ambulance and Yorkshire Cancer Research.

Larger donations all supported local organizations:

- £200 Wensleydale Wheels Project
- £100 Hawes Junior Football Club
- £100 Wensleydale Tournament of Song
- £100 Wensleydale Chorus
- £75 Hawes Christmas Lights
- £50 Low Mill Outdoor Centre
- £50 Friends of the Dales Countryside Museum

J.W.T.

Wensleydale Society

The speaker on **Friday, April 6th at West Burton Village Hall**, is Dennis Brickles on **'The Railway Navvies: the men who built the Ribbleshead Viaduct.'** The meeting will begin at **7.30pm** with the society's AGM. The meeting is free for members (membership £5 per year and is due on the night) and there is a small charge for visitors. Transport from certain villages is available, please telephone **622287** for information.

The Society also has a monthly walks programme, details of which can be obtained on the night. Two Summer Outings are also available to members and non-members. The first is on **Thursday, May 24th** and is a visit to Salts Mill and Saltaire. A coach will leave Leyburn at 9.30am and return at approximately 4pm. Cost is £15 per person. Please ring **624246** to book.

Drop-off points and contacts

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

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

April Competition

This one is for all you fans of Only Connect who sit in front of the TV trying to beat the panelists in the "missing vowels" round.

Here the vowels have been omitted and the spacing of the remaining letters varied. The topic is London Buildings.

- 1 CLL GFR MS
- 2 THLB RR Y ND MSM FFR MSNS
- 3 TTMDRN
- 4 PLCFW STM NS TR
- 5 HMP STDPR GL
- 6 S TPN CRSS TTN
- 7 BT TRSP WRST TN
- 8 G YSH SPT L
- 9 R YLCR TSFJ STC
- 10 T HRY LLBR THL

Send in your answers to arrive by **Tuesday, April 20th** for a chance to win the £20 prize which we will send to your nominated charity.

March Competition Answers

- 3 Minutes in a round of boxing
- 4 Is the cube root of sixty-four
- 4 Quavers in a minim
- 5 Toes on a foot
- 7 Sides on a fifty pence piece
- 9 What a stitch in time saves
- 13 Players in a Rugby League Team
- 20 Per cent = one fifth
- 21 Consonants in the alphabet
- 24 Blackbirds baked in a pie
- 28 Days in the shortest month
- 88 Keys on a piano keyboard
- 93 Million miles to the sun.
- 180 Degrees in a semicircle
- 550 in Roman Numerals is DL

The winner this month is Laurence Alderson and a cheque for £20 will soon be winging its way to The Hawes Health Centre.

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Wensleydale Concert Series – April Piano Recital

On **Saturday, April 21st at 7.30pm** we are really pleased to be welcoming the wonderfully gifted pianist Yasmin Rowe to St. Andrew's



Church, Aysgarth. Yasmin is flying all the way from Melbourne, Australia to play for us!! It would be lovely to have a full church and a warm Wensleydale welcome. Her programme will include works by Bach, Bartok, Beethoven and Schumann and I am sure it will be a memorable evening. Full details and tickets are at www.wensleydaleconcertseries.co.uk

If you would like to hear Yasmin via YouTube there are a number of videos on under the listen tab on the concert page on the website.

Hawes Cricket Club

Hawes Cricket Club is back for the 2018 season. We play friendly cricket on a Sunday afternoon and practice on a Thursday evening at 6.15 at the cricket field near Haylands bridge. New players are always welcome or if you'd like to help out with anything at the club from umpires, looking after the ground feel free to land down. First practice Thurs, April, 26th (weather permitting) I look forward to seeing some of you there.

Andrew Elphick
Club Secretary

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National Park Guided Walk

"A Short Stroll to Gayle" on **Sunday, April 22nd from 11.00am to noon**. Meet at the Dales Countryside Museum and join this easy 1.3 mile walk through Hawes to Gayle exploring the history of the area in the company of an experienced guide.

Booking is recommended. Please book at the Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes in person or by calling **666210**.



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Upper Dales Family History Group

Meetings of the Upper Dales Family History Group continue on **Wednesday, April 25, at 2.00pm in Harmby Village Hall**, when the speakers are Janet Ratcliffe and Sue Thorne on 'Sir Cakes and Creativity , Life in a Rural Rectory'. Non-members are very welcome at £2. A collection of hand written magazines discovered in the attics of Thirsk Museum, whose main contributors were the daughters of the late 19th century Rector of Sessay, The Rev George Dupuis provides the basis for this talk about the lives of the family as seen through the pages of their magazines and mirrored in the local press. For more information contact **07432677783** or email: tracy@swaledale.org.

Tracy Little

Settle Stories Festival

Settle will become a stage for international artists at the 7th Settle Stories Festival to be held on **April 6th - 8th**. With 70 plus events in just one weekend there should be something for all age groups to enjoy, from a Teddy Bears Picnic to a live comedy game show where you play along on your smartphone and serious political plays. You can check out the full 70 plus events online at settlestories.org.uk or call the box office **05603 845693**

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Thornton Rust Outgang Car Park

There will be a short ceremony on **Thursday 5th April from 10.30a.m. to noon** to open the new car park area in Thornton Rust, with a presentation of a cheque from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. **All welcome!**

S.D

Ride2Stride Festival (Walks, Talks and Music)

This popular annual event, based on rail travel on the Settle-Carlisle line, will run from **Tuesday, May 1st to Monday, May 7th**.

It follows the well-trying format of previous years, with 39 events between Settle and Appleby over 7 days. All events are accessible by train (although several evening music sessions in pubs require either an overnight B&B or a car to return home). Garsdale station features in three different walks on **Friday, May 4th** and in the Jericho Shanty Town Experience the previous day. Full details on www.ride2stride.org.uk or from **Hawes National Park Centre 666210**

Thorlby Village Hall

Colin Bailey in Concert

**Saturday, April 7th at 7 for
7.30pm**

Light Supper, Bar and Raffle

Tickets £10 per head

Ring 663747 or 663875

Derek Hibberd

Mary and family wish to thank all friends and neighbours for their condolences, kindness and support following the loss of Derek. We would also like to thank all the staff at the Central Dales Practice for the wonderful support both Derek and the family have received

Where does it all go?

Ever wondered where your recycling and rubbish goes? I've been speaking to Sally Dixon, Richmondshire District Council's Recycling Officer, and Matthew Wilkinson of the firm Yorwaste, and here is the story...

Richmondshire District Council currently employs 28 people to operate its three recycling wagons and its six 'refuse collection vehicles'. All recycling in Richmondshire is 'kerbside sorted' (in contrast to next door Hambleton District Council which collects 'co-mingled' recycling and pays for it to be sorted later). Our plastic bottles, cans and cartons go in one bay of the recycling wagon; glass goes in another; paper and card in another; and finally textiles in a fourth bay.

Once full, the recycling wagons are driven to a transfer site at Tancred near Scorton (operated by Yorwaste, a private company), where they are weighed and unloaded. From there, the recyclables are picked up by German-owned Ward Recycling Ltd and taken to Middlesborough.

From the Teesside docks, our recyclables are then sent by Ward Recycling all around Europe. Apparently, the company got early word of China's New Year import ban on plastic waste and was able to find new markets. All of our recycling waste now stays in Europe.

