

# THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER

Issue 305

February 2024

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*Skeldale House Askrigg*

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

## Guest Editorial

February is a month which for many not only feels short in terms of actual days but also hours of daylight, decent weather and things to look forward to in general. Personally, I feel fortunate to have this opportunity to share some thoughts on February some of which are general, others more personal.

Firstly, what *is* February? Where did it come from? Who decided that a period of time in the calendar year should have such a name? Some admittedly shallow, online research suggests that in the 700s BCE the second king of Rome, Numa Pompilius, added January and February to the end of the calendar in order to conform to how long it actually takes Earth to go around the sun. At that time, 1<sup>st</sup> March became New Year's Day, but later, in 153 BCE, the beginning of the year was moved to 1<sup>st</sup> January. Before the Latin name for our second month was adopted, Old English used much more vibrant names to describe the month. The most common Old English name was *Solmonath*, which literally means "mud month", whilst a lesser-used term was *Kalemonath*, which meant "cabbage month." The actual word *February* apparently comes from the Roman festival of purification called *Februa*, during which people were ritually washed. In this case, the Roman God Februus was named after the festival, not the other way around.

This opportunity to look ahead to February prompts me to consider what the month might hold for those of us in Wensleydale? As I was writing this in mid-January I was excited to have spotted some early snowdrops pushing up shoots and even petals on our walk from Askrigg via West End to Mill Gill. The sheep also look very peaceful in their thick coats as they prepare for the early wave of the annual population explosion. Not being from a farming family but having grown up in part of industrial East Lancashire surrounded by moorland pasture I am however interested to try to absorb what I can as I seek to make sense of the landscape in which we walk. The patterns of the year are shaped by nature. My curiosity, fuelled by this chance to write, took me to some further online research where I discovered that 1<sup>st</sup> February marked/marks the Celtic east of *Imbolc*, the second of the four great fire festivals. Imbolc, which literally means "in milk", traditionally has marked the lactation

period of ewes and cows. Ewes are unable to produce milk until after they bear their young, which occurs at this time. Since milk was very important to the basic survival of the tribes, this was a time of great joy. It meant that the end of a long winter was in sight, and green pastures were only a few months away. During the Imbolc ritual it was customary to pour milk (or cream) onto the earth.

Other more commonly-known events include St Valentine's Day and Shrove Tuesday, marking the start of Lent. On a personal note, for my wife Alwina and myself February 2024 is the start of our fourth year living in Wensleydale. We moved to Askrigg in the last week of January 2021 when it was very snowy and deep in the second Covid lockdown which made the village feel even quieter than it often is at this time. Among our frequent reflections on that time and the period since, a phrase that often comes to mind is how pleasantly we have been accepted. We received one or two lovely welcome cards from neighbours who had known our predecessors at Manor House, Rob and Trish but beyond that it was, understandably low key - no fuss, no fanfare (not that we expected any), and certainly none of that Lancashire-Yorkshire banter, or any that we had to hear or endure.

I will conclude my thoughts on the month of February, the nature of this time of year and our own brief personal experience of Wensleydale. Even though some might like the month to speed past and for warmer months to arrive, I recently came across what some call 'The Serenity Prayer', the short version of which reminded me that acceptance - whether it to be accepted by others, or to be accepting of whatever the month of February offers us - is a useful reminder that there are some things we cannot change and that accepting this can help give peace of mind.

Chris Rigby

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## Thoralby and District W.I.

We had a very successful and well attended "Dabble Day" in December where everyone left with their two Christmas creations which included wreath, decoration or a card. It was a very well organised and fun day thanks to the organisers. On Tuesday, December, 12th we had our Festive Lunch at the Street Head Inn in Newbiggin. Everyone was in a festive mood and it was our last get together before 2024. Unfortunately, due to the snowy and cold weather the January meeting was cancelled. However, there are a couple of events to look forward to.

We are meeting for lunch in February at the Wheatsheaf in Carperby. Soup and Sweet will continue to be the third Thursday of every month, through to April. Anybody is welcome to attend the Soup and Sweet at Thoralby Village Hall at noon, where there is a choice of soups with a roll followed by a choice of a hot or cold sweet and then coffee or tea. This is only £5 per person. Please note that in February, this will on **Thursday, February 22nd**.



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NEXT ISSUE IS**

**TUESDAY FEB 20th**

**PUBLISHED ON FEB 28th**



### Eunice the Ewe

Last month I was hiding in the R and B Construction advert on page 10 and the lucky winner of the £10 prize is Nick Waddinton of West Burton.

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

### Hawes Poppy Appeal 2023

The total raised in the Hawes area was £1,381.10. This was boosted by a donation from St. Margaret's Church of £338.80 for which we give a huge thanks, making a grand total of £1,719.90. We would like to thank all the shops and businesses for displaying collection boxes. A huge thanks to the door to door collectors who turn out every year, Jean and Woody, Sara and Philip, Sue and Gerry and Hazel. We couldn't do without you. Thank you from Stan and Jen.

**The accuracy, appropriateness or legitimacy of any product or service advertised in this publication is the sole responsibility of the advertiser and not of the Upper Wensleydale Newsletter.**

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## February Competition

Add a letter! Each clue leads to two words. The second one always has one letter added to the first.

EXAMPLES.

“Part of body hurt: ARM; HARM”

“Clanger stomach: BELL; BELLY”

1. Hurt feeling
2. Impartial sprite
3. River untainted
4. On the cob tree fruit
5. Gaseous water beck
6. Stroll hike
7. Holder stop
8. Currency bother
9. Consume hit
10. Slope sudden pain
11. Braver stone
12. Breathless work of art
13. Gun small thing
14. Superior animal
15. Old story-teller plank

Please send in your answers (as many as you can solve) to arrive by **Tuesday, February 20th**. Don't forget to include details of your nominated charity which will receive the £50 prize should you win.

### Alex Kravchenko

BSc (Hons) MChS

#### Chiropodist / Podiatrist

Member of the Health Professions Council

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Yorkshire Foot Clinics

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Bishop Auckland/ Hawes 667449

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## December Competition Answers

Letters found in CHRISTMAS

1. Sitar 2. Trash 3. Smith 4. Starch
5. Mastic 6. Miscast 7. Shirt 8. Racist
9. Stairs 10. MASH 11. Schist
12. Chrism 13. Sari 14. Smirch
15. Scrim 16. Chasm 17. Thairm
18. Rachis 19. Smash 20. Chair

The winning answer to last month's competition was sent in by John Clare of Redmire and his chosen charity to receive the increased £50 prize is the 'Access the Dales' charity.

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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.

<b>Hawes:</b>	Community Office	667400
<b>Bainbridge:</b>	Sylvia Crookes, 3, Bainside	650525
<b>Askrigg:</b>	Sykes Shop,	650535
<b>Carperby:</b>	Anthony Abraham Hall Garth	663243
<b>West Burton:</b>	Nadine Bell, Margarets Cottage	663559
<b>Aysgarth:</b>	Hamilton's Tearoom	663423
<b>Redmire:</b>	Kevin Davis Westholme	624165
<b>Thoralby:</b>	Neil Piper	663747
<b>West Witton</b>	Christine Barker, Chestnut Garth	624934

## BAWB Schools News

What a cold, wet and windy start to the term we have had in Wensleydale. Waterproofs have definitely been needed. Our Early Years have thoroughly enjoyed the cold snap, learning about friction, making our own sledges and making beautiful frozen ornaments.

Our Year 2 and 3's are enjoying a great term swimming at Richmond pool. They are really progressing with this valuable life skill.

During art we have been inspired by Mike Barrett to create our own self-portraits. They will be built up over the term, adding different layers and dimensions.

We are beginning to get organised for our entries to The Wensleydale Tournament of Song. We will be entering a mixture of classes with our pupils with thanks to Mrs Allenby and Mrs Stone for all their expertise. We hope to see many of you in the audience at Tennants in March.

On **February 6th and 7th** we are opening our nursery doors for prospective families to come and visit our wonderful setting, based at Bainbridge Primary School. Please get in touch if you would like to come and meet us [bawbadmin@b-a-wb.co.uk](mailto:bawbadmin@b-a-wb.co.uk) or **01969 650331**

Hopefully Spring will have sprung in time for our next article.

**Best wishes**  
**BAWB team**



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## News from the Vets

Cold weather advice for dogs and cats.

Hopefully we have seen the last of the cold weather but there may still be more to come. The following are some tips to help keep your dogs healthy this winter when walking:

- Plan your walk, check the forecast before you head out, planning your route in advance especially if snowy or freezing may help prevent coming into contact with icy areas and reduce the risk of injury.

- Clip your dog's paw hair - Keeping this trimmed will help prevent build up of ice or grit in their paws.

- If they are elderly or have very short hair they may well benefit from a coat to help them keep warm.

- When back from a walk wash their paws well to remove grit.

For any more information please do not hesitate to contact the surgery on **01969 650263**. All the best from Bainbridge Vets.



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## UWNL Children's Story Writing Competition

Back in November 2023, we challenged children in years 3/4 and Years 5/6 to write a story in under 500 words about anything they wanted. Our only rule was the story had to start with the words "What are you doing here?"

We received a fantastic response, particularly from children at B.A.W.B schools.

Our judge, Jane Huntington said that she really enjoyed reading the imaginative stories that were full of suspense, many featuring scary creatures from other worlds and time travelling adventurers. Picking the winners was a very difficult task and Jane wanted to congratulate every single child who entered for their enthusiasm for creative writing.

The prizes were presented in school celebration assemblies in January and all the winners were looking forward to spending their book tokens. The teachers thanked the Newsletter for providing a school prize so they can add to their library resources that benefit all.

And the winners are.....

### Years 5-6 Category:

The winner was **Eliza Middleton** and the runner up was **Caleb Tooley** both from BAWB Schools. A Highly Commended certificate was also awarded in this category to Layla Banks (also from BAWB Schools).

