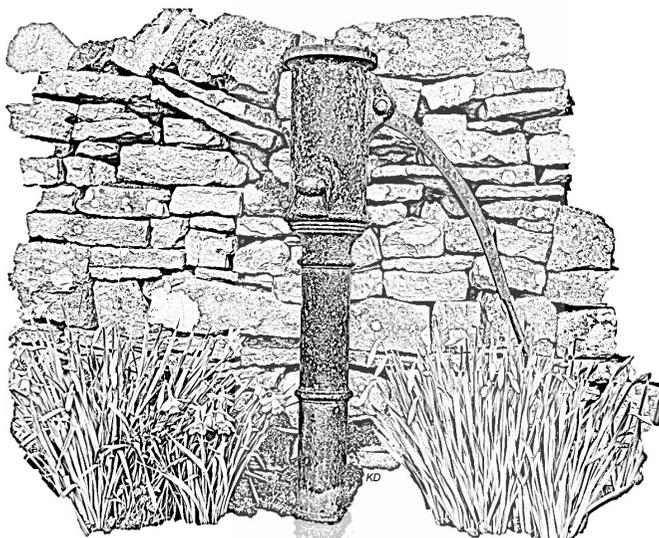


THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER

Issue 274

April 2021

Donation please:
50p suggested



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

Guest Editorial

I am not a fan of Agatha Christie's crime novels but I discovered recently that she wrote other kinds of books too. One of them, 'Absent in the Spring' (published in 1944 under the name Mary Westmacott), is remarkable. It is not a murder mystery but about a rather unpleasant woman called Joan who gets marooned in a desert place abroad waiting for a train, in a run-down 'guest house'. She has nothing to do for five days but think. Very soon she has run out of reading matter and used up all her writing paper. The food is horrible. There is nobody to talk to. As the empty days drag on and on, she thinks more and more about her past life, her loves, her hates, what she has done in this world, for good or bad, what she might have done better.

If you make a conscious retreat from life, as Joan was forced to do, you find that every distraction is removed, books, television, the internet, human conversation. My first experience of a silent retreat was the very loud sound of people munching their cornflakes at breakfast. Tossed up on a lonely shore, you have nothing to do but think and to focus on the things of the mind and spirit. If it is a religious 'retreat' you must try to be 'busied only with God'.

Since the first UK lockdown, in March last year, we have all, on and off, been 'on retreat'. Those who live alone must have experienced the restrictions most keenly. Longing for a hug has become a universal cliché. We all need arms around us. The internet, the telephone, skype and zoom have become invaluable tools for many. With them we can keep in touch with the people we care about, we can run discussion groups, teach - though some do not have access to these tools, or prefer not to use them.

But slowly the 'roadmap' of unlocking this country is being unfolded. In July, or so we are promised, all restrictions will have been lifted. So now I am beginning to ponder on what I have learned from the last year, what I have enjoyed, what I have minded, and what I might actually miss, when we are 'set free'.

We have all, I hope, benefitted from what Wordsworth called those 'little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and of love'. Except that we do remember them. Think of the person who did your shopping for you, or drove you to get your jab, or took your rubbish to the dump, or left a meal on the doorstep, or phoned you up out of the blue, after long years.

I am now writing by e-mail, to somebody who taught me English at my school in Lancashire. This woman, whom I always liked, wrote to me, after a 58 year gap and we now correspond regularly. We exchange all kinds of views, our love of literature, what we are reading, what we like and dislike, politics, family, and our shared past. She lives alone and rarely sees anybody. For both of us this new friendship has been one of the blessings of lockdown.

Someone once wrote 'Now love, released, runs wild when it is too late'. But it is never 'too late' and from all I read and hear, it would seem that many people feel thankful for the way these lockdowns have made them focus on the things that matter, on the people they love, on the things they have always taken for granted. But people have also started to wonder what they are going to miss when normal service is resumed. One man says 'Many of us became happier during the pandemic. Now, as vaccines promise an eventual return to normal life, we aren't sure we want it'.

I write regularly to someone in prison. Recently, everyone on his wing was tested for Covid. Sixty of them tested positive and they were all 'locked down', even more than usual. He wrote this to me. 'When told I had tested positive, my first thought was 'But I don't want to die yet!'' I said I was glad to hear this. I tried to encourage him in his efforts to start a new life, as he prepares for release.

Today is the official 'first day of spring'. The birds are busy, dropping twigs all over the garden, our first daffodils are out. 'Nothing is certain, only the certain spring'. The relentless nature of the changing seasons may seem heartless when one is still locked down. But let's be encouraged by Nature as it carries on regardless. Let's carry on too, with hope in our hearts.

Ann Pilling

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Postal Subscriptions

As we were unable to publish the Newsletter during the first Covid-19 lockdown, between the March 2020 and August 2020 issues, the Committee agreed to postpone the renewal of postal subscriptions to the newsletter until **May 1st 2021**. The renewal date for postal subscriptions will now be **May 1st** in subsequent years too.

We hope that, despite the gap in production last year, those living away from the dale will still wish to continue receiving our publication. For those of you who have not already renewed at the beginning of the year, we look forward to receiving your subscription soon.

Please make cheques payable to The Upper Wensleydale Newsletter, and send to The Treasurer at Stone House, Thornton Rust, Leyburn DL8 3AW. The subscription is £14 per year for UK subscribers and £25 for overseas subscribers. Thank you.

J.W.T.

Annual General Meeting of the Newsletter

The Newsletter AGM will take place on **Wednesday, April 21st at 7.30pm**. In accordance with government guidelines this will be a Zoom meeting.

As is always the case, all our readers are welcome to attend. Anyone interested should email the Newsletter and an invitation to attend will be organised.

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.

**DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR THE
NEXT ISSUE IS**

**TUESDAY APRIL 20th
(Unless we are full earlier)**

PUBLISHED ON APRIL 29th



Eunice the Ewe

Last month I was in the Gayle Mill advert on page 31 and the lucky winner of the £10 prize is Anne Day of Redmire.

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

Interested in an Allotment?

Would you be interested in gardening an allotment in the local Hawes area? If there are seven or eight prospective gardeners the local authority is required to find sufficient land for this to happen.

If you are interested please contact John Freeman on **07527 833418** or Lyn Sunter on **078078 24538**. Alternatively, you can leave a message through the letterbox at Lion House, The Holme, with your contact details and I will contact you. Many thanks.

John Freeman

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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April Competition

All the answers to this month's quiz are palindromes - a word or phrase which reads the same backwards as it does forward.

1. Midday
2. Inuit canoe
3. Indian bread
4. Informal name for the nation's 'Auntie'
5. Musical half note
6. Radio detection and ranging equipment
7. A number of long, narrative stories
8. Apply new wallpaper
9. Relating to a town or city
10. No part higher than another
11. Soil breaker machine
12. Deck type
13. Dune grass
14. Official language of Republic of Nauru
15. Fear of palindromes (unofficial)

Bonus question - Sign in a shop which had sold out of the one citrus fruit and the one cantaloupe it had (2 5 2 5)

Send your answers to arrive no later than **Tuesday, April 20th** for a chance to win the £20 prize which will be sent to your nominated charity.

March Competition Answers

1. Curlew
2. Dipper
3. Buzzard
4. Nuthatch
5. Snipe
6. Oystercatcher
7. Swallow
8. House martin
9. Sandpiper
10. Merlin
11. Red grouse
12. Wren
13. Redpoll
14. Siskin
15. Tree creeper

Several correct answers this month and the lucky name drawn out of the hat was Charlotte Leigh of Swadlincote, Derbyshire who nominated Herriot Hospice Homecare as her charity. They will receive the £20 prize.

Spring Plant Fayre

As Spring is on its way and we are feeling a little enthusiastic, the gardeners are planning a Plant Fayre at the Leyburn Arts and Community Centre over the weekend of **May 8th and 9th**. As well as letting everyone know we would also like to ask for a little help towards the preparations. If you could help in any way please contact us.

We would appreciate any plant pots you may wish to dispose of - any size, but especially medium to large. Also, if you are splitting any plants or have any you no longer require, we would appreciate any donations for the Fayre. Volunteer help on the day and possibly a few days beforehand would be much welcomed.

