

Upper Wensleydale
Newsletter
Issue 132—December 2007
January 2008
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Editorial

It is the time of the year for looking back-and forward. Remember January is named after the Roman God Janus who had two faces looking in opposite directions.

A prophet reads 'the signs of the times'; what's been happening, what is happening now, and then makes an educated judgment at what the future might hold, locally, nationally or world wide. So hold on to your hats; here we go! We won't be totally doom and gloom, but promise us you won't check up how wrong we've been!

Locally, we don't expect much change. One of the good things about areas like ours is that change is relatively slow and controlled. There could be the occasional 'flare-up' as a local planning matter gets hyped up. We will certainly be vigilant and careful about Foot and Mouth. Even if there is a general house price slump it is highly unlikely prices will fall in very desirable rural areas like this. There is a wind-farm scheme being looked at not far away, near Gargrave, as we try to come to terms with how to supply our energy. We are not over-optimistic about hospital services but much more hopeful about National Health dentistry. We would like to think that the year would see an increase in the number of younger adults volunteering to help with all kinds of our local organisations.

Nationally, we expect that health and education will continue to be political footballs. It would be foolish to expect that parliament will become more civilised, especially at Question Times when it becomes like schoolboy point-scoring; but we can hope. Despite people saying 'policies' are what matter, we expect the media will do its best to build up or destroy individuals in power. It would be good if the newspapers weighed half as much and we all learned how to use one word instead of three! We might recycle more, but will probably not use less... of anything. There

will be the on-going tension between 'we've too many overseas workers' and 'we need more overseas workers to be able to cope'! We would like to see a narrowing of the gap between rich and poor, but are not hopeful.

Internationally, there is a worrying new development. Because of our desperate need for energy and an ever increasing population, there will be attempts by nations to claim more parts of the Arctic and the Antarctic for themselves. It's already started. The demands for oil, gas and water will be catalysts for conflict. As China and India flourish, and as Russia re-emerges feeling increasingly under threat, there will be those who see Europe as an ever more important group. The Middle East (strategically placed in the world) and Africa with all its rivalries might both see greater suffering and famine. The United Nations might once again come into its own. There could be a worrying escalation of nuclear weapons- and we are not thinking only of Iran.

One thing is certain. The Internet will continue to grow and that, despite the opportunities for misuse, will be one huge asset. There is really no excuse for us not knowing what is going on. However hard governments, councils, corporations or businesses would like to keep their schemes or plans from us, the Web will reveal the facts! We must equally be wary of misinformation, both accidental and deliberate, widely propagated via the Internet. Locally, nationally or world-wide one thing is important – that if we learn the truth and get all the information, not simply relying on what the papers want us to know, or on hearsay- then we each may play our part in reasoned discussion, the setting of right attitudes, and the resolution of conflict. In that respect a little bit of the future is in **our** hands!

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Eunice

I was hiding so well in a Tuk-tuk that no-one found me last month. Get out those magnifying glasses and see if you can find me this month!

Postal Subscriptions

For those readers who receive their Newsletter via our postal subscription scheme, if you wish to continue this service it is time to send us your annual fee, which remains at £8. Please forward your cheque, payable to Upper Wensleydale Newsletter, to our Treasurer Peter Jackson at The Overlook, Gayle, Hawes, North Yorkshire, DL8 3RZ. If subs are not renewed by the end of January we shall assume you no longer wish to use the postal service.

NOTE – a few readers only recently started to use our postal service in the latter part of 2007, but paid the full annual fee of £8; those are not due for further payment until the end of 2008.

P.H.J.

November answers

Break NECK tie
Corn DOLLY bird
Dream TIME trial
Egg PLANT ain
Fret SAW tooth
Grand MOTHER tongue
Hard TIMES table
Mine WORKING lunch
Night TIME lord
Onion RING tone
Piggy BANK note
Root VEGETABLE patch
Sun BEAM end
Tang ENT rant

None of the answers we received were exactly as shown, the best submission was from Margaret Robert from Carperby who, as it's nearly Christmas, wins this month's first prize.

Competition

Example: 31 D I D = 31 days in December

Now try these:

12 D O C

5 G R

9 L of a C

13 P in a R L T

20 XX in R N

28 D in the S M

39 J B's S

50 Y for a G W

21 C in the A

562 D in Y

3 V in A I A M

8 M A M

Bus(h)man's holiday

I can't really believe that down here in OZ I have even given you a thought! But it happened this way: on touring in Rural New South Wales and Victoria we noticed that every small town or area seems to have its NEWSLETTER. Well what minor editor from Yorkshire could resist having a look?

In some ways 10,000 miles makes no difference to what you read, but other bits couldn't be more different. Take the adverts: yes, there are the usual builders, plumbers, hairdressers (many), homeopaths (maybe more of the 'healthy' type adverts), food adverts galore, farmers' markets, school fairs, financial services, car services, church services, with very similar Christmas events despite the heat. However, we're not likely to need in Upper Wensleydale termite exterminators, surf board suppliers, cheap offers on decking, or more powerful mozzy-killers. And 'Op shops' and recycling events feature in a big way.

As for the articles, unsurprisingly some people are upset by the planners... for allowing the expansion of villages and housing. There are calls for bypasses (yet there's hardly any traffic in the rural areas even by U.W. standards), mind you, they're not exactly short of space!; greetings from grateful people for help received; much concentration on sports of every kind; and astute, thoughtful, carefully-written editorials(!) often on matters of wider interest. Australia is getting in a spin about global warming; you can see why. It's only spring down here but often baking hot; dried-up ground, little or no stock in places, next to no feed- and the 'dry' and 'fires' season is yet to come.

Their local newsletters (some voluntary, some professional jobs) also try their hand at "funnies". Here are a couple to spread a

little cheer to a dark, cool dale from a parched but pleasant land, and a parched and perspiring A.S.W.

"Dyslexics have more fnu"; " 'Desserts' written backwards reads 'Stressed' "

Your Ed in Oz

Public invited to help shape planning policy

If you live in the National Park, would you like to help influence planning policy and planning decisions in the future?

At the start of the Yorkshire Dales Development Framework 2006-2021 – a new set of planning policies for the area which will eventually replace the existing Local Plan (2006) – the YDNPA is inviting comments on a new strategy to involve the public in this process and in future decisions on planning applications.

The YDNPA's draft Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out details of who the Authority will consult, how they will be consulted, when this will happen and how their views will be used to influence local planning policies and the planning application process.

Yvonne Peacock, YDNPA Member Champion for Forward Planning, said: "The Government is very keen to 'front load' the planning process and to build consensus into planning policy by involving the public at an early stage.

"We want all communities and local businesses across the National Park to feel that they can put forward their ideas and feel confident that these will be considered.

"This new strategy sets out details of how we think we can best achieve this but we need people to tell us if we've got it right and, if not, to tell us what we need to do to improve the process."

In 1999 and 2004, the YDNPA found that about 40% of the residents surveyed wanted to receive information about consultation through the post rather than by email and the internet. The current SCI consultation should reveal whether this preference is still true and whether other communications channels should be

considered.

The YDNPA will also consider how to involve so-called 'hard-to-reach' people, who traditionally have not responded to consultation but who may have particular points of view on planning policy.

The draft SCI can be downloaded from our website at www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/yorkshire_dales_development_framework. Anyone interested in making comments can download and complete an associated questionnaire.

Alternatively, copies of both documents can be obtained by contacting YDNPA Strategic Planning Officer Peter Stockton on 652334 (Email: Peter.Stockton@yorkshiredales.org.uk) or they can be viewed at the Authority offices in Grassington and Bainbridge.

CORUS to help Wensleydale Railway

A major rail industry company, Corus Railway Infrastructure Services (CRIS), has offered Wensleydale Railway (WR) engineering support for a new-build section of the WR at Northallerton.