### Years 3-4 Category:

The winner was **Isla Bell** and the runner up was **Aaron Dinsdale** both from BAWB Schools. A Highly commended certificates was also awarded in this category to Matilda Calvert (also from BAWB Schools).

Jane presented the prizes to the winning children giving some wonderful feedback on why their stories stood out. Karen Jones from the Newsletter editorial team presented book tokens and the Alan Watkinson Memorial Shield to BAWB Schools and thanked them for their enthusiastic support of the competition.

The winning stories in each category are published below and on page 10. The stories from the runners up will be in the Newsletter's March issue. We hope you enjoy reading them as much as we did.



Eliza Middleton

### Siri's Takeover by Eliza Middleton

"What are you doing here?" said a voice that was extremely familiar (not in a good way) and was the worst sound I could [possibly be](#) hearing at this given moment...

Now I suppose you're wondering where I am and how I got here, so I'd better start at the beginning.

It all started one evening when my parents were out, I was home alone, and I was scrolling on my phone (which had 76% charge) when suddenly the battery started going down faster than my eyes could keep up with and drained to 0% within seconds. The weirdest part was, that just before it ran out of battery, I swear I saw Siri pop up at the bottom of the screen. For a second, I thought I was imagining it; although it seemed very real. I was a bit confused but decided to think nothing of it and just get my charger from downstairs. As I pulled on the door handle, I realized it was stuck.

I tried again and again, each time twisting differently but it was no use, I was never getting out of here. I began to hyperventilate; I was locked in a room with no one nearby to help. I thought about climbing out of the window, but quickly remembered that my bedroom was in the attic of the house. I sat on my bed wondering what to do when I heard footsteps outside my

room, they were not footsteps I recognized; they seemed unrealistically perfect, almost edited. ‘H-hello?’ I whispered. There was no answer. And then... I heard it... it was a noise that I heard often, one that I had never been scared by, but at this moment I had good reason to fear it. Because this noise, was a sound that could only have come from my phone; my phone that was currently dead. This was the noise of Siri.

I heard the footsteps again, though this time I could just hear a sort of glitching sound with every footstep; they were getting closer and closer and soon I was sure they were right outside my room! Suddenly, the door handle started rattling and twisting. I knew my fate; killed, murdered, by whatever it was that was trying to get into my room.

I dived under my bed for cover and just at that moment the door burst open. And that brings me back to the part I was telling you about... What are you doing here?

Reluctantly, I looked up and was greeted with a disturbingly, terrifying sight. Standing before me was a girl with raven black hair, twisting and lifting as though in strong wind. She almost looked like... me. Her irises were a deep blue with splashes of greens and pinks swirling inside! And then...

I blacked out.

No one knows what happened to Siri, some say she’s gone; others think she’s coming back. All I can say is that you should be prepared.

**By Eliza Middleton, Y6**

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**Judge’s comments:** A well-crafted story creating tension and suspense and with an ending which leaves the reader wanting to read more. Choosing realistic details makes a strange situation convincing. Well done!

---

## **The Black and White Foxes of the Caribbean by Isla Bell**

### Chapter 1 The Attic

“What are you doing here?” asked my curious little sister.

I said, “I’m going to the attic to get some Lego.”

As I was climbing the ladder up to the attic to find some Lego, I saw a book on the floor and



Isla Bell

decided to look. Something fell out of the book, so I had a look.

I realized it was a treasure map. In the middle of the night, I crept downstairs, and followed the treasure map on my ship. “I realized something in the water was moving”. “I was TERRIFIED..... But Luckily it was just dolphins”. Then I saw a pirate ship heading straight towards me. So, I went through some tight rocks. Their ship was too big, “so I was able to get away”.

It was night and there was a storm. “So, I had to stay up”. The waves were crashing, and the ship was swaying. A huge wave came overboard and pushed me over “I hit my head hard and fell asleep ..... I soon woke up but, on an Island, I soon realized I was on the spot I was meant to be on.....

### Chapter 2 Stranded

First, I had to find food and water. Food was hard but water was easy, it had surrounded me. It was quite dirty water, but it was my only hope. I soon found a coconut tree and I shook it until it came down. night came and I found a huge leaf to sleep on.

In the morning “I saw the exact same ship”. Then I got my sword and took the cover off. They were approaching fast. They soon got to me BUT I was better than them. I beat them in a second and they retreated back to their evil lair. The captain was mad he was beaten by a girl!

## Chapter 3 Crystal cave

The pirates went back to their lair and were planning something. Something evil on the other hand, "I was trying to find x marks the spot". It took until the moon Shone on me until I found it. Then I saw something move "so I grabbed my sword". But then I saw it..... the black and white foxes of the Caribbean. I followed them they went into this mysterious cave I followed them further in and what I saw was magnificent. I saw so many, but they were talking English. When they noticed me, I instantly hid behind a crystal and waited for an hour. And they asked me what I was doing

"I said I was here to protect them from the pirates I asked them if we could work together..... they said yes but just when I thought we had time I heard a CRASH we instantly ran towards it. It was the Pirates had a fight some of the foxes died I lived, they sent me home.

THE END

By Isla Bell Y4

**Judge's comments:** Congratulations - a great beginning and an imaginative story that covers a lot of adventures!

## Hawes Christmas Lights

Another year passes and we would like to thank everyone who so generously contributes to make Hawes 'shine'. In particular the businesses, in the form of the electricity gratefully provided and various fund raising events which donate to our funds.

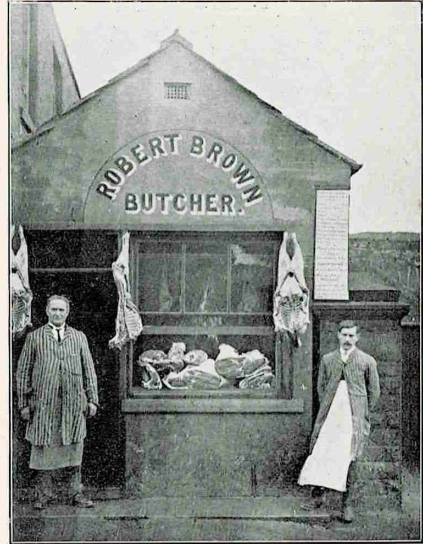
We would like to invite anyone who is interested to join our Christmas Lights Committee. We meet up throughout the year to check all the lights, make repairs as needed so all are ready for the next festive season. We would love some younger members to join us as the average of our current committee is almost 70! We rely on volunteers to erect and dismantle the displays in November and January and would welcome anyone who could help for even a couple of hours on those days.

If you can make any suggestions on how we can improve please get in touch, either by email [lizlawson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lizlawson@hotmail.co.uk) or see Liz at Wensleydale Press.

**Hawes Christmas Lights Committee**

## Old Photographs and Advertisements

Here is another page from 'Hawes and its Immediate Neighbourhood – An Illustrated Guide for Visitors' which features the old Toll House property next to the Spar which is now occupied by Sturdy Travel. Is anyone descended from Robert Brown or his assistant?



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## Public Transport

Home and School Transport: North Yorkshire Council (NYC) are proposing to consult on major changes to current policy, including a proposal to amend the main eligibility criteria to be 'the nearest school (with places available)' in order to save the council a projected £3.2m. Elected councillors (parish, town and NYC) will all have an interest in how this proposal might affect their local families although the statutory responsibility - and hence the policy decision - rests with NYC.

There is a flurry of consultations, community engagement events and surveys about public transport taking place at present. In part, this is caused by forthcoming changes in responsibilities (and therefore budgets), such as the proposal for NYC to become a Mayoral Authority in May. NYC is also preparing a new Local Transport Plan.

## YDNPA Survey

The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) have announced a survey related to revision of its Management Plan for 2025-2029. This asks respondents to choose and rank 6 items - from a given list of 18 - that most need doing by YDNPA over the next five years.

The deadline for responses is **Monday February 26th**. The survey only takes a few minutes to complete and we recommend as many of our readers as possible should undertake it. It can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NPPriorities>.



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## Friends of the Dales Online Talk

### Breeding Waders of the Yorkshire Dales Wednesday, February 21st at 4.30pm

In this online talk, Ian Court, Wildlife Conservation Officer for the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, will outline the status of the key upland breeding wader species and how important areas such as the Yorkshire Dales National Park are for them.

He will also look at the current threats, detail the habitat requirements that waders need and summarise some of the conservation work that is being undertaken to protect them.

Finally, insight will be offered into how the Authority's Nature Recovery Strategies will help to benefit a wide range of habitats and species including breeding waders.

## Sedbergh Music Festival

The Sedbergh Music Festival has announced an ambitious programme for its 2024 festival, which runs from **June 16th to 27th**. In addition to outstanding local talent - including the town's famous brass band and musicians from Sedbergh School - the festival is set to welcome the BBC Singers and Cumbrian musician Jess Gillam to the North West.

The BBC were in the news headlines in 2023, as the BBC paused its previous decision to close the choir - news which was met with great relief across the arts world.

The Chairman of the Sedbergh Music Festival, John Seymour, says 'The BBC Singers are renowned for being one of the very best choirs in the world, so it is obviously a source of tremendous excitement to us that we are able to welcome them to Sedbergh in June for both a concert and for a workshop with young singers the following day.'

"We very much hope that it will be a special opportunity for people across the North of England - and beyond - to come and enjoy music of the highest quality as part of a festival that celebrates local talent. We are also looking forward to sharing a diverse range of repertoire, including the Claire Cope Quintet - one of the North West's up and coming jazz groups, and the Fakir Trio".

Tickets are now on sale, via the festival's website [www.sedberghmusicfestival.com](http://www.sedberghmusicfestival.com).

## Notes from Thorney Mire

### Winter

Before I get on to flora and fauna I would like to mention a rare phenomenon I saw from Thorney Mire just before Christmas and that is Nacreous or mother-of-pearl clouds as they are sometimes known. I had seen photographs of them the previous evening on the local news but, because these clouds are so rare I didn't think I would actually see them. The following morning looking through the window I saw an unusual pink colour in the sky. Not the "red sky in the morning, shepherds' warning" colour but more of an iridescent pink. This pink was partly obscured by lower, dark, more foreboding clouds which were scudding down the dale. Patience paid off and gradually these clouds were revealed in colours of violet, pink, blue, yellow and even green. Some were shaped like flying saucers and others like ribbons as though someone had inverted a rainbow, stretched it out and put a gentle breeze behind it to make it wave.