Ward Recycling Ltd pays good money for what it collects. That's why Richmondshire District Council is so militant about us not putting glass in with the cartons and plastic bottles. Only well sorted, uncontaminated waste is worth anything. But the cash which Ward Recycling forks out is by no means enough to cover Richmondshire's costs. "There's no money in recycling," said Sally.

**NEIL SCULLY
CARPET & VINYL
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667772**

That's the recycling, what about our black bins? All of this rubbish is also taken to Yorwaste's Tancred transfer site. In recent years it would have been tipped into nearby holes created by the extraction of sand and gravel, but the Tancred landfill has shut. Nowadays, the rubbish is dumped into a building and squashed together into large parcels, which are then loaded onto articulated lorries.

These lorries then travel 30 miles down the A1 carrying our rubbish to North Yorkshire County Council's new state-of-the-art and very expensive 'Allerton Waste Recovery Park' (incinerator). The facility became fully operational only last month. There's a visitor centre on site; anyone fancy a trip there?

Andrew Fagg

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Exciting Times on the Wensleydale Railway

The Board of the Wensleydale Railway are quietly confident that this visitor attraction is finally turning a corner.

The long-awaited shed has sprung from the ground in Leeming Bar yard. The significance of this development cannot be over emphasised. Our plan to increase steam haulage of trains is reliant on us being able to provide appropriate facilities, and suitable covered accommodation is a key element. Thanks must go to the benefactor who has funded this building which has been a long time coming and will make the lives of our staff and volunteers much more palatable in the years to come.

We have undertaken a major relaying project at Argill Farm just east of Harmby. It has long been realised that we cannot continue indefinitely to patch up the well-worn track which we accepted when the lease of the line was agreed fifteen years ago. This project represents the start of a long-term effort to upgrade the permanent way, starting with areas which are now life expired. The flat-bottomed rail, concrete sleepers and new ballast are visible from the adjacent bridge on the A684 when you are waiting at the traffic lights. This is hard, dirty work for our staff and volunteers but essential if we are to continue operating, and it will also provide a smoother ride for our passengers. Thanks go to the team who have planned and executed this work.

In tandem with the work at Argill, progress continues reinstating the loop at Leyburn using some of the recovered components. Much work has already been done preparing the site and completing clearing and drainage work so that trackwork can be installed. This is a further instalment in the plan to increase the flexibility of our operation and it will, ultimately, make it possible to operate a more regular service between Leyburn, Redmire and eventually further west.

The much-publicised upgrades to our automatic crossings are also underway (We are mandated to undertake a £200k upgrade as part of our operating terms from Network Rail)

Aiskew is complete, and we will soon be getting underway with Yafforth. Work is continuing to find an affordable solution to Ham Hall; giving us access to the beautifully restored station with its upgraded platform at Scruton.

Also getting underway is a substantial lottery funded project to restore the somewhat dilapidated station building at Leeming Bar. Eventually this will give the station where most of our passengers start their journey a much-improved ambience and appropriately restored rooms. It will give our educational project another suitable site for visits and support our efforts to enhance the heritage experience which we seek to provide. Our grants and educational team have done an excellent job in getting us to this point.

In addition to these major projects work continues in all other areas of the business, much of it routine and unsung but no less essential. The small staff team and small army of volunteers work wonders with our limited resources and there are always vacancies; why not come and join us?

We have several events planned for this year, not least 'WensleyAle' the Music and Real Ale Festival at the end of May. 2017 was the busiest yet and is key activity in our fundraising calendar. There will be a quiz on the Friday night followed by 2 days of live music with all the bands giving their time free of charge.

Our Award-Winning Afternoon Tea service continues in 2018 using the beautifully restored 1912 Directors Saloon. Space is limited and already many days are fully booked.

The tough decisions regarding Aysgarth we made last year have allowed us to make considerable progress over the winter months which will continue as the year progresses. We are fully aware that some of those decisions were not universally popular but hope that it is becoming obvious that they were essential. There is much more to come and for the Railway to thrive we need your continued support. We hope you will be able to pay us a visit during 2018. See you then,

Richard Holt

The Upper Dales Health Watch

The Patient Participation Group for the Central Dales Practice

Synopsis of the meeting held on March 12th 2018

The Upper Wensleydale Newsletter centre page for March has been designed to be pulled out and kept for reference.

Redundant medical equipment (sticks & frames etc.) can be recycled by contacting Medequip on 01423 226 240 or email northyorks@medequip-uk.com

For information about wheelchair recycling / repair see www.nrshealthcare.com or phone **01904 654 052**.

The medication delivery is going smoothly. The Monday delivery day may change to Wednesday. Jeff's help during recent bad weather taking basic foods to elderly people was featured on Richmondshire Today.

Surgery refurbishment is complete at

Aysgarth, and will be completed at Hawes by the end of July.

Interviews will be taking place later in March to recruit a GP Partner. Miriam Scarr has semi-retired and will just work at Hawes on a Wednesday. Joanne Iveson will cover the other four days and the Practice is advertising for a Health Care Assistant. Joy Parrington will continue to work five days a week.

The website (www.centraldalespractice.nhs.uk) has been updated. Patients are able to complete the Friends & Family questionnaire on line. There are both a Donations and a Facebook page.

The Practice will be producing a newsletter every 2-3 months. Patients will need to sign up to receive this.

There will be a fixed weekly GP rota as from **1st April**. All GPs will be working 4 days. Patients need to phone if they want to see a particular GP to double check they are going to be there.

A text messaging service is going to be started to send appointment and 'flu jab reminders to patients who sign up for this. On-line consultations will also be developed.

Patients are going to be able self-refer to have a 'safe & well' visit from the Fire Service working in collaboration with the HRWCCG and others. Jeff, who delivers the medication, is going to be trained to also be able to carry out these visits. It is hoped this could be of help to people living remotely.

Jane Ritchie, Hon Secretary.

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Prunings

Today is **March 13th** and we still have small pockets of snow in the dips and hollows, and yet by the time this is in print it will be Easter and a quarter of the year will have run through our fingers.

Now the snow has gone (more or less) I am amazed by the resilience of the plants that were already in bloom before it hit us. The irises in the tubs on the patio perked up immediately and the Tête-à-Tête daffodils which were planted alongside them are just beginning to show. On the banking at the bottom of the lane however they are considerably more advanced. Bulbs in tubs are much more likely to be affected by adverse weather conditions. We had quite a cold spell with unusually low temperatures, but it did not last very long, and despite the freezing east wind it is unlikely that it penetrated very far into the ground.

The magazines this week (Garden News; The Lady) feature peonies. We have a specimen which spills over the front wall in an avalanche of glorious pink. However, its display is short lived and I suspect that the site is a little too dry. It has been there so long I have no idea which one it is except that the blooms are very full. Now, looking at the shapes and types available there are hundreds. Peonies have been cultivated for more than 2,000 years and were valued for their medicinal properties. They make excellent cut flowers and any arrangement containing a few is lifted into a different league. You can buy herbaceous perennials, tree types or hybrids of the two. In China and Japan peony festivals are held in the spring and thousands of people visit them.

