

## Editorial

Someone could probably tell us why they sing 'Abide with me' at the cup final; we don't know, but there's one line "Change and decay in all around I see", and presumably the writer wasn't referring to his teeth! So then, 'Change and decay'; would you say that was true for our area? Visitors think it's the same here as it's always been and certainly change which does go on is relatively slow and often blends in well. The question is, whether changes intended to improve the quality of life and the environment really do so.

Take 'signs'; it is always good to display information – of events to come, business new or old, or public information – but let's face it, some are pretty scruffy and even worse, remain on notice boards or lamp posts ages after they should, just getting more and more tatty; and increasing numbers of signs block the footways. And how many do we really need? The manufacturers of warning signs must be having a field day! We've 'gone on' before about the plethora of 30- or 40mph signs or 'twisty road', but now our riverside meadows contain bright yellow signs warning you to mind you don't catch your fishing line on overhead wires. Haven't we had these wires, and the fishermen, for generations? Has it been a problem? Maybe we should press for the ultimate; as you enter the dale we need... **"Beware of SIGNS"**.

And in times when we are very much aware of the need to reduce our energy consumption, why do we insist on more and more lighting? Do we really need lights all through the night- on phone exchanges, business areas, Ribbleshead Station, houses and gardens? Do they really make life safer? Lights that come on when anyone passes by are fine. As for other situations, how about using a torch? Darkness is becoming a rare commodity.

'Change and decay'; the landscape is

certainly in flux. As our 1960s plantations are felled, some are replanted with a better variety of hardwood; that's good for wildlife and aesthetically pleasing; grants mean that gills can be planted with native species; that's good.. The schemes to regenerate the heather on the fells are making a 'right mess' on the tops; we'll have to hope that in due course the heather will grow and the trenching will be smoothed out. Fewer sheep on the tops means a big change; the undergrowth is deeper and far harder to trudge through! Not that that will trouble too many! Lower down, walls tumble and are sometimes replaced with unsightly bits of wires or fences; but many farmers are keen to wall the gaps; that's good.

Footpaths and stiles decay. There's a constant need to maintain these but there are areas where work is needed. Dare we make the comment that the authorities could employ more out-door, hands-on staff and fewer in their offices?

We could all help: "put up what's smart; plant what's appropriate; take down what's scruffy or over; pick up what's litter; build up what's broken and turn off what's wasteful!" Then less change; less decay!

## Who knows?

No proper response to last month's query (re*Tommy Road*) but see the Letter page. Now how about this: with all the current emphasis on growing our own vegetables again, a reader wants to know if, in the second world war, there were many— or any— allotments for Dales people; and where?

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### Eunice the Ewe

I was so well hidden by the river on the front cover no-one found me last month! Where am I this month?

### Trip on to Ripon!

On **Sunday June 29th**, there will be NO SERVICES at St Oswald's Church. We are inviting everyone to join us at Ripon Cathedral to celebrate the Ordination of our new Curate, Ian Robinson. A bus leaves Askrigg at 8.30 am, to Ripon for the service and back to Askrigg for a celebration buffet lunch in Church. Anyone wishing to book a seat on the bus and/or attend the lunch should contact the Parish Office (650800) as soon as possible.

**Next issue**  
**The July issue will be produced on June 25th and 26th and will be distributed between June 25th and 30th**  
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#### Drop-off points and contacts

for news, articles, reports, letters, what's on dates, competition entries, suggestions and comments:

<b>Hawes:</b>	Alan S. Watkinson, Old Station House.	667785
<b>Gayle:</b>	Lorna Ward, East House	667405
<b>Bainbridge:</b>	Hammond's Butchers	650631
<b>Askrigg:</b>	Rima Berry, 8 Mill Lane.	650980
<b>Carperby:</b>	Margaret Woodcock, Bella Cottage	663488
<b>West Burton:</b>	Nadine Bell, Margaret's Cottage	663559
<b>Newbiggin:</b>	Lynda Bayne, Meadow Barn	663324
<b>Aysgarth:</b>	Kitty's Tearoom	663423
<b>Redmire:</b>	Ann Holubecki	622967
<b>Thorlby:</b>	Elaine Miller, Post Office	663205

## Competition

Here are clues to some boys' names. Again the number of letters in the answers are given.

Here's a typical example:

Brownish tin. = **Duncan**

1. Personal assistant and a deception (7)
2. A barrage (4)
3. Book—, water—, or tide— (4)
4. Egg layer with unfinished grass (5)
5. Not out after a small market (5)
6. Praise in church (6)
7. Half a laugh and a competitive run (6)
8. Household animal precedes Queen (5)
9. Winner (6)
10. Latin queen with an old pound and penny (8)
11. Scottish hill preserve in here (8)
12. Bath— is a biscuit.

## Last month's answers

### Animals

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Stoat       | 2. Ferret     |
| 3. Weasel      | 4. Dormouse   |
| 5. Field mouse | 6. Brown rat  |
| 7. Otter       | 8. March hare |
| 9. Water vole  | 10. Badger    |
| 11. Polecat    | 12. Rabbit    |

The winner of the £10 prize was  
**Heather Caplin from Burtersett**

### High Fire Risk

Because of the long dry spell (at the time of writing, at least) together with the strong wind, there is a high fire risk on the fell tops.

We are all asked to take great care not to light any fires or discard any still-smouldering cigarette ends or glass bottles.

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#### **Direct line to God**

An American decided to write a book about famous churches around the world, so he bought a plane ticket and took a trip to Rome. On his first day he was inside a church taking photographs when he noticed a golden telephone mounted on the wall with a sign that read \$10,000 per call.

The American, being intrigued, asked a priest who was strolling by, what the telephone was used for. The priest replied that it was a direct line to Heaven and that for \$10,000 you could talk to God. The American thanked the priest and went along his way.

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His next stop was in Moscow. There, at a very large cathedral, he saw the same golden telephone with the same sign under it. He wondered if this was the same kind of telephone he saw in Rome and he asked a nun what its purpose was. She told him that it was a direct line to Heaven and that for \$10,000 he could talk to God. "OK. Thank you," said the American.

He then travelled to France, Israel, Germany and Brazil. In every church he saw the same golden telephone with a "\$10,000 per call" sign under it.

The American finally decided to travel to the UK to see if the British had the same telephone. He arrived in York and again, in the Minster, there was the same golden telephone, but this time the sign under it read "**20p per call**".

The American was surprised so he asked the priest about the sign. "Reverend, I've travelled all over the world and I've seen this same golden telephone in many churches. I'm told that it is a direct line to heaven, but everywhere I went the price was \$10,000 per call. Why is it so cheap here?"

The priest smiled and answered, "You're in Yorkshire now son. It's a local call."

#### **Plant sale success**

**Castle Bolton Church.** We made **£402** to be divided between Bolton cum Redmire PCC and Scripture Union Lifepath at Jervaulx in July. We still have some plants carried forward, and maybe we shall be able to sell some yet, when we have (a few) Open Gardens with teas in Castle Bolton on **Sunday June 8th, 2.00-5.00pm** (proceeds 50:50 PCC and Mission Aviation Fellowship).  
**Robert Hall**

### Gayle Mill

Most readers will know that Gayle Mill gained national recognition as a heritage site during the BBC's restoration programme. As a result of the efforts of local people, Gayle Mill Trust and their many supporters, the Mill opened to the public at Easter. There has been a very positive start to our first season. We are very grateful to our volunteers who enable us to provide informative guided tours, help at reception or by making wooden products to sell, which helps towards the running costs of our charity. Here's a comment from one of our volunteer receptionists.

#### Volunteering - A personal view

"When you retire how are you going to replace the rewards of a working life? Knowing how jobs at home can expand to fit the time, what a pleasure to commit a day each week to volunteering. My day as a receptionist at Gayle Mill involves accomplishing a useful job, contact with visitors, friendship from colleagues, all in a unique and special environment.

At the end of the day I go home in high spirits and enjoy, once again, the bus journey back down the Dale. I can recommend being a volunteer at Gayle Mill - so why don't you join us?"

If you are interested and would like to find out more you can call **Sue Stokes at Gayle Mill Tel: 667320 or email [admin@gaylemill.org.uk](mailto:admin@gaylemill.org.uk)**

### Wensleydale Chorus

Wensleydale Chorus will be holding an open rehearsal at the Market House, Hawes on **Saturday June 21st from 10.00am to 1.00pm**. The works to feature will be *Mendelssohn's Hymn of Praise* and *Puccini's Missa da Gloria*.