These rare clouds are considered to be the most beautiful of all clouds. They form in the stratosphere where clouds do not normally form. They are made up of very small ice crystals, about 0.002mm across and form where the temperature is around -85C. These beautiful clouds are considered to be the most destructive clouds to our environment as the ice crystals act as a catalyst for the CFC gases, which we have released into the atmosphere, and these gases help to break down the ozone layer. I was so engrossed in watching these clouds and taking photographs, breakfast was late that morning!

Now down to Earth. A red squirrel was found near Snaizholme before Christmas. It was suffering from exposure and probably would not have lived much longer had it not been found. It was taken inside and nursed back to health. It made a remarkable recovery and was so lively that when it was put outside into the "hospital" the person trying to film it couldn't keep it in shot. We have had a red squirrel coming to our bird feeders several times during the really cold weather.

We have had a flock of about nine long tailed tits visit the feeders. I don't know the exact number as they won't keep still. Two nuthatches have been seen feeding together which is unusual as they normally come one at a time. Darby and Joan, the two collared doves have returned. We last saw them in the Spring after they had reared

two young and then disappeared. No doubt they will be throwing a few sticks together in the large cypress tree, calling it a nest and hopefully playing happy families again. They would never win an award in a best nest builder of the year competition. How the eggs stay in the nest amazes me.

Both male and female greater spotted woodpeckers come to feed, but not together. We've had a solitary starling for a few days, the usual blue, great and coal tits, a robin, chaffinches and two siskins. A male blackbird took up residence between the plant pots below the feeders and would dart out around my legs every time I had to go to the greenhouse, which was often during this cold weather. Pheasants have been sitting in the front garden puffed out to twice their normal size trying to keep out the cold.

Walking along our lane just after Christmas I noticed something from the corner of my eye. It was a pheasant walking on the verge by the side of me like a pet dog. Pheasants usually run away if you approach them but not this one. It stayed with me for some distance, matching its pace to mine until it finally dropped back. I would have thought no more about this but the following week an acquaintance told me that she had had a strange experience along our lane. A pheasant came to join her on a walk. Worried about it being on the road she tried to persuade it to go into a field but it refused and carried on walking with her. We know it's the same pheasant as it's lost a few feathers on the top of its head revealing a bald patch.

A few days later my acquaintance, once again walking along the lane saw a pheasant in a field. The pheasant had also seen her as it came to join her on the lane walking with her. She walks quickly but so did the pheasant and if she slowed down, her feathered friend did the same. This seems very strange behaviour and I can't explain it, so should you find yourselves wandering along our lane, I cannot offer an exotic and therapeutic walk with a llama, but you may have a pheasant for a companion. **Sylvia Turner**

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## Leyburn Arts and Community Centre

New Year, new hobbies - do you have a little bit of spare time on your hands and would be prepared to help deliver the full range of activities that take place at The Arts and Community Centre?

For example:

Do you enjoy cooking? The Lunch Club and Tuesday Club would like a reserve list of volunteers who are able to cook light meals.

How about reception duties? Morning reception and relief receptionists are needed to cover holidays.

Are you keen on going to the cinema? We always need projectionists who are able to operate a DVD player and Front of House volunteers to welcome and support our customers.

Cafe/bar volunteers - needed for films, events and fundraising coffee mornings.

Room preparation - do you have a little bit of

free time and would be prepared to help with room set up and furniture moving for groups hiring our rooms during the week?

Interested in our new Community Shed? A development team is being assembled for the next stage of planning activities.

If you think you might be interested and able to help, further information can be given (without commitment) just call in or phone **01969 624510**. Or come to our next Volunteers Together session on **Thursday Feb 22nd at 2.00pm**. Let us know if you decide to do this, so we have enough biscuits!

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## Time Out?

Looking ahead in my diary I noticed with some surprise that this year, three key events in February are spread over just two consecutive days. Shrove Tuesday, ('Pancake Day') – Feb 13th and Ash Wednesday, (the start of the Christian season of Lent) and Valentine's Day both sharing the 14th. I immediately began to feel under pressure at having 9 days less than I had last year!

This coincided with my hearing an article on BBC Radio News that whilst marking the 100th anniversary of the first edition of the 'Good Housekeeping Institute' a survey has revealed that due to busy lifestyles just 20% of us spend between 1 -5 hours a week keeping our homes clean and tidy. A fall of 30% in the last five years. Have we all become dirtier, less caring and less willing or more affluent and able to pay someone else to do it? Whatever the truth, this years condensing of the calendar doesn't alleviate the sense of us living in an ever increasingly busier world.

The season of Lent, (like its counterpart Advent) is traditionally a time of preparation and contemplation, of creating an opportunity within our day to mentally and spiritually slow down and make a conscious decision to start to live life at a different pace. Billions of Christians the world over will use it as a time of abstinence and in so doing remember the 40 days of fasting that Christ underwent in the wilderness before he started his earthly ministry Lk.4 I like to promote a dual approach; to abstain from one thing to deliberately create extra time to focus on something else; crucially, someone else.

"Have a Coffee with God" is a suggestion I'm often heard repeating. We frequently make time to have one with everyone else so why not carve a few minutes out of your day for some quiet and peaceful reflection on the bigger issues of Life? Many might call this a modern form of 'Mindfulness' but the truth is the Bible was recording such practice thousands of years ago. "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matt 11:28 As one lady said to me recently: "The Bible's so modern isn't it?"

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## Middleham and The Dales Local History Group

**No Man's Moor**  
by Suzanne Stirke

**Wednesday, February 21st at 2.00pm**  
Harmby Village Hall

Local author, Suzanne Stirke will talk about her debut novel, *No Man's Moor* and the sources she used. The book takes its title from the lane that runs along the south of Newton Le Willows, which was once an old droving route.

Set in 1816, just after the Napoleonic Wars and based on historical events Suzanne has used her interest in local history to create an exciting tale which uses Bedale and the surrounding area as its backdrop.

The sequel to, *No Man's Moor* which is called, *World's End* will be available after Christmas. She is currently working on her third book about local hero, Sister Dora from Hauxwell, who became a ground breaking nurse in the mid-1800s.

Annual membership of Middleham and the Dales Local History Group is £12, visitors are welcome at £3 per meeting. For more information contact **Tony Keates 01969 640436**, [dotandtonyk@btinternet.com](mailto:dotandtonyk@btinternet.com).

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## Sycamore Hall

Well, here we are ... we have arrived in 2024 and we are supposed to be full of optimism for the months ahead. I think we are all rather struggling with that in these dark and dismal winter days but hopefully better things are around the corner.

In November, we were very privileged to have a visit by our Prime Minister and local MP, Rishi Sunak, when he came to see our wonderful newly refurbished facilities and meet with our residents and staff.

We then had a very busy and enjoyable December with lots of festive events to keep us busy. We particularly enjoyed the visits by children from Hawes and BAWB primary schools who came to entertain us with their singing, along with the Askrigg Ladies Who Sing who also performed for us. Of course, food was a big feature of most of our activities and we are probably all stuffed with mince pies and other festive treats!

Having got through all that excitement we are now settling back into our regular routines and activities. Our ladies who 'knit and natter' are back in the lounge on **Mondays at 2.00pm** and on **Tuesdays at 10.45am** we are challenged either by Ron's Quiz or Karen's Bingo. We have our popular Coffee Mornings on **Thursday mornings from 10.30am** and on **Fridays at 11.00am** we get exercising with Janet (and probably need it after all the festive indulgence!). You are very welcome to join us for these activities, so do come along.

Meanwhile, the renovation works continue and we are now all getting new windows. So far, the weather has been kind during this work, and we hope it stays that way for the last bit of the project. Karen and Sonja are hosting another Quiz and Supper evening on **Saturday, February 24th, starting at 6.00pm**. We have a fun quiz (with cash prize) accompanied by a delicious hot meal - this time it will be lasagne. Tickets are £12 per adult and should be booked in advance. Come along and join in the fun!

Don't forget that our small businesses are here to serve the local community as well as our residents, so please do come along to see what we have on offer. Your daily grocery needs can be met at Sycamore Country Store; gifts and treats are available from Mabel and Maisy's Mini Emporium; you can get your hair styled at

Sonja's Hair Salon; Sycamore Restaurant can offer you a hot meal at lunchtime or refreshment during the morning and the Post Office is there for your postal and banking needs on **Mondays and Wednesdays between 9.00am and 11.00am**. We also have the Library which is open all day, every day and we have rooms that can be hired.

We are very fortunate to have so many facilities on our doorstep so please come along and make good use of them. We do hope that you will visit us during 2024 and you will be made very welcome if you do. For more information about our facilities and the availability of apartments, please contact **Nicky Cooper, Housing Manager on 0370-192-4055**.



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## Penhill Benefice

**Church Services:** Before making any journey please check our website at [penhillbenefice.co.uk/services](http://penhillbenefice.co.uk/services) for updates.

There will be a Telephone Service each **Sunday at 9.30am**. Dial **0333 0110 946** and enter room number 61337190# and PIN 7450#. (There could be a charge).

### Sunday, February 4th:

- 9.30am** Morning Prayer,  
St. Mary's, Redmire.
- 9.30am** Holy Communion,  
St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar.
- 11.00am** Holy Communion,  
St. Andrew's, Aysgarth.
- 11.00am** Holy Communion,  
St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.

### Sunday, February 11th:

- 10.30am** Holy Communion, Penhill Together Service, St. Andrew's, Aysgarth.

### Ash Wednesday, February 14th:

- 7.00pm** Holy Communion with the invitation to receive the imposition of ashes, as a sign of both our frailty and penitence,  
St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar.