To see an absolutely stunning selection visit the Claire Austin website where they show around 125 varieties of all types: single; semi-double; double; japanese; species; intersectional (the hybrids) and tree peonies. Be warned, and don't get too carried away, as the prices range from £9.50 for a common herbaceous type to £80.00 for one of the rarer hybrids. Some of the doubles are so luscious that a sucker such as yours truly will need to set a very strict cash limit! (www.claireaustin-hardyplants.co.uk)

As soon as the soil warms up it's a good time

to plant peonies. The growing points (eyes) need to be about an inch below the soil surface. They prefer a sunny site although most will tolerate some shade. Dig in some compost before you plant and avoid well rotted manure (unless the ground has really warmed up) or it could rot the roots. Water well until they are established. Remember that the flowers can get very heavy, especially when it rains, so staking is helpful. Bare rooted purchases will result in a better plant and will flower sooner but they all take a couple of years to establish, so don't expect too much too soon.

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

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Mystery Picture

Last month's picture was in Shaw Gill Wood. An eagle eyed reader who lives not far away spotted it.
Where is this?

Loraine Nugent
would like to thank all who sent her beautiful cards and gifts for her 70th Birthday.

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Police Report

Firstly, please let me introduce myself, I am PCSO Lucy Osborn and have recently joined North Yorkshire Police based at Leyburn Station. I live in the Leyburn area and many of you will already know me from my previous roles at a local estate agents and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority before that – so my local knowledge and love of the dales should come in handy! I very much look forward to working together with the residents of Upper Wensleydale and will endeavour to support you in whatever way I can.

Here are some of the more notable incidents that have recently occurred in and around the area;

Overnight on **4th March** thieves targeted two farms near Newbiggin in Bishopdale, breaking into outbuildings and stealing two red Honda quad bikes. On the same night what is believed to be the same stolen bikes were sighted mobile in the Skipton area. Please double check the security of your outbuildings particularly if you have high value items stored – if you would like any advice on security measures then please do let us know.

Overnight on **6th March** a twin axle 12 feet long aluminium Indespension Challenger trailer was stolen from a property in West Scafton in Coverdale. We advise such items need securing with hitch locks and/or wheel clamps. A trailer marking service is available via Leyburn Police.

In the wider region there have been a number of theft attacks on ATM cash machines. Following one such incident in County Durham, a vehicle used as part of the theft was later found just outside Hawes. If you see any

suspicious activity around one of these please stand back and call in immediately to the police with a location, description and registration of any vehicles involved.

There have recently been a number of doorstep sellers around the lower dales and it may be that they move further into the upper dales as we have made it clear that unlicensed sellers are not welcome here. Always ask to see proof of ID and their licence but more importantly, we ask that you report any such sellers to us on **'101'** immediately. This also applies to any persons or any vehicles that you feel look out of place or are acting suspiciously, you will not be wasting our time by doing this and we will always check out suspicious people/vehicles where possible.

North Yorkshire has the unenviable reputation as having the highest incidence of birds of prey persecution of any English county. Every year North Yorkshire Police takes reports of species such as buzzards, peregrine falcons, short eared owls and red kites being shot, poisoned and illegally trapped, as well as having nests disturbed. To help stop these crimes we have a joint initiative called Operation Owl working with the RSPB and National Parks. We want you to look out for and report suspicious activity such as poisoned bait and uncovered fenn, or 'snap', traps (please note that fenn traps covered by a mesh guard are legal). Please do not touch,

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but note the location, take a photo and report it on '101' and a wildlife crime officer will be allocated to investigate.

Finally, I would encourage you, if you have not already, to sign up to Community Messaging. This is a free messaging alert service that allows you to receive up-to-the-minute crime notifications and incident details, neighbourhood news and updates specific to your area and village. You can receive these alerts via text message, email and mobile app by signing up at www.nycm.co.uk and following the online instructions. We are currently in the process of trying to set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in Gayle and will then roll this out to Hawes. We need volunteer Co-ordinators in each area involved so if anyone would like to put themselves forward at this stage please do let me know. There is minimal work involved and it simply means that you are the point-of-contact between us and your Neighbourhood Watch area residents.

If you have any community issues or concerns, please feel free to contact either myself or PCSO Don Watson 5232 via '101' option 2 (quoting name or collar number) or by e-mail

Lucy.Osborn@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk / Donald.Watson@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk .

Also, if any groups or clubs would like me to visit whether it is to discuss crime prevention, road, personal, online safety etc. please do get in touch.

Wishing you a Happy Easter and that some warmer weather will now make an appearance!

PCSO Lucy Osborn 3744
North Yorkshire Police

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Wensleydale Chorus 2018

The rehearsals for The Wensleydale Chorus begin on **May 9th** and we would love to welcome new members to join us.
Rehearsals are in the Leyburn Methodist Schoolrooms starting at **7.30pm**
For any queries please contact our secretary **Gilda Foster** gilda@fosnet.co.uk or 622942.

Penhill Children's Church

Sunday, April 22nd

9.30am – 11am at Wensley Village Hall

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BAWB Federation – Great North Air Ambulance Bags Collection

We have arranged a collection from our schools on **Tuesday, April 24th**. Times as follows:

Askrigg **9.00am**;

Bainbridge **9:30am**;

West Burton **10:15am**.

Please bring us your unwanted clothing, bedding, shoes etc. We are happy to accept bags **from Friday, April 20th**.

LASS - Leyburn Arts & Social Society

April's meeting begins promptly on **Tuesday 24th at 7.15pm** with a talk by Tony Rossiter on Yorkshire's Famous Authors and will be followed by a fun literary quiz and refreshments. This is an Open Meeting and visitors are welcome. For information about the Society, please telephone **Brian on 623257**. Meetings are held in the Oak Room at Thornborough Hall.

Singing for Pleasure

Meet fortnightly, at Leyburn Arts & Community Centre, please telephone Anne on **622590** for April's dates. A healthy fun activity in a social atmosphere, all abilities welcome.

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BAWB Federation News

I am delighted to have joined the BAWB team on a part time and temporary basis to support their excellent work in looking for future solutions for education in Mid-Dale. The enthusiastic Governing Board are at present working tirelessly to create the best possible opportunities for our Primary aged children in the area. They are being assisted by officers from the Local Authority who provide financial expertise and guidance.

You may have been aware of a consultation document and engagement day held recently when views were gathered from parents and the communities. These views are being collated and considered and daily discussions are taking place to find the best way forward.

Getting it right is the priority as we are aware how important a good educational foundation is for our young people.

Please do not hesitate in contacting me at the schools if you have a question or view on this very important issue.

Maxine Price (Acting Executive head)



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Windows 10 Updates Woes

A number of people have complained that their computers are constantly updating and are generally running slowly.

In February Microsoft issued an update for Windows 10 that seems to be causing a few problems. The issue seems to be that it gets stuck in a loop and continually downloads and tries to install itself over and over. The update is a large file so it tends to suck up your internet usage and is quite frustrating. It is happening to one of my computers so I sympathise!

MS seem to be aware of the problem but have yet to figure out and issue a fix.

To see if you are affected – click Start > Settings (the little cog wheel) and then scroll down the page and click on Updates & Security. If you see “2018-02 Cumulative update for Windows 10 Version 1709” and it says “restart required” then you are probably affected.

