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Upper Wensleydale Newsletter  
Issue 134—March 2008  
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## Editorial

They are returning already! No, we aren't referring to birds (although it is true) - but to visitors and tourists. With Easter being ridiculously early, they will soon be here in droves, helping our economy. When we ourselves are away and tell people where we live, they usually swoon with envy which is a reminder to us all of the special value of areas like the Dales, and the reason why they have Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or National Park Status.

But is their future assured? Are we who live here sufficiently appreciative of landscape, wide open spaces and becks and gills, relative quiet and darkness, wildlife and wilderness; the very special features of the walls, the barns, the meadows, the limestone pavements, the rarer species of birds and flowers, and the still relatively traditional upland farming and our dales buildings? With the constant talk of climate change, and pressures the world over from ever-increasing population and consumption, the case for preserving areas like this, which are so vital for 'quality of life' becomes all the more important.

We can all be activists! Not that there are any huge development plans for motorways, pylons, sprawling housing estates, large-scale quarrying or power stations; but if there were, we sure know how to petition and make our voices heard. But there are many ways we can be 'activists' now - and some are. Do you remember the trauma of the spot on a teenager's face, and the glee when it's gone? Everything's then better! For years, individuals and groups like the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, have been removing 'spots' - those little eyesores which spoil the whole. Here's a tip! At least it was a tip at the end of Sedbusk Lane. Look at it now; walled off and recently planted with trees. Individuals

still have the desire and skill to repair walls rather than bung up a bit of a fence; tree-planting schemes are funded, village enhancements go ahead and developments are generally 'in keeping' with the natural environment (go on, give the planners a bit of credit sometimes!) and the result is that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.

Not that these things will save the planet! But it is strange how things come full circle. "Small is beautiful" is in vogue again.. Gayle Mill wants to provide local electricity; and you will read on page 25 similar ideas at the Raydale Project. More people are using the trains and buses (free for over 60s), taking cars off the roads. Cycling is more popular than ever. We are becoming more discerning about where our food comes from. It might be spuds in the front garden again yet! But it does no harm at all to ask "What can we do, small as it might be, to make a positive difference?" And in the spirit of those of our great county, save a bit o' brass.

**Dates of future issues.** Because of this year's timing for Easter we are delaying the production of the April issue until the week after Easter week- to April 2nd, 3rd and the May issue until April 30th and May 1st. See the "Deadline" box.



### **Eunice the Ewe**

And the lucky finder of Eunice last month was Thomas Dinsdale, Aysgarth (she was on page 22, column 1). We have no idea where she is this month, expect anything!

### **More for others**

We asked for any information about other donations sent over the Christmas period that we hadn't heard about. Here's one: the lights at Breconbar— £215 raised for the Great North Ambulance.

**Next issue**  
**The April issue will be produced on**  
**April 2nd and 3rd**  
**and will be distributed between April**  
**4th and 7th**  
**DEADLINE FOR COPY:**  
**THURSDAY 27th March**

### **Hawes Electric Company**

We have had a request from a Meg Pettitt now living in Devon for information about the Hawes Electric Co. 1915-35 in Gayle, then in Hawes until 1948, about which she is doing some research.

She would especially like to receive an advert or poster/logo for the company or a picture of a van with the logo on it. It will be much appreciated if any reader who can help will contact the Newsletter.

## Last month's crossword answers

Across	Down
1. Metcalfes	2. Envy
8. Thaw	3. Core
9. Overstock	4. Litton
10. Oral	5. Encore
13. Board	6. Thorntons
15. Dobbin	7. Swaleside
16. Earths	11. Adventure
17. Editor	12. Obviously
19. Pruned	13. Bipod
20. Diary	14. Dairy
21. Tour	18. Ripper
24. Appersett	19. Preens
25. Role	22. Isol
26. Grassland	23. Sten

And the winner was that Archdoer of puzzles, **Mrs D.M. Proctor of West Burton**

## Competition

**The MARCH competition answers all contain MAR (not necessarily at the start).**

1. Waterworks flooded hamlet
2. Of 'Singalong' fame
3. They can be deep fried
4. A Wombat is one
5. There's one in Hawes but not now in Sedbergh
6. A Paddington favourite
7. Sounds like Mum possibly will
8. Asda is its 'overseas' bit
9. Henry... composer
10. T.M.
11. Comment
12. Many have set it to music
13. He starts the week (R4)
14. It's across the North Sea
15. Wonderful
16. .... Brothers
17. Evergreen shrub of Southern Europe
18. S.W. crossing

## Test for dementia

It was rather unfortunate that this should be the article we inadvertently included for the second time, and doubly embarrassing that the answers were in fact on page 40, not 36!

## Activity days

The Surestart Children's Centre have arranged, in conjunction with Yorebridge Sport and Fitness in Askrigg, two activity days to take place in the Easter holidays at the Wensleydale Centre, Askrigg. The activities are likely to include Baby Massage, StoryTelling, Art and Craft activities, Goalkeeping courses and a chance for parents to take some time for themselves with a creche being provided and opportunities to take part in various classes.

Make a note in your diaries for Wednesday the 26th March and Thursday 3rd April and look out for the full schedule which will be out very soon!

Please telephone the **Children's Centre on (01748) 833648** or **Yorebridge Sport and Fitness on 650060** for any bookings or queries.

## CPRE Wensleydale District

The Campaign to Protect Rural England, Wensleydale Branch is holding its Annual Social at the Friars Head, Akebar on March 4th at 7:00pm.

The Guest Speaker is Dame Diana Brittan, Chair of the Carnegie Commission on Rural Community, whose report 'A Charter for Rural Communities' was published last summer, advocating a major extension of community planning ownership and activity. She has also been President of the Townswomens' Guild and Chair of the National Lottery Community Fund. She will speak on 'The Countryside – The Power of the People'.

Supper is provided. All members, their guests and those interested in the concerns of CPRE are welcome. Tickets at £15 per head are available from **Kristin Whalley on 663885**.



## 20<sup>th</sup> Year Reunion Dinner

This year will be the 20<sup>th</sup> King's Club in Wensleydale. The very first Children's Holiday club was run in 1989 and based in West Burton. It was a week of activities for 5 – 10 year olds and organised by Rev Chris Shreeve who was the Methodist Superintendent Minister at the time. Twenty years later we are planning King's Club at Askrigg School and Low Mill and expecting more than 150 children and young people. (4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> August)

Did you attend that first King's Club in West Burton or on subsequent years at West Burton, Bainbridge or Askrigg? We would like you to help us celebrate the success of King's Club over the last twenty years and have planned a Reunion Dinner on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September at The Wensleydale Creamery, Hawes. (7.00 pm for 7.45 pm) Tickets cost £15 per person. (£10 students and unwaged) During the evening we will have displays of King's Club activities and hear from some of the early leaders.

We are intending to produce a special commemorative booklet for the evening. If you have any memories or photographs especially of the early years, we would be pleased if you could pass them on. (we will return any photographs sent to us)

If you would like tickets or more information then please contact us:

**Jenny Ingleby** 16, Annasgarth, Harmby, Leyburn. DL8 5 PJ **622075**

**Mike and Pauline Hirst**  
Robriding House, Rose Cottages Hawes  
DL8 3RF **667841**

## Walks with a cross

To commemorate the events of the first Good Friday, two walks of witness will be taking place. As usual members of the churches in the Hawes area will start from Gayle Chapel at **10.00am** with stops at the Creamery, the school, the Market House and St Margaret's gate for hymns and readings. The walk will conclude at Hawes Methodist Church for a service at **11.00am** followed by Devotions in St Margaret's **from noon**.

In the villages lower down the dale, a similar walk of witness will link in with services taking place.

**9.15am Preston-under-Scar**

**9.40am Redmire**

**10.05am Castle Bolton**

**11.00am Carperby**

**11.30am Thornton Rust**

**12 noon Thoraby**

**12.25pm Newbiggin**

**12.55pm West Burton**

**1.25pm by gates to Bolton Hall**

**1.50pm West Witton**

**2.15pm Aysgarth**

**2.30pm United Service, St Andrew's, Aysgarth**

You are invited to join these processions.

## **Living with a Listed Building**

Owners of traditional buildings in the National Park will have a chance to get maintenance tips and information from the experts at a special, free seminar being staged in March.

Topics will include:

- \* damp
- \* timber decay
- \* the way individual buildings develop over time
- \* employing an architect and running a building contract
- \* sharing a house with bats and wild birds
- \* the importance of lime.

**Don McLellan**, the YDNPA's Assistant Building Conservation Officer, said:

"Traditional buildings are different because they were not built using modern principles and they do not work in the conventional way. Although most of them have functioned perfectly well for several hundred years, we do need to think about maintenance in a different way and the seminar will offer owners the opportunity to learn more about the way traditional houses were built and about how they should be managed.