WR has a direct rail connection to the East Coast main line and trains can travel from one railway to the other. However, passengers cannot travel between the five WR stations and Northallerton because the short section of track linking the line into the station platform at Northallerton was removed many years ago.

The CRIS is a design consultancy business specialising in rail. Its sponsorship package offers its staff's time on a voluntary basis, with access to any company resources needed. Staff, particularly the younger members, will gain a firsthand feel for the challenges involved in planning, financing, designing, building, operating and maintaining a

railway.

The project will be dedicated to Clive Roberts, a former CRIS colleague from its York office, who was one of the founders of the WR re-opening project and its first engineering director, from 2000-2005. He died tragically young in 2006.

Ian Sesnan, WR director of Communities and Regeneration said: “Making the connection between Northallerton station and the Wensleydale line will open up many new journey possibilities as it will bring WR’s remaining five miles of line between Leeming Bar and Northallerton into regular use. This will link Wensleydale once again with the East Coast main line, making ‘green tourism’ easier and giving the people of the dale easier access to the goods and services in the market town of Northallerton.”

Currently WR runs passenger services for 17 miles from Leeming Bar to Redmire. The long-term aim is to rebuild 18 miles of track westwards through Aysgarth, Askrigg and Hawes to Garsdale, thus re-connecting the East Coast main line with the Settle-Carlisle railway.

WR has seven part-time paid staff and more than 300 working volunteers who operate and maintain the railway and provide customer services, such as catering and shops, at Leeming Bar and Leyburn. Recently, a new post of full-time General Manager has been advertised.

Further information about WR can be obtained from www.wensleydalerailway.com (fares and timetables) and www.WensleydaleRailwayAssociation.com (history and volunteering opportunities).

Ruth Annison

NHS Dentistry - Update and correction

The contact numbers for the Leyburn dental service given in the last issue of the Newsletter were incorrect.

The contact number for the new Hawes/Leyburn practice is **0844 7368548**.

A new service, operated by Primecare and based at Hawes Health Centre, will start on Friday 23rd November and will function most Fridays. The above contact number can be used to register or make an appointment. Alternatively, if patients have not placed their names on a waiting list they can register via the dental registrations line on **01904 724107**.

If people have a general patient enquiry they can call the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) on **0845 6018412** or a free phone number for Northallerton **0800 0282462**.

Leyburn Dental Practice continues to offer an NHS service to under 18s Monday to Thursday at Hawes.

Campaign to Help Off Roaders

North Yorkshire Police and Rangers from the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) will be monitoring routes being used by off-road vehicles during the winter months.

The joint action days will take place on public footpaths, bridleways and byways in the National Park and are aimed at raising awareness of new legislation relating to drivers of motorbikes and 4x4s for recreational purposes.

Matt Neale, the Authority's Area Ranger for Upper Wensleydale, is co-ordinating the exercises, which will also involve the police checking bikes and other vehicles to make sure they are legal as well as taking action where clear breaches of the law are

committed.

“Off-roading is probably one of the most sensitive issues for national parks in terms of recreation. Even a small number of bikes in the wrong place can have a serious effect on both sensitive habitats and the peace and tranquillity of the area – just two of the special qualities of the National Park that so many people come here to experience.”

“There is now plenty of information available explaining exactly where off-road enthusiasts can go and what is legally required of them, so there is no excuse for people to ride or drive in areas where they have no legal rights to take recreational vehicles.”

Last month (October) the YDNPA announced the publication of a new, free trail bike leaflet that has been produced in partnership with the Trail Riders Fellowship, Natural England, the North Yorkshire and Cumbria county councils, the Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and North Yorkshire and Cumbria police.

It explains where and how trail bikers can use the byways and unsurfaced, unclassified county roads and it sets out the legal issues involved and the ways in which riders can help minimise the effects of their sport on the wildlife, the landscape and other users.

The leaflet, called ‘Trail Riding in the Yorkshire Dales’, can be obtained from some petrol stations and cafés in and around the National Park and on the website www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/trail_riding_leaflet_-_2007.pdf.

Specific route information can be found by contacting Matt Neale on **666220** or at www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/green_lane_management.

The police would also welcome reports

of illegal off-roading incidents from members of the public. These should be handed in to local police stations in Grassington, Settle, Ingleton, Hawes and Leyburn.

Trafford Centre trip

This trip on **Sunday December 16th** will leave Hawes Market Hall at 9.15am and seats cost £10.00. Please book at Streetwise Laundrette, Hawes. **667192** l on that evening

Christmas Message

Each year we invite one of our local church ministers to write a piece

Who would believe that it is coming up to Christmas again?

I know a number of people who are just waiting for this year to end because they have had such a difficult one, and I feel encouraged that even though they have had such a hard time they still have the hope that next year will be better.

Christmas is about hope.

Not just the hope of presents and parties and time to forget difficulties and be together with family and friends, but the hope of the Kingdom of God; the rule of love.

The classic story in the gospel of Luke of Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus; of difficulties overcome and joy acknowledged; of the shepherds being privileged over the rich rulers and wise men bringing gifts, tells us about hope on all kinds of different levels. It tells of the hope of a young mother that she has a healthy child; of a father that he can provide for every situation; of shepherds that they might be acceptable and of travellers that they might find their way. It tells us about how love overcomes all impossible obstacles and transforms any difficult situation so that everyone feels good about themselves and who they are.

I hope that this is true for you this Christmas; that you are touched by love and are transformed by it, so that next year has a bright new beginning, full of hope for all it has to offer and one step closer to the Kingdom of God.

Ann Chapman

Comenius Project

On the Tuesday of half-term six people,

four members of staff and two governors, from West Burton School set off on the latest trip of their European Comenius Project. This time the destination was Kosice in Eastern Slovakia.

The Wednesday was spent exploring the central part of the town, which has some beautiful old buildings in it. That evening, teachers from St Cyril and Method's School came to collect us from our hotel to take us to a town centre restaurant where around 35 European teachers sat down for a meal together.

The next day we visited caves at Ochtinska Aragonitova and had a guided tour of Beltair House. This coach trip was made memorable due to the drive through the Slovakian countryside where the autumn colours of the trees were glorious.

Friday was the visit to St Cyril and Method's School, which is situated in the south west of the town (Kosice has around 250,000 inhabitants). We could travel by bus or tram to the school. We took in our surroundings during the journey. There were many blocks of flats.

The outside of the school looked bare with lots of concrete in evidence. The inside was very different. Two pupils in national dress offering bread and salt, a traditional way to welcome visitors, greeted us. A concert involving music and dance was performed to us in the gym.

Each year the school, which teaches pupils from 6 to 14 years, holds a European Day. Each class had a different theme and my group experienced many types of craftwork, as well as different aspects of life in Slovakia, in the presentations the children gave to us.

Slovakian hospitality involves food and in most classes we were offered cake, biscuits or sweets and even soup! By the time we sat down to school lunch we were

already pretty full.

Our visit ended with a presentation in the chapel on the theme of “all we need is love”.

After a guided tour of the town centre we went back to our hotels to change for our evening at the State theatre where the premiere of the ballet ‘Odysseus’ was being performed. From our seats at the front of the balcony we had a great view of the splendours of the theatre building and also the dance performed below us.

Goodbyes were said on the steps of the theatre although three of the schools represented were travelling on the same early morning flight to Prague.

A long wait at the airport was swapped for a quick visit to the centre of Prague where we had lunch and a whistle-stop tour of the Old Town Square and Charles Bridge (where I met someone I know who lives in Harmby!)

I am already looking forward to the next project meeting in Pudsey next May!

