

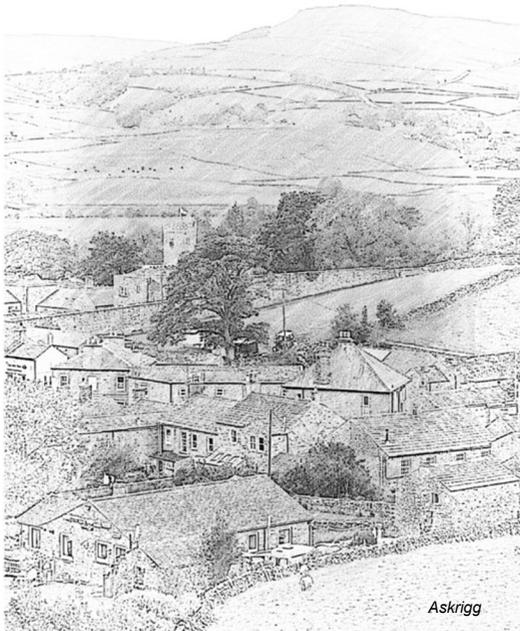
Includes 4-page pullout for
Wensleydale Concert Series

THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER

Issue 296

April 2023

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

For me this month's newsletter heralds a very special time of the year – when another season of classical music concerts begin in our northern Dales.

The final concert of the 75th season of the Richmondshire Concerts is at The Influence Church in Richmond on **Wednesday, April 12th** when the repertoire of the Barbican Quarter will include music by Mozart, Janacek and Schumann.

Two days later the Vacation Chamber Orchestras (VaCo) returns to Aysgarth church for what should be a fun evening as the young musicians play Mozart's 'A Musical Joke' and Dr Richard Shephard's 'The Selfish Dragon', the latter having been specially commissioned by VaCo.

Then the Wensleydale Concert Series (WCS) begins on **Saturday, May 13th** with an evening of music at Aysgarth church ranging from baroque to traditional played by May Meera Maharaj (flute) and Lucy Nolan (harp).

By the end of May the feast is well underway thanks to the Swaledale Festival. This offers an amazingly varied mix of concerts, events and talks including an evening with Andy Hamilton, and the Reeth Lecture by Ronnie Archer-Morgan.

The Swaledale Festival will feature the final appearance of the Fourum, Swaledale's famous folk group, and the penultimate performance of cellist Moray Welsh. His final performance will be at the WCS concert at Aysgarth church on **Wednesday, May 31st**. At both concerts Welsh will be accompanied by pianist Martin Roscoe, violinist Fenella Humphreys and violist Simon Rowland-Jones.

All this couldn't happen without some great teams of volunteers. For the Swaledale Festival and the WCS they not only steward events but are also hosts and drivers for artists. It's thanks to the volunteers that it is possible to bring world-class performers to the Dales at affordable prices.

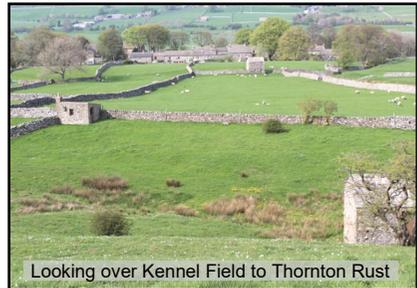
Volunteers also help with the guided tours during the Swaledale Festival but it is already too late to book for any of them as all of the tickets have been sold. That is not surprising for spring in the Dales is a special for another reason – the wonderful displays of wild flowers.

Later this month the bluebells will be in

bloom in the Dale's ancient woodlands such as Freeholder's Wood near Aysgarth Falls. Then, in May, there will be masses of cowslips in the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust's Leyburn Old Glebe Nature Reserve along Wensley Low Lane.

Also in bloom in May: globe flowers at Marssett Rigg; thrift at Ballowfield Local Nature Reserve between Askrigg and Carperby; and fairy foxgloves at Seata Quarry. The latter can be reached via Seata Lane off the Aysgarth to Thornton Rust Road.

My favourite, however, is the Kennel Field at Thornton Rust.



Looking over Kennel Field to Thornton Rust

Wood anemones and marsh marigolds will be in bloom in April followed by meadow saxifrage, cowslips, early purple orchids, dog violets and pignuts. The community has not only worked hard to preserve the Kennel Field but has also installed picnic benches by the car park in the Outgang.

Pip Pointon



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Yorkshire Dales Photography Competition is Back!

A popular photography competition and exhibition celebrating the beauty and character of the Dales landscape is open for entries.

The competition, run by the charity Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT) and The Garden Rooms at Tennants in Leyburn, hopes to encourage people to get out into the Dales with a camera and share photographs of their favourite landscapes and wildlife.

Adventurer and author Alastair Humphreys will be joining the judging panel this year to select 35 finalists, whose work will be included in a gallery exhibition at The Garden Rooms this June. As a Yorkshireman himself Alastair shared one of his favourite spots, saying, “My favourite views are being high up on the valleys above spots like Keld and Muker.”

Twelve of the shortlisted images will also be featured in a Yorkshire Dales 2024 charity calendar on sale from August 2023 at www.ydmt.org/shop.

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust’s Lindsay Wallace said: “The photo competition has become a great way for amateur photographers to get their work seen, in the exhibition and calendar. It’s also an important way for us, as a small charity working to look after the Yorkshire Dales, to help showcase this special area with some fantastic photos.”

The competition will run until **April 30th**. For more details and to enter, please visit www.tennantsgardenrooms.com/what-s-on/events/ydmt-amateur-photography-competition-2023/ or email info@tennantsgardenrooms.com.

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 25th

PUBLISHED ON MAY 3rd



Enunice the Ewe

Last month I was hiding on the dog in the Home Run advert on page 32 and the lucky winner of the £10 prize is Brenda Wood of Gayle.

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

Meet Your Local Councillor

We are hosting two surgeries in April, one for County Councillor Yvonne Peacock and one for Parish Councillor Jill McMullon.

Feel free to come to the Community Office for a general chat about any issues you wish to raise, or to make an appointment with either of them if the issue needs private discussion.

Thursday, April 13th, 10.00am – 11.00am - Parish Council Chair, Jill McMullon

Tuesday, April 25th, 10.00am - Noon - County Councillor Yvonne Peacock.

More surgeries will be held during the year.

Abbie Rhodes. UDCP Ltd

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In This Issue

Page

Guest Editorial	2
Competition	4
Penhill Benefice Services	5
Chairman’s Report	6
Newsletter Accounts	7
Hawes School News	9
Best Foot Forward	10
Bainbridge W.I.	12
Swaledale Festival	16
Heavens Above	18
What’s Ons	20
Upper dales Health Watch	21
DCM News	22
Upper Wensleydale Benefice Services	24
Mystery Picture	33

April Competition

Answers are the names of retail outlets found on the High Street or in retail parks. All were open for business at the time of going to print!

1. Hyphenated poultry pen (2,2)
2. Wet pebbles (11)
3. If this accommodation was a teapot would it be useless? (5,9)
4. So muddled Jeni howls (4,5)
5. All naked in disarray (8)
6. The place to buy a dull, greyish-brown, tall deciduous tree (6)
7. Hold it a moment flower (8)
8. Prudish animal carrier (7)
9. Hit the ground (9)
10. Thick pole (4)
11. Rescuers of short glasses (10)
12. Confusion results in mad screen pranks (5,3,7)
13. Staffed by troubled boy traders, ? (6,4)
14. RAF holds this store (8)
15. Here in Susy's bar (10)
16. Cockney rubies (6)

Please send in your answers to arrive by **Tuesday, April 25th.**

Don't forget to include the details of your nominated charity which will receive the £20 prize should you win.

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March Competition Answers

1. Stanhope
2. Kettlewell
3. Lofthouse
4. Romalldkirk
5. Crackpot
6. Hawes
7. Coniston Cold
8. Glasshouses
9. Cowshill
10. Reeth
11. Burnsall
12. Cotherstone
13. Thornton Watlass
14. Esholt or Eccup

A few correct entries this month and the winner chosen at random was Pauline Leigh of Derbyshire whose nominated charity to receive £20 is Herriot Hospice Homecare.

Raymond and Kathleen Harrington

Congratulations on your
Golden Wedding Anniversary - April 12th.

Love - Terry, Ann, Evie and Cara

Sheila Cockett

We would like to thank everyone for all the cards and kind messages we received after Mum's passing.

Thank you. Louise, David and Daniel.

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
Bainbridge:	Sylvia Crookes, 3, Bainside	650525
Askrigg:	Sykes Shop,	650535
Carperby:	Anthony Abraham Hall Garth	663243
West Burton:	Nadine Bell, Margarets Cottage	663559
Aysgarth:	Hamilton's Tearoom	663423
Redmire:	Kevin Davis Westholme	624165
Thoralby:	Neil Piper	663747
West Witton	Christine Barker, Chestnut Garth	624934

Penhill Benefice

Church Services: Before making any journey please check our website at penhillbenefice.co.uk/services for updates.

There will be a Telephone Service each **Sunday** at **9.30am**. Dial **0333 0110 946** and enter room number 61337190# and PIN 7450#. (There could be a charge).

Sunday, April 2nd, Palm Sunday:

10.30am Penhill Together Family Service, St. Mary's, Redmire. Breakfast served in the Village Hall from **9.00am** and procession to church at **10.00am**. All welcome.

Holy Week - Meditation Services in church at **7.00pm**:

Monday April 3rd - St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar.

Tuesday April 4th - St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.

Wednesday April 5th - St. Mary's, Redmire.

Maundy Thursday - Holy Communion, Thornton Rust Mission Room.

Good Friday - The Witness of the Cross:

- 8.55am** Preston outside church;
- 9.25am** Redmire High Green;
- 9.55am** Castle Bolton Millennium Seat;
- 10.25am** Carperby Cross;
- 11.05am** Thornton Rust Village Hall
- 11.35am** Thoraby Upper Green;
- Noon** Newbiggin Waterfall;
- 12.30pm** West Burton Market Cross;
- 1.25pm** West Witton opposite Wensleydale Heifer;
- 2.00pm** Aysgarth Village Green.