The event on March 8th - called Living with a Listed Building - will be held in the Octagon Room at Grassington Town Hall. Because numbers may have to be limited, anyone interested in attending should book a place by writing to Don at YDNPA, Yoredale, Bainbridge DL8 3EL, **652337**

**HAOS** present the  
Farnham Maltings Professional Theatre  
Company:

## **'The Polish Play'** **Hawes Primary School** **Friday March 28th, 7.30pm**

Tickets £7.50 Adults,  
£4.50 Children

(Includes light refreshments)

The Polish Play is a piece of "nothing up your sleeves" theatre made especially for village halls. An evening that starts as a play and ends up at a country dance. The Play is a piece of storytelling about the tale of a daughter who leaves Poland and comes to a local village to start a career as a nanny. She is accompanied by her anxious father who worries about change and reminisces about the past.

Using an accordion, YouTube, Yuri Gagarin and the 1974 world cup finals, this is a story about belonging, growing up and our place in the world.

### **Booking Office:**

The Old Sweet Shop, Hawes. **667746**

Mon-Sat, 9.00am to 5.00pm;

Sun, 10.00am to 4.00pm

**Jennifer Fawcett 667241**

**Colin Bailey 07711 211169**

## **Friends of the Dales Countryside Museum Away-day 2008**

Following the successful away-day by coach to York in 2007 we will once again be able to relax on our day out as we are driven to our destination, the Royal Armouries at Leeds. The coach will stop and pick-up at the villages along the A684, leaving Hawes at 9.00am and returning there by 5.00pm.

The Royal Armouries at Leeds and at the Tower of London have a huge collection of military memorabilia from times past. The Leeds Armoury exhibits are exciting, interactive, and very appropriate for younger visitors. In the outdoor arena there will be falconry and horse riding skills and indoors the staff demonstrate arms from Tudor and Civil War times.

Because it is such a great place to visit we are trying something different this year. We have scheduled the away-day for Wednesday 28 May, two days after the Spring Bank Holiday. For most children in the country this will be their half-term holiday and so we hope for a full coach with your child visitors having an exciting day out. The trip is not restricted to museum friends so please tell your family and neighbours about it. Entrance to the Armouries is free. The coach will cost £10 per adult and £5 per child.

After dropping off at The Armouries the coach will be going on a mile to the Thackray Museum (which tells the story of medicine) for anyone who so wishes.

Booking forms will be available from March 1st at the Museum or from

**Geoff Keeble, 650774**

## **Road Closure - B6255**

The road between Hawes and Ingleton will be closed from **March 7th to 14th** at the rail bridge at Ribblesdale for repairs of the bridge by Network Rail. This will have a

significant impact on all journeys between Hawes and Ingleton.

The diversion will be signed as follows: From Hawes turn left onto B6479 through Selside and Horton in Ribblesdale to Settle then north west up A65 to Ingleton. To get to Chapel-le-Dale from Hawes you will then need to travel north east along B6255 back towards Ribbleshead.

It is likely that the road will be fully closed for the full seven days.

## **Yorkshire Dales Access Forum (YDAF)**

Two new members have been elected to the YDAF which gives advice on ways of improving access to the countryside within the National Park

Guy Keating comes from Manchester and is an Officer for the British Mountaineering Council with interest in climbing, hill walking and cycling in the Dales

Robert Mayo, from Bolton Abbey, is a development surveyor.

They join existing members Geoff Wilson, David Gibson and Phil Woodyer, who have been selected for a further three years.

## **High Dales Group of WIs Group Show**

**Saturday 29 March  
10.00 am to 4.00 pm**

Hawes Market House

Entrance £1 including a cup of tea

Refreshments available

Come and see our exhibits on the theme

**“The March of Time”**

## **Wensleydale Railway**

After winter maintenance, the Railway will be running in March on 1, 2, 8, 9 and 15, 16 and again in April from 1-6.

Times and details are available by phoning **08454 50 54 74**.

## **Hawes Cricket Club**

The Annual General meeting is to be held on the **12th March** in the Fountain Hotel, Hawes. The meeting will commence at **7.30p.m.** All players and interested supporters are invited to attend

**Raye Wilkinson**

## **Green lanes**

The National Park Authority has begun the latest round of consultation on proposals to restrict recreational motor vehicle access to eight 'green lanes'. This began with a desktop exercise looking at all 102 routes which remained after the changes brought in by the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act.

In all, 28 have initially been identified as, potentially, being highly sensitive to recreational motor vehicle use. Fifteen have been looked at in detail so far and it is being proposed that eight of them could be made the subject of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs), which would restrict their use by recreational motor vehicles.

A first round of consultation with land owners, parish councils and some other organisations has already taken place and the decision of the YDNPA's Access Committee in January was that the second round – which will enable other groups and individuals to comment – should begin.

The routes which would be affected by the proposed orders are:

Gorbeck Road and Stockdale Lane  
between Settle and Malhamdale.

Foxup road between Horton-in-  
Ribblesdale and Foxup.

Cam High Road between Far Gearstones  
and Cam Houses and a connecting  
route to Old Ings.

Street Gate near Malham Tarn to  
Arncliffe Cote.

Harber Scar Lane between Horton-in-  
Ribblesdale and High Green Field.

The High Way between Cotterdale and  
Hell Gill Bridge.

## **Bygone winters**

This will be the subject of an illustrated talk by Tony Hartley on **Friday, February 29th at 7.30pm in Thornton Rust Village Institute**. Refreshments will be available. £3.00 at the door.

## ASKRIGG SCHOOL NEWS

### **Young Frst Aiders**

In class 3 we did a First Aid course . The course was for two hours each day for three days. Our instructor was called Linda. We did crosswords and puzzles and a lot of other exciting activities. We did a lot of activities teaching us how to deal with wounds and sprains. We learnt how to carry out CPR on dummies. My favourite bit of all was when we got to play with the bandages and the fake blood. **Adam Y5**

### **Forest Schools in Bluebell Woods**

Every Tuesday we go to Bluebell Woods and do activities every week. Sometimes we make a fire and some of us go tracking for footprints of animals. With sticks and some rope we made a star shape. When some of us did the fire we got to make bread and on pancake day we made some pancakes and some sausages. We made some houses and shelters for animals and we also made some kazoos out of wood and 3 elastic bands. After that we made some frames with wood and cotton and the first week we went we had to find a memory stick. We also made some benches with a big plank of wood and some rope and lashed it together.

**Tom Williams Yr 4**

### **An extract from the Monkey River School newsletter...**

We have just finished sorting around a ton and a half of books and supplies which were sent from schools in North Yorkshire, England, the sea freight provided by courtesy of Fyffes the banana people, who use the local port of Big Creek. These items will be shared between Monkey River, our sister school St Cuthbert's in Punta Negra, the primary school in Independence and some books on higher mathematics and English literature will be going to needy students in Belize City.

## Police Report

**H**ello. The Police surgery is now up and running in the Hawes Community Office. For your information the next date will be Thursday March 20th between 2.00 and 4.00pm. If you want advice on some matter, want to report something or just want a chat please come and see us, either myself, PC Simon Hudson or PCSO Don Watson.

On the crime front January was a little busier than December with 5 reported crimes, although two of these were “historic” reports having occurred in the previous months. Livestock appears to be disappearing again. Sheep have been taken from the Worton area – and probably not linked— butchered carcasses had been discovered in Upper Swaledale near the Cumbria border. Farmers please be vigilant and report promptly any suspect vehicles/trailers in your area so that we can hopefully get them checked in our area. An attempt was made to get into a farm building at Newbiggin breaking the lock and the offenders were seen making off but not caught.

Some alloy wheels were stolen from a vehicle in Askrigg and the offender jacked up the vehicle to do this – it must have taken several minutes – if you saw anything please contact us.

A works van was stolen in Redmire during January. The driver had only vacated it to remove some items and was away a matter of seconds. However the keys were left in the ignition aiding the thief or thieves. Long gone are the days when you can leave your keys in your vehicle. If you do so you are sooner or later likely to be a victim of crime and insurance companies are very reluctant to reimburse you for your loss. Please don't leave your vehicle unattended with the keys in the ignition.

Recently we have had two bouts of wintry weather – one day with several inches of snow and then a week of very frosty conditions. Whilst this is quite picturesque it has “caused” several road accidents. I have deliberately put the inverted commas on the word ‘caused’ as weather does not alone cause the accidents. At several of the collision sites vehicles have left the road and ended up through hedges, fences or even walls. The main factor in these accidents was **SPEED**. Whilst the cars may not have been travelling fast according to the posted speed limit, they were travelling too fast for the conditions resulting in the driver losing control. Save yourself all the ancillary grief/expense of having to have the car repaired by allowing longer for your journey and slowing down. If you have to clear the white stuff off your car before you set off (whether this is frost or snow) or if the fields and trees are cloaked in it, then that should be a fair indication that the roads are likely to be slippery. Even when the gritter has done its job there may still be icy patches around.