### Sunday, February 18th:

- 9.30am** Holy Communion,  
St. Mary's, Redmire.
- 9.30am** Holy Communion,  
St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar.
- 11.00am** Morning Prayer,  
St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.
- 11.00am** Holy Communion,  
St. Andrew's, Aysgarth.

### Sunday, February 26th:

- 9.30am** Holy Communion,  
St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.
- 11.00am** Morning Prayer,  
St. Andrew's, Aysgarth.
- 3.00pm** Evening Prayer,  
Thornton Rust.

## February Mid-Week Services:

**Thursday 1st, 15th and 29th at 9.30am.** Holy Communion, at St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.

**Church Coffee Morning: Wednesday, February 7th** from **10.30am to noon** at Redmire Village Hall.

**Church Afternoon Tea: Wednesday, February 21st** from **2.00pm to 4.00pm** at Redmire Village Hall.

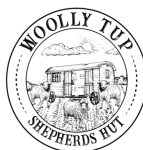
**Aysgarth Coffee Morning: Thursday, February 1st** from **10.00am to noon** at Warnford Court, Thoraby.

**Lent Lunch: Friday, February 16th** from **noon to 1.30pm** at Redmire Village Hall. Soup and cheese lunch with coffee and teas. No fixed charge, donations to Christian Aid.

**Food for Thought in Lent;**  
The two meals below are at **6.30pm for 7.00pm**, Fairhursts at Berry's, Swinithwaite.

**Thursday 22nd February,**  
**Speaker - The Rt Rev'd Anna Eltringham,** Bishop of Ripon in the Diocese of Leeds.  
**Meal:** Chicken Chasseur. Vegetarian Option - Hungarian Goulash with herb dumplings.

**Thursday 7th March**  
**Speakers -** Richard and Liz Thomas from Flourishing Families.  
*See more information on the website: <https://flourishingfamiliesleeds.com/>*  
**Meal:** Beef Bourguignon. Vegetarian Option – Mushroom Wellington.  
Home-made desserts will be available and donations raised from the sale of these will be given to a charity chosen by the speaker.  
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## Bag Lady!

I know a lot of people have seen me litter picking around Askrigg and I'd like to thank them for their courtesy of slowing down in their cars and some people stopping me to thank me which cheers me up no end. One kind man saw me struggling to walk home with two huge bags of litter last year and drove me home.

Today I have collected from Nappa to the top of Howgate (I had collected down the hill a few days before). The bag weighed just over 5 kilos (2 stones 3 ounces), most of which were cans of lager. Stella and Fosters featured strongly and also three glass wine bottles. The person with a passion for Cadburys chocolate eclairs has been here when normally we found his wrappers down Beck Bitts. A lot of cartons and lids for hot drinks including MacDonalds and Costa and takeaway food polystyrene boxes. Now I haven't noticed MacDonalds or Costa shops

nearby so I am mystified by why I am having to clear them up.

There are always smashed bits of cars, wing mirrors and glass etc and last summer two huge objects were dumped on the side of the road so I rang the council who took them away immediately. This Autumn I found a brand new-looking tent and tent bag with things in (I don't look inside bags), stuffed under bushes on the road coming down from Reeth direction to Newbiggin, which the council also took away.

I'm not being paid by anyone. I just get so sad when I see litter in our beautiful countryside so if I pick it up I won't be sad next time I go along the road. I saw the future for us if we don't look after the area we live in. In Manchester I was nearly knee deep in litter when I visited last year. People say 'someone should do something about it'. How about you?

Rachel Dechezeaux

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Now is a great time to get down to the gym and join as a member, or get going with your journey to healthy activity.

**Mondays** – Warm and Well. **11.00am**, 45 minutes of health related exercise followed by a social hot drink and snack. This is a free class until the **end of March**.

**Fridays** – the return of Soft Play **Friday 1.30pm-3.00pm**, come down with your pre-school child (babies welcome) for social fun and play. £1 per family.

Free induction, or one to one with our gym instructor to get the most from sessions at the gym, tailored to your needs, this can be a free induction, or continued one to one sessions (up to four sessions). Get in touch to book.

**Couch to 5k -Sundays 7.00pm-8.00pm**. Start your journey to running or re-start and join our running community. Get in touch to book. (£7 a time payable upfront).

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Find it hard to get out in the darker months? Try gym membership or our morning Bootcamp or Millies Classes. Booking is essential for all classes.

Move and tone – Wednesday, at **7.00pm** (live) Aerobics session to music followed by core strength exercises for toning. (£7).

Circuits – **Sunday 4.00pm**. High intensity workout. Live.

Or try our High Intensity Bootcamp with Kirsten, **Tuesday and Thursday 6.00am-7.00am** – get that morning metabolism boost that lasts throughout the day.

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There are several different gym membership packages including six-month memberships; monthly pay as you go; couples, student, and junior memberships as well as guest day passes.

**Soft Play** - We now have a dedicated room which is available for hire - £5 per family for two hours or why not try our monthly subscription of £15 unlimited use for social, active play with your babies and pre-school child.

Our other classes are:

**Fit for Life - Mondays (zoom) 9.15am-10.15am**. Building and Maintaining Strength to live life your way.

**Walking Circuit – Wednesdays (zoom) 9.15am-10.15am**. Exercises to keep active people active.

**Strong and Able – Fridays (live) 11.00am**. Maintain your ability to get out and enjoy life, build muscle tone, stability around movement and keep flexible and mobile around joints. Standing and chair-based exercise.

We also offer Conversational French – **Tuesdays 9.30pm -10.45pm** (zoom). Cost is £5 per session.

Bookings and enquiries can be made via [www.yorebridgesportandleisure.co.uk](http://www.yorebridgesportandleisure.co.uk) or email [admin@yorebridge-sport.co.uk](mailto:admin@yorebridge-sport.co.uk) or telephone 01969 650060.

## Heavens Above

Apart from mighty Jupiter, it is not the best of months for planet spotting. Mars and Mercury are too close to the Sun to be visible. Saturn, low in the west as darkness falls, sets early around **7.00pm** and then disappears altogether by the middle of February. Venus, the brightest planet, is in the morning sky, very low down in the south-east, around **6.00am**. By the end of the month it fades away into the pre-dawn twilight and won't be back again for another 6 months. Jupiter itself, is a brilliant object, low in the western evening sky from early evening onwards. It sets around midnight early on in the month and stays with us until the end of April. A decent set of binoculars should show you its four largest moons as tiny beads of light strung out on either side of its noticeably flattened disc.

If there's a clear night this month, however, don't be put off by the lack of planets. February's frosty nights offer some of the best star-gazing of the year, if you can brave the cold! Soon after dark the view south is filled with more brilliant constellations than any other time of the year. Orion, the legendary Mighty Hunter of the old Greek myths, and his retinue dominate the scene. Sirius, the leader of Canis Major, Orion's faithful Hound, is particularly striking shining nearly twice as bright as any other star in the sky.

Over in the north-east you'll find the familiar seven stars of the Plough or Big Dipper standing on its handle. They form the body and tail of Ursa Major, the Great Bear, the third largest constellation in the sky. Ursa Minor, the Little Bear, home to Polaris, the Pole Star lies not too far away roughly halfway up the northern sky. Lower in the north-west, beyond Polaris, you'll find the squashed 'W' shape of Cassiopeia, the African Queen. Capella, the 6th brightest star in the sky, lies high overhead in the constellation

of Auriga the Charioteer. The pale band of the Winter Milky Way runs up from the southern horizon right through Auriga and then down to the rich star-fields of Cygnus the Swan, low in the north. A lovely sight on a clear sparkling night from a dark location.

Towards the end of February the winter stars begin to drift noticeably westwards making way for the first of the spring constellations, Leo the Lion and Bootes the Herdsman. Arcturus, Bootes main star, is the fourth brightest in the sky. Its reappearance in the east is a sure sign that the warmer days of Spring are not too far away.

This year's Dark Skies festival organised by the Yorkshire Dales and North Yorks National Parks runs from **February 9th until the 25th**. There are loads of astronomy themed activities and events on offer so if you want to get involved go to [www.darks skies nationalparks.org.uk](http://www.darks skies nationalparks.org.uk) for more details.

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***FEBRUARY WHATS ON LISTING;  
please add these dates to your Diary***

**February**

- 2 Dominoes. Carperby Institute. 7.30pm.
- 6/7 BAWB School Nursery Open Day.  
See p. 5.
- 7 Hawes Drama Club meeting. 7.00pm.  
Gayle Institute.
- 7 Bellerby Study Group meeting 7.30pm.  
Memorial Hall. See p. 23
- 12 Whist Drive 7.30pm. Gayle Institute.  
See p. 26.
- 14 Swaledale Festival Volunteer Meeting.  
2.30pm. Reeth Memorial Hall.  
See p. 28.
- 15 Friends of the Dales Digital Talk.  
4.30pm. See p 9.
- 15 Bainbridge W.I. Meeting. 7.30pm.  
Bainbridge Village Hall. See p. 34.
- 16 Leyburn u3a group. Talk on Gifts in  
Wills. See p. 22.
- 21 Bellerby Study Group meeting 7.30pm.  
Memorial Hall. See p. 23.
- 21 Penhill Ladies meeting at 7.30pm.  
Carperby Institute. See p.39.
- 21 Local History Group talk. 2.00pm.  
Harmby Village Hall. See p.14.
- 22 Volunteers Meeting 2.00pm at LACC,  
Leyburn. See p.11.
- 22 Thoraby W.I. Soup and Sweet.  
Thoraby Village Hall. See p 3.
- 24 Quiz and Supper Evening. Sycamore  
Hall. 6.00pm. See p. 15.
- 26 Whist Drive 7.30pm. Gayle Institute.  
See p. 26.
- 26 Swaledale Festival Friends Booking  
opens. See p. 28.
- 26 End date for submission of YDNPA  
survey. See p. 9.
- 28 Bellerby Study Group meeting 7.30pm.  
Memorial Hall. See p. 23.

**March**

- 3 Richmond Chamber Orchestra Concert.  
2.30pm. Georgian Theatre Royal.  
See p. 23.