All are welcome to come along to listen to this rehearsal - or even to participate. Refreshments will be available.

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### Please sponsor us!

Tina Spence and Lindsey Lightowler (Bainbridge) will be running in the Great North Run on October 5th to raise money for the Prostate Cancer Charity.

If you would like to sponsor us you may do so either on line at :

(<http://www.justgiving.com/tinaspence>)

or by filling in one of the sponsor forms.

These are distributed around Hawes (Post Office, Spar and at J R Iveson TV and Audio Services). If you need any further information please telephone **650759**

Thank you.

**Tina Spence**

## **My continental experience in Ghent**

**O**ver Easter, my parents and I went to Ghent in the Flemish part of Belgium to visit my sister who is on an Erasmus scheme (a grant-aided exchange where students are able to spend time in other countries and experience different cultures), for four months.

Going there, I won a dispute over the type of luggage I was taking. My father thought I would do better taking a rucksack than the modern, wheeled suitcase I was using and I told him that I would look like an idiot walking around London with an orange monstrosity on my back. So that was that and my suitcase and I managed just fine, however it did annoy my father no end which was amusing!

To get to Belgium we travelled on the Eurostar train which reached 186 mph. This speed was not at all apparent until we came up beside a motorway and the train outstripped the cars on the fast lane with ease. I was slightly anxious about going under the sea in the channel tunnel but over-all the ride was really enjoyable.

When we got to Ghent we met my sister and we finished the journey by tram which was an exciting experience as I had never been on one before. The first thing I noticed was the hundreds of bikes, all around, chained to anything metal.

In the city centre, the Korenmarkt has the oldest and most interesting buildings which date back centuries and my sister's flat (at the top of a 1652, five storey Dutch style building), is located at the heart of this area. That was where I stayed while my parents spent four nights in the youth hostel. In the Korenmarkt, cars aren't allowed, so the main forms of transport are trams, walking and biking so it was nice to enjoy the city without the constant sound of cars.

On the first day we visited St Bravo's Cathedral which was stunning. There was a massive statue depicting the snake in the garden of Eden above one of the pulpits and there was gold, colour and art everywhere. The cathedral has 22 altars and it houses The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb which is a famous painting by brothers Jan and Hubert Van Eyck and is considered to be one of the artistic masterpieces of the world. We also visited the Belfry, a tall tower overlooking the city with the symbol of Ghent, a golden dragon, perched on top of its spire. In the old days its huge bell (located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor) warned the people of Ghent of enemy invasions and to this day commences Ghent's week of festivities in the summer.

We also visited The Castle of the Counts which was built by Philip of Alsace in 1180 and has been many things, including a factory, prison, court house and indeed a working castle. It now functions as a museum which displays weapons of torture used to treat law breakers, witches, sinners, criminals, the mentally ill and other supposed miscreants. Ghent has Belgium's oldest Psychiatric hospital, which was used in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; it is now a museum named after its founder, Dr Guislain. The Museum of Fine Arts was another inspirational place we visited.

Lastly, we could not go to Belgium and not try the beer. One pub we went into had 300 types in stock. The ones I tried were cherry (Kreik) and Banana which were like no other drink I had ever tasted; the flavour was intense and it left you with a warm comfortable feeling, wanting more! So, that was our Ghent experience. I have learnt so much about Belgium's culture and Ghent's history - I can't wait to return!

**Mary McCullagh, Bursary Student**



**Mystery picture. Which village are we in?  
Last month's was Keldheads Mill, Preston under Scar  
First to tell us: Anne Holubecki, Redmire**

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Abraham Lincoln became America's greatest Precedent. Lincoln's mother died in infancy, and he was born in a log cabin which he built with his own hands. When Lincoln was President, he wore only a tall silk hat. He said, "In onion there is strength". Abraham Lincoln write the Gettysburg address while traveling from Washington to Gettysburg n the back of an envelope. he also signed the Emasculation Proclamation, and the Fourteenth Admendment gave the ex-Negroes citizenship. But the Clue Clux Clan would torcher and lynch the ex-Negroes and other innocent victims. On the night of April 13, 1965, Lincoln went to the theater and got shot in his seat bye one of the actors in a moving picture show. The believed assinator was John Wilkes Booth, a supposedly insane actor. This ruined Booth's career.

Meanwhile in Europe, the enlightenment was a reasonable time. Voltare invented

electricity and also wrote a book called "Candy". Gravity was invented bye Issac Walton. Is is chiefly noticeable in the Autumn, when the apples are falling off the trees.

The First World War, caused by the assignation of the Arch-Duck by a surf, ushered in a new error in the anals of

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## Summer at Yorebridge Sports and Fitness

Summer is finally here and so is our schedule of activities and sessions for the next couple of months!

Our Car Boot on **June 1st** is booking up, so if you haven't already reserved your pitch, give us a ring and get rid of your clutter. If having a rummage is more your thing then join us between **10.00am and 2.00pm**, grab a bargain and relax in our new refreshment area with coffee and cake!

Our Annual BBQ is the next event lined up on **Saturday June 14th between 5.00 and 9.00pm**. New this year to amuse the kids, is a selection of giant outdoor games and a bouncy castle and for the adults a bar and Golden Oldies 5-a-side league on the MUGA should keep most of us happy!

Just a reminder for those of you who are gym members, you can always opt to use the MUGA as well as, or instead of using the gym, **for free!** For those of you who aren't gym members, it still only costs £6 per hour to book the court and play a sport of your choice. No equipment is needed, we have everything you need!

Finally, don't forget to put the date for Party on the Pitch in your diaries – **Saturday July 19th** – Buy your tickets online at [www.yorebridge-sport.co.uk](http://www.yorebridge-sport.co.uk), or ring **Lesley on 650060** with your enquiries.

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## Early Music Workshop

This takes place on **Sunday June 1st in West Burton Village Hall; 10.00am to 4.30pm**.

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**A taste of the Himalayas  
Near Grewelthorpe!**

It is always good to find, nearby, a new or different place to visit. (Many readers might know what comes next, but for the writer it was a surprise.) "Have you been to the Himalayan Garden near Masham", a friend asked. And as we hadn't, a quick 'Google' provided the details and a good map.

The setting, at the Hutts, about a mile out of Grewelthorpe, is in a deep valley on the site of an old estate and over the last ten years has been progressively planted with the most amazing array of rhododendrons and azaleas with other Himalayan species after it was suggested to the present owners that the site and the soil was perfect for it.

As the site was once very wooded, a floor covering of bluebells remains, out of which grow the exotic species at various stages of development. Many very new beds are just coming 'into their own'. The steep paths and steps are made easier being surfaced with non-slippery bark or wood chippings and at the peaceful lake in the valley bottom there are seats so you can have a rest.

You will also spot, here and there, some excellent metal sculptures. A leaflet, which unlike many such things, is actually easy to follow, will guide you round the yellow (short) or blue (longer) walk.

After that, you'll need refreshment and a 'tea-room', the size of a biggish wooden garage with a 'mind-your-head' doorway will meet your needs.

It really is worth a visit; but hurry up. The garden is only open until the middle of this month (June). Himalayan species obviously 'go off' after that!

*(If readers would like to mention local sites for half-day trips which they think might not be generally known, please write in.)*

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## Raydale Project

The recent open meeting was well attended and Stuart Lane explained what the likely effects of climate change might be in Raydale. He suggested that warmer winters with fewer frost days, but more rain was probable. Summers would be warmer, and drier summers more frequent, such that becks may well dry up as a regular occurrence.

David Higgins, Stuart's student, then explained his research into brown trout. Trout were being used as an indicator species for healthy streams. Of particular relevance was the effect of past moorland drainage or grips. David showed how he had mapped the grips and how it was possible to determine which ones were contributing most to rapid rain run off, and which ones would contribute most to re-wetting of the moorland if they were blocked. Re-wetting has three major benefits, it slows down the seepage of rain so that streams do not dry up so quickly, it preserves and encourages growth of peat which stores carbon, thus reducing greenhouse gas emissions (the causes of climate change) and creates pools where

insects can thrive and provide food for young birds like curlews, skylarks and grouse. Various methods of blocking grips were shown.