Alex Kravchenko

BSc (Hons) MChS

Chiroprapist / Podiatrist

Member of the Health Professions Council

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Yorkshire Foot Clinics
25, Frenchgate, Richmond DL10 4NZ
Bishop Auckland/ Hawes 667449

Clinic Tel 01748 850020
Email: yorkshirefootclinics@yahoo.com

Good Friday Church Services

- 9.15am** St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar.
- 2.00pm** St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.
- 2.30pm** St. Andrew's, Aysgarth.

Sunday, April 9th, Easter Sunday:

- 9.30am** Holy Communion, St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar.
- 9.30am** Holy Communion, St. Mary's, Redmire.
- 11.00am** Family Communion with activities, St. Andrew's, Aysgarth.
- 11.00am** Holy Communion, St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.

Sunday, April 16th:

- 9.30am** Holy Communion, St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar.
- 9.30am** Holy Communion, St. Mary's, Redmire.
- 11.00am** Holy Communion, St. Andrew's, Aysgarth.
- 11.00am** Morning Prayer, St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.

Sunday, April 23rd:

- 9.30am** Holy Communion, St. Bartholomew's, West Witton. (APCM)
- 11.00am** Morning Prayer, St. Andrew's, Aysgarth.
- 4.00pm** Evening Prayer, Thornton Rust Mission Room.

April Mid-Week Services:

Thursday 13th and 27th at 9.30am. Holy Communion, at St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.

Church Coffee Morning: Wednesday, April 5th from **10.30am to noon** at Redmire Village Hall.

Church Afternoon Tea: Wednesday, April 19th from **2.00pm to 4.00pm** at Redmire Village Hall.



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Newsletter Chairman's Annual Report 2023

Well the last twelve months have seen Covid virtually disappear as a factor in our lives – only to be replaced by the threat of World War 3, roaring inflation and a cost of living crisis! But life in Wensleydale seems to have carried on almost as normal and hopefully the monthly Newsletter has helped by continuing to provide some stability.

As always we would like to thank our advertisers who, on the whole, have continued to support us and to our regular contributors and Guest Editors who manage to fill our pages every month.

I would like to thank Kevin Davis who alternates with me as Editor and hopefully you can't spot the difference between our efforts to produce the Newsletter to the same quality of layout and grammatical content as our esteemed original editor, Alan Watkinson, specified.

Karen Jones did a splendid job of organising the Schools Writing Competition in 2022/23 and a big thank-you to our new Judge Jane Huntington, who had the unenviable task of selecting the winning entries from some excellent pieces of work.

There have been a number of changes to the Newsletter committee and responsibilities since the last AGM.

Firstly, Alastair Macintosh resigned from the committee for health reasons in June 2022. Alastair had been on the committee since 2006 and was the first person to take over full editorial responsibility and chairmanship from Alan Watkinson. We are very grateful for his hard work over those 16 years and wish him well.

Secondly, we welcomed Tony Hutchinson to

the committee in August 2022. Tony who lives in Breconbar near Askrigg has started to assist the editor by preparing some of the articles we receive for publication using the Publisher software.

Thirdly, the 2023 AGM marks the end of Janet Thomson's role as Treasurer for the Newsletter. Janet has held the post for 15 years and the committee would like to thank her for the great work she has done during this period. Fortunately Janet is not resigning from the committee and we value her knowledge and commitment to our work. Karen Jones is taking over as Treasurer and we wish her well in her new role.

Finally, a word of thanks to Karen Prudden who takes the minutes of our meetings. Despite her failing eyesight Karen is keen to continue in this role and continue to write articles for which we are also extremely grateful.

And now a plea – we are all getting older and that is as true for the Newsletter committee as it is for everyone else. We need some new, younger, blood on our committee if we are to continue to produce the Newsletter every month. If you value the Newsletter could you help to keep it going by joining our team? Just a few jobs at first, not much time involvement, but getting to know how things work. Computer skills particularly welcome.

Barry Cruickshanks
Chairman



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Newsletter Accounts March 2022 to February 2023

Income

Balances b/f	<u>12808.07</u>
Donations & postal subs	1186.30
Collection boxes	4377.31
Adverts	9593.50
Interest (Skipton BS)	<u>29.58</u>
Year's income	<u>15186.69</u>
	27994.76

Expenditure

Production costs	8970.00
Distribution costs	885.31
Donations	1590.00
Committee expenses & honoraria	99.35
Room rental	0.00
Prizes	523.02
Book grant scheme for students	444.78
Bank charges	118.22
Computer services & hardware	<u>952.39</u>
Year's expenditure	14325.13
Unclaimed cheques	20.00

Balance c/f	<u>13689.63</u>
	27994.76

The accounts were audited and approved on 6th March 2023 by Barry Wilcox, MCMI, and we thank him for providing this service to the Newsletter for so many years.

The Newsletter's finances have been subject to a whole year of charges by HSBC for all banking activities that are not online and, after the AGM, a new online account will become operational – please look for details on the back cover of the Newsletter soon.

We have helped two university students with grants during this financial year and the UWNL

Children's Story Writing Competition was approached with enthusiasm by local primary school children; prizes have now been awarded to the winners and their schools.

Through our monthly competitions, we donated to several local and national charities on behalf of competition winners: Hawes Primary School, Homestart Richmondshire, Little White Bus, Macmillan Cancer Support Service, Rosemere Cancer Foundation at Preston, St Oswald's Church Tower Appeal, Sycamore Hall payphone, and Teesside Hospice.

There were only a few requests for donations this year (from Dalesplay, Sycamore Hall Film Screen and Wensleydale Chorus) but the Committee decided again to make donations to the Great North Air Ambulance Service and the Yorkshire Air Ambulance in lieu of sending Christmas cards.

We end the year with healthy reserves in both our current and savings accounts and we look forward to supporting the Upper Dales community in whatever way we can in the future.

This is my final annual report of the Newsletter Accounts as, at the AGM, I am handing over the role of Treasurer to Karen Jones. As always, I would like to record our thanks to our generous readers who also send donations with their subscriptions or who put a little more in our collection boxes – and also for the many appreciative comments on the Newsletter that we receive too.

J.W.T.



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Bluebox - April Update

What a month! As I write this month's update, we are

approaching the final workshop in our Musical Cultures project.

What a fantastic opportunity it has been so far. Caribbean Steel Drumming with Nicole Coker was great fun and the sharing performance at the end of the day included participants teaching family, friends and local residents how to play. These few unexpected moments brought everyone together and reminded me how powerful community music making can be when a common interest is shared. Bhangra Dance and Drums promises another equally engaging and rewarding experience. Jake Gault, Fred Norman and Bethan Sowerby have done an amazing job organizing the sessions which have been supported by NYMAZ and Youth Music, using public funding from the National Lottery through Arts Council England.



Our Youth Voice Steering Group also arranged careers advice sessions and worked with David Owen from Flash Company Arts in Whitby. Sessions took place on Zoom and in-person and provided an industry insight into song writing, productions skills, life as a touring artist and the many supporting roles for events and marketing. If you missed the sessions but would like to find out more, contact us for information about our mentoring and support opportunities.

Decades 2023 – The Concert Tour: We are busy rehearsing and are about to confirm our tour dates for May, June and July. This year's programme will feature timeless dancefloor classics from the 1940s to the present day. Keep an eye on our website and social media for more information.

Leyburn Community Arts Festival and Make Music Day 2023: Activities and events for all ages will run from **Wednesday, June 21st to Sunday, June 25th**. We have had a great response so far from creative and performing arts groups and organisations who would like to

take part in our celebrations at St. Matthew's Church, The Methodist Church Hall and Leyburn Arts and Community Centre. There will be exhibitions, talks, poetry, music, dance, drama, crafts, refreshments and more to enjoy. If you are interested in performing, demonstrating, sharing your skills or helping volunteer during the festival celebrations, please contact us.

Fancy trying something new? Wensleydale Community Gospel Choir and Leyburn Jazz Collective are two initiatives we will be hosting taster sessions for at Leyburn Methodist Hall over the coming weeks. This is in response to enquiries for activities open to all members of the local community to take part in and enjoy. We would like to hear from anyone who is interested in taking part. Sessions will be relaxed, informal and a great way to meet people who share an interest in music and the Arts.

Coffee Mornings and Fund-raising: Our BlueAngels do amazing work helping raise funds to support our activities and you can be part of it. This can be by donating on a regular basis, volunteering, attending coffee mornings, our annual Quiz Night or supporting our performance events. We will be hosting coffee mornings at Leyburn Methodist Hall on **Friday, April 14th and Friday, September 15th** and Richmond Town Hall on **Thursday, May 25th and Thursday, August 31st**. There will be books, cakes, tombola, raffle and of course a friendly welcome and plenty of chat over a cuppa. Donations welcome. Simon Eastwood will again be Quiz Master on **Friday, September 29th** at The Aysgarth Falls Café and Gift Shop.

To book your FREE place or find out more information contact Colin Bailey on **07711 211169**, email info@blueboxt.co.uk or book online at www.blueboxt.co.uk.

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Hawes Primary School News

Wall Art in School: We would like to enhance our school by having some vibrant wall art on some of the walls in school and have asked a company to give us a quote, which came back at just over £5K. We are trying to get a grant/donations/sponsorships towards this, and we would be very grateful of any suggestions of either where we may possibly get a grant or donations, or maybe you know of someone who could perhaps draw or paint a mural on some of the walls. Any ideas would be very welcome! Thank you. Below is a link to an idea we were thinking of for our new library. We would also like one for our wellbeing and mindfulness area and others to enhance the environment in the main corridor and hall in different designs e.g. 'Our World' or linked to our school vision and curriculum drivers.

