
Upper Wensleydale Newsletter
Issue 125–May 2007
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Editorial

Some people relish the desperate ups and downs of fiendish fairground rides; the writer doesn't and has never forgotten his trip on the Morecambe Cyclone when he was eight. In every aspect of life things rarely stay on the level; our health— individual or of the community; businesses; tourism; provision of services; corporate behaviour; the environment all tend to be either 'on the up' or going downhill.

As individuals, to keep an eye on such things we are forever called, or choose, to have check-ups; the eyes, the teeth, the ears, the blood, or subject ourselves to quizzes or intelligence tests to see if, to quote dear Michael Wetherald's articles, we are 'losing our marbles'. Often as a result of these things, we can do something about it.

Any business worth its salt will do the same. Things rarely stay still. Fashions and preferences change; business can quite quickly move up or down, not necessarily because of anything the business does or fails to do, and in the case of the 'down' if remedial action isn't taken, then there's trouble ahead. This can be very true of tourism, where the power of TV with a new series based in a different area has an immediate impact for good or ill on that area, or on others thereby neglected. The Newsletter website getting hundreds of 'hits' each month, recorded *tens of thousands* last August when "Countryfile, the Summer Diaries" was featuring Wensleydale.

So some things experience quite quick changes. Other things take longer; we only gradually, if at all, realise we can't see quite as well, or the memory isn't what it was! That's why we need the check-ups.

And so does the area. Round here we are

usually spared any fast or unsympathetic development, but things do change and not necessarily for the better. Let's have a check-up.

A large number of people seem to live longer, so don't knock the Health Service all the time and be very grateful you don't wait days or even weeks for a doctor's appointment; but public provision of dental care is still disastrous. Public transport, while better than some years ago, is now 'on the down' at a time when we are being urged to use it more. While some new businesses, or improving established ones, add a bit of value to the area, the feeling of many people is that, compared (dare we say it) with Leyburn, Upper Wensleydale is a bit 'down-market'.

Is it noticed? For generations, the area has been known for its welcome. Well consider this: the recent excellent exhibition in the museum about the settlement of people to the Dales down the centuries had a message board asking for comments. "How do you think people felt when they first arrived in the Dales?" Some comments were like 'Aliens in an alien land'. One read 'Better than we did when we went to the... *name of the very local pub deleted here to save the shame*'

It only takes one surly server, a few littery scruffy corners, tired or dreary facades, a closed business, tumbling walls, patched-up fences, or worse the still-dreadful sight at Townfoot Hawes, or the 'reality TV' culture of violent abusive speech, for things to be going down.

And the tendency nowadays is to expect someone else to do something about it; not our fault, not our responsibility. Now go and read the feature on page 16 and, like George, take more personal responsibility and things will soon be 'on the up'.



Eunice

Eunice was found by Laura Astbury of Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire. Can you find me this month?

Ahead of the rest?

By the time you read this article, the new Head Girl and Head Boy of The Wensleydale School will have been chosen. Megan Price and Tom Scriven have led the school from strength to strength as Head Boy and Head Girl over the past year, and now their successors need to be chosen and new order established, four candidates step up to the bar ready to be measured, but who will win through?

It's a close run race between four candidates; Sarah Metcalfe, Alice Jones, Colette Cowley and last but not least – Me. There was only one nomination for Head Boy so Oliver Mabbott was elected unopposed to carry on the job from Tom, who will be a hard act to follow but Oliver certainly shows the right qualities to succeed him well. The election of Deputy Head Boy is yet to take place with two candidates putting their names forward; Gary Hewitt and Geoff Southgate, both able candidates who would do an equally good job.

The election process started on 27th March with an invitation for nominations from the Head Teacher, Mr. David Eaton. I was personally very excited at the prospect of becoming Head Girl as it is something I've always wanted to do. So I promptly filled in my election form and handed it in ready for when the real fun began – The voting.

The Post 16 vote took place on 18th April and each candidate running for Head Girl had to stand up in front of a group of sixty Post 16s and try to convince them that they are the best woman for the job. It was a nerve wracking experience but we all got through it and marked ballot papers with a cross next to our own name. It was a good feeling when the speech was over but the anticipation of waiting for the result is great and the worst is yet to come – The whole school vote; standing in front of 60 of your peers is quite scary but 500 people is another thing all together.

Even after the final vote when the results have been announced and the victor been crowned, what does the job entail? Well the lucky recipients get to lead the whole student body and to represent the interests of other students. In this role it is imperative to have good leadership skills and to have the confidence to chair and minute meeting of the school council and to represent the school with decorum and pride.

Obviously with all this responsibility there has to be some benefits to such a prestigious position, these are; the opportunity to influence decision making in the school and to come into contact with a wide range of people to name a few.

For me being Head Girl would mean an amazing opportunity to bring back the sense of community spirit within the school and to be there whenever I am needed. So, now all that's left is the wait for 23rd April to find out the result.

Belinda Bond, Bursary student

Competition

Missed places of the North! Fill in the link:

BLACK — EY BRIDGE

Answer: **POOL**

LAN — TON
PATRICK — ON SWALE
BENT — BLETON
CHOP — SHEAD
WHIT — LAND
SCAR — BRIDGE
RAWTEN— INGBUSK
ALDBOR— TERSHAW
WEST— LESPRING
KETTLE— LETON
RED— TMEL
TEB— CLIFFE
SUMMER— HEWICK
POT— SSIDE
WILS— SHAW

Last month's answers

Browna Paddocks
Nappa Mill
Worton Bottoms
Woodhall Park
Ballowfield
Freeholders Wood
Hestholme Farm
Slapstone Wath
Batt Island
Scaw Bottom
Cornlands Wood
Yore House

Last month's winner was **Angela Redford** of Colborne.

All fools!

So who gets the last laugh? (see the letters page) Ever willing to lambaste Europe, someone 'got on' to the National Park Authority about one of the 'spoofs'. But maybe our dear crafty Eunice the Ewe caught you all out. We thought she left the

dale altogether in April— or to put it in another way, we forgot to hide her! However, someone found a previous, very small, left-in Eunice in the Rock and Gem Shop. So for the really last laugh, see the Eunice prize winner.

St Matthew's Stalling Busk

Supper and auction of promises- to include half a lamb for the freezer, help with gardening, weekend in London, batch of homemade bread, guided walk, wine tasting and other exciting items.

Schoolroom, Stalling Busk Friday May 25th 2007 at 7.30 pm

Tickets £5.00 including entry and supper

To reserve tickets tel: **650177**

Test for Dementia

Below are four questions and a bonus question. You have to answer them instantly. You can't take your time, answer all of them immediately.

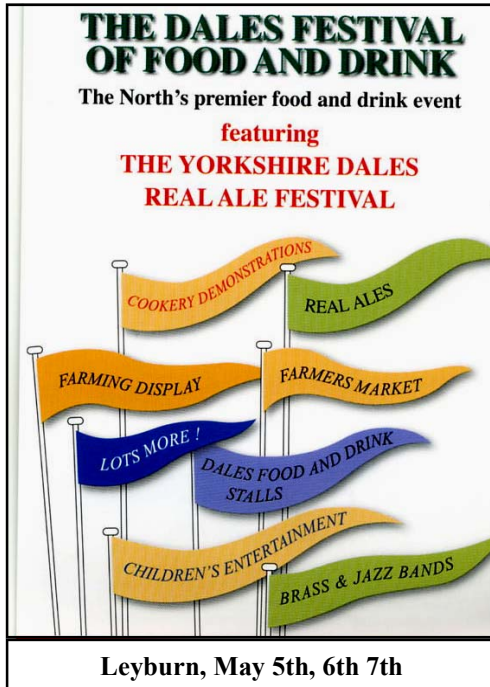
1. You are participating in a race. You overtake the second person. What position are you in?
2. If you overtake the last person, then you are?..
3. Take 1000 and add 40 to it. Now add another 1000. Now add 30. Add another 1000. Now add 20. Now add another 1000. Now add 10. What is the total?
4. Mary's father has five daughters. Nana, Nene, Nini, Nono. What is the name of the fifth daughter?
5. The Bonus Round . A mute person goes into a shop and wants to buy a toothbrush. By imitating the action of brushing his teeth he successfully expresses himself to the shopkeeper and the purchase is done. Next, a blind man comes into the shop and wants to buy a pair of sunglasses. How does HE indicate what he wants?