Finally I attach a letter from the Leyburn section Sergeant Mark Hughes which I hope you'll take time to read.

**Andy Foster PC826**  
**Safer Neighbourhood Police Officer**  
**Upper Wensleydale**  
**0845 60 60 247**

[Andrew.Foster@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Andrew.Foster@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk)

### **Letter from Safer Neighbourhood Team Sergeant Mark Hughes**

Dear All,

For those of you that I have not yet had the chance to meet, by way of introduction approximately 6 months ago I took over from PS Allan Harder as the “Leyburn Sergeant” with responsibility for policing in the Dales. This coincided with the Chief Constable's review of North Yorkshire Police and the reorganisation of locally

based policing in the guise of Safer Neighbourhood Teams. What this has meant for Leyburn is that with the support from Inspector Hunter and A/Ins Gee, we now have a substantial team of Police Officers and Community Support Officers working from Leyburn Police Station and each has been given a well defined geographical area of responsibility, based around towns, villages and electoral wards.

**As the team members have settled into their roles** I would hope that this is starting to have an impact not only in providing a more visible uniform presence, but a meaningful one of an individual who is committed to policing where you live or work. The Police Officers at Leyburn are also working a full 24 hour shift pattern and the issue of access is a fundamentally important one. Over the next 6 months I am looking for any way that we can improve on this. Staff have now started drop in surgeries at Hawes and Reeth, while use of Community Police Office and the Library Van are other possibilities of trying to get out to all sections of the community. PCSO Hoss has been working with partners to try and increase activities for young people in Leyburn, and I have been working with various partners and sponsors to try and put some officers back on Police Bikes.

It has not been a very successful time for road safety, and as a result I have ensured that all the Officers at Leyburn are trained in use of "speed guns" and enforcement will remain a key focus of the police response.

**Another area that staff are focusing on has been alcohol-related crime and disorder**, working alongside pubs and stores to stop illegal or irresponsible sales, along with the seizing of alcohol from under 18s and prosecutions. This seems to be starting to help with a reported fall in the number of complaints of antisocial behaviour, rowdiness and vandalism. The

change in smoking laws has forced people out on to the street, and we have been working hard with landlords to try and ensure that does not cause a new and unforeseen problem.

With regard to crime in the Dales, I am pleased to say that, from an already good position, since 01/08/2007 to date we have had a 39% fall in the number of recorded crimes. In simple terms that means 85 fewer people being attacked, or being broken into etc. I am disappointed that we are still having cars stolen, being left insecure with the keys in the ignition or opportunist thefts from unlocked properties. While this does indicate that people feel safe living here, it is a significant number of crimes and all are easily avoidable. Always take your keys, even when popping in for a newspaper.

**The main crimes of note** are stealing quad bikes, vehicles (particularly Land Rover Defenders) trailers and plant, and evidence shows that the offenders are crossing counties to do this. We have been working really hard to try and stop this alongside groups such as the watch scheme, with some really good results. If you can volunteer for any these then please, please do. But most important of all ring us if you see anything suspicious and in particular with registrations. We will follow this up, and without it we cannot get anyone up in front of the judge or get your property back. If you have the type of property which may be vulnerable, get in touch and we can do a site survey and also have obtained some *smart water* through sponsorship for property marking. An unwanted visitor asking for scrap metal, people running dogs on land provides a chance to check a place out for later. As a general rule try and use local tradesmen, and people you know and trust. I hope that quietly people are noticing a difference. I have raised some issues as I see them but I would like to hear from yourselves. For

those that have T'interWeb I have included my email address but alternatively write, ring, use the surgeries, stop the police / community support officer and speak to them, giving comments good and bad. What service do you feel that you need, want, get? We are genuinely open to any ideas as to how we can improve the service provided and work with other agencies and groups to do so.

**PS1054 Mark Hughes  
0845 6060247 ext 4382**

[Mark.Hughes@northworkshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Mark.Hughes@northworkshire.pnn.police.uk)

usual. From Easter Monday to Friday March 28th collections will be one day later, including Saturday, March 29th.

### **Who knows?**

**We want to try a new feature.** We receive from time to time (see letters) inquiries, often about people's ancestors. We would like to open this up to a general "Ask us" spot, about anything to do with the area—its history, its buildings, its past residents, its landscape. We think there is bound to be a reader somewhere who will know the answer... or at least have a try.

***So please let us know your queries; and then let others tell us the answers! We can give it a go.***

And we have already had one!

*"Ever since we came to our house in the Dales we have wondered why there should be vertical metal bars at the downstairs windows. It wasn't a jail!"*

*"There are other examples around; almost certainly to keep grazing cattle off the glass."*

### **Want an exciting night out?**

The Newsletter A.G.M. will be held on **Monday, March 17th at 7.00pm** in the lounge at Sycamore Hall, Bainbridge. Shamrocks optional.

### **Refuse collection over Easter**

Good Friday, March 21st: collection as

## **National Park Ranger Report**

“That must be a nice job in the summer” is a comment which I often hear when I tell people that I am a National Park Ranger. “What do you actually do?” is another popular question. Travelling up and down Wensleydale, Bishopdale, Coverdale to mend drystone walls, stiles, bridges, gates and keeping the multitude of public rights of way in good working order takes up a good deal of my time. Management of Freeholders’ Wood, monitoring wildlife and working with volunteer groups and local landowners also plays a large part. Having worked in Countryside Management for twenty two years I understand the importance of developing good relationships with the local communities, particularly through the education of young people.

The National Park Authority is supporting the introduction of the ‘Forest Schools Project’ in Wensleydale. This is an initiative originating in Scandinavia, encouraging learning in the outdoors. Whilst providing children with the opportunities to be active in the fresh air and to learn Backwoodsmanship skills, the children are also encouraged to learn about their environment, their impact upon it and the wildlife they share it with. In addition Forest Schools introduces the concept of the ‘Outdoor Classroom’, meaning anything taught in a classroom can be taught outside.

The project began in October at Askrigg School, led by Mrs Hazel Canning, a teacher from St Peter and St Paul School Leyburn, trained as a Forest Schools leader. Every Tuesday morning 20 seven to nine year olds troop along the road to Grange Gill Woods, with the kind permission of James and Eleanor Scarr. A typical morning could involve the children lighting a camp fire with flints, to provide hot drinks and cooking opportunities, playing games with an environmental

message, building shelters, finding animal tracks.

With the challenging winter weather it is a measure of the children’s and staff’s enjoyment and enthusiasm that they have not missed a single week. The children soon learned to dress up warmly with waterproofs and wellies; mud, rain, snowballs and ice being the order of most days! The project is continuing at Askrigg School indefinitely and has now begun on a Monday at West Burton School.

**Paul Sheehan, Access Ranger Lower Wensleydale.**



## Heavens Above

We had some grand starry skies during last month's run of clear nights. A highlight for me was the view to the south from the Buttertubs road thanks to our esteemed Editor who kindly ran me up there for a spot of off-the-cuff star gazing. Despite a waxing crescent moon we were able to glimpse a good many impressive objects that make the late winter sky such a rewarding spectacle—Orion's Nebula, the Pleiades and Hyades star clusters, the Andromeda Galaxy, the 'double cluster' in Perseus, brilliant Sirius, the brightest star of all, and last but certainly not least, the planets, Mars and Saturn.

If the weather holds up there's still time this month for you to try and spot some of these celestial showpieces - before they begin to slip away into the western evening twilight. Orion and his retinue of bright constellations are still conspicuous during the early part of March but dominating the south as the month wears on is the key springtime constellation of Leo, The Lion. His head and mane are outlined by a distinct pattern of stars known as The Sickle' which looks rather like a backward '?' mark with the bright, blue-white star, Regulus, forming the dot. This year, nearby to the east, is an even brighter object, the ringed planet, Saturn.

Another famous sight in the springtime sky is Praesepe - The Manger - a beautiful open cluster containing over 200 hundred stars. Because of its shape it's often nicknamed The Beehive. Binoculars show 4 bright central stars making up the 'beehive' shape with the rest 'swarming' around it. You'll find the Beehive in the rather undistinguished constellation of Cancer, the Crab. It's easily visible to the naked eye on a dark, moonless night as a hazy patch of light just south of the midway point between Regulus and Pollux - the lower of

the two Heavenly Twins. Have clear skies!