Sadly there is no way to tell Windows 10 to ignore an update but a TEMPORARY solution to the download and fail cycle is to tell Windows you are on a metered connection. This is to prevent people accidentally using up all their allowance on a limited connection. To turn on metered connection click on Start > Settings

(little cog) and then on “Network and Internet”. You will see a link that says “Change Connection Properties” – click on it and scroll down until you see “Metered Connection” and turn it on.

From now on you will get warnings you are on a metered connection – you can ignore them.

Note this is a stop gap only!! You should not leave this setting switched on all the time or you will receive no more updates which is a bad idea but at least it stops the same faulty update trying to install repeatedly. You can turn it off and see if updates are working again every few days and once things are working properly leave metered connection switched off again.

I hope this is useful – if you have any questions or suggestions for articles as always please drop me a line at

carol.haynes@dalescomputerservices.com

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Votes for Women! Art, Suffragettes and Female Politicians

To mark the centenary of women first getting the vote, Caroline Shenton's lecture for **The Arts Society Wensleydale**, on **April 10th at 2.00pm** in the **Key Centre, Middleham**, explores the suffragettes' stories through portrayals in art and their own artistic productions. She then discusses the depiction of female politicians today and the controversies surrounding these issues.

Caroline is an archivist, historian and author. Formerly Director of the Parliamentary Archives at Westminster and a senior archivist at The National Archives at Kew. A Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and of the Royal Historical Society, Caroline has appeared on BBC Radio 4, BBC Four, the Discovery Channel, and BBC Parliament. She is a Spectator book reviewer and has presented at the Hey and Cheltenham festivals. Her first popular history book, "The Day Parliament Burned Down", won the Political Book of the Year Award in 2013.

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In the 50th year of The Arts Society, we hope to attract new members who will receive a warm welcome. Entry for visitors is £8, refunded if they join. Contact **Ros Higson** on **01765 635244** wensleydale@theartsociety.org for details.

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**APRIL WHAT'S ON LISTING;
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April

- 1 Easter Day
- 1 VaCO Easter Concert. 7.30pm.
St Andrew's, Aysgarth. See page 27.
- 1-2 West Burton Artists' Exhibition
10.00am-4.00pm. See page 24.
- 2 Plant Sale, St Oswald's Castle Bolton.
10.00am-1.00pm. See page 27.
- 2 Last date to book Bus to Dickens' Hard
Times. See page 25.
- 3 Marie Curie Daffodil Collection, Hawes.
- 4 Hawes Drama Club 7.00pm at Gayle
Institute.
- 5 New car park opening ceremony in
Thornton Rust. See page 8.
- 5 Pie and Peas supper for Air
Ambulance at the Moorcock Inn.
See page 29.
- 6 Wensleydale Society lecture. See p.5.
- 6-8 Settle Stories Festival. See page 8.
- 7 Margaret Parry Book signing at
Waterstones, Northallerton. See p. 2
- 7 Colin Bailey in Concert in Thoraby.
See page 8.
- 8 St Margaret's, Hawes APCC open
Meeting. See page 2.
- 9 Hardraw Church APCC open meeting.
See page 2.
- 10 Arts Society Wensleydale lecture at
the Key Centre, Middleham at
2.00pm. See page 19.
- 12 Film Night at the Nash, Hawes. See
page 21.
- 14 Dales Archeology Day. See page 36.
- 17 Cultural History of the Yorkshire Dales.
See page 31.
- 19 Bainbridge WI meet. See page 34.
- 20 DCM Friends lecture at 6.30pm. P. 4.
- 20 Leyburn and District U3A. See p. 36.
- 21 Wensleydale Concert at St Andrew's
Church, Aysgarth with Yasmin Rowe
at 7.30pm. See page 7
- 22 National Park Guided walk to Gayle.
See page 7.
- 24 BAWB Schools' Clothes collection.
See page 16.
- 24 LASS Open Meeting. See page 16..
- 24 Dairy Days event invitation. See p. 3.

- 25 Upper Dales Family History Group
meet. See page 8.
- 26 Hawes Cricket Club first practice at
6.15pm. See page 7.

May

- 1-7 Ride2Stride Festival. See page 8.



DCM What's On in April

All included in museum admission
unless stated.

Exhibition

1 April to 3 July Life and Tradition in the
Yorkshire Dales: A Celebration.

Photographs, objects and original research
material collected by Marie Hartley and
Joan Ingilby during the creation of their
iconic work.

- 3,10 Drystone Walling Demonstration:
11.00am to 3.00pm. Join in one of
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showcasing the traditional craft of
drystone walling

- 6 In the kitchen: 11.00am to 3. 00pm.
Join us in our traditional farmhouse
kitchen and see the hard work that
went on there

- 8 Family Printing Workshop: 10.30am to
4.00pm. Drop in activity creating
your own printing stamp with artist
Gill Kirk using water based inks.
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- 15 Stick Making Demonstration: 10.30am
to 4.30pm. Join Stuart Lawrence for
a stick making demonstration and
see how to make a peg joint, attach
it to a shank, sand it down and
polish it

- 20 Archaeology of Fountains Abbey:
6.30pm. An illustrated talk by
archaeologist Mark Newman about
the archaeology of Fountains Abbey.
Part of the Friends of the Museum
annual lecture programme. Free -
donations welcome. See page 4.

Brenda Peacock

Would like to thank all those who sent
cards, good wishes and gifts on her recent
70th. They were very much appreciated.



Murder on the Orient Express (12A)

Thursday April 12th

Doors open at 18:30 for 19:00 start
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from April at www.thenashhawes.org

Drinks and snacks available

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Reeth Memorial Hall Events

Friday April, 13th – 8.00pm - Calan are 5 talented Welsh musicians. Vocals in Welsh and English combine with fiddles, whistles, guitar, bagpipes and pibgorn. Great fun, a sense of humour, amazing outfits and Welsh step dancing. Tickets £13 (£15 on door).

Friday April, 27th – 7.30pm - Badapple Theatre - Amy Johnson (the first woman to fly solo from the UK to Australia). Join Betty and Mabel, the two jovial WAF girls who follow

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Hull aviatrix Amy's Johnson's final mysterious wartime journey and celebrate her pioneering career. Tickets £10 (£12 door).

Saturday April 28th – 8.00pm - Andy Irvine is one of the great Irish singers. Musician (bouzouki, mandola and harmonica), singer, songwriter is 'often copied, never equalled' (Irish Times). Tickets £14 (£16 on door)

Tickets available from Reeth Post Office or phone **John Little 01748 884759** or visit www.reethmemorialhall.co.uk – tickets half price for under 16s.

It's an Ill Wind...

We at Simonstone Hall thoroughly enjoyed being 'snowed-in', and although I'm sure not everyone enjoyed the blizzards and terrible conditions, our guests certainly did.

Following the terrible snowstorms that hit the country last week we're sure that this will have had a wholly detrimental impact on many rural businesses and hotels, forced to close through power-cuts, cancellations, road closures and staff shortages. Simonstone Hall Hotel, however, found this to be a great experience and unique opportunity to show-off their genuine country house credentials and they're hoping for more snow this week!