**News from Dales  
Countryside Museum**

The Dales Countryside Museum and National Park Centre are open daily **10.00am to 5.00pm** until the end of October, then **10.00am to 4.00pm** in November and December. Closed Christmas Eve to Boxing Day and January. Last entry one hour before closing.

Contact: [hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk](mailto:hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk) or call **01969 666210**.

**Exhibition** (included in museum admission)

**February 1st to April 10th - Cry of the Curlew**

Our next exhibition highlights the plight of the curlew and shares the work that is taking place to try to support this at risk bird which is such a key part of the Yorkshire Dales.

The Cry of the Curlew is a celebration of the curlew and the upper Dales landscapes to which they have returned to breed every year since time immemorial. The graceful and elegant curlew has iconic status in the Dales because of the impact made by the birds' annual reappearances, their engaging presence whilst with us, and the absence felt when they depart. They leave us with the hope and expectation of seeing them again, next year, but their survival is increasingly challenged. The exhibition highlights the issues facing the curlew today through the stunning photography of Paco Valera, insightful poetry and prose by Barbara Murray, and inspiring artwork by Sally Zaranko, Hester Cox, Judith Bromley and Robert Nicholls.

Artists Sarah Smith and Sue Harrison have been working with Settle and Kirkby Malham schools in the Craven area, exploring the plight of the curlew following a farm visit to Hill Top Farm, Malham in June 2023. In response to this, children have created quilted curlew landscapes using felt, posters, poems and paintings that will feature in the exhibition. This education work grows out of the Clapham Curlew Cluster – a group of 15 farms and 20 volunteers in the Clapham area collecting data on curlew through wader surveys, working in partnership with the RSPB and supported by Yorkshire Dales Millenium Trust. As part of this work June Gersten Roberts has created a film with farmers about their lived experience of curlew allowing them to have their voices heard.

At a moment in history when many species,

including the beloved curlew, face the prospect of extinction, the exhibition highlights the wide-ranging custodial work taking place in and beyond the Dales to ensure that their chain of continuity is not broken in our time.

Paco Valera says “Our work aims to let “what is” speak for itself through photographic images, poetry and prose. To invite a closer look; to really see and to connect with what is there, and to awaken feeling, meaning and significance in the human experience, perhaps by a sense of renewal, and replenishment.

### **Yorkshire Dales Young Archaeologists’ Club**

Our December club meeting had a festive feel as we looked at Christmas traditions, made rag rug wreaths using recycled materials and created our own tree decorations inspired by stained glass. In January we had an exclusive look round the Museum, thinking about the things on display, what story they tell and what the children would choose to display themselves. The club meets once a month on a Saturday morning, 10-12. Please call **01969 666210** if you’d like to join in or email [dcm@yorkshiredales.org.uk](mailto:dcm@yorkshiredales.org.uk) Young people age 8 – 17 years are welcome to come along to try a session from February onwards.

### **Scurry Club Pass**

We’ve some great activities planned for the year ahead so if you’d like your child to be able to visit all year round, why not think about a Scurry Club Pass. Your child and an accompanying adult carer can visit all year round and kids can start collecting their squirrel badge and first stamp as soon as they visit.

### **Friends of Dales Countryside Museum**

Due to unforeseen circumstances the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Dales Countryside Museum had to be postponed in October. This meeting will now be held at the lecture on **Friday February 16, 2024 at 7.30pm.**

### **Dark Skies Festival**

The 2024 line-up of star-studded events and activities takes place from **February 9th to the 25th**. The stunning dark sky of the National Park, free from light pollution, is one of its very special qualities and it has been designated a Dark Sky Reserve by Dark Sky International (formerly International Dark-Sky Association).

Local businesses, including DCM and

Stage1Cycles/Firebox cafe are hosting various events to help visitors get under the starry skies experience the best of the Yorkshire Dales by night. Events and activities include stargazing talks with expert astronomers at some of the best locations in the Park, night-time fell running, astro-photography and canoeing in the dark. There is also plenty of family friendly fun such as rocket making, nocturnal wildlife talks, planet trails and dark skies crafts.

### **What’s on in February**

Events are included in Museum admission unless otherwise stated.

**Curlew Calling. Saturday 3rd, Monday 12th, Thursday, 15th and Tuesday 27th February. 10.00am – 3.00pm.**

Come chat, draw and write about your curlew memories and experiences, with Sally Zaranko, one of the contributors to the exhibition.

### **Dark Skies crafting fun for families.**

**Tuesday, February 13th, 1.00pm - 4.00pm.**

Drop in crafting fun.

**Dark Skies Festival - Beginners guide to the night sky and rocket making.**

**Wednesday, February 14th 10.00am–noon.**

Take a journey through the Cosmos with stargazing expert Richard Darn. From spotting ancient constellations to finding galaxies, this is a fun, practical session to take your astro knowledge to a new level! You will even get the chance to handle space rocks over four billion years old! If the sun is out we'll even have a go at safe solar observing. With a chance to make and launch your own rocket and 10% off a Dark Skies themed menu at the Firebox cafe, this is great for kids over 6 and adults!

A free event for children but they are to be accompanied by an adult paying the museum admission fee.

### **Bike ride and pizza planet making**

**Thursday, February 15th 3.00pm – 5.00pm**

Join us for our Dark Skies Bike ride and pizza planet making afternoon event.

£12 - Please book online via Stage1Cycles.

### **Dark Skies crafting fun**

**Friday, February 16th 1.00pm - 4.00pm.**

Drop in crafting fun.

## News from the DCM (continued)

**Pendragon Castle - its history and rescue**

**Friday, February 16th 7.30pm – 9.00pm**

Friends of the Dales Countryside Museum evening lecture. John Bucknell talks on the history and rescue of Pendragon Castle.

Free for members or donation for non-members.

**Star and Moon Biscuit Decorating.**

**Wednesday, February 21st 10.00am – noon.**

Moon and stars biscuit decorating with Helen from the Firebox Café.

**Dark Skies Festival - Experience the Night Sky.**

**Saturday, February 24th 6.30pm - 9.30pm.**

An evening with Richard Darn. A presentation and celestial experience of a guide to the night sky. We'll go in search of wonders in the night sky as the winter stars give way to those of spring. We will spy distant star clusters and have a fantastic view of a near first quarter moon. Bring your smartphone and we will show you how to take a picture of lunar craters, lava flows and mountains! Plus a short distance away is Mars, glowing with its trademark red tint. There will also be a fascinating beginners' tour of the heavens using planetarium software. £15 Ticket includes a warming supper by the Firebox Cafe.



The children have returned after the Christmas break eager to share what they have been doing at home. Our new starters have settled in well to their new routines and made new friends to share experiences together.

In our Sunshine's room we have been learning all about Winter. The children have been talking about how ice and snow are formed. They investigated how colours mixed when painted on ice, explored the footprints and marks that animals make in the snow, counted the snowballs into the numbered buckets, played in the igloo in our winter themed role play area and shared winter stories together.

The Duckling's room children have been learning about the different modes of transport, learning new words and exploring new textures. They have been developing their motor skills by building and inserting shapes into puzzles. This involved sharing and taking turns which are all valuable skills to have throughout life.

We have lots more fun learning planned for the month ahead and look forward to sharing this with you next month. We would like to say a very big thank you to Cath and Mel who kindly helped to organise some fun activities for the children leading up to Christmas. They kindly raised money to help fund some new treasure baskets for the Duckling's room and new books for the Sunshine's room.

## Leyburn and District u3a Group

On **Friday, February 16th**, Alison England will speak on Gifts in Wills for Cancer Research UK.

Alison is the Legacy Relationship Manager at Cancer Research UK and will inform us about developments at the charity and recent research. She will also share the impact of gifts in wills and details of the charity's free will service.

Everyone is welcome to attend, we meet on the third Friday of the month at Leyburn Arts and Community Centre, Richmond Road, Leyburn DL8 5DL. Doors open at **10.00am for 10.30am**. Annual membership is £12 or £20 for two people at the same address. For details contact **Sue Mellish on 01748 850471** email [susiemellish@g.mail.com](mailto:susiemellish@g.mail.com).

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## The Richmond Chamber Orchestra

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Tickets available online at the Georgian Theatre [www.georgiantheatroyal.co.uk](http://www.georgiantheatroyal.co.uk), at the theatre or by phone on **01748 825252**.

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The RCO aims to give concerts of a very high standard and with an intriguing blend of old and new, including a piece by a living composer in our future concerts. Being small and flexible, we can play in unusual spaces where live classical music may not often be heard. If you are interested in inviting us to play for you or coming to our next concert, please get in touch via our website or by email.

[Website\\_richmondchamberorchestra.co.uk](http://Website_richmondchamberorchestra.co.uk).

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## Bellerby Study Group

**February 7th.** An RHS judge, Roger Burnett, is returning and has agreed to answer questions in a Gardening Q and A.

**February 21st.** Carol Tetlow is giving a talk entitled Stethoscope Secrets. As a retired GP, she donates a percentage of her book sales and any fee for her talk to Breast Cancer UK. Stethoscope Secrets, is about her career and is full of anecdotes.

**February 28th.** Stuart Atkins will talk about The Great American Songbook. He will bring a keyboard and talk about, and play, a lot of the songs by the great writers.

All meetings start at **7.30pm** in the Memorial Hall, Church Street, Bellerby, DL8 5QL. Talks are followed by refreshments and a chance to chat. The cost is £3 for a single visit. Any queries can be directed to **Chris Akrill on 07983 300336**.



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## News from The Wensleydale School

Please can you help?

As we continue to grow in student numbers, we are now seeking some additional support from adult volunteers in a number of different roles.

### CCF

Firstly, in 2019 we established a Combined Cadet Force at school, in partnership with the Army. We have over 40 cadets regularly attending each week. Wensleydale cadets enjoy a busy programme of events. Including, annual summer camp, visits to military bases, regular parade and drill practice, as well as some prestigious public parades in conjunction with our local Leyburn Royal British Legion.