Finally, our much-appreciated volunteer grass cutter has decided that he can no longer help with the regular grass cutting. (Thank You David for all your help - you have set a high standard!)

If anyone would be able to take over this task, please get in touch. During the summer it is usually a weekly task, we do have a mower, and the time can be to suit yourself.

Thanks for reading this. As always volunteer help is much welcomed and appreciated!

Best wishes from all at LA&CC.

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:	Sykes Shop,	650535
Carperby:	New contact needed	
West Burton:	Nadine Bell, Margarets Cottage	663559
Aysgarth:	Hamilton's Tearoom	663423
Redmire:	Kevin Davis Westholme	624165
Thoralby:	Sandra Foley, Shop	663205
West Witton	Christine Barker, Chestnut Garth	624934

Notes From Thorney Mire - Spring

Having written these articles for the newsletter for several years, I'm conscious of the fact that I might be repeating myself. After all nature follows the same pattern every year. Spring arrives, birds sing, flowers bloom, trees blossom so what is there new to say? Well, this year I don't mind if what I have to say is the same as previous years, because after the awful year we all have just had it's reassuring to know that there is something constant in our lives.

On February 21st, pegging out the washing, (such an exciting life I lead), I heard a curlew, but couldn't see one, was it real or an imitation? I've been fooled like this before. The following day walking along Mossy Lane, we saw and heard a curlew, so they are back. Three days later on a walk towards the Pennine Way, having passed Greylag geese taking advantage of the flooded fields near Appersett, we were treated to an aerial display of curlews, oystercatchers and lapwings, complete with a cacophony of sound as if they were trying to compete with each other. On the same walk we saw a solitary celandine flower. The primroses along our lane have been showing glimpses of yellow for a few weeks, but where were the coltsfoot? Since being a child, I've relied on coltsfoot to inform me that Spring is here, but this year they have let me down. However, as if by magic, they suddenly appeared overnight on March 14th and there seems to be more of them this Spring.

I've seen a hare on several occasions along the lane and in the surrounding fields and once it ran by the side of the car for several yards which was a bit unnerving until it jumped to safety. A few days ago a stoat shot out from a hole in the wall, took one look at us and shot back through the wall again just giving us time to notice the black tip on its tail. This tail marking is one thing that distinguishes it from its smaller relative, the weasel. The stoat has been described as a lean, mean killing machine and can kill a rabbit many times its own weight. Stoats can climb and swim and usually follow their prey right to the end, in spite of their poor eyesight, but they have an excellent sense of smell and hearing. Females give birth to one litter a year; they have a long gestation period. They mate in the summer and give birth to their young, usually six, the following spring. The embryos are in a suspended state for two hundred and eighty days before the spring

temperatures set off their development which takes twenty-one to twenty-eight days.

There is a large conifer tree in our front garden which gives a lot of shade and sometimes I'm tempted to cut it down, but that would upset the bird population. At the time of writing the goldfinches are nesting there. A pair of mistle thrushes were building a nest in the same tree but then decided to go up market and move to the next smaller, but more attractive conifer. A wren is busy collecting moss off the wall and disappears towards the ivy on the house wall. A blackbird with its beak full of dried grass heads off in the same direction. Nest building is not a problem, it's when they come to feed their young that tensions increase. When we are in the garden it's obvious that they don't like us there. I try not to look intimidating, but I'm not moving, who pays the rates here?

Sylvia Turner

The difference a few weeks can make, as this was reported to us in February.

Walking on the Roman Road with my son on February 19th, we were excited to see two ermine, stoats in their winter coats, snow white and with the distinctive black tip to their tails. There was still snow in the lee of the walls, but they stood out brightly against the green of the moss and bilberry bushes along the way. It was good to have some fresh air after so many weeks cooped up. Spring will come!

Sylvia Crookes

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Prunings

In between the horizontal rain squalls which come barrelling down the valley there are heartening breaks of sunshine. In those welcome moments the colours are glorious. First iris then crocus, and it only takes a couple of days in the sun for the tête à tête daffs to transform from little green spikes into nodding heads. You don't have to go far to see lots of catkins and emerging pussy willow, and new life is surging out of the ground.

Sadly, that extra cold spell seems to have finished off one or two marginal plants which had managed to make it through to last spring and I shall have fun finding replacements. The editor of Garden News called those early bursts of warmth a 'Spring of deception', and he may well be right. However it is very reassuring, if you park in Leyburn, to see that the large Laurel tree that has draped its branches over the gateway into Leyburn Hall is covered in little white buds. By the time this is in print the clocks will be altered and the vernal equinox long past. I have to remind myself that the natural world takes no account of such human interventions.

In the wake of the covid pandemic the National Trust now has a five-year plan to create 'blossom circles' in some of the 295 urban 'grey deserts' that they have identified, where there are no trees or accessible green spaces. The first site will be the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. As I did not go to the event I am not familiar with the park, but 10 years on I find it hard to believe that the design and layout did not include trees for blossom. - How short-sighted was that? They (The National Trust) want annual blossom moments to become part of our culture as in the Japanese Hanami Season. Has no-one told them that such traditions take hundreds of years to develop, and that those of us who live outside the urban bubble, or grow fruit, are very well

aware of when the blossom season starts? On the other hand, it is a tragedy that so many people had to spend lock-down with no view of the natural world. It seems to me that the planners have a lot to answer for.

I have lovely irises and dwarf daffs growing in the tubs at the top of the steps but I am still tempted by the colourful displays in the supermarkets. I shall have to have at least one primula pot. There were a couple of interesting ideas suggested in Garden News for keeping slugs at bay:- one was to add a layer of potting grit below the compost in the pot to deter them from getting in from the bottom, and the other was coffee grounds. The coffee grounds is not a new idea, but I never have enough at one go to make much sense of it. (My other half prefers instant.) There must be heaps of them going spare but I can't remember seeing a scheme where gardeners can collect them. Seems rather a waste!

Rose Rambler

Thank You

I would like to say thank you to everyone for their help, offers of help and lovely cards and gifts I received on my retirement.

Geraldine Sumner

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Grant to Support Gayle Mill

Cultura Trust has received a £2,500 grant from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority Sustainable Development Fund to support its historic Gayle Mill, a nationally significant asset in the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

The grant directly contributes to conservation work at the mill as part of the historic natural water power system, the crafts upon which the mill depends and, planning ahead, how the mill can contribute to climate action in the context of UK targets and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

This local support from the Sustainable Development Fund is important for the practical action it has funded but, in addition, it also has enabled Cultura to unlock national grants to be invested in a more comprehensive programme of work at the mill and activities for volunteers in anticipation of reopening to the public. The grant has specifically helped towards works on and around the headrace, and preparing Covid-safe access.

Graham Bell, Director of Cultura Trust, said: "The Sustainable Development Fund grant is a much appreciated means of support from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, with whom Cultura has worked for almost 25 years. Revival of the water power system for operational purposes was extremely rare when we began in the 1990s. Now, many people are

aware of climate issues and want to help, so Gayle Mill is updating its role, where history and sustainability work hand-in-hand."

Stuart Parsons, Gayle Mill, said: "Mills have been at the heart of communities for centuries; they have literally been the bread of life and engines of rural economies. Gayle Mill has moved with the times in four successive centuries, which is a pretty good definition of sustainable development!"

Member Champion for Sustainable Development at the Yorkshire Dales NPA, Carl Lis, said: "The Sustainable Development Fund supports local initiatives that help conserve cultural heritage. Gayle Mill has always used a locally available resource – the water in the beck – to create power. Today we would now describe that as 'sustainable'. For generations it was a way of life that literally came naturally. We are pleased this grant has helped Gayle Mill to keep that tradition alive."

St Andrew's Aysgarth, Cleaning Contract Vacancy

There is a cleaning contract vacancy available for St Andrew's Church, Aysgarth, with effect from **April 1st**.

The contract is for 3 hours cleaning per week, subject to Covid Restrictions. The rate will be £15 per hour.

Contact for further details: **Nick Gaskell on 01969 663872**.