Answers

1. If you answered that you are first, then you are wrong! If you overtake the second person and you take his place, then you are second!
2. If you answered that you are second to last, then you are wrong again. Tell me, how can you overtake the LAST person?
3. Did you get 5000? The correct answer is 4100. Check it on a calculator.
4. Did you answer Nunu? NO of course it isn't. Her name is Mary. Read the question again!
5. He just had to open his mouth and ask.

May on the Wensleydale Railway

May will be the busiest month yet for special events on the Wensleydale Railway. Details are given on the website www.wensleydalerailway.com and in the printed timetable (available from Tourist Information Centres) There will be extra train services morning and late afternoon for the three days of the Dales Festival of Food and Drink in Leyburn (May 5th-7th) and extra afternoon trains for the Millennium Trust woodland event and Guided walk from Redmire to Aysgarth (May 19th) and the Swaledale Festival Guided Walk (May 31st). There are scheduled train services on all Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays in May, and every day in half term week (May 28th – June 3rd). Special events include Community Rail week-end (May 18th-20th), the Kilburn White Horse 150 Anniversary (May 25th), and a Hog Roast (with special connecting trains) at Leyburn on Wednesday evening May 30th. Regular train services also serve local events such as the charity cream teas in Redmire village hall (May 6th and 28th) **May 14th is the deadline for claiming the Early Bird discount on bookings for Day Out With Thomas on June 9th and 10th.**



Strings without tears

Progress report 1.

We began in January 2007 . There were 3 violinists, 3 cellists and 1 double bass, all quite apprehensive but also eager to explore the “Freedom of Movement” approach.

Twelve lessons later and the group is now very much immersed in *posture, playing and pleasure*. There have been no tears! The holistic approach is beginning to bear fruit and the aural and theoretical skills are complementing the performance element.

Never a dull moment, but much achieved already. Anyone interested is very welcome to phone and arrange a visit. We meet on **Fridays from 10.00am to 12.30pm in Carperby Village Hall.**

Joan Foster 663368

Christian Aid Week

Hawes area

I am pleased to report that we now have enough collectors to cover Hawes and the surrounding villages, which is great. The week begins with the **United Service on Sunday May 13th 10.30 am at Hawes Chapel**. This is an opportunity for all the community to join together in a rather different type of service, one that will not only humble and challenge but inform and inspire too. Please come if you can. The collection will be for Christian Aid.

On **Tuesday May 15th** we have the Coffee Morning, Bring and Buy and Cake Stall at Hawes Methodist Rooms **10.00 am to noon**. Gifts of cakes and scones etc are needed for the coffee and the stall, plus bric-a-brac.

We will also have a Traidcraft stall run by Mrs Baines from Carperby. If you would like to help serve coffee or man a stall please let me know.

The House to House collecting will be done between Monday and Saturday and if you are a tax payer please put your name and address on the envelope if you wish to gift aid your donation; this increases your gift by 28% with no extra cost to you!

Linda Butters, 667662

Christian Aid Secretary, Hawes area

Dales Gospel Choir

Non-denominational

Two and a half years old now and flourishing! We are developing a varied and extensive repertoire including gospel, spirituals and African songs. Member range from experienced choral society singers to complete novices.

Although we work hard and achieve much, humour is never far away and rehearsals (and tea-breaks!) are enjoyed by all in a convivial atmosphere. Why not visit our **Open Rehearsal on Saturday May 5th any time between 11.00am and 2.30pm** in St Andrew's Church or contact **Joan Foster 663368**



August 6th to 10th

Plans are well in hand for King's Club 2007 which will again be held at Askrigg Primary School from 10.00am to 3.00pm each day. Full details and application forms for 6-11 year olds will be distributed as usual through the local primary schools at the beginning of May.

Details of King's Club Extra for 11-14 year olds will also be available and will be posted to those who were at King's Club last year or the year before.

We also hope to arrange King's Club XL for 15-17 year olds.

Please return the application forms as soon as possible. There is a limited number of places and last year some young people were disappointed.

The week will end with a barbecue at the school on Saturday, August 11th from 5.00 to 7.00pm for families and friends.

For further information please contact **Nelson and Heather Caplin on 667625.**

Concert in your Kitchen

Is there someone in Swaledale or Wensleydale who you think would appreciate live music but might not be able to get to concerts?

The Swaledale Festival is offering an exciting opportunity to experience the power of live music in your own home. Throughout the duration of the Festival, artists will travel around playing for local residents who are nominated by their family or neighbours for a brief live performance in their kitchen (or sitting room).

"We hope to make wonderful music accessible to as many people as possible", said Justin Doyle, Festival Artistic Director. For details of how to nominate someone who deserves such special treatment, please call the Festival office on **01748 880018**.

Get active!

For every activity in the Dales, from gentle walks without awkward stiles, to serious rock climbing, there is now an extensive list of ideas on the National Park's website: www.yorkshiredales.org.uk Click on the "Getting active" links.

More surveys to find red squirrels

A drive is underway to learn more about the distribution of red squirrels in the National Park. During the coming months officers and Dales Volunteers will be setting up survey equipment in different areas to see if red squirrels live there.

The shy creatures are constantly under threat from their grey cousins, who are larger and more aggressive and carry a disease that is harmless to greys but has wiped out thousands of reds.

The surveys – part of a continuing drive to conserve the reds – include putting down hair tubes which painlessly collect samples of hair from squirrels so staff can find out which species they are.

YDNPA Wildlife Conservation Officer Ian Court said: "It's important from a management point of view to know where the red squirrel populations are. We recently carried out a study in the north west section of the National Park and it's very encouraging that, in several of the core red squirrel woodlands we surveyed, there was no sign of greys. But we don't have many records for other, nearby woodlands, which is why we are undertaking this work.

"We are hoping to pick up signs of more reds and get a better idea of the distribution of greys so that we have a clearer picture of the populations of both species."

Friends of the Dales Countryside Museum

AWAYDAY TO YORK.

Wednesday JUNE 6th 2007

This year we have a special all-day visit arranged to two Archive Record sites in the City of York The Borthwick Institute for Historical Research and Family History at the University and the York Minster Library. We will be given guided tours and then other collections.

To be environmentally friendly we propose to travel by coach, starting from the museum at 9.00am and picking up at a number of villages down Wensleydale. We will be back at Hawes by 6.00pm. For those who would just like a day's shopping or visiting the many summer tourist attractions and interesting eating-places there will be plenty of room on the coach. Maximum fare is £10 for adults and £5 for children, depending on numbers. The coach trip is not restricted to Friends.

More details on the Museum notice board or ring **Geoff Keeble on 650774.**

 <p>Open AIR SHOWCASE EXHIBITION Work of sixteen Richmondshire artists participating in North Yorkshire Open Studios '07</p>
<p>4th, 8th~12th, 14th~16th May Tennants The Auction Centre, Harmby Road, Leyburn, North Yorkshire DL8 5SG Viewing: 9.00am - 5.00pm, except 11th: 9.00am - 7.00pm, 12th: 9.00 am - 3.00pm</p> <p>For further information contact AIR: 01969 625142 air.office@virgin.net www.artsinrichmondshire.org</p>  

**What's On at the Dales Country-
side Museum, Hawes
May 2007**

Exhibitions

April 22nd – May 17th

Michael Revers – National Parks and their influence on my work.

An exhibition and sale of original paintings, limited editions and prints by the artist.

May 20th – June 3rd

“Love is in the Air” - Bollywood comes to Yorkshire! Photographic exhibition celebrating Dales views and images of India, accompanied by South Asian love poetry and song lyrics from famous Bollywood films. There will also be examples of kites made by groups in Keighley and the Dales. A series of free events coincide with this exhibition – detailed below.

Events

Tuesday 1st Spinning a Yarn with the Museum Friends. Demonstration of spinning, rugmaking and weaving, 2 – 4pm

Friday 18th Marion Moverley will be giving a lecture for the Friends of the Museum entitled, “Travelling through the Dales – Early Tourism” 7.30pm

Sunday 20th Digital Photography workshop 10am – 4pm booking essential

Sunday 20th Bollywood Events – Classical Indian dance performed by the Annapurna Dance Company, 2-3pm.

Indian sweet making and tasting 1-4pm.

Indian dance workshop for children 3.30 – 4.10pm (booking essential - £2.)

Tuesday 22nd Bollywood event - A talk with tea tasting by Betty's and Taylors of Harrogate, booking essential. (donations to their charity welcome)

Friday 25th Washday blues. Museum Friends will be demonstrating washday in the Victorian kitchen, 11am – 4pm

Tuesday 29th Traditional Dry Stone Wall-

ing Demonstration. 2 – 4pm

Wednesday 30th Art in the Park – creative fun for children 2 – 4pm. Booking essential

Thursday 31st Bollywood event - Kite making, two sessions from 11am – 1pm and 2 – 4pm

Booking essential, children under 8 must be accompanied.