Unfortunately, we currently find ourselves lacking sufficient Cadet Force Adult Volunteers to be able to continue providing these opportunities to our students and are appealing to you for help.

Could you support us as a volunteer? We meet on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons during term time. As a volunteer you would make a tangible difference. No previous military experience is necessary as full training would be given and there would be an opportunity for you to gain both military and civilian qualifications, as well as developing leadership skills.

Please contact Julia Polley- Headteacher – [julia.polley@wensleydaleschool.net](mailto:julia.polley@wensleydaleschool.net) if you are interested in giving some of your time. We will get back to you and invite you to come to school for a coffee and some more information.

### Governors

School governors offer strategic guidance, rather than getting involved in the operational aspects of a school.

A school governor's relationship with the school's leadership team involves challenging existing processes to drive school improvement. School governors usually attend around six meetings per year. Although becoming a school governor requires drive and commitment, you will enjoy many professional and personal rewards, including career development opportunities and the chance to support young people's futures.

Who can be a school governor? You do not

need to be a parent or education expert to volunteer as a school governor. Schools require a combination of hard and soft skills to ensure their boards operate effectively. Whether you are an experienced professional, or embarking on the first stages of your career, we will work hard to match you with an appropriate school. If you are over eighteen and willing to devote some of your time to improving educational standards every month, we encourage you to apply.

At Wensleydale, we have a strong and well-supported governing body, led by our Chair Rev. Stephen Hanscombe. However, two vacancies have arisen, due to some governors coming to the end of their tenures. So, if you are passionate about education and have time to help us, we would love to hear from you.

The Full Governing Board meets three times per year on a Wednesday evening between **6.00pm and 8.00pm**. Governors on committees would also meet each term. There is also the opportunity to meet staff and students, through learning visits in school time.

For further information and an informal chat, please contact the Headteacher Julia Polley on [julia.polley@wensleydaleschool.net](mailto:julia.polley@wensleydaleschool.net).

### Parent Teacher Association

A PTA is a group of volunteer parents and teachers who work together to make their school a better environment for children to learn. They raise extra funds through a wide range of fun and creative initiatives, events, and much, much more. They are also known as HSA, PA, PTFA, Friends of, or better still, Superheroes!

PTAs can massively improve the life of a school community, and positively influence the education system. Post-pandemic, there has never been a more urgent time for parents to come together for the benefit of their children and their school.

We are aiming to form a new and vibrant group , who will support us to raise money for new outdoor furniture, decorations for the proms and presentation evening, enrichment resources and all the little things that improve the student overall experience in school.

If you are a parent or grandparent of a student at Wensleydale and would be interested in joining the PTA, we would love to hear from you. For this role, please contact Mark Ashcroft at [mark.ashcroft@wensleydaleschool.net](mailto:mark.ashcroft@wensleydaleschool.net).





## February Update

Musical Workshops and Junior Jam Band

Following three music taster workshops across Wensleydale and Swaledale, we will be running eight jam band sessions on Friday evenings in Leyburn from **4.30pm to 6.00pm**. The sessions for children aged 6 to 11 years old will be led by Bee Darcy and Jennifer Sagers. Experience doesn't matter - come along, have fun, make new friends and play music together. Children who play an instrument are encouraged to bring them along. There will be instruments available to try as well. Full details will be available on our website and social media pages.

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We are delighted to be working with NYMAZ, a development charity promoting opportunities in music for young people across the region, supported by Youth Music and Arts Council England. Our sessions for all ages are welcoming new members. Play, record, and perform (11yrs - 19yrs). **Sundays 2.00pm to 5.00pm** at Thoraby Village Hall. Leyburn Jazz Collective (16yrs and over). **Tuesdays 7.00pm to 9.30pm.** | Wensleydale Gospel Choir (16yrs and over). **Mondays 7.00pm to 8.30pm.**

To find out more or register your interest please contact **Colin Bailey** on 07711 21169 or [admin@blueboxt.org](mailto:admin@blueboxt.org) or [www.blueboxt.org](http://www.blueboxt.org).

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### Colin and Mary

Would like to thank everyone for the cards and messages received on their Golden Wedding Anniversary

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## Winter Gardening

Let's open the curtains and have a bleary-eyed peep - semi dark and furious rain assaulting the window; I'm not going out in THAT. Maybe a bit of indoor activity, so left to right on the front room windowsill are several projects I started in the Autumn to scratch that gardening itch over the dormant winter months.

First off are two pots full of citrus, grown from a mix of pips gathered throughout the year from Jaffa oranges and far too many gin and tonic lemons. Dried out and sown an inch deep in ordinary compost, within a week they'd sprouted, and I now have a glossy mix of grow your own vitamin c plants. I'm never going to compete with Stephenson's Hawes market fruit display, but it's all about the anticipation.

Next in line is a *Cedronella canariensis*, the Balm of Gilead, a native of the Canary Islands.



Grown from eBay sourced seed, this parent plant flourished in the back garden all through Summer, its tiny purple flowers proving a magnet for bees, hoverflies and butterflies. The leaves have a strong camphor scent and I enjoy adding one to a cuppa. Not to everyone's taste though - certain folk have stopped calling. I now have a further twenty seedlings sown in October all huddled in the bathroom window and sticking their tongues out at Jack Frost. Words of warning, this plant hates garden soil - it wilts and blackens, so when re-introduced into the garden in April, I will container plant it in general purpose compost.

I'm into the unknown in Winter with the herb

Basil. Having enjoyed the leaves with just about every tomato dish in Summer, I thought I'd give a late Autumn sowing a go. A light covering of compost, plenty of light and warmth and a forest of the stuff is what I now have. If they flourish, up ahead lie days of doggedly pricking out, yet let's keep fingers crossed for fresh salad in the new year.

Last up is the weeping fig. Purely ornamental, this I train as a bonsai, cutting stems hard back to a leaf joint throughout the year and allowing the main stems to thicken up and dominate the plant. The little spray of leaves appears to sprout from a pair of elephant's legs which I love, although some find it alarming.

All the plants mentioned should be kept at room temperature, watered sparingly and allowed to dry out in-between - the *Cedronella* drinks like a parched spaniel in summer but overdoing it in winter and it's curtains.

Ed Gardener

	<b>Mike Addison Optician</b>
	Market Street, Kirkby Stephen, <b>017683 71555</b> Email : <a href="mailto:infoks@mikeaddisonoptician.com">infoks@mikeaddisonoptician.com</a>
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<h2>Dales Dance</h2> <h3>School of Performing Arts</h3> <p><b>Ballet for boys and girls</b> <b>From the age of 3 years</b></p> <p><b>Modern Dance/Jazz</b> <b>For children and teenagers</b></p> <p><b>Tap for children and adults</b></p> <p><b>For more information please contact:</b> <b>Hannah M. Smith RAD RTS AISTD</b> <b>07794 009857 or</b> <b><a href="mailto:hannah.dalesdance@gmail.com">hannah.dalesdance@gmail.com</a></b> <b><a href="http://www.dalesdance.com">www.dalesdance.com</a></b> <b>Askrigg, Aysgarth, Hawes &amp; Leyburn</b></p>
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We are delighted to announce that the full 2024 programme is now on our website!

This year's line-up features a broad selection of the finest musicians and artists from Yorkshire, elsewhere in the country, and all around the world. There are a large number of hands-on events such as workshops, participatory walks and craft demonstrations, many of which explore poignant subjects such as landscape, ecology and climate change.

Other treats include North-East folk trio The Young'uns; Brodsky Quartet; Jazz guitarist Martin Taylor; US star comedian Rich Hall; Emma Johnson's *Orchestra of the Environment*; cellist Raphael Wallfisch; 'Whispering' Bob Harris; tenor James Gilchrist; Mathilde Milwidsky string trio; *Bach Revealed* with Julian and Jiaxin Lloyd Webber; joyful world music with Antonio Forcione's AKA Trio; Irish folk supergroup The Jeremiahs; saxophone quartet The WHOOP Group; Villiers Quartet; folk duo The Carrivick Sisters; glorious African-European fusion singers The Ganda Boys and comedy quartet Graffiti Classics.

Have a browse and be poised to book your tickets when booking opens on **Monday, March 11th**. Remember, you can subscribe to our 'Festival Friends' scheme and benefit from a two-week priority booking period starting on **Monday, February 26th**, along with the knowledge that your support is helping arts in the Upper Dales to flourish. Friends are also invited to a members-only social during the Festival fortnight. To take out or renew your membership, please visit [www.swalefest.org/Support/Friends](http://www.swalefest.org/Support/Friends) or ring our office on **01748 880019** with any enquiries. Brochures will hit doormats in early February. If you are not on our mailing list, you can pick one up at Hudson House in Reeth, or email [enquiries@swalefest.org](mailto:enquiries@swalefest.org) and we will post one to you.

### Volunteer Briefing

The Festival relies on a dedicated team of volunteers who give their time generously and with great enthusiasm. Roles include event stewards and accommodation hosts. We particularly need 'village reps' to help us distribute and replenish leaflets/brochures and display posters in the Festival lead-up. On

**Wednesday, February 14th** we will be holding our annual Volunteer Briefing from **2.30pm to 4.00pm** at Reeth Memorial Hall. Everyone is welcome. Come along to meet our friendly Volunteers Coordinator and register your interest. For further information, please email [volunteers@swalefest.org](mailto:volunteers@swalefest.org).

Swaledale Festival Community Consultation Feedback February – a plea for your views!

It is vital that the Festival's programme benefits our communities and that - as well as offering something new and unexpected - it reflects local interests. From seasoned Festival-goers to those who have never attended a Festival event before, we are really keen to hear your views! Throughout February, simple paper questionnaires will be available to fill out and post anonymously in collection boxes at these locations: Hawes Community Office, Hudson House, Reeth and The Station, Richmond. The form will also be available to fill out and submit online via a link on the Festival's homepage throughout February: [www.swalefest.org](http://www.swalefest.org). If you have a few minutes to participate, your feedback would be much appreciated.