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Upper Wensleydale Benefice Services in April

Date	St Mary & St John's Hardraw 9.00am	St Oswald's Askrigg 10.30am	St Margaret's Hawes 10.30am	St Matthew's Stalling Busk 2.30pm
April 1st Maundy Thursday		6.00pm A service of Communion and reflection		
April 2nd Good Friday		2.00 - 3.00pm Hour at the Cross, Askrigg	11.00am A service of Communion and reflection	
April 4th Easter	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion
April 11th	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	
April 18th	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer 2.00pm BCP	Holy Communion	
April 25th	Morning Prayer	8.30am Holy Communion 10.30am Praise in the Pen Family Service	Holy Communion	Evening prayer

Hope and Renewal

Easter is a time of Hope and Renewal and after the year that we've just experienced we could all benefit from a renewed Hope in the future.

Many have lost loved ones and gone through some very difficult and challenging times but there has also been so many wonderful stories of love in action. The story of sacrifice, transformation and love that is at the heart of the Easter message was a turning point in human history and still turns and transforms lives today.

We're rejoicing over the Easter message but also the joy of being back in our buildings. It would be so lovely to welcome you to any of our services over Easter and into the rest of the year as we enjoy the hope of a brighter future together. On behalf of the Anglican Church in the Upper Dale, may you know the Joy, the

Peace, the Power and the Presence of the risen Jesus in your heart and in your home this Eastertide.

Rev Dave

Margaret Dinsdale

Kath, Ann, Nicola and their families wish to sincerely thank everyone for the many letters, cards and messages of condolence received following their recent sad loss, and for the donations received in memory of Margaret for Hawes Christmas Lights.

Special thanks to Margaret's Carers: Marie, Janet, Theresa and Lisa and to Wendy Peacock and Margaret Ward for keeping Margaret up to date with Town news over the last few years.

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Rishi Sunak Praises Test Centre At Dales School

Richmond MP, Rishi Sunak, praised students and staff at Wensleydale School on the success of their testing centre during a visit in March. Arriving in the morning, he spoke with parents, then students at the testing centre, followed by a Q&A with students.



Mr Sunak said he was very impressed with the testing operation he had witnessed at The Wensleydale School and Sixth Form: “The school staff and volunteers have done a great job in setting up the system to make the very welcome return to school as safe as possible for pupils and staff. It was all very calm and smooth and I am sure that helped everyone involved feel reassured about the process.

My Q&A with pupils was good fun. They had some probing questions for me. It was refreshing to hear about their issues and I really enjoyed talking to them about my life as their local MP, working in Westminster, and dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic.”

Responding to a question by one of students about proposed summer catch up lessons, Mr

Sunak said: “No decision has been made but Gavin Williamson is looking at options such as extra tutoring and summer schools. It’s really important this past year doesn’t end up harming your chances of you being able to do whatever you really want to do, and if we need to catch up a little bit, it’s a really good thing.”

Headteacher, Julia Polley, said: “Students and parents had the opportunity to meet with Rishi Sunak MP as he held a Q&A session with some of our students and chatted with staff and parents about the testing arrangements. It is an honour to host the Chancellor and we are grateful for the time he has taken out of his busy schedule to visit our school community.

Staff at the school had spent the week testing students ahead of a full return to school on Monday, March 15th. The school has recorded no positive or void results from the two sets of tests given to pupils this week.

About the testing centre, Julia Polley said: “During this week we have tested 98 per cent of students with Lateral Flow Tests, which is testament to the continued support from our parents for us to be able to do this. So far, we have had 100 per cent negative Lateral Flow Tests and together with our robust infection management controls and risk assessment, we are confident to get back to face to face teaching from March 15th.”

I would like to congratulate all the students for their mature and sensible approach to testing and I am delighted that they have all reported they are looking forward to returning to school. Finally, I owe a huge debt of gratitude to the senior leaders and the testing team who have worked tirelessly to make this happen. I couldn’t have done this without them.

Julia Polley
Headteacher



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Rapid Response to 'Climate Emergency'

Engineers are installing solar panels, air source heat pumps and LED lighting in Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority buildings, while electric vehicle charging points have gone in at all ten of the Authority's public car parks.

The renewable energy installations will result in a 40% reduction in the annual amount of carbon dioxide emitted from running the Authority's properties.

Aysgarth Falls National Park Centre (NPC), Malham NPC and the Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes have had solar panels installed in the past few weeks. Solar panels will soon also go on the roof at the Colvend offices in Grassington, while additional panels have been put on the roof of the Authority's other offices, Yoredale in Bainbridge. Air source heat pumps will be installed at Malham and Aysgarth Falls NPCs. Each property where work is being done is expected to generate electricity for the National Grid outside of business hours or during long sunny spells.



Lighting has been changed to LED in all Authority buildings. The work is being part funded by a grant from the Public Sector Decarbonisation scheme.

Separately, seven new electric vehicle chargers have been installed in the Authority's car parks this year, to add to the three installed last year. Help from Craven District Council and a grant from the On-street Residential Chargepoint Scheme made the installations possible. Each unit is a Podpoint 7kw dual charger, dispensing energy costing 25 pence per kilowatt hour (kWh). Charging a car for one hour at one of the new points adds about 30 miles of range.

Member Champion for Sustainable Development, Carl Lis, said: "The climate and

nature emergency demands the sort of rapid response that we are making. By March last year, the National Park Authority had reduced its own carbon dioxide emissions by 64% compared with 2005. The latest work will reduce our emissions further. But we know we still have a long way to go. We want to eliminate carbon dioxide emissions from our operations, as well as embed sustainability in everything we do and use, from the materials we use for fixing paths or planting trees to the jackets we wear while out working. We can take encouragement from the progress being made but we must not let up."

The first three electric vehicle chargers in National Park Authority car parks, installed last year, have saved nearly 4,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide being emitted.

Mr Lis added: "We looked at the benefits from the first three EV charge points and decided to put in a further seven of them. We know that our charging points cost people a bit more than a typical charging point at home. The idea, though, is for drivers to top up at these points, rather than rely on them to fully charge. We hope the charging points will give electric vehicle users confidence to visit the National Park and be sure that they can 'fill up' if necessary. We plan to review regularly the usage of the existing chargers and may install more at specific sites as demand increases."

The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority started a programme of actively reducing its carbon emissions in 2006. By March 2019, it had reduced emissions by 64% compared with 2005. The Authority's Carbon Reduction Plan – approved at a full Authority meeting in April 2020 – sets it on a course to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from operations by at least 95% by 2030 compared with the 2005 baseline.



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Fish Pie

Ingredients:

- 4 potatoes, peeled
- Cream, butter and milk for the potatoes
- 600g fish (I like a mix of cod, salmon and a bit of smoked haddock)
- 60g butter
- 60g plain flour
- 1 pint of whole milk
- 100g mature white cheddar cheese plus some for the top
- Juice of half a lemon
- A good handful of chopped parsley
- Black pepper

Method:

Firstly, cut the potatoes into quarters, cover with water, bring to the boil and simmer for 15 minutes until soft. Drain and mash with 30g of butter, a pinch of salt and 2 tablespoons of double cream and enough milk to give a smooth, soft mash.

While the potatoes are boiling, make the sauce. In a medium pan over a medium heat, melt the butter and stir in the flour. Slowly add the milk, whisking all the time until it is smooth. Continue to whisk so that the sauce doesn't stick to the bottom of the pan, until it thickens and boils. Remove from the heat and stir in the cheese until melted, followed by the parsley and lemon.

Cut the fish into bite sized pieces and stir into the sauce. Put it into a suitably sized oven proof dish and top with the mashed potatoes. Lightly fork the top to smooth and top with the remaining grated cheese.

Bake in the oven at 180°C for half an hour until golden brown and bubbling.

Elizabeth Fawcett

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Penhill Benefice Services for April

The following church services are planned. Before making any journey please check our website penhillbenefice.co.uk/services for any updates.

April 1st, Maundy Thursday

7.00pm Service at St. Andrew's, Aysgarth

April 2nd, Good Friday

Witness of the Cross. Please check with the website for the latest information. Please think of joining for some or all of the round, but more especially in your own village.

Church services on Good Friday

2.00pm Service at St. Bartholomew's, West Witton

2.30pm Service at St. Andrew's, Aysgarth
No phone or Zoom service.