Jake Dinsdale

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Heavens Above

Most people have heard of the Plough – it's usually the first constellation we learn to recognise due to its very distinctive shape. Technically, it's an asterism or star pattern rather than a constellation, as its seven stars form part of a much bigger group - Ursa Major, the Greater Bear. Americans call it the Plough, the Big Dipper, but it really resembles a giant saucepan more than anything else with four of the stars forming the 'Pan' and the other three its long bent handle.

Constellations close to the Pole Star like Ursa Major never set, so the Plough is always on show, changing its position as it slowly swings around the celestial pole. At the moment it's at its highest, virtually overhead, but come Autumn you'll find it at its lowest, way down over the northern horizon.

The Plough makes a pretty useful signpost for finding your way round the sky especially during the springtime. Following the curve of the Handle downwards for instance, brings you to the brilliant orange star, Arcturus, in the constellation of Bootes the Herdsman. Keep on going and you'll come to Spica, the main star in Virgo the Virgin. The two end stars at the right-hand edge of the Pan are often called the 'Pointers' as they show the way to Ursa Minor, the Lesser Bear, home to Polaris, the Pole Star.

On the other side of Polaris you'll come to another well-known asterism, the 'W' of Cassiopeia, low in the north during the spring. Following the Pointers the other way (southwards) takes you to Regulus, the main star in Leo the Lion, high in the south during spring and early summer. See if you can spot another famous asterism – The Sickle – a large curve of stars outlining Leo's head and mane.

Mizar, the middle star in the Plough's Handle, is an interesting multiple star. Take a careful look (you might need binoculars if your eyesight is as bad as mine) and you should see a fainter companion star, Alcor, close beside it. Through a telescope you'll find that Mizar has an even closer companion – Mizar B. Remarkably all three of these stars are also double, so altogether there's a total of six stars

making up this impressive system.

Finally this month, look out for shooting stars on the night of April 22/23 when the Lyrid meteor shower reaches its peak. Best time to look is after the Moon has set in the early morning hours. Happy Easter!

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Hawes School News

Zingy Zoolab!

On **Wednesday, March 14th**, children at Hawes Primary School participated in Science week, like many other schools, but they probably didn't see Zoolab!

Zoolab came in to educate us about evolution by letting animals loose in our school!

First it was the Giant African Snail called Gary, which we got to hold and see his baby (Gary Junior) – wow! Snails are both male and female and once they have mated they can have babies forever!

Next Zoolab unleashed a Rose-Back Tarantula, don't worry, it stayed in its box. She was called Luna. Unfortunately we couldn't hold her because her hairs would cause an itchy rash! She was pretty though with her pink back.

Did you know? Female tarantulas sometimes eat their babies and even their male partners!

Zoolab then produced a Fire-Belly Toad called Flame, but we couldn't hold him either because he would jump away.

The last three animals were pretty cool: a millipede called Milly, a rat called Milo and the best one, a royal python called.... Draco!

People had different opinions about the snake, Ella said "I liked the snake because the movement was unique". Barnaby said "I don't like snakes because there have been lot's of people killed by them and they're just urrrgh".

So two very different opinions there, but I'm sure everyone would love to do it again next year.





HERRIOT'S IN HAWES

Come along and enjoy great food and tea or coffee, whilst browsing all the beautiful artwork from our talented local artists.

Those Marmalade connoisseurs amongst you might like to know that this year's Seville Orange Marmalade is selling well and this season's Yorkshire Triangle Champagne Rhubarb Jam has now been made.

The Herriot Café and Gallery are open every day except Wednesdays and Thursdays 11.00am to 3.00pm.

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Wb	Apr 2nd	Apr 9th	Apr 16th	Apr 23rd		Wb	Apr 2nd	Apr 9th	Apr 16th	Apr 23rd	
Day						Day					
Mon	C	F	F	F		Mon	C	PB	PB	PB	
Tues	FB	FB	FB	FB		Tues	P	P	P	P	
Wed	P	P	P	P		Wed	F	F	F	F	
Thurs	B	B	B	B		Thurs	F	F	F	F	
Fri	P	P	P	P		Fri	B	B	B	B	
Doctors: B- Brown, F - France, P- Pain J-Jones (locum), C - Closed Morning Surgery: 8.45-10.15am no appointments Afternoon Surgery: 5.00- 6.00pm Tues 4.00-6.00pm; appointments only <i>For appointments and all enquiries ring 667200</i>						Doctors: B- Brown, F - France, P- Pain J-Jones (locum), C - Closed Morning Surgery: 9.00-10.30am ; no appointments Afternoon Surgery: 4.00- 5.30pm appointments only <i>For appointments and all enquiries ring 663222</i>					

Ribblesdale Cheese - Made in Hawes

Not many people know this, but there are two cheese makers in Hawes. We are the tiny four-person artisan goat cheese makers tucked away on the industrial estate off Brunt Acres Rd, between GTEC and the Good Life. An incongruous setting, perhaps, but as we expanded, albeit on a micro level, we needed to find suitable local manufacturing premises. Hawes has been our home for almost ten years.

Ribblesdale Cheese started back in the late 70's when the current owner's uncle, Iain Hill, bought two goats named after his mother, Victoria and Maude. He did not know that they were pregnant and when the goatlings were born, his drinking buddy back in the day, the local vet, suggested he made cheese. And so in 1978, Ribblesdale Cheese was born.

The herd grew to about 100 and Iain Hill made cheese from his farmhouse located one mile from the Ribblesdale Viaduct. It is our fortieth anniversary this year and whilst Iain is sadly no longer with us, much has changed and we hope he would be proud of us. Our goat's milk now comes from a beautiful and very mischievous herd near Skipton, our ewe's milk from Lancashire and our cow's milk from up the road.

We now make fourteen cheeses, from soft

goat curd, a couple of French inspired semi-soft goat cheeses, a continental style goat Gouda to hard Parmesan like matured cheeses. We also make an unpasteurised Wensleydale and a couple of ewe's milk cheeses.

We are very proud to be based in Hawes with such a grand cheese making reputation, even though few have heard of us. Everything that we make is with care and by hand, by Stu, Iona, Malcolm and Pete. And even though we are a tiny little Yorkshire business, we think 'small is beautiful'.

We sell mainly through wholesalers so do not have a shop the public can visit, however a selection of our cheese can be found at Berry's Farm shop, Country Harvest and in Elijah Allen's.

Iona Hill



Art Exhibition

By local artists
West Burton Village Hall
April 1st and 2nd 10.00am to 4.00pm
Free entry – donations to charity

Theatre by Bus

If you like your theatrical experience to be captivating, inventive, energetic, musically and emotionally rich, then Deborah McAndrew's dazzling adaptation of **Dickens' Hard Times**, is right up your street. You can see a matinee performance of this Northern Broadside production, directed by Conrad Nelson, at West Yorkshire Playhouse, on **Saturday, May 26th**.

It may be 'grim up North', but Broadside's large ensemble cast of talented actor musicians will brighten up the darkest of days. See them reveling in the theatrical delight of switching characters on a sixpence. Hear them play their hearts out via the warmth of a brass ensemble, and all performed under the canopy of the Big Top.

Cost for coach and ticket is £36, **please book before April 2nd**.