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## Mystery Picture

The carving of the bird in last month's Mystery Picture can be found on St Matthew's Well in front of the Vicarage in Carperby.

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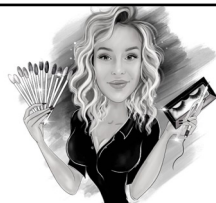
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## Award for Tom Addison

Thirty four year old Furniture Maker & Designer Tom Addison of Hawes is one of the winners of a prestigious UK-wide competition which celebrates the talents of 60 outstanding young people working in the furniture and furnishing industry. The competition was launched as part of the 60th anniversary celebrations of The Furniture Makers' Company, the City of London livery company and charity for the furnishing industry.



Tom has spent the past few years growing his business, Tom Addison Fine Furniture. Since its inception, the business has thrived through exciting bespoke commissions, handcrafted in his traditional workshop nestled in the heart of Wensleydale, Tom has expanded his reach by successfully utilising social media, which has translated into commissions from both the UK and abroad. As he enters his third year, Tom is determined to further enhance his reputation both within the UK and globally.

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## Marie Curie Wensleydale Fundraising Group

Thank you to everyone who supported the three events that were held in November 2023. The Quiz and Pudding Night, plus the Lasagne Bulb Planting, and the Christmas Stall at St. Matthew's, Leyburn, raised over £1,700.

This amount, added to what has been raised since April 2023, means that Marie Curie will go into 2024, with a fund of £4,000 from Wensleydale. The money raised from these events will be used locally to help those who are living with any terminal illness. The Marie Curie Nursing Service will give Hospice Care at Home to those in need.

If you are interested in helping this local fundraising group to raise more money for Marie Curie, please contact **Mary Sadler**, phone: (01969) 623813, or email: [wensleydale.mariecurie@gmail.com](mailto:wensleydale.mariecurie@gmail.com).

It would be lovely to have more people helping at, or helping to organize events, holding a tin at a street collection, putting up a poster, etc., if you're able to give an hour or two here and there, you will be very welcome.

### Cleaner Required

The Quaker Meeting Houses in Bainbridge and Countersett are looking for a cleaner at £12 per hour, 3 hours a month (2 hrs in Bainbridge and 1 hour in Countersett) beginning in March.

Please phone **Gwen Clark on 667411** who will be happy to give you further details.



Robin Jessop

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A big thank you to all the people involved with Flowers in Bloom, Yarn Bombers and Christmas Lights which make Hawes such a special place to live and visit.

## Auntie Carolyn

Happy 50th Birthday on February 21st.  
Congratulations and love from

Megan, Matt, Ted, Lily and Noah xxx

## Aysgarth Garage Shop and Post Office. Tel 663900.

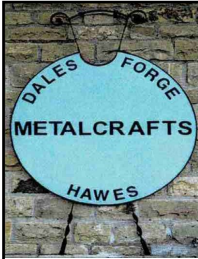
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## Community Police Alert System

Martin Metcalfe of Richmondshire Community Police is in the process of promoting a new 'North Yorkshire Messenger Alert' service to the local community.

Martin says 'The alerts are mainly from the Police and other agencies such as Action Fraud to warn you in relation to new scams, so I would encourage you to sign up.'

'Once I have set you up, you will receive an e mail to set up your password and access your personal account. Then you will receive relevant alerts for the area you select from the Police in the main, where you can reply and update with any information, so we see it immediately and can react accordingly.'

'When you reply, I would also be grateful if you would also give me a grading in relation to how confident you are with North Yorkshire Police at this time. 1 being not confident up to 5 which is really confident and that will give us an idea how the Community feel about North Yorkshire Police.'

'Also, if you have any issues in your neighbourhood that you would like to raise, such as speeding vehicles, anti-social behaviour etc, then please also let me know. If however, you wish to report a specific crime, then please report this via the usual methods such as the 101 system or on line, unless it is an emergency.'

'If you would like to sign up to receive these alerts you can email me at [martin.metcalfe@northyorkshire.police.uk](mailto:martin.metcalfe@northyorkshire.police.uk) with the following information;

Full name with address with post code.

E mail Address and mobile phone number.

Landline Number (Ideally, but not necessary).'

'If you are not happy passing this information to me, I am happy to receive an e mail and will reply from my North Yorkshire Police email, so you know it is genuine. If not, I will try and arrange a personal visit from a uniformed Officer.'

'Thank you very much for your time'

**Martin Metcalfe**

**Inspector 583**

**Richmond Community Police**



## Upper Dales Health Watch

The Patient Participation Group for the  
Central Dales Practice

Synopsis of the meeting held on November  
21st

Wi-fi at Sycamore Hall – This has been taken up with the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) as a long-term solution for Flat 4 (the Step-up Step down flat). The GPs/ANP visiting Sycamore Hall would also greatly benefit from having access to wi-fi when visiting patients. Cllr. Yvonne Peacock will get the wider issue of no land lines after 2025 on the agenda of the March ACC meeting in Richmond (Mercury House).

The Flu and Covid injections – Some 80% of the over 65s had been vaccinated. The eligible under 65s had achieved a lower score which was disappointing. The Central Dales Practice has now used all the Covid vaccine it had been allocated.

Lynn Irwin hopes to start a monthly Practice Newsletter. This would be on Facebook and in the Upper Wensleydale Newsletter. The Central Dales Practice is now fully staffed. The new GP Assistant (aka Medical Secretary) based at Hawes is Karen Stanley. The new Receptionist is Tara Batty from Bainbridge who is going to train as a Health Care Assistant. The new Pharmacy Technician, Sahira Schutte is now in post.

Building the Catterick Integrated Care Centre (CICC) is expected to start in January 2024 and to open in 2026.

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## Bainbridge W.I.

We appear to have survived another busy year and the fun (or stress!) of another festive period.

We had great fun at our Christmas Party at The Garden Rooms at Tennants in Leyburn where some of our members decided to entertain us with a pantomime based on Cinderella, written and loaned by a member of another WI. It was all very light-hearted (just as well as we had only rehearsed once!) and there was utter chaos when it came to changing costumes and finding props, but it appears to have gone down very well and everyone enjoyed it.

We decided to record this for posterity (and those members who were unable to join us) which led to us inviting David Driver along and surprising him with a guest appearance in the panto as Prince Charming! Poor chap - a lone man in a room full of lively women!! He coped well and said it had been an eye-opener into our WI!

We are now looking forward to our exciting 2024 Programme which is already packed full of interesting monthly meetings, club activities and trips. We started the year with part one of a two part Patchwork Quilting Workshop where we learned the basics to allow us to make a cushion cover, tablemat or similar. If we do our homework, our projects should be completed at the second workshop in February.

Unfortunately, a bitterly cold and icy January evening meant most of our members decided not to run the gauntlet of getting to our first meeting of the year. However, those of us who managed it had a good evening with a fun quiz, albeit a little bit chilly!

Our February meeting will take place on **Thursday 15th at 7.30 pm** in Bainbridge Village Hall when we will welcome members of the Yorkshire Dales Moorland Group to talk to us about the wildlife and flora/fauna of the moorlands. We hope to link this to one of our future outings, so watch out for details of that in due course.

Meanwhile, our clubs are getting going again and we hope these offer something for everyone with a Book Club, Gardening Club, Walking Club, Craft Club and Lunch Club. It's amazing how we fit it all in! Unfortunately we had to cancel the 'Soup and Sweet' lunch planned for January and our next one is not due until **May 20th**.

We are currently considering the future of these lunches which have seen attendance reduce over recent months, along with a decline in the number of able volunteers to run them. If you have any views on this which may help in our discussions on the way forward, please get in touch.

The lunches were originally launched to allow us to give something back to the community and to provide an opportunity for people to get together over a warm meal. Monies raised from these lunches have allowed us to hold the Annual Community Lunch where older members of our community are invited to enjoy a three-course homemade meal free of charge. This originally took place in January but in recent years has been moved to around Easter in the hope of avoiding the worst of the bad weather and the winter 'bugs' which were both affecting attendance.

If you would like more information about our busy and friendly WI or any of our events and activities, please contact our President, **Nicola Robinson on 650801**. We would be delighted to welcome you to our merry throng and can assure you of a warm welcome, lots of fun and plenty of opportunities.

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## The Farmer Network - Working hard to deliver a positive message!

For almost 20 years the Farmer Network has proudly supported farmers to react to every challenge and every opportunity.

As an independent, not for profit organisation, funding to enable the Network to operate can be difficult to secure. The fact that farmer membership continues to rise each year, shows that the Farmer Network is needed by the farming community more than ever.

“We try and fill the gaps in support” says Chair Rob Hitch. “We are led by farmers and so we have an understanding of what is needed, and we then look to deliver it”.

The Farmer Network supports farmers to look at their business incomes, save business costs, providing critical knowledge and information to farmers and promoting the value and benefit that

farming delivers in a positive light to the public and those with interest in rural affairs.

Now, with so many changes in agricultural policy and support payments on the horizon, more farmers are turning to the Network.

Within the last year the Farmer Network has delivered a breathtaking array of farm related projects covering business support, grants and other funding, changes to legislation, animal health, support for Young People in farming and other meetings to look at health and wellbeing.

Yorkshire Dales Farmer Network Chair Richard Stockdale says “As a farming family in the Dales, we’ve enjoyed hosting Network meetings and sharing our experiences with other farmers including the young people who will be the future of farming and foremost in looking after the natural environment. The network wants to support them as much as possible”.

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## Rainfall Figures for last six months of 2023 (in mm)

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total for first six months	Total for 2022
<b>Hawes</b>	173	141	132	158	200	297	692	1793
<b>Breconbar</b>	175	94	96	138	186	240	500	1429
<b>Thornton Rust</b>	180	110	110	206	177	280	548	1611
<b>West Burton</b>	162	94	89	175	158	262	410	1351
<b>Carperby</b>	140	84	50	138	145	229	436	1222

### What was the weather like in 2023?

Set out below is a summary of the weather during the last year at Thorney Mire, west of Hawes.