<https://www.promoteyourschool.co.uk/blog/case-study/brookfield-infant-school-library-wall-art>

World Book Day: Thank you so much to Claire from the Wonky Tree Bookshop in Leyburn who kindly came into school to read and share a story with classes and to allow each child to swap their World Book Day tokens and come home with a book to enjoy. The Wonky Tree Bookshop opened in Leyburn recently so do pay them a visit when you are next there.



All the school joined in with this wonderful celebration of reading for pleasure. We had a vast array of different costumes and the children were able to celebrate reading in different ways across school. A highlight was the grand opening of our new school Library and now the children will be able to use this area to look at books and also, in the near future, to borrow books to take home. Thank you to Mrs Brown for her organisation and hard work for World Book Day and also for her development of the Library with our dedicated Y6 Reading Ambassadors.

Class 1 Visit to the Fire Station: All of the children in class behaved brilliantly and were an absolute credit to our school as they made their way down town to the fire station. They listened well and were very excited by exploring the different uniforms and equipment that the fire fighters use in their job, the highlight being the use of the hoses at the end of the session to knock over signs and also to drench one or two fire fighters!



Thank you to Ant, Ron, John and Dave at the Fire Station for showing us around and allowing the children (and adults!) to be involved. Thank you to Miss Burton, Mrs Fremlin and Adelle for their help with our visit.

Please keep up to date with all our school news via our website <http://www.hawes.n-yorks.sch.uk> or contact school via email – hawes@ycatschools.co.uk. We also have a school Facebook page where you can view our learning in school.

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Best Foot Forward – Walking from Home

Choosing where to go for a walk involves a number of considerations: how long have we got? where haven't we been recently? what will the weather allow us to do? do we want something new or something familiar? and no doubt many more questions. Increasingly, one of them should be how far can we justify travelling? We are all encouraged to limit our car use to help reduce our carbon emissions. This aim is reinforced by the increased cost of fuel, along with the increased cost of just about everything else.

It isn't just walkers to whom this applies. Many organisations have set targets to achieve zero emissions within a few years, we are urged to car share to go to events and, where possible, to use public transport. The latter is not easy in the Dales but linear walks using buses (or even trains) are possibilities. Most people try to avoid long journeys to work and the National Park is averse to recruiting volunteers who live a long way away. Ten years ago, such ideas were only being paid lip service but in the last year or two they have become mainstream thinking.

A lot of my friends have a rule of thumb that the longer the walk the further they are prepared to travel. There is no rational logic to this but in general people will travel further for a ten mile walk than for a three mile walk. I suppose it's all about justification. Do you remember half a century ago, when recycling was in its infancy, some people travelled twenty miles in gas-guzzling vehicles, just to put one newspaper in a recycling bin? We have moved on a bit since then and we now have a better idea of what is a justifiable journey.

Anyway, this article is supposed to be about walking and the title of this piece suggests that we might walk from home. Many of us do anyway, to walk the dog, collect a newspaper or visit a friend. But I'm really talking about longer, full day walks. It's a good feeling, setting off without a car. The downside is that the paths become over familiar and the walk loses that sense of exploration provided by a new area. The longer the walk, of course, the greater the scope for finding something different but after twenty four years living in Thorlby the surrounding paths are pretty familiar. The trick I use is to include something new somewhere on the route; or if that isn't possible,

something we haven't done for a long time. A change is as good as a rest, they say.

With all this in mind, I planned a walk in mid-February this year. It was actually Valentine's Day and as my wife likes walking too, and as the weather forecast looked good, we thought a day out together would be a good thing. It wasn't a new walk; in fact we have done it a few times before but importantly, it was from the front door, not using the car at all. It is a route which basically goes over from Bishopdale into Coverdale and back by a different route. To add an additional incentive I checked online the opening hours of the pub in Carlton. They looked OK so off we went. A long way for a pint, some would say, but a good motivation for our walk.



It was indeed a glorious day, albeit cold and frosty. The views looked promising despite a little early morning mist, and we thought how thankful we should be to be able to walk from the doorstep into such a wonderful landscape. It wouldn't be half as much pleasure walking from a housing estate in a big city. For many of us that's why we live here, of course. After recent dry weather the ground was not too muddy as we walked down Goose Lane out of Thorlby. Bishopdale Beck was low as we crossed on the footbridge. On the far side is a sign announcing no right of way along the river bank. A pity, we often think, because a path here through the fields would avoid ten minutes of walking on the Bishopdale road. We are resigned to this and on this occasion we walked all the way along the road to the bottom of West Burton. Even this early in the year there were signs of spring: carpets of snowdrops, buds on the trees, birds singing and curlews in the fields. They seem to get here earlier every year.

From West Burton there is a track up the hillside, known as Morpeth Gate. It is an old road which goes all the way to Witton Steeps and it still has vehicular rights of way, too steep and rough for cars but much used by farm traffic. Like many Dales hillsides, the track goes up in stages like a staircase, reaching a height of about 1,000 feet (300 metres) before levelling out. As we climbed, the view of Wensleydale opened up, revealing Aysgarth, Carperby, Addlebrough and other landmarks. After a mile or two we came to a significant crossroads: left down Nossil Lane to West Witton; straight on for Witton Steeps and right for Penhill, which was our choice. Penhill is a significant hill, dominating the view in mid-Wensleydale and although at 1814 feet (553 metres) it is substantially lower than many hills up dale, it stands out clearly from many directions. Most people just go to the 'beacon' at the east end, which is really only a constructed cairn, rebuilt several times. Reputedly there was a beacon, lit to warn of the approaching Spanish Armada in 1588. The site of this is a short walk from the cairn, near a trig point. This isn't the top either. The real summit is at Heights of Hazeley, a mile or more further south-west. It has no marker or cairn because there are no available stones nearby. Just choose the highest clump of heather.

Our route didn't take us anywhere near there. We followed the old miners track which cuts a deep groove diagonally across the face of Black Scar, the gritstone escarpment at the top of the slope. There has been substantial quarrying from here in the past, as well as lead mining lower down. High up on a north-facing slope, it must have been a challenging place to work in days gone by.

Emerging onto the plateau, there is a good track which cuts across Penhill and leads towards Ramsgill Head. This is grouse territory and there were plenty about, but it was a bit early in the season for golden plover, which nest up here in spring. Soon we were heading down the track into Coverdale. We had decided to drop right down to the bottom of the village of Carlton, with a view to calling in at the Foresters Arms, the community run pub in the village. Imagine our disappointment and annoyance when we saw the signboard saying it was closed Monday and Tuesday lunchtimes. The website I had looked at said just closed Monday lunchtime and this was a Tuesday. I should have

looked at the pub's own website, which was accurate. It was a lesson in online carelessness.

The return trip took us through the rest of the long village and up the track to Howden Lodge, a large shooting Lodge up on the moor. This



time the hill crossing was not as high, passing between Penhill and its neighbour, Harland Hill. It leads to the top of Thupton Gill with good views into Walden and beyond. A steep and often stony track then leads down into the valley past Braithwaite lead mill chimney (closed in 1870) to Cote Bridge, from where it is only a short walk back to West Burton and Thoraby. Altogether it is about twelve miles.

It was a satisfying walk, all the more so because we hadn't used the car. Some parts of it we hadn't done for a while so that raised the interest level. It was quite obviously still winter but increasing daylight and some early signs of spring had us looking forward to more walks from home in the future.

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Bainbridge W.I.

Looking Forward To Spring

April has arrived and with it, we hope, the spring. March threw us a bit of all sorts of weather but this did not deter the ladies of Bainbridge WI from continuing their busy programme of activities.

In February, the Lunch Club tried out the offering at The Kings Arms in Askrigg, where they had a good time with lots of chat, as usual. The venue in March was The Foresters Arms in Coverdale, sampling good Yorkshire food.

The Garden Club have been meeting at members' homes to discuss plans for the forthcoming growing season. We held our March meeting at Sycamore Hall where we were joined by residents who we hope to work alongside in the future, assisting with development of the garden this year. A very exciting opportunity for us which we are really looking forward to.

The Book Club are busy reading and now hold their monthly meetings at Sycamore Hall where they discuss their thoughts on the latest read.

Despite the vagaries of the weather, the Walking Group have managed to continue with their programme of walks, offering a choice of a short, simple walk or a longer, more challenging walk. At the end of the walks, there is always the reward of food at a local venue. Still not enough incentive for me at this time of year, but one day, maybe!

Our March monthly meeting saw Joy Barrett of Burterset come along to demonstrate her 'one pot' cookery. It was very entertaining and we learned a lot about spices which Joy loves using in her recipes. We also learned about pre-soaking rice, which was something new to us. The food was delicious and there were very

eager tasters at the end of the demonstration!

The meeting in April will be on **Thursday, April 20th, at 7.30pm** in Bainbridge Village Hall when our speaker will be David Mason from The Woodland Trust.

It is now time for us to pay our subscriptions for the forthcoming year. We have agreed to subsidise these this year, making the annual cost just £39. For this, our members get not only a monthly meeting, but access to all our clubs, events and activities as well as those arranged by the North Yorkshire West Federation. We are always looking to increase our membership and happy to welcome new members to join us. We are a very friendly and lively bunch and you can choose just how involved you wish to get. Why not come along to our next meeting to meet us and hear about what we have planned for the forthcoming year? We would love to see you!

For further enquiries, please contact our President, **Nicola Robinson** on **01969 650801**.



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The children in Dalesplay have been learning about their environment. They have been learning how to help take care of it by litter picking and learning what we can recycle. We have been developing our colour recognition through games and activities and made our Mummies' special gifts to say thank you for all they do for us.

We all dressed up for World Book Day as our favourite book characters and shared some of our favourite stories. We were very lucky to have staff who were able to walk into work on our snow day to keep the setting open for those

who needed it. We had fun mark-making in the snow, taking turns to ride on the sledge, we played with the small world arctic animals in the snow and made snow angels.