Sally Stone

The Brontes, at Cowan Bridge

After picking up, in a second-hand bookshop recently, 'The Life Of Charlotte Bronte' by Elizabeth Gaskell, I was surprised to learn that four Bronte sisters attended a school in Cowan Bridge near Ingleton in the 1820s. (All you Bronte scholars reading this will be no doubt muttering, "Well, who didn't know that?")

I make no apology for my ignorance as I am not an expert on Charlotte Bronte, and I was very interested to see if the school was still there. First, a little background. The school was for daughters of the clergy and was founded by a "wealthy clergyman" William Carus Wilson who lived near Kirkby Lonsdale. Cowan Bridge being on the Leeds to Kendal Road, there was easy access by coach from Haworth and Keighley.

The "Lowood" of Jane Eyre fame was apparently modelled on Charlotte's experiences at Cowan Bridge. Maria, Charlotte, Emily and Elizabeth attended the school, Maria and Elizabeth both became ill and died and their father withdrew Charlotte and Emily from the school. According to Charlotte's account of conditions there, as in her description of "Lowood" and Mrs Gaskell's account also, it was pretty grim.

The main building is still there, as you go through Cowan Bridge it is on the left by the bridge which was the original road before it was made wider. It stands at right-angles to the road and is a low building with bow fronted windows. Originally it had two further structures attached to it, a former bobbin-mill at one end and a single-storey building which was used as a 'sick bay'. These have now gone. The river Leck runs in front, under the bridge.

I have to say that considering its importance in the history of the Brontes, it looks sadly neglected today. On the gable-

end there is a stone plaque announcing that the Brontes did indeed attend the school but that apart, no-one would know what it was and had been.

I end with a few words from Mrs Gaskell, just to give you a flavour of life at Cowan Bridge School in the 1820s. "Many a meal the little Brontes went without food, (which was often uneatable) although craving with hunger, they were not strong having only just recovered from measles and whooping cough. About forty of the girls had the fever (typhus) but none of them died at the school. The principal cause was the food."

To anyone interested, the village shop in Cowan Bridge stocks a booklet by A. Wellburn entitled "Leck, Cowan Bridge and The Brontes". It's an interesting read, and the school is worth a look. **S.H.**



Heavens Above

We had some spectacular views of the starry sky last month thanks to some rare cloudless nights. An unexpected bonus was the chance to glimpse Comet Holmes high amongst the stars of Perseus. Holmes' comet is a periodical one that returns roughly every 7 years but it is not usually very prominent. However, a millionfold increase in its brightness on October 24th (probably caused by a huge cloud of dust and gas exploding from its nucleus) made it easily visible to the naked eye. With any luck it should remain visible until well on in the New Year. Don't expect to see any sign of a tail, though, as even if it has one it will be pointing away from us.

If you don't manage to spot Comet Holmes you can't afford to miss out on viewing the red planet, **Mars**, which is particularly well placed for UK observers this winter. It's the brightest object (apart from the Moon and Sirius) in the entire night sky and its unmistakable orange spark high in the south in the constellation of Gemini is visible all night long. Closest approach is on the night of 18/19 December and opposition (when the Sun, Earth and Mars are in a straight line) on 24/25th

Filling the southern sky below Mars are the brilliant winter constellations of Orion and his retinue with Sirius, the brightest star of all, sparkling like a diamond in the low SE. The Milky Way flowing up from the southern horizon past Orion to yellow Capella high over head is a particularly grand sight. So if there's a clear night and you want to burn off some of that festive flab have a stroll out and take a look at it yourself - but you do need to be well away from the street lights to get the full effect.

Congratulations to Peter Jackson from Gayle whose stunning photo of Sun Dogs seen in the Upper Dales earlier

in the year is going to be featured in the cover CD of the January issue of BBC's Sky At Night Magazine. And good luck to those Hawes Brownies who are trying for their *Stargazer* badge. They're the very first Brownies in the Upper Dales to attempt this - a daunting prospect considering the cloudy weather we get round here - so here's wishing them and all of us clear skies in 2008!

Al Bireo

YDNP News

The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority looks after its staff – and that’s official.

The organisation is celebrating this week after gaining the Investors in People (IiP) award for the fourth time in succession following a three-day assessment.

“Full length and Fabulous”

Winter Ball

This is to be held at Simonstone Hall on **Friday February 1st 2008.**

Welcome drinks will be served in the Orangery at 7.30pm played in with a Scottish Piper. Food will be served from 9.00pm with dancing, old time and modern until 12.30am.

This is a ticket-only event, £20; they are on sale now from Streetwise, Hawes, **667192 or 666004.**

Proceeds are for Hawes Gala and the Candlelighters Children’s Cancer Charity.

A coach will travel at 6.30pm from Leyburn via Askrigg and Hawes to Simonstone (and return). Seats **must** be booked for this before **January 10th.**

What's on in December at the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes.

As part of the Hidden History of the Dales project, we invite you to participate in or simply enjoy a unique event on **Sunday 2 December at St Andrew's Church Aysgarth.**

FREE Gospel Singing Workshop 2.30 – 5.15pm open to all, led by Edwin Baker of the Huddersfield SDA Choir.

Gospel Singing Performance at 7.30pm at the church featuring the Huddersfield SDA Youth Choir and the Dales Gospel Choir Tickets £5 adults, £3 children (16 or under) Refreshments available following the performance and chance to view elements of the Hidden History of the Dales exhibition.

Tickets available from the Museum, Aysgarth National Park Centre, Joan Foster (663368) and Leyburn TIC.

Tuesday 4th December Friends of the Museum will be Spinning a Yarn in the Museum concourse. They will be demonstrating and explaining all about wool crafts between 2 and 4pm.

The North Country Theatre production of "The Electrical Wizard of the North" on 5th December is sold out. Sorry.

Celebrate Christmas at the Museum with a weekend of festive fun for all the family!

Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 December

FREE ENTRY 10am – 4pm

Mother Christmas – a gift for every child

Children's activities

Mulled wine and mince pies

Charity and craft stalls

Christmas carols with Hawes Prize Silver

Band on Sunday afternoon

ALL WELCOME

Coffee and Book for Amala

On **Saturday 1st December from 10.00am-1.00pm** there will be 'Coffee and Books' in the village hall in West Burton. Please come along and support Amala Children's Home in India, there are new and second hand books and games. If you would like to donate any books then please contact me on **650483**

Jenny Jackson

Outstanding West Burton School

West Burton C E Primary School has many outstanding features according to a judgement by Ofsted and the National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools (SIAS). Almost half of the judgements were graded as outstanding and the remainder were good.

Outstanding features identified by the Inspectors were: inspirational leadership by the Headteacher, Carol Brotherton, which creates a positive working environment; outstanding pastoral care and guidance received by the pupils, resulting in well developed and mature young people; overall personal development of the pupils; and the rich and interesting curriculum provided by the school. All pupils, including those with special needs, receive excellent academic guidance.

The SIAS Inspector stated that the dynamic and Christ-centred ethos within the school brings positive values and attitudes to both teaching and learning.

Pupils at West Burton achieve well at all levels and the Inspectors commented on the meticulous charting of pupil progress which results in standards being well above average at the end of both Year 2 and Year 6. Standards in science are particularly high, mathematics and reading standards are significantly above average, writing skills are average. The effectiveness of the Foundation Stage is good.

Christine Pratt, Chair of Governors, said, “an Ofsted Report like this is a reflection of the quality of education that parents can expect from our school. The Governing body is extremely proud of the staff and the children”.

The success reflects the support given to the school by the parents, governors and local community.

British Legion Poppy Appeal

Stan and Doug would like to thank everyone who donated to this year's appeal. The amount raised was £1,332.10. A Huge thank you to all collectors and businesses who were kind enough to display a collecting box. Also a special thanks to Audrey who stood for four hours on a freezing cold Tuesday!