Sting's personal, political and passionate musical **The Last Ship** is an epic tale of community, hope and a great act of collective defiance

Gideon Fletcher (Richard Fleeshman), a sailor returns home from the sea to discover the ship

building life he left behind in chaos. The yard is closing. With the engine fired and the pistons in motion picket lines are drawn as foreman Jackie (Joe McGann) and his wife fight to hold their community together in the face of the gathering storm.

The Last Ship features a TONY nominated original score with music and lyrics by Sting. This matinee performance on **Thursday, June 28th** at the Theatre Royal, York costs £34.00 for coach and theatre ticket.

To book please call **663259**

Elaine Francis

Have you got yours?

Swaledale Festival brochures are **Out Now!** The truly international line-up features such luminaries as The Hallé, Brighouse & Rastrick Band, violinist Jennifer Pike, the Sacconi Quartet with tenor James Gilchrist, Welsh harpist Catrin Finch with Senegalese kora virtuoso Seckou Keita, pianist Martin Roscoe with wind soloists from the European Union Chamber Orchestra, gypsy-klezmer group Dodo Street Band, vocal ensemble the Marian Consort, pianist David Owen Norris, and the North's favourite folk trio The Young'uns.

If you would like to be added to our brochure mailing list, email us at brochure@swalefest.org. Online booking opened at www.swalefest.org on **Monday, March 26th**.

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Easter Church Services in Upper Wensleydale

Good Friday – 30th March

The annual Good Friday Churches Together Walk of Witness will start with a short service inside Gayle Chapel **at 10.30am** before walking to Hawes and concluding with a service at St Margaret's Church at **11.30am**. All are welcome either on the walk, at St Margaret's or (best of all) to both.

2.00pm One Hour at the Cross at St Oswald's Church, Askrigg

Easter Day - Sunday 1st April

6.30am Daybreak Service on the shores of Lake Semerwater

9.00am St Mary & St John's Church, Hardraw HC

10.30am St Margaret's Church, Hawes HC

10.30am St Oswald's Church, Askrigg HC

2.00pm Marsett Methodist Church with Howard Thomas

2.30pm St Matthew's Church, Stalling Busk Family Communion

6.00pm Gayle Methodist Church HC

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Easter Services and Events in Lower Wensleydale

Good Friday- 30th March

Witness Of The Cross

9.00am Preston under Scar, outside church;
9.25am Redmire upper green; **9.55am** Castle Bolton Green; **10.25am** Carperby Cross;
11.00am Thornton Rust village hall; **11.30am** Thoraby upper green; **11.55am** Newbiggin waterfall; **12.20pm** West Burton Market cross;
12.55pm Wensley, Bolton Hall gates; **1.25pm** West Witton, opposite Heifer; **2.00pm** Aysgarth car park.

Good Friday Services In Church

2pm St. Bartholomew's, West Witton

2.30pm St. Andrew's, Aysgarth

Easter Day - Sunday 1st April

9.30am Holy Communion, St.Margaret's, Preston

9.30am Holy Communion, St. Bartholomew's, West Witton

10.45am Aysgarth Methodists - a United Service at the parish Church

10.45am at West Burton Methodist Church a locally arranged 'Shake-up' service

11.00am Holy Communion with Activities, St. Andrew's, Aysgarth

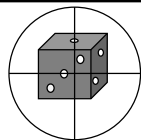
11.00am Holy Communion, St. Oswald's, Castle Bolton

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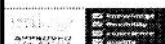
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Birds of Prey Persecution: The Evidence

The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) has published an 'evidence report' on birds of prey persecution – which was first presented to a wildlife crime summit held at the Authority's offices in Bainbridge. The report assesses the populations of a number of key upland raptor species nationally and in the Park and quantifies the confirmed incidents of persecution.

It says, "The collation of breeding data, the number of confirmed persecution incidents and the absence of some species from large areas of potentially suitable habitat provide compelling evidence that illegal persecution is limiting the populations of peregrine and hen harrier in the National Park, and is preventing the colonisation of the area by red kites."

"There has not been a successful peregrine nesting attempt on any of the monitored grouse moor sites since 1997, with birds now absent from the majority of sites that were occupied in the 1990s. This is in stark contrast to the success of nest sites away from grouse moors. There is no natural explanation for this difference. Despite large areas of potentially suitable nesting habitat, there has not been a successful hen harrier nesting attempt in the National Park since 2007. In addition, 11 (19%) of the 59 hen harriers that were satellite tagged by Natural England at sites across northern England and Scotland between 2002 and 2017 are classed as 'missing, fate unknown' in the Yorkshire Dales."

The report – which draws on a wide range of sources – was presented at a Wildlife Crime seminar organised by the YDNPA, which took place at Yoredale in Bainbridge on **February 21st**. More than fifty people attended the event, including police officers from the North Yorkshire, Cumbria and Lancashire forces.

YDNPA Chief Executive David Butterworth said: "The wildlife crime seminar has trained staff to know how to assess and deal with incidents – and when to report them to the police. I need to be absolutely clear: bird of prey persecution is a criminal offence and is

foremost a police matter. If you suspect it, or wish to report any information, you need to dial 101 or in an emergency 999. But it is also a matter for us, as the Authority exists to conserve and enhance the natural beauty and wildlife of the National Park. During the coming weeks, the training that staff have received will also be handed on to our Dales Volunteers. They will be briefed on how to spot and report suspected wildlife crime incidents."

He added: "North Yorkshire has gained an unenviable reputation as England's bird of prey persecution hotspot. The problems are well documented but, as yet, there are no widely accepted solutions to the conflict between some land management practices and bird of prey populations. People need to be clear that the National Park Authority does not own the land, and that there are no legislative powers to regulate game shooting. This does not mean that we are sitting idly by doing nothing. We are helping North Yorkshire Police with 'Operation Owl' – a scheme to get people who are out and about enjoying the magnificent countryside to look out for and report suspected wildlife crime. With the help of residents and visitors we can make a difference. We want birds of prey back in this iconic National Park."

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Tom Ewbank

would like to thank family and friends for the lovely cards and good wishes he has received on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Thanks also to Diana Hartley and the East Witton Male Voice Choir who had rehearsed a birthday tribute to Tom which had to be cancelled due to the snow. We hope to hold it later this year.

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History in the Dales

Field Barn on Occupation Road, Muker

This stone field barn is unusual as it has a date stone over one of its doors. The date stone is marked W Hall, the last number is missing, but what



remains dates the barn's construction to between 1800 and 1809. This places it near the beginning of the widespread process of replacing timber barns with stone ones in the Dales. In construction, the barn is typical of the small stone field barns to be found in this part of Swaledale. It is a two door field barn with relatively well-coursed sandstone and limestone block walling with regular lines of through-stones, as well as slit vents on the south elevation. Over the winter, cattle were housed in the shippon below while their food, hay from the surrounding fields, was stored in the mew alongside and also in the loft above. Muck from the cows was spread on the fields as fertilizer in the spring.

This field barn falls within the Barns and Walls Conservation Area of Upper Swaledale and Arkengarthdale. A dominant feature of the two valleys is the intricate pattern of drystone walls and dense network of traditional stone-

built field barns. In Swaledale there are on average 14 field barns per square kilometre. As farming has changed and developed the field barns have become more redundant and derelict making our Every Barn Tells a Story (EBTAS) project ever more necessary. This barn survives in fair condition, and has been restored with the aid of a grant from the National Park Authority.