1st June Bollywood event - Storytelling with a south east Asian flavour - suitable for all the family 2 – 3pm.

Sunday 3rd Bollywood event – a family day of Kite flying, dance, music, food, activities, and much more from the Dales and Indian sub-continent. Free event. 12 – 4pm

Contact the museum 10am – 5pm every day:

Community Office news

We are looking for someone to deliver our SkillShare leaflets to households in Hawes once a month (for a small remuneration).

In May we will have Skill Share Sessions in:

Get by in French; Making Cards; and anything else you would like us to do - let us know!... each session costs £5. Phone **667400** for times and dates.

Don't forget – you can take a Lap Top home with you to practise your new skills at home, and we have CDs and flash drives for sale if you need one. You can hire our projector for a small fee and refundable deposit.

You can pay your TV Licence through PayPoint here at the office in the Neukin, along with your electricity key, mobile phones, utility bills and all manner of things. You give us the cash and your bill is paid – just like that!

Table top sale

West Burton village hall

Monday, May 7th

10.00am to 2.30pm

Tables £10

Admission £1 (children 50p)

Tables for St Andrew's Church, Aysgarth are free.

Refreshments all day.

663368 for full details

Signs of the times

A grant from Natural England is enabling a complete upgrade of 95 Pennine Way signposts in the National Park.

They are of high quality durable oak, and in significant locations will be accompanied by more details of the route.



Penhill Benefice mission group

The “Gap Group”- Becky Lane, Heidi Smith and Ruth Abel are coming to Carperby Village Hall on **Tuesday, May 1st, at 7.30 pm** to share their Christian experiences of their gap year. Refreshments will be provided.

The GAP Team have been doing a range of activities since starting their gap year in September. They have started up several new groups for children and are helping with existing groups. They have been taking assemblies in 7 schools in the Bedale area. They are really enjoying their work and are very excited about going to Swaziland in March. They will be working with Scripture Union Swaziland taking life skills classes and assemblies and running camps and holiday clubs. It will be a challenging experience as Swaziland has a very high percentage of the population with HIV and Aids. The GAP Team are very excited about this opportunity.

Older school students who are considering a gap year will be most welcome at this event.



Widdale School - Attendance

Attendance fluctuated with the farming year. Haymaking started in July and sometimes lasted into September when whole families were involved. Older boys might be kept from school at sheep clipping and dipping. In 1917 April was very stormy. Lambing was such a trying time that even young children were kept at home to bottle-feed lambs. Girls might be kept at home at spring-cleaning time and to help nurse the sick. Some entries tell of older pupils being called out of school. Mrs Stubbs removed James one day in 1929 to help with the stock as his father had been called away.

Illness accounted for absences throughout the period. In the case of an epidemic the school was closed. Diseases recorded are: measles, mumps, jaundice, whooping cough, ringworm (very common and sometimes lasting 6 weeks), influenza, scabies, sore throats and sickness.

In 1927 after Raymond Richardson was knocked down in the road outside the school a guard rail was set opposite the door. In 1929 Dora Pratt fell in the beck at playtime and was pulled out, her dress covered in mud. Only one death of a pupil is recorded. In 1918 Violet Ann Pratt aged 9 died after an operation. One case of rickets is mentioned.

Truancy and absenteeism were not very common. In 1906 summonses were brought against parents of absentees. In 1910 3 children were kept at home because, as their mother explained, their father was awaiting trial for sheep-stealing. In 1918 when the pastures were too wet for ordinary boots 3 children had no clogs and stayed at home. Some children played truant after being punished for misdemeanours. In May 1918 Matthew Bell skipped school to go fox-hunting.

The special events which cut attendance are a reminder of the occasions which once marked the calendar for families in the upper dale. Sometimes the school closed and at other times it stayed open but with a low attendance. Empire Day (24th May) was a holiday. The school closed for the eclipse of the sun on June 29 1927. Seaside excursions and Band of Hope picnic and festivals affected attendance.

However, it was annual events like the Poultry Show, Hawes Fair Week (Sept.), the October Sheep Fair, Tup Fair and Brough Hill Fair which drew children away. Occasionally parents took children to Hawes Market instead of sending them to school. Perhaps the purchase of clothes or footwear, or help with heavy shopping, was the reason.

In 1930 the Education Committee, faced with a large expense to bring the school up to proper standards, decided that it was more sensible to bring the pupils into Hawes. Mr Edward Fawcett first brought the children in. By 1932 Mr Francis (Frank) Paley was driving them in the motor-cart which he used in his agricultural feedstuffs business. After the outbreak of war in 1939 Northallerton Education Authority sent him instructions to be followed in the event of an air-raid. On hearing the air-raid warning, he must stop the vehicle and instruct the children to scatter widely and lie flat off the road until the 'all clear'.

After the school closed the schoolhouse was occupied by various tenants until 1984. The schoolroom continued to be used as a place of worship by Widdale Methodists until 1994, after which the premises were auctioned and are now in private hands.

Jean Day

This is the last of Jean's Widdale articles. They have been much appreciated. Thank you.

Lent lunches report

On behalf of Christian Aid, I should like to thank everyone who organised and supported our mid-dale Lent lunches. A total of **£916.41** was raised to which £126 gift-aid should be added at a later date.

Particular thanks go to Evelyn Abraham who made the arrangements for all the lunches with her helpers at each venue.

Village totals are as follows:
Redmire £123. Thornton Rust £126.
West Burton £205.25. Thoraby £183.10.
Aysgarth £118.46. Carperby £150.60

Noel Ashworth (Treasurer)

Chorus time again

Rehearsals start on **May 2nd** for The Wensleydale Chorus in the Methodist Schoolroom, Leyburn. Anyone interested in taking part can phone me for more information on **624982**.

Easter Monday event

Castle Bolton's Easter Monday event produced a total of £163.50 for church funds and £151.25 for the Mission Aviation Fellowship and Scripture Union

Works to be performed this year are Haydn's Nelson Mass and Faure's Requiem.

Also the Annual General Meeting of The Wensleydale Tournament of Song takes place in The Methodist Hall Leyburn on Monday, June 18th at 7.00pm

Your attendance will be appreciated by the Council Members who need to know your opinions and ideas for future planning.

Many thanks

Julie Greenslade

George might never have been a Yorkshireman!

People make their mark on an area in many different ways— not always fully realised by the rest of us. So after a good deal of gentle persuasion we are delighted that George Sumner in Hawes, being a perfect example, agreed to undergo the rigours of an interview!

His parents were early settlers to Canada, his father (from the Thirsk area) having joined the Canadian forces; George's two elder brothers were born there. As his father was "believed killed" George's mother (daughter of Ed. Chapman of the first Hawes Dairy) returned to England, so George was born in Hawes in 1921, a true Yorkshireman.

Not that he has spent all his time there; after Hawes School (as one of Mary Burrow's many well-grounded pupils) he worked in Allen's shop but in 1941 was to be found in the Air Force on the cliff tops above Folkestone. When he was sent overseas it could well have been to the Far East, the Middle East or other 'hot spots' but as luck would have it George ended up in India, not exactly the centre of World War Two activity. "We might see one aircraft a week!", he said. He was sent to Lahore for a year — basic teaching of recruits to the Indian Air Force.

Things got even better! - sent to Jodhpur as a guest of the Maharajah! At this point George got merry recounting the time when in a monsoon, they were moved into the Maharajah's palace! What's more, they were there to witness the wedding of his son, a full-blown affair with parading elephants and camels. "There was a war on, but we knew nothing", said George.

I asked him what he felt like in October 1945 when they were returning home. "Aren't you going to cheer", they were asked; no-one did.

It was back to Allen's for a short while but then began twenty years with United bus company, first as conductor, then when one-man operation started, as driver. At the same time George joined the Royal Observer Corps which at that time became very important in tracking Russian aircraft at a time of nuclear threats. Small basic observation posts were constructed widely, usually about ten miles apart, the one at Hawes being just up from the Youth Hostel. The still-existing bunker above Dent station was part of the same provision. At this point in our chat George handed me a framed certificate: 1986; Chief Observer; and presented by the Lord Lieutenant of...**Durham!** (Yorkshire would have been better!). From 1972 until 1985 George was the storeman clerk at the Bainbridge Depot.