Stan Johnson

Raydale Project

Residents who missed the first **Raydale Project** meeting are welcome to come to our second meeting to be held at

Sycamore Hall at 7.30 on Dec. 5th.

We need to hear more of your ideas for spending the £23,000 held by the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust for action in Raydale and Bainbridge.

There was good attendance at the first meeting (18 residents) but those present felt more people should be given an opportunity to submit ideas. A letter has therefore gone to every household inviting them to bring their proposals forward. Any plan which helps the local community overcome the challenges of climate change and related escalating fuel costs can be considered.

Examples of some schemes would be projects which :-

- provide *green* energy from the sun, wind, water or bio-fuels like wood
- reduce the release of carbon from peat
- reduce *non-green* energy use in homes and businesses by insulation or energy efficiency
- slow down rain run-off from the hills
- protect Semerwater from silt and toxic algal blooms
- enhance routes for cyclists, riders and walkers
- protect wildlife by allowing it to spread and enhance enjoyment of wildlife and scenery by promoting *green* tourism
- encourage community car-sharing
- encourage local food distribution

We look forward to reporting on progress in the next Newsletter.

Deborah Millward
Project Leader

Hawes Gala Swingboats

Sadly, due to health and safety rules, the traditional swing-boats are no longer fit to be used at a public event. The Gala committee has received an offer by a private buyer to purchase them and the funds received would go into the 2008 Gala budget.

Does anyone have a reasonable objection to the sale, or perhaps is also interested in buying them? If so, please could they let one of the committee know by the end of December otherwise we intend to go ahead with the sale.

Sue Wood

WEST BURTON SCHOOL NEWS

West Burton travel back in time

On Thursday 15th of November West Burton Primary School travelled back in time to the Victorian period. They did a very strict maths lesson in which their head teacher, Mrs Brotherton, inspected the class and criticised many things.

When the children arrived the first thing they did was to line up outside the school and march round in a drill, which was led by their teacher. This was very embarrassing especially for the children as there were a few people watching this and staring!

When they walked into the classroom (boys first of course!) all their glossy displays were covered and there was black sugar paper over the door. After this Mrs Ellison did a hand inspection to see if their hands were clean, she also inspected for head lice. In the Victorian times you had to use a slate and an odd little thing called a scratcher to write with. The children had to recite their 6,3 and 12 times tables in place of a maths lesson. For English they wrote out the letters of the alphabet up to f and these phrases: manners maketh man, cleanliness is next to godliness. At playtime their toys consisted of: a spinning top, ball and cup game, skipping ropes, bats, bowling balls and a chalkboard.

In their next lesson the class learned to draw with a piece of charcoal and they were only allowed to dirty two fingers.

During this lesson the teacher thought that sunlight was bothering the children so she drew the long, dark blinds and the children had to make do with candlelight to draw by. By now it was lunchtime so the children had to wash their hands in a basin of water with carbolic soap and prepare to eat lunch...

The lunch served up was: 1 apple, 1 piece of cheese, 1 piece of bread, 1 cup of water and 1 bowl of gruel!

This time when they went out to play they turned back into 21st century children. In the afternoon they all had a go at wearing the dunce's hat and the sign that said "I am stupid." After this the children did a parents' assembly on the Victorians and how they used to live. Then at the end of the day, the children went home having travelled over 100 years back in time to Victorian times. **Nuala Burnett Year 5**

BAINBRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS

During the first half of term Y5 & Y6 were really busy.

We went to York University for a science day and learnt about electro magnetism, millimetre waves and archaeology.

A drama workshop was held at Hawes Museum on global warming and how to make the world a better place. We watched a play and then did a workshop.

RAF Leeming held 'Crucial Crew' where we learnt about how to keep safe in different places. The whole school took part in the Harvest Festival at St Oswald's Church, Askrigg. We raised £143.55 in aid of the Farm Africa Project.

Sam, Jenna & Jo-An [Y5]

After School Clubs

During the first half of term David Moore and Paul Price ran a Sports Club – golf was one of the many sports on offer.

This term we are running a Craft Club, where the children have been making many different greeting cards. The school is very grateful to Netta Davidson for organizing and running this club (with the support of helpers). It has been so popular that we've offered some extra sessions.

Comenius Project

The school has been very fortunate to receive funding from the British Council which links Bainbridge with schools based in Oldham, Gothenburg (Sweden) and Macedonia (Greece). The 2-year project involves the children exchanging information between the 4 schools, working on joint projects such as video diaries, questionnaires, shared curriculum areas and producing a European book of playground activities and games. This is an exciting project for the children and also provides an opportunity for staff to meet and work with teachers in the partner

schools. See Page 10 for a visit report.

Nursery intake

The school is planning ahead and would like to hear from any parents who haven't already registered their child for a place in Nursery - particularly for the 2009/10 intake. Our Nursery serves the catchment area of both Askrigg and Bainbridge schools whereby children are eligible for a place the term following their 3rd birthday. So even if you've just recently had a baby we'd appreciate it if you could contact school for a registration form. [Tel **650336** or email admin@bainbridge.n-vorks.sch.uk]

Parents & Friends Association

The PFA are collecting bags of unwanted clothing, bedding, curtains, towels, handbags, belts and shoes (in pairs)] in aid of The Great North Air Ambulance Service - the school receives a commission based on the weight of the bags. If you wish to support this cause, bags are available from Bainbridge Shop or School (but a black bin liner would suffice!). The Air Ambulance are also collecting mobile phones (working or not) and used printer ink, toner cartridges. These need to be placed in a separate bag from any clothing etc. Please bring bags to school on the morning of Monday 3 December ready for collection that day.

On Friday 14 December the PFA Domino Drive is being held in Sycamore Hall at 6.30pm

Hawes Junction Chapel (Moorcock)

The annual Carols by Candlelight service will take place on Saturday 15th December at 7.30pm. This year several locals will take part as well as visiting singers. Supper will follow and all will be welcomed.

Friends of the Chapel would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have

supported this last year's events.

Plans for the new toilet and kitchen are progressing. It is hoped that following these improvements the premises can be used for both Chapel and Community use.



Mystery picture. Which Dales church is this? Last month's picture was of the large footbridge over Gayle Beck at Haylands, Hawes. It must have been so easy that none of our readers wrote in...

The Business Association Charity Ball

A select band gathered at the Wensleydale Creamery earlier in November for an evening of chat and entertainment (in more ways than one). The reception and food were excellent, thanks to the Creamery staff who kept the courses coming with a fluid ease. Colin Bailey, our Vice Chairman, gave the thanks to Jennifer and Liz for co-ordinating the event and timely reminders of membership subscriptions which are now due. Dulcie Lewis then entertained us all with tales of Yorkshire farmers and water closets (none of which can be repeated here alas).

The evening ended with music and singing from a band from the east coast "Key of H". They lived up to their name. After a request to liven it up a bit, our Vice Chair joined in the karaoke and everyone filled

the floor. It was all in all hugely entertaining.

Will we do this again? Yes, I think we will, there are already plans for a masked Ball in October next year. How much did we raise? Somewhere in the region of £500, and next time we will do better.

If anyone missed the Ball and would like to donate towards Yorkshire Air Ambulance and local charities, please put your contribution in an envelope, mark it "Charity Donation" and drop it into our registered office at Wensleydale Press.

R.B.

Police Report

Firstly let me say “Hello” to you all. This is my first newsletter and I hope you find it as readable as those from PC Cousins. Simon HUDSON and myself have been your Local Officers since September and we are working our way around the area trying to meet as many of you as we can so you can put faces to the names. We cannot do the job without your help so please feel free to stop and talk to us.

Now that the dark nights are back with us and Christmas looms ever closer, our minds turn to the festivities and the dreaded shopping. These long nights provide good cover for the “undesirables” to visit our area and do their “Christmas Shopping”, as crime always increases on the run up to Christmas. Please be **vigilant** and report any suspect visitors or vehicles to us straight away.