**Al Bireo**

## The Business Association (Wensleydale) Ltd...

are holding their AGM on **Wednesday March 12<sup>th</sup> at Gayle Institute at 11.30am.**

They have had a very successful year, with lots going on. The new business directory had over 203 listings and was widely distributed over Upper Wensleydale. The new Upper Wensleydale Guide was published and went out all over Yorkshire and the North East. [www.wensleydale.org](http://www.wensleydale.org) received an average of 5419 hits a month with a peak of 8217 in September.

The Business Association supported local projects through funding and offers of advertising and volunteer time from Directors. £500 was donated to the "Spring-time" chainsaw project, £100 went towards the first Dales Harvest Festival and £100 towards the Hawes Christmas Lights group. Donations of pens and notepads were made to support the high profile sustainable energy conferences run by Revive. They held their first annual Ball to raise money for charity. Donations of £200 to Yorkshire Air Ambulance, £100 to Dalesplay, £100 to Hawes Gala and £100 to Askrigg VC Primary School were raised. Small and select, the event was popular and the next Masquerade Ball is planned for October 25<sup>th</sup>, bigger and better!

All are welcome to come along on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments will be available, so please call **667575** by March 10<sup>th</sup> to help us cater for numbers. **R.B.**

## Thank you....

Many people helped to make the Barn Dance a successful and fun evening. Ann Wood and Penny Blanch would like to thank Reg at the Chippy for providing the

peas free of charge, Cocketts for providing the pies at what must have been cost price, the Fountain for heating up the pies, Les for all his help with the Market Hall and last but by no means least everyone who went and supported the event. Mavis and Stuart Armstrong ran the raffle, which, together with a small profit from ticket sales raised £245.00. Ann has presented the school with a cheque for this amount and they are delighted. The money will buy a LogIt data logger system.

**Penny Blanch**

#### **Non-Uniform Day**

On the last day before the half term holidays the children at Hawes School had a non uniform day and raised £71.50 for the British Heart Foundation.

#### **Residential Visit to London**

Mrs Dooley has organised a residential visit to London in June for Years 4, 5 and 6. She plans to take them to the Natural History Museum, a river boat cruise, the London Eye and O<sub>2</sub> Dome to see the treasures of Tutankhamen. In addition she has planned a theatre visit to see 'The Lion King'. We have received a very generous donation from Hawes Market Tolls Trustees towards the residential visit to London We are extremely grateful to them and this will considerably reduce the cost of the visit for everyone. It sounds like a good time will be had by all.

#### **Domino Drive**

The PTFA are holding a Domino Drive on **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30pm**. All are welcome to join in.

#### **Posh School Toilets!**

Our school toilets were in a desperate state and in need of refurbishment. The children wanted the new toilets to be 'posh', so 'posh' we gave them! In addition the toilets are eco-friendly with automatic taps and lights, toilets with a long/short flushing option and boys' urinals with deodorising units to cut down the water costs. The tiles

are a matt stone effect with matching mosaic border. It's all very 5\* hotel quality. Lucky children! **Many** thanks to the Governors for organising and implementing it.

#### **Upper Dales Walking Group**

### **HAWES SCHOOL NEWS**

We would like to thank the Upper Dales Walking Group and Friends who held a barn dance in the Market hall. They raised £245 which they have very generously donated to the school to purchase a data logger which records changes in sound, heat, motion, acidity and light over time. This information is then relayed to a computer which interprets the data into graph form to aid the children's scientific understanding. Thank you so much.

#### **Rail services**

##### **Replacement bus services**

On the Settle to Carlisle line, sections will be served by buses from **March 1st to 9th**. On **Easter Sunday**, trains will terminate at Armthwaite and buses will run into Carlisle.

These are because of continuing engineering work. A very good website to check all engineering work on the rail network can be found by searching "Rail replacement buses; March" and you will find **current service alterations**.

#### **The real James Herriot**

##### **– an evening with his son Jim Wight**

I have enjoyed the stories, watched the TV series and films, visited the museum at Kirkgate in Thirsk, read the biography and on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February at the Dales Countryside Museum, listened to Jim Wight talk about his father, the real James Herriot. It was an evening I'd earmarked when the new DCM programme was

issued, the icing on the cake for me, and I was not disappointed. For Jim Wight is now a natural raconteur, honing his skills over many years, from the first tentative and nerve-wracking occasion at a local WI, talking to just seven ladies in the audience. Such was his ability and with a wealth of material, I found myself lost in a world of draughty cow byres and snug farmhouse kitchens, eavesdropping on conversations over a pint at a local pub, driving along countryside lanes and waiting expectantly with the owners whilst the treatment on their sick animals was being carried out. How could I not fail to be amused and captivated by the abundance of characters set in the rolling countryside of the Yorkshire Dales.

Alf Wight himself was a natural listener, an affable and unassuming gentleman. He would jot down the tales he heard and along with his own experiences use them later in his much-loved books. What was especially magical for me during the evening was to hear about the personalities and events, some of which I'd already read about, from Jim Wight himself. Here was first-hand knowledge and experience of people, places and occasions, such as the gifts of wonderful Fortnum and Mason food hampers sent from Bambi Warner alias Tricky Woo to Alf Wight! With much good humour and affection I was drawn again into the real world of James Herriot.

**Delia Dubois**



**Mystery picture. Now where, precisely, is this? Last month's building was Countersett Hall. June Metcalfe was the first to tell us.**

### Holy Week and Easter church services

During Holy Week there are daily services of Holy Communion (HC) in several of our churches.

Below are the special services.

#### **Palm Sunday, March 16th**

- 9.00am Breakfast in Redmire Village Hall
- 9.40am Donkey Procession leaves for church
- 10.00am Family Service at St Mary's Church, Redmire
- 9.30am Breakfast in West Witton Village Hall
- 10.30am HC at St Bartholomew's Church
- 10.30am Hawes Methodist Church "Ladies Day" with Mrs Eunice Page followed by lunch in the Wensleydale Pantry. **667722** to book lunch

Usual service times at all other churches with distribution of palm crosses.

#### **Monday, March 17th**

- 7.30pm Meditation, Preston-under-Scar

#### **Tuesday, March 18th**

- 7.30pm Meditation, West Witton

#### **Wednesday, March 19th**

- 7.30pm Meditation, Castle Bolton

#### **Maundy Thursday, March 20th**

- 7.00pm HC Watch of the Passion, Alta r stripping and meditation
- 7.30pm HC Thornton Rust Mission Room
- 7.30pm HC West Burton Methodist Church

#### **Good Friday, March 21st**

- 9.30am Preston-under-scar
- 10.15am Castle Bolton
- 11.00am Hawes Methodist Church
- 12 noon Devotions at St Margaret's, Hawes
- 2.00pm West Witton
- 2.30pm United service, St Andrew's, Aysgarth

#### **Saturday, March 22nd**

- 8.00pm Service of Light, Holy Trinity Church, Wensley

#### **Easter Day, March 23rd, main services:**

- 6.30am Sunrise Service on Pen Hill
- 9.00am HC Hardraw
- 9.30am HC Castle Bolton
- 9.30am HC Preston-under-Scar
- 9.30am HC West Witton
- 10.30am HC Hawes Methodist Church
- 10.30am HC St Margaret's, Hawes
- 10.30am Sycamore Hall, Bainbridge
- 10.45am Aysgarth Methodist Church
- 10.45am West Burton Methodist Church
- 11.00am HC Family service with children's activities, St Andrew's, Aysgarth
- 2.00pm HC Marsett Methodist Chapel
- 2.30pm Hawes Junction Chapel
- 6.30pm HC Gayle Methodist Chapel

### Broadacres open the door to applications for homes in Bainbridge

Broadacres have opened the doors to applications from locals to buy a new home within their latest development in Bainbridge.

The £2m development includes the respectful conversion of the former High Hall into 10 homes, plus 7 newly built homes on an adjacent site. The homes range from 1 bedroom bungalow to spacious 3 bedroom, 3 storey houses.

There's a range of tenures to suit the different budgets and lifestyles of local people. 8 of the homes are available for shared ownership through the government's **New Build Homebuy scheme**. This gives people who cannot afford local house prices an opportunity to own their own home – effectively they buy a share in a home and pay a small rent to Broadacres on the remainder. Prices start from as little as £40,250 with a weekly rent of £7.74! There are also 2 homes for sale on the open market. Purchasers must fulfil the YDNPA local needs criteria and prices are £154,000 for a new build 3 bedroom house and £189,000 for a spacious 3 storey conversion with 2 bedrooms + study.

Priority will be given to eligible people from Bainbridge, however applications are now also welcome from people from the parishes of Aysgarth, Hawes, Askrigg and Upper Swaledale. Interested people should contact **Broadacres on 01609 767900** to register their interest. Conditions apply. Please note rented properties within this development are oversubscribed and new applications for these are not being sought.