Now as George drove his buses up and down the dale through pleasant and tidy villages, he would arrive in Hawes, look over the railway bridge to the mess of the old station area— "Before the National Park took it over" and to the front of the old fire station, together with uncut grass everywhere, and he was cross! Something had to be done, as the Parish Council didn't seem to bother. A "Greens committee" was formed; they'd only a borrowed mower but with pleas to shops for prizes, a raffle produced one. George was at pains to say he was only one of a group of concerned people who now shared the task of keeping the town, from the cemetery up to Gayle, smart. Yes, they bought bulbs and a few trees, were hit by a bit of vandalism (what's new) but eventually the council took over! Triumph! "That was the idea".

There was more to do. Until he was 80, George quietly took on the task of the annual refurbishment of the Market Place seats, taking them across home, behind Littlefairs, to do the work. (The Council paid for the varnish etc.)

He'd once been asked to be a member of the old Aysgarth Rural District Council but had declined. He's preferred to get on with things. Attending one Parish Council he did declare "If you've no pride in the place, you've no pride in yourselves".

How history repeats itself! When the area between the upper and lower car parks was being 'done' and it was left in a mess, George inquired "Are they going to do anything?" Well, apparently 'they' weren't, but again, as we now know George (and he did also want to mention Brenda, Eileen and Andy) got to work, and we can see the results of this 'labour of love', not forgetting 'Fish-shop Reg.' who freely hosed the plants from the back of the shop! George has been pleased to get others to help.

To conclude, I asked George what changes were the best and worst over the years. "The worst; the motor bikes", he said without hesitation! "Is that Mary (his wife) along there?" I said, as we were parting. Mary, who rose from kitchen maid to being in charge of High Hall, Bainbridge, was busy sweeping the street!

It's people like these that communities are rightly proud of. **A.S.W.**

Before I lose my marbles

I lost one, rushed down to Dr Aysca. He said he could not help me but he thought Auntie Biotec might understand (she's not really my Auntie - eccentric and has side effects). Bless her - a miracle - she called at Woodhall and Kenneth Alderson gave her a ball bearing - it is hard, shining and rattles. I now have a full complement - but I cannot remember how many I should have!

About Parkin and Parking

Parkin (his Christian name) had a hard life; his wife died leaving him with two young daughters and a farm to farm - his only aides to farm being a pony and a dog.

Parkin was a true (but not typical) Dalesman. His family loss left him eccentric, impatient and oft ill-tempered. A small fellow but broad shouldered, shaved infrequently, he walked with a stoop propped up by his crooked hazel stick.

Knee breeches, knitted socks, laces undone below knees and heavy manure caked boots. Oversize jacket with pockets full of farmers needs, hay band, dog lead, massive pocket knife and red spotted "hand cutter". His cap down over his left ear was embedded with cow hair from pressing his head against the cow ribs when milking on his three legged stool (no milking machine for Parkin).

Parkin's daughters grew up, the elder helped on the farm and had music lessons and became a dedicated musician oft in demand for piano accompaniment, the younger daughter married a farmer friend.

The time came when Parkin had to retire; his son in law and daughter took over the farm, moving into the family house with Dad and sister, but Parkin was too independent to tolerate domestic discipline

after many years doing it his way. He thought out a scheme whereby he could retain his independence. He owned the garth - 'Parkin's Garth' in Askrigg Village. He bought a Red double-decker bus and parked it in the north west corner of the garth - this was to be his retirement home.

The inevitable happened - a stern official (Dear Sir) letter from the Planning Officer (then at Northallerton - before the National Park era). "You will appreciate that planning approval is required for your edifice, please complete the enclosed application forms." The Planning Officer should have adopted a more softly, softly approach.

"Now Parkin you cannot be parking in your garth Parkin; strictly no parking in your beautiful garth Parkin - so please stop parking Parkin, just for me Parkin"

Parkin ignored all the correspondence and follow-up threats. However one day he had a notice served on him that if he did not move the Red Double Decker Bus the council employees would move same and cost charged back to him. Shrewd Parkin contacted his youthful farmer neighbour with a tractor and moved the vehicle to the south east corner of the garth. He had complied, he had moved it - everybody was back in square one, so the correspondence and threats started all over again.

Where the bus went eventually no one knows, but not to be deterred Parkin had another brain wave; he had an old carhouse on the same site. On a DIY basis he had the building made waterproof. It had few, if any, amenities, nevertheless Parkin and his daughter moved in. By this time I think the planners had despaired! Poor old Parkin - one of Askrigg's old characters lived a short while in his carhouse house and died there in 1958. His daughter had a nervous breakdown and

was lovingly cared for in High Hall for many years.

The site of the old carhouse is now lawn and rose trees – the memorial to Parkin.

R. I. P. **Michael Weatherald**

Barry's proud of his baler!

Yes, it compresses and ties up **cardboard** into half-tonne bales ready for collection. This is the new service at the "*Good Life*" on the business park in Hawes.

Any local residents can simply drop off their cardboard and Barry and his staff do the rest. It is becoming a great environmental service for the area.

But please note: businesses must first telephone (667979) and their cardboard will be **collected**.

West Burton May Fair

**Late May Bank Holiday Monday
1.00 to 5.00pm**

Events will include falconry, circus artist, Maypole and Morris dancing, teas, hot dogs, art exhibition and sale, raffle, tombola, bric-a-brac, books and other stalls, face painting and games... and parking.

Heavens above



If you're concerned about climate change and the effect of increasing temperature on the environment you might be interested in this month's 'star' attraction. It's giant red Arcturus, the brightest star in the sky's northern hemisphere and leader of the constellation of Bootes the Herdsman, which you'll find high in the south as darkness falls.

Arcturus is a really remarkable body. It lies roughly 37 light years away and is probably the most ancient object easily visible to the naked eye. It's about *10 billion* years old - twice the age of our own Sun. As well as being much older than the Sun, it's also a good deal bigger - by a factor of 25 or so - making it roughly 20 million miles across. On top of its huge size Arcturus is also one of the swiftest stars around, speeding past the solar system at more than 100 miles a second. In about half a million years it will have completely faded from view - the merest blink of an eye in astronomical terms.

Arcturus means 'The Guardian of the Bear' - the constellation of Ursa Major,

the Great Bear, which is always visible from our latitudes, and the Bear's curving 'tail', a line of 3 bright stars which most people will know as the Handle of the Plough, points the way to Arcturus if you want to see it for yourself. Follow the curve in a continuing arc across the sky for about 30 degrees and you'll soon come to Arcturus - easily recognised due to its distinct pale orange colour and the lack of other bright stars in its immediate vicinity.

So what's the connection with global warming? The answer is that in the far future our own Sun will eventually swell up into a *Red Giant* something like Arcturus, swallowing up the inner planets, Mercury and Venus, as it does so. The poor old Earth will be left as a huge scorched cinder with its atmosphere and oceans all boiled away, completely dead and lifeless. But don't worry, it's not due to happen for another 5 thousand million years. In the meantime you can still do your bit towards saving the planet.... Have clear skies!

Al Bireo

1st Hawes Brownies

The Brownies would like to thank everyone who supported the sale of refreshments at the recent Hoppers auction.

A new life for Yorebridge House

If you've walked or driven between Bainbridge and Askrigg over the last few months you will have noticed the major development work that has been taking place at the old National Park offices at Yorebridge House. The new owners are Charlotte and David Reilly who hail from the Stokesley area of North Yorkshire.

Their plans for the building can best be described as having two major elements. Principally they are creating a small 11-bedroomed luxury hotel (they call it a 'boutique hotel') but alongside this they are building a cosy public bar and restaurant which will be very much for 'locals' as well as hotel guests. There will also be a small function room, - again available for 'local' hire.

The 40-seat restaurant will be sited in a new orangery extension which will overlook the gardens and in it, as well as in the bar, guests will be served what Charlotte describes as 'good quality wholesome English food'. They have already secured the services of a chef of their acquaintance from their home area, but will be looking to employ locals in reception, bar and kitchen roles.

Charlotte has been a self-employed Interior Designer for the last ten years and will be using her skills in creating the décor for the hotel bedrooms, each of which will be themed on a different country. At least two of the bedrooms will have a 'hot tub' and the couple hope that they will attract visitors to the area who want a 'hotel experience' as well as the beautiful surroundings.

The couple are currently living in rented accommodation in Bainbridge with their 2 ½ year old daughter Lola and dog Bertie, whilst the local builders, electricians and plumbers tackle the major works involved.

