# THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER

**Issue 268** 

September 2020

Donation please: 50p suggested



Stacey Moore

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

#### **Guest Editorial**

As I stand in the empty space of the once vibrant Methodist Chapel in Bainbridge, I look up to the heavens - you can see them through the gaping, jagged holes in the roof - and recall the last time I was here.

It was three years ago, to report on the final service to be held in the 180-year-old building. Geoff Phillips was preaching and there was a good, if slightly subdued, congregation. "If we'd had this number every Sunday it wouldn't have had to close," a loyal member tells me afterwards. But they didn't, so it did, was the sad truth.

Members whose families had worshipped there for generations would, said Geoff, "feel an aching sense of loss, grief and brokenheartedness" at the closure. As had, no doubt, those former worshippers at six more chapels in the upper Dales whose closure in as many years had proved inevitable: Arkengarthdale, Aysgarth, Bellerby, Middleham, Ravensworth and Reeth. None could survive the cold winds of changing habits and patterns of worship blowing through the land.

Now it's Geoff himself, along with others who have put their time, effort and skills into plans to transform the redundant building into affordable homes for local people, who is feeling that sense of grief and loss - plus a rare dose of anger - as he contemplates those holes in the chapel roof: the plaster falling off, the joists and laths exposed, the tiles slipping, the rain hammering in. It is, he says, a tragedy. They've spent £50,000 stripping the building of asbestos, an operation which, though necessary, has left it vulnerable to water ingress and weather damage.

"There is now a real risk that the Bainbridge project cannot proceed as intended," says circuit superintendent Melanie Reed in a report. And the reason? While one arm of the Methodist Church made a contribution last year of £78,500 to the conversion project, and Methodist Insurance stumped up another £40,000 only two months headquarters' property division has refused to sign it off for fear that the "affordable housing" condition might affect the building's future value (as opposed to leaving it to rot, of course, which won't).

The National Park Authority's planning

committee had voted unanimously to support the scheme, the parish council had backed it. There was a bit of a grumble over parking problems, but when is there not? Everybody, it seemed, was happy.

What's more, this relatively small project wasn't just going to provide a couple of low-cost small flats in a pretty Dales village. Oh no, indeed: it was going to be the blueprint for how the Methodists dealt with future sales of redundant chapels nationwide. It was hailed as "a national pilot for the Methodist Church in Great Britain," by Amanda Madden, Richmondshire District Council's rural housing officer.

A scheme that provided low-cost housing, in an area where so many can't afford a home of their own, would be entirely in line with the church's philosophy. The inclination to worship may be diminishing, but the disposition to care for others beats as strongly as ever in the ordinary - as opposed to the bureaucratic - Methodist breast. If the Bainbridge project fails, and it's looking increasingly likely that it will, the whole movement towards creating homes where once there were places of worship will almost certainly flounder, and an opportunity to put faith into action will be lost.

Now, the local circuit's property committee have set a deadline of mid-September for a final decision on whether the conversion is to go ahead or the chapel is to be sold. "If they don't meet this date, we resolved to abdicate all responsibility. A line has been drawn in the sand," says Geoff.

Meanwhile, I plough through the 40-page reports the church produced for its national synod last year on the housing and homelessness crisis, and find this: "The increasingly commercial culture around house building offers few incentives to build the genuinely affordable housing necessary to cope with the current shortage."

You couldn't, as they say, make it up.

**Betsy Everett** 

The picture on the front of the Newsletter is by Stacey Moore and prints can be purchased at her gallery on Hawes High Street (next to the Spar).

## Middleham and the Dales Local History Group

Because of the ongoing Covid 19 situation Middleham and the Dales Local History Group has cancelled all meetings until the end of the year. 2020 membership will be extended into 2021 and we will contact members when the situation is a little clearer.

For more information contact Tony Keates tel.01969 640436 dotandtonyk@btinternet.com.

#### **Book and Equipment Awards**

Once again the Newsletter is intending to offer an award of £500, for the first year at University, or equivalent, for students following post A-level studies. Please note that this award is not limited to books and we have helped fund such diverse items as a sewing machine and professional cook's knives as well as laptops.

Please apply in writing, or by email with your postal address which must lie within the Newsletter area (see bottom of the front cover).

Give details of the University or degreeequivalent establishment and say what the course is. If the application is accepted, receipts for relevant books or equipment must be sent in and then the grant will be forthcoming.

The accuracy, appropriateness or legitimacy of any product or service advertised in this publication is the sole responsibility of the advertiser and not of the Upper Wensleydale Newsletter.

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#### **Eunice the Ewe**

Last month I was in the Holiday Home Management advert on page 9 (where I had been hiding since April) and the lucky winner of the £10 prize is Wilf Dinsdale of Saltburn.

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

#### DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22nd (Unless we are full earlier) PUBLISHED ON OCTOBER 1st

#### 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.

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#### **September Competition**

Here is a quiz for all you budding (and experienced) botanists out there. Below are all anagrams of British wildflowers. We doubt if anyone will get them all. Prove us wrong!

- 1) Ring duovy
- 2) Rend add teetle
- 3) Shine hatch tenner gads
- 4) Crows paley
- 5) Voted goil
- 6) Torn meet fog
- 7) Wonder wedge thou
- 8) Peering cutter cupb
- 9) Worth slits cesart
- 10) Wicked che
- 11) Rope rims
- 12) Bublelel
- 13) Fold faid
- 14) Sender lace lines
- 15) Pacer mindo
- 16) Hollow wise baby err
- 17) Gloves pubs sir
- 18) Luck cower oof
- 19) Wasted days lbr
- 20) Sheep purr sheds
- 21) Fremcoy
- 22) Worrya

Please send in your answers to arrive no later than **Tuesday**, **September 22nd** for a chance to win the £20 prize which will be sent to your nominated charity.



