

THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER

Issue 273

March 2021

Donation please:
50p suggested



Covering Upper Wensleydale from Wensley to Garsdale Head plus Walden
and Bishopdale,
Swaledale from Keld to Gunnerside plus Cowgill in Upper Dentdale.

Guest Editorial

The last half hour of each day in Class 1 at Hawes School used to be the best part of the day. It was when Mrs Allen would read to us. Her voice created calm and the story transported us to another place.

The memory of it came to mind while listening recently to an oral history recording from 2001 of the late Mary Burrow. She was born at 3 Brandymires in 1905 and attended Hawes School, becoming a pupil-teacher at the leaving age of 14. In her late teens and early-twenties she received formal training at Darlington College and got a job at a school in Middlesbrough. Homesick ('I missed my parents'), she returned to Brandymires and soon became a teacher at Hawes School, where she remained until her retirement in 1966. She was asked in the interview to describe the lessons she taught. She ran through the different subjects before mentioning that, at the end of the day, she would read to the children. She paused before adding, 'They liked that'. Those three simple words were filled with a fondness that touched me.

I mentioned this to my wife Em and she responded by putting a poem into my hands, written by Margaret Rule (nee Andrews), who grew up living on the Hill in Hawes. Margaret had been in Miss Burrow's class and wrote a few lines of verse about her: 'She sits on the edge of the desk,/ feet on the seat, neatly together./ Right hand holding Wind in the Willows,/ left hand twirling ringlets of hair./ Eyes lifting to search for an out-of-place move...'

With it being lockdown, I've been reading aloud to our two children during home school. Mostly they prefer to read on their own. This might be owing to my book choices. In the first lockdown I insisted on reading them Henry Williamson's Tarka the Otter. It makes the hairs stand up on my arm just to think of it, but it's a thin book with fat words and sentences and so we got only half way through. We've picked it up again, though, during this second (or third?) lockdown.

One of my favourite scenes is when Tarka sees the bitch otter White-tip after a long period of struggle and isolation. Tarka and White-tip play joyously in the beck. She makes a big splash in front of him before climbing out of the water to run around the meadow. He follows

her, but they do not look at each other as they run. Instead, they 'pass and repass many times without recognition'. Then after a while they 'went back to the pill and romped like porpoises'. The seemingly strange behaviour in the meadow created a period of separation, so that when they went in the water for a second time, they could experience again the 'keen joy of meeting'.

When this lockdown ends, I expect many of us will experience the 'keen joy of meeting' friends or family. We too will want to experience it over and again, although whether we'll go about running in meadows between pints at the bar is another matter.

People, even loners like me, are social creatures. We thrive only in community. That's something we have all probably realised in one way or another this past year.

Although, it's not as if community hasn't been alive and kicking in Upper Wensleydale throughout the pandemic. Another great local teacher, Richard Dinsdale of Gayle Sunday School, described to me shortly before he died why he loved the people who lived here. He said, 'They've been very kind and generous. People look after one another - it's what they do in this area. If somebody's ill, they are there - that's what they do.' As we approach the one-year anniversary of the first lockdown, we can be thankful for that.

Andrew Fagg

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Marie Curie Urgent Appeal

The Wensleydale Marie Curie Fundraising Group are asking for your help as this year we are unable to hold our street collections for the Daffodil Appeal.

We have set up a JustGiving page at www.JustGiving.com. Search for Marie Curie Wensleydale Fundraisers' Page, and hope you will donate to that instead of to one of our collectors.

We have our little daffodils and if you would like one they are available from any member of this group and in a limited number of outlets. Please give generously when you see one of our collection boxes - remembering the money raised in Wensleydale stays in Wensleydale.

There are many ways of helping us to raise this money, challenges like Step-into-spring, a challenge of walking 10,000 steps in one day, a two hour challenge to make knitted and crochet daffodils or just colouring in one of our daffodil cards. Please set yourself a small challenge and help us to keep funds coming in to support our wonderful Marie Curie nurses. Have a look at <https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/daffodil> for more ideas. West Witton Village Shop has some lovely handmade cards for sale.

Please see local shops and notice boards for details on how you can help.

Thank you **Mary Sadler 01969 623813**

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Eunice the Ewe

Last month I was pretending to be the logo on the car door in the picture on page 30 and the lucky winner of the £10 prize is Noah Hugil (aged 4) of Gayle.

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

**DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR THE
NEXT ISSUE IS**

**TUESDAY MARCH 23rd
(Unless we are full earlier)**

PUBLISHED ON APRIL 1st

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March Competition

This one is a bit easier. Here are some birds you might spot in the Dales. Some are anagrams – some are not.

1. Twist a lady sheep?
2. There might be a big one at the Pleasure Beach
3. Make a loud noise, bee!
4. Metal birth.
5. Found in pines?
6. Scot ate cherry
7. Careful how you do it, or you'll choke
8. Main shouter
9. Bagpipes on the beach.
10. The wizard
11. Surge doer
12. Found alternately in owl, rye and —
- 13 Russian Election
- 14 Family family
- 15 Ivy for example.

Send your answers to arrive no later than **Tuesday, March 23rd** for a chance to win the £20 prize which will be sent to your nominated charity.

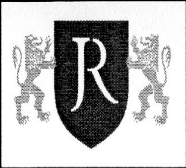
Flu-jabs for Over-50's

Remember that this winter free flu jabs are now available for all over-50s from your GP or pharmacist and everyone who qualifies is being urged to take their free vaccination. So if you don't want to trouble your 'over-stretched' GP practice, phone your local pharmacist for an appointment.

Answers to the February Competition

1. Lager
2. Martini
3. Red Wine
4. Guinness
5. Snowball
6. Madeira
7. Vodka
8. Baileys
9. Bitter
10. Jägermeister
11. Bombay Sapphire (Gin)
12. Lambs Navy Rum
13. Beefeater (Gin)
14. Southern Comfort
15. Woodpecker (Cider)
16. Amarula
17. Bucks Fizz
18. Champagne
19. Whisky
20. Carlsberg
21. Merlot
22. Malibu
23. Tia Maria
24. Pimms
25. Budweiser

This proved a tricky competition as nobody managed to get all 25 answers correct. Question 16 seemed to fool a number of people. The most successful entrant was Vanessa Clare of Redmire who managed 24 correct answers. She nominated Refuge as her charity and they will receive the £20 prize.



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Drop-off points and contacts

For news, articles, reports, letters, What's On dates, competition entries, suggestions and comments:- All 01969 numbers.

Hawes:	Community Office	667400
Gayle:	Sarah Champion 23, Little Ings	667006
Bainbridge:	Sylvia Crookes, 3, Bainside	650525
Askrigg:	Sykes Shop,	650535
Carperby:	New contact needed	
West Burton:	Nadine Bell, Margarets Cottage	663559
Aysgarth:	Hamilton's Tearoom	663423
Redmire:	Kevin Davis Westholme	624165
Thoralby:	Sandra Foley, Shop	663205
West Witton	Christine Barker, Chestnut Garth	624934

Penhill Benefice Services for March

The following services in the church buildings are provisional. Before making any journey please check our website penhillbenefice.co.uk/services for updates.