David and Charlotte are aware that the building has many memories for locals and

intend to display photographs and relevant 'papers' in the bar area. To this end they would welcome any photographs or material that could be utilised. They can be contacted on **650680**

They are hoping to open in July and plan to organise a number of 'opening events' so watch this space for details or ask to be put on their mailing list. **B.C.**

From Kew to Wensleydale

Bainside Arts is offering you a wonderful opportunity to experience the beauty of the dale and to learn more about the flora that abounds in our area. This is a week of walks, talks and painting workshops. Expert botanical artist Annie Farrer from Kew Gardens will be leading one day.

Annie will talk about her work and lead a walk explaining how she works. Dales painter Judith Bromley and botanist Deborah Millward are also taking part and will be leading walks in woodland and meadow; Judith will also be teaching painting workshops. At the same time there will be an exhibition of prints of 'Down in the Meadow' paintings at the Dales Countryside Museum. For more information please contact Jenny on **650070**

or access our website: www.bainside-arts.org.uk

Men meet

What is becoming a regular twice-yearly gathering of 'Hawes men' held its April meeting last Wednesday at the Fountain Hotel. Following a very acceptable meal, ex-doctor Malcolm Hamer entertained as he spoke about 'words of wisdom' he had picked up from his earliest days as a medical student in the Liverpool area, up to his time here in the Dales. However, very 'wisely', he was careful what he said about this area. "Kick one ———, and they all limp!".

Thanks go to Stuart Armstrong and Peter Wood who organised it together with Jim Sleightholm who also introduced the evening.

BDMC Rally Report

It was a lovely evening for our first outdoor rally of the season. 8 cars set off from Bowbridge lay-by and the route led us through Worton, Thornton Rust, Castle Bolton and then over the tops to Grinton. From there through Harkerside and back over to Semerwater, Gayle and Sedbusk finishing at the Crown in Askrigg. On route there were some questions to answer and of course there was some controversy over the question 'How many upright concrete posts?' as one post was certainly not erect!! Some people were still looking for the 'Flush Time' (which was another clue) while others got it in 1 flush.

Marker Boards had to be spotted and the largest fir cone found en route had to be brought back. One contestant (not named of course) produced the biggest and claimed it had blown over from Canada, but this was a bit of a wild west story as perhaps his 'name' suggests. Altogether it was a lovely rally so thank you to Angela & Harry for organising it.

Next month's rally is on Wednesday 16th May. Enquiries from 650220/650204. All Welcome.

Netta Davison

Police report

Firstly I have had something pointed out to me about March's police report in relation to the bus shelter being attacked again. Let me say that in no way was I suggesting that the youths who had been involved in the previous incidents were involved. I had a good idea who it was, but could not prove it. I hope that clears things up and I apologise if people were misled by my ramblings on.

On the crime front there are a couple that I need to mention. At 3.00am on Saturday, March 17th, persons got into a farm building in Simonstone. Thanks to the quick actions of the farmer and the fact he had the building alarmed, a vehicles description was passed to the police. A similar vehicle was stopped in Leyburn and the three occupants arrested. Unfortunately there was not enough for us to prosecute, but nevertheless the three people from the West Yorkshire area may not be so quick to come back. I have to say that it is this type of prompt action by the reportee that gets results – not leaving it for a week and then telling us. OK so they did not go before the beak, but they were inconvenienced and we gained a lot of intelligence.

Between 11.00am and noon on Wednesday, April 18th, a Land Rover was stolen from Nappa – yes broad daylight!! The farmer left his vehicle unattended with the keys hidden, yet they found them and took it away. These criminals do not miss a trick and may have been watching the farmer park up. Do not give them a chance, always lock your vehicle and take your keys with you or it may not be there when you come back.

The time of year for the dreaded yellow lines has arrived – or will do at the end of May. Don Watson the new Police Community Support Officer for Hawes is quite happy to dish out tickets and is about on a regular basis. People are always taking the

'Michael' and yes they are locals; the lines apply to everyone and not just visitors – so don't do it.

Motorcycle parking – yes it has raised its ugly head again outside Littlefairs in Hawes. We are aware of the situation and are paying it attention and have had some new posters made asking them to park considerately. I know it is a very small minority who ignore other people's access and that the café do their best to tell them to move on, however I would ask that if you do see it happening, please contact us. On Sundays and Bank Holidays there is always either a traffic officer, or other officers about who can come and resolve the situation.

Anyway that's all for now, if you need any help or information please contact me or any member of staff at the community office and we will help you all we can.

Dave Cousins
PC141 Community Beat Officer

Thornton Rust Flower Festival

Flower Festival and Demonstration at Thornton Rust Village Institute on Saturday 16th June. Light lunches and afternoon teas will be available. Raffle and Tombola. Come and enjoy a day out looking at the flower displays, lunch and then a flower demonstration by Sandra Dinsdale. Ladies bring the menfolk as well! ! Admission by ticket. Only £8.00 per ticket. As the number of seats is limited please reserve your ticket as soon as possible. For more information telephone **663504**.

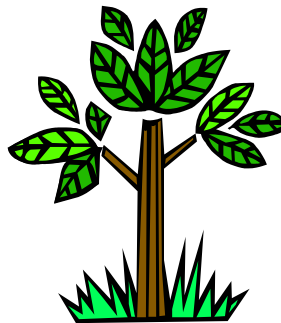
Fun Page!!!

4				3	
			2		
	1			6	5
6					
		4	3		

Jokes

Q. Why was the head teacher cross-eyed?

A. Because he could not control his pupils.



Fun Page supplied by Michael Pearson of West Burton School. Sorry for getting it wrong last month.

Sudoku Minis

COMPLETE the grid so that every row, each column and each 2 by 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 6.
DIFFICULTY RATING: EASY

Family B-B-Q

**Saturday 5th May
5.00pm till 9.00pm**

Next to the MUGA, Yorebridge, Askrigg
Everyone Welcome.

Includes:

BBQ food & Bar

Bouncy Castle, Kudu Bikes Display

MUGA open for use, Gym open to view

Raffle, Tombola and music

Proceeds in aid of the Yorebridge Sport and Fitness Association.

Providing Sport and Fitness opportunities for the whole Community

For more information contact:

Yvonne Peacock 650409

Lawrence Alderson 650599

Dom Gregson 650285

Or The Wensleydale Centre 650060

WEST BURTON SCHOOL NEWS

Tournament of Song and Speech

All the juniors performed a poem for the Tournament of Speech; we all went in year groups on different days, and received a certificate. we all enjoyed it!!!! We all learnt how to improve from the judge, Then the following week the whole school went to the tournament to sing, Do Re Mi and Raindrops on Roses, we came third. Do Re Mi was an action song, and Raindrops on Roses was in the unison section. There was also our singing club and they came 2nd with Minka and Ninananna.

School Council

In the Easter holidays, the school was decorated, children voted and we chose the colours lemon, and blue. It looks so much better than pink and green. Also the staff room has had a wall put in, so that Mrs Brotherton can have a little office, and they had a new carpet put in and it looks absolutely wonderful!!!!

Charlotte Stephenson

Dancing Club

Every Friday we do a family club in the Village Hall, which teaches you to do ballroom dancing club. This club was made for a purpose because in the summer we are having a Ball, and we will be wearing posh dresses and suits and bow ties.

Visiting musicians

In March some musicians came to our school; there was a guitarist and a flautist they played some tunes like zoom tune and the Simpsons. The guitarist was Scottish and the flautist was Irish. It was a wonderful day.

Ellie Black

A letter to Elijah

From the 1930s

Dear Sir,

I am writing to let you know we are leaving here, and going back into Arkengarthdale. I am sorry that owing to having other things to settle with we can't send you any money just now, but will continue to send money each month until the account is cleared.

Yours faithfully,

Joseph Wilson

(High Gale, Ribbleshead)

A day in the Dales

At West Duerley Farm, Gayle

Sunday, May 27th

From noon (judging 1.00pm prompt)

Qualifier for Cock of the North, Cumbrian,
Countryman's Weekly, Pride of the Peaks
and C.A. Championships

OPEN HOUND, BEAGLE, TERRIER AND LURCHER SHOW

Other attractions: Fell Race, Hound Trails,
Hang Gliding, Birds of Prey, Stick Show, Chil-
dren's Races, Bouncy Castle, Food, Bever-
ages and Beer Tents

For further information ring Kennels

667260

BAINBRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS

A few weeks ago we had an OFSTED inspection. It went really well and we were all very relaxed, like he wasn't even there! A couple of weeks after that we had an Easter garden competition, we had to bring a tray or container into school and if we wanted we could bring in some flowers or something from home. The gardens were very successful and everyone enjoyed making them. We had two musicians from the 'live music now project' we all enjoyed the concert as we have had other musicians in the past, we heard the flute and the guitar being played they were very talented people! After this very restful half term we have come back to a new term which is full of activities. On Friday all of the juniors are going to play in a football festival which will be good fun!