Professor Lane is a keen advocate of local people taking charge of events in their own locality. This is also very much the ethos of our funders, the Carnegie UK Trust. He explained that remote decision making was not necessarily the best - that one size did not necessarily fit all, and local people knew most about their area and how to manage it.

Work on the hydro-electricity micro-generation feasibility study should start soon. Consultants have been taken on by the National Park and will initially report on the Raydale area. The steering group are pleased to be partners in this major, park-wide project with particular emphasis on Raydale.

Funding for work on the track across Marsett Bottoms is nearly in place, we hope to find as many partners as possible for this very visible piece of work. David Higgins will be our licensed crayfish handler once the action starts in August.

**Deborah Millward, Project Leader**

## Celebration of Sankey

This event takes place in **Hawes Market Hall on Friday June 13th at 7.30pm** with Muker Silver Band and Gunnerside Choir. Tickets (including a buffet supper) £5 (children £2.50) from **Andrew Souter 667291**

## Bouncy Castle for Hire

Contact:

Gail: 663642

Tracey: 663651



## Upper Dales Family History Group

The speaker at the April meeting was Alex Eckford who treated the audience to a guided tour around the Anglican churches of Wensleydale. Alex first became interested in the churches of the area when he was a coach driver bringing visitors on tours of the dales and found himself answering on the wide variety of styles and designs. Starting at the top of the dale with Hardraw he followed the river Ure to the point where it flows into the Ouse, with a fascinating snippet of information on every church, in use or not, that he encountered on the way.

This month's meeting is on **Wednesday, June 25th, at 7.30pm** in the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes, when the speaker is Dr Colin Pooley of Lancaster University on 'Understanding Migration and Mobility in the Past', a look at how, where and why our ancestors were moving around the country and out of it. Dr Pooley and his colleagues collated information supplied by family historians to track thousands of individuals across several decades, building up a picture of the distances travelled and the effect of the movement on centres of population.

Everyone is welcome at the meeting which is free to members of the Cleveland Family History Society (that includes the Upper Dales members) and £1 for visitors.

For further details please see the group website at [www.upperdalesfhg.org.uk](http://www.upperdalesfhg.org.uk) or contact **John Harland (01748) 823263**.



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**Wensleydale Decorative and Fine Arts Society**

*Member Society of the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies*

**Samplers – a child’s view of embroidery**

Samplers were created in various embroidery stitches to demonstrate skill in needlework. You can discover their history, from 1600 to the present day, their styles, designs, fabrics and threads in a lecture by Jacqueline Hyman. Jacqueline has conserved all the examples described and illustrated in her lecture and each has a story to tell. She also gives advice on their care and display.

She gained her textile conservation experience with the Museums’ Service and is an accredited Conservator-Restorer. She has appeared on Channel 4, BBC 2 and the Discovery Channel.

Jacqueline invites people attending the

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talk to bring along any samplers of their own. This Wensleydale Decorative and Fine Arts Society talk takes place on **Tuesday June 10th at 8.00pm**, at Middleham Key Centre. Membership information and further details are



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### Major consultation on Transport and Traffic

The County Council is to stage a major public consultation exercise with residents in Hawes and the surrounding area, to seek opinions on improvements proposed to address transport issues that have been identified through Stakeholder Workshops and a Sample Survey of Residents.

**Hawes has been identified** as one of 28 Service Centres that serve their surrounding areas across the county and which will benefit from money made available through the Second Local Transport Plan. How the money is spent will depend to a large degree on the local priorities that have been identified and the wishes of local residents and stakeholders.

Funds have been specifically identified for the implementation of schemes in the Hawes area. Among the proposals being put forward are traffic calming measures, improvements to public transport infrastructure and additional facilities for cyclists and pedestrians.

The full public consultation process begins with the delivery of questionnaires to every postal address within the strategy



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area. Local residents and members of the business community will be able to visit an exhibition in the **Hawes Market House, from 3:00pm to 8:00pm on Thursday 10th July 2008, with a further session at the Dales Countryside Museum, from 11:00am to 6:00pm on Saturday 12th July 2008.** Staff will be on hand to explain what is being proposed and answer any questions which people may have.

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## June Feature

**H**ave a guess: how many people have been featured in the pages of the Newsletter since its inception in 1995? *Over 200!*

Among these have been some of that considerable number of artists around here who revel in the dales scenery and that special quality of light which we have at different times of the year.

And here is another! Moira Metcalfe, some of whose latest work is currently on view at the lovely new gallery, Herriots in Hawes, demonstrates that quality of light in a striking way. So I went to see her at the Artbar workshop and Gallery in Appersett.

Moira was born in Leeds and grew up at a small village, Monk Fryston, near Selby, where at the age of twelve she was bought a painting set... and that was it! "I'm going to be an artist", she decided, although now admits that she wasn't sure what that meant. After a foundation art year in York she studied Fine Art at North Staffs Polytechnic in Stoke for three years. ("I didn't like it there!")

And when her parents moved to

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Appersett, a good place for her father whose work involved travelling widely between London, Leeds and Scotland, she moved with them. That was 29 years ago. "I met Bryan and put my roots down", said Moira.

But she had no work, and for a few years with her mother they had a small knitting business at the Little Shop on the Hill in the middle of Hawes.

The arrival of her three children halted any serious art for a some time but then Moira got back into painting again— wild flowers painted on silk (although she specialised in sculpture at the Poly.). Making herself known at craft fairs led to a *T.V. Dales Diary* feature, a 'cheesy' affair, she now admits; a 'family package, farmer husband, artist mother and three kids'. "They got ribbed at school!", but at least this led to the setting up of the gallery in Appersett and the concentration on



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painting in oils which Moira really enjoys— mainly local landscapes except when on holiday; “I paint wherever I go”, she said... and some figurative work.

For the last five years she has had a bigger gallery, better to work in, and Moira paints most days. “I try to be disciplined and treat it like a job”, but the only deadlines are when she has commissions to work on. “The dales are a never-ending resource to paint and I’ve my favourite places like Dentdale, Swaledale and some very local scenes. If I paint sheep, Bryan is the greatest critic. They have to look ‘market-perfect’!”

Moira’s more recent work uses strong colours yet still captures the essence of the dales, and even with some of the more abstract work now on show she likes to introduce “a bit of reality”. Her work is displayed in galleries in Wooler in Northumberland, Ribchester in Lancashire, more locally in Reeth and Leyburn, Artbar in Appersett and for three weeks here at Herriots in Hawes. Call in and see!

A.S.W.



### Heavens Above

Look out for The Summer Triangle which dominates the southern night-sky for the next few months. It’s not a constellation as such

but a large *asterism* or star-pattern which you’ll find high in the south-east at the beginning of June. It owes its name to the renowned astronomer **Sir Patrick Moore** who introduced it on the BBC’s Sky At Night TV programme many moons ago.

The Triangle is a good deal bigger than most other asterisms so it’s quite easy to recognise. The sharp southern tip is marked by bright, white Altair, leader of the ancient constellation of Aquila the Eagle. Brilliant blue-white Vega in The Lyre forms its western point, Deneb at the tail-

end of Cygnus (The Swan) its eastern one. Although Deneb is much the faintest of the three, in reality it’s a supergiant star more than 160,000 times as luminous as the Sun. It only looks fainter because it’s much further away from us than the other two.

Cygnus itself, or the Northern Cross as it’s sometimes called, is one of the finest of all the constellations. It straddles the rich star-fields of the Summer Milky Way and is a superb sight in binoculars from a dark location.

Along with the Triangle there are lots of other asterisms dotted about the sky which are well placed for viewing during the summer months. There’s the Tea Pot in Sagittarius; The Kite outlining Bootes the Herdsman; The Lozenge marking the head of Draco the Dragon; Leo the Lion’s famous Sickle and the Keystone which forms the torso of Hercules the Strongman. Less well known ones are the House in Cepheus and the compact group of 5 stars called Job’s Coffin in the little constellation of The Dolphin.

A very well known asterism is the Great Square of Pegasus best seen in the autumn, but perhaps the most famous of all is The Plough or Big Dipper which is on view throughout the year. It forms part of the much bigger constellation of Ursa Major, the Great Bear and you’ll find it over in the north west during the summer months. Asterisms aren’t particularly important astronomically speaking but they can be fun to track down and identify. So if you’re out and about on a cloudless summer night why not have a go at spotting one yourself. Have clear skies!