Sunday March 7th

9.30am Holy Communion, St. Mary's, Redmire

11.00am Holy Communion, St. Bartholomew's, West Witton

Sunday March 14th Mothering Sunday

9.30am St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar

11.00am Holy Communion, St. Andrew's, Aysgarth

Sunday March 21st

9.30am Holy Communion, St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar

11.00am Holy Communion, St. Andrew's, Aysgarth

Sunday March 28th Palm Sunday (British Summer Time begins)

9.30am Service at St. Mary's, Redmire

11.00am Service at St. Bartholomew's, West Witton

There is a Telephone Service available every **Sunday at 9.30am** and a Zoom Service at **10.30am**.

Phone service - dial **0333 0110 946** and enter room number 61337190# and PIN 7450#.

Depending on your provider this is either free or costs a local rate phone call.

Zoom links will be found at: penhillbenefice.co.uk/services.

Our church buildings at Aysgarth, Castle Bolton, Preston under Scar, Redmire and Wensley are open for private prayer every day during daylight hours. St. Bartholomew's, West Witton is open every Sunday and Thursday.

We have sought to make our church buildings as safe as possible. Please remember to wear a face covering, use the test and trace facility and use the hand sanitiser. We close the premises for two days before services, to allow time for virus degradation. Thornton Rust Mission Room is presently closed.

Holy Week

Monday 29th, Tuesday 30th and Wednesday, March 31st at 7.00pm Evening Lent Reflections (Please see website for further details)

April 1st, Maundy Thursday Service, St. Andrew's, Aysgarth

April 2nd, Good Friday Service and Witness of the Cross around the benefice.

Please see our website penhillbenefice.co.uk/services for venues and confirmed timings of these services and events.

It is hoped that the annual Witness of the Cross around the eleven villages of the Penhill Benefice on Good Friday, will take place and notices will be placed in each of the villages along with a timetable. Please check with the website for the latest information during Holy Week. Please think of joining for some or all of the round, but more especially in your own village.



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Green Influencers' Fund to Inspire Young People.

Young people across the Yorkshire Dales will be inspired to follow in Greta Thunberg's footsteps thanks to funding from The Ernest Cook Trust national educational charity. That is because the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT) has received funding to support the employment of a 'Green Mentor' who will enable young people to lead the way as 'Green Influencers' on social action projects in their communities.

The pioneering Green Influencers Scheme is a project match-funded through the #iwill Fund which is funded by The National Lottery Community Fund and Department of Culture, Media and Sport which are each investing £25million seed funding to support young people to access high-quality social action opportunities.

Green Influencers aged from 10 to 14-years-old will spring up across the Yorkshire Dales after the trust, which is based in the North Yorkshire village of Clapham, was among thirty six host organisations awarded grants to support the employment of forty Green Mentor posts. Together they will turn words into action with a wide range of measures to protect and enhance the local environment and tackle climate change.

Rosie Russell-Cohen, who will take on the role of Green Mentor for YDMT, said: "We were delighted to receive the funding from The Ernest Cook Trust which will enable us to help young people from across our region to support their communities with environmental projects. We're honoured to be a host organisation for the Green Influencers Scheme which is being rolled out across England and we're excited about the future because we know this will make a real difference to our communities."

"What is really special about Green Influencers' Scheme is that it will give young people a chance to lead the way and offer the chance to learn through hands-on outdoor activities. We're sure that young people across the Dales will step forward and join the scheme so we can work together to make sure it has a really positive impact on our communities."

Over the next two years, under the Green Influencers Scheme, The Ernest Cook Trust will pay YDMT £18,000 annually to fund the Green Mentor post to kick-start the programme with

further financial support to ensure they instigate lasting change right across their communities. The young environmental activists will be at the forefront of youth social action projects that will benefit schools and communities across England after The Ernest Cook Trust awarded grants worth a total of £720,000 to host organisations.

Anyone interested in joining the Green Influencers Scheme in the Yorkshire Dales should contact Rosie Russell-Cohen on rosie.russellcohen@ydmtd.org. For information about the Green Influencers Scheme visit [The Ernest Cook Trust website](http://TheErnestCookTrust.org.uk) or email greeninfluencers@ernestcooktrust.org.uk.

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Yorebridge Sport and Leisure Centre

Great news!

Although the gym is still closed during lockdown, we are delighted that we have been able to purchase brand new gym equipment - ready for when we can re-open - to make us even more fit for purpose to help you get active and to support your sport, fitness and life goals. We have new bikes, rower, cross trainer and more! Fabulous news for our rural community. Thanks to Richmondshire District Council Community Investment Fund for vital funding of this project.

Classes online

We are continuing to run our fitness classes on zoom. These are available to support keeping you active in the early morning (bootcamp); daytime (fit for life and walking circuit); and evening (circuit training).

We are also running Conversational French on Wednesday mornings.

Please contact us to find out more. Visit our website: www.yorebridgesportandleisure.co.uk/fitnessclasses or email us at admin@yorebridgesport.co.uk.

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Feather and Fern

It is always good to be able to celebrate a new local business and particularly so when it is launched by a local youngster. So it is that we are celebrating the launch of 'Feather & Fern' - a new floristry service based here in the Upper Dale.



'Feather & Fern' is the brainchild of Shannon McIntyre, who lives just outside Bainbridge, with her parents. Shannon attended Bainbridge Primary School and The Wensleydale School before heading to London to train in events and floristry at the Judith Blacklock Floristry School. Judith

is a Fellow of the Institute of Horticulture and has taught Floral Design to many famous names and also delivered flowers to royalty. She has written numerous books and created medal-winning stands at the Chelsea Flower Show and is clearly one of the best in her field. With such a good teacher, it is no wonder that, after an intensive course, Shannon qualified in Floristry, Events and Styling and came away armed with not just a creative eye for her arrangements but also with the skills she needed to allow her to launch her own business.

Shannon is a keen member of the Young Farmers and entered her first floral art competition through them at the age of 12, before going on to compete at National level at The Malvern Show. Shannon says that her passion stems from planting flowers in the garden with her Nana as a child and watching them grow, before picking them and putting them in a vase.

Having developed that early passion, and now armed with her training, Shannon took the decision in August 2020 to start up her own small business which she called 'Feather & Fern'. At just 19 years old, this is a very brave move, particularly during a pandemic, but Shannon has been rewarded with immediate success and the business is already going from strength to strength.

Over the Christmas period, Shannon opened a 'Pop-up' Florist shop in the old Grammar School in Hawes which proved very successful and had some lovely festive window displays. Having demonstrated the need, Shannon is now planning to re-open the shop as a full-time florist where she will also support other local businesses, including cards from Laura Cloughton and chocolates from Inspire Chocolate in Leyburn.