Sunday April 4th, Easter Day

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

9.30am Holy Communion, St. Mary's, Redmire

9.30am Telephone Service
No Zoom Service

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

11.00am Holy Communion,
St. Bartholomew's, West Witton

Sunday April 11th

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

9.30am Telephone Service

10.30am Zoom Service

11.00am Holy Communion,
St. Bartholomew's, West Witton

Sunday April 18th

9.30am Holy Communion, St. Mary's, Redmire

9.30am Telephone Service

10.30am Zoom Service

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

Sunday April 25th

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

9.30am Telephone Service

10.30am Zoom Service

11.00am Holy Communion,
St. Bartholomew's, West Witton

April Mid-Week Services

Thursday 15th and 29th

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

Phone service - dial **0333 0110 946** and enter room number 61337190# and PIN 7450#. Depending on your provider this is either free or costs a local rate phone call. Zoom links will be found at:- penhillbenefice.co.uk/services.

Easter Activities for Under 5s

Little Mints will be holding Easter Activities for families with children under 5 in our garden behind the Leyburn Arts & Community Centre on **Tuesday, April 6th at 10.30am**. Activities expect to be finished for MIDDAY.

Places must be booked online for Covid security and to manage numbers. Book online at <https://www.littlemints.co.uk/book-online>.

For further details or if you have a problem booking online please contact the organiser **Stacey Murray 07584020421**.

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Askrigg and District Produce Show

Sunday, August 29th

Spring is in the air and there are beautiful flowers and birdsong all around so it must be time to start thinking about the Askrigg and District Produce Show – or is that just the show committee and me? We were really hoping that we could have the show back in the village hall this year but, after much thought and discussion, we have decided to keep the show online for another year to avoid any potential last-minute dramas. After all, the show was a great success last year and we welcomed a whole host of new competitors. There were lots of fantastic entries in all of the categories and I think we would have struggled to fit them all in the hall. We are really hoping for an even bigger and better showing this year. If it is safe to do so, we will try and run something small in the hall on show day but I'll let you know nearer the time if that is possible.

With what we learned last year we have made a few changes to the rules but nothing drastic. The show schedule and rules are already up on our website and you can enter any time from now. In fact, we'd really appreciate some early entries so we have something to inspire and encourage others. Last year we had a slow trickle that built into a frantic tsunami of entries on the last day which gave us a challenge to upload – albeit a rather lovely one.

We have tried to keep the classes as open and generic as possible in order not to put anyone off entering. For example, in the Art category there is a class for pen or ink drawing and a Sunrise or Sunset. In the handicraft section there is a class for a decorated flower pot. We have again made the classes for all 3 age groups of children the same to make it a bit easier for busy mums (and dads?). I keep hearing about how

many skills have been learnt and re-discovered over the past year and I really hope that you will share your talents with everyone.

You can find out more details, look at other entries and get inspired by going to our website at www.askriggproduceshow.weebly.com. You can also find out how to get help if you aren't confident with your photographing or uploading skills – we are happy to help in any way we can to enable you to enter.

We look forward to another creative and productive show. Our thanks for all of the support and appreciation we continue to receive from friends near and far. We are also indebted to the many local businesses who have contributed to cover our costs over the years so that we can keep this lovely traditional show going.

Mike Dechezeaux

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Hopefully by the time you read this we will be open again or about to open very soon! There is no better time to join our gym – we have been able to purchase brand new equipment including new bikes, rower, cross trainer and more! Fabulous news for our rural community. Thanks to Richmondshire District Council Community Investment Fund for vital funding of this project.

The equipment is spread across three rooms, to give you plenty of personal space when exercising. Staying active and healthy is vital for good health, quality of life and building resistance to infections.

We have a variety of different memberships so contact us to find out more. We are also continuing to run our classes by online zoom:

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We are also running zoom Conversational French on **Wednesdays 10.45am - Noon**. Join us for informal conversation with an emphasis on communication and grammar. Why not try us for a taster session? If you would like to join please email us for more details. The cost is £5 per session.

More classes may be coming soon... watch this space or contact us.

Booking is essential for all classes. Please visit our website for more details www.yorebridgesportandleisure.co.uk/fitnessclasses or email us at admin@yorebridge-sport.co.uk.

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Hawes In Bloom

I am happy to report that Hawes in Bloom will be going ahead again this year.

I made the selections of plants, varieties, colours and quantities and submitted a firm order before Christmas. This means that the seeds have been sown and cuttings taken, and in spite of all the traumas of Covid, the plants and the baskets should be delivered on the usual date at the end of May / beginning of June. This year the colour theme will be mainly yellow and orange, with some reds and a touch of white and blue.

You may remember that the hanging of baskets and positioning of planted troughs coincided nicely last year with the lifting of the first lock-down and opening of businesses generally. I was delighted that so many people seemed genuinely pleased to see a bit of summer colour come back to the Town after a long and seemingly grey period. I hope that this will be the case again this year.

As you know I have in the past just had a sale of excess plants but have been unable to take personal orders from residents. It has become apparent over the past years that many of you particularly appreciate the ready-made baskets and I have usually ordered a few extra on that basis. This year I have taken a chance and ordered both medium (wicker) and large (wire) baskets for sale specifically to residents. In early May I will provide details of how these can be reserved, with payment, for collection on one date. Please do not give me orders before then.

There will of course be the usual sale of excess plants, again held in the car park above the school. These plants cannot be ordered and will be available on a first come first served basis as usual. I will make sure that notices go up in advance.

It has been a difficult time for everyone but I look forward to your support in keeping 'Hawes in Bloom'!

Keep well and let's look forward to a colourful summer.

Richard Noble, the Plant Pest.

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Bat To The Future

To celebrate British Science Week which took place in March, Leyburn Arts and Community Centre are launching their very own science project called Bat to the Future!

From now until October 31st, any one or any family with a young person under the age of 26, can hire out our bat detector kits to help you explore and discover the bats living near you for FREE!

We have two kits available so contact admin@leyburnartscentre.com or call 01969 624510.

Launching in May we will have our Bat Box kits free to all young people aged 11 to 19 years old. If you want to explore science why not download a science week activity pack found here: [Activity packs - British Science Week](#).



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Councils Against Noise and Speed

In December 2020, a joint parish council group CANS (Councils Against Noise and Speed) was set up in response to resident complaints about the disturbance caused by motorcyclists breaking noise and speed and limits in the Yorkshire Dales National Park and Lune Valley.

CANS represents parish councils in Lancashire, North Yorkshire and Cumbria and is a campaign group which aims to ensure the law is being enforced on noise and speed limits. The following councils have representatives on CANS: Kirby Lonsdale, Casterton, Barbon, Middleton, Sedbergh, Garsdale, Hawes and Abbotside, Ingleton, Ireby and Leck, Burrow-with-Burrow, Melling with Wrayton. Nick Cotton (Sedbergh and Kirkby Lonsdale County Councillor) and Kevin Lancaster (South Lakeland District Councillor) are also members.

We are encouraged by the Chief Constable of North Yorkshire, Lisa Winward's proposal to hold several 'days of action,' at the beginning of the 2021 season. These include 'an uplift in the number of safety camera vans and an uplift in traffic officers for stopping vehicles and the conducting of physical examinations for construction and use offences.'

With the support of the YDNPA and local MPs, Rishi Sunak, Tim Farron, Julian Smith and David Morris, the CANS campaign will press the police and highways authorities to sustain and develop these and other measures so that everyone can enjoy the unique beauty and tranquility of the National Park.

Hamish Wilson
Chair of CANS
(Garsdale Parish Councillor)

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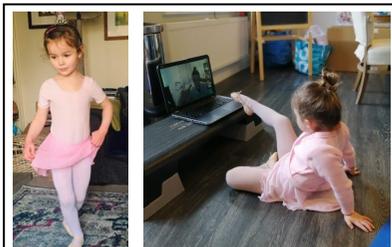
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Dancing in Lockdown

Despite the lockdown restrictions the little 3 and 4 year old dancers who attend Janet Seymour's School of Theatre and Dance have kept dancing. Ada, Sophie and Archie have had a wonderful time keeping up with their dance classes (and their friends) every week during lockdown.