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#### **Answers to August Competition**

- Dundee Cake
- 2. Dover Sole
- 3. Eccles Cake
- 4. Yorkshire Pudding
- 5. Stilton
- 6. Eton Mess
- 7. Branston
- 8. Worcestershire Sauce
- 9. Cullen Skink
- 10. Jersev Roval Potato
- 11. Newcastle Brown Ale
- 12. Pontefract Cake

Several correct answers this month and the lucky name drawn out of the hat was Diana Parsons of Ilkley who nominated St Oswald's Church, Askrigg as her charity. They will receive the £20 prize.

#### The Iron Maiden

Not enough hours in the day?
Fed up of never ending ironing?
My ironing service is definitely a way of buying back much needed quality time in a busy life!

Tracy Hume 07527 796523 or 01969 666048.

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#### Drop-off points and contacts

For news, articles, reports, letters, What's On dates, competition entries, suggestions and comments:- All 01969 numbers.

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:	New contact needed	
West Burton:	Nadine Bell,	
	Margarets Cottage	663559
Aysgarth:	Hamilton's Tearoom	663423
Redmire:	Kevin Davis	624165
	Westholme	
Thoralby:	Sandra Foley, Shop	663205
West Witton	Christine Barker,	
	Chestnut Garth	624934

### Artwork to Celebrate Dales Schools and Youth

Images for a giant community photo mosaic celebrating youth and schools in the Upper Dales will be collected over eight weeks, starting on Monday, September 21st.

The mosaic of Dales youth is being created by digital artist Helen Marshall of 'The People's Picture', whose most recent work was 'Rainbows for the NHS'. It will consist of over one thousand pictures of school life in the Dales that will come together to create a whole new image. Hundreds of photos for the mosaic have already been submitted, but it's hoped that the community will bring forward many more.

The artwork has been commissioned by The NASH and Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes as part of 'The Story of Schools in the Upper Dales' – an oral history and research project funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's Sustainable Development Fund. The project is delving into the development of schools over time in Upper Wensleydale, Swaledale and Arkengarthdale.

It will culminate in a multi-media exhibition at the Dales Countryside Museum opening in January 2021, including the big reveal of the mosaic, a short film, display boards, audio recordings and artefacts. 'The Story of Schools' artwork will be on display at Dales Countryside Museum from January 30th to April 21st 2021, after which it will tour as part of the Swaledale Festival.

Project Manager Emily Rowe Rawlence says: "We want to create a community artwork that celebrates our schools but also the dynamic youth of the Dales from the dawn of photography to now. Do you live in the Upper Dales? Did you go to school here? We'd love to see your pictures about what youth in the Dales means to you. We'd like to amass as many images as possible. Photos can be vintage or modern and feature landscape and buildings as well as people, and artwork and drawings are great too – the more the merrier."

Education Officer Heather Hodgson says: "We're really looking forward to working with three local primary schools on this project - Reeth and Gunnerside, Hawes and BAWB. With pupils and the wider school community we'll be collecting as many photos, pictures and

drawings as we can. Dig out your old photos, take a new snap, draw a picture, get creative! Despite the Corona pandemic, with digital technology it's super easy to participate by taking photos on phones and uploading them online, it only takes a moment. We can't wait to see what people come up with!" Members of the public can participate by uploading their images to the project directly at <a href="mailto:thepeoplespicture.com/storyofschools/">thepeoplespicture.com/storyofschools/</a>.



Photo of the children of Askrigg School 1906

The People's Picture are experts in visual storytelling and bringing communities together to create, celebrate and own their unique legacy. Previous photo mosaics have ranged from 'The Face of Suffrage' marking the 100th anniversary of British women getting the vote to 'The People's Moon', a giant lunar artwork across Times Square and the Kennedy Space Centre, and 'Rainbows for the NHS', an interactive 'mosaic of hope' made up of thousands of pictures submitted to The People's Picture during the COVID-19 pandemic. Artist Helen Marshall says: "I am proud to be creating artwork for such a special location and community. It is fantastic that our work is exploring and engaging with rural communities and I am looking forward to discovering some of the unique stories and photos that shall unfold as part of the project. I am also especially excited to be visiting and working with The NASH and Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes, and cannot wait to see all the wonderful creative imagery that is generated from the community and schools."

For further information about the project please visit <a href="www.thenashhawes.org/Story-of-Schools">www.thenashhawes.org/Story-of-Schools</a>.



Temporary Pattern of Services September 2020						
Date	St Mary & St John's, Hardraw <b>9.00am</b>	St Oswald's, Askrigg 10.30am	Askrigg Hawes			
Sep 6th	6th 'The Gathering' ONLINE ONLY Service www.upperwensleydalechurch.org/services					
Sep 13th	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Prayer	Holy Communion		
Sep 20th	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion			
Sep 27th	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Evening Prayer		

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#### **Heavens Above**

This month sees a marked change in the night sky as we head towards the Autumn Equinox -**September 22nd** this year. Most of the bright summertime constellations are still on view in the early evening, but they slowly give way to the less spectacular autumn groups over the coming weeks, and by the middle of September autumn's main constellation, Pegasus the Winged Horse, dominates the southern sky. Pegasus' most distinctive feature is its famous 'Square' - a large quadrilateral formed by four reasonably bright stars which stands out well in a pretty barren part of the sky. Trailing away from the Square's top left-hand corner are two chains of stars forming the constellation of Andromeda. Just above the mid-point of the upper chain you'll find a fuzzy patch of light reckoned to be the most distant object visible to the unaided human eye. It's the Great Andromeda Galaxy, very similar to our own Milky Way but a good deal bigger. It lies over 2 away, million light years 14,000,000,000,000,000,000 miles as the crow flies if I've got my sums right.

Beneath Pegasus you'll find a part of the sky called the Celestial Sea, home to a dim set of constellations all with aquatic associations – the Sea-goat, the Water Carrier, two lots of Fishes, Cetus the Whale, and slightly higher up and to the right, Delphinus the Dolphin. None of them are particularly distinctive.