For the moment, and particularly during lockdown, most of Shannon's trade comes via

her social media and online presence, but clearly when the new shop is allowed to open, it will be an added bonus and hopefully attract passing trade.

Shannon creates some wonderfully creative arrangements as well as bouquets of flowers and offers a next-day delivery service all around the UK.



So, if you want to treat that loved one on the next special occasion, don't forget to contact Shannon on 07807-912985; email - featherandfern@outlook.com; website - <https://feather-fern.business.site/>

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K.P.

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Heaven's Above

It's nice to know, especially after last month's cold snap, that spring is nearly here. It 'officially' begins at the Vernal Equinox on **March 20th**. That's the date the Sun shines directly over the equator as it heads northwards in the sky, and the days become longer than the nights. If you're out and about on a clear evening in the middle of the month you'll notice there's a seasonal changeover in our view of the night sky too. The winter constellations are now well past their best and by the end of March they'll have almost faded away into the western twilight.

In the south the dimmer springtime constellations – Virgo, Leo, Cancer, and Bootes the Herdsman – fill the view instead. They're not half as impressive as their winter counterparts apart from Leo, one of the few star patterns that looks something like its namesake – a fearsome crouching lion. It's fairly easy to pick out with a sickle-shaped pattern of stars like a giant backwards-facing '?' outlining the lion's head and shoulders and a triangle of stars further to the east forming its hindquarters.

Bootes, high in the east, is shaped a bit like a giant kite or ice-cream cone. You can easily find its main star, Arcturus, by using the

Plough (high overhead at present) as a guide. Follow the curve of the Plough's handle downwards and you'll soon come to Arcturus. It's the brightest star in the northern part of the sky and shines a beautiful golden-orange colour.

Virgo the Virgin, the second largest constellation, over in the south-east looks like a straggly 'Y'. It represents the ancient Greek Goddess of the Harvest holding an ear of corn, Spica, its brightest star. Cancer the Crab, one of the original Signs of the Zodiac, is quite hard to find as it's so faint. It lies roughly halfway between Leo's sickle and the twin stars Castor and Pollux, in the constellation of Gemini. At its centre you'll find one of the loveliest open star clusters in the sky, Praesepe, the Manager. It's often called The Beehive as there are 5 brightish stars outlining the shape of the 'hive' surrounded by a swarm of hundreds of other stars forming the Bees. A beautiful sight in binoculars.

March 28th sees the first of four 'Supermoons' this year when the Full Moon will look brighter than normal due to it being slightly closer to us in its orbit. The best of the four is on **May 26th** when the Moon will be a whopping 30% brighter than the faintest Full Moon. So, here's hoping for clear skies.

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Best Foot Forward – A Walk in Lockdown 3

So... here we are in our third lockdown, only this time it is winter. It wasn't so bad back in April and May when the weather was glorious but the incentive to get out and walk in the present conditions is now decidedly feint. We are advised to exercise locally, which effectively means walking from the doorstep. At least we live in a lovely area with a splendid network of well-maintained footpaths (52 in Askrigg parish alone). Imagine what it must be like being stuck in the middle of Leeds or London.

Daylight is gradually lengthening. It is now light well before seven and not dark until after five. Nevertheless an early start saves the possibility of being overtaken by dusk if a long walk is planned. The walk described here took place in late January. It was frosty when we started at 8.45am, a time when there are cars on the road as people go to work (it was a Tuesday), but well before most people in my village start walking. That's usually not until half past nine. Later in the morning it can get quite busy; good for social contact but not always so good for social distancing. Some folk like to avoid the 'crowds' (rarely more than three or four), while others go looking for contact: how else can you get the latest gossip, learn about who's doing deliveries or who's been vaccinated?

The views were crystal sharp as we climbed up to Ox Pasture near Newbiggin in Bishopdale. This side of the dale was still in shade but on the opposite side Thoralby was basking in glorious sunshine. Local people often talk about the sunnyside and the moneyside but in reality it is the south facing slopes which have always had the advantage. The distinction is not so clear in Wensleydale but in narrow Swaledale nearly all the settlement is on the north side, facing the sun. Standing in the shade on this day, there were lovely views across to Aysgarth and Castle Bolton, with snow decorating the moors above about 1200 feet.

Walking through West Burton, not a soul was out and about. The school was closed, of course, although the shop and the butcher were open; and the Fox and Hounds were advertising an extensive takeaway menu. The only vehicle we saw was a muck-spreader and we commented on the excellent conditions for this activity, as

the ground had been frozen solid for several nights, so the tractors had no adverse impact on the ground surface..

There are steps down to the main road from West Burton and yet more steps down to the fields below. Bishopdale, which was over-deepened by a diffluent glacier from Wharfedale, has been so scraped clear by glacial debris that it is too flat to build on. The saying goes that if two cows pee at the same time, Bishopdale gets flooded. Wensleydale, on the other hand, is hummocky with glacial drumlins, several of which are built on safely above the floods. All the main villages stand well back from the flood plains. Centuries of experience have taught people where it is safe to build.

As we crossed the fields towards Bishopdale Beck we saw early lambs enjoying the sunshine. There is a marked contrast between the lower dale, where early lambs are becoming increasingly common, and the upper end of Wensleydale where lambs in January are quite



rare. Conditions are just that bit warmer down dale and rainfall in West Burton is not much more than half that of Hawes. It is easy, flat going across the fields to Eshington Bridge (and therefore a popular walk).

At the bridge there is evidence of the power of water because the downstream fence on the Aysgarth side has been completely destroyed by floods in December. For a while water even flooded the lower part of Westholme Lodges but past experience has taught the contractors to build the new lodges well above any floodwater. There are stories from long ago of all the caravans being swept into a huddle at the far end of the site. Lessons have been learned.

The lodges are closed at present and there were more signs of lockdown closures as we headed for Aysgarth Falls: the hotel and all three cafes are closed, the church is only open

for private prayer (no services) and only two cars were in the National Park car park.

Soon after crossing the river our route meets the old Wensleydale railway line. Somewhere near Bearpark would have been the junction with the line to Grassington if it had ever been built. The plan was to build a viaduct across the river, drive a short tunnel through the ridge opposite to emerge on the hillside above Thoraby, before entering a much longer tunnel under Kidstones into Wharfedale. There were lots of similar schemes, such as tunnelling through to Swaledale, which never left the drawing board.

In the open fields beyond Harper Wath footbridge the path follows a placid section of the river. Here we spotted a pair of goosanders which we later awarded the accolade of 'Bird of the Day' from a total of twenty species seen. (twenty is our winter target; thirty in summer).