Stephy Mudd Y6

wins. We all had a great time and went away with a smile on our faces.

Becky Williams Y6

Easter Competition

On the Thursday before we broke up for the Easter holidays, Bainbridge school held an Easter competition for all the pupils in our school hall. We all brought boxes of similar sizes and also different objects like flowers, plastic animals or something like that which we could include in our gardens. There was lots of smiling faces, everyone was cooperating and helping each other.

All the gardens were great and certainly colourful, lots had most of the props from the Easter story that were perfectly arranged. Even though having said that they were all good there had to be some winners. In the infants first place went to Adam Kilvington, 2nd Kristen Arblaster and 3rd Shannon Macintyre. In the juniors 1st place Becky Williams, 2nd Samantha Alderson, and 3rd Stephy Mudd. Everybody got rewarded with a little cream egg for taking part so in a way everybody



Go forth and multiply

The tiny pieces of perennial Geranium 'Patricia' which I severed from the parent plant in Autumn and planted direct are already thrusting up through the soil. For me, it's one of the finest geraniums, the deep purple, black - throated flowers lasting well into October. Plant it mid-border where the ultimate 2 ft height won't swamp less robust contenders – a terrific filler or an eye catching specimen.. Another jewel is Geranium 'Ann Folkard' whose flowers are similar to 'Patricia'. Put next to a 3ft shrub, perhaps a spirea or potentilla, and allow Ann's golden foliage and gorgeous blooms to grow through and decorate the larger plant. Exquisite! Autumn division is quite difficult. Unlike most crust-forming perennial geraniums, 'Ann Folkard' emerges on almost one stem and it takes good eyesight, a steady hand and a sharp knife to take the minute basal cuttings. Pot them up, place somewhere cool and light, and plant out in spring.



Last week, a gardening buddy looked down the nose at me when I mentioned putting lots of orange in the border for summer. Apparently it has been decreed that this year, orange is 'out', and that more subtle purples, whites and blues are 'in'. Never a slave to fashion (I still listen to prog-rock), I'm planting Lychnis 'Arkwrightii' towards the front of the border, where the 1ft. high blaze of bright, lovely Belisha beacon orange will be enhanced by a rich, dark background of 'Otto Luyken' laurel (this the books will have under Prunus). The lychnis is a bit tender, so I gather seed in autumn and sow in spring. More orange is guaranteed by the climbing nasturtiums which self-seed every year and can climb like Chris Bonington.

Up walls, into shrubs, over rockeries, they respect no borders and give a welcome 'wild' feel to the garden. The seeds look like chickpeas and will sprout and romp away in rich soil, in sun or semi-shade.

Another prolific self- seeder is the poppy. Left unchecked and your garden will rival Afghanistan and you'll fall out with the neighbours so I spend a couple of hours in April digging out this marauder. It's easy enough with the glaucous leaved, pale purple one; the real limpet is the yellow, Welsh variety, with deep roots and ultra-invasive tendencies. There's no easy solutions, just deeper digging and gently teasing out. Try not to break the root and leave a bit buried- it WILL return.

This week I'm dusting off last year's fuchsias ready to plant back into baskets and tubs. Only tender, they need to be over-wintered somewhere dry and sheltered, then taken out in May, anything dead or damaged clipped back to a new bud, then fed and potted up, ready for planting out. Lacking a cool greenhouse, I stored mine at the foot of a high wall where, planted extra deep and well mulched , most emerged alive and healthy. I do get it right occasionally so please forgive the triumphant tone.

Ed Gardener

Hawes Playgroup

We have had a busy term.

First we had a visit to the library for a story telling session. Next we went to Dalesplay for 2 singing sessions. At the end of the term we had a visit to the Dentist. Rita let the children have a go on the Dentist chair which they enjoyed, and the rinsing water tap.

For Comic Relief we made faces and displayed them on the Market Hall window. We raised £42 for comic relief with our Sweepstake sheet.

We made chocolate nests for Easter, chick cards, lambs and bunnies.

Hawes Playgroup is held in Hawes Market Hall Monday and Wednesday 9.15 – 11.45 am in term time.

Hawes Junction

The friends of Hawes Junction chapel (near the Moorcock Inn) are holding a reunion tea on **Saturday June 2nd between 2.00 and 5.00pm**

This event is open to all but especially for those who attended either Lunds School or Junction Sunday School. Tickets for the tea are £5 and can be obtained from **A. Souter**.
Tel: 667291 by May 26th.

Doctors' rotas as supplied by the surgery .

AYS GARTH SURGERY ROTA Wb - week beginning										HAWES SURGERY ROTA Wb - week beginning											
Wb	7May		14May		21May		28May				Wb	7May		14May		21May		28May			
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Mon	FW	F	J	F	JA	J	C	C			Mon	JA	JA	AF	A	F	F	C	C		
Tues	JA	JA	FA	FA	F	F	WJ	WJ			Tues	WF	WF	J	J	JA	JA	A	A		
Wed	FW	F	J	J	A	A	A	A			Wed	A	A	F	F	J	J	J	J		
Thur	JA	J	A	A	F	F	W	W			Thur	W	W	J	J	A	A	J	J		
Fri	F	F	F	F	J	J	A	A			Fri	JA	JA	A	A	F	F	W	W		
Sat	Emergency service only									Sat	Emergency service only										
Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed										Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed											
Morning Surgery: 9.00 - 10.30 a.m. (no appointments)										Morning S'y: 8.45-10.15 Tues till 10.45 (no appointments)											
Afternoon Surgery: 4.00 - 5.30 p.m. (appointment only)										Afternoon S'y: 5.00-6.00 Tues 1.00-4.00 (appointments only)											
For appointments and all enquiries ring 663222										For appointments and all enquiries ring 667200											

Hold on!

If you need to phone the doctor out of hours, we have noticed that sometimes there is a slight delay between phoning the surgery telephone number and the call being diverted to the Out of Hours centre. Please hold the line when you ring, do not put the phone down assuming there is no connection. During busy periods it may take some seconds before the connection is made.

Many thanks. **Jonathan France**

Farewellcome

The longest-serving member of the National Park Authority has retired after a total of 18 years' service.

Solicitor Jerry Pearlman, who was appointed to the YDNPA by the Secretary of State, was the Authority's Deputy Chairman and was a member of its Audit and Review, Planning and Access committees.

The post of Deputy Chairman has been taken up by Member Dr Malcolm Petyt until July when the Authority Chairman and Deputy Chairman are elected.

Dr Petyt, who is also a Secretary of State appointee to the Authority, has been an Authority member since 2002 and was reappointed in 2005. He is a member of its Audit and Review and Access committees and lives in the Sedbergh area.



Letters

Dear Newsletter Editor

As I grow older and less active I wonder sometimes if I am contributing as much as I am able for the benefit of the community of Upper Wensleydale. In this pensive mood I happened on the latest issue of your Newsletter and it occurred to me that it might somehow suggest a service I could offer that would not be too demanding. I was not disappointed. Under the heading "Concern over cost of new legislation" it is mooted that volunteers might help defray the cost of bringing stiles on public footpaths up to EU standard by collecting donations. The very thing!

That would not demand more energy than advancing age could furnish. I would do some research to identify one or two popular footpaths with a nearby lay-by where I could park my car (I can still drive!). Then donning my volunteer badge and high visibility waterproof jacket (kindly provided by the National Park, I assume) I would rattle my collecting tin under the noses of walkers and give each a sticker in return for a donation limited to 50p. £1 is a bit much don't you think, Mr Editor, rather like your 'concern' as expressed in your, yes, **APRIL** Newsletter
Your Enlightened Reader,

I N Flagrante

Friendly reminder

Don't forget the WEA Spring course (see last month's Newsletter). The subject is "Environmentally Friendly Farming" and it begins on **Wednesday, May 2nd from 7.00 to 9.00pm**

The cost is £28 with concessions £23 and claimants £2. Full details from :

Jane Clarke 624393



Mystery picture.

Last month's was of High Dyke, one of the "High" buildings on Lady Anne's Way beyond Cotterdale. We thought it might be hard to identify; not so! Liz Pedley rang in. "We used to have our sheepfold up there!"