Access: Please note that this field barn can be viewed from a bridleway but that there is no public access to the interior of the barn, or the adjoining field.

Hannah Kingsbury
Historic Environment Apprentice



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**Middleham and the Dales Local
History Group
The Cultural History of the Yorkshire
Dales**

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the publication of "Life and Tradition in the Yorkshire Dales", by Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby our April meeting will be a guided tour of the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes on **Tuesday, April 17th at 2,00pm**

Marie Hartley built up a large collection of artefacts, photographs and woodcut illustrations of life in the Yorkshire Dales in the early to mid

20th century, so that records of what life and work was like for ordinary dalesfolk would not be lost. This collection later became the basis of the Dales Countryside Museum, although the material in the museum has much increased in recent years.

Museum staff, volunteers and Friends of the Museum will explain its origins and links with Marie Hartley. We will divide into groups to look at the various collections and get the chance to look at the reserve collections which are not normally on public display.

The meeting will start at **2.00pm** and finish around 4/4.30pm. There will be no charge to Group members but visitors will have to pay the normal museum entry fee of £3. Free tea/coffee will also be supplied.

If you wish to join us please contact **Geoff Keeble** as soon as possible, by email on g.b.keeble@btinternet.com or telephone **650774**. Old and new members and visitors are always welcome, annual membership is still only £10.

Clifford and Audrey would like to thank everyone who on a very snowy morning came and helped and supported the coffee morning, at Pen View in aid of the Aysgarth Methodist Chapel.

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Wensleydale School News

Debate teams from The Wensleydale School & Sixth Form were invited to a Mace-Style evening at St Peter's School in York on the 13th March. The event was planned to build on the momentum of the Mace heats of the recent English Speaking Union competition, (a competition where The Wensleydale School & Sixth Form was represented by a team of Emrys Lawton and Ros Monaghan). The format used was Extended Mace where each team is made up of two debaters. The Motion for debate was 'This House would bring back extinct plants and animals'. One team of Sophie Neate and Rebecca Kilker were up against a team from St Peter's School and our other team of Amy Neate and Zoe Bell were up against Manor CE Academy. Both our teams were in the Proposition and constructed strong arguments

around environmental, medical and financial points. They were able to deal with Points of Information from the Opposition with poise and skill.

When judging was completed Rebecca Kilker and Sophie Neate were deemed to have won their match, however, Amy Neate and Zoe Bell were deemed to have lost their match – both teams performed very well, and represented the school exceptionally well. In acknowledgement of individual speakers both Amy Neate and Sophie Neate were presented with the 'Most Promising Speaker' awards.



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The debate club is now looking forward to our next competition on the **28th March in York** for *The Up for Debate* North East regional competition. A team of Maddie Hey, Arthur Moss and Zoe Bell will represent The Wensleydale School & Sixth Form.

Andy Wilkinson



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Upland Farmers – Make Your Voices Heard

The YDNPA is urging local farmers and landowners to try to find time out from lambing to respond to the government's major consultation on the 'Future of Agriculture'. The consultation paper proposes big changes after Brexit, not least the phasing out of Direct Payments (BPS), the source of almost all profits for upland farm businesses.

"The paper clearly says that Direct Payments are not going to be switched off overnight – which will come as a relief to many. It models scenarios for the payments to be phased out over 5, 7 or ten years, so it could be towards the end of the next decade before they disappear entirely. It is in farmers' interests to join in the consultation and give their view on how Direct Payments should end and over how many years. The paper is also clear in recognising that the uplands may find it more difficult than others to adapt. But it highlights the potential for upland farm businesses to benefit from new

environmental land management schemes, given the nature of the landscapes and the many public goods that they deliver, such as biodiversity and flood risk mitigation. One of the vital questions the paper asks is how farming, land management and rural communities in the uplands should continue to be supported. It's important that we seize this opportunity to make the voices of local farmers and communities heard" said YDNPA chairman Carl Lis.

The closing date for the consultation is **May 8th**. Responses can be sent by email to (agricultureconsultation@defra.gsi.gov.uk) or in writing to:

Agriculture Consultation Team
1b - Future Farming Directorate
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Nobel House
17, Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

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Traffic Management Improvements at Thornton Rust

The recent spell of bad snow helped bring home the need to improve the traffic flow to both the East and West.

Thornton Rust was cut off for days with neither snow ploughs nor gritters getting to the village. Fortunately there were no roadworks, as there often are, on the unstable North verge of the road above Worton Scar and Thornton Scar for repairs to the north boundary walls along that stretch. Even when the road was partially cleared, should a motorist have encountered another, particularly a heavier, vehicle coming in the other direction then major problems could have occurred.

It is thus being considered that the verges on the North side of the road might be widened along the 1.18 mile stretch from Cubeck eastwards to the village edge, for safety reasons.

The options resulting are:

Option A

Make the road one way between Cubeck and the Outgang Road and between the eastern edge of the village and Aysgarth with a flow direction from west to east. Circulation within Thornton Rust could continue to be two way, provided a turning area is provided by the Outgang Road/Village Institute for traffic reaching that point against the one way flow ahead.

This would extend journey distance from Thornton Rust centre to the A 684 at Worton by approximately 3.5 miles, perhaps about 10 minutes.

Option B

Institute traffic light controlled alternate single direction traffic flow between Cubeck and Thornton Rust and between Thornton Rust and Aysgarth. Intelligent lights with "idle on red" provision and information repeaters at intermediate junctions to show the current direction of traffic, should minimize delays which should amount to no more than 10 minutes if a green is just missed.

Either of these options should improve safety on this stretch of road, make it easier to keep

clear and be largely self funding due to the decreased need for expensive highway maintenance to the vulnerable north boundary.

We want to hear your view so please go to www.highways.thorntonrust.gov.uk/place.my.vote and express your preference **before Monday, April 2nd.**

Bainbridge Women's Institute

Bainbridge W.I. Meet on the third Thursday of the month at Bainbridge Village Hall at **7.30pm.** At the meeting on the **19th April** there will be a talk by Jan Bell "My Needle and I"

Why not come along and join us?

Jane Saunders

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Dalesplay Easter News

The children at Dalesplay have been celebrating world book day by dressing up, sharing some of our favourite stories together and using the puppets to tell stories. We have been very crafty making wonderful things for our Mum's to say thank you for taking such great care of us all and we baked them a little treat to enjoy.

Dalesplay stayed open throughout the 'Beast from the East' to care for those who were able to make it into their work, we were able to help a

few extra families out who needed extra care whilst the schools had to close. We try our hardest to do all we can for our rural families. We were just very lucky that most staff were able to get into work safely and some staff members stayed with their families in Hawes so they were available to work. We are very grateful to all our staff for their dedication and commitment, you are all wonderful and very much appreciated and I am sure all our families would agree.