A little further on the river banks become fringed with trees and bushes and the amount of flood debris is astonishing. Some of it is way up in the branches. Most of it is natural – logs, twigs, grass etc – but inevitably there are human contributions – pallets, various containers and the ubiquitous sileage wrap. Tidemarks of grass are like contour lines along the base of the hillslope; they demonstrate how well the railway engineers understood the dangers of flooding in the dale. At certain points the river is right up against the embankment. This has led to some erosion by the river and the need for the footpath to be shored up by the National Park rangers. So far it looks like they've done a good job.

Beyond the track up to Woodhall the route sticks closely to the railway line. Technically the right of way runs alongside the line but most people walk along the track bed. However, the

proper footpath has been reinstated with new gates and stiles and it is now being used more often. This section takes us past an old hut for railway workmen and from there down to Preston Mill. Under normal conditions the weir can be seen on the river but at high water levels it disappears from view. Sand bags near the mill buildings suggest the risk of flooding.

The last section beside the river takes us to Worton Bridge, which is where we had lunch. From there it is uphill to Worton village. There are then two routes up the escarpment onto the Thornton Rust road. We opted for the nearer but steeper one which ends up by squeezing through a narrow crack on the limestone edge just below the road.

A short walk along this road is an easy stroll before one of the more difficult sections across the moor to Thoraby. This is a rather featureless stretch, lovely on a fine day but it can be a bit tedious without the views. What makes it harder is crossing two streams, both without bridges or stepping stones, which at this time of year usually means wet feet. Just as well the walk was nearly over.

Lockdown walking can get a bit repetitive as it is difficult to get away from the over-familiar routes. We all yearn for pastures new but we have to be patient. Writing Best Foot Forward articles isn't easy either and I feel that the restrictions are tending to make me repeat myself. Or maybe that's just old age.

N.P.

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Swaledale Festival 2021

Need something to look forward to on the other side of lockdown? We're pleased to share some events planned for May and June.

The Young'uns - The Garden Rooms at Tennants, Leyburn, **Sunday, May 30th**. Two performances at **4.00pm and 7.30pm**.

Society of Strange & Ancient Instruments - St. Andrew's Church, Grinton, **Monday, May 31st**. Two performances at **4.00pm and 7.30pm**.

Voice Trio: 'Hildegard Transfigured' - St. Mary's Church, Richmond, **Saturday, June 5th**. Two performances at **8.30pm and 11.00pm**.

Josquin to Jones; Schubert to Sting - St. Andrew's Church, Grinton, **Wednesday, June 9th**. Two performances at **4.00pm and 7.30pm**.

Catrin Finch (harp) and Seckou Keita (kora) - St. Andrew's Church, Grinton, **Friday, June 11th**. Two performances at **4.00pm and 7.30pm**.

Booking will open at **9.00am on Monday, March 8th**. Friends booking will open one week earlier - **9.00am on Monday, March 1st**. Performances will be one hour long, and we're offering each concert TWICE to enable our audience to be socially-distanced and the venues to be cleaned between shows. Seating will be pre-allocated this year. Please book tickets only for those in your household 'bubble' and read the booking information on the website carefully. Due to changing government regulations the programme may be subject to alteration

FREE FAMILY FUN DAYS – Reeth Green, Saturday 29th to Monday May 31st.

Three days of outdoor workshops and activities including kite-making, dance and a singing workshop with The Young'uns - all free, all ideal for families and all in Reeth! No need to book, just turn up.

Further events are planned in July, August, September and October, including The Hut People, Solus Trumpet Ensemble and Aurora Percussion Duo, and we'll also be running some of our popular Guided Walks. We won't be producing brochures this year, so do keep an eye on our website. As usual, tickets for all Swaledale Festival concerts will be available for under 25s at just £3. For further info please visit www.swalefest.org.

Pongo's Party

Theatres may be closed but you can still enjoy our show, because you are invited to Marty MacDonald's Farm for Pongo's Party - the children's show now streaming online, featuring the voice of children's TV favourite Justin Fletcher as Pongo the Pig!

Watch the show from home and enjoy it as many times as you like in 28 days! Here is your unique ticket link that, will take you through to buy a ticket online any purchases Leyburn Arts and Community Centre will receive 10% of the ticket price;- <https://showcatcher.com/show/38/pongos-party?ref=leyburn>.

The ticket sales and the web hosting are both being managed by Showcatcher.com, with tickets starting at £9.99 per household to stream Pongo's Party as many times as people like, for up to 28 days until **March 31st**.

There are also £14.99 tickets which include a show DVD, plus £19.99 tickets that include a show DVD, CD and comic book, again LA&CC receive a % of that too!

Showcatcher is very user friendly so hopefully you will find it straightforward! If you have younger children, it's great to have it in place for half term too.

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Leyburn Arts and Community Centre

Welcome to February's update. Normally we are looking forward to signs of spring and a little more warmth in the sun, however, as this is being written it is snowing merrily and settling, deeper than earlier snowfalls we have had and with no sign of stopping! However, we can still look forward and be positive.

We hope to re-open and resume activities at the earliest opportunity and await Covid-19 instructions but whilst closed we are busy behind the scenes. Repairs, maintenance, new projects, new items in the Little Shop, new volunteer job information - all designed to be ready and active as soon as we can! We hope you all are as keen as we are to remove the lethargy which seems to have taken over and get ready to provide THINGS to DO!

The New Year Draw has taken place with a wonderful hamper as first prize, donated by Jennifer Winstanley. Prize winners will be notified as soon as possible. Thank you to all who had supported us by purchasing tickets.

The 100 Club is recruiting for the next year. Please get in touch if you wish to participate. There are three chances of a financial win each month for just £12 per year. Contact admin@leyburnartscentre.com for more information.

The Centre hopes to be on Ebay soon! There is a charity fund raising facility which we hope to make use of so if you have anything you think would sell, please get in touch. Family Heirlooms, first editions of Harry Potter?!

Thank you to all who have already donated books/ DVDs and jigsaws, we have had a good circulation, even though closed and hope you will come into have a look at the Little Shop when we re-open... books have been put into categories and there is a very good selection of good quality titles. Though we are a bit worried about the number of crime readers there are out there... no-one planning anything murderous we hope?

The Youth Café has resumed via Zoom at **5.00pm on a Monday** if you know of any young person who might be interested. They play games and chat and keep in contact.

From all at Leyburn Arts and Community Centre

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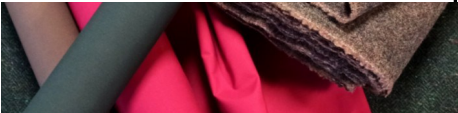
Two are still available to rent, a one-bedroom and two-bedroom flat on the first and second floor of the building which overlooks the market square. Anyone in housing need and who meets the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority's criteria for local occupancy can apply now for possible occupation in March.

You must have been resident in Askrigg or an adjoining parish (see below) for the preceding three years, or be taking employment there on at least a twelve month contract and for a minimum of sixteen hours a week, or have lived there previously for at least ten years.