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## Dalesplay Open Day

**Tuesday June 24th, 1.00-8.00pm**

All Welcome

Please call in for refreshments and a tour.

There will be an opportunity to meet Directors, Staff and look at how we operate Dalesplay. We are now taking bookings for the School Holidays.

Di Burton has returned from maternity leave on a part time basis. Sadly Pauline Hirst (Acting Manager) will be leaving us at the end of May; could we take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work and commitment whilst stepping in for Di.

Dalesplay held a Family Quiz Night at The Fountain Hotel; David Dore and his Mum won. Thanks to Angus and Mandy for kindly donating the prize. Thank you to all who helped in any way, raffles donations etc. Fun was had by all!

**Di Burton**

## Thorlby Village Hall

**Barbecue with optional walking  
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## West Burton Post Office

Anyone who uses West Burton Post Office and shop will have noticed a number of changes recently. Brian Whittington, who ran the shop for several years, has passed the lease on to Andrew Zielinski. Andrew has now become a sub postmaster and takes over the post office lease at the end of May. He has actually been working in the shop with Brian for two years, so he's had plenty of time to learn the ropes.

Andrew came to West Burton from Somersset with his parents about four years ago and in that time he has got to know many of the village residents. Now that he is in charge he has made a few changes, such as being open for long hours on Sundays. Most noticeably there is now a small but tastefully furnished tearoom adjacent to the shop, so if you are walking or passing through the village do call in for a cuppa and some very scrumptious looking cakes. Another welcome addition to the tearoom trail. **N.P.**

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**BAINBRIDGE SCHOOL NEWS**

On the fine sunny morning of Tuesday May 20th, 17 intrepid children from Class Two and 5 adults, set out on their travels from Chapel Le Dale to conquer the great mountain of Ingleborough. Laden with supplies of water, plenty of energy food and spare clothes the hardy adventurers put their best foot forward towards the beckoning slopes.

Good time was made to the start of the “steep bit” which was overcome with only a few rests and the odd water stop. The treacherous final flank with a chilly buffeting wind (well, pleasant cooling breeze really) was seen off in one push by the brave team. The summit plateau was all that lay between the pioneering explorers and success, a brief stop to examine ancient circles of stone only delayed them for a moment and the dizzy height of the very top itself was reached at last. This success was greeted with great joy; as at last everybody could have an eagerly awaited lunch!

Descent was by the rarely trodden rim route across the desolate expanse of Simons Fell before the final peak of Park Fell was breached and only the vertiginous

slope down to Colt Park remained. This was despatched with the same fearless regard as the rest of the climb and the bus was finally reached to whisk the heroic children and tired staff back to Bainbridge for celebrations and medals (well merits).

A big thank you to Alex Barbour at the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust for organising and leading the trip as part of our School Mountains project. Next stop – Everest!

**David Moore**



**Announcement**

**West Witton Methodist Chapel**

The above property is offered for sale for Community Use. Expressions of interest of a “viable nature” are invited. Please contact Circuit Steward:

**Mrs. P Beckett – 663417**

The Property is 19<sup>th</sup> century stone built with access directly on to the pavement. There is no parking area other than on the roadside. The Property comprises the following internal accommodation with approx sizes:

Chapel: approx.6.5m x 13.0m, ht 6.0m; School room:4.5m x 8.5m; Vestry: 2.5m x 4.5m; Kitchen: 2.0m x 2.5m; Toilet - small.

External to the property at the back there is a small yard area.



Some of the young kite makers aged 3-11 years in St Oswald's Church, at Askrigg enjoying an afternoon making kites with tutor David Jackson, at the end of the school holidays.

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Throughout the summer months there are also courses running at the Mill.

Watercolour painting - 21st-22nd June

Mixed media painting - 12th-13th July

Walking stick carving - 2nd-3rd August

Chain saw sculpture - 23rd-24th August.

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## HAWES SCHOOL NEWS

### Don't mess with these girls!

Issie, Mary and Jenny show us how it's done!

We have started a hugely popular Kung Fu after school club with approximately a third of the school attending.. Pupils are already training for their first martial arts awards and love every minute of it. Issie says ' I think it's fab'. Jenny thinks ' It's really good. You get to learn self-defence'.

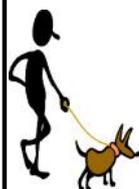


### Open Day

We would like to invite members of the community to our school on **Tuesday June 24<sup>th</sup>** from 1.30pm onwards. We will be holding an official opening of all the

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building work at the school, followed by a short concert by the children. Members of the community will then be able to look around the school for themselves. At 6.30pm in the evening parents and friends will be having a bring and share supper. Please do come along to either event, you would be very welcome.

As part of these celebrations we are hoping to have a display of photographs of former pupils of the school or photographs of the school itself. If you have any, please could you pop into school with them, and with your permission, copy them.

Many Thanks

### Girl's Football League

On May 7th, seven girls (Emma Shaw, Chloe Richardson, Bonny Dinsdale, Samantha Wilson, Maria Alderson, Katie Bown and Jasmine Iveson) went to take part in their first two football matches in the league against Leyburn and Masham. In the first match against Leyburn, the score was 3-1 to the *Hawes Highnesses* (That is the name of our football team). Chloe scored one and Emma scored two goals . Bonny was brilliant at her first try in goal, Samantha and Maria performed a superb job in defence. Jasmine and Katie played excellent roles as midfielders.

### Emma Shaw

Our second game was against Masham. The final score was 10-0 for Hawes. Emma scored 5 goals, Katie 1 and Chloe 4. EVERYONE in our team played really well. We all enjoyed our matches. On the 12<sup>th</sup> May the girls football team played 2 matches at Middleham, they were against Middleham and Spennithorne. The match against Middleham was 4-2 to them unfortunately! But in the 2<sup>nd</sup> match we drew 3-all with Spennithorne. Everyone played really well and we are well on the way to winning the league!

**Chloe Richardson and Emma**  
(continued over page)

**Class 3 Climb Twistleton Crag.**

'Gryffindor' had lovely weather to enjoy their first real rock climb at Twistleton Crag which is between Ribbleshead and Ingleton. Sophie did particularly well negotiating a climb around a stack and waved triumphantly when she reached the top. Those climbing on the left side had to jam their feet into a crack to get a firm foothold as Harry is doing in the picture. Lucky children!



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**ASKRIGG SCHOOL NEWS**

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May a helicopter landed next to School, it was taking visitors to Lodge Yard in Askrigg. The pilot very kindly let the children look in the helicopter.

"Inside the helicopter there wasn't a steering wheel but there was a joystick. The helicopter can fly at 200 miles an hour and it took only an hour and a bit to get from London to Askrigg. It had 6 seats. When it took off it was very windy and it blew dust in our eyes." **Thomas, Year 1**



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**Forest Schools**

Since September Class 2 and Class 3 have been involved in an exciting project called Forest Schools. This originated in Scandinavia and involves taking the curriculum outside and into the woods. James and Eleanor Scarr of Colby Hall have kindly given us permission to use Grange woods, or Bluebell Woods as it is more locally known, for our project. Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May was

Class 1's turn for outdoor learning.

"We did blindfolding – we had to walk along holding a rope. We did cooking we cooked sausages and nettle soup and at the end we picked up sticks and did marching because we were Woodland Friends. The best bit of the day was eating nettle soup."

**Kian, Year 1**

**Norwegian visitors**

### WEST BURTON SCHOOL NEWS

26 Norwegians came to the school with some parents. They stayed in Hawes Youth Hostel and spent 4 days with their pen friends doing a variety of exciting activities and visited: Castle Bolton, The Forbidden Corner, Wensleydale Cheese factory, York Minister and the Dig. The families also met with families at the local village hall and had great fun showing each other how to do Norwegian and English dances and games.

The Norwegians spent 6 months fundraising to pay for the trip and were delighted to meet their pen friends and see their primary school. In Norway the children attended a much bigger school with a swimming pool! We were very jealous. This will be a holiday that they do not forget. West Burton children thoroughly enjoyed their company and will continue to write to them.