Crime has been low since the blip in September when several Land Rovers were attacked on one night in and around Hawes – all unsuccessfully for the baddies – however it caused great inconvenience for the owners. If you saw anything however insignificant it may seem to you on the night of 28/29th September please let us know as so far our enquiries have not produced any leads. Land Rovers and trailers are still high on the thieves list of targets and are expensive items so please secure them when not in use. Better still mark your trailer with your post code in big painted letters on the roof. It takes only a few minutes. It makes it easier to find!

There have been two burglaries in Upper Wensleydale in farm buildings over the last two months. It was the usual types of property stolen, pressure washers, quad bikes etc. This is the type of property that Billy Burglar prefers at any time of the year but particularly at this time of the year.

One crime that is on the increase in this area is that of internet fraud. If you place an advert to sell some of your property on any

of the various websites available, be aware of the scammers. The common ploy is to contact you by e-mail saying how interested they are in your property. The distinguishing trait seems to be the e-mails are badly written and they quite often originate from outside the UK. My advice would be if this is the case then either don't reply and add the sender's details to your “blocked senders” file or send a reply that the item has been sold. Do not disclose any of your personal details.

Two crimes lately could have been avoided. Please look after your property when you go to the pub, particularly your car keys and mobile telephones. It is not a good idea to leave them on the table whilst you visit the bar or toilet. It is also not advisable to give them to your mate who is more inebriated than yourself as when you come to look for them in the morning you may find they are not where you expect them to be.

If you are a tradesman with a van please get into the habit of removing tools from the van overnight to safe storage. The days have long gone when a vehicle (if it ever was the case) was safe. Criminals can be in and out of your vehicle within a matter of seconds. They are willing to travel many miles to remote areas and be off with thousands of pounds of your possessions because we have less security out here – no cctv unless you have installed your own – and therefore less chance of being caught. If they can do it, so can you – it may add a couple of minutes or so to each end of your working day, but it will help with your profit margins. I bring this to your attention as I was recently speaking to a victim of such a crime who was still in the mindset of “Why should I take these precautions?” Insurers are getting more and more reluctant to pay out on such claims.

For those who are not aware there are a small band of people who actively give up their time to keep a watch on our area, and

report suspicious activity to us. These are Daleswatch, an extension of the Neighbourhood watch system, and they play an important part in keeping crime low and providing information that often leads to arrests. I would like to thank them for their continued support. If you can give up one or two evenings a year to help out I'm sure you would be welcomed.

If you are in the habit of driving home after a night out in the pub prepare to meet a Police Officer as the national drink-drive campaign in the run up to Christmas is upon us. More people get stopped and breathalysed at this time of year than any other – and too many still fail – there is no excuse. And finally crime in this area remains to date very low – lower in fact than at this time last year, 182 crimes for the year to date as opposed to 260 for same period last year. Taken in context that is 78 fewer victims or a 30% reduction in crime. This is due in no small part to you, the members of the public who are the eyes and ears of the community, and for that we express our gratitude. **Andy Foster PC826**

Neighbourhood Police Officer Upper
Wensleydale

Admission on the door £6.00 (including a welcome drink) **Stan Roccroft**

A Christmas Celebration

Once again, the Hawes Silver Prize Brass Band and the East Witton Male Voice Choir welcome you to the Annual Christmas Charity Concert.

Sit back and enjoy a selection of Christmas favourites and a traditional Carol Sing-along.

Our chosen charity to benefit this year is Great North Air Ambulance Appeal.

There will be a Raffle and any donation prizes will be greatly appreciated.

This special Christmas charity concert gives us all the opportunity of helping the continuation of the valuable work of the Air Ambulance services.

Make a note in your diary – Hawes Market House, Friday 21st December at 7.30pm.

Get Fit after Christmas

Do you always eat too much at Christmas?

Do you want to get fit and lead a healthier lifestyle?

Then why not join us here at Yorebridge Sport and Fitness and let us help you burn off those extra calories!

We have something to suit everyone – Gym Membership (gift tokens available for that last minute present!), child and adult fitness classes and a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) available for individual hire or for one of our organised sessions and clubs.

New sessions for January include:

“Mind Your Back!” - a series of five classes aimed at those of us with back problems.

“Family Challenge Days” every second Saturday in the month – fun family sessions for all ages with a variety of different sports to try and beat Mum and Dad at.

Indoor Circuit Training for 12-19 year olds – come and try an energetic workout to loud music!

Did you know?.....that lifting weights three times a week has been proven to drastically reduce the fat layer. This doesn't mean lifting hernia-inducing amounts of weight, but just enough to exert your muscles over and above what they are normally used to. So what are you waiting for?come and get toned!

Finally Yorebridge Sport and Fitness would like to wish all readers a Merry Christmas and Happy New year and we look forward to seeing you soon!

For all bookings and enquiries, speak to **Lesley** on **650060** or email on admin@vorebridge-sport.co.uk

A proposed workshop will be held at St Andrew's Church, Aysgarth, if we get at least 30 children interested. This is open to all children, not just those who attend church so do tell your friends.

It will be held either on one full day or over 2 shorter days between Christmas & New Year.

If you are interested please ring 663368 or 663097 stating which days you would prefer (Thurs 27th Dec, Fri 28th, Sat 29th or Mon 31st)
All Welcome!

Music and Drama Holiday Workshop

Missing news – missing cinema?

Unless my eyes have deceived me, there was no announcement in the November Newsletter of the public update meeting on the new cinema held earlier this month in Leyburn, nor of the screening of *The Painted Veil* at Thornborough Hall on the Friday and Saturday of the same week (bearing in mind that the penultimate page of the Newsletter has been faithfully dedicated to the programme of the Elite).

If, like me, you're a regular cinema-goer, your heart would sink a few months ago when news got around that the cinema was to close, owing to the retirement of the current owners. Since then, as the ominously blanked door and windows make only too apparent, the cinema *has* closed, and various rumours have circulated concerning the reappropriation of the premises.

The good news, as many will be aware, is that in the meantime a volunteer group has set itself up and has been working hard to save the cinema. As a stop-gap arrangement for us devotees, it has also run a series of film evenings at Thornborough Hall. This month's film, based on a novel by Somerset Maugham, focused on events in China during the Nationalist uprising and a local cholera epidemic, and combined a highly charged emotional drama with stunning locations and scenery. Many thanks to the organisers for their choice of film.

As regards progress to date of the new cinema project, the Working Group is well on course in the implementation of its action plan. It has raised £300,000, but needs a further £3,000 in order to reach its targeted local subscription of £15,000. Individual donations, large or small, are invited. The reception point for offers of donation, from where further information leaflets are available, is the Wobbly Dog (top left of Leyburn Market Place), which

has been a generous supporter of the project from the start, serving as an interim ticket agency for film evenings.

Please give whatever support you can. The project is an exciting one for Wensleydale. The cinema is to be part of a larger Arts Centre providing for a whole range of activities and interests. We wish the Working Group and volunteer helpers (still vacancies for a variety of talents, skills) every success in carrying the venture to completion.

This is also an opportunity to thank the previous owners for all they have done to make the cinema an indispensable part of Wensleydale life, and to wish them a very happy retirement.

Margaret Parry

Thank you

Jean Cockburn would like to thank all who assisted and attended her Coffee Morning which raised £153 for NSPCC funds.

Aysgarth and District Poppy Collection realised £920. Thank you to all who collected and gave such a magnificent sum.