Don't forget we have a fully stocked food bank shelf in our entrance, if you need anything please do not hesitate to call in and get what you need or contact us on dalesplay1@btconnect.com and we can arrange to get some things delivered discreetly. It is designed to help those in need and we don't want anyone having to go hungry.

We have lots of fun activities set for the Easter holidays. We have a couple of places still available so get in touch if you need a place.

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**Spring Campaign
#PeatFreeApril**

Leave Peat Where It Belongs.

94% of our UK peatlands are in a decimated state, an environmental catastrophe resulting from more than 70 years of inappropriate farming policy and ongoing commercial extraction for the horticulture sector.

The encouraging news is that peat for the amateur gardening sector will be banned in England from 2024 with several retailers already selling good quality, peat free composts. Yet concerningly, there is no date when peat use in the professional sector will be banned. The RHS has pledged that all its gardens, show displays and plant sales will be peat free by 2025 (its bagged compost already is), yet your consumer pressure is needed to encourage other show gardens and garden centres to do the right thing and follow suit.

Top tips for going peat free this April:

Visit: www.wildlifetrusts.org/actions/how-go-peat-free for a list of which retailers are, and aren't peat free!

Check labels on potted plants, pellets, plugs and composts and only buy those that state they are peat free. 'Environmentally friendly' does not mean peat free. Stand up for peatlands: If they don't stock what you want in a peat free option – ask for it and explain why.

Experiment with ways of improving your soils naturally and organically; www.gardenorganic and www.rhs.org.uk have guidance for creating healthy soils. They also have information about how to make your own compost, one of the most environmentally friendly ways to go peat free.

Visit www.friendsofthedales.org.uk for further information about our Peatlands Policy and Peatlands campaign.



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Wensleydale Chorus

Wensleydale Chorus begins rehearsals on **Wednesday, May 3rd** for its 39th year of classical concerts. And it is offering you the chance to be part of it.

The choir will be performing Schubert's Mass in G and the Nelson Mass by Haydn and is wanting new members. It may sound daunting, starting from scratch and sixteen rehearsals later being ready to perform at Bedale Methodist and St John's Church, East Witton on consecutive Saturdays in July.

However, it is not. What it is, is great fun and you will be amazed at what you can achieve in a relatively short space of time with the help of a wonderful conductor in Stan Roorcoft MBE, and a bunch of like-minded people around you.

Choir membership nationally has taken a bit of a knock since the Covid pandemic. Many are fearful of getting out and mixing but there's a consensus that singing is good for one's mental

health, especially for those yet to give it a try. And we can't live like hermits in the shadow of Covid forever, can we?

We don't expect you to read music and you will not be asked to take part in an audition. Just turn up with your enthusiasm and have a go.

Rehearsals start on **Wednesday, May 3rd** at Leyburn Methodist Church at **7.30pm**. Any queries go to wenchor@gmail.com or ring **Julie 07817 711227**.

Good Friday Walk of Witness

Good Friday, April 7th, 10.30am

The annual Good Friday Walk of Witness will start from Gayle Chapel to conclude with a **11.30am** service at St Margaret's Church.

If you can't make the walk you are still welcome at the service. We hope you will join us.



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Swaledale Festival Shines a Light On Local Talent

As well as bringing top notch national and international artists to Dales stages, this year's Swaledale Festival celebrates the remarkable talent and traditions that reside in the area. The line-up includes 21 events by local musicians, poets, puppeteers, choirs and visual artists.

Rebecca Lundberg is a first class trombonist and conductor from Leyburn. As a member of the famous and prize-winning WFEL Fairey Band, she will take part in three concerts in the Festival fortnight.

The first is a family-friendly screening of the ground-breaking animation 'Wallace and Gromit: The Wrong Trousers'. 2023 marks the film's 30th anniversary, and the Fairey Band has teamed up with its creators, Aardman, to celebrate the milestone with a screening accompanied by a specially adapted live brass band score. This is ideal half-term entertainment for families, and a great way to introduce young people to the thrill of live music. The film will show at **1.30pm on Sunday, May 28th** at The Garden Rooms at Tennants in Wensleydale - the home of Wallace's favourite cheese. Afterwards, some of the band members will be on hand in the foyer to demonstrate and talk about their instruments.

At **7.30pm** on the same day, WFEL Fairey Band will perform a full evening concert at Tennants with Rebecca Lundberg soloing on trombone. The programme will include brass-band favourites such as film themes, marches and hymns, and some exciting new arrangements.

Rebecca is also the conductor of Leyburn Band. Under her baton, Lower Wensleydale's award-winning brass band will perform a concert on **Tuesday, May 30th** at St. Andrew's Church in Aysgarth. Expect an eclectic and rousing programme featuring repertoire from their forthcoming CD.

The Festival spotlights more Yorkshire talent with Lempen Puppet Theatre's Cardboard Carnival in Richmond's beautiful Georgian Theatre Royal on **Wednesday, May 31st**. Liz and Daniel Lempen are the tour-de-force behind Skipton Puppet Festival and creators of original shows that tour everywhere from tiny Scottish islands to international festivals. In this performance, a series of ingeniously created animals will unfurl to Camille Saint-Saëns'

evocative 'Carnival of the Animals' music. The show is a magical celebration of the power of puppetry that will delight all ages.

In advance of the Festival, Lempen will run a series of free puppetry workshops for local children who will each assemble a puppet from everyday materials. The students will then share their creations in a unique Puppet Talent Show on **Sunday, May 28th** - to the audience gathered for the Wallace and Gromit screening. The workshops will take place at Tennants on **Sunday, May 14th** and **Sunday, May 21st**, and are suitable for children from years 5 to 8. For more information, please contact the Festival's Community and Education Officer, Heather Hodgson: heather@swalefest.org.

The world-renowned lute virtuoso Jacob Heringman, who lives in Richmond, will perform a special recital with the outstanding mezzo-soprano Clare Wilkinson on **Wednesday, June 7th** in the delightful Holy Trinity Church in Low Row, Swaledale. You'll hear compositions by John Dowland, William Byrd, Thomas Morley and Stephen Wilkinson (Clare's father), as well as the world premiere of a new song by Joshua Brown.

David Francis, from Preston under Scar, plays the harpsichord with Manchester Baroque. Since its launch in 2019, this superb group has built a reputation for vibrant performances of historical music on period instruments. They will play solos, duets, sonatas and concertos by Handel, Tassarini and Corelli on **Friday, June 2nd** at St. Mary's Church in Richmond.

Another Swaledale Festival highlight will come from the excellent Jervaux Singers, a locally based professional group comprising eight of the country's finest choral singers. They will perform a delicious programme of French music by Fauré, Debussy, Ravel, Honneger and Poulenc in St. Andrews, Aysgarth on **Monday, June 5th**.

There are also poetry walks and workshops in the landscape with Dales poet Mary-Jane Holmes, a talk on the Northern Dales night skies by local astronomer Paul Clark, late-night moon-gazing on Reeth Green with the Reeth Informal Astronomy Group, and exhibitions by talented local artists including the exceptional painter from Gunnerside, Rachel Antill.

Tickets for under 25s are available for nearly all events for just £3. For details and tickets please visit www.swalefest.org.

Hawes Market House News

We have arranged for three Saturday Markets to be held at the Market House. We have lots of exciting new stalls with many traders who have not previously been to Hawes – anything from cakes to plants and from jam to rope.

The first market will be held on **Saturday, April 1st** with the next two being held on **May 20th and July 15th**.

All proceeds from the rental of the stalls will go towards replacing our aluminium single-glazed windows and our doors. We need to find £14,000 so please come and support us. The markets will only be successful if we can get lots of people to come through the doors (free entry) and support the sellers. We would like to make these markets an annual event so please come along and support the Market House and the traders.

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23 rd May	Needle Felted Mouse	1pm	£45

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Penhill Ladies

On **Wednesday, April 19th** we look forward to welcoming Susan Parry. Susan's talk is entitled "From Forensics to Crime Fiction" so will definitely be fascinating. New members and visitors are warmly welcomed. (Visitors £5 to include refreshments.)

Penhill Ladies meet in Carperby Village Institute at **7.30pm** on the third Wednesday in the month. For more details it's **Shelagh 01969 663958**.



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Heavens Above

Tiny Mercury, the Solar System's innermost planet, puts on its best evening display of the year this month. You'll find it soon after sunset just above the north-western horizon to the lower right of Venus, the second planet out from the Sun.

Mercury's a tiny world not much bigger than our own Moon and can be a tricky object to spot. It never strays far from the Sun, so we only get to see it in the early evening or early morning sky. It's always fairly low down so you'll need a fairly flat unobstructed horizon to catch a glimpse of it. At the start of the month the planet is quite bright at magnitude minus 1.1 but gradually fades as it climbs higher in the sky. It reaches its greatest separation from the Sun on **April 11th** when it sets around **10.00pm**. By then the little planet has dimmed to magnitude +0.1 and gradually fades from view before disappearing into the twilight during the third week of April.

Venus, Mercury's larger sibling, is a brilliant object for the next few months. At magnitude minus 4.1 it's brighter than anything else in the sky apart from the Sun and Moon. It doesn't set until after midnight so we get to see it in a pitch-black sky – a dazzling sight on a clear, moonless night.

2023 is an excellent year for observing the annual Lyrid meteor shower which comes to a peak on the night of **April 22nd/23rd**. Lyrid meteors are caused by debris shed by Comet

Thatcher (!) burning up in the Earth's atmosphere. They often leave glowing trails of dust behind them. With the Moon well out of the way it could be a pretty good show this year.

Now that April's here all the springtime constellations led by Leo the Celestial Lion are well on view in the south by the middle of the evening. See if you can pick out the large curved pattern of stars that form the lion's head and mane. It's often called the Sickle for obvious reasons and looks like a backward facing '?' Below Leo, snaking right across the southern horizon, you'll find the largest and longest of all the constellations – Hydra the Water Serpent – in the old Greek Myths a fearsome many-headed monster slain by Hercules as one of his 12 'labours'. The majority of Hydra's stars are pretty faint so it's not particularly distinctive but you should be able to locate its head, an attractive circlet of 6 stars just below the constellation of Cancer the Crab. Have clear skies!