**Lynne Bloomfield  
Gayle Mill**

## Opening March 18th

**A**s announced last month, Gayle Mill will be open to the public from March 18th. In the morning there will be a formal handing over of responsibilities from North of England Civic Trust to Gayle Mill Trust, with public tours starting in the afternoon at 2.30pm, with a second at 3.45pm. From then on through the summer months, the mill will be open to visitors on every day except Mondays and Fridays (although we shall also be open on Bank Holidays).

Because the mill is a small place, all tours will be limited to a maximum of 25 persons and must be pre-booked. Tickets are available from the Dales Countryside Museum (**666 210**). Prices are:  
Adult (16 years and over) - £5  
Children (7-15 years) - £2.50  
Children under 7 – free  
Disabled persons - £5 with free entry for one carer.

Tours will last approximately one hour. There will be five tours per day, starting at 10.30am, 11.45am, 1.00pm, 2.30pm and 3.45pm.

There is no parking at the mill, except for two disabled places, and visitors are requested not to park within the village of Gayle. The walk to Gayle along the footpath from St Margaret's church and behind the Creamery gives an excellent view of the mill that is quite different from the approach down the mill lane.

Gayle Mill Trust looks forward to welcoming you. Despite all the restoration work, Gayle Mill remains the structurally least altered Arkwright-pattern mill in Britain and provides a link between the present and the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Originally built as a cotton-spinning mill, it was converted in 1879 to a wood mill with a suite of the latest in wood-working machinery, all driven by the Williamson Brothers double vortex turbine, the oldest working turbine still *in situ* in the UK. Do

come and find out what has been going on at your local mill and hear about planned activities. And do bring your friends and relatives, as well.

For further details and more information about the mill consult the Gayle Mill Trust website [www.gaylemill.org.uk](http://www.gaylemill.org.uk) or Friends of Gayle Mill at [friendsofgaylemill.org.uk](http://friendsofgaylemill.org.uk)

**Michael Thomson, Gayle Mill Trust**

## News from Dalesplay

There have been some staffing changes at Dalesplay over the past couple of months, Pauline Hirst has joined the team as Acting Manager during the remainder of Di Burton's maternity leave, and Lucy Entwistle is occupying Louise Cloughton's position as Acting Deputy Manager whilst Lou is also on maternity leave. (It's working with all those babies, it becomes infectious). As a response to the growing numbers of children accessing the service we have also taken on some extra relief staff that help out on a regular basis as the demand dictates.

There is a new package available during the school holidays. Children and young people aged 4-14 can join in the fun at Dalesplay between 9.00am and 3.30pm for £25. There will be exciting activities including games and lots of arts and crafts that are challenging and appropriate to each age group. If you don't want to come for the whole day you can come for a 2.5 hour session for only £10. Parents please note that for regular users of the facility there is an initial registration fee of £20 which is renewable each year at a cost of £10. Temporary residents will be asked to pay £1 registration fee per visit.

## Parents of Dalesplay Forthcoming Events

P.O.D. will be holding a table top sale in the Hawes Market Hall on **Saturday, March 30th**. We do hope that you will come along

and support this event.

Following the success of the evening that was held before Christmas last year, another Ladies Fashion Evening will take place at the Fountain Hotel in Hawes on Wednesday September 24th at 7.30pm. This is an opportunity to buy garments from many of the popular High Street chains at discount prices.

**Pauline Hirst**

### **Hawes shops...**

have always kept going by multitasking – where else would you find wine in the chemists, cakes at the butchers, china and pans at the TV shop, drycleaning and sweaters in the gift shop, giftware in the launderette, cut flowers in a restaurant, and shoes in the clothes shop?

The latest bright idea for making sure that everything can be bought in Hawes has come from Carol Moore at Ginger Tree Hair. Her friend Victoria (the lingerie shop in Leyburn) is to use the “front room” of the salon for lingerie and swimwear, and the staff at Hawes are being trained in fitting techniques for foundation garments. A window display will attract those who raise their eyes above the rock and gem shop.

Come and meet Victoria at the new shop on **Wednesday March 5<sup>th</sup> between 1.00 and 7.00pm**. Look around and have a snack. When Kathy and Carol opened Ginger Tree William Hague performed the ceremony and remarked that he was not the ideal man to advertise haircare. Who might be suitable to model lingerie? It has been decided to leave it to the mannequins, and not the living kind.

**S.Crookes**

### **If all else fails... just clap!**

It's a long time since such a large number of (mainly middle-aged-at-least) men, having assembled in one place, all looked so bemused and befuddled but also thoroughly happy! Not that many of the women were all that much more enlightened, but probably lighter on their feet. This was the scene at a very successful ceilidh/barn dance arranged in the Hawes Market Hall on Saturday February 9th.

The hundred or so invited enthusiasts cupped their ears and frowned as the ‘caller’, refusing to turn down his mike,

issued his reverberating instructions to his class of not-very-quick-on-the-uptake students, which of course made it all that much more fun when we got going. All shapes and sizes twisted, twirled, weaved, and flung one another around to the sound of the musicians from Carlisle, some improving as time went on; others getting worse!

To save on the washing up, we'd all taken plates and cutlery and were more than ready for the arrival of supper— pies from Cockett's and peas from the Chippy.

Whether these improved the after-supper dancing is debatable but the merriment improved, and provided the energy for rapid clearing up of tables and chairs at the end.

Our very grateful thanks to all involved in the planning. It wasn't to be a fund-raiser but even so the Hawes School will benefit from the event. Please do another! **A.S.W.**

### **Raydale Project Report**

Since our last report a working group has visited Cragdale Beck and John Warren has very kindly drawn plans and written a specification for the work to be undertaken. Copies of these have now gone out to tender and at our next meeting, when we should know the likely cost, we shall be seeking match funding for the work. We really look forward to seeing this section of river restored and users of the track being able to cross over the cobbles as our predecessors intended.

On the micro- hydroelectricity generation part of the Raydale Project, a consultant (David Mann), who has done similar work on the River Esk, came and spoke to the steering group. He explained that from a very short visit that afternoon he could identify several promising sites for installation. It seems that as well as a few individual houses benefiting there is potential to produce enough electricity for 100 homes. This encouraging news was

further supported by the latest government figures for payment to communities supplying electricity through micro-generation which have recently risen by over 60%.

The steering group still has a lot more research to do on micro-generation but it does sound promising. **Deborah Millward**  
**Project Leader**



## Spring gardens– back to nature

Finest sight last year was the avalanche of meadowsweet at almshouse corner between Askrigg and Bainbridge. Every year these lovely wild plants tumble down the field and congregate around the stone trough on the corner. Sometimes I'm not fit on the road, gawping at the free show. I smile to think that you'd spend a fortune trying to recreate such a harmonious impact for Chelsea flower show, and still fail miserably. These filipendula will grow in your garden, but without moist soil will suffer from general rusty raggedness, and also seed everywhere. Use instead any of the larger astilbes, which are similar- just don't expect to rival old Ma Nature's wilder, random beauty.

Another haphazardly spectacular arrangement occasionally occurs in autumn on the sloping fields below Whitfield crag, when you might chance on half an acre of ground studded with fungi of such an unnatural colour that when I came across it in November, I nearly blew a fuse. Gob-smacked is such a great word, isn't it? Here were weird blues and greens, outrageous yellows, bright reds and sinister purples, all in button form and dry-stone wall to wall. A week later they'd gone, a fleeting delight but one almost impossible to recreate in the garden. The nearest I've got is the intricate bracket fungus on the log piles I heaped around the garden last year. Being a shrub and perennial type, I'd never paid much attention to toadstools etc. How blinkered is that? From a distance it's a mushroom, so what? The thing is to take a closer look; they all stand a close scrutiny – some of the polyporaceae specimens seem to have been designed by a master draughtsman.

Lots of inspiration from a late spring evening drive past Heaning wood a year or two back, when the inside of the Ford

Capri (ask your dad) was filled with the heady perfume of bluebells and wild garlic-talk about senses overload ; this was superb and needed investigating. I abandoned the car on a grassy verge. Unforgivable. Venturing into the gloomy wood disclosed luminous blues, whites and fertile greens.... I was hooked.

Garlic is now established in my patch; give it shade and rich soil and it'll run wild. Less rampant are their cousins, the alliums, which prefer a sunnier site. Choose either 'moly', the golden garlic, a cheerfully bright yellow extrovert which will reach 7 inches or more, or the 3ft 'aflatunense', with lovely rich pink flowers.

Rather than our native bluebell, I've used *Scilla siberica*, a dandy little sweetheart with flashing blue flowers and a compact, 5 inch height. If you've a stretch of rough shaded lawn, they're perfect for planting direct – set clumps 4 inch deep; don't be mean, use plenty, and await the transformation. Anticipation in gardening is *the* best feeling. Over the years they'll multiply and eventually, each spring will herald an eagerly awaited soft, blue carpet. Resist the urge to mow once the colour has finished – it was a rough lawn to start with and let it stay that way until scilla's leaves have faded and withered... then unleash the Honda.