Gardening

Put on hold for three months has been a selection of containers, waiting impatiently to be planted up for a permanent display throughout next year and beyond. The mistake I've made before with shallow stone troughs and smaller pots is to use quite deep rooted perennials such as heuchera, veronica and the like, which are fine when it's cool and damp, but suffer badly in hot spells. A bit of forethought now can save you running around like a thing possessed next summer, trying to keep rapidly dehydrating plants alive with a twice a day watering regime. We'll all have better things to do in the garden when the sun shines (a cool beer and a good book spring to mind), so a few maintenance free plants won't even make you break sweat (or glow).

I'm making a fresh start and completely emptying every pot, then lining out the bases with broken pots or very coarse gravel, making sure any drainage holes are covered; if soil is just plonked in the holes bung up and any plants end up drowning. Next I'll mix grit or sharp sand in with the compost - the plants I want to use need a free- draining planting medium, so a bit of added 'roughage' will help. That's the boring bit done - let's have fun planting. Round the edges I want to cram in houseleeks; these tykes could flourish in the Sahara desert so once planted the only thing to remember is to forget them. Alternate with the common thyme, which can also withstand drought.- both species will quietly spread over any edges and break up the hard lines of that pristine B&Q pot.

All this creativity is loads more fun than December clearing and weeding- being a procrastinator (weak), I'll put that off till next month... or the one after. Working in

to the middle, I want to use *Achillea kellereri* which will celebrate summer with a brilliant display of yellow and white daisy flowers. Also let's have some of the *Tanacetums*, particularly *amani.*, which will reach seven inches and flower yellow right through summer. Don't be tempted by *Aubretia*, which is lovely growing informally on walls in spring but for the rest of the time is 'Mr Anonymous'; what I'm after is an almost permanent display. The icing on the cake will be *Penstemon pinifolius*, which boasts dark orange flowers and slender leaves. She's a true aristocrat and equally at home at the front of the border. At 8 or 9 inches that's your centrepiece and job done. Put in a sunny, sheltered site then you can hibernate with a clear conscience.

Obviously you'll probably have a different idea of a planting scheme; it's just that I've planted up a container just like this and it's been doing well for over 3 years.

Perhaps the *Penstemon* will stand a light mulch for winter, otherwise leave well alone.

Just as an afterthought; if you've put a pair of secateurs on your Christmas wish list this year, try and make sure you get a pair with a secure spring which won't fly off and lose itself in the undergrowth during operation - annoying and costly. To atone for finishing on that 'Scrooge' note, may I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy vine weevil- free new year.

Ed Gardener

Dalesplay News

We would like to welcome Pauline Hirst as our acting manager at Dalesplay. We were sorry to lose Julie and all the staff would like to wish her all the very best.

P.O.D It was a disappointing turn out of parents at the meeting held on 12th November. Next meeting to be on Tuesday 4th December.

Children In Need We dressed with our clothes inside out to raise money for children in need. The amount raised was £18.50. Thank you to all who donated 50p or had a go on the Pudsey Square. The winner of the square was Amy Richardson.

Ladies Fashion Night There will be a ladies fashion night at the Fountain Hotel on 11th December at 7:30pm.

Tickets on sale at Dalesplay £3 per person, including a strip of raffle tickets.

What's on at Dalesplay Don't forget Taffy Thomas will be at Dalesplay on the 12th December 3 – 6pm. Come along to listen to Taffy's amazing Christmas stories. We will be having a cinema night for the after school club children on the 17th December 3:15pm – 6pm. The film showing will be Santa Clause 3.

Our Christmas party will be on the 21st December from 1pm – 3:30pm, games and party food provided.

All the above are £10 a session please contact Dalesplay to book a place.

Please can we remind you that all children must be registered in order to attend any of the above sessions? Contact Dalesplay to register your child.

If you did not re-register your child on the 1st of November it is not too late to do so, any queries just give us a call on **667789**.

Dalesplay will be open as normal on Friday 21st December 2007; we are then closed over Christmas and reopen on 3rd January 2008.

We would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Louise Cloughton

Closure Notice

Just a short note to inform you that the section of 'The Highway' at Cotter End will be temporarily closed to all users from the 2 December. As you may know this section of the route is in very bad condition and we have plans to carry out repair work over the next few months. It is likely that the works will have a short term impact on the landscape, but revegetation of the surface will be a major part of the restoration process. I'll update the situation in February, but please contact me on **666220** if you require further information in the meantime.

Matt Neale
Area Ranger

Doctors' rotas as supplied by the surgery

AYSGARTH SURGERY ROTA											Wb - week beginning	
Wb	Dec3rd		10		17		24		31			
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.		
Mon	JA	J	FA	A	WF	F	WJ	W	J	J		
Tues	WF	C	WJ	WJ	JA	JA	C	C	C	C		
Wed	JA	J	FA	A	WF	F	C	C	JA	J		
Thur	WF	F	J	J	JA	J	FA	A	WF	F		
Fri	J	J	A	A	F	F	F	F	J	J		

Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed
Morning Surgery: 9.00 - 10.30 a.m. (no appointments)
Afternoon Surgery: 4.00 - 5.30 p.m. (appointment only)
For appointments and all enquiries ring 663222

HAWES SURGERY ROTA											Wb - week beginning	
Wb	Dec3rd		10		17		24		31			
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.		
Mon	WF	WF	WJ	WJ	JA	JA	FA	FA	W	W		
Tues	JA	C	FA	A	WF	WF	C	C	C	C		
Wed	W	W	J	J	A	A	C	C	W	W		
Thur	A	A	W	W	W	W	J	J	A	A		
Fri	WF	WF	W	W	JA	JA	A	A	F	W		

Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed
Morning S'y: 8.45-10.15 Tues till 10.45 (no appointments)
Afternoon S'y: 5.00-6.00 Tues 1.00-4.00 (appointments only)
For appointments and all enquiries ring 667200

AYSGARTH SURGERY ROTA											Wb - week beginning	
Wb	Jan7th		14		21		28					
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.		
Mon	F	J	WF	F	WJ	W	A	W				
Tues	WJ	J	JA	JA	FA	A	WF	WF				
Wed	WF	W	WF	F	WJ	W	A	A				
Thur	WJ	W	JA	J	A	A	F	W				
Fri	A	A	F	F	F	F	W	W				

Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed
Morning Surgery: 9.00 - 10.30 a.m. (no appointments)
Afternoon Surgery: 4.00 - 5.30 p.m. (appointment only)
For appointments and all enquiries ring 663222

HAWES SURGERY ROTA											Wb - week beginning	
Wb	Jan7th		14		21		28					
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.		
Mon	WJ	W	JA	JA	FA	FA	WF	F				
Tues	F	W	WF	WF	WJ	WJ	A	A				
Wed	J	J	A	A	F	F	W	W				
Thur	F	F	W	F	W	W	A	A				
Fri	WJ	WJ	JA	JA	A	A	F	F				

Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed
Morning S'y: 8.45-10.15 Tues till 10.45 (no appointments)
Afternoon S'y: 5.00-6.00 Tues 1.00-4.00 (appointments only)
For appointments and all enquiries ring 667200

Hawes Youth Club

Hawes Youth Club, which meets in the Market House on Wednesday evenings, has a busy December to look forward to.

-on the 5th December they will be making crafts and cards.

-on the 12th December they will be holding a Bring and Buy Sale in the Market House (£3 per table) to which everyone is welcome. Tea and coffee will be available. The sale will be open from 6.30pm to 8.00pm.

-on the 19th December there will be a Christmas party.

Hawes Youth Club wishes you all a merry Christmas.

Di Dinsdale

1st Hawes Brownies

Weather permitting, Brownies will literally be seeing stars this term as they work on the Stargazer Badge. We end the term on 4th December with Christmas celebrations and begin the New Year on 8th January.