### Annual Midsummer Bash

**Hawes Community Field**

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### Thanks

A big thank you to everyone who walked, baked and donated towards the Crocus Walk for Breakthrough Breast Cancer, raising a fantastic £350.85. The weather was kind and everybody enjoyed their day.

Thanks again **Sue Richardson, Gayle**

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## Annual Charity Bike Ride



NORTH RIDING DALES L.V.A.  
Wednesday June 11th

Start Leyburn 10.30am via Askrigg to  
finish in Hawes at 3.30pm

Firstly, this is not a race, but a gentle ride, over 20 gruelling miles, up the Dale, to raise money for local causes in and around Wensleydale and Swaledale. This year there are **250 cyclists**, each with their own official number showing that they are all sponsored. Black Sheep Brewery are again this year's sponsors of the ride and also have a good delegation of cyclists. All the members of the Dales L.V.A. have themselves and many of their customers also riding with them.

There are also other organisations including Bainbridge Ambulance Station, Leyburn and Hawes Surgeries. Dr. Hamer (retired), who rode for many years, videos the event and then shows all the day's events (good and bad) in the surgeries at Hawes and Aysgarth.

When the money is collected in (later this year) all the L.V.A. members themselves will then decide which organisations will benefit. During the last 21 years, the Dales L.V.A. have raised £183,214 through the

bike rides and last year alone, all the cyclists raised a staggering £17,500.

The Dales L.V.A. would like to apologise in advance for any delay and inconvenience that this may cause on the day.

Please help us to help others by sponsoring your licensees and friends and make it an enjoyable day for everyone.

**Angus McCarthy,**  
Bike Ride coordinator



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**Tel Carol on 667449.**

### Police Report

Summer is on its way, or so they tell me. This is the time of year that we get a lot of strangers passing through. There has already been a distraction type crime at a sale in the Market Hall and last summer we were plagued by “ringing the changes” distraction type offences. If you own a business be aware that they think we are a soft target out in the sticks. So if two or more enter your shop as a group and one tries to engage you in lengthy conversation or focuses your attention then this could be a sign that the others may be up to no good. Ringing the changes might be as simple as saying they gave you a larger denomination note than they did thus getting more change than they should, or it may be where they come in with a large quantity of money and ask for it to be changed into either other denominations or currencies then appearing to get confused to try to confuse you into giving them more back – this type of deception is normally accompanied by sleight of hand. So please BEWARE.

Some person was either cold – or thought it would be a “laugh” and set fire to toilet paper in the car park toilets at The Dales Museum. This could have resulted in substantial damage and it is a crime of arson. Any information as to the culprit would be greatly appreciated..

Metal thefts are still occurring on our patch so please keep reporting suspect vehicles and vehicles seen carrying scrap. We may not get back to you straight away but we will update you when we are able. We appreciate all reports, and background enquiries are always made. You may just be the link in the chain we need to solve a crime.

**Farmers please beware;** in the last month trailers and a quad bike have been stolen from the Leyburn Neighbourhood

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patch. One trailer went from the Auction Mart at Leyburn. Please look after your own and other farmers trailers at the Marts. If possible fit a hitch lock or padlock and chain it to your vehicle whilst parked. You tend to know who visits the marts so if there are strangers who look out of place – let us know immediately . It's easier to check them out whilst they are there than to look for a trailer after it has been stolen.

We have had a period of sustained crime reduction , which in no small part is thanks to your reporting events promptly, and to Neighbourhood Watch and Daleswatch for their efforts. However the current economic climate with rapidly rising prices on everything means that the benefits of committing crime are worth taking greater risks for, and history would suggest the criminal will become more active.

I know you read this type of comment every month and it may appear boring but **PLEASE BE VIGILANT** and keep reporting things to us promptly (**0845 60 60 247**) that appear to you to be suspicious – you may just prevent a crime taking place. (999 if a crime is taking place).

Thanks for your continued assistance.

PS. Please keep an eye out for notices in your local shops advertising the Police Advice Surgeries. I am visiting the smaller outlying communities in the large Police Van on advertised dates. Please come along and have a chat either at Hawes or in the van.

**Andy Foster PC826**

Safer Neighbourhood Police Officer Upper Wensleydale

**0845 60 60 247 ext 4382**

**Andrew Foster@**

**northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk**

### **Bainbridge and District Motor Club**

*Sponges, balls, cones and dock leaves!*

The meeting place for the 12 Village Rally was Swan Farm, Redmire, where our challenge was to throw a wet sponge and try to hit different sized balls, which were placed on the top of traffic cones. The smallest ball was given a score of 75 points, the middle-sized ball 50 points and the largest 25 points. The highest score by a contestant was 75 points with 1 straight hit on the smallest ball. A party of caravan holiday makers were very interested in the proceedings and asked for a copy of the instructions but declined to join the rally as they were not familiar with the area, but maybe next year!

We were given a list of 15 villages as anagrams and then had to decide which 12 to visit doing the shortest possible distance finishing at Jim's in Askrigg. Langthwaite, Constable Burton, Muker, Bellerby, Agglethorpe and Appersett were some of the names on the list. There was a list of

questions and the answers would be found in each village visited. A Dock leaf had to be collected and the largest would be used as a tie-breaker. (A Butterbur leaf is not a Dock leaf even if it looks to be of the same family! Good try however.)

10 cars set off and all arrived back safely with most doing between 48 and 55 miles. An enjoyable outing and thanks to Fred Scarr and Andrew Foster for organising it. The winners of last month's rally were Harry and Angela – Well Done.

Well Done also to new-comers John Morgan and Tom Lawson who came 2<sup>nd</sup> and Matt and Neil who came 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Next months rally is on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June** and will be organised by Dave Teasdale and Tom Fawcett, telephone **650545 or 650597** for details. All Welcome.  
**Netta Davison**



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### **Ruswarp**

#### **The Paw-Print That Helped to Save a Railway Line**

In the 1980s Britain's most scenic railway line, the Settle to Carlisle, was under threat of almost certain closure. There were just two trains a day and no freight at all. Today, the line is busier than ever, open 24 hours a day and about to have its capacity doubled to cope with demand...an amazing turn-around.

Among the people who formed the group that was to save it from closure was **Graham Nuttall** a very modest Lancashire man. He became the first Secretary of the Friends of the Settle – Carlisle Line (FoSCL) – still going strong and now the largest rail user group in the UK. Graham Nuttall's tragic story cast a shadow over FoSCL's early days, but inspiration too.

He and his faithful Border Collie dog Ruswarp (pronounced 'Russup') were inseparable. **Ruswarp's paw print had the distinction of being the only canine signature of objection to the line's closure.** He was deemed to be a 'fare paying passenger', about to suffer 'hardship'. He was soon to suffer hardship indeed. Graham Nuttall lived just long enough to see the line's reprieve in 1989 for on 20th January 1990 he went missing.

He and Ruswarp bought day return tickets from Burnley to Llandrindod Wells to go walking but Graham never returned.

Neighbours raised the alarm. Searches by police and mountain rescue teams in the Elan Valley and Rhayader found nothing. The case aroused national interest for a time.

Then on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1990, lone walker David Clarke found Graham's body, by a mountain stream. Nearby was Ruswarp, so weak that the 14 year old dog had to be carried off the mountain. He had stayed with his master's body for **eleven winter weeks.**

Ruswarp was cared for by a local vet – fees paid by the RSPCA, who quickly decided to award Ruswarp their Animal Medallion and collar for 'vigilance' and their Animal Plaque for 'intelligence and courage'. The Coroner recorded an open verdict on. Ruswarp lived just long enough to attend Graham's funeral, having been lovingly cared for by Graham's aunt and uncle, The RSPCA had been inundated with offers to re-home Ruswarp.

Through Ruswarp, the plight of the Settle to Carlisle railway leapt back into the public mind – for though reprieved, the line needed massive investment if it was to recover from years of neglect. A plaque was put up at Burnley railway station and a platform bench was dedicated at Garsdale station— Graham's favourite place.

This station is about to be restored to its former glory and this coincided with a letter appearing in the local press suggesting that FoSCL should consider a more permanent memorial to Ruswarp there.

So a life size bronze statue of Ruswarp has been commissioned under the watchfuleye of the signaller. Graham would have been delighted that the signal box is now operational 24 hours a day, so

busy is the line he fought to save. We have a number of photographs of Ruswarp as well as colour film of him crossing the line at Settle in a documentary about the then doomed S&C, narrated by Alan Bennett no less. Network Rail have given approval for the statue to be placed in a prominent location.