Rent for the two-bedroom flat is £425 a month, and for the one-bedroom is £325. If you live in Askrigg, Aysgarth, Bainbridge, Carperby, Grinton, Gunnerside, Hawes, Muker, Reeth or Thornton Rust and would like to apply, email askrigg.foundation@btconnect.com or telephone 07434 603590 or 07866 118315.

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Wensleydale Creamery Shortlisted for Awards

The Wensleydale Creamery has been shortlisted as one of the UK's finest speciality online businesses at the 2021 [Farm Shop & Deli Awards](#) in the North East Region. The Creamery's nomination follows tireless work to launch an online deli in the wake of the pandemic.



The awards, which will take place via a live announcement on **Monday, July 5th**, will celebrate specialist retailers from across the UK in recognition for their courageous commitment shown to their customers, community, staff and suppliers over the past year.

When its Visitor Centre, which ordinarily attracts 350,000 visitors every year, had to close in March 2020 in line with the first lockdown, the Wensleydale Creamery worked tirelessly to spearhead the overnight creation and launch of an online deli. Bringing the offering of cheese, butter and local produce online, it enabled

consumers around the UK to order their favourite cheese and accompaniments and have them delivered direct to their door via mail order.

Speaking about the nomination, Trish Cannon, director of the Wensleydale Creamery Visitor Centre, said: "When the pandemic first hit and supermarkets were facing increasing demand and pressure, we didn't want to see people go without the everyday essentials or miss out on any much-loved treats – so we launched our online deli to ensure everyone was able to easily access our award-winning cheeses, as well as supporting other local Yorkshire businesses whose delicious food products and locally-made gifts are available through our mail order. The online deli is a great place to discover gifts, with a wide range of local produce on offer. It is a fantastic way to treat yourself or send special gifts to your loved ones, while supporting the small, local, artisan businesses we work with."

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Mystery Picture

Last month's Mystery Picture was of the chimneys at Cams House, west of Bainbridge.

Where are these ruins to be found?



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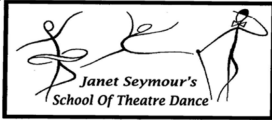
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**Celebration Concert
- Zoom Watch Party,
'A virtual night out'**

It's all about celebrating achievements. Firstly, in January, five of our young creatives attended a celebration event for Reverberate – Sounds' Off' Dales project. Daniel, Gabe, Fred, Jake and Thomas had the nerve-racking task of presenting the group's activities and outcomes to the Zoom call which had attendees from English Heritage, Sound Connections and twelve other arts organisations based in the UK. There were a number of first-time achievements for the group too including the longest Zoom call they have ever attended, the largest group of people they had presented to (around 65 people) and the first 'serious' presentation with a purpose outside of the classroom. You can find links to their work on our Play>Record>Perform page on the website.

Secondly, to Celebrate the end of our first year of the Play>Record>Perform project we are holding a virtual celebration concert on **Saturday, March 20th at 7.30pm**. Join us as we celebrate the power of music and the performing arts presented by young creatives from across North Yorkshire.

During the Pandemic, we have been meeting together online to discuss, rehearse and present a selection of favourite music chosen by the performers. With popular music from jazz to soft rock to musical theatre and much more, there will be something to suit all tastes. There will be solo and group performances such as, Autumn Leaves, Proud Mary, Let It Be and Get Carter. There will also be an opportunity to meet and chat with the performers in person during this very special virtual Zoom Watch Party.

You bring the snacks, your family and friends and a selection of your favourite hats (yes, we said hats – the crazier the better) and we'll bring the music!

This event is FREE to attend but you can also make a donation in support of our Performing Arts activities for young people. To register visit www.blueboxt.co.uk/boxoffice.

Don't be afraid of technology - ask us for help!

Zoom is a video calling platform. It is really easy to use and no one is too old to use it and 'click on the link' that will be sent to you instantly by email as part of your booking confirmation. We are confident everyone will know family and friends who use Zoom so please 'don't be afraid' of technology! You can also contact us for support before the event too.

Our Play>Record>Perform project is part of the NYMAZ Play It Loud Programme. NYMAZ provides high-quality music-making activities for young people who might not otherwise have the opportunity. NYMAZ is part of the Alliance for a Musically Inclusive England, funded by Youth Music. The work has been made possible thanks to the support from the National Lottery via Arts Council England.

If you would like to know more information or take part in our activities, please contact **Colin Bailey** on 07711 211169 or info@blueboxt.co.uk or message via our website www.blueboxt.co.uk or social media.

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Cold Snap in February

Well that was a very cold few days we had in February from the 8th to the 14th. Our 'meteorologist' in Hawes, John Turner up at Thorney Mire recorded a low of -7°C on the 11th and says the temperature could have been even lower down in Hawes because of the "Valley Effect" where on cold clear nights, particularly when there is a snow cover, cold dense air descends and fills the valley bottoms.

But it wasn't the lowest temperature that John has recorded. That occurred in the winter of 2010 when on December 21st the temperature dropped to -13°C.

However it was cold enough for us to feature a couple of photos taken on the 11th and 12th The first is a view of the frozen falls on Gayle Beck and the second is a shot of a rare 'ice-circle' that was spotted on the Ure just above Haylands Bridge.



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

March

- 1 Booking opens for Friends of Swaledale Festival. See p.12.
- 8 Booking opens for the public for Swaledale Festival. See p.12.
- 14 Mothers Day.
- 20 Blueboxt 'zoom' concert. See p.18.
- 28 British Summertime begins.

Police Report

The following incidents of interest have occurred in the Dales area this month.

Between 10.40pm and 11.20pm on January 19th, an attempt was made to enter a unit on Leyburn Business Park via the roof. There were four persons involved and an unmarked HGV. They were spooked and made off from the scene when Leyburn PCSO Don Watson spotted them whilst out on a routine patrol. The HGV made off in the direction of Bedale on the A684.

On January 27th between 5.00pm and 6.00pm a blue Volvo S40 had both number plates removed whilst parked in Leyburn Market Square. Overnight on January 28th/29th a red Honda quad bike (VRM: YX17 VW) was stolen from a farm in Gayle and very close by on the same night, two saddles were stolen from stables in Hawes. Then on the night of January 29th, two bridles were stolen from a stable building in West Witton. Between 4.00pm and 9.00pm on January 29th a Beta trials bike (red and white) was stolen from a property in Marske.

If anyone has any information, no matter how big or small, about any of the above incidences please contact us on '101'.

In the first two weeks of February, a resident in Hawes has been receiving anonymous nuisance calls of an unsettling nature, with no reason behind them. The caller is definitely male and sounds to be an older man rather than a child/teenager and is someone who we believe lives locally. We are in the process of identifying the caller but ask that if anyone else has received unwanted calls of a similar kind please contact us as this cowardly behaviour is unacceptable.

We are hearing about continuing Covid-19 vaccine scam emails/calls/texts in the area.