Linda Reynolds

Christmas Trees and Robins in Snaizeholme

Anyone who likes to read this kind of article will share with me the delight I have in the desire Robins have for contact with humans. You have only to go out in almost any garden, and within minutes a Robin will not only appear, but will come and perch on the closest twig it can find. If you are lucky, it will probably start 'humming' to you. I know that ornithologists refer to this as its 'sub-song', but to me it is definitely humming. I meet the resident Robin every day, and we always greet each other.

The other bird that is clearly fascinated by humans is the Goldcrest. Snaizeholme is full of them, and when I wander, usually a little away from the house, I will suddenly find several Goldcrests on a tree very close to me. They will check me over and then begin their performance. Today it was a Birch Tree, now bare of leaves, but dressed with a pale blue-green coat of lichen. The Goldcrests were then delicately dancing from twig to twig, taking a small nibble here and there, but really just appearing to "show off" their tiny, rapidly beating wings and their prowess at twig dancing. The other thing that astonished me on my short stroll today, was the size of the Christmas Trees. Hugh planted these Norway Spruce shortly after we arrived in Snaizeholme, and most were sold for Christmas over the years, but a considerable number have grown on, and are now so big that I can't get my arms right round them. It is quite a strange feeling that a tree, living beside one, and less than half one's age is now such a great and magnificent creature.

It is quite strange also that having written of this very close relationship between Robins and people, I can't say that Red Squirrels have the same kind of attitude. There is little doubt that they associate me with food, but this never means that they greet me as an old friend when I go to feed

them. They are just as likely to swear at me for interfering. However, they may not get much pleasure out of meeting me, but nor do the older and familiar ones fear me, and I can watch their enchanting activities at very close quarters. I have noticed that the cones from the Christmas Trees are now ripe and falling in great profusion, and this is good food, not only for the Squirrels, but for many smaller

ground animals as well.

Although the Birch leaves have fallen, there are still many shrubs and trees that are full of colour. The Red Dogwood twigs, free of strong green leaves, are now blindingly crimson, and the various eastern Berberises are wonderful shades of soft gold, gentle pinks, pale greens and deep crimsons.

The most exciting bird seen recently was quartering low over a field at the bottom of Snaizeholme, not seen by me, but by our friend Nigel Martin. It was certainly a Hen Harrier, possibly on its autumn journey, but none the less exciting for that. Meanwhile, I must go out to feed the Squirrels and to say good morning to the Robin.

Jane Kemp

Wensleydale Gun Club

On Thursday November 8th, 2007, Wensleydale Gun Club held its AGM and Presentation Evening at the Victoria Arms, Worton.

2007 proved to be yet another very successful year. Excellent attendances (despite some inclement weather!) helped to keep the Club in a healthy financial status and allowed us to make donations of £200 to the LVA and £350 to the Meningitis Trust.

The Club welcomed more female members than ever proving that clay pigeon shooting truly is a sport that can be enjoyed by all! An extra "Ladies Only" evening has been added to the 2008 fixture list due to demand! WGC always welcomes new members, men, women, young and old and the membership fee remains the same at only £5 for the season. Trophies were awarded for the season:

R Bright	LVA Shoot Rose Bowl
R Dakin	Veteran Shield
Jack Fawcett	Best Young Shot
M Watkinson	Most Improved, Tom Waite Cup

N Dinsdale	R B Daykin Cup
K Suttill	Gilsan Sports Cup
Diane Dinsdale	Best Female, Rooney Cup
K Suttill	Andrew Pounder Shield
D Cockett	Top Gun, Raymond Scott Cup

Thanks were paid to our hosts, Mr & Mrs R Daykin for their very kind hospitality over the last year. The 2008 fixtures will be published in the new year and information can be obtained from me on 667251 or 07813899163

Dave Cockett

My Walk over the Hills

I often walk to Hardraw from Cotterdale by a footpath which crosses the fields in the valley bottom and then continues along the side of the fell to join the Pennine Way which leads down to Hardraw Village three miles away - this journey takes me around one hour to walk.

The walk is always changing depending on the time of year. It is interesting to notice different trees, flowers and grasses which grow in this upland landscape. The Alder, a small, sturdy tree and the Ash seem to like our environment and are dotted around in the valley. Hawthorns, bent and gnarled from the wind and snow, grow high on the fell-side and are the remains of an ancient woodland. The Hawthorns are amazing as most of the year they look so wizened but each summer they are covered in rich blossom which looks beautiful.

A variety of different types of flowers grow on the pasture land and in the longer grass growing beside small gulleys and around recently planted willow trees. The wild pansy is common and a miniature of the garden variety. Other flowers like the harebell, yarrow, cow parsley and foxgloves all enjoy the sunshine or rain and seem to

thrive in their habitat. As I walk on the fell side I usually think about all the people from the past who have walked this path - about the natural beauty that I see - the surrounding hills, the lights and shadows on the land and I feel so glad that I live here experiencing the beauty and history around me.

Curlews tend to nest in the damp pastures where they can live undisturbed and sheltered from the weather by outcrops of rushes. They feed on insects and worms which live deep in the ground so to get to their food they have a very long, narrow beak. The curlew has brown and cream coloured plumage and is very distinctive when it flies because of the long beak and pointed wings. It also has a beautiful but slightly eerie call which in February or March is a sign that spring is on its way.

The Lapwing also enjoys Cotterdale and can be seen nesting and circling the flat, boggy land in the valley bottom but also nests on the high land where the road cuts through. On this land the chicks are in danger from passing cars so we have to make signs for drivers asking them to slow down. The chicks are also prey for buzzards circling around. Cotterdale is popular with Oystercatchers with their black and white plumage and vivid orange beak. Several pairs of oystercatchers return each spring to the same place near the beck at the bottom end of the valley. Often when walking this route one sees a Heron, so graceful in flight even though it is big and pre-historic looking. The heron can stand very motionless in water when looking for fish.

On the hill just above the path where I walk are stone mines which were worked in past centuries by people from Cotterdale and the surrounding areas. The stone was transported back to the village where it was used for the walls and roofs of

buildings. It is thought that the mines were still in use as late as 1851 as the census in that year records a Christopher Metcalfe living in Cotterdale and described as a "slate quarry miner".

The two becks running down Cotterdale are East Gill and West Gill, which join at Meeting Dub and become Cotterdale Beck. This ribbon of water is often caught by the sun and makes a beautiful view from the hillside above, glistening in the land. My walk eventually takes me onto the Pennine Way and down a wide track with high stone walls and in a short time, rounding a bend and wood called Harry Planting, there is the surprise of Hardraw below me.

Mary McCullagh
Bursary Student

HAWES SCHOOL NEWS

Halloween Non-Uniform Day

The children dressed up for Halloween. They all looked magnificent and were very excited being Werewolves, Witches, Warlocks, Draculas, Frankensteins, Skeletons, Monsters etc. Money raised from this event and a cake stall where parents donated the most wonderful home made cakes and other treats resulted in a donation of £103.39 for children in need.

Christmas Fayre

The school held a Christmas Fayre on 7th November. It was a tremendous success and was really well supported by the children, their families and the community. The tombola and raffle prizes were superb and the atmosphere was quite delightful-helped along with the delicious mulled wine. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this event, especially Miss Robson who organised it and roped in most of her family and friends to help as well! The grand total raised was - £562.60 for school and PTFA funds.

OFSTED Praise

The school has received a letter of congratulations from Richard Geoghegan, the Assistant Director of the Quality and Improvement Service for North Yorkshire. It reads:

“Congratulations to you, your staff and your governors for making it into OFSTED’s list of outstanding providers. This is a well deserved recognition of your long-term and continuing exceptional work in delivering high quality education to the children in your care. You are one of only 21 schools, 1 nursery and 3 childminders in North Yorkshire to be mentioned in this way, about 5% of the total”.

Mrs Woodyer has been invited to have lunch with Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector along with other headteachers of

‘outstanding’ schools followed by discussions on how professionals can help spread even better outcomes for all learners.