We have decided to launch an appeal for the work – the sculpture will cost around £8,000 but we believe that it will come to symbolise the struggle to save the – and the incredible devotion of ‘man’s best friend’.

If you would like to contribute to the Ruswarp memorial fund, send cheques, payable to **The Ruswarp Memorial Fund, to FoSCL’s project officer Josie Perriman, at Foresters Cottage, 2 Howson’s Yard, Settle BD24 2EG.** Should the fund be over subscribed, extra monies will go towards the Garsdale restoration scheme. You can contribute online by going to the Friends’ web shop at [www.settle-carlisle.com/webshop](http://www.settle-carlisle.com/webshop), and then clicking on Ruswarp Appeal.

*The picture shows Graham Nuttall and Ruswarp with the ‘paw print that helped save the Settle-Carlisle railway line’* Picture ©



*Sunday Mirror*

### **Richmondshire Orchestra Concert**

The Richmondshire Orchestra is giving a concert in St. Oswald’s Church, Askrigg on **Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 3.00pm** conducted by Hugh Bowman who lives in Askrigg. The programme is entitled *The Music of Youth*, because almost all of the music was written by teenage composers, and both of the soloists are in their teens too. Andrew (17) and Christopher Turner (19) are from Northallerton and play in the National Youth Orchestra.

Andrew will play Richard Strauss’s 1<sup>st</sup> Horn Concerto (written when he was 18), and Christopher will play Weber’s Clarinet Concertino (written when he was 25, still young!). Other items are the Overture to *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* by the 16 year old Mendelssohn, another piece (Serenade for Wind Instruments) by the 18 year old Richard Strauss, and Schubert’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Symphony, written when he was 18 too.

Tickets are £7 (£5 Senior Citizens), accompanied children free, on the door, or from **01325 720662**. Christopher was, and Andrew still is, a student at the renowned Chetham’s School of Music in Manchester and both have already performed widely at

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Wb - week beginning										
Wb	June 22		9		16		23			
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Mon	WF	F	W	W	JA	J	FA	A		
Tues	A	A	FA	A	WF	WF	WJ	WJ		
Wed	W	W	WJ	W	J	J	FA	A		
Thur	A	A	A	A	F	F	WJ	W		
Fri	F	F	W	W	J	J	A	A		

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Wb - week beginning										
Wb	June 22		9		16		23			
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.
Mon	JA	JA	FA	FA	WF	WF	WJ	WJ		
Tues	WF	WF	W	W	JA	JA	FA	A		
Wed	F	F	F	F	W	W	J	J		
Thur	W	W	J	J	A	A	F	F		
Fri	A	A	FA	FA	WF	WF	WJ	WJ		

Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed  
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### Watch out, the Pied Piper is about...

HAOS are delighted to announce plans for their forthcoming pantomime (December 8<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>). Kevan Fawkes, a local writer, revives his script especially for the occasion taking us back to the fateful day the Pied Piper took away all the children of the town!

#### Will Hawes ever be the same again?

We are keen for anyone interested in taking part to get in touch. You do not need to have experience and there are loads of ways you can be involved both on and off stage from singing, dancing, acting, stage crew, costumes etc.

For more information on how to join our fun and friendly group or to register your interest please contact **Jennifer Fawcett**

**667241 or email [info@hawesoperatic.co.uk](mailto:info@hawesoperatic.co.uk)**

Main rehearsals start in September and will require a regular weekly commitment. Juniors, please keep an eye out in school newsletters and UWNL for details of the first junior rehearsal.



There will be two script readings for adults (12yrs and over welcome) on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July at 7.30pm** at the Wensleydale Centre, Askrigg (you can attend one or both).

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## Letter

The latest edition of the newsletter landed just now. Despite knowing the answer, I can't for the life of me remember what I was told locally when asking why the **Tommy Road** is called that! (*May's "Who knows" article*). Will try and recall who told me and find out, again.

I wondered whether you could include the following about **Freecycle? Eco-Friendly Give and Get!**

These days it can prove very difficult to get rid of items from house and garden that are still functional but of no use to you. Taking them to the tip invariably means they end up in landfill rather than being recycled or reused. However, often these items are bound to be of use to someone else locally, and for this reason a great organisation exists called "Freecycle".

The idea is to reuse and recycle as much as possible, locally, so that there is considerably less non-rubbish sent to landfill, and the local element means that it is environmentally friendly in fuel usage etc.

Basically, you list any items you want or wish to offer on your local Freecycle group, and then people email you asking for those items or offering you what you are looking for. All for free, no money ever changes hands. The feelgood factor is finding a good home for something and knowing that it is not wasting landfill space unnecessarily.

Here in Eden (Kirkby Stephen area) we have an exceptionally busy group and recently our household has been given a piano, a rowan tree, 13 demijohns, a sewing machine, a tailor's dummy, a ham press, damson jam, offered a crop of apples in the autumn, as well as having cleared out some of our belongings we no longer needed or used.

**Wensleydale and Swaledale** appear to be missing this vital resource entirely, and yet how many times do we hear people saying they have just thrown out something we needed? What is required is someone willing to offer some time to run the local group, make sure that people post items correctly e.g. Wanted, Offered, Taken, Received, and where the item is located. That is it! There are full details of starting a local group on [www.FreeCycle.org.uk](http://www.FreeCycle.org.uk) and I hope Wensleydale will soon have one. It's a long way to Leyburn tip for some and in our throw-away society, Freecycle is a gem beyond compare.

**L. Annison, Warcop**

## The Wensleydale Explorer bus

Thanks to a new partnership headed by the Yorkshire Dales Society, Wensleydale will enjoy a new, fully integrated Sunday and Bank Holiday bus network this summer.

Starting at Leyburn at 0910, and calling at Aysgarth at 0917, and Bainbridge at 0932, the Wensleydale Explorer 807 bus will travel to Hawes before leaving the Dales Countryside Museum at 0945 for Ribbleshead Station in time to catch the northbound Settle-Carlisle train for a day in Appleby or Carlisle, meeting the 1802 return train in the early evening.

But there's more. The bus will return from the station with rail passengers from Settle and West Yorkshire for Hawes, continuing from Hawes at 1100 for Bainbridge (1110) and Aysgarth (1120) before carrying on up Bishopdale and over the Stake Pass to Buckden, from where there is a direct connection on the 874 bus to Kettlewell and Grassington, the bus returning with visitors from Wharfedale for Aysgarth and Hawes.

In the afternoon, the bus will provide a useful shuttle from Hawes at 1245 to Gayle Mill before leaving Hawes at 1300 for Aysgarth Falls. Connections are then

provided with late afternoon trains and buses returning from the Settle and Carlisle line or Upper Wharfedale for Hawes, Bainbridge and Leyburn.

For anyone over 60 with an All-England concession pass, the bus service is absolutely free of charge, whilst bargain Day Return tickets are very competitive with ever increasing petrol prices.

The new service will be a boon for local people and visitors alike, giving a huge choice of days out in the Dales for people without cars, and for keen walkers enabling some superb linear cross-Dale walks to be planned, to or from a parked vehicle. The new network will also help to reduce congestion and pollution, and is the result of an initiative by the new not-for-profit **Dales and Bowland Community Interest Company**, working with local communities and tourist bodies to provide new travel opportunities for the Dales. Recently established by the Yorkshire Dales Society and the Yorkshire Dales

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Public Transport Users Group, the D&B CIC has received support from North Yorkshire County Council and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority for the new service, but help has also come from both voluntary bodies and from a generous grant from the Friends of Settle-Carlisle line who see the new bus link as an important way of boosting travel on Sunday rail services.

*Between July 27th and September 28th, connections with the new Ingleborough Pony service at Ribbleshead will also create a direct Sunday bus link between Leyburn, Hawes and Ingleton, on the 0945 departure from Hawes, giving a full day out in Ingleton with ample time to visit the famous Waterfalls and White Scar Caves, returning on the 1725 return bus from Ingleton onto the 1805 bus for Hawes and Leyburn.*

The service will operate until late October, but as funding is only on a temporary basis, the future of the service will depend totally on its popularity with Wensleydale people and their visitors.