Ada, Sophie and Archie take part in their online dance class



Ada's mum, Leanne says, "Dancing online during lockdown has just given Ada something else positive to look forward to each week, at a time when it can be so difficult to have a routine. She always has a huge smile on her face after her ballet lessons!"

Sophie's mum, Nicola added "Janet

Seymour's School of Theatre and Dance have been a shining beacon of normality in a dark year of uncertainty. I wasn't convinced that a 3 year old with no previous experience would take to online ballet, but Janet and Hannah are so engaging and supportive."

The school are excited to be returning to live classes for under 18s after the Easter holidays and have places free for new students from the age of 3. Details can be found on Facebook - Janet Seymour School of Theatre Dance Ltd. and Instagram -swaledaledance. There are classes in ballet, tap, jazz, modern dance and Musical Theatre in Wensleydale and Swaledale.

Mark Murphy

Happy 56th birthday Mark Murphy, and 1st birthday in Spring Bank House. The world is certainly brighter with you in it!

Love you big time mister. David

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Mystery Picture

Last month's Mystery Picture was of Stalling Busk Chapel.

Where can you find this feature?



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

April

- 2 Good Friday
- 4 Easter
- 6 Little Mints, LA&CC. See p.12.
- 12 Non-essential retail, hairdressers, libraries, gyms campsites and self-contained holiday accommodation can reopen. Hospitality venues can serve outdoors.
- 21 Newsletter AGM. See p.3.
- 23 St George's Day.

May

- 1 Renewal date for Newsletter postal subscriptions. See p.3.



Dales Countryside Museum

The Dales Countryside Museum is temporarily closed, following government advice, but we are looking forward to reopening in line with the government's roadmap out of lockdown.

We hope that the shop will open from **Monday, April 12th** and the Museum from **Monday, May 17th**, but we will not be releasing any tickets until we can confirm these dates. We will post updates on our website at www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk.

In the meantime, as people aren't able to visit us, we have been finding other ways to share our collections. Online learning resources for schools have been developed to support primary studies of WW2 and these can be accessed by contacting dcm@yorkshiredales.org.uk.

The voices of over two dozen people from Wensleydale, Swaledale and Arkengarthdale can be heard in a new podcast series we have published. Local people such as farmer John Waggett, preacher Rowland Dent and school teacher Sally Stone feature in 'Voices From The Dales', alongside late great personalities such as Kit Calvert, Mary Burrow and Marie Hartley. Series One contains five 15-minute episodes, bringing stories from Dales schools and chapels, as well as the story of the Dales Countryside Museum (DCM) itself.

Journalist Andrew Fagg, who is also part of the National Park Authority's communications team, drew on the DCM's oral history collection

and other interviews to make the podcasts. He said: "Many of the people featured in Voices From The Dales are held in great affection by local people. I know I won't be alone in taking delight from hearing their voices. It's a tremendous experience, for instance, to hear Jennie Sunter describe the walk to school in the hard winter of 1947, or the late Richard Dinsdale speak about answering an altar call in the 1950s, or the late Jack Fawcett reading John Thwaite's poetry. I hope people aren't put off by the word 'podcast'. They are 'radio' programmes only they are online. Listen by searching Voices From The Dales on the Apple Podcast app on your smartphone, or on Spotify, or via websites such as Buzzsprout or dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk/voices-from-the-dales."

Member Champion for Cultural Heritage Julie Martin said: "A distinctive linguistic, literary and artistic heritage is one of the special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The new Voices From The Dales podcast illustrates that quality by highlighting the memories and rich accents of men and women from Wensleydale, Swaledale and Arkengarthdale."

She added: "Voices From The Dales helps make the oral history collection at the Dales Countryside Museum more publicly accessible. It also means that we can keep fulfilling our mission of telling the stories of Dales people even though our doors currently remain shut owing to Coronavirus restrictions. I would like to thank Museum Development Yorkshire for their support."

Episodes One and Two of Voices From The Dales have been published to complement the DCM's next special exhibition, 'Story of Schools' that will feature as soon as the Museum re-opens and run until **July 18th**. This includes a spectacular photo mosaic made from nearly 2,300 images of youth and school-life in the Upper Dales which were shared by the local community over eight weeks in autumn 2020. A Mosaic of Dales Youth was created by 'The People's Picture', an art and design studio led by artist Helen Marshall. The photo tiles come together to reveal a whole new image – portraits of local people David Hodgson of Askrigg School, aged 7 in 1954, and Joan Miller of Yorebridge Grammar School, aged 12 in 1946.

The exhibition will include interpretation,

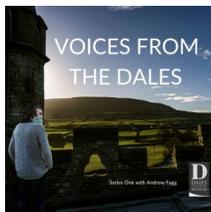
vintage and modern photographs, a short film and oral histories. It marks the culmination of a project run by The NASH in partnership with the museum, and funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's Sustainable Development Fund.

The NASH Project Manager Emily Rowe Rawlence said: 'Once we began delving into the history of The NASH, which is short for National School Hawes, we realised the landscape was peppered with little schools that played transformative roles, all with their own story to tell. This exhibition maps them out and explores themes such as the changing journey to school, the tension between learning and earning and the life of teachers, 'Kiddy Catchers' and bus drivers. It's amazing how much energy and effort goes into the making of a school.'

Fourteen oral history interviews took place with well-known local people who attended Upper Dales schools from the 1930s onwards. 'Recording their stories has been a project highlight,' said Ms Rowe Rawlence. 'The exhibition is full of anecdotes, from filling pockets with bullets in WWII, to walking alone through brutal weather two miles to school and back at only five-years-old, to being sent down the pub to buy cigarettes for the headmaster at breaktime. Each person had a fascinating story to tell of a Dales childhood in the 30s, 40s, 50s or 60s. Together with the giant photo mosaic that is four and a half metres wide, they bring the last century to life.'

Details of the Voices From The Dales podcast are outlined below.

All episodes were recorded in March this year.



Episode 1 – Schools pt. 1.

A cockerel down a chimney, school closures, sex education and a 'Roman toilet' are discussed. Hear the voices of John Waggett from Gunnerside, Joan Fawcett and Christa Fagg Rawlence from Hawes, Sally Stone from West Burton, Norman Guy from Muker, Enid Lundberg from Arkengarthdale and Barbara Buckingham from Reeth. Also meet Mary Burrow, the woman who devoted her life to Hawes School.

Episode 2 – Schools pt. 2.

Clogs, snow, bus drivers and the 'kiddy catcher' are remembered. Hear the voices of Kit Calvert, Joan Fawcett, Eric and Vera Alderson and Reggie Fagg Rawlence – all from Hawes – as well as John Waggett from Gunnerside, Norman Guy from Muker, Jennie Sunter from Keld, Brian Sunter from Low Row, Eleanor Scarr from Bainbridge, and Allen Kirkbride from Askrigg.

Episode 3 – Chapels.

"The energy is no longer there," said the Methodist minister in Reeth in 2016, as another Dales chapel closed. As Northern Echo journalist Mike Amos reported, a way of life was quietly disappearing. Chapels were at the heart of village life in Wensleydale and Swaledale for around 150 years, but decline set in during the second half of the last century. And yet in half a dozen places such as Gayle and Gunnerside the Methodists are 'still alive', as they like to say. In this episode hear Walden preacher Rowland Dent, as well as Jean Cockburn from Aysgarth, Joan Fawcett from Hawes and the late Richard Dinsdale of Gayle.

Episode 4 – Bard.

John Thwaite (1873-1941) was a Wensleydale dialect poet who wrote about the natural beauty as well as the ordinary working class people around him. He worked as a grocer in the town of Hawes. Some 30 years after his death a group of people in Wensleydale recorded his poems on cassette tapes. In this episode hear two poems read by the late Jack Fawcett: 'The Quarryman's Cross' and 'T'Auction Mart'.

Episode 5 – Museum Makers

Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby founded a museum in Hawes and brought pleasure to millions of people through their popular books on the Yorkshire Dales. What started their love affair with the Dales? How did they encourage Dales folk to tell their stories? And what role does the museum they created, the Dales Countryside Museum, have today? In this episode hear the voices of Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby, Guy Ingleby of Littondale, Taylor Dinsdale from Gayle, and Fiona Rosher, the current Museum Manger.