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Let's Talk North Yorkshire

Great news! We have launched the first Climate and Transport Survey for young people between the ages of 16-25.

We have listened to our first set of Let's Talk surveys and young people let us know that they wanted their own survey. During Let's Talk Climate and Let's Talk Transport, we wanted to make this change for them and created a survey, this has been done with the help of members of our community who are under 25, to allow young people's voices to be heard.

Please encourage young people between the ages of 16 - 25 to complete this survey to get their thoughts and views heard. The survey contains 7 questions focusing on Climate and Transport across North Yorkshire. It should only take around 10 minutes maximum to complete.

The survey can be found at <https://letstalkny.commonplace.is/en-GB/proposals/under25-climate-transport/step1>. Like to ask a question to the project team? Email hello@commonplace.is.



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

- 1 Saturday Market at Hawes Market House. See p.17.
 - 1 Concert - Saltfishforty. 8.00pm Reeth Memorial Hall. See p.33.
 - 1 Children's Easter Hunt in aid of Bainbridge Christmas Lights. See p.35.
 - 7 Dominoes. 7.30pm. Carperby Institute.
 - 8, 9 Art Exhibition. 10.00am - 4.00pm. West Burton Village Hall. See p.20.
 - 8 Coffee Morning. 10.30am - 1.00pm. Bainbridge Village Hall. See p.35.
 - 13 Meet local councillor - Jill McMullon. 10.00am - 11.00am. Hawes Community Office. See p.3.
 - 14 Blueboxt Coffee Morning. Leyburn Methodist Hall. See p.8.
 - 14 VaCO Concert. 7.30pm. St. Andrew's Aysgarth. See p.29.
 - 15 LA&CC Talk. See p.26.
 - 18 Local History Group Talk. 2.00pm. Middleham Key Centre. See p.35.
 - 19 Penhill Ladies Meeting. 7.30pm. Carperby Village Institute. See p.17.
 - 20 Bainbridge WI Meeting. 7.30pm. Bainbridge Village Hall. See p.12.
 - 21 u3a Meeting. 10.00am. LA&CC. See p.25.
 - 21 Little White Bus Trip. See p.31.
 - 25 Meet local councillor - Yvonne Peacock. 10.00am - Noon. Hawes Community Office. See p.3.
 - 29 Concert - Jez Lowe. 8.00pm. Reeth memorial Hall. See p.33.
 - 30 Closing date for photography Competition. See p.3.
- May**
- 3 Wensleydale Chorus rehearsal. 7.30pm. Leyburn Methodist Church. See p.15.
 - 5 Concert - Jack Rutter. 8.00pm. Reeth Memorial Hall. See.p.33.

The Cornmill Tearoom

The Tearoom in Bainbridge is reopening on **Monday, April 24th**, under the same management as the Bake Well Coffee Shop in Askrigg. Watch this space for more details in the next issue.

**West Burton Art Group
 Easter Exhibition**

April 8th and 9th April. 10.00am – 4.00pm
 at West Burton Village Hall

All members of the group are amateurs but the quality of their work in watercolour, oils and acrylics is well worth seeing. You are cordially invited to visit this exhibition and to take home original artwork at a bargain price.

Free admission. Tea and Coffee available. Donations to the Herriot Hospice Homecare fund are invited.

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Upper Dales Health Watch

The Patient Participation Group for the
Central Dales Practice

Synopsis of the meeting held on
February 20th

Carers at Sycamore Hall can contact the CDP on behalf of patients. The Wi-Fi and land line in the Step-up Step down flat at Sycamore Hall has received donations from NYCC courtesy of Cllr Yvonne Peacock and from RDC.

The CDP has a new website. The synopsis of the UDHW minutes will be put on this website. A centre page spread with information from the Central Dales Practice will be included in the May issue of the Upper Wensleydale Newsletter.

There has as yet been no local Physiotherapist appointment by South TeesHsNHSFT. The Primary Care Network have a physiotherapist who can be seen in Leyburn or Aldborough St. John if a patient has not seen a GP / ANP about a specific problem. Appointments can be made via the Practice's receptionists.

Practice staff – Dr Pain has no plans to retire. The rumour that he is leaving is false. Dr Linda Philbin works at Hawes on a Wednesday and from April will also work there on Mondays and Tuesdays. Dr Pain works on Thursday and Fridays at Hawes. Dr Helen Law and Fiona Morrison (ANP) will lead the Aysgarth team. Elizabeth Fawcett is now the Aysgarth receptionist and Richard Cloughton the receptionist in Hawes. He is training to be a dispenser. Davina Lovegreen is the dispenser at Aysgarth. Amy Wardell provides Mental Health counselling on Mondays in Hawes. She will initially speak to a patient by phone but normally would be able to see an urgent patient within a week.

A new phone system has been installed. This has had some initial problems for which the CDP apologises to anyone affected. There are now more lines for staff to phone out, and 5 in coming callers can be held in a queue. Callers are invited to choose from 3 options: 1 - Reception. 2 - Dispenser. 3 - Medical Secretary (probably to be re-titled GP Assistant). This is Sarah Weatherald.

Better Access Clinics are held in Hawes on Friday evenings and at Aysgarth once a month on a **Saturday 8.30am – 4.30pm**. Dr Pain leads this service. Getting a same day face to face

appointment continues to be a concern for some patients. Urgent patients are seen the same day. Patient footfall had increased by 35% since 2020. One problem is Primary Care patients waiting for Secondary Care appointments who get anxious during the wait they experience. Sarah Weatherald's role has been provided specifically to support this underlying issue.

Samples must be requested by a GP or ANP. Any sample not clinically indicated will not be accepted. This is to reduce unnecessary work. Hospitals are commissioned to provide services to patients with specific geographical areas. If a patient wishes to be seen in an alternative hospital this is not always possible. The Friary Hospital in Richmond is not used by the Central Dales Practice. The Catterick Integrated Care Centre is going to happen, and the Friarage Hospital has got funding promised for new operating theatres.

Jane Ritchie, Hon. Secretary



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News from Dales Countryside Museum

Open daily **10.00am to 5.00pm**. Last entry one hour before closing.

Contact: hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk or call **01969 666210**.

The last few weeks have been busy. Volunteers have been helping in many different ways. The amazing Norah Worth scrapbook collection is being transferred into special archive boxes, funded by the Friends of the Dales Countryside Museum. Work is continuing on our outdoor trail, with new features and things to play on. If you're looking for voluntary work, do get in touch as we have lots of opportunities for getting involved.

Preparations are underway for our next exhibition, *Within These Walls – Hay time in the Yorkshire Dales* in conjunction with artist Hester Cox. Opening on **April 29th**, as well as Hester's beautiful work, it will have wonderful archive photos of hay time and fabulous oral history clips. We would love to hear from any families who employed Irish workers at hay time. If you have photos or know of someone who is happy to share their memories of Irish workers in the Dales, please get in touch.

Dales gloves, knitted with complex designs and the owner's initials and date around the wrist, are unique to Yorkshire. We're thrilled to be working with knitting writer and researcher Angharad Thomas and to be hosting a Dales Glove Study day on **May 20th**. If you're interested in the history and practicalities of Dales knitting, do book and come along to hear and meet Angharad, together with knitting designers and historians, Penelope Hemingway and Ann Kingstone. For knitters, textile enthusiasts and Dales fans, this study day brings together three experts on Dales gloves to share their knowledge and expertise. It will be an opportunity to look at the knitting collections in the museum at close hand, to hear presentations and take part in a choice of workshops. Lunch is included and the day will conclude with a launch of Angharad's new book, 'A knitters guide to gloves'.

Exhibition (included in museum admission)

Until April 19th - In Your Words

Although this wonderful exhibition comes to an end this month, we will be moving the sound

units into our permanent galleries so there will still be the chance to listen to local voices talking about work, leisure, cheese making, food and crafting. The project is continuing and you can add your own words to the collection held at Leeds University by filling in a survey from the Museum or by going online when you get home <https://dialectandheritage.org.uk/>.

Podcast - Listen to Voices from the Dales. You can find the podcasts via the museum website or via any podcast application on your smartphone or tablet. <https://www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk/explore-explore-the-museum/voices-from-the-dales-podcast/>.

Scurry Club for Children - If you're looking for things to do in the school holidays or at weekends, why not pick up a Scurry Club pass for your child (£10)? They can start collecting their squirrel badge and first stamp as soon as they visit. Each Scurry club pass allows entry for the named child and an adult carer for a year. We've put together lots of family friendly, fun events for 2023, so keep an eye on our website! www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk and Facebook page.

Wild Escape – Wonderfully Wild Dales

Hawes school children have had fun creating lots of wild creatures from recycled materials through the Wild Escape project. It's so important to share the special areas and species of the Yorkshire Dales, explain the impact of climate change and show what small steps can be taken help reduce a family's carbon footprint so that we can help safeguard these special aspects of the Yorkshire Dales for future generations.

Yorkshire Dales Young Archaeologists' Club

The club meets once a month on a **Saturday morning, 10.00am - noon**. At our session in March we explored Gayle with staff from the Westmorland Dales project. We looked at small heritage features like date stones, gate stoops and stiles.

If you know a young person age 8 -16 years who might be interested, please let them know about the club. They're welcome to come along to try a session. Please call in advance if you'd like to join in or email dcm@yorkshiredales.org.uk or call **01969 666210**.

What's on in April ...

Events are included in Museum admission unless otherwise stated.

Drystone Walling Demonstration.

Tuesday, April 4th. 11.00am to 3.00pm.

Join Dales Volunteers as they showcase the traditional craft of drystone walling and explain the construction of this iconic feature of the National Park landscape.

Easter Egg Hunt on Bikes

Tuesday, April 4th. 10.00 am - 11.00am.