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Everyone knows the familiar shape of The Plough or Big Dipper. It's formed by the seven brightest stars of Ursa Major, the Great Bear, and languishes low in the north during the Autumn. The two stars at the right-hand edge of the Plough's blade are known as the Pointers as they show the way to Polaris the Pole Star, the brightest star in Ursa Minor, the Little Bear. Following the line of the Pointers through and beyond the Pole Star brings you to another distinctive star-pattern – Cassiopeia, the Lady in the Chair. Her large squashed 'W' shape is very easy to recognise. Cassiopeia is immersed in the northen reaches of the Milky Way which arches right across the sky at this time of the year. The whole region is filled with masses of stars and star clusters, well worth exploring with binoculars.

Low in the east as we head deeper in autumn you'll find one of the finest star clusters in the sky – the Pleiades. Most people can count up to six or seven stars in the group (the record is fourteen, I think) but binoculars or a small telescope bring dozens more into view.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson, a keen amateur astronomer, described them beautifully in his poem Locksley Hall:-

"Many a night I saw the Pleiades, risin' thro' the mellow shade glitter like a swarm of fireflies tangled in a silver braid."

Have clear skies!

Al Bireo

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#### **Notes from Thorney Mire**

#### Late Summer

I don't know if it's because I've had more time to "stand and stare" this year but I've noticed a lot of young birds around, but not as many blue tits and chaffinches as previous years. In our garden and several places along the lane there have been baby wrens darting around in the hedgerows. The blackbirds who always nest in the vicinity of the blackcurrant bush have voiced their displeasure as the bush hasn't produced much fruit this year. We've had visits from two black caps, a wheatear and a greater spotted woodpecker, but have not seen any young woodpeckers.

A young robin, with its mottled breast just showing signs of red, which had evidently been turned out of the nest and told to fend for itself, but had not been given any advice about portion size, has been following us around the garden in its pursuit of anything edible we might uncover. It's been amusing watching it flying off with worms that are twice the robin's length and so fat, it would choke the bird if it tried to eat them. A bit like us trying to swallow a twelve foot cobra. Robins are Britain's favourite bird and in spite of their cute appearance they can be aggressive, especially with other robins, usually over territory. They can produce three to five broods a year. The males sometimes feed the young of one brood while the female incubates a second. The eggs have a thirteen day incubation period then the birds fledge fourteen days later. They are opportunists when it comes to nest building and can make a home in unusual places. Over the last few years we've had one pair of robins build a nest on a shelf in our barn behind a can of engine oil and a small box and previous to this one pair nested behind the headlight of a motor bike which was in the barn for repairs.

The goldfinches have had a successful year producing two lots of young. The house martins above our bedroom window have reared two broods. You are treated to an aerial display every morning when you draw back the curtains. Further along the eaves, above another window, another pair of house martins have reared one lot of young. On the back of the house above another window, swallows have been busy rearing their offspring. Why do they always seem to nest above the windows? Do they think

I haven't got enough to do during this pandemic so they'll find me a job of cleaning windows?

A grey squirrel has been seen in the wood on at least three occasions and this has been reported. I've also seen a red squirrel with a distinctive white tail and if I'm up early enough, a deer in the field near the barn.

The hedgehog we saw walking around in the day time about ten weeks ago is still walking around in the day time. It doesn't seem to be ill and is quite spritely. It can quickly move up a gear if it thinks you are getting too close. It's made itself at home and has worked out a route for its daily perambulations. It appears in the courtyard, then crosses the road before crawling under the gate into the field. I hold my breath when it steps out into the road as some drivers treat our single track lane like Brands Hatch. A car did slow down for it a few days ago. The hedgehog stopped, waited for the car to pass then went on its merry way. I can only assume that the hedgehog like us is totally confused with all the changing rules and regulations of what we can and cannot do, or where we can or cannot go and has not read the latest update informing it that it should be nocturnal.

Sylvia Turner

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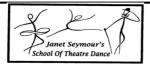
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## From the Archives Summer 1998

It rained and rained The average fall was well maintained.
And when the tracks were simply bogs,
It started raining cats and dogs.
After a drought of half an hour,
We had a most refreshing shower,
And then the most curious thing of all,
A gentle rain began to fall,
Next day also was fairly dry,
Save for a deluge from the sky,
Which wetted the party to the skin,

Anon

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#### **Celebrating Our Local Heroes**

Now that we are hopefully emerging from lockdown and life is returning to some sort of normality, the Newsletter Committee thought it was time to start acknowledging the hard work of some of our local businesses during the pandemic and celebrating their efforts to keep us all going.

In this issue, we focus on Sykes Store in Askrigg and Bainbridge and, although Michael and Alison do not see themselves as any sort of heroes and shy away from any praise, the efforts they went to in order to ensure the community was kept fed and watered during lockdown were quite simply amazing.

When it became clear that things were about to get serious and we were all going to be asked to remain at home, Michael and Alison swung into action and changed the focus of their business to include home deliveries. It probably seemed like such a good idea at the time, and a way of better serving the community as well as, hopefully, securing the future of the business through these truly exceptional times. However, as this new service took off, it is fair to say that tensions were high and questions were asked as to just who thought of this brilliant idea!

Imagine for a moment, sending your order through to Amazon, a computer picking it from racking and someone packing it before sending it out for delivery. Sounds great! However, then imagine doing much the same thing but from within the confines of a tiny village shop in Askrigg!! Not so great!

At the peak of the pandemic, Sykes Store was receiving orders for up to sixty deliveries a week! The maximum for one day was 28! Now, that is 28 boxes (that just happen to be lying around), laying side by side around the ground floor – mainly in the closed Tea Room, but also in corridors and store rooms at the back – each being labelled with a name, and staff (sometimes up to three at a time) taking a list, looking for the product and placing it in the box! If that doesn't sound chaotic enough, throw in some two metre social distancing, and you have a scene of chaos but one that thankfully seemed to work extremely well – in the end.