It is hoped that a second series, 'Voices From The Dales...Farms', can be made next year, again drawing on the DCM's oral history collection.



The children at Dalesplay have been learning how things grow. They made planters and planted some herbs to take home, planted seeds for our mud kitchen outside and we have been taking great care of them to help them to grow. We celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as our favourite characters and explored different stories throughout the week. We made special gifts and cards to thank our Mummies on Mother's Day and we have had lots of fun learning outdoors in this wonderful dry weather.

At Dalesplay we offer government funded places, term time childcare, holiday care and shorter packages for those who wish for their child to attend a setting to help them develop

friendships and social skills with peers of the same age. We operate in a very safe and stimulating environment, we plan activities that are fun and based around play to help your child learn and develop new skills.

We do have limited places so we advise you book early to prevent disappointment. We currently have spaces available in our ducklings room Monday to Friday caring for children 3 months to 2 years and we have limited spaces available in our Rainbows and Sunshines room caring for children 2 years upwards.

If you would like to send your child to Dalesplay, please get in touch by emailing dalesplay1@btconnect.com and we can arrange for you to look around the setting one evening and discuss your needs. Children learn best through play amongst their peers, all staff are fully qualified and ensure your child's needs are put first.



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Leyburn Arts and Community Centre

We hope you have been reassured by the Roadmap to reduce Covid-19 restrictions - we are busy working through the pages and pages of guidelines produced to confirm what is relevant for us!

Some plans are already being worked on, for example the Wednesday Walking Group hopes to resume on March 31st, walking in groups of six; the Youth Café may be able to abandon Zoom for sessions within the Centre after **April 12th**; a Plant Fayre is being organised for the end of April; Cinema from **May 17th** and workshops, Tuesday Club and Lunch & Chat as soon as we are able. Room hire too will commence depending on the activity and our garden will be available for outdoor meetings when the relevant date is reached! Don't forget to look on the website for current information.

We are pleased to announce that we have a Community Leader for the British Science Association who hopes to launch a long-term science project called 'Bat to the Future'. Kicking off in British Science week, the project will run from March and end at Halloween.

The aim is to encourage young people and families in the local community to come to Leyburn Arts & Community Centre to take action on biodiversity focussing on bats. The project is aimed for 11- to 19-year-olds but does allow families with younger people to join in too. There will be four Bat Nights at Leyburn Arts and Community in September. These evenings will be for 11- to 16-year-olds to come

to the centre and enjoy an evening outside to cook food and talk bats. The sessions will be led by Forest School Leader Kathy Fawcett (Wild in Nature) supported by LA&CC youth project. The young people attending will be able to decide the content and flow of these sessions.

The Auditorium floor is looking extremely smart after being re-varnished. The room has also been re-decorated as well as other areas of the building. Many, many thanks to volunteer Bob and his team of helpers.

It was really disappointing not to be able to bring to our LACC audiences the films chosen for January (rescheduled from November!) and February. Hopefully it will be third time lucky for some of the titles. We also hope to be able to bring back to our screen some of the great plays, musicals, ballets etc from National Theatre Live, More2Screen and Cinema Live as soon as they become available. Keep an eye on our website www.leyburnartscentre.com.

We have a few numbers left if you would like to join our 100 Club - email admin@leyburnartscentre.com or call **01969 624510** between 1.00 and 4.00pm Monday to Friday.

Now Booking: YourScreen Season 3

Leyburn Arts and Community Centre have received the details for YourScreen for you to access the Season 3 films from your own home between now and **May 23rd**.

The link and details are on our website at www.leyburnartscentre.com for the Promo code and you will get 25% off all tickets purchased. Details of what is now on offer are provided below and for every ticket sold the Arts & Community Centre receive 30%.



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Rescue Team Reaches Its Target

Having launched an appeal last November, Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team have managed to reach its £80,000 target in just 120 days.

The appeal was launched to raise the funds to purchase a new incident command vehicle to replace an aging incident command trailer which had provided 15 years service.

The new vehicle will be a converted Volkswagen T32 van which will offer greater operational flexibility and reliability with the team's work, enabling them to respond to and manage operations more effectively and provide better care for casualties. Once converted, the vehicle will act as the team's communications and IT hub and liaison point with other emergency services, as well as being used to transport team members to call-outs. It will also have built-in welfare facilities for members of the rescue team.

After a bespoke conversion the new vehicle will be fully liveried as a Mountain Rescue vehicle with blue lights and sirens and will be ready for call outs in September.



David Furness, Chairman of the Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team said "We are delighted to have reached our fund-raising target so quickly and have been humbled by the generosity of our supporters particularly during this most difficult of times.

We would like to thank every individual, business, club and organisation that has contributed to our fund-raiser. Your support provides us with an important new resource that will enable us to continue providing our life saving services."

The appeal received substantial grant funding

from a number of different organisations including Jack Brunton's Charitable Trust (£2,000), Mr Robert Miller, Gunnerside Estate (£10,000), Nickerson Foundation (£1,000), Noble Family Trust (£500), North Yorkshire Police Fire and Crime Commissioner Community Fund (£4,780), Two Ridings Community Foundation Disaster & Recovery Fund (£10,000), Vickers Staff Charitable Fund (£500) and Yorkshire Dales National Park Sustainable Development Fund (£10,000).

A number of local businesses, organisations and clubs generously supported our fund-raising efforts including; Altberg Boots, Bainbridge Motor Club, Catterick Garrison Welfare Fund, Dales Mountain Biking Centre, Duke of Arundel, Noble Family Charitable Trust, Penrith Rotary, Raynet, Reeth Post Office, The Mercers, Grocers and Haberdashers Charitable Trust, Richmond Masons, Spirit of Swaledale, Swaledale Outdoor Club, Upper Wensleydale Newsletter and Vickers Staff Charitable Fund.

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's Member Champion for Sustainable Development, Carl Lis, said: "Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team provide an essential service in a large area of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Their specialist rescue services are an important element of local community resilience whether it be responding to the immediate impact of flash flooding or helping with the longer term community recovery operation. Their skills are also called on by some of the many visitors to the National Park, whether it be lost walkers or injured mountain bikers needing to be carried off the fell. We are delighted to have been able to provide grant funding of £10,000 to the team to support their vital work"

Julia Mulligan, North Yorkshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, said: "The speed at which the money was raised with this appeal is a testament to the huge support our Mountain Rescue Teams have in Swaledale, across North Yorkshire and beyond. The volunteers who go above and beyond to support our emergency services play a vital role in keeping us all safe and feeling safe. I want to thank them all for their work and am delighted my Community Fund was able to play a part in making sure they have the best possible equipment with their new Incident Command Vehicle."

Online Course - An Introduction to Bell Ringing

Join a free online introductory course to bell ringing organised by the Wensleydale bell ringers. For over five hundred years the church bells of Wensleydale have been resounding across our countryside.

The sound of bells ringing is deeply rooted in English culture. They provide the grand soundtrack to our historic moments, call out for our celebrations and toll sadly in empathy with our grief. However, this year, for the first time since the Second World War, the bells are silent. The Covid lockdown has halted ringing in the church tower.



However, our teams of enthusiastic ringers have not been silenced! Ringers are now getting together on-line to practise and learn, and this in turn has created an excellent opportunity for those new to ringing to find out all about it and why so many have got the ringing bug.

The Wensleydale Ringers are offering a series of short interactive online presentations on the joy, techniques, and benefits of bell ringing. We invite everyone to join us in these sessions, from those who have simply wondered about how the bells are rung through to those interested in whether bell ringing is for them. Lockdown presents an excellent opportunity to investigate a new hobby from the armchair, with an open invitation to come and learn for real in your local bell tower once lockdown restrictions are eased. The sessions will also be an occasion to meet others in a friendly setting. A fun way to learn about bell ringing!

Bell ringing is a team activity that keeps your brain active and your body agile. In

Wensleydale we have over 60 active ringers of different ages, male and female. Some of us attend church but others do not: there is no requirement to be a church-goer. Whether your interest is theoretical, or whether you are wondering if bell ringing could be for you, we invite you to join our on-line evening sessions and take it from there. Bell ringing does not require great strength and we have had children as young as 10 learning in Wensleydale. Many others learn in retirement.