Currently in the Dales, the local GP surgeries are contacting patients directly with invites to be vaccinated (if you are registered to a local practice that is). Any generic invites you get via email/text please double check before clicking further. The NHS will not ask you to provide any personal details about yourself nor ask for payment for the vaccine (the vaccine is free for everyone!). Also, the local GP surgeries are facing a tirade of calls currently with people asking about when they will be in line for the vaccine which is clogging up their phone lines - they will contact you!

With the bad weather we are having, we are seeing an increase in what appear to be 'non-essential' journeys – primarily where people are driving around in off-road/4x4 vehicles to enjoy the snow (and then posting photos of themselves on social media...). We are still very much in a lockdown situation and just 'going for a drive in the snow' is not an essential journey – you are not only breaching Covid regulations but putting yourselves and others at risk unnecessarily at a time when emergency services and rescue teams are already stretched.

We are continuing to receive complaints re Covid-19 breaches. To be sure you are complying and for up-to-date information please go to www.gov.uk/coronavirus. If you want to report a breach of the rules please go to northyorkshire.police.uk where there is a specific Coronavirus report form to complete. Please remember that self-preservation is the key, so continue with regular hand washing, social distancing and mask wearing.

PCSO Lucy Osborn 3744

**Leyburn and the Dales Neighbourhood
Police Team**

News from the Vets

We have recently had a very unfortunate case of Vitamin D poisoning in some working dogs that had gained access to some dose. This has been particularly nasty and resulted in a lengthy hospitalisation with intensive nursing. If your animal gains access to a product which they wouldn't normally have access to please contact us on **01969 650263** and we can advise you as to the best course of action.

Best wishes

Bainbridge Vets Ltd

A New Approach to Lent

The season of Lent 2021 has begun in the church's calendar. Traditionally, the six weeks that lead up to the joy of Easter Sunday are seen as times of reflection, repentance and self-denial for the church, but with my Mother in Law observing last week that *'We've already had twelve months of Lent!'*, perhaps this year we need to look at it with fresh eyes.

Many folks understand the association of Lent with 'giving things up' as a means of applying some self-discipline to their lives. It's based upon the fasting of Jesus in the wilderness before he began his earthly ministry. Not experiencing the deep, luxurious, sumptuous taste and aroma of well blended chocolate until Easter Sunday (I'm sure you can tell that my feelings on the product are completely neutral) is a sacrifice that many enter into at this time. The intention is that by going without, we might reawaken an appreciation of what we value and appreciate in our lives with a new sense of gratitude.

Back to my Mother in Law; the last twelve months has certainly provided us *all* with the opportunity to consider what we hold precious as so much of what we had previously taken for granted has been taken away or denied us; and sadly, for many, this has involved the heartache of losing loved ones.

So this year, I'm working on viewing Lent differently. Instead of seeing 'Repentance' as a painful process of soul searching I want to **rejoice** in being able to live a life that is lighter and free from burden because I've shared it with God.

I want to approach 'Prayer' for what it truly is – an awesome privilege and **joy** in which I can approach God and see life in new ways, and as for 'Self Denial', I need to remind myself that it was never meant to be about making myself miserable but as a way of allowing me to focus my **gratitude** on the things ... *the people* ... that are truly important in my life.

After a long and difficult year for all of us, I'm looking forward to looking at Lent in a new way.

Rejoice.



Upper Wensleydale Benefice Services in March

During Lent there will be an **Evening Prayer** service every **Sunday at 4.00pm** accessed through our conference telephone facility. There will also be regular Morning Prayer services recorded by Dave from one of our churches that will be available to view online. All details can be found on our website www.upperwensleydalechurch.org. We hope that this will enable as many people as possible to engage with an act of worship together whilst staying safe in their own homes.



Dalesplay is open for children in the Dales. We offer government funded 2,3 and 4 year old places, private day care sessions and wrap-around-care for school children including holiday clubs. At Dalesplay we learn through play in a safe and stimulating environment with our peers. We have extra measures in place to help protect our children, staff and families from Covid and we help provide online learning for those who are currently unable to join us. If you would like your child to join our friendly setting please get in touch by emailing dalesplay1@btconnect.com. We are very limited on places so please don't delay.

On our return after Christmas the children settled back in really well and they were keen to meet and play with their friends. The children have been busy celebrating Chinese new year through crafts, cooking and dance. The spring rolls smelt amazing and the children loved dancing with homemade instruments to Chinese music. We shared a story with home all about Chinese new year and learnt that the fire crackers help to scare away bad spirits. The children made Valentines cards, biscuits and treats to share with family and we have thoroughly enjoyed making pancakes and learning about Shrove Tuesday.

As part of children's mental health week we talked about different emotions and our playworkers helped children understand how to deal with the different emotions through a range of activities. We have been having lots of fun and look forward to the month ahead.

From the Archives

Below we have re-printed an article from the April 2000 issue of the Newsletter.

Rumours

It is rumoured that the Newsletter has been accused of spreading false rumours. However, should you hear any rumours to this effect, please ignore them. We have it on good authority that, according to rumour, those accused of spreading the rumour that the Newsletter is spreading rumours are rumoured to be denying any such rumours. We can categorically state that all our rumours are thoroughly checked and any rumours not having a basis in rumour will not be rumoured – or so rumour has it.

Martin Cluderay



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Bainbridge Women's Institute

Bainbridge W.I. are continuing to meet via Zoom. Upcoming on **March 18th** at **7.30pm**, Janet Seymour will be getting us all moving with some gentle seated exercise. On **April 15th** at **7.00pm** Hannah Russell will be telling the Little Alf Story. All those interested should contact **Susan Freer on 01969 663980** in order to be sent a link to the meetings. Anyone is welcome.

Follow us on Facebook at Bainbridge WI inspiring Women or on-line at www.bainbridgewi.com. We will keep you posted as to when we will be meeting in person again.

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Captain Tom's Grandfather was born in Appersett.

Captain Sir Tom Moore was born in Keighley where his parents Wilfred and Isabella were married in 1916. Wilfred's father was Thomas Moore (Captain Tom's grandfather) who was born in Appersett, Hawes in 1851, and was a stone-mason on the 1881 census.



Thomas Moore, born in Appersett 1851

His great-grandfather was William Moore who was born in West Shaw, Gayle in 1819 and his great-grandmother was Jane Metcalfe who was born in 1826 at Mossdale Head. His great-great grandfather John Moore was married to Elizabeth Buck at Hardraw Church on December 26th 1818.

Information kindly supplied by Penny Ellis and the Upper Dales Family History Group.

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1 whole chicken with 2oz butter & salt

Large head of broccoli

2 oz plain flour

1.5 pints of milk

2 chicken stock cubes

Pepper

6 medium potatoes

Milk, cream, butter, salt & pepper

Wrap the chicken in parchment having covered the skin with butter and a sprinkle of salt. Roast in the oven at 180°C for 1.5 hours. Leave to cool until you can handle and then strip all the meat off the carcass. Pour the juices into a pan.