Over time, the whole process was obviously fine-tuned, with order sheets prepared, the

answerphone put to good use, a dedicated staff member taking orders and processing payments and areas around the shop used specifically to store fruit and vegetables plus cold and frozen products, so that they were all ready to pick and pack. However, it was still amazing that up to 28 deliveries a day could be taken, packed and delivered from such a tiny shop and even now the peak of the pandemic has passed and lockdown is easing, 30 deliveries a week are still being picked, packed and sent out to the vulnerable in our communities.

Like other small businesses, Sykes suffered from a lack of stock during lockdown, seemingly because the majority was going direct to the big four supermarkets – something which possibly needs looking at after the dust has settled, as it seemed grossly unfair - so Michael had to adapt and seek alternative suppliers or alternative goods, some of which were appreciated by customers and others less so. However, the priority was always to ensure that no-one went without and everyone who needed to could remain safe at home, knowing that food and drink would be brought to them from their local shop. Thanks are therefore due to our local independent suppliers who, despite their own challenges, managed to keep up with the additional demand put upon them -Hammonds Butchers, Cockett's Butchers and Bakers, Carrick's Fruit and Veg, Dales Dairies, Wensleydale Eggs and Eddie, Hazel and Ian Bell from Abbotside Events. Without them, none of this could have happened.

Michael and Alison would also like to express their grateful thanks to Eddie Baker (the delivery boy!), Hazel, Ian Bell (for his van), The Crown Inn (for storing fruit and veg) and all their wonderful staff who adapted to changing circumstances and stepped up to help in whatever way they could.

Of course, whilst all this was going on at the Askrigg Shop, the Bainbridge Shop in Sycamore Hall had become a 'residents only' facility on limited opening hours, as the doors were closed to the public to protect the residents. Michael, Alison and their staff agreed that it was important to maintain the shop there, even if it was on reduced hours with limited customers, to provide some continuity for residents and to allow them to continue to purchase their own supplies, which is important to their independence. This wasn't without its own challenges as it was extremely difficult for

some residents, particularly those suffering with dementia, to understand all the changes that had to be made to protect both them and the staff, and with these changes altering on a regular basis, confusion was probably the name of the game! That said, there was only a short period of time when it was necessary to close the shop completely and during that period, more home deliveries were added to the list at Askrigg.

It is now hoped that with lockdown rules easing, things will return to something closer to the previous 'normal' at Sykes Stores. Screens have been placed at the counter of both shops to protect staff (all of whom chose to risk their health by working through the lockdown alongside Michael and Alison) and with social distancing still in place, numbers are limited in both shops. At Sycamore Hall, it is wonderful to finally re-open the shop to the public as well as residents and to be able to return to previous opening hours of 9.00am to 2.00pm daily (except Saturday 9.00am to noon and Sundays closed) but customers are required to sanitise their hands before entering, wear masks and wait if they see there are already two customers in the shop. If everyone does their bit to follow the guidance, then hopefully these shops will be able to remain open to serve us all.

Michael and Alison wish to thank everyone who have helped them through this challenging and busy time, and they hope that you will continue to support them, even though you can now venture further afield for your shopping.

In turn, and on behalf of the local community, we would like to thank Michael and Alison for adapting so quickly to the changing need and for working so hard to ensure that the local community, both their regular customers and new, never went short of food. Hopefully, we have all learnt a valuable lesson that we need to protect our local shops because they are always there through thick and thin!

K.P.

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#### **Recent Computer Scams**

I am currently seeing a spate of telephone scams that are aimed at gaining access to your computer in order to get onto your bank account, allowing any funds to be transferred to the scammers, and/or enabling them to apply for loans in your name.

While these have been going on for some time the techniques used have become more sophisticated, and often involves a whole series of calls over a number of hours in a process of grooming the victim. This may also be linked to emails claiming that money will be taken out of your bank account by direct debit - often for Amazon Prime or some other subscription service.

The follow up calls purport to be from the "fraud department" or BT Technical Service. This may involve several calls from a number of people lasting several hours. The purpose of this it to gain your trust and confidence, and to convince you that you are being targeted by fraudsters. They may claim that you can assist them in apprehending the fraudsters by laying a trap.

The objective of this charade is to persuade you to access your online banking while they are remotely connected to your computer and to carry out banking transactions that will 'help them catch the fraudsters in the act'. In reality they are getting you to perform the transfers into an account of their own.

The actual banks are getting better at reacting to fraud when they are notified an account might have been compromised. They can often identify the fraudulent transactions and get them reversed so the money is recovered. However, if you are involved in the actual transaction – as in the above scenario – the bank may consider it a valid transaction, and you could be deemed responsible for the loss.

Personally I had a call from 'BT Technical Services' stating that they had 'identified that my IP address had been compromised' and they were ringing to help resolve the problem. The chap gave me his name and said he was calling from BT's Clapgate Office in London. BT's head office is in Newgate! He said he needed to ascertain whether I was using a 'public IP address', and that I needed to check the "whatsmyIP" web site to find out for him. He said he would then 'secure me with a private IP

address' by giving him access to my computer.

I asked him how he slept at night? But he did not understand the question so I told him he was a conman and hung up. I checked the phone number he called from which was an 01211 code. While 0121 is Birmingham, 01211 does not exist, and in the analysis of phone scams any phone number starting with this code is classed as dangerous.

It may help if I explain what the IP addresses mean. A private IP address is one that your internet hub or router give to your devices - such as your computer, phone, TV or printer that are connected to your wifi network inside your house. The IP address given to your internet connection by your internet service provider is always a public IP address. All this actually means it is a unique IP address that is part of the wider internet. For most of you this will be allocated by your internet provider - such as BT, Sky, TalkTalk etc. from a list of millions they use, and every time you restart your internet connection it will change. Anyone who implies that this is putting you at some sort of risk is trying to blind you with jargon, frighten you, and is hoping you will fall victim of their

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#### **Ballowfield Bungalow Town**



Ballowfield is in Wensleydale, between Woodhall and Carperby (located next to Eller Beck) and was a 1930s holiday camp. It is possible that people would have arrived by train and walked the short distance to the camp, where they would have found wooden chalets, a shop and a dance hall (called Liberty Hall) erected on pillars and connected by a series of wooden walkways.