Follow the clues to find where the Easter Bunny has hidden the chocolate eggs. Suitable for beginners including Balance bikes. Start and finish point The Firebox Cafe. Appropriate clothing and footwear required. If you need to loan a bike this must be stipulated when booking. £2.50 - Please book on line www.stage1cycles.co.uk under What's on or at the Cafe or Bike Shop.

Wonderfully Wild Dales - make a meadow print

Wednesday, April 5th. 10.00am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 4.00pm.

Printmaker Hester Cox will show you how to print your own meadow habitat picture. You can also add to our huge meadow picture that will be displayed on Earth Day! Come along and discover the importance of hay meadows for storing carbon and explore the wildlife that visits or lives in them because of the diversity of plants. Booking essential.



Food for Thought: Bun, batch, cob or roll

Thursday , April 6th. 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Enjoy a taste of dialect words for all things edible and pick up a recipe from the past while you explore the 'In Your Words' exhibition.

Hands on History.

Friday, April 7th. 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Time through time: A look at how we measured time in the past and have a go at making a historic timepiece.

Drystone Walling Demonstration.

Tuesday, April 11th. 11.00am to 3.00pm.

See details for April 4th.

Food for Thought: Oatcake or havercake?

Thursday, April 13th. 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Enjoy a taste of dialect words for all things edible and pick up a recipe from the past while you explore the 'In Your Words' exhibition

Hands on History

Friday, April 14th. 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Green Man: Find out about the history of the Green Man, a symbol of Spring and rebirth, and make your own.

Drystone Walling Demonstration.

Saturday 15 April 15th. 11.00am - 3.00pm

See details for April 4th.

Wonderfully Wild Dales - make a recycled bug, butterfly or bee!

Saturday, April 22nd. 10.30am - 4.00pm

On Earth Day, create recycled bugs, butterflies and bees to add to our display and take home with your own recyclable seed pot and seeds to encourage insects into your garden - part of the Wild Escape.

Hawes Town Trail

Tuesday, 25 April 25th. 2.00pm - 4.00pm.

Join our experienced Dales Volunteers on this short 2.5 mile (3.5km) guided walk and explore the history of Hawes and the village of Gayle. Walking through this lovely market town, discover the origins of Wensleydale cheese, see where the railway once went and follow a section of the Pennine Way.

Starts at the Dales Countryside Museum. Booking Essential £3. No dogs allowed.

Basic Navigation Skills Walk.

Sunday, April 30th. 2.00pm - 5.00pm.

Join our expert map readers on this 3 mile (4.8 km) walk to learn basic navigation skills. Using an Ordnance Survey map, learn how to orientate a map, identify features, locate exact positions, and estimate distance and times to take you on your own voyages of discovery.

Starts at the Dales Countryside Museum. Booking Essential £5. No dogs allowed.



Upper Wensleydale Benefice Services in April

	St Mary & St John's, Hardraw 9.00am	St Margaret's, Hawes 10.30am	St Oswald's, Askrigg 10.30am	St Matthew's, Stalling Busk
April 2nd Palm Sunday		The Gathering	Prayer Stations April 2nd - 9th	
April 6th Maundy Thursday			Benefice Supper 6.15pm Communion Service 7.15pm	
April 7th Good Friday		10.30am Walk of Witness. Gayle Chapel to St. Margaret's, 11.30am Service at St. Margaret's		2.00pm Good Friday walk from Semerwater to Old Cross at Stalling Busk. 3.00pm Hot cross buns at St. Matthew's
April 9th Easter Sunday	Easter Communion	Ecumenical Easter Communion	Easter Communion	6.15am Daybreak Service Semerwater 2.30pm Easter Communion
April 16th	Holy Communion	Praise in the Pen Family Communion	Morning Prayer	
April 23rd	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Outreach Café Style Service	2.30 - 3.00pm Afternoon Prayer 3.15pm Pathfinders
April 30th		4.30pm Choral Evensong with the choristers of Bradford Cathedral Choir	Forest Church	
Evening Prayer by telephone is held at 4.00pm every Sunday . For details see our website - www.upperwensleydalechurch.org/services .				

Spring Booster Vaccine

A spring booster vaccine against Covid-19 is to be offered to people most at risk of serious illness to protect them this summer.

The government announced that the spring booster will be made available to people aged 75 years and over, those in care homes and those aged 5 years and over with a weakened immune system. The booster programme will start in early April, with those most vulnerable invited first.

Eligible individuals will be offered the vaccine around 6 months after their previous dose and NHS England will confirm operational

details for the programme in due course.

The spring booster offers an additional layer of protection to our most vulnerable residents to top up their immunity and reduce the risk of becoming seriously ill this summer.

Covid-19 is still circulating, and we have recently seen an increase in older people being hospitalised in England. Vaccination continues to provide the best protection against the virus, and I would encourage everyone who is eligible to come forward as soon as the booster programme starts.

Sachin Tammewar
(Pharmacist), Central Dales Pharmacy

Which is the Bigger 'Gig' - Christmas or Easter?

This question was asked of me with genuine interest and my response came without hesitation. For Christians, the events of that momentous Easter morning is the very essence of our faith. Whole libraries have been written about what took place on that day with arguments for and against its validity but with a key question remaining at the centre. If it didn't take place, then why were so many people prepared to die, then and since, to support a lie?

The Hope that is generated through the accounts of the hundreds of people who say that they met Jesus immediately after his death and the countless numbers across the millennia, including our present day, who boldly declare that they continue to do, resonates throughout humanity. I know that you might answer any statement from me or another member of the clergy with the statement, "Well you would say that wouldn't you?"(!) but on the back of a

much loved principle of mine, that important decisions need to be based on careful investigation; in this regard, I encourage you to do the same.

Billions of Christians across the world will be marking the events that led up to the crucifixion of Jesus and then celebrating in the joy of Easter Morning. The church across Upper Wensleydale will be doing the same. It might be a quiet time of reflection, a walk from Semerwater and Hot Cross Buns, the spectacle of a daybreak service beside the lake or the tradition of celebrating Easter Communion. Wherever we are, it would be wonderful to welcome you there. But however you decide to spend the Easter weekend ... may it be a blessed one filled with the joy and the hope that is at its very heart. A Happy Easter to you all!

Rev Dave

Leyburn & District u3a Group

The meeting in April is on **Friday 21st** - Fiona Andrews from the charity Dementia Forward. Doors open at **10.00am** at the Arts and Community Centre, Leyburn.

Meetings are held the third Friday of every month. Visitors and new members always welcome. Annual Membership is just £12 or £20 for two people at the same address. For details contact **Sue Mellish** on **01748 850471** or email susiemellish@gmail.com.

Future Meetings: **May 19th** - Annual General Meeting (No Speaker). **June 16th** - Jane Hatcher - Richmond Snippets.



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Leyburn Arts & Community Centre

A recent highlight has been a visit from some young people to share in Science Week sessions. We were pleased to welcome the Brownies and Guides to the Arts Centre to celebrate our rural heritage and be shown how to make their own butter. The 16 Brownies and 12 Guides used jam jars, cream, a little salt and a bit of effort as farmers' wives did in the past. We then toasted some bread and tasted the results with jam before they left. Along with our

young dancers enjoying the new smart Studio and newly installed mirrors and a new session for Mums and babies and toddlers, it is good to have young people in the building.

It was disappointing to postpone our talk 'Undressing a Medieval Lady' last month because of the still present Covid, but we now have a new date, **Saturday, April 15th**. This includes a sample taste of food from the period, as well as our more recognisable homemade cake and coffee we shall be serving! Other highlights coming up are available on our website.

One special cinema screening which we hope will be well supported is 'Mustang' from which all proceeds will be going to the DEC Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal. We may moan about our weather but we really are very lucky when we hear of the situations some people have to endure.

Next month we hope to be able to tell you of progress with our Community Shed. It seems a long time coming but optimism is rising! So, we say again, watch this space!



Stone House Hotel

Dine at Stone House Hotel this April and enjoy a 10% discount!

All locals living in or around the Hawes area are warmly welcomed to join us for lunch, afternoon tea or dinner – simply quote code Spring Special when you call to book your table.

We are also delighted to announce the release of our new lunchtime menu from the beginning of April – which will include new Light Bite and Main Meal options, as well as a delicious Hiker's' Platter!

Call our friendly reception team on **01969 667571** to book your table. We hope to see you soon!



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News from The Wensleydale School

Leeds Art Gallery - On Friday, March 3rd, our GCSE art class visited Leeds Art Gallery. We took part in a workshop that allowed us to explore ourselves as artists and opened up doors for new ideas to incorporate into our GCSE coursework.

The incredible art on display was diverse, varying from paintings to sculptures and installations. Each piece was unique and thought-provoking, and ranging from contemporary art to art from the 19th century, a real sense of change and history was grasped.

Most art in the gallery had more to it than met the eye, and when the workshop coordinator explained this and developed on the stories behind the artworks, we were given a different way of looking at things. During the workshop, we were tasked with timed small drawings, including self-portraits and our own interpretations of sections from art in the gallery. Everyone's booklet was personal to them and was a physical capture of what each person took from the trip.

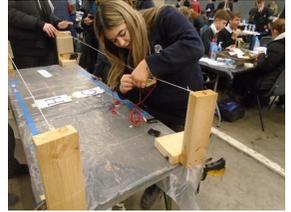
Overall, the trip to Leeds Art Gallery was a fantastic experience and extremely valuable to my GCSE. For me, every piece of art tells a story, and the art gallery extended this story of cultural and historical heritage, promoting excitement and inspiration.

Connie Tinsley, Year 10

Success at Rotary DT Competition - Each Year we take a DT team of students to compete in the annual Rotary technology tournament. We have had some success. However this year we took a crack team of fabulous students Lucy, Alfie, Jake, Ewan, Cameron, Scarlett, Charlie, Warren, James, Olly, Magda, Harley, Lydia, Joseph, Evie, Molly and Mrs Coupland-Buckley.