School Nativity

KS1 pupils will be performing ‘The Nativity’ on Wednesday 19th December at 2pm and 6pm. Members of the community are warmly invited to attend the afternoon performance at 2pm

Operation Christmas Child

A wonderful effort! 204 beautifully decorated shoe boxes have been filled by individuals and by church and school groups in Mid and Upper Wensleydale and Coverdale. They will be taken with thousands of others to desperately poor children in Serbia and Romania.

Serbia is a largely mountainous country of 10.2 million people. Following the break up of Yugoslavia in 1991 there was a decade of wars and ethnic conflict resulting in many people living below subsistence level. Health problems are aggravated by biting cold winters.

Winters can also be bitterly cold in Romania where the population of 22.4 million are still suffering the aftermath of Nicolae Ceausescu's twenty year dictatorship which ended in 1989.

We have also sent £455 to Operation Christmas Child and they will be able to claim at least £42.56 from Gift Aid. Thank you for once again giving so generously! We are grateful to Stephen and Linda at Hawes Post Office and the Resource Centre staff for receiving the boxes.

Heather and Nelson Caplin

Piano Seeks Good Home

Thornton Rust Institute has an upright piano in reasonable condition which is surplus to requirements. It is yours to collect for a donation to Institute funds. Contact Marie Raine on 663952 or Fred Thwaites on 663479.

Chemist over Christmas

J&E Hogg Chemist in Hawes will be open as usual from 9.00am - 5.30pm on Monday 24th December. We will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday, re-opening on Thursday 27th December. We will be closed Tuesday 1st January, re-opening on Wednesday 2nd January 2008.

Make sure you have a few simple over-the-counter remedies in the medicine cabinet in readiness for those minor ailments that can take the enjoyment out of the festive season. Painkillers (liquid form for the kids), cough/cold remedies, something for an upset stomach, and a few first aid essentials. Pop in and ask Angus, the pharmacist, for advice or ring on **667213**

Angus - the pharmacist

MARKET PLACE AND GREETINGS

MASON

Marjorie would like to thank all the people who sent Birthday cards, relatives and friends who attended the "surprise" party and for donations to cancer research. To her family for arranging the party, to Judith and staff of the Crown Hotel for an excellent Buffet. Barbra and Stan Roocroft for providing the Music
A Special Thank You

25th December
 Happy 16th birthday Sam
 Lots of Love, Mum, Dad
 & Katie

Lambert

Ron would like to say a **big thank you** to everyone who gave a donation to The **Yorkshire Air Ambulance** charity at his recent 50th Birthday Party. A total of **£850** was raised, which was great
Thank you

MOORE

6th December
 Congratulations Tom & Betty
 On your forthcoming Diamond
 Wedding.
 With love from your bridesmaid
 xx



Happy 11th Birthday James
 10 December 2007
 Lots of Love from
 Mum, Darren, Katie, Chloe and
 Jessica XXX

Katie Happy 15th Birthday
 19 January 2008
 Lots of Love from
 Mum, Darren, James, Chloe
 and Jessica XXX

Chloe & Jessica Johnson

26th December
 Happy 6th birthday girls.
 Lots of love to you both
 From
 Nanna, Grandad and Uncle Kev

Metcalf
 Happy 18th birthday, Michael
 Lots of Love from
 Gran and Grandad
 Thornton Rust

Happy Birthday Chloe and Jessica
 26 December 2007
6 Years Old Today
 Lots of Love from
 Mummy, Daddy, Katie & James xxx

Metcalf
 Happy 18th birthday, Michael
 Lots of Love from
 Granny Evelyn

Metcalf
 Happy 18th birthday, Michael
 Lots of Love from
 Mum, Leigh and Chloe

WANTED

Staff at Sticky Ginger, Askrigg.
 Up to 4 days available
 Experience not necessary as full
 training will be given.
 Please contact Julia or Richard on
650049

Ribblehead comes alive

The hard life of the workers who built the Ribblehead viaduct is on display in a new exhibition being staged in the Bainbridge offices of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

Thousands of men and women lived in appalling conditions in makeshift shanty camps on windswept Blea Moor while the huge stone monument was constructed in the 1870s as part of the Settle Carlisle railway.

Their lives and experiences have been turned into drawings and etchings by artist Philippa Troutman – who lives in a railway house on the site of one of the camps – and comprise the latest exhibition at the Authority's Yoredale offices.

Her exhibition will run until January 3.

Market House, Hawes

Hoppers Refreshments

There are nine sales days in 2008, for which 17 catering requests were received. The 9 successful applicants were drawn 'from a hat' by Steve Bloom, Bookshop, plus a reserve in case anyone dropped out. All applicants will receive individual replies. **P.H.J.**

Hawes United Football Club

Once again there was a very good turn out for the Club's Ninth Annual Sponsored Walk, this time it was a local circular walk (former Mosaic Walk) which proved to be a real family day out when over 60 competitors started the walk from Hawes on Sunday 12th August to raise funds for the Club. The route included Burtersett, Gayle, Aysgill, Bands, Appersett, Hardraw; Simonstone and Sedbusk.

Over £1,600.00 was raised for the Club by the event and all sponsors and those who made donations are to be thanked and

congratulated for their generosity. Thank you also to all who helped on the day.

Sheila Alderson

Christmas on Wensleydale Railway

Santa Specials: Tickets for Santa Special trains on the Wensleydale Railway can now be booked around the clock on www.ticketweb.co.uk for December 8/9, 15/16 and 18-21 inclusive. To book for Santa Specials on December 22, 23 and 24 (or to claim free rail travel from Redmire, Leyburn and Finghall to Santa event at Leeming Bar on any of the above dates) book directly with Wensleydale Railway – tel. **08454 50 54 74** (answerphone when busy or out of hours).

The Twelve Walks of Christmas: Services will run every day from Boxing Day, December 26 to January 6, with a guided walk connecting with WR trains from a local station each day. See www.wensleydalerailway.com for programme or phone Leyburn TIC on **623069**.

Operation Spring Clean: From January 7 to February 29, 2008 there will be no public train services, to allow time to prepare the railway's rolling stock, buildings and track for the 2008 season. Help will be welcomed – especially with cleaning and decorating! (or with donations towards expenses for paint and other materials). Please note that the railway will NOT be closed during this period as works trains etc may run at any time.

Ruth Annison

Love is in the Air

We are looking for anyone interested in taking part or helping with an evening of entertainment on 13th, 14th and 15th February 2008.

Come along to the Fountain Hotel (function room) at 7.30pm on Monday 26th November and Monday 3rd December to find out more.

We will also be starting to work on rehearsing some of the songs during the evening but there are acting and non acting roles too!

Open to all, Families welcome. Supported by Awards For All.

Don't delay, please let us know today!
Jennifer Fawcett 667241 or Shona Dinsdale 667718

Low Mill Charity Dinner

There will be a Charity Dinner on **Saturday 1st March 2008** at Simonstone Hall Hotel to raise funds for Low Mill Outdoor Centre and help them in their work with people of all ages and abilities

Guest speaker

The Rt Hon William Hague MP

Limited tickets: £30.00

Advertising

Boxed adverts: £5, £10, £15

There is a one-third reduction for three issues or more, so for twelve issues the totals are

£40, £80 or £120

Greetings etc. £2.00

What's ons (non-commercial) are free

Contacts:

For Hawes area and westward: Lorna

Whilst we try to make sure that all information is correct we cannot be held legally responsible for omissions in articles, listings and advertisements or for any inconvenience caused thereby. Views expressed are not necessarily the views of the committee. Articles by committee members just use initials for the by-line. Please ask before reproducing any part of the newsletter.

Champagne reception and three course meal.

Contact:

Sally Kingston **650432**

Bette Cannell **650623**

Caroline Billingham **667255**

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