Some of the huts had verandas and gardens, and the camp even boasted its own swimming pool – the stopped-up beck! When they got thirsty, the occupants would drink from a refreshing spring handily (and somewhat alarmingly) located near the lead works.

The camp was only a short-lived venture – although we do know that during WWII refugees were housed there. The last of the huts burned down in 1953 and shortly afterwards the site was demolished, landscaped and eventually taken over as a nature reserve (now managed by the National Park Authority).

Due to being so short-lived, none of the OS maps show it. A large part of the intrigue of this site is quite how completely it seems to have disappeared off the record, but, if you look closely, you might find very slight earthworks which may have once been stances for the timber buildings. Few photographs survive. We have inserted a picture of what the area looks like now, but if you or someone you know has any pictures of the site as it was, the National Park would love to hear from you.

Contact Lily Mulvey of the YDNPA Historic Environment Team at www.yorkshiredales.org.uk.

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#### **Police Report**

The following incidents of note have occurred in the Dales area this month -

On the afternoon of July 11th, near Tan Hill, a pointer type dog escaped its lead and chased a flock of sheep causing considerable distress and some minor injuries to a number of ewes and lambs. The owner has been reported for summons for the offence of 'Dog worrying livestock'. It is just another example of how quickly uncontrolled dogs can revert to their primal instincts if given the chance.

On the afternoon of July 29th an off-duty police officer near East Witton noticed a suspicious quad bike being ridden in convoy with a silver Mercedes car. Both vehicles made off at speed. The quad was quickly located apparently abandoned nearby. The suspect vehicle was then tracked by the Force Control Room using the national network of 'Automatic Number Plate Recognition' cameras, and traffic officers soon intercepted it on the outskirts of Darlington. Two male occupants were arrested on suspicion of theft of the quad, and are currently under investigation. The Mercedes was seized on suspicion of being used in crime.

The quad turned out to have been stolen that

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day from a farm at West Scrafton. A great result, and a good reminder to ring the police when you think something, or someone, is suspicious, out of place or unusual in your community. It is also worth noting that this happened in broad daylight in the middle of the afternoon, so please watch out at all times of day and night.

Overnight on August 7th the Leyburn Recycling Centre on Moor Road was broken into again and about 20 car batteries stolen. Please call in at the time if you see any suspicious activity down there.

The police continue to take reports of telephone and email scams. Please don't share personal information or give strangers access to your computer, however convincing they might sound. If you believe you have been a victim of fraud, call North Yorkshire Police on 101 or report it to Action Fraud by visiting actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 1232040. In an emergency, or if a crime is in action, dial 999.

Coronavirus continues to have a huge impact on our lives. This looks set to continue until an effective vaccine is developed. In the meantime keep applying common sense with face masks, hand washing, social distancing and avoiding crowds. For up to date information go to Gov.uk/coronavirus.

> Julian Sutcliffe PC 558 Northern Dales Neighbourhood Police Team



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### Newsletter Requires a Helping Hand

The Newsletter committee would appreciate a helping hand in the regular monthly process of putting the Newsletter together.

Are you computer literate with experience of Word and ideally (but not necessarily) Microsoft Publisher and can spare a few hours every other month. Training will be provided in the Newsletter systems and standards.

If interested please contact Barry Cruickshanks on 01969 667458 or Kevin Davis on 01969 624165 for further information and discussion.



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#### **Leyburn Arts and Community Centre**

Leyburn Arts and Community Centre is delighted to announce that preparations are being made to re-start its regular Friday film and special event screenings from **September 1st** and provide our community with regular entertainment again.

Safety is of course paramount and there will be measures in place to ensure that our venue is as safe as it possibly can be. New procedures and advice will be available on our website, <a href="https://www.leyburnartscentre.com">www.leyburnartscentre.com</a>. Tickets for all screenings will need to be booked by telephone 01969 624510 and paid for by credit/debit cards. Numbers will be limited in order to comply with social distancing and face coverings will be required to be worn.

Other activities that usually take place at the Centre are also gradually coming back. Please check the website for details or ring the number above.





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The gym is fully operational whilst adhering to government coronavirus guidelines. If you would like to join please contact us (see below) or visit our website for more information.

We are continuing with our outdoor classes which are:

#### Mondays 9.30am to 10.30am

Fit for life – low impact circuit-based class to build strength, balance and mobility for everyday activies to help you be physically active on a daily basis.

#### Tuesdays and Thursdays 6.00am to 7.00am

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#### Wednesdays 9.30am to 10.30am

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#### Wednesdays 7.30am to 8.30pm

Circuit Training - high intensity class to build fitness and to counteract the stress of daily life and sedentary work environments.

All classes need to be booked in advance. The cost of each session is £6 but there is a discount if booking six sessions in advance for £30. Please visit our website for more details or email us with any queries or to book places.

We look forward to seeing our regular gym members back again as well as newcomers to our facilities.

You can contact us by email admin@yorebridge-sport.co.uk; website www.yorebridgesportandleisure.co.uk; facebook Yorebridge Leisure; twitter @yc\_leisure; Instagram@yorecentre.

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#### **Church Services in Penhill Benefice**

We plan each Sunday during September to have three opportunities for worship together on a Sunday morning:-

9.30am - our phone service Dial: 03330
110946 and then add: Room
number: 61337190# and PIN: 7450#)
Depending on your provider this is either free or
costs a local rate phone call.

**10.30am** - our zoom service (contact Tom for passwords at <u>tringland@aol.com</u>, or by phoning **01969 663235**).

11.00am - a physical service in one of our parish churches. These venues are yet to be confirmed. Please contact Tom at tringland@aol.com, or by phoning 01969 663235

The 11.00am service will be open primarily for those from that parish, but others will of course be welcome, up to the capacity for each building while maintaining the necessary distances.