Whilst the chicken is cooking, boil the potatoes until soft, drain and add milk, cream, butter, salt and pepper to create a smooth, creamy mash.

Stir the flour into the chicken juices and slowly add the milk to give a smooth, creamy sauce. Add the pepper and stock cubes and bring up to the boil to thicken. Stir continuously.

Cut the broccoli into florets, put into a microwavable bowl, cover with boiling water and put in the microwave for 2 minutes. Immediately drain.

Put the chicken, broccoli and sauce into a bowl and combine thoroughly. Put into a suitable dish and cover with the mashed potatoes. Top with little blobs of butter or grated cheese and cook in the oven for about ½ hour until light brown & bubbling.

Elizabeth Fawcett

<https://www.humblepieyorkshire.co.uk/>

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Wensleydale School News



The
**Jessica
Bethell**
Charitable Foundation



Embrace 4 Support
North East of
Support & Guidance



Working in Partnership

School life continues, as we enter the 6th week of the current lockdown. Our students and staff have shown tremendous resilience in both the streaming of lessons and completing work. We have been superbly supported by the local community, but three organisations in particular have gone above and beyond during the crisis. Firstly, Leyburn Rotary Club have worked tirelessly to help us with laptops and devices. In addition the Jessica Bethell Foundation, a charity to raise awareness of Meningitis, has donated a significant amount of money which has allowed us to purchase yet more laptop devices and importantly fund some 1:1 mental health support for our students. During this pandemic most mental health services have switched to offering telephone or video contact. For our most vulnerable students, this is not ideal as our young people, at times of crisis, are less likely to engage through these formats. CAMHs has a very long waiting list, so we knew it was essential to find a different approach. With the funding from the Jessica Bethell Foundation, we've managed to source and arrange for face to face contact in school from Embrace4Support.

Our deepest gratitude to everyone involved

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and will ensure we use the resources wisely, to support those most in need.

Continuing on a supportive theme, the Department for Education has made a grant to all schools, so we can purchase and distribute sanitary products to our girls in need. This week I have placed an order for over £280 of products, which we will deliver to students after half term. I am pleased that the government has allowed us to support our female students in this way.

Finally, February 9th was Internet Safety Day. As we seem to spend our whole lives online these days, it is a timely reminder that we do need to be sensible when online. Three useful sites offer some additional guidance, which we have shared with our students through tutor time.

A video 'Who can you trust online?' <https://vimeo.com/481359801>, and an internet safety quiz : <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/node/818545/take>.

Other useful resources: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>.

Julia Polley, Headteacher

The Wensleydale School and Sixth Form

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**The Farmer Network is
Still Delivering...**
...whatever the challenge or
opportunity



The Farmer Network Ltd, an independent, not for profit farmer- support organisation, recently held its eleventh Annual General Meeting of the Cumbria and Yorkshire Dales Network. The meeting was held online due to current COVID-19 restrictions but still attracted a pleasing number of farmer and corporate members.

Due to connectivity issues current chair Randal Raine of Outhwaite Farm, asked Managing Director, Adam Day to act as stand-in chair for the evening. Adam read out a welcoming statement from Randal, who gave praise to the Network Team for continuing to deliver Network services and projects despite the desperate challenges of the last year. The chairman also thanked the board and farmer management councils for their continued support. In closing he gave notice that he would stand down as chair during 2021 but would still remain very much involved with the Network. He remained confident that the Network would continue to deliver support for the farming community, whatever the challenge or opportunity.

Members were told that Network turnover had only fallen by 2.6%, leaving a surplus of £18,267 which would boost company reserves. Whilst the results were better than expected, there was cautious word of warning from Senior Operations Manager, Donna Gough, saying that

2021 was likely to be much more financially challenging for the Farmer Network. On a pleasing note, Farmer membership continues to rise, and thanks were offered to corporate members and sponsors for their continued support.

To close the meeting Veronica Waller, Senior Project Manager, gave an overview of the many and varied support projects in which the Farmer Network is involved. Several organisations across the North of England are now looking to partner with the Network as a trusted delivery organisation for the farming community. This will certainly help the Network to achieve its goal in helping farmers, their families, and their businesses, whatever the challenge or opportunity.

The agriculture industry is now entering a transition period towards new Environmental Land Management policies. This at a time when farming and food production is much more in the public spotlight.

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Prunings

Today is February 11th. The prospect is clear, white, bright and extraordinarily cold. I filled the bird-feeders earlier and now the activity is manic. They are all here, from the tiniest blue tits to the less welcome jackdaws. Even the woodpecker has graced us with a visit. The most expensive feed, meal-worms and sunflower hearts, are the most popular. What a surprise. It's like taking on another mortgage!

There are lots of plants which can be re-potted before spring arrives and I must tackle the bay tree which has had two years in the same pot. Not that it needs a bigger pot, just some new compost. It may be frozen-in or pot-bound. Either way, when things soften a little, I shall cut round it to get it out, trim the roots and then re-pot it with some fresh sustenance. I'll give it a tidy up as it has grown quite a lot. Must look up the best way to dry bay leaves. I have a very congested chive pot which would benefit from being divided. One way of using up spare roots is to plant them in borders. They are attractive when in flower and will help deter pests. Mint has a similar effect, but keep that in a pot as it is seriously invasive.

Time to trim the thyme. There are lots of sizes, colours and shapes. Even culinary thyme has a really pretty flower and if cut back early will make a lovely display. Also, the bigger the mound of flowers the more bees and beasties it will feed. Ideally, scrape a third off the top of the pot and then replace with fresh compost. If, like me, you have dressed them up with gravel it is fairly simple to tip it off on to a tray before you begin. I do it because it looks attractive but its other purpose is to help with moisture retention and suppression of weeds.

There are advantages to having a birthday at the beginning of the year. I've been lucky enough to receive a very generous "Sara Raven"

token. There is plenty of time to choose gorgeous stuff which will flourish in the summer and I'll not have to feel guilty about how much I am spending. The only problem is all those lovely plants and vegetables are produced south of the M25 and if I get carried away and order too soon, the precious specimens will arrive before it is warm enough to put them outside.

It is heartening to think that we are now quite close to the vernal equinox when day and night are the same length. The growth of spring bulbs is affected far more by increased daylight hours than by temperature. Most of my bulb pots now have surging green spikes and when the last of the snow has gone the colours will be creeping through.

Good luck! And whatever you grow, take time to enjoy it.

Rose Rambler

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Motoring from Edgley to Aysgarth


An established business, but now with a new location, we spoke to Proprietor Robert Labro about the future for Edgley Garage.

About four years ago, Rob had a plan to set up a mobile vehicle servicing and repair service, but with encouragement from Alan Hillary, he decided to set up a business at a permanent location, with Alan, just outside of West Burton village. Edgley Garage has gone from strength to strength with continued support from the local community and since Alan's retirement at the end of 2019, has seen continued success in Rob's capable hands, ably assisted by his partner Annabel who coordinates the office side of the business.