The actual task is a secret until you arrive. This year heads 'dropped' as the task involved motors and as Mrs C-B said 'This was the one

thing we simply hadn't tackled.' However, Molly Fagan in year 10 lead the team, and within a short while had thought it through and started to get going.



Teams had to construct a motorised vehicle that would need to cross the 'river' (actually pieces of string). The vehicle had to have switching mechanism and be able to release a 'package' into the 'river' at a set point. The teams then had to write a development plan, devise a logo and create a presentation.

Overall, a quite complicated task. Each year we have managed to get some acknowledgment, but with our competitiveness higher than it has ever been, the teams rose to the challenge and achieved our best ever results, beating some local schools!! The Beginner teams came 4th and 7th out of 22 groups and the Intermediate teams came 2nd and 3rd out of 16 groups. Huge congratulations to all involved. Next year we go for Gold!!

And finally... Louise from The Rhythm and Shoes Dance Academy let us know about what Magdalena Pleskacz year 8 had been doing.

She writes 'This weekend we all headed up to Dance City in Newcastle to work with Contemporary Choreographer Emily Nicholson. Magdalena was amazing, she was so creative and had the confidence to create her own piece and perform in front of parents in the Theatre at Dance City. She also worked alongside our older GCSE girls. I have attached a link to watch the work the group created. Please do feel free to celebrate her success with her on your social media as she did so amazingly well, we are really proud of her'. So are we!! <https://fb.watch/jeKfMi3jeG/>.

Julia Polley, Headteacher



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Open Morning - **Saturday, April 22nd at 10.00am**. Come and have a look at our facility, see the equipment, talk to current members, class attendees and staff about your needs. Have a go at one or our classes or join up to summer tennis membership.

Soft Play - We now have a dedicated room which is available for hire - £5 per family for 2 hours or why not try our monthly subscription £15 unlimited use? For social, active play with your babies and pre-school child. Session supported by North Yorkshire County Council, Get Going Grant. Book and pay online.

Booking and enquiries can be made via our website www.yorebridgesportandleisure.co.uk or email admin@yorebridge-sport.co.uk or telephone **01969 650060**.

Fitness classes - via zoom or live class as indicated:

Fit for Life - **Mondays (zoom) 9.15am - 10.15am**. Building and Maintaining Strength to live life your way.

Bootcamp - **Tuesdays and Thursdays (live) 6.00am - 7.00am**. High Intensity exercise to build strength and give a good workout to counteract a more sedentary lifestyle or work role and to support your active lifestyle.

Wishful Shrinking - **Tuesdays (live) 7.00pm**. Exercise with gym equipment (cost £5).

Walking Circuit - **Wednesdays (zoom) 9.15am - 10.15am**. Exercises to keep active people, active.

Move and Tone - **Wednesdays (live) 7.00pm**. Aerobics session to music followed by core strength exercises for toning. (cost £5).

Strong and Able - **Fridays (live) 11.00am**. Maintain your ability to get out and enjoy life, build muscle tone, stability around movement and keep flexible and mobile around joints. Standing and chair based exercise.

Costs for fitness classes are £7 per session except where stated otherwise.

We also offer:

Conversational French - **Tuesdays 1.30pm - 2.45pm (zoom)**. Cost is £5 per session. Booking is essential for all classes.

Gym facility and membership - Start 2023 as you mean!

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Proceeds From Charity Christmas Fayre Handed Out to Good Causes

Proceeds from the Gayle Mill Trust Christmas Fayre, held in November 2022 have been distributed to good causes. The Fayre was held in their Woodcraft Studio at Raygill Farm, near Hawes.

Claire Lambert, from the trust, said: "Once again our Christmas Fayre was extremely well supported by the public and our volunteers worked hard towards this day making a good selection of handcrafted bespoke wood products for kitchen, home and garden use, wooden Christmas Trees, wooden reindeer, and the popular tool jumble did well too.

All the proceeds after deducting costs for staging the event are distributed to local good causes and the organisers are very pleased to announce that £4,000 has been distributed." The cheques were presented by William Lambert, chair of the trust.



Those receiving donations were local builder Mark Alderson, Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team, the Great North Air Ambulance, Hawes in Bloom, Hawes Christmas Lights Fund and Bainbridge Christmas Lights Fund.



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Young Musicians Concert

On Friday, April 14th at 7.30pm the talented young musicians of the Vacation Chamber Orchestra return to St Andrew's, Aysgarth, to perform a varied selection of chamber orchestra music, including Dr Richard Shephard's 'The Selfish Dragon' (a work specially commissioned by VaCO), Mozart 'A Musical Joke' and works by Dukas, Lalo, Martinu and Kelsey.

VaCO has a long-standing relationship with St Andrew's and the students look forward to sharing this family friendly programme! Tickets available on the door from 7.00pm, or in advance online through Eventbrite. Adults £12.50, Students (with ID) £5, Under 18s free.



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Yorkshire Dales Businesses Become Dark Skies Friendly

Businesses in Wensleydale and Ribblesdale are involved in the latest projects happening across both the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors National Park to curb light pollution by ensuring exterior lighting is dark skies-friendly.

The Yorkshire Dales National Park is making significant inroads into safeguarding its pristine night sky. In the latest development, four prominently-located Dales businesses have received grants from the National Park Authority to cover the cost of introducing dark skies-friendly lighting.

The Station Inn in Upper Ribblesdale, near to the iconic Ribblehead viaduct, has installed 19 directional and well-placed exterior LED lights, significantly reducing glare and helping to make the surroundings perfect for astrotourism.

The other three businesses to install dark skies-friendly lighting are The Wensleydale Creamery in Hawes, including the Visitor Centre; the Stone House Hotel in Upper Wensleydale and the Yorebridge Sport and Leisure on the edge of the village of Askrigg.

Both National Parks have embarked on a comprehensive programme of monitoring artificial light levels, providing lighting guidance on their websites as well as working with councils, businesses and residents to advise and provide grant-funding for those looking to change their exterior lights.

Hannah Kay, Dark Skies Project Manager for the Yorkshire Dales National Park said: "There are so many benefits to swapping to dark skies friendly lighting, particularly as newer appropriately angled low power LED warm light technology can reduce energy consumption. Research has shown just how much wildlife needs true darkness, whether it's night pollinating moths or birds roosting. There's also the benefit to our own wellbeing and of course, the wonderment that comes from

seeing a dark sky which is filled with thousands of stars."

The publican at the Station Inn, Claire Hobbs, said: "We have been delighted with the very positive difference to our business that the International Dark Sky Reserve designation has brought about. By working with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority and the Dark Skies initiative we have not only had support to make the inn 'Dark Sky friendly', with modifications to our outdoor lighting, but we also had support in terms of promotions and access to astronomers.



"We are now running regular star gazing evenings and incredibly each is a sell-out irrespective of whether they're midweek or weekend events. This is generating much needed trade in the always tricky off-season."

The next North York Moors and Yorkshire Dales Dark Skies Fringe Festival takes place from **October 27th to November 5th**. See [Dark Skies Festival: Dark Skies Festival \(darkskiesnationalparks.org.uk\)](http://darkskiesnationalparks.org.uk).

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Little White Bus Monthly Trips

The next scheduled trip will be on **Friday, April 21st** and it will be going to Harrogate Spring Flower Show. Please note this will not include a trip in to Harrogate Town itself.

Perhaps it is just worth mentioning that the bus will drop passengers in a show car park nearest one of the entry gates. Having purchased a ticket at the turnstiles there will be free courtesy buses to transport visitors up to the main show ground and events. Likewise, there are plenty of courtesy buses to bring you back to the gate you need, very useful if you're loaded up with purchases! If you prefer to walk that is easy too.

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As usual please get in touch via the Hawes Community Office either in person, by 'phone or book on line. You may also wish to look on the Harrogate Spring Show Website where tickets are available at a small reduction before the show date. This will also avoid having to queue on the day.

It's a lovely day out whatever the weather (there is masses to see and do under cover) so we look forward to seeing regular as well as new faces on the bus.

The Little White Bus



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Shop hours are 07.30-18.00 Mon-Sunday

In September 2022, we opened a Post Office at Aysgarth Garage which is integrated into the retail area and offers customers a wide range of Post Office services from posting letters and parcels to collecting and returning online items. It also offers banking services including cash withdrawal, deposits and bill payments.

Post Office hours are 09.00-13.00 Mon-Sat.

Sycamore Hall News

The Place To Be

It's all going on at Sycamore Hall at the moment! The refurbishment programme is now well underway with the new colour scheme coming to life and new kitchens being fitted. It is exciting to see the changes as the weeks go by but naturally there is some disruption to everyday life so we are all looking forward to the completion of the project which we hope will be early in May.

The refurbishment has not stopped us from continuing with all our usual activities, although there has been a few changes of locations required to avoid competition with the workmen and their equipment!

We are delighted to have found homes for most of the unwanted furniture and all the monies raised from this exercise is going to benefit our Residents Amenity Fund which provides resources and activities for our residents.

We have welcomed more new residents recently which is great as everyone has something to offer to our community and we look forward to getting to know our new neighbours.

We are really pleased to be able to join with the Garden Group of Bainbridge WI who are going to help our keen green fingered residents to develop the gardens and hopefully grow some good crops of vegetables this year. All we need now is some good weather!

As always, we encourage you to join us for our various activities and events, as well as making use of the facilities available including Sycamore Restaurant, Sonja's Salon with Maisy and Mabel's Mini Emporium, Sycamore Country Store, the Library and the Post Office. We also have facilities which can be hired for your own events etc.

We look forward to seeing you soon! If you have any queries regarding our facilities or events etc, please contact **Nicky Cooper**, Court Manager, on **0370-102-4055**.

Marjorie Mason

Philip, Mark and all Marjorie's family would like to say thank you for all the lovely cards and messages they received following her death.



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Events in Reeth Memorial Hall

Saturday, April 1st - Saltfishforty are a fresh and dynamic duo from the Orkney Islands. Douglas Montgomery (fiddle, viola) and Brian Cromarty (songs, guitar, mandola) combine the rich traditional music of Orkney with original compositions. Tickets £15 (£17 door).