This will mean using alternate pews, and different households sitting apart from others. We will sanitise our hands as we arrive and leave.

At first we will not be holding Communion services but we hope to introduce these later. Face coverings are mandatory.

In addition we are opening our buildings in a limited fashion as follows:-

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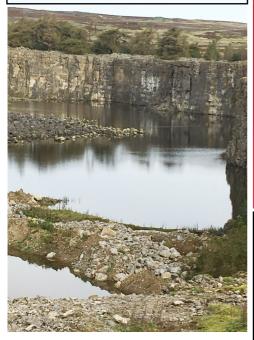
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Where was this taken?





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#### A-Level Results Day - A Rural Sixth Form Turning the Tide on Youth Retention

The Wensleydale School and Sixth Form is celebrating its students' success following an overhaul of the Post-16 curriculum two years ago.

The students have all passed their exams and will go on to university or to work with local businesses. They're the first cohort to complete the new business-focused curriculum through the school's Business and Innovation Centre, through which students complete a business B-TEC which is the equivalent of two A-Levels, and complement this with an A-Level or AS-Levels of their choice.

With fifty per cent of students going on to Higher Education and the other fifty percent going to work with local businesses either through employment, higher apprenticeships or apprenticeships, the school has deemed the new sixth form provision a success.

Headteacher Julia Polley is extremely happy with her students' successes. She said: "This is first cohort through our new and innovative business post-16 centre. students have overcome all the issues this year to achieve at a very high level and justifiably go on to some amazing post-18 destinations. We are so proud of our school and business community for supporting us in this endeavour, as it is totally the right decision to offer bespoke business education in the Dales." This comes off the back of an unprecedented year for the students who were unable to finish the academic year in the conventional way due to the pandemic. Julia thinks this has had little impact on the students because of the modular nature of the B-TEC course.

She added: "At The Wensleydale School and Sixth Form we had already completed our second round of mock exams, just a week before lockdown and we're therefore very confident in predicting grades for our students this summer. Our Year 13s continued to work on incomplete units throughout lockdown and had already completed three quarters of the course."

"It is right that they are rewarded for the whole course of study and teachers who teach them know them best! However there is some concern about the distortion of grades which is a disgrace for schools who have worked so hard to improve standards."

Of the results, sixth Form Lead, Christopher Ellis said: "I'm absolutely delighted! It's been an up and down two years and Covid has topped that off, but we've got a strong set of results. It just proves it was the right decision to change the provision and the types of qualifications we're offering. It matches our students and allows them to go on to the type of destinations they want to get to. On top of this, it's also adding to the local economy in ensuring young people are staying in the dale because they have the qualifications and know there are the opportunities around for them to stay here, rather than having to go to bigger cities to achieve what they want to achieve."

Student, Emily Scott who got a double distinction in her Business B-TEC, along with qualifications in IT, Psychology and an extended project qualification (EPQ), is going on to study Psychology at St Johns York following a gap year. She said: "I think the new sixth form provision was a fantastic idea. I was really impressed when the school pitched it to us, it gives us a bit of an edge over other sixth forms and we can use it to not only get qualifications, but get some practical skills we'll need that will put us ahead in life."

As part of the school's entrepreneurial offering, each student had access to a mentor and work experience which was organised through local business group, the Lower Wensleydale Business Network. David Poole, who played a pivotal role in the partnership described today's results as a "tremendous success."

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#### Redmire Village Hall

Redmire has a long tradition of a community meeting place, although the location has moved around the village somewhat.

In the 19th century, the building now known as the Old Town Hall B&B, was built by Christopher Other of Elm House as a Drill Hall for the Wensleydale Volunteers. They practised their rifle shooting on the moor above the village. Later, the Town Hall became the focal point for village dances, concerts, teas, and meetings of the Band of Hope. A Village Band was formed



Feast gathering outside the old Town Hall

who practised here and continued until the outbreak of the First World War. By the end of the century it had a main hall which could seat 180 people, and two smaller rooms - one a meeting room, and the other the village Reading Room which was established in 1889.

There were originally 28 members who paid one shilling a quarter, with a fine of 3d if the subscription had not been paid at the end of six weeks! As well as the regular newspapers such as the Leeds Mercury, Yorkshire Post and Northern Echo, it included trade publications like Exchange and Mart, and Tit Bits, which was a weekly magazine with human interest stories, short stories and articles by authors such as P.G. Wodehouse and Rider Haggard. The Room Reading was popular very and membership rapidly increased.

By the 1930s a cloakroom had been added and a permanent stage built for dramatic performances, many of which were written by the Castle Bolton playwright George Jackson. However, the building was still privately owned by W.R. Burrill-Robinson, the then owner of Elm House, and it was suggested that Redmire looked to try and build a publicly owned Village Hall. In 1938 the Village Institute Building Committee was

formed. Fund raising activities included whist drives and a village fete and fair on Whit Monday 1938 which had stalls as diverse as Jumble, Soap, Woodwork, Flowers and Fruit, together with football, darts, a Treasure Hunt, Rifle Range, Aunt Sally, and a Fortune Teller. Raffle tickets for a hearth rug cost 3d each. There was of course, a village tea to be held from 3.30pm to 6.00pm at a cost of 9d each. Lady Bolton was asked to open the fete. A good time was had by all and the sum of £50 1s 2d raised. Future fund raising events were planned but the outbreak of the Second World War meant the scheme had to be put in abeyance.

The idea of a Village Hall was revived in 1946 and fund raising resumed. The aim was to build a new hall with billiard room, a reading room with games, committee room and ladies room. Although a site had not yet been found, sketch plans and architects working drawings were made. A major blow came in December 1950 when there was a ban on the building of village halls and grants were withdrawn, so the plan was put on hold yet again.