The bell towers of the Wensleydale area are at the churches of Askrigg, Aysgarth, Bedale, East Witton, Kirkby Malzeard, Middleham and Masham, and those living within reach of those churches are particularly welcome to participate in our course. The times and dates of sessions will be arranged in agreement with participants.

If you are interested in finding out more about what the sessions entail and how to participate please email wensleydaleringers@gmail.com with your name and contact details. Alternatively, you can contact us via Facebook at Wensleydale Ringers, or via twitter at #wensleydaleringers.

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Swaledale Festival News

May and June events went on sale in March and it was great to see people snapping up tickets. At the time of writing there is still availability for The Young'uns on **Sunday, May 30th at 4:00pm and 7:30pm**, Society of Strange and Ancient Instruments on **Monday, May 31st at 7:30pm** and Josquin to Jones, Schubert to Sting on **Wednesday, June 9th at 2:00pm** - do get tickets while you can!

We are delighted to announce the following events taking place between July and October. Tickets will go on sale for these in April so please keep an eye on our website:

Lotte Betts Dean (mezzo-soprano) and Sean Shibe (guitar) - **Thursday, July 15th, at 4.00pm and 7.30pm** at St. Andrew's Church, Grinton. The dynamic young duo perform Dowland, Schubert and Debussy alongside Spanish and Brazilian songs.

The Hut People - **Saturday, July 17th, at 2.00pm and 5.00pm** at Raygill House Farm, near Hawes. The duo are back again with their entertaining mix of folk from around the world.

Solus Trumpet Ensemble - **Tuesday, August 3rd at 4.00pm and 7.30pm** at St. Andrew's Church, Grinton. The glorious sound of five brilliant young trumpeters will gladden the hearts.

Philippa Mo (violin) & William Towers (counter-tenor, viola) - **Wednesday, September 1st at 4.00pm and 7.30pm** at St. Andrew's, Grinton. Fine violinist meets top-drawer counter-tenor in a mouth-watering recital.

Aurora Percussion Duo - **Tuesday, September 14th at 4.00pm and 7.30pm** at St. Mary's Church, Richmond. Two extraordinary percussionists perform musical acrobatics on a myriad of instruments.

Meera Maharaja (flute) & Dominic Degavino (piano) - **Friday, October 1st at 4.00pm and 7.30pm** at St. Andrew's Church, Aysgarth. Gifted young flautist, with pianist Dominic Degavino, performs Bizet's Carmen Fantasy, and music by Grace-Evangeline Mason and César Franck.

Brighde Chaimbeul (Scottish small pipes) and Aidan O'Rourke (violin) - **Wednesday, October 6th, at 4.00pm and 7.30pm** at St. Andrew's Church, Grinton. Ultra-talented young Scottish piper duets with the marvelous violinist from folk super-group Lau.

Moray Welsh Trio (cello, violin & piano) - **Thursday 7 October 7th at 4.00pm and 7.30pm** at St. Andrew's Church, Aysgarth. The world class trio of Moray Welsh (cello), Marcia Crayford (violin) & Caroline Clemmow (piano) play Mozart's Piano Trio in G major and Fauré's Elegy for Cello and Piano.

FREE FAMILY FUN DAYS – Reeth Green, **Saturday 29th to Monday, May 31st.**

Three days of outdoor workshops and activities including kite-making, dance, samba music, quoits, and a singing workshop with The Young'uns - all free, all ideal for families, and all in Reeth! No need to book, just turn up.



For further information please visit: www.swalefest.org.

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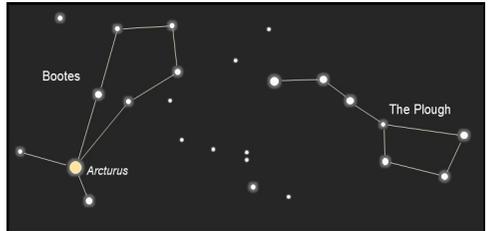
Heavens Above

Perseverance, NASA's latest Mars rover, has been beaming back some terrific images of the Red Planet's surface from its landing site in Jezero crater. There's the promise of even more spectacular ones to come when the rover is fully operational and it sets off on its planned two-years mission to explore the Red Planet's arid rock-strewn surface. Its main objective is to look for signs of ancient Martian life but it also carries a tiny helicopter, Ingenuity, which will be the first aircraft to achieve independent powered flight on another planet if things go to plan. You can still see Mars for yourself this month if you look low in the north-west after dark. It's currently heading away from the Pleiades star cluster towards the twin stars, Castor and Pollux, in the constellation of Gemini.

Towards the end of April brilliant Venus makes a welcome return to the evening sky low in the west shortly after sunset. On **April 25th** you should be able to glimpse the innermost planet, Mercury, just to the right of it. At magnitude minus 1.6 it's ten times fainter than Venus but still pretty conspicuous. If you want to see the two biggest planets, Jupiter and Saturn, they're in the pre-dawn sky rising around 4.30 am in the south-east.

Now that April is here the seasonal changeover from the bright winter stars to the springtime groups is just about complete. In the south the ancient constellations of Virgo, Leo, and Bootes fill the view. Beneath them, snaking right across the horizon, you'll find the largest of all the constellations, Hydra the Water Serpent, which stretches more than a quarter of the way across the sky. In the old Greek legends it was a monstrous nine-headed creature slain by Hercules the Strongman as one of his 12 'Labours'. You'll find Hercules himself over in the eastern sky late in the evening. His outline is pretty unimpressive considering his super-hero status.

High in the south-east lies one of the brightest stars in the sky, Arcturus, the leader of Bootes the Herdsman. Its distinct golden-orange colour makes it really stand out in a sparsely populated part of the sky. In the old legends Bootes was credited with the invention of the plough and was placed in the heavens as a reward for his efforts. He's sometimes called the Guardian of the Bears – the constellations Ursa Major and Minor (the Greater and Lesser Bears) - which lie almost overhead in Spring. Ursa Major's seven brightest stars form the familiar shape we call The Plough or Big Dipper.



This month's 'shooting stars', the Lyrids, which reach their peak on the night of **April 21st/22nd** are badly affected by strong moonlight, but if you can get away from the street lights you might still be able to catch a few of the very brightest meteors. By way of consolation the Full Moon on **April 27th** should be quite a spectacle. It's the second closest and brightest Full Moon of the year, just pipped to the post by next month's super 'Supermoon' on **May 26th**. Have clear skies!

Al Bireo

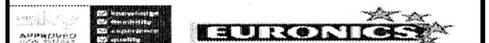
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Police Report

Firstly, some important news regarding Leyburn Police Station; whilst there has been some delay due to Covid, Leyburn Police Station will officially be moving into Leyburn Fire Station on March 29th. This will give both North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service (NYF&RS) and North Yorkshire Police the opportunity to reinvest the savings that will be made, by sharing and improving facilities for both services - resulting in an enhanced service and greater value for money to the public. Our new home is less than 100 metres from current Police station and we very much look forward to working closer with our emergency service colleagues in NYF&RS.

Aside from continuing Covid-breach reports, there has only been one incident of public interest in the Dales area this month:

Overnight between March 11th and 12th in Castle Bolton, a Landrover Defender had its windscreen trim removed and another vehicle, belonging to the same owner, had the fuel cap tampered with. Any info – please contact us on ‘101’.

We are aware of an increasing worry amongst dog owners about the threat of dog theft – please can we reassure local residents that these thefts are very rare in the Dales. For further information please visit; [Dog thefts - advice and guidance - North Yorkshire Police](#).

There are a number of steps you can take to

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- Don't leave dogs unattended in the street.
- Don't overshare on social media, ensure your privacy settings are secure and don't share details about your home address or regular walking routes.
- Ensure your garden is secure and don't leave them alone for long periods of time.
- If you keep them outside, make sure your property and kennels are secure.
- Always keep them on a lead when walking near roads.
- Ensure your dog has good recall before you let it off the lead.

Regarding Covid; as the weeks go on now, certain restrictions will start lifting and/or changing. For the most up to date information please visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus. If you want to report a breach of the rules please go to northyorkshire.police.uk where there is a specific online reporting form.