Saturday, April 29th – Jez Lowe. Singer-songwriter, Jez, has taken his songs of north-east England to audiences around the world, (with guitar, mandolin, cittern and harmonica accompaniment). Tickets £14 (£16 door).

Friday, May 5th – Jack Rutter. Yorkshire folk singer Jack (guitar, bouzouki) combines masterful arrangements of traditional songs with contemporary covers. Tickets £14 (£16 door).

Tickets available from Reeth Post Office or phone John Little (01748 884759) or visit www.reethmemorialhall.co.uk Tickets are half price for under 16s. All concerts start at 8.00pm.



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Mystery Picture

The bench in last month's Mystery Picture is on the road from Aysgarth to Thoraby (Tomgill Bank).

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Index to Advertisers

	Page		Page
Accountants, O'Reilly, Hawes	14	Kennels - Bladesdale	18
Accountancy, Yorkshire Dales	33	Logs, Springbank Logs, Hawes	17
Advertising Rates and Contacts	36	Logs, Seasoned Hardwood	4
Aysgarth Garage	31		
Boiler Service – Efficient Heat	9	Massage, Mobile Therapist	15
Boiler and Aga Service, M.F.W.	17	Music Tuition, Colin Bailey	33
Bookkeeping, Barn Studio	4		
Builder and Plasterer, M. Moore and Son	20	Nails, Lashes etc, The Parlour, Hawes	29
Builder, Dinsdale John & Ted	17		
Builder, R&B Construction	18	Optician - Mike Addison	14
Builders, Moore and Blackhurst	28	Orthopaedic Massage, Reflex	21
Building Contractor, Andrew Hawkins	6		
Building Services, Bricks and Mix	9	Pet and Wildlife Supplies, Rhodes,	7
Building Services, Fothergill M	5	Pet & House Sitting, Home Run	32
Butchers, Cocketts, Hawes	26	Physio, Arena	18
Butchers, Hartle, West Burton	33	Plumbing and Bathrooms, Greiff	15
		Plumbing and Heating, Parfitt J	17
Chapel Gallery Courses	17	Portable Appliance Testing	35
Chimney Sweep, Dales Sweep	32	Post Office,	
Coach Travel and Holidays – Bibbys	13	Hawes, Bainbridge and Askrigg	35
Coal Merchant, Peacock	19	Print Services, Pennine Print	29
Cumbria Stove Centre	19	Print Services, Wensleydale Press	19
Dales Garage	12	Scrap Car and Commercials Collection	13
Dales Web Solutions	6	Sewing Needs; Kearton	14
Dance School: Dales Dance	31	Solicitor, Hall & Birtles	35
Dental Lab, Orchard	32	Solicitors, McGarry	11
		Stone House Hotel	26
Edgley Garage, Aysgarth	25	Sycamore Country Store	28
Electricians - Teasdale	35	Sykes House, Askrigg	30
Estate Agent, Jessop Robin	30		
		Tailoring - Applegarth Couture	13
Fabrics for sale	12	Taxi, Peacock, Bainbridge	19
Fabrics – Pennine Outdoor	14	Tea Room, Hamilton's, Aysgarth	6
Fish Market, Hawes	14	Tea Room, Mill Race, Aysgarth	26
Flooring - NH	15	Timber Buildings, Castle	31
Fuel Available, Dale Head Garage	13	Travel Counsellor	26
Furniture, Handcrafted, Tom Addison	33	TV Aerial & Satellite Services. J.Banks	27
Gardener - Kath Elliott	26	Vets Bainbridge	25
		Vets, Wensleydale	21
Hawes Country Store	25		
H&M Craftsmen, Ingleton	26	Wensleydale Craft Fairs	33
Hairdressing, Edie Peacock	36	Wensleydale Creamery, Hawes	2
Hairdressing, Twisted	13	Wensleydale Tree Services, D. Allen	28
Healing Collective, Swinithwaite	31	White Rose Hotel, Askrigg	15
Hearing Tests and Aids	12	Woodcraft Studio & Timber Services	7
Ironing Service–Tracy Hume	27	Yorebridge House Hotel	29
		Yore Mill Craft Shop & Gallery	19
Joiner and Cabinet Maker, Bushby	13	Yorkshire Foot Clinic	5
Joiner, Solid Joinery Solutions	8		

Middleham and The Dales Local History Group

Wayward Wynyard – the turbulent story of the Wynyard Estate and its families

by Ronnie Tempest

Tuesday, April 18th at 2.00pm
at Middleham Key Centre

After a 35 year career in the global pharmaceutical industry, retiring as a Global V P, Ronnie Tempest, returned north and took on responsibility for ramshackle family properties on the former Wynyard estate, learnt farming from neighbours and began to breed the local endangered Cleveland Bay horse.

He describes Wayward Wynyard, on turbulent Tempests, volatile Vanes and stormy Stewarts, as the "tabloid" version of the family story and is willing to chat in more depth to more serious historians after the talk.

Members, new members and visitors are always welcome. Annual membership is £12 for 9 meetings and visitors can attend for £3 per meeting. For more information please contact Tony Keats on 01969 640436, dotandtonyk@btinternet.com.

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Bainbridge Christmas Lights Easter Fundraiser

Saturday, April 1st - Children's Easter Hunt. Collect your Hunt Kit, £1 per child, from Louise or Alice in Bainbridge play park from **10.30am to 11.30am**.

Saturday, April 8th - Coffee morning at Bainbridge Village Hall from **10.30am to 1.00pm**. There will also be a cake stall, tombola, sale stall, and a Childrens' activity of pin the tail on the rabbit. Please return your Hunt [Treasure] by **noon**.

All funds raised will go directly to Bainbridge Christmas Lights. Please come and support us.

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FRI 21 APR 6pm **See How They Run** (12A) 1hr 38m
TUE 25 APR 7pm **Mustang** (15) 1hr 37m (Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal)
FRI 28 APR 6pm **Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical** (PG) 1hr 57m
OTHER EVENTS & NEWS (Half price entry for our volunteers)
SAT 15 APR 2pm **Talk: Undressing a Medieval Lady** £10 (coffee+cake)
SUN 16 APR 2pm **Live Event Cinema: Brian & Roger Eno** £12
THU 20 APR 7pm **Live Event Cinema: Good** £15
SAT 22 APR 7:30pm **Ladies Choir: Musicality** £12
THU/FRI 4/5 MAY 7:30pm **LADS: Two one-act Plays** £10
THU 18 MAY 7pm **Live Event Cinema: Best of Enemies** £15
SAT 27 MAY 8pm **Live Music: Alex Hamilton Band** £12

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 Archive hard copies back to 1995 are in the Dales Countryside Museum resources room.

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by the late Alan S. Watkinson

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Ben Goldscheider, French horn

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Tickets can be purchased online (see website) or by phone on 0333 666 3366 (quote date, artist name(s) and Wensleydale Concert Series).

To purchase by post see the form in this leaflet.

Concert Diary 2023

Saturday 13th May

Meera Maharaj, flute, & Lucy Nolan, harp

Generously sponsored by Andrea Schaffell

A wide variety of music from the baroque world of Bach to the Finnish landscape of Sibelius via Debussy and traditional music.

Friday 23rd June

Fitzwilliam String Quartet

Dedicated to the memory of Michael Parr.

Generously sponsored by his wife, Christine.

A world-famous quartet brings a collection of beautiful music by Beethoven, Tchaikovsky and more.

Saturday 8th July

Ivana Gavric, piano

With playing described as “altogether of an extraordinary calibre” (BBC Music Magazine) and “notable for its beautiful sound, musical integrity and introspection” (The Independent), Ivana is performing music by Janáček, Grieg, Rachmaninoff and works written for her by Cheryl Frances-Hoad.

Saturday 22nd July

Pixels Ensemble – Piano, violin and cello

A programme of favourite piano trios by Schubert, Mendelssohn and Schumann.

Saturday 19th August
Mark Bebbington, piano

Generously sponsored by the John Ireland Charitable Trust

Mark is internationally recognised as a champion of British music with a huge catalogue of recordings and performances with major orchestras. In this recital he performs John Ireland's *Sarnia - An Island Sequence* along with works by Beethoven and Haydn and Liszt transcriptions of works by Wagner and Verdi

Saturday 2nd September

Moray Welsh, cello, & Martin Roscoe, piano

Moray and Martin are elder statesmen of the UK music scene. Martin has played in Aysgarth numerous times before and Moray is now a local (having moved to live in Wensleydale) They have chosen a favourite programme of Beethoven and Rachmaninoff for what is likely to be Moray's final concert following a long and very distinguished international career.

Saturday 16th September

Ben Goldscheider, French horn, & Huw Watkins, piano

As this year's programme was being finalised Ben was performing a concerto at the BBC Proms! Ben and Huw are both in great demand and we are pleased they are closing our season with our first ever concert featuring a solo brass instrument with music by Beethoven, Ravel, Schumann, Strauss and more – including a work by Huw Watkins.

*All concerts are at 7.30pm in St Andrew's Church, Aysgarth
Tickets are £15 or £1 (for under 18s and full-time students). You can order tickets with a printed programme for £1 extra.
Parking is £1.50 at the Pay and Display carpark (there is limited disabled parking at the church – let us know on 01969 663026 in advance)*

Booking form

Individual ticket prices: Adults £15, Under 18 and Full-Time Students £1 (£16 and £2 if you wish to order a printed programme for a concert).

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String Quartet - Fri June 23 rd					
Piano - Sat July 8 th					
Piano Trio - Sat July 22 nd					
Piano - Sat August 19 th					
Cello & Piano - Sat Sept 2 nd					
Horn & Piano - Sat Sept 16 th					
Ticket Totals					
Season Tickets <i>until 13th May 2023 - not transferable</i> <i>Please supply a name for each ticket.</i>	£65	£7	£70	£12	
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