The resilient villagers were not to be defeated. November 1952 saw a public meeting arranged with the issue discussed again. By now the Bolton-cum-Redmire Institute Building Fund had £1,472 16s 2d in its coffers, of which £1,220 was invested in Defence Bonds. By 1955 a site had been promised by Lord Bolton and the estimated cost to build a new hall was £2,800. Plans were passed by Leyburn Rural District Council and applications for grants made to the Yorkshire Rural Community Council.

Plans changed yet again when the two cottages, formerly three, facing the top green and now called West Cottage and Westholme, came on to the market. In 1956 these were purchased by the Village Hall Committee for £750. West Cottage was converted into the village hall and Westholme remained as the caretaker's cottage.

The ground floor contained a billiard room, and on the first floor was the reading room and committee rooms, with toilets and a kitchen. It was opened by Lord Bolton on 15th October 1960 at 2.30pm. The new Billiards Room was very popular and fundraising events continued throughout the 1960s. Whist drives were regularly held with prizes such as a duck, a goose and a bag of coal. There were regular cricket competitions, lectures and dances in conjunction with Redmire Tennis and Football Clubs. Although Redmire finally had its own facility,

the converted house was not suitable for large year as well as the annual Redmire Feast Tea. gatherings such as the elaborate dances and dramatic performances that had played such an important role in village life in the past.

The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel lay across the green from the Village Hall. Built in 1817 on land purchased from Thomas Other, it held regular services and was enlarged in 1893. A Sunday School was added, and at one time there were over sixty in the congregation and some forty children registered at the Sunday School. Over the years membership declined, and the chapel closed in 1968. It was purchased in 1974 to make a more suitable village hall. The sale of West Cottage was used to make alterations and additions to the former chapel.



The new village hall grand opening

The new Village Hall opened in the spring of 1976 and was hailed as a great success with much improved facilities. Although there was not a permanent stage, the new hall was suitable for badminton which became very popular. A newly refurbished kitchen meant that it was more suitable for lettings which over the years have included the Parish Council, Women's Institute, playgroups and rehearsal room for the annual village pantomimes.

Major renovation took place in 2001 at a cost of £6,400 with the aid of grants received from the National Lottery and European Development Fund. A new roof, kitchen and redecoration throughout were all part of the work done. New equipment was provided for activities such as darts, snooker, carpet bowls, and table tennis.

The Redmire Village Hall is still a thriving focal point for village life and is used as the Polling Station for elections and for numerous coffee mornings, soup lunches, pie and pea suppers, quizzes and craft groups throughout the

If anyone has any photographs of events taken inside the various Redmire Village Hall buildings, especially those in the 1940s to 1980s, I would love to be able to take copies to provide a visual history of this important community facility. Please contact me at vdavis1@btinternet.com.

Val Davis





**PROGRAMME BROCHURE TO BE RELEASED IN OCTOBER** PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR

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#### **Prunings**

The towering wigwams of runner beans are heart-warming. This year could be one of the best, as long as I keep them adequately watered, and the ones we have had so far have been delicious. I am finding it hard to cope with the swings between gloriously hot and sunny afternoons followed by mornings when the mist is so thick that I can't see across the valley and I feel the need to put my socks back on! We are threatened with thunder, but it seems to have happened all around, but not here. Just one good downpour might clear the air, and would certainly save on the hose-pipes.

The colours continue to be amazing:- I have a blue Salvia which I got from Braithwaite's when the lock-down first eased. It is the deepest shade of blue imaginable. I have it in a pot, and, as it may not be completely hardy, I must remember to put it under cover when the temperature drops. I really don't want to lose it. The orange Gazanias are spectacular, but they don't open up unless the sun shines. Rudbeckia Goldsturm, on the other hand likes to look beautiful whatever the weather, and even under this morning's low cloud it is brilliant.

It is time to start looking at bulbs for next Spring, and the tempting offers are flooding in to the in-tray. I have to resist them as I still have unspent gift tokens to use, and need to check if the phone lines are open again at Sarah Raven, as one of them can't be spent on-line. Technology is wonderful, but only when it is playing the game.

I have two small stone troughs at the end of the front wall. One has worked well and is full of small Thymes and an Erodium with some tiny Iris in the Spring. The other manages to be permanently full of weeds. Time to start again! When I have some more small bulbs they will go in and then I shall top it off with 2 small Hebes I found the other day and complete with more dwarf Thyme. If I fill it full enough the weeds won't have as much chance.

Since we installed the big water butt I have used the hose pipe much less and now almost all the pots and tubs on the patio have a saucer of sorts to save any water that runs through. The only ones without catching trays are the square ceramic pots which I want to keep by the porch door, not least because they were a bit expensive. Note to self, "No more square pots unless they have an internal reservoir!" Apart

from a selection of commercial plant saucers I have used a plethora of ex-kitchen kit. A visiting neighbour said jokingly, "That looks like a frying pan!" Well, it was before my other half took the handle off. That sort of re-cycling fits well with my inescapable tendency to hoard rubbish – just in case it might be useful.

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

Rose Rambler





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## Support Available to Create New Dales Woodland

Grants are now available to help create new native broadleaf woodland in the Yorkshire Dales and surrounding areas. Trees are one of the best ways of combating the climate crisis as well as being vital for wildlife and our wellbeing.

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust's (YDMT) woodland creation programme, which is supported by players of People's Postcode Lottery, is open to anyone who owns or manages land and will help plant woodland of any size including the costs of fencing and planting.

Carol Douglas, Woodland Officer at YDMT, said: "We're delighted to be offering support to those individuals and groups who want to create beautiful woodlands that everyone can enjoy. If you have a desire to create woodlands for the future then please get in touch for an initial conversation about the process. The next application deadline is **September 7th**."

The scheme forms a key part of Claphambased charity's 'Together for Trees' campaign, which aims to plant an additional 40,000 trees this winter to reach its ambitious target of 100,000 trees.

To date, YDMT has supported the planting of 1.5 million trees in the Dales and surrounding areas ensuring long term conservation, landscape and environment benefits.