I'm keeping my eyes, ears and nose open again this year, ready for the nudge.

**Ed Gardener**



**A huge THANK YOU to everyone involved in the show and who supported us in the audience.**

*(The last collection raised £165)*

We are ready to start planning the next production. You are invited to come along to share your thoughts and ideas with us and find out more about our future plans at **The Wensleydale Centre, Askrigg on Monday March 10th at 7.30pm**

We would like to meet anyone interested in drama, dance, musical theatre or helping behind the scenes.

If you are unable to attend but still would like to be involved please let us know today!

**Jennifer Fawcett 667241  
Colin Bailey 07711 211169**

### **Raising money, with little effort -**

#### **RECYCLING your rubbish!**

Another £47.30 has gone to Yorebridge Sport & Fitness from recycled mobile phones, computer cartridges and toners.

Don't throw them out, just drop them in the boxes at the Community Office in Hawes, the Post Office in Bainbridge, Sykes country Store in Askrigg and Yorebridge in Askrigg.

Please only deposit major makes of computer items. NOT compatible makes, such as Viking.

**Kate Empsall**

### **Unwanted clothes collection**

Hawes Primary School are collecting unwanted clothes, towels, shoes, belts, curtains and bedding to raise money for the P.T.F.A. funds.

Please bring bagged items into school on **Tuesday April 29th before 9.00am only.**

Enquiries to **Janet Middleton 666070**

### Just take a look at your glasses

**Q**uestion: Who or what do you think is the second biggest single employer in our area?

Well, the other week instead of trying to send a huge amount of Newsletter copy by email, I took a “stick” of information (*see end if you're not sure about sticks!*) to be carried personally to Askrigg, by a friend working at Hilco on the Brunt Acres Estate in Hawes. It was a surprise to be greeted by so many people I know but didn't realise they worked there. It seemed a good idea to find out more; so here goes.

About twenty years ago a husband and wife team, wanting to start up a small business, were house-hunting and lighted upon the Hawes area, as opposed to Leyburn, where they would like to settle. “Inter-company Contacts” sold contact lenses, made by Hilco, to opticians; Hilco itself being established about fifty years ago in Massachusetts in the U.S.A.

On retirement six years ago they sold out to Hilco which now employs in their four warehouses and offices in Hawes thirty-five workers and two outworkers, and is still growing. “But what do they actually do?”, I asked Jeremy Neate their Marketing and Publicity Manager- an enthusiast who was happy to talk to me. Firstly, nothing is actually manufactured here but around 20,000 different products from all over the world are brought and re-packaged to be distributed to opticians. There are about 7,000 of them in the U.K. for a start but goods are also sent to Europe, the Middle East and Russia. So in Hawes we have packers, warehouse people, general administrators, accounts, customer services, telesales, and two ‘out on the road’.

The optical industry has its own ‘in-house’ courier system for transportation of goods and weekly shipments dealing with Customs etc. With so many different items,

all the staff have to be computer literate to cope with the computerised system of categorising and selecting the goods.

Now what are these goods? “Not lenses or glasses, except for specialist shields”, Jeremy said. **“In fact all the unexciting things!”**

So this (at last) is where to take a look at your glasses! (And think how many different ones there are). There are hinges, tiny screws— and their tiny screw-drivers, no doubt— arms and the other bits over your ears, metal bits holding the nose pads, (sorry about the un-technical terminology!), and even the cloths for cleaning your specs. Absolutely everything to support the industry is packaged and processed here and they are patenting **special screws that don't fall out!** “All the best screws come from Hawes”, he said, with a twinkle in his eye. There is a sister company in Heywood in Lancashire which concentrates on repairs, doing about 3,000 a week.

Calling in at Hilco in Hawes is certainly pleasant. The staff are drawn almost entirely from the dale, Crakehall being about the farthest, but they are about to appoint from Swaledale! The atmosphere seems happy, and they have their Christmas parties and the occasional BBQs. A big organisation dealing with the load of little things we can't do without!

*(For the uninitiated a 'stick', just a few cm long, holds a mind-boggling amount of data and you can stick it in your computer to transfer the data between computers; especially useful if you have exceeded your Broadband capacity- and you live fairly close-by!)*

**A.S.W**

### Fire and Rescue Service

Firefighters from North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service will be at **Thornton Rust from 9.30am and Thoralby from 12.30pm on Sunday March 2nd** to offer free fire

## Doctors' rotas as supplied by the surgery

<b>AYS GARTH SURGERY ROTA</b>											<b>Wb - week beginning</b>										
Wb	Mar 3		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	FA	A	WF	F	J	F	C	C	FA	A											
Tues	J	J	JA	JA	FA	A	W	W	WJ	WJ											
Wed	FA	A	WF	F	J	J	JA	J	FA	A											
Thur	WJ	W	JA	J	FA	A	WF	F	WJ	W											
Fri	A	A	F	F	C	C	J	J	J	J											
<b>Doctors:</b> A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed																					
<b>Morning Surgery:</b> 9.00 - 10.30 a.m. (no appointments)																					
<b>Afternoon Surgery:</b> 4.00 - 5.30 p.m. (appointment only)																					
<i>For appointments and all enquiries ring 663222</i>																					

  

<b>HAWES SURGERY ROTA</b>											<b>Wb - week beginning</b>										
Wb	Mar 3		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	J	J	JA	JA	FA	A	C	C	WJ	WJ											
Tues	FA	A	WF	WF	J	J	JA	JA	FA	FA											
Wed	J	J	A	A	F	F	W	W	J	J											
Thur	F	F	W	W	J	J	A	A	F	F											
Fri	WJ	WJ	J	J	C	C	WF	WF	W	W											
<b>Doctors:</b> A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed																					
<b>Morning S'y:</b> 8.45-10.15 Tues till 10.45 (no appointments)																					
<b>Afternoon S'y:</b> 5.00-6.00 Tues 1.00-4.00 (appointments only)																					
<i>For appointments and all enquiries ring 667200</i>																					

safety advice, free home fire risk checks and free smoke alarm fitting (*where this is appropriate*).



**Local history!**  
**Gayle Ladies Group**

The Gayle Ladies group, formerly Young Wives, was started on October 27th 1965, and introduced by two Deaconesses (kind of Methodist 'nuns') who came to Gayle Chapel. It was decided that a group of this nature would fulfil a need in this area. The group would meet fortnightly on the second Wednesday afternoon of each month at 2.00pm and on the last Thursday evening of each month at 7.30pm, a crèche to be held in the afternoon run by the older ladies of the chapel, or members of the group.

The annual subscription was to be three shillings and sixpence and the weekly sub. to be sixpence. The group would meet on the chapel premises.

Officials elected:

President: Mrs. Harker (Minister's wife)

Vice President: Mrs Mary Calvert  
 Secretary: Mrs. Doreen Raw  
 Treasurer: Mrs. Myra Staveley  
 Refreshments: Mrs Val Ward.

There would be a pattern of four meetings, one devotional, one knit and natter, one demonstration and one speaker—the school attendance officer. Unfortunately the afternoon meetings were stopped because the children were too noisy and the ladies preferred to come in the evenings.

It was decided to continue with the monthly Thursday evenings with two devotional evenings in the year and the others either speakers or demonstrations.

The minister's wife was always elected as President until one came and felt she couldn't manage it.

As the group got older it was decided we were no longer Young Wives, as most of us were grannies, so we changed our name

to Gayle Ladies.

We had an increase in members when people came to live in the area which uplifted our spirits when numbers were declining. Anyone reading this report who would like to join us would be more than welcome.

**Doreen Raw**

### **Success for Becky**

**Becky Barnes**, from Hawes, has won £500 for her school in the finals DEFRA competition ‘**Tomorrow’s Climate, Today’s Challenge**’ for students aged 11-18.

The competition is part of the Government's climate change communications initiative, "Tomorrow's Climate, Today's Challenge." Entrants to the competition were asked to use different types of media to communicate the threats of climate change in their regions.

Becky was one of 39 youngsters, aged between 10 and 18, shortlisted from over 600 entries and interviewed in London. They were chosen for their enthusiasm and passion about climate change, their knowledge of the subject, ability to communicate, star quality and understanding of their region. Her Power Point and interview presentations impressed the panel of high-powered judges, and she eventually finished just one place outside the nine regional winners.