Recently an opportunity arose to purchase the workshop facility at Aysgarth garage The bonus of this new location is that Rob will be able to do on site MOT testing once the garage has been signed off by VOSA. As Edgley garage is a separate business to the petrol station and shop, any enquiries should be made directly on the workshop number, **01969 663094** (see advert below).

Rob says - "I'm pleased that the business now has its own premises in a cleaner and more professional location and we will continue to provide the same outstanding service to our existing customers and hopefully welcome many more to our new location. I'd like to thank those who have supported me so far in this venture and hope they will continue to do so".

K.J.



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One-Liners

Perhaps these might bring a smile to your lips in these bleak times.

What's the best thing about Switzerland?
I don't know, but the flag is a big plus.

Did you hear about the mathematician who's afraid of negative numbers?
He'll stop at nothing to avoid them.

Why don't scientists trust atoms?
Because they make up everything.

Today a man knocked on my door and asked for a small donation towards the local swimming pool.
I gave him a glass of water.

Why can't you explain puns to kleptomaniacs?
They always take things literally.

What did the left eye say to the right eye?
Between you and me, something smells.

Did you hear about the two people who stole a calendar?
They each got six months.

What breed of dog can jump higher than buildings?
Any dog, because buildings can't jump.

I got my daughter a fridge for her birthday.
I can't wait to see her face light up when she opens it.

I tried to sue the airport for misplacing my luggage.
I lost my case.

What starts with E, ends with E, and has only one letter in it?
Envelope.

What do Alexander the Great and Winnie the Pooh have in common?
Same middle name.

Will glass coffins be a success?
Remains to be seen.

This graveyard seems to be pretty popular.
Yes, people must be dying to get in.

I got a new pair of gloves today, but they're both lefts.
Which, on the one hand, is great, but on the other, it's just not right.

"I decided to sell my old vacuum cleaner.
It was just gathering dust!"

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Affordable Homes and 5G Mast Approved

The Yorkshire Dales National Park's Planning Committee has approved an application to build five affordable homes in Bainbridge. It's the third time in four years that the committee has voted in favour of a development near the Rose and Crown pub.

Owing to legal challenges brought by some residents against earlier plans, Hornblower Developments Ltd brought a fresh application seeking to build the homes for shared ownership in partnership with a housing association.

Member Champion for Development Management, Jim Munday, said: "I'm very pleased that we've been able to approve more new affordable homes in the National Park. Because this is shared ownership housing, it means that a young couple only need to be able to afford 25% of the cost of the house in order to get a foot on the housing ladder. Shared ownership will enable local people to buy a modern home that they otherwise might not be able to afford."

"The developer has shown great patience in the face of local campaigns that have made this development really challenging and I commend the company's resolve to build good quality affordable homes for local people."

"We need a wide range of different affordable housing types across the National Park as well as more sites, such as the one in West Witton that is now nearing completion."

Separately, the Planning Committee also approved an application to erect a phone mast in the National Park for 5G technology.

On the unanimous decision to approve the erection of a mast to enable a trial of 5G technology in Coverdale, Mr Munday said: "The Committee was satisfied that the new mast in Coverdale would not have a significant detrimental impact on the landscape."

"We know how important it is for North Yorkshire County Council to provide super-fast mobile connectivity to local communities. Hopefully, the challenges faced by home workers, home schoolers and companies looking to access reliable fast Internet will soon become a thing of the past."

Fairtrade Virtual Bake-off

The Co-op in Leyburn are proud to support Fairtrade and this year to celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight (**February 22nd - March 7th**) we are holding a virtual bake-off. We are asking for people to bake anything they like using one or more Fairtrade products. There will be prizes of some yummy Fairtrade goodies for the winners of our 3 categories- Under-12s, [12-18s](#), and 18 and over. Fortunately for our waistlines (but less so for our tastebuds), due to current lockdown restrictions we will be judging based on appearance. Photos of the item (including the package of any Fairtrade ingredients) can be submitted to the [@fairtradewensleydale](#) Facebook page or emailed to jennifer.scott@coop.co.uk.

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Mossy Lane Problems in Gayle

Anyone walking through the West End of Gayle and up Harker Hill to Mossy Lane this winter will have noticed the dreadful state of the roads. It is not just a question of potholes, but of whole segments of road being so damaged that stone walls have started to collapse.

Normally the only traffic passing through is local, which means farm vehicles, delivery vans and a few cars. There are always walkers since this is a tract of the Pennine Way. In recent months, however, lorries laden with building materials have been going through Gayle on their way to a property off Mossy Lane. Up to half a dozen of these vehicles have been going up and down every day, leaving residents to wonder what kind of construction can be taking place in such an out-of-the way location.

The damage to the road appears to be a consequence of all this heavy construction traffic, exacerbated by torrential rains and, since the New Year, by all the snow and ice. This has been reported to the Highways authority and it is hoped that something can be done about it soon.



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It's all in a Name

A woman who is eight months pregnant falls into a deep coma. Three months later she awakes and asks the doctor about her baby.

Doctor: You had twins, a boy and a girl, and they are both fine. Luckily your brother named them for you.

Woman: Oh no, not my brother! He's an idiot! What did he name the girl?

Doctor: He called her Denise

Woman: Well that isn't so bad. What did he call the boy?

Doctor: Denephew.

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email: Stuart@hallandbirtles.co.uk

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LEYBURN ARTS & COMMUNITY CENTRE

leyburnartscentre.com

As restrictions are lifted we will return with our wide variety of entertainment, activities and other community services:

**CINEMA ~ MUSIC ~ THEATRE
WORKSHOPS ~ ART ~ CAFÉ BAR
ROOM HIRE ~ GROUPS & CLUBS**

Meanwhile, as the district's COVID-19 Community Support Hub, we are supporting local people and businesses in need of help.

To do all of this we rely on a merry band of volunteers. If you usually have some time to spare, and it doesn't need to be a lot, please consider joining us. There are many ways to help, please contact us for a chat and more information:

Phone: **01969 624510** email: admin@leyburnartscentre.com

Sykes House in Askrigg Grocery Shop, Tea Room and B&B

Shop Open 7 days a week
Tearoom open Tuesday-Sunday,
Enquire for group bookings
B&B bookings at

www.sykeshouse.co.uk

01969 650535

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If you would like to receive the Newsletter by post every month the cost is £14 per annum. Please send a cheque for this amount (made out to the Upper Wensleydale Newsletter) plus your full address details to Janet Thomson, Stone House, Thornton Rust, DL8 3AW.

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Published by

The Upper Wensleydale Newsletter
Lilac House, The Holme, Hawes, DL8 3QR
01969 667458

Email for submission of articles, what's ons, letters etc.: uwnlinput@gmail.com

Newsletters on line, simply search on "Upper Wensleydale Newsletter"
Archive hard copies back to 1995 are in the Dales Countryside Museum resources room.

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**Founded in 1995
by the late Alan S. Watkinson**