Yoredale Art Club

The Annual Exhibition of local artists' work will be held in the Leyburn Methodist Church hall from **Friday May 4th to Monday May 7th; 10.00 am to 5.00 pm (but from noon on the Sunday)**

Life in Oz

(Part two from Isabel Read, Community Physiotherapist for Wensleydale 1991-95; now living in Queensland)

Even though we all have English as our Mother tongue, the Aussies have a different slant on some words. The fields are known as “paddocks”, a beck is a “creek” and any body of water from a lake to a pond is known as a “dam”. Although there are certain linguistic twangs in Australia, there are no dialects or strong accents. Ex-pats are a dead give away as soon as they open their mouths, so you can tell if someone is from Yorkshire, or Scotland or Liverpool at a hundred paces. And unless you came here as a child, your homeland accent remains.

The countryside or “bush” is very different – no hedgerows or dry stone walls. Instead we have lots of gum trees, which withstand the lack of water but tend to look a little tatty all the time. Just as in Yorkshire, the houses were originally constructed to match the climate.



A typical “Queenslander” is wooden, on stilts, has lots of windows, and a shady wrap-around verandah. The windows can be opened to catch as much breeze as possible; the house is up off the ground so that when it does rain (and it’s usually torrential) the flood waters can pass under the house, and the verandah is for relaxing on with a cold beer after a day in the cane fields!

The wildlife is spectacular. Yes there are kangaroos and koalas, but not running around our gardens, as folks in the UK sometimes seem to think. The birds are bright and colourful and very chatty. Un-

fortunately, the Australian pheasant has the same death wish as its British counterpart when it comes to running in front of vehicles. We have beautiful green tree frogs that come out at night and croak if rain is approaching. There are snakes of course, but after a while you do become a little complacent, and are jolted back into reality when the stick on the ground suddenly wriggles away. Frill necked lizards are often seen basking in the sun and occasionally a “goanna” (iguana) strolls across the back lawn.

On the whole life here is very pleasant and has lots of plus points. However, we do miss the rain (believe it or not), and of course our family and friends. Recent history here is really no more than 200 years old and locals are amazed when I tell them of houses in the Dale that would have been around before Captain Cook set sail. I miss the feeling of ancient ancestry and the way past events have shaped life in Britain. You don’t really get that background here in Australia, wonderful country though it is. Mind you they do have an even older civilization than the Britons, the Aborigines, but that’s another story.



Isabel Read

New recruit

We are pleased to welcome to the Newsletter Committee Sarah Dinsdale who lives in Gayle and now works at Simonstone Hall. In the near future we hope you will be reading some of her contributions.

Planting for wildlife

A contract drawn up between the Forestry Commission and the Cotterdale– High Abbotside– Fossdale areas is enabling considerable tree-planting to take place not only replacing felled conifers on the valley sides but also along the bottom of Cotterdale.

Mr Oliver Fielden of Scottish Woodland, Kendal has been appointed to oversee the work (in addition to the felling going on at Lunds).

The planting will further encourage red squirrels and black grouse; at a very recent black grouse count 54 black cock were recorded in High Abbotside/Fossdale with 6 lecks. The planting in Cotterdale is mainly birch, rowan, thorn, spruce, juniper and scots pine. 20,000 are expected to be put in this season over the whole area.

There is to be selective felling and some topping-off of the existing woodland, not wholesale clearance.

(Thanks to Mark Rennison, Cotterdale, for some of these details).

Play it again: born again musicians

Bass/lead/keyboard player wanted to join mature rhythm guitarist and drummer to form band for pleasure/jamming.

Pop, rock country or folk, contact

John on 663952 or Andrew on 663301

Swaledale Festival 2007

Guided Walk 2 - Wensley

29 May, 10:00 AM

This 10 mile circuit along the River Ure returns to Wensley before the late afternoon concert.

Oliver Coates, cello

Holy Trinity Church, Wensley, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

29 May, 5:00 PM

A remarkable musician plays Bach, Crumb, Bloch, Firsova and Saint-Saëns

Mary, Queen of Scots

St Andrew's Church, Aysgarth, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

29 May, 8:00 PM

Julia Doyle, soprano, and James Weeks, harpsichord

Muker Silver Band

Muker Public Hall, Muker, near Richmond, North Yorkshire

30 May, 8:00 PM

Guided Walk 4 - Family Walk

1 June, 1:30 PM

An easy 3-mile walk around the waterfalls of the pretty wooded valley of Mill Gill.

Gamelan Sekar Petak

Bainbridge Meeting House, Bainbridge, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

1 June, 5:00 PM

A perfect introduction to the evocative soundworld of the gamelan. Ideal for families.

King's Camerata

St. Oswald's Church, Askrigg, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

1 June, 8:00 PM

Grieg and Elgar.

Darlington Youth Orchestra

St. Oswald's Church, Askrigg, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

3 June, 5:00 PM

Young musicians with outstanding talent.

Guided Walk 6 - Keld

7 June, 11:00 AM

An easy 6 miles finishing at Keld in plenty of time for the late afternoon concert.

Harriet Mackenzie, violin

Keld Chapel, near Richmond, North Yorkshire

7 June, 5:00 PM

Harriet Mackenzie is an outstanding young violinist

Leyburn Band

St Andrew's Church, Aysgarth, near Leyburn, North Yorkshire

9 June, 2:00 PM

For full details pick up a programme, ring

01748 880019 or visit the website

www.swaledale-festival.org.uk

Hardraw Church

A pipe organ is being installed during the latter part of May. Apologies to visitors who are affected by the works being carried out in the chancel of the Church.

ASKRIGG SCHOOL NEWS

Local Eye Exhibition

This term we have been pleased to have had the opportunity to place an emphasis on the arts. The exhibition has been a culmination of varied work undertaken in a wide range of mediums. Here are some comments from the children.

One sunny Wednesday afternoon in March, our class(year 3 & 4) went for a walk to Mill Ghyll . We took lots of photos of different trees. Back at school we drew the trees on a colour washed background and they looked really good and very effective. We also made press prints in two colours of houses in Askrigg, and some children used scraperboard.

The year 5 & 6 children walked around Askrigg and took photographs. They made detailed drawings of our local area. At school they made lino cuttings copied from the photos. They also used computers to successfully manipulate the photos. They got the idea from Marie Hartley's work.

Class 1 drew pictures on cardboard, then stuck string onto their designs to make a mono press print. The Reception children made finger paintings of their houses.

By Beth, Phoebe, and Jordan Year 4

Askrigg School Choir and Orchestra

We started practising choir about January ,for the Wensleydale tournament. Thirty two children from year 2 to year 6 sang. The first song Mrs Gavinder Singh was an action song with Georgia Daykin dressed in character. The second song was a two part song, What shall we do with the drunken sailor? This was the most successful as we came first in this category. Finally we sang Doh a deer from the Sound Of Music in a round.

The orchestra were very successful with Yellow Bird and Birds, winning overall.

**Annabel Civil and Charlotte Feather
Year 4.**

Dales Harvest Festival

Preparations for the Dales Harvest 2007 are well under way. The two day event is on 22nd and 23rd September on the Community Field and around the town, and will feature exhibitors of local produce, along with entertainers and musicians from around the region. There will be antique fairground attractions and vintage farm machinery displays, as well as exhibits promoting local charitable and voluntary organisations. You will be able to sample food prepared by the likes of Curriculum Kitchens, who specialise in cooking "wild" food, along with a programme of cookery demonstrations in the Market Hall. If you are interested in demonstrating your culinary skills in the Market Hall, or you would like to contribute in any other capacity please ring **Mick Rhodes** at the Community Office on **667400, Wed - Fri**. All help is gratefully appreciated.

Aysgarth Church Tea Dance

This Spring, our regular Tea Dances are in West Burton Village Hall. For the Benefice and all our other friends in the Dale, West Burton is a more central meeting place, with reasonable parking. The date for your diary is **Tuesday, May 15th from 2- 4.00pm**, with tea served in the interval and tickets an all-inclusive £5.00 payable at the door. The ever-popular Mike-Rose Trio will provide the music.

Michael Mason 663457

Hawes Job Swap

Angus McCarthy of the Fountain Hotel and Stan Johnson of Wensleydale Creamery will be swapping jobs for a full day on May 16th to raise funds for Yorkshire Cancer Research. Angus will be experiencing all parts of the cheese making process while Stan will attempt to pull pints at the Fountain until the barrels run dry!