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Changes at Dale Head Garage

Dale Head Garage has secured a new fuel supply contract with Harvest Energy. Having enjoyed a great first 3 years with Gulf, it was time to look around for other options much like we all do with our own utilities' contracts. The reason for switching in this instance is to secure the future of the fuel station for the foreseeable future, ensuring there is a fuel supply in Hawes and the Upper Dales for residents and visitors alike. The move to Harvest Energy gives the Partnership a more stable platform to allow planning and development of the site going forward with confidence.

Does it mean cheaper fuel?

The eagle eyed will have noticed a small reduction in the pump price of the fuel as the new Harvest Energy sign went up on March 10th. As I am sure everyone knows the price of fuel is made up from many items no fuel retailer has any control over; the price of crude oil, the

value of sterling against the US Dollar, Government duty levels etc. We will always do our very best to pass on any reduction in wholesale price to us, along with the 5p rebate we receive, onto our customers at the pump. However, although having recently enjoyed prices in line with Tesco, market fluctuations and cost price at time of purchase by us invariably means there will be occasions when we can't be as competitive as our neighbours.

We're always happy to receive customer feedback, so please feel free to email comments and suggestions to: dhg@udcp.co.uk.

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Pop-up Campsites. Worth a Pitch?

Planning laws normally allow ‘pop up’ campsites to operate for a maximum of 28 days in a calendar year under permitted development rights. However, in England the rules were changed last June when COVID lockdown restrictions were lifted, to allow them to open for 56 days. This rule has now been extended until the end of **December 2021**.

Many farmers are interested in Pop-Up Campsites as a way of “dipping their toe in the water” of a farm tourism enterprise without significant investment. National Parks are also keen to accommodate increasing numbers of visitors when COVID restrictions are lifted and to manage problems such as rough camping.

In March, the Farmer Network organised a meeting with the Yorkshire Dales National Park to discuss what is involved. Marketing agents Pitch Up, made presentations alongside local farmers who shared their experience in running pop-up campsites.

Pitch-Up, reported that their bookings increased by 11% last year with growing interest for Spring and Summer 2021, once lockdown restrictions are eased. The 56-day rule does not include caravans or campervans. Only tents are allowed including bell tents and teepees. Toilet and washing facilities must be provided and these can be hired if there are no facilities on the farm. One of the farmers

recommended shopping around for quotes and hiring for a full season rather than by the week, although planning rules mean that any day when a temporary structure remains on site counts as one of the 56 days permitted. Another farmer had invested in compostable toilets.

One of the farmers at the meeting said that they put their farming operations first, with no camping facilities offered during lambing or hay-time. They also stressed the importance of all members of the farming family being in favour of the development as it can be disruptive to the farm.



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Regular readers will recall that this project seeks to bring the railway back to Hawes via the reinstatement of the 6 miles of track from Garsdale Station.



The UWR team would like to thank everyone who recently contributed comments in support of our application for funding towards the cost of a feasibility study to the Department for Transport's 'Restore Your Railway - Ideas Fund'. This application has been accepted for consideration in the forthcoming third round of evaluation.

To get involved, or learn more about the project, please get in touch via our website www.upperwensleydalerrailway.org.uk or write to UWR c/o The Community Office, The Neukin, Hawes DL8 3RA.

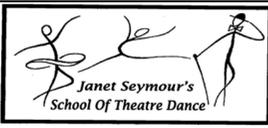
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Blueboxt Productions

It's all about patiently changing plans and rescheduling dates!

March seems to have been a month for planning, rescheduling, soul searching and generally having a positive outlook that the Autumn will be OK for public events to start happening once again - fingers crossed!

Our young people took the decision to give themselves more time to prepare and record for our celebration concert which will now be incorporated into our Make Music Day UK activities as part of the Play>Record>Perform project. The virtual celebration concert will be on **Saturday, June 19th at 7.30pm**. We hope you can join us as we celebrate the power of music and the performing arts presented by young creatives from across North Yorkshire.

This event is FREE to attend (online) but you can also make a donation in support of our Performing Arts activities for young people.

Live Theatre and Concerts

On **Friday, September 24th at 7.30pm** we are delighted to be hosting live theatre. Many will know Actor Dominic Goodwin locally for his performances as the loveable Panto Dame at The Georgian Theatre Royal, Richmond. His last appearance at West Burton Village Hall was as Professor Challenger in North Country Theatre's production of The Lost World (2013).

Now he is back to help audiences "laugh their way out of Covid" with his own touring company, Pyramus and Thisbe Productions and their presentation of Holmes and Watson: The Farewell Tour By Stuart Fortey, Directed by David Robertson. Dominic is joined on stage by Julian Finnegan as Holmes as they present one of the detective's most baffling unrecorded cases – The Case of the Prime Minister, the Floozie and the Lummock Rock Lighthouse – an affair upon whose outcome the security of Europe once hung by a thread. Shrouded in secrecy until now, this case has finally been approved by the government for public disclosure.

The Leyburn Jazz Festival will be launching as planned in 2021 with performances over three days from **Friday 22nd to Sunday, October 24th**. The event is being organised by the Mid Wensleydale Community Partnership who will be announcing their festival programme soon.

30th Anniversary Dinner Dance – We have rescheduled our celebrations to **Saturday, November 27th**. The event will take place in the function suite at the Falls Café and Gift Shop (the Motel). Full details available soon.

Too Early to think about Christmas? We have confirmed plans to present the 'All-Time Favourites Christmas Special' for a limited number of performances (see website for more details). We are interested in hearing from venues and promoters who would like us to perform our fully staged Christmas concert at their village hall or arts space.

If you would like to know more information, book tickets or take part in our activities, please contact Colin Bailey on **07711 211169** or info@blueboxt.co.uk or message via our website www.blueboxt.co.uk or social media.



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We are recruiting.



As a small organisation, BlueBoxt has successfully applied to be part of the Government's Kickstart scheme through Richmondshire District Council who are acting as a Kickstart Gateway for local businesses. The scheme aims to support employers to provide quality work placements for six months to young people who are aged between 16 and 24 years old.

From April 2021, we will be offering two quality professional homeworking placements with mentoring support and opportunities to develop transferrable skills.

Placement 1 - Administrative Assistant;

Placement 2 - Marketing and Media Assistant.

Each role will be for an average of 25 hours per week. Good communication and IT skills will be essential to get the most out of the opportunities available. The roles will be an ideal match for graduates seeking creative industries experience to develop their career portfolio or young creatives considering their future training options, an apprenticeship or

seeking to establish their chosen career pathway.

To apply for either position you must be claiming Universal Credit and be referred to the scheme by the Department for Work and Pensions. Talk to your Work/Employment Coach for more details.

The application process is open now, the closing date for submitting an application is **Sunday, May 9th**. All shortlisted candidates will be invited to a Zoom interview during the week commencing **Monday, May 10th**.

Full details are available on the Kickstart page on our website www.blueboxt.co.uk/kickstart.

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Condemnation of Recent Shootings of Birds of Prey

The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority are shocked, but sadly not surprised, by footage recently released by the RSPB investigations team of two buzzards being lured to their deaths on a North Yorkshire grouse moor.

Neil Heseltine, Chair of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority said: "This shows a callous disregard for the law and birds of prey that is all too familiar from some within the community. The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority condemns raptor persecution in the strongest possible terms and continues to work

closely with partners and others to stamp out this crime once and for all.

ALL birds of prey are protected by law and killing them is a criminal offence. If this activity continues it is difficult to see how the Government in England will not be forced to examine other ways in which to prevent this criminality. Certainly, the actions of the individual involved in this case can only be assisting those who wish to see the end of driven grouse shooting.

Finally, I would encourage anyone who witnesses any suspicious activity while they're out and about in the countryside to contact the Police".

For concerns about a possible wildlife crime, you should call 101. If you witness a suspected wildlife crime in action, call 999 immediately and ask for the Police. Finally, you can speak in confidence about raptor persecution directly with the RSPB on **0300 9990101**.

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Published by

The Upper Wensleydale Newsletter
Lilac House, The Holme, Hawes, DL8 3QR
01969 667458

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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