We have started to explore Spring and the Easter decorations are making an appearance. We have heard that the Easter bunny will be calling in to see the children and play some games. We still have some spaces available in the Easter half term so if you still need childcare book in now as places are limited and soon filled. We are open from 8am- 6pm most days in the holidays. We only close at 3.30 in the holidays if childcare isn't needed beyond that time however most days we have bookings until 6pm which is great news! To book a place email dalesplay1@btconnect.com or call us on **667789**. Dalesplay will be holding a tombola in April at the next Table Top sale in the market hall. If anyone has any donations of prizes we would be grateful. These can be left in our collection box in the entrance. The money raised will help us to purchase some building blocks for outside play. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Joanne

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Dales Archaeology Day

The Historic Environment Team at the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority is holding their annual Dales Archaeology Day on **Saturday, April 14th from 10.00am till 4.00pm** at Richmond Methodist Church (DL10 7AZ).

The following speakers will be giving talks on a variety of projects that have recently taken place in the Yorkshire Dales:

- BC to AD: Iron Age and Romano-British Farmers in Nidderdale: Jim Brightman (Solstice Heritage).
- Recent dendrochronology and vernacular

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buildings in Craven: Alison Armstrong.

· Coal Mining at Tanhill: Shaun Richardson (Ed Dennison Archaeological Services).

· Thorns, Ribbleshead: Anatomy of a deserted settlement: David Johnson.

· Early Neolithic enclosures in the North: Alastair Oswald.

The 'We Dig Community' project at Bainbridge: Rebecca Cadbury-Simmons.

You can book your ticket online by debit/credit card via a secure website <https://retail.yorkshiredales.org.uk/collections/events/products/archaeology-day-school-2018>.

Alternatively please call **652343** and we can process your credit/debit card details over the phone. If you have any queries please email herinfo@yorkshiredales.org.uk.

Leyburn & District U3A

The monthly meeting and talk is on **Friday, April 20th at 10.30am at Leyburn Arts & Community Centre**. The speaker is Pat Osborne on 'Evita: the life and times of Eva Peron.' Committee members will be there from **10.00am** to give information about activities on offer, and to also take subscriptions for 2018/19 which are now due. New members welcome. Please note the **AGM** will be held on **May 17th** in the Methodist Hall at **10.30am**.

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Easter Greetings

There is plenty of contemporary documentary evidence that Jesus lived and died, but on Easter Sunday the church in Upper Wensleydale will be joining in celebration with Christians all over the world that Jesus died and now lives!

Whole libraries have been written examining the evidence and many learned scholars have voiced their opinions. Some set out to write a book to disprove the event and then after having spent many years in research have changed their minds. The Roman Governor Pilate gave instruction for a guard to be posted and for the tomb to be made '.. as secure as you know how.' A typical Roman guard would constitute at least four men on a rotating four-hour watch. They were trained to be vigilant and their lives would be at stake if a prisoner (albeit a dead one) were to escape their custody. These military guards would probably have been supplemented even further by additional members of the Temple Guard. And yet; the tomb was found empty with no adequate explanation given as to how a stone weighing several tons was rolled back up a sloping groove without disturbing them. Some of them went and told the governor what had taken place and then a conspiracy is released.

Further contemporary accounts then detail the appearance of Jesus on many different occasions, in one instance to as many as five hundred people at the same time.

Countless billions of people since that eventful Easter morning and billions alive today, bear witness to a powerful experience and a living reality behind three amazing words; 'He is Risen.' With them comes the promise of overflowing joy, unending hope, consolation and restoration and so the church celebrates!

It would be wonderful to welcome you to any

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of our services across Holy Week and on Easter Sunday itself. If you like an early start, why not join us for some bread and freshly barbequed fish on the side of Lake Semerwater **at 6:30 am on April 1st**; just like Jesus did with his disciples?

Whatever you may do and however you may choose to spend this very special and holy time of the year, our prayer would be that you may know the joy and the truth of the risen Jesus in your lives this day and always.

A Happy Easter to you all

Dave Clark
Vicar of Upper Wensleydale

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Notes from Thorney Mire

Late Winter

Walking along our lane in the middle of February, I saw a flock of eight lapwings flying in a south- westerly direction. I don't remember seeing any as early as that before. Two days later in Appersett there was another flock of about fifty lapwings and in the same week, further down the dale there must have been a hundred of them flying around two fields bordering the road. It was reassuring to see these birds as there has been concern about their decline. The U.K. conservation status for these birds is red. The name lapwing is thought to have come from the Old English hleapewince, which means "leaping with a wink in it". An early decline in their numbers was due to egg collection for food until the Lapwing Act of 1926 when their numbers recovered. Since the 1940s, changes in farming practices saw another decline but numbers stabilized in the 1960s and then another decline followed in the 1980s, partly due to farming practices on arable land. A lapwing chick has a higher chance of survival on rough grazing or unimproved pasture land rather than arable land. As the population of lapwings fell by at least 40% between 1970 and 1998 it was heart warming to see all these birds in Wensleydale. I do not know if lapwings return to the same area each year but we have four birds that nest in the same two fields every spring.

We have only seen one red squirrel in the courtyard recently and that was during the very bad weather. We've had siskins on the feeders and I've seen two mistle thrushes on the wall down the lane. The curlew has returned, the coltsfoot have appeared from under the snow, the chaffinches are singing and the rooks are nest building, so you have to convince yourself that Spring is on the way even if the weather says differently.

We took part in the R.S.P.B. bird count in January and this year the result was very disappointing. We only counted eight species. The weather was cloudy and damp and a lot of our regular birds did not show up. You do not need a thermometer to tell you that it is cold outside. Look through the window and if there

are three or four robins together then you know times are hard and food is scarce. If one robin is looking particularly put out, then he is the resident bird and the others are not welcome. During the very cold weather, birds that do not normally honour us with their presence turned up, like the starlings. They, along with the blackbirds dominated the feeders. One blackbird had worked out that it was much more comfortable sitting on the feed tray than on the snow and he sat on the tray with feathers puffed out so that the other birds couldn't get to the food.

I had found some out-of-date dates in the cupboard. I chopped some up and tried them on the small birds. They were not interested, apart from the robin who I'm convinced will eat anything. I tried them on the four, gate crashing starlings, they loved them, so word went out on the avian social media that there was tasty food to be had, so much so, that the starling numbers went from four to nine. I suppose I could have given them some walnuts to go with the dates but I'm not that kind hearted. I love walnuts too much and they never go out of date at our house.

Sylvia Tumer

Scratch, Sniff and Win !

Here at the newsletter we try to think of new, interesting and perhaps unusual competitions. So beginning with our next issue, we are introducing a 'first' for the newsletter, a 'scratch and sniff' competition. Each month, a scratch panel will be printed on the outside cover, which will feature a mystery 'countryside fragrance'. Current printing technology available to us limits this to printing the panel on the outside cover. Competition entries should be submitted as usual through the Newsletter email.

Look out for it and happy sniffing !"



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Apr 20 Fri 5:00 & 7:30pm **Breathe** (12A) 118m
Apr 27 Fri 5:00 & 7:30pm **Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool** (15) 105m

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May 10 Thu 4:00pm **A Heart at Sea** Enthralling epic musical folktale told on a miniature scale, of a young Boy who bottles up his heart & throws it into the sea. Suitable for ages 5 to 95! Free entry for adults accompanying children.

May 19 Sat 7:30pm **The Yoredale Strummers Ukulele Band** An evening in the company of the 60 humming strings of The Dales' very own 15-strong ukulele band, playing an eclectic mix of music. Bar, raffle and a singalong.

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