You can sponsor them both at either the Fountain or the Wensleydale Creamery. Please give them your support to make their job swap really worthwhile.

Produce at West Witton

Throughout Christian Aid Week, from May 13th, weather permitting, there will be a table selling goods on Smorthwaite Garden, (opposite Wensleydale Heifer) West Witton during Christian Aid Week. If you would like to place orders for 1lb jars of marmalade to help raise money for Christian Aid or if you have any donations of sugar or 1lb jars please ring **Sheila 624394**.

WHAT'S ON LISTING

Transfer these dates to your calendar!

For Dales Countryside Museum Events see page 11 and for Swaledale Festival events in the Newsletter area see page 33

May

- 1 YDNPA Planning Committee. Yoredale, Bainbridge 10.30 am
- 1 Hawes Drama Group reads "May Monologues". Gayle Institute at 7.30 pm
- 1 The Gap Team presents at Carperby Village Hall. See page 13
- 2 Practices begin for Wensleydale Chorus. Leyburn Methodist Hall 7.00 pm
- 3 Election Day Polling 7.00am–10.00 pm
- 3, 10, 17, 24 Modern Drama Workshops. Dalesplay, Hawes contact **667789**
- 4–7 Yoredale Art Club exhibition. See page 30
- 5–7 Dales Food & Drink Festival, Leyburn
- 5 Open rehearsals at St. Andrew's. See page 8
- 5 Pudding Night at Thorlby Village Hall £10 details & bookings
Brian McGregor 663565
- 6 Elite Cinema Closes
- 6 Bainbridge Methodist Church anniversary service 10.30 am
- 6 Cream Teas at Redmire Village Hall from 2.00 pm–5.00 pm in aid of Hall funds
- 7 Plant Sale in Castle Bolton Church for Mission Partners 10.00 am–noon
- 7 Table Top Sale, West Burton Village Hall at 10.00 am See page 12
- 8 Coffee Morning and stalls. Hawes WI in the Methodist Rooms 10.00am–noon
- 12 Wensleydale Society joint walk with Upper Wharfedale Field Society. Meet Middleham Key Centre 10.30 am
624609
- 12 Plant Sale & Cake stall 10.00 am–2.00 pm with refreshments until noon at Cathedral Hall, West Witton (Mrs Vera Brown's next to Fox & Hounds)
- 12 Yorkshire Dales Society AGM. Falls Country Club, Aysgarth 2.15 pm
- 13 Christian Aid Week begins
- 13 Christian Aid United Service, Hawes area. Methodist Church 10.30 am
- 13 Walk "Historic Footsteps". Meet on Bainbridge Green at 1.00 pm. 10km
- 15 Coffee Morning and stalls for Christian Aid. Hawes Methodist rooms 10.00am–noon
- 15 Tea dance. West Burton. See page 35
- 16 Hawes Job Swap for Yorkshire Cancer Research. See page 35
- 16 Bainbridge & District Motor Club rally
- 17 Ascension Day Service for Wensleydale Circuit. Harmby Methodist Church 7.30 pm
- 17 Ascension Day evening service at Jervaulx 7.00 pm
- 18 Museum Friends DCM 7.30 pm. "Travelling through the Dales"
- 18–20 Community Rail Weekend
- 19 Millennium Trust Event "Celebrating Woodland" Aysgarth, St Joseph's Wood from 9.00 am
- 19 Redmire to Aysgarth walk with W.R.A.
- 20 Table top sale at the Market House, Hawes for Hawes School
- 20 St Andrews, Aysgarth. Bishop James will dedicate the new space at 6.30 pm
- 23 Blood Donor Service at the Market House Hawes afternoon and evening. Look out for notices with precise times.
- 25 White Horse Special Event–Railway at Redmire
- 25 Stalling Busk supper and auction. See page 4
- 26 Swaledale Festival Begins See page 33
- 26 Hawes Silver Band plays on Bainbridge Village Green from 1.30 pm (in Village Hall if wet)
- 26– June 1st Gaping Gill winning meet
- 27 Whit Sunday–Pentecost
- 27 Day in the Dales. See page 25
- 27 Walk "By Castle & Byway" meet at Castle Bolton car park 11.00 am 12km
- 27 Marsett Chapel "Singalong" 8.00 pm
- 28 West Burton May Fair See page 19
- 28 Askrigg sports. Yorebridge from 1.30 pm
- 28 Redmire Open Gardens. Plants for sale. Teas (in hall if wet) 2.00–5.00 pm
- 28 Cream Teas at St Margaret's, Hawes from 1.30 pm
- 29 YDNPA Full Authority meeting. 10.30am at Bolton Abbey village hall.
- 30 "Nature Discovery" Meet at Aysgarth Falls National Park centre at 10.00 am. Woodland stroll. Packed lunch required.
- 31 Gayle Ladies "The Circle Dancers" 7.30 pm

ELITE CINEMA
WWW.ELITE-CINEMA.CO.UK
BOX OFFICE 624488
FINAL PROGRAMME
 Wednesday May 2nd –5th
Live Theatre
 Leyburn Amateur Dramatic
 Production
Not now, darling
From May 6th, Cinema closes

Announcement

The Elite Cinema Leyburn closes on May 6th 2007 due to our retirement and we would like to thank all our loyal customers who have supported us over the 12 years and thank all staff and friends that have helped to keep the Cinema going.

We have had a lot of fun and made a lot of friends. It has been tough sometimes keeping the cinema's head above water, but we think it has been a very worthwhile thing to do.

While it is sad that the Elite cannot find a buyer as a cinema it must be remembered that there will still be cinema in Richmondshire. This is very important, as there are a lot of rural areas that do not have access to a cinema.

We must all look to the future. The Elite has had its day. In addition to our retirement, the building needs a serious makeover and current and emerging legislation is becoming harder and more costly to meet for an old building.

The Richmond Station Regeneration Project is on track and will provide a brand new 2 screen Cinema for the area by this autumn and we would expect the programming to be along similar lines to the Elite. We would ask all our customers to support it and go as often as they can. We will be going there so we will see you all there. Best wishes to everyone from

Geoff and Jude Simpson.

Comment

We are happy to print the announcement opposite and agree that the Elite has been a most valuable asset to the area and we are most grateful to them for bringing back cinema to Wensleydale.

However we are saddened that negotiations about its future are now becoming rather unsavoury. Whilst ideas often come thick and fast, especially in the realms of 'Arts' ventures, their long-term viability is seldom easy.

As for the Newsletter area, many people will be thinking twice before going to Richmond. However if this paves the way for cinema in our local halls, all might not be lost.

A.S.W.

Advance notices

A history of Saltaire

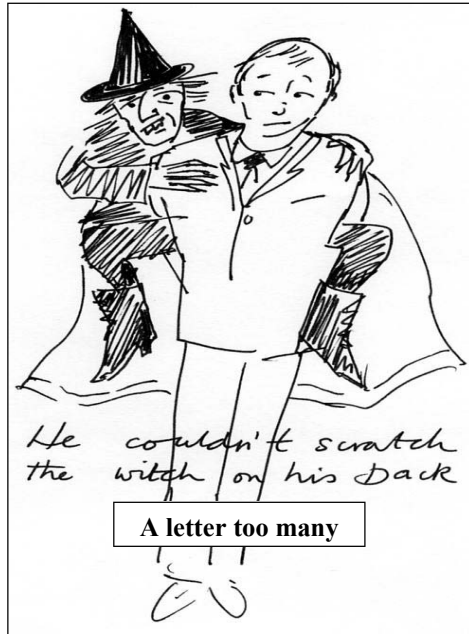
Titus Salt's 1853 huge mill and designer village near Shipley: special open evening by Hawes W.I. on **Thursday, July 19th.** Tickets £1.50 and all welcome.

Wensleydale Chorus

July 14th and 21st at Askrigg and East Witton.

Organ recital

August 3rd Hawes Methodist memorial organ.



Final Uplift Update

Thanks for your support from Hawes W.I!
 We would like to thank everyone for the marvellous response to our bra appeal, especially to the ladies from Barnsley and Leeds. The response was marvellous giving us a grand total of 290! We have now finished collecting them and again a big thank-you to Linda and Stephen at the Post Office.
Jane Macintosh

Mid-summer trip

There will be a trip from Hawes to Keswick, with high tea at Pooley Bridge on **Thursday, June 21st**. The fare for the coach will be £8.00 or £9.00 (depending on numbers) and the tea £7.50. Please book with **Shirley Watkinson**, Old Station House. **667785** with £8.00 deposit by **June 14th**.

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