Becky will spend her prize money on environmental initiatives at her school, Settlebeck High School ( Sedbergh), where she is a high-flying Y8 student. Science teacher at Settlebeck, Stephen Burrowes, who has involved the School in a highly productive sequence of creative partnership environmental schemes with academics and film makers, described Becky as a ‘real live wire, who knows her own mind’. When the judges asked Becky what sort of question she’d like to ask the Prime Minister, knowing that he was going

to ask her what she had done for the project, her answer to the judges was “Well, I’d like to ask him what useful things HE had done today for the environment”. Her lively sense of humour and seriousness about the issues impressed the judges. With the money, Becky plans to have a small pond habitat built at Settlebeck.

### **Love is in the Air**

We visited the Market House in Hawes for ‘an entertaining evening of song, dance, drama and romance’ presented by Hawes Amateur Operatic Society (HAOS), appropriately enough on St. Valentine’s Day.

The hall had been cleverly transformed to provide a well lit and decorated set where the audience felt part of the production. HAOS was augmented by members of Leyburn Amateur Dramatic Society (LADS) and they provided the cast for the first half of the evening, a three-handed one act play entitled *Trip of a Lifetime*. This was well acted and skilfully staged. A minimal set and background music enabled the audience to believe that they were enjoying a round the world trip with a couple that were celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, accompanied by their daughter.

The second half of the production was made up of a series of songs, poems, monologues, dance and sketches relating to the *Love is in the Air* theme. The audience showed their appreciation of the good standard of entertainment exhibited by the soloists who were well backed by an efficacious ensemble, pianist and drummer. A junior ensemble of six youngsters showed talent in both singing and dancing. *The Lonely Goatherd*, perhaps being their star turn with its eclectic collection of goats. The Chap-in-Dales provided a farmers’ take off –

literally – of the steel workers of the Full Monty and proved a hit with the audience.

The Market House was close to full and the production lived up to its billing, proving to be a very entertaining evening.

**Sue and Graham Lawton**



## Letters

Dear Sirs,

The theory that everyone misses the moving sculpture on the A684 just out of Bainbridge towards Hawes when it falls down is quite false. Those of us who hate it are delighted when it disappears.

Bearing in mind the trouble which is taken, and the restrictions which residents of the National Park endure, in the interests of preserving our beautiful landscape unspoilt by modern developments, it is quite incredible that permission was ever given for this structure to be erected in the dale.

Art should be confined to private spaces, such as houses or galleries, so that those who want to look at it and those who don't are equally considered. Sculpture in the middle of the landscape is just as objectionable as other people's choice of music played loudly in public places. The National Park Authority went to considerable lengths to have the straw umbrellas at the George and Dragon, Aysgarth, removed. What is the different principle that applies to the moving sculpture?

Yours faithfully,

**Heather Pearson, Preston under Scar**

Dear Mr Watkinson,

I wonder if you could kindly help me through your newsletter? I am researching for a biography of my father, the artist and sculptor Jonah Jones, who spent time in Wensleydale during the early 1940s working in forestry, and I wonder whether any of your readers could provide me with information about his stay there?

During this period my father - known at the time as Leonard or Len Jones - was a conscientious objector (he later went on to serve as a medic in the 6th Airborne Division, taking part in the crossing of the

Rhine in 1945). I believe that he spent the best part of two or three years working in forestry in Wensleydale. All I know is that he had digs with a farm lady called Mrs Dinsdale in East Witton, and that he got to know Fred Lawson, the Castle Bolton painter, who had a big influence on my father's artistic development.

I shall be most grateful if anyone can supply more detail about either Mrs Dinsdale or Fred Lawson and his circle, or any other relevant information.

Kind regards,

**Peter Jones**

*If readers with any information will pass it to the Newsletter we will see that it is forwarded. Ed.*

**WHAT'S ON LISTING**  
**Transfer these dates to your calendar!**

**February**

29 Illustrated talk at Thornton Rust, 7.30pm  
 See page 10.

**March**

- 1 Yorkshire Dales Society "The Story of Gayle Mill" Michael Thomson  
 2.15pm at the Mill
- 1 Games Night at West Burton Village Hall. See page 7.
- 2 Preston with Wensley Mothering Day Service 10.30 am
- 2 Castle Bolton Mothering Day Service 4.00 pm
- 2 Hawes Methodist Church. Visit of Rev Graham Carter, Chairman of the Darlington Meth. District, 10.30am
- 4 Fire and Rescue Day. See page 29
- 4 Hawes Drama Group reads "When We are Married" by J B Priestley, Gayle Institute at 7.30pm
- 4 CPRE meeting; Akebar, 7.00pm See p.5
- 5 Coffee Morning for Church Funds and Children's Soc. at Overdale, Redmire
- 5 Lent Lunch and meditation. Hawes Methodist Rooms at noon
- 7 Ingleton Road closed for seven days at Ribble Head. See page 8.
- 7 Family Quiz night, 6.30, Sycamore Hall
- 7 Christian Aid Lent Lunch. Thorlby Village Hall at noon
- 7 King's Club Meeting. Bainbridge Methodist Church 7.30 pm
- 7 Wensleydale Society "Wensleydale moors—current and future value" by Dr Peter Welsh. West Burton Village Hall 7.30pm
- 7 Women's World Day of Prayer, Hawes Area. Hardraw Church at 2.00 pm
- 7 Women's World Day of Prayer, St Bartholomew's Church, West Witton at 2.00 pm. Guyana, South America is providing the service.
- 7 Pie and Peas Supper at West Witton Village Hall at 7.00 pm by the ex-services committee. Social evening with Bingo and Beetle Drive. Tickets £5. BYO from Village Shop or ring **624109** or **623410**
- 8 March–13 April an exhibition "Duo Tones: The Art of Landscape

- giving Photography" with photographers Steve Gosling and David Tarn talks at 11.00 am and 2.00 pm on the 8th March at the DCM, Hawes
- 8 Living with a Listed Building; See p. 7
- 10 HAOS, Wensleydale Centre, Askrigg. 7.30pm. See page 27.
- 11 Coffee Morning for Marie Curie. Hawes Methodist Rooms, 10.00am to noon.
- 11 YDNPA Planning Committee, 10.30am Yoredale, Bainbridge
- 12 Hawes Cricket Club AGM. Fountain Hotel at 7.30pm. See page 9.
- 12 Business Association AGM; See p.17
- 14 Christian Aid Lent Lunch. Carperby Village Hall at noon
- 14 Museum Friends: Steve Moorhouse on "Places, Names and Landscape". 7.30 pm at the DCM, Hawes
- 15 Junior Disco at Gayle Institute. See page 36.
- 17 Newsletter AGM at Sycamore Hall, Bainbridge. See page 15.
- 18 Gayle Mill opening .See page 22
- 18 Upper Wensleydale Darts League Four Man Cup presentation evening. Fountain Hotel, Hawes
- 20 Hawes School domino drive. See p. 18
- 20 Hawes WI. Methodist rooms. 7.00pm
- 21 Storytelling for all the family. Join Rhoda Fraser between 2.00 pm and 3.00 pm at the DCM, Hawes
- 24 Car Boot Sale at Wensley 8.00 am onwards
- 24 Plant Stall and Refreshments. Castle Bolton (outside church) 10.00 am to 12.30pm in aid of Castle Bolton Church and Mission Aviation Fellowship
- 24 Coffee Morning with raffle and children's competition. Thornton Rust Institute 10.30am to noon
- 25 Coffee morning and stalls. Hawes Methodist Rooms, 10.00 am to noon
- 25 YDNPA full Authority meeting, 10.30 am Yoredale, Bainbridge
- 25 Dry stone walling demonstration at the DCM, Hawes 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm
- 26 Discover and Do children's craft afternoon at the DCM, Hawes. Make bird masks and find out about the chicks about to hatch in the National Park. Over 8's only; £2 per head

- 26 Tea Dance at the Market House, Hawes  
2.00 pm to 5.00 pm tickets £3.50 at  
the door or in advance from the  
Community Office
- 27 Gayle Ladies devotional evening with  
Maggie Hunt ; Gayle Chapel. 7.30pm
- 28 WI High Dales Group Show at Hawes  
Market House. [See page 9.](#)
- 28 The Polish Play. Hawes School. [See  
page 7.](#)
- 29 "Bygone winters" talk; Thornton Rust ,  
7.30pm See page 10
- 30 British Summer Time begins
- 30 United service for Bainbridge and  
Askrigg at St Oswald's at 10.00am
- 30 Benefice Service (HC) at Thornton Rust  
Village Hall with Archdeacon Janet  
Henderson
- 30 Patchwork and Quilting demonstration  
at the DCM, Hawes, from 10.00 am  
to 4.00 pm. Watch Kate Trusson  
show you how using traditional North  
Country techniques or have a go.  
Patterns available to buy.
- 30 Table Top Sale at the Market House,  
Hawes; see page 23.