Full details of the Wensleydale Explorer service are available in leaflets at National Park and other visitor centres, in timetables distributed locally, or on the Dalesbus web site – [www.dalesbus.org](http://www.dalesbus.org)

## **Past, Present and the Future at Outhwaite's Ropemakers**

**I**'ll bet most people think you just make rope", I said to Peter Annison the other day. "It's worse", he said. "Some think we are just a visitor attraction with a museum of rope!"

Well although it is very much a rope-making business and will continue as such, things have changed amazingly in thirty-odd years thanks to flexible and supportive staff throughout. "When Ruth and I took over it was mainly cow-ties and halters plus a fair bit of bacon twine; our first order was for 18 gross cow ties" he said. Gradually hay nets were produced and other outlets found.

About 15 years ago with the means of attaching loops and fastenings to braiding rope, the Ropemakers began their hugely successful dog-lead production which led to tailor-made leads with badges included, for several of the major Premier League Football clubs. The move from predominantly agricultural work to **pets** was under way.

About the same time, as visitor numbers grew, requests came in. "Could you make us a stair/bannister rope". That was an

equal success and led on to the production of barrier ropes. But a significant hitch was beginning to show itself. All these products require attachments and fittings, the UK prices of which were rising rapidly and so about 10 years ago much cheaper fittings from India were imported and the clips for the dog leads were sourced from Taiwan.

Peter stressed that the Global Market is having huge consequences 'across the board' for manufacturing, with enormous competition from the Far East, but there is still room to expand the specialist 'bespoke' products and also to supply things quickly. (It can take 20 weeks for products to come from China.) It's getting the balance right!

To return to the Pet Market there was demand for dog *coats* as well as dog *leads* and they take up a lot more space. So do you build more storage, buy the raw materials, install more specialist equipment and re-train staff to make them— or do you import directly? Yes! And this further change has taken place at the Ropemakers. "It's a substantial market", said Peter, "Containers full of them;30/40,000 imagine trying to store and despatch them from here!"

At the same time Lyon Equipment Ltd in Dent (a company involved in all aspects of the 'outdoor' market) had no room either. Imagine trying to do this sort of distribution from Dent! They have rented space at Tebay and the Ropemakers have gone in with them.

So where does this leave them? In a different but exciting phase of development. The Ropemakers design and develop the product, improve the dog coat properties, find the manufacturers using the Web which is a 'tremendous tool for outsourcing', accept the goods and arrange for despatching throughout the UK and deal with sales and marketing, exchange rates and delivery times.

"There is also an exponential growth in Internet sales", says Peter and the

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Ropemakers "BannisterRopes.com" is one example and now accounts for half the sales of this product. They are about to launch a Pet Product website under the direction of Marketing Manager, Andy Monk. (*Andy has just attended 'Interzoo', the international trade fair for Pet Supplies in Nurnberg, Germany*)

All this means changes for the workforce and opportunities for new employment as the company grows with people with enthusiasm, skills and motivation, and it's work that fits in well in a National Park with little impact on the environment. But all this IT needs better communication. "We must be the slowest and worst in Europe; we're behind them all - even Estonia!", said Peter. **A.S.W.**

#### **News and information from the Pharmacist**

**I**t's now 6 years since I started working in the Dales, so it shouldn't be too much longer before I can apply for citizenship. It will be my 7th LVA Bike ride this year, so feel free to come in and sponsor me. If you can't get in, please make sure you do sponsor somebody as all the money goes into the same pot to be divided up amongst local charities. Now, what else was there.....oh yes.....a couple of bits of "Chemist News".

It still surprises me that on some Wednesdays somebody appears in the shop at 1.00pm, out of breath, exclaiming that they are so glad they have caught us as we are about to close for half day. **We are open all day Wednesday from 9.00am until 5.30pm all year round, and have been for the past 4 years.** Another service we still continue to offer is photographs for passports (including babies), gun and driving licences, bus passes, and other forms of I.D. It's a while -u-wait service taking 5-10 minutes.

We are now into holiday time so don't forget to pop in and stock up on all those holiday essentials. Upset stomachs,

allergies, bites and stings, sunburn and the like can take the enjoyment out of your well earned break. For those of you who are travelling further afield, we give up-to-date advice on vaccinations and antimalarials that are required for certain countries. This advice is face to face, and we will give you a written list of which vaccinations and antimalarials are recommended. Please enquire at least 8 weeks before travelling.

As a pharmacist I see myself as a giver of medical advice (free) as well as a supplier of pills and potions (not free). An excellent source of information I regularly use is the Health Encyclopaedia section on the NHS Direct website. Go to [www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk) and select "Health Encyclopaedia" from the menu on the left-hand side. You can look up conditions using the A-Z index (e.g. D for Dandruff), or look up a condition from the relevant body part (e.g. Feet, for blisters). The information is straightforward, easy to understand and unbiased. Each section usually has links to self help groups, or other websites specialising in that particular medical condition

One final piece of news - we are now a pick up point for the free testing kits for the Chlamydia Screening Programme. Its a service aimed at the teenage/young adult population, but anyone can pick up a free postal testing kit. For more information about Chlamydia, the test and the treatment ring 01642 266210, or log on to [www.havegotit.org](http://www.havegotit.org)

**Angus, The Pharmacist, 667213**

	Sports injuries? Repetitive strain injuries? Stress/tension headaches? Sciatica? Osteoarthritis? Remedial Massage may help you.
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**Want a day out?**

**Thursday June 12th**

Jervaulx for coffee; Eden Camp museum of 1939-45, with places to sit, and a café; High tea near Pickering.

Coach leaves Hawes at 9.00am picking up at the playpark, the Market Hall, Gayle and down the dale. Cost: coach £8/10 dependent upon numbers; Eden Camp £4 (concession £3)

High Tea £5.50

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From May 16th until June 6th

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667536

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

**SF** = Swaledale Festival event in our area

**May**

- 30 Quiz Night at the Fountain, Hawes in aid of the Gala.
- 30 Sacconi Quartet; St Andrew's Aysgarth 8.00pm **SF**
- 31 Afternoon Gospel Choir workshop at St Andrew's Church, Aysgarth. 1.30pm
- 31 Evening concert at 7.00pm with Gospel Singers and visitors from Great Ouseburn. Open to all. £3.00

**June**

- 1 Early Music Workshop. West Burton. See pg 10.
- 1 Yorebridge Sports and Fitness Car Boot Sale. See pg 10.
- 1 Medieval Music and Dance. St Oswald's, Askrigg at 5.00pm **SF**
- 2 Guided Walk. Meet Castle Bolton Church at 11.30am **SF**
- 2 "From Blues to Broadway". Castle Bolton Church at 5.00pm **SF**
- 3 Illuminati Woodwind Quartet. St Oswald's, Askrigg at 8.00pm **SF**
- 6 Askrigg-Worton guided walk. Meet Askrigg Church 1.00pm. 10k
- 6 Three Classic String Quartets. St Oswald's, Askrigg. 8.00pm **SF**
- 8 Cream teas and open gardens. Castle Bolton. 2.00 to 5.00pm. See pg 5.
- 8 Aysgarth Methodist Songs of Praise at 6.30pm
- 8 Concert; Richmondshire Orchestra. St Oswald's Askrigg. 3.00pm See pg 28
- 10 YDNPA Planning Committee. Yoredale, Bainbridge at 10.30am
- 10 Wensleydale Decorative and Fine Arts Society. See pg 14.
- 11 LVA Annual Charity Bike Ride. Leaves Leyburn at 10.30am .See pg 24
- 12 Wensleydale Country Market, Leyburn Methodist Hall 10.00am to 12.30pm
- 13 Celebration of Sankey. Hawes Market Hall at 7.30pm. See pg 12.
- 14 Yorebridge Sports and Fitness annual BBQ. See pg 10.
- 15 Redmire Force guided walk. Meet West Burton green 11.00am. 15k
- 15 Cream Teas on the Wensleydale Railway. Prebook on **08454 50 54 54**