For further details contact Carol Douglas, <a href="mailto:carol.douglas@ydmt.org">carol.douglas@ydmt.org</a> or call **01524 251002.** Forms and guidance are available at <a href="https://www.ydmt.org/what-we-do/tree-planting/woodland-grants">https://www.ydmt.org/what-we-do/tree-planting/woodland-grants</a>.



#### From Head to Foot

Fringez'n Freckles, who look after clients from head to foot, are moving from the top of the town to the bottom, in fact To Town Foot from **September 1st.** 

Carol Moore is taking over the premises vacated by Flairs and Graces, and will continue to provide all the services she offered up in her Market Place salon. She'll be joined by Jen (Beautifully Simple) whose hair and beauty treatments will be available. Also, Lottie will be offering a barber service on **Wednesday nights 6.00pm to 9.00pm.** This should be popular with all the chaps who work in the daytime.

Fingers crossed that Fringez'n Freckles, if BT do their stuff, will have the same phone number as before **01969 667449**. If you have trouble getting through on the first few days then email Carol on info@fringeznfreckles.co.uk.

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## Children's Story Writing Competition Postponed to 2021

We are sorry to say we will not be running the newsletter's story writing competition for 2020. Most children entered the competition in previous years with support from teachers in their Primary Schools in September and October. This autumn children will be catching up with missed work and schools working hard to ensure both staff and pupils are able to work in a safe environment. We therefore decided that we should postpone the competition until September 2021. We are sure that we can have another great competition next year with the full support of all our local Primary Schools.

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

#### September

1 Leyburn Films re-start. See p.17.7 Application deadline for woodland grants. See p.26.

21 Start of collection of photos for the 'Story of Schools' project. See p.5. 25 Closing date for responses to Local Plan consultation. See p.29.

#### **Dales Countryside Museum**

We have reopened our doors, and we are pleased to be welcoming visitors back to the museum.

To ensure your safety and that of our team members, we have made some changes to the way you visit and some areas of the site will look a little different. All visitors must pre-book a timed entry slot. Please go to our website at <a href="https://www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk">www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk</a> to find out how to book.

#### **Exhibition**

The View from the Fells: In the Footsteps of Marie Hartley. Runs until **November 9th**.

View from the Fells, an exhibition of collagraphs by printmaker Hester Cox, is the culmination of a two-year project inspired by the life and work of Marie Hartley MBE, artist, writer, cultural historian and the founder (with Joan Ingilby) of the Dales Countryside Museum. Hester was invited to print 127 of the wood engraving blocks created by and bequeathed to the Museum by Marie Hartley. She then spent a year researching Marie's life and work, reading diaries, following the routes she took through the Dales and visiting the places written about in her books. This experience, together with the Yorkshire Dales landscape, has inspired Hester to create a stunning new body of work.

#### **Events**

At the moment we are unable to run our events programme. However we are monitoring the situation and will keep this under review as Government guidance changes.

#### **Sharing collections**

We are sharing our collections through social media and hope to develop new ways for people to get involved in activities inspired by our collections.

## Second Consultation Opens on Local Plan

How many new homes a year should be built in the Yorkshire Dales National Park to sustain communities? Would people like new development to be 'zero carbon'? And should planning policies support development that helps Dales farmers to intensify production?

These are the main questions in 'Consultation No.2 – Exploring our options', which represents the next step in the process of creating a new Local Plan for the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The new Local Plan will contain the planning policies that will guide what development can and can't take place in the National Park from 2023 to 2040. The closing date for responses to 'Consultation No.2 – Exploring our options' is



Views are being sought on house building in the National Park; in West Witton, 17 new homes are currently being constructed.

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**Friday, September 25th.** The first consultation - 'Consultation No.1 – Setting the agenda' – closed in February, with 249 people and 26 organisations submitting responses.

Chairman of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, Neil Heseltine, said: "Responses to the first consultation suggested that new housing, lower carbon development and on-farm developments were key areas of interest. This second consultation gives people an opportunity to comment in detail on these subjects and help shape the planning policies that will be in place for most of this decade and the next."

"We are working very closely with the District Councils and County Councils who are responsible for housing and economic development. Together we commissioned research on demographic changes, housing and socioeconomic trends in the National Park. The evidence in those reports makes for useful reading for anyone interested in the future of the National Park as a place to live and work."

"Although it's encouraging that new homes affordable are under currently construction in West Witton in Richmondshire and Long Preston in Craven, getting affordable new homes built is still a big challenge. We would like to know how ambitious people think we need to be on house building to support future community sustainability. The National Park is a farmed landscape and we don't want to lose that, but we know that there are massive challenges facing upland farming, as well as some new opportunities. Those opportunities require verv different development, so we'd really like to know what people think."

Full details of how to respond to the consultation are available at <a href="https://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/park-authority/living-and-working/planning-policy/local-plan-2023-40/consultation-no-2-exploring-our-options-ambitions/">https://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/park-authority/living-and-working/planning-policy/local-plan-2023-40/consultation-no-2-exploring-our-options-ambitions/</a>.



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#### Rainfall Figures for first six months of 2020 (in mm)

	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total for half year
Hawes	168.0	472.0	173.0	13.0	40.0	202.0	1068.0
Breconbar	91.4	331.5	108.5	11.6	31.4	134.4	708.8
Carperby	92.0	272.0	102.0	11.0	33.5	144.5	655.0
Askrigg	86.5	198.5	66.0	8.0	9.0	94.0	462.0
Thorton Rust	134.0	369.0	119.0	11.0	40.0	171.0	844.0



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Sept 18 Fri 6pm Sept 25 Fri 6pm **1917** (12) 119m **Emma** (U) 125m

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Email for submission of articles, what's ons, letters etc.:uwnlinput@gmail.com

Newsletters on line, simply search on "Upper Wensleydale Newsletter" Archive hard copies back to 1995 are in the Dales Countryside Museum resources room.

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Postal distribution: Derek Stephens

Founded in 1995 by the late Alan S. Watkinson