#### April

- 1 Hawes Drama Group reads "Blithe  
Spirit" at Gayle Institute at 7.30 pm

#### **Bursary student interview**

Mary decided to talk to Rev W. Simms

**F**ather Bill has wanted to be a vicar since he was 14 years of age, when he attended Church Army Mission. Unfortunately his ambition had to be postponed because his father became ill and he had to start work in Local Government when he left school at sixteen but he never stopped going to church and thinking about becoming a vicar. Eventually this happened and he was ordained in 1987. Since then he spent 6 years as a curate and has been the vicar at Hawes and Hardraw for 15 years.

Father Bill finds his work as a vicar very satisfying and enjoys organizing the Christian worship and giving support to those living in the community. His time is taken up with church services which take place

through the week as well as on Sundays and carries out special services for baptisms, marriages and burials. When taking services he wears different vestments according to the type of service. For example at a Holy Communion service he wears a white cassock alb with a stole in the ecclesiastical colours of the season. Father Bill also spends time visiting people in their homes or in hospital, if they are ill. Other work includes keeping up with the day to day business of his two parishes (Hawes and High Abbotside), answering correspondence, attending church and P.C.C. meetings and finding time for private prayers morning and evening.

As a vicar Father Bill has been taught many lessons about life and believes that no matter what peoples differences may be, we all share a common human nature where people want to love and be loved and to be free. Father Bill thinks that all religions teach us something about the nature of God and believes that God will reach out and meet all people who seek him. He thinks that leading a Christian life is difficult because we are all self-centred and look to our own wants first and so, just like others, he finds it a constant challenge. Father Bill thinks that religion is becoming more irrelevant in peoples lives even though Christian principles taught to children can be positive and underpin their future lives.

Sometimes Father Bill's job is hard because he always has to watch what he says and does and sometimes gets blamed for things which are not his responsibility, but this is common to people in public life, but he is still enthusiastic even though he says that sometimes he lives in a goldfish bowl!

**Mary McCullagh.**

*We apologise for missing off Mary's name from her article "Family Food" last month.*

## MARKET PLACE AND GREETINGS

Mrs Margaret Pratt of Sycamore Hall would like to say a big thank you for all the cards, presents and flowers received on her 90th birthday



(We apologise for the lateness of this acknowledgment)

**ANGUS AND MANDY WOULD LIKE TO  
THANK ALL OUR FRIENDS AND  
CUSTOMERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT  
OVER 20 YEARS  
AT THE FOUNTAIN  
....HERE'S TO THE NEXT 20**

**HAPPY 21ST BIRTHDAY  
LEANNE  
Gran and Grandad  
XXXX**

*Moore (Carperby)  
Anne, David, Alan and families would like to say a big thankyou for all cards and letters of condolence received following the death of Cec.; also the love and support shown to them during the last 3½ months, and for all who attended the funeral service. It was a great comfort.*

*The collection amounted to £1600 to be shared between the Air Ambulance Services, Aysgarth Methodist Chapel and St Andrew's Church Aysgarth.  
Thanks again.*

### HESELTINE

Sheila would like to thank everybody for cards, gifts and kind wishes sent after her recent fall

24.03.08  
WISHING YOU HEALTH, WEALTH AND HAPPINESS  
ON YOUR 21ST, LEANNE  
L.U.L.A.  
Mum, Dad, Annalea and Danny  
XXXXXXXX

**HAPPY 60th BIRTHDAY SUE  
LOTS OF LOVE  
LOUISE, STEVE  
AND GABI**



**FOR SALE**  
**Whirlpool Fridge Freezer**  
Good handy size for holiday cottage or small family. Buyer collects.  
£45 ono. 19 ½" wide, 48" tall, 22" deep.  
Freezer part 11X15". Creamy white;  
fridge light needs new bulb.  
**Call 650980**

## BAINBRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS

### **BAWB Day**

On the 7th February the children of Bainbridge, Askrigg and West Burton schools met up, as they regularly do, for a BAWB Day. The theme for the activities were food and drink which were explored in different, delicious ways! The infant children at Bainbridge squeezed, mashed and blended their way to make smoothies whilst wonderful curry aromas escaped from the Junior classroom. This is always a fun way of extending our links with our friends from the neighbouring schools.

### **Ash Wednesday Service**

With Easter so early this year, the Service took place before the half term break. It was held at the Methodist Chapel in Bainbridge, with the kind permission of Henry Dubois, and led by Revd. Ann Chapman. In the Service the children were able to explore the meaning of Ash Wednesday and Lent.

### **Building Work**

If you have been driving or walking past school in the past week you will have noticed that there is a lot of activity going on, not to mention numerous skips coming and going! Work has started to expand the Junior Classroom and provide a further cloakroom and toilets. This development will greatly enhance the teaching environment for the Juniors and is particularly welcome as the year groups coming up into the Juniors over the next few years are continuing to grow. I will give a progress report in the next Newsletter!

### **After School Clubs**

Now that we are back at school, French Club is continuing and others are starting. Netta Davidson has yet again kindly offered to run a Craft Club and, going on the previous colourful and creative results, I am looking forward to seeing what my daughter brings home!

From the 5th March the Key Stage 1 children, together with their friends at Askrigg School, will have the opportunity to participate in Multi Skills coaching sessions at the MUGA in Askrigg. This will be run by Ross Cooper, a coach based at Risedale School and will focus on developing the fundamental movement skills of agility, balance and co-ordination through activities and games.

### **PFA Family Quiz and Curry Night**

I mentioned this in the last Newsletter and a date has now been set for **Friday 7th March 2008 , 6.30pm at Sycamore's Restaurant**, adults £6.00 and children £3.00 (including food). If you're not a curry fan don't worry, as there is a more traditional menu available! If you would like to join us for what I'm sure will be a fun family evening, ticket details and the menus are available from Gill at The Village Shop in Bainbridge (tel. **650909**). I should stress that it is a ticket only event.

**Emma Arblaster, Parent Governor**

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## **The Picture House**

**Thursday to Saturday March 6th to 8th**  
**5.00pm and 8.00pm**

**SWEENEY TODD (18)** Running time: 117mins

The 18th century demon barber of Fleet Street starts to serve up pies with an unusual filling in this gothic nightmare. Directed by Tim Burton the movie is based on Stephen Sondheim's landmark 1979 Broadway musical and has a fantastic cast.

**Thursday to Saturday March 13th to 15th**  
**5.00pm and 8.00pm**

**ONCE (15)** Running time: 90mins

The inspirational tale of a busker and a nameless Czech girl, the two kindred spirits meet each other on the busy streets of Dublin. Starring Glen Hansard and Marketa Irglova Once makes a nod to the classic musicals of the past, but is grounded in the bohemian world of young Dublin musicians.

**Thursday to Saturday March 20th to 22nd**  
**5.00pm and 8.00pm**

**ST TRINIAN'S (12A)** Running time: 101mins

St Trinian's the famous fictional school for 'young ladies' is saved from bankruptcy by the wit and guile of a group of the girls. Expect to witness the 'good' behaviour that's required from a St. Trinian's girl. Stars Rupert Everett, Colin Firth, Russell Brand and Lena Headey.

**Thursday to Saturday March 27th to 29th**  
**5.00pm and 8.00pm**

**MR MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM (U)**  
Running time: 94mins

Mr Magorium (Dustin Hoffman), the 243 year-old owner of the most wonderful toy store in the world decides to retire and hand the reins over to nervous Molly (Natalie Portman). The toy store and characters are full of colour and bound to appeal to children and those parents who enjoy pure escapism.

**Thursday to Saturday April 3rd to 5th**  
**5.00pm and 8.00pm**

**HAIRSPRAY (PG)** Running time: 107mins

Tracy Turbald, played by newcomer Nikky Blonsky, is a pleasantly plump teenager, who teaches 1960's Baltimore a thing or two after landing a spot on a local hit TV dance show.

**Tel: 624488**

## Tournament of Song

We have, once again been well supported by people wishing to enter (even though Easter being very early has caused problems for some schools) and have two great adjudicators: Silvie Taylor for speech and Dr Andrew Padmore for music.

Speech Classes begin on Tuesday 4th March and run until Friday 7th March.

Music Classes begin on Wednesday 12th March to Friday 14th March.

***Our final evening of Music is this year to be held in The Wensleydale School, Leyburn in their school hall.***

We are very grateful to all our local businesses who once again have supported us by sponsoring classes and The Upper Wensleydale Newsletter and the Licensed Victuallers Association for granting us funds to help with the cost of transport for local schools.

Our programmes will be available from The Old Town Hall, Redmire, and Barkers Jewellers, Towlers Newsagents, Leyburn Pet Shop and Leyburn Tourist Information. If any-one 'up dale' would like a programme and can't get 'down dale' they can send me £2.00 and a large SAE and I will gladly post out.

**Julie Greenslade, Old Town Hall,  
Redmire. DL8 4ED; 625641**

### 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: **Sarah**

*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.*

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