- 19 Wensleydale Country Market, Leyburn Methodist Hall 10.00am to 12.30pm
- 22 Table Top Sale at the Market House, Hawes in aid of School funds.
- 22 West Burton Circular guided walk. Meet Aysgarth Falls N.Pk. centre 11.00am. 10k
- 22 Marsett Chapel Anniversary service 2.00pm
- 21 Wensleydale Chorus Open Rehearsal. Market House, Hawes. See pg 6
- 21 Junior Karaoke Disco; Fountain Hotel Hawes. 7.00 to 9.00pm
- 21 Evening Hog Roast on the Wensleydale Railway. Prebook **08454 50 54 54**
- 21 Thoraby Barbecue and Treasure Hunt See pg 18
- 22 Alverton Singers concert and Lauren Walker. St Andrews, Aysgarth 2.30pm
- 24 Coffee Morning and Stalls. Hawes Methodist Rooms. 10.00am to noon
- 25 Upper Dales Family History Group. See pg 13.
- 25 Tea Dance. Hawes Market Hall. 2.15pm to 4.45pm
- 26 Wensleydale Country Market, Leyburn Methodist Hall 10.00am to 12.30pm
- 26 Wildlife in Snaizeholme guided walk. Meet Mirk Pot 2.00pm. Booking essential. **666210**
- 27 Special Wensleydale Railway excursion. Prebook on **08454 50 54 54**
- 27 Gala Disco. Hawes Market Hall.
- 28 Hawes Gala. See pg 34
- 28 Table top sale; Carperby Village Hall 10.00am to 2.00pm
- 29 No service at St Oswald's, Askrigg. See pg 3.

**July**

- 4 Wensleydale Railway anniversary
- 5 Martin Roscoe Recital at St Andrew's Church, Aysgarth. 7.30pm. To book ring **663368** or **663097**. See pg 8.
- 5 Midsummer Bash, see pg 23.
- 5 Askrigg PCC Annual Coffee morning
- 6 Carperby Open Gardens. See pg 40.
- 26 St Margaret's Church Hawes Summer Fair.

**What's On at the Dales Countryside  
Museum, Hawes in June**

- Until to 22 June "The Found Past" an exhibition by Laurence Cutting with a workshop (£10) by the artist on 31 May. Details from artist on **623243**
- 1 Rag Rug Making. Demonstration, display and "have a go". 10.00am to 4.00pm
- 3 Spinning a Yarn. Demonstration of spinning and woolcrafts from 2.00pm to 4.00pm
- 13 The Victorian Kitchen—Cheese and Butter making by Museum Friends in costume. 11.00am to 4.00pm
- 15 Introduction to Digital Photography and the use of computers. 10.30am to 4.00pm. Booking essential
- 21 House History at Hawes. Lectures and case studies. Museum in partnership with the NYCC County Record Office. 1.00 to 4.30pm (£8)
- 28 Traditional Dry Stone Walling Demonstration. 2.00 to 4.00pm
- 28–17 July. Perspectives of Gayle Mill. An exhibition in words and images by Carol Tyler

Further details from the DCM at **666210** email [hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk](mailto:hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk)

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**Railway Anniversary**

To mark the Wensleydale Railway's 5th Anniversary on **Friday, July 4th** special £5 Day Return fare will apply to ALL journeys on the Railway on **Friday, Saturday and Sunday July 4th, 5th and 6th** (excluding the pre-booked Anniversary Excursion on Friday July 4th).

**Wensleydale School of  
Performing Arts (WeSPA)**

This is a new venture aiming to provide affordable and high calibre teaching for children between the ages of 4 and 16 in the Theatre Arts. These sessions will run primarily on Saturday mornings in Leyburn or Askrigg and we are looking for a number of experienced teachers to run classes in Dance, Drama and Singing. These posts will be term time only (including half terms) working a minimum of 2 hours per week with the possibility of more hours in the near future. We require both long term and relief tutors at a rate of £20 per hour. The positions are to begin in September however we have received funding to run 2 "one off" workshops during the schools' summer break.

If you feel you have what it takes to inspire the youth of Wensleydale and nurture their artistic flair, then please send your Curriculum Vitae along with a covering letter detailing which position(s) you are interested in to:

**Deborah Allenby, Yorecroft, Carperby,  
Leyburn, DL8 4DA**

Please call Deborah on **663533** if you would like further information. All job offers will be subject to CRB clearance. Closing Date: **Wednesday, June 11th.**

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## Summer gardening

Rather than use pure bought compost in baskets and tubs in summer, I prefer to mix it half and half with plain topsoil. I find that this medium retains water better and prolongs plantlife through into October. Also if you take that weekend break in Bruges that you've been promising yourself all year, the 2 or 3 days of resulting neglect will turn compost in containers into water repellent cork. Marvel as any liquid refuses to penetrate into roots and instead runs along the surface and down the sides; I've mentioned before that the only solution then is total immersion for half an hour in a bucket or barrel (container, not you). If you insist on swanning off throughout summer, the addition of soil, I find, will give the plants a better chance.

Baskets and hay racks I think look heaps better made with fleece or moss. Arrange tightly against the mesh of your basket then set a plastic circle at the base to hold in moisture. Next pack in the soil/compost medium, planting pink, white and blue lobelia as you work up to the top. I like to ice this particular cake with trailing geraniums, fuchsias and as many pansies as can humanly be packed in. Don't stint, as there's nothing more miserable than an 'economical' basket.

I was going to title this piece 'Don't Purge the Spurge', but the baskets got in first, and besides, it was a bit feeble so I've hidden it down here. I want to enthuse about the fantastic and varied euphorbia which are lighting up gardens in Wensleydale at the moment. There's one in an Askrigg front garden which seems luminous- it's the euphorbia polychroma, which has bright yellow leaf tips AND stamina; the display lasts months and the whole plant seems to laugh at drought. Be adventurous and try

the massive mellifera, the honey spurge, at 4 ft tall and smelling of melted Cadbury's dairymilk, an absolute must. I was told by the kind lady in the Pateley Bridge garden centre that it might struggle up in the Dales, but after 5 years, it's bigger than Peter Crouch. Keep away from the invasive robbiae and the purple ones which look great at first, but rapidly succumb to mildew. Also that sap can burn.

Lastly, if you've a spare tenner in your pocket and you accidentally on purpose chance upon a garden centre, go and buy an Exochorda 'The Bride'. Plant in well drained soil in full sun and then sit back. OK so the display is over now, but next May the mass of white flowers cascading over delicate leaves will definitely warm the cockles of your heart, whatever they may be.

**Ed Gardener**

*We are very grateful to Ed Gardener and others who provide gardening articles. Any reader who would like to submit a piece, please contact the Newsletter at Old Station House, Hawes. Ed.*

## WHITE HART INN, HAWES



For details  
please call  
667259

**JACK AND JUDY FAWCETT**

**Best wishes  
and lots of love  
on your Golden Wedding.**

**June 5th  
From all the family**



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Fax: 666099

### Car park tickets

National Park weekly car park permits can now be used on visits to other areas of Richmondshire. The District Council and the National Park Authority have launched the scheme to allow the £10 tickets to go further. This scheme runs until March 31st next year after which it could be expanded to other areas.

### Photographic competition

*We are pleased to announce a Summer Newsletter Photographic Competition.*

There are two groups: under 14s and over, that's all. There will be a prize, expert judging and some of the best entries will be shown in the Newsletter. Preference will be given to pictures described as "*Nature: close-ups*". Deadline: August 31st; by post or email to the Newsletter address.

### Scarecrow Festival

Thornton Rust had plenty of additional residents last weekend, thankfully well-anchored down against the easterly gale, and visitors were invited to work out the subjects of the 25 very good scarecrow tableaux. Excellent refreshments were served in the village hall. The proceeds go towards the renovation of the hall.

### Carperby Gardens

...will be open to the public on  
**Sunday July 6th from 11.00am to 5.00pm**  
Admission £3.00  
in aid of Village Hall funds.  
Plant stall and off-road parking

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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 Dinsdale, 23, Little Ings, Gayle. 667006**

For elsewhere: **Sue Duffield, Fellside, Thornton Rust: 663504**

*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.*

#### Published by

The Upper Wensleydale Newsletter  
Old Station House,  
Hawes, DL8 3NL  
**Tel: 667785 Fax: 663559**  
**e-mail: alan.watkinson@virgin.net**

**Newsletters on the Web, 2003-07 simply enter "Upper Wensleydale Newsletter" in, say, Google.**

Printed by Peter C. Wood and ASW and collated, folded, stapled by newsletter volunteers at the Wensleydale Centre, Yorebridge, Askrigg

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