After a cool start to January the weather became changeable and very mild with spells of heavy rain and showers accompanied by gusty westerly winds. By the middle of the month it became much cooler and drier with long sunny periods and overnight frosts. There was snow on the 16th. Towards the last week of the month temperatures rose to around average with more cloudy conditions and light rain at times.

**January Max. Temp. 10.6C on 11th.**  
**Min. Temp. - 4.9C on 17th.**

The mild, changeable weather persisted into February but, by the end of the first week it turned cooler with sunny spells but, also some light rain and drizzle. Overnight frost was common where cloud cleared after dusk. On the last week of the month the wind turned northerly and it was drier, but still quite cloudy.

**February Max. Temp. 9.8C on 17th and 19th.** **Min. Temp. - 0.9C on 6th.**

High pressure had become established to the west of the country and March began with cold, north east winds and overcast days. A subtle change in the wind to a more northerly direction drew colder air from the Arctic with moderate snow showers and severe overnight frosts. By the middle of the month much milder weather spread from the west with rain preceded by snow. It then remained changeable for the rest of March with temperatures near average.

**March Max. Temp. 13.2C on 18th.**  
**Min Temp. - 6.1C on 8th.**

After a short dry spell at the start of April, very unsettled but milder weather spread from the Atlantic. There were drier, sunny intervals by day between areas of low pressure with clear cold nights and frosts. By the middle of the month an anticyclone had developed to the north of the country drawing cool dry easterly winds from the Continent accompanied by a lot of cloud. These conditions persisted to the end of the month.

**April Max. Temp. 15.9C on 18th.**  
**Min. Temp.- 1.1C on 25th.**

May began rather changeable and cloudy with a little light rain at times. There were occasional sunny periods, which with the increasing power of the sun, resulted in quite warm days. By the middle of the month it became much drier and sunnier as the wind changed to a more southerly direction with temperatures exceeding 20C for several days.

**May Max. Temp. 22.5C on 22nd. and 25th.**  
**Min. Temp. 4.1C on 3rd.**

The high pressure established in May continued into June although changes in the position of the anticyclone affected the wind direction. Easterly winds dominated for a time with cloud conditions and temperatures below average. A sudden change to a southerly wind on the 11th. brought a plume of very warm and humid air from the Continent with a thunderstorm in the afternoon. The very warm and sunny weather continued, but with occasional thundery shower. However, towards the end on the month it turned cooler with rain at times.

**June Max. Temp. 27.0C on 13th**  
**Min. Temp. 4.8C on 4th**

July was dominated by a generally west to south westerly air stream bringing frequent depressions from the Atlantic. This resulted in spells of rain followed by showers and sunny periods. Very warm, humid air on the 8th. brought heavy rain and thunder was heard nearby. There was a particularly wet spell in the middle of the month with heavy thundery showers being driven north over the country on a gusty south westerly wind. Temperatures were near average.

**July Max. Temp. 24.5C on 8th.**  
**Min. Temp. 9.9C on 3rd.**

There was no respite to the changeable wet weather through August. (Well it was the school holidays!) The end of the first week saw a few dry days but towards the middle of the month the weather became very unsettled and on the 19th. a storm crossed the country causing disruption in Scotland and north east England. Drier weather returned towards the end of the month, but it was cool with northerly winds.

**August Max. Temp. 24.7C on 11th.**  
**Min Temp. 7.7C on 31st.**

A southerly wind caused by high pressure over Europe drew very warm, dry air across the country in the first half of September. By the middle of the month the wind turned westerly and the weather became changeable with light rain at times and temperatures near average. It then became more unsettled with heavy rain and strong gusty winds with nearly 70mm of rain falling between the 17th and 20th.

**September Max. Temp. 24.3C on 9th.**  
**Min. Temp. 6.8C on 13th.**

October continued with more heavy rain and stormy conditions and over 50mm of rain fell between the 4th and 5th resulting in large areas of flooded land with some roads closed around Hawes. The second week was drier and sunnier but, by the middle of the month it turned colder with some overnight ground frosts. Temperatures recovered later, but the weather turned changeable with spells of light rain and showers towards the end of the month.

**October Max. Temp. 17.1C on 9th.**  
**Min. Temp. - 0.2C on 17th.**

Changeable weather continued into November with a storm moving up the English Channel on the 2nd bringing heavy rain. A strong jet stream

brought frequent deep depressions across the country. Cold northerly winds and clear skies between weather systems resulted in some frosty nights. A further storm on the 13th brought gales and more heavy rain. Eventually the jet stream moved further north and it became drier but colder during the last week with more overnight frosts. Snow showers overnight on the 29th left a thin covering of snow the following day.

**November Max. Temp. 11.5C on 23rd.**  
**Min. Temp. - 1.4C on 29th.**

The first week of December continued to be cold with overnight frosts, this was followed by a brief milder spell with wind and heavy rain. There was a brief interlude of drier weather from the 12th to the 15th but then more rain and showers spread eastwards across the country. Christmas was dull with rain and drizzle but Boxing Day was dry and sunny. The year ended with yet another named storm called "Gerrit" with more heavy rain, hail showers and strong gusty winds.

**December Max. Temp. 10.9C on 19th. and 24th**  
**Min. Temp. - 3.2C on 6th.**

The country suffered a battering from several severe storms in Autumn and Winter. Unfortunately, in many instances, these caused extensive flooding, gale damage and, sadly, loss of life. Many properties were left uninhabitable and crops destroyed. It is likely these events may become more frequent as a result of global warming.

**John Turner**

### Mary Sumner

would like to thank to everyone who helped her celebrate her recent 100th birthday in style. Special thanks to Jackie and her girls at the Pantry for the wonderful buffet and Shannon at Feather and Fern for the beautiful flower table decorations.

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Accountants, O'Reilly, Hawes	14	Joiner and Cabinet Maker, Bushby	13
Accountancy, Yorkshire Dales	33	Joiner, Solid Joinery Solutions	13
Advertising Rates and Contacts	40	Logs, Springbank Logs, Hawes	17
Agricultural Contracting	3	Logs, Seasoned Hardwood	10
Appliance Repairs, Bartlett	17	Massage, Mobile Therapist	15
Aysgarth Falls Hotel	26	Music Tuition, Colin Bailey	33
Aysgarth Garage	31		
Bear Cottage Interiors	29	Nails, Lashes etc, The Parlour, Hawes	29
Boiler Service – Efficient Heat	37	Optician - Mike Addison	27
Boiler and Aga Service, M.F.W.	2	Orthopaedic Massage, Reflex	23
Bookkeeping, Barn Studio	33		
Builder and Plasterer, M. Moore and Son	26	Pet & House Sitting, Home Run	32
Builder, Dinsdale John & Ted	17	Physio, Arena	18
Builder, R&B Construction	34	Plumbing and Bathrooms, Greiff	15
Builders, Moore and Blackhurst	34	Plumbing and Heating, Parfitt J	17
Building Contractor, Andrew Hawkins	5	Plumbing & Heating, Upp Wnslydale	11
Building Services, Fothergill M	33	Portable Appliance Testing	35
Butchers, Cockett, Hawes	26	Post Office,	
Butchers, Hartle, West Burton	33	Hawes, Bainbridge and Askrigg	35
		Print Services, Pennine Print	29
Chimney Sweep, Dales Sweep	32	Print Services, Wensleydale Press	19
Cleaning Services	8	Property Clearance Solutions	26
Coach Travel and Holidays – Bibby's	13		
Coal Merchant, Peacock	14	Scrap Car and Commercials Collection	13
Cumbria Stove Centre	19	Sewing Needs; Kearton	14
		Solicitor, Hall & Birtles	35
Dales Forge, Metalwork	31	Solicitors, McGarry	11
Dales Garage	13	Shepherd's Hut Accommodation	16
Dales Web Solutions	12	Slimming World	15
Dance School, Dales Dance	27	Stone House Hotel	26
Decorating Supplies. Sanderson & Co	25	Sycamore Country Store	29
Dental Lab, Orchard	32	Sykes House, Askrigg	30
Digital, Vine. Web Design & Social Media	9		
		Tailoring - Applegarth Couture	13
Edgley Garage, Aysgarth	25	Taxi, Peacock, Bainbridge	14
Electricians - Teasdale	35	Tea Room, Hamilton's, Aysgarth	5
Estate Agent, Jessop Robin	30	Tea Room, Mill Race, Aysgarth	10
		Timber Buildings, Castle	31
Fabrics for sale	12	Travel Specialists – Sturdy Travel	11
Fabrics and Haberdashery–Temptations	14	TV Aerial & Satellite Services. J.Banks	28
Fish Market, Hawes	14		
Flooring - NH	19	Vets Bainbridge	25
Fuel Available, Dale Head Garage	12	Vets, Wensleydale	23
Funeral Directors, Sanderson & Co.	4		
Furniture, Handcrafted, Tom Addison	33	Wensleydale Creamery, Hawes	31
		Wensleydale Tree Services, D. Allen	29
Hawes Country Store	25	Woodcraft Studio & Timber Services	5
H&M Craftsmen, Ingleton	22		
Hairdressing, Edie Peacock	40	Yorebridge House Hotel	28
Hairdressing, Twisted	13	Yore Mill Craft Shop & Gallery	13
Healing Collective, Swinithwaite	31	Yorkshire Foot Clinic	4
Hearing Tests and Aids	12		
Ironing Service–Tracy Hume	23		

## Upper Wensleydale Benefice February 2024

	St Mary & St John's, Hardraw 9.00am	St Margaret's, Hawes 10.30am	St Oswald's, Askrigg 10.30am	St Matthew's, Stalling Busk 2.30pm	Evening Prayer 4pm
3 February	<b>Coffee Morning</b> Askrigg Village Hall 10am – 12noon				
4 February	<b>The Gathering –</b> Benefice Family Communion St Oswald's Church, Askrigg at 10.30am				Evening prayer by telephone
9 February	<b>Sycamore Hall – Communion in the TV Lounge at 10am</b>				
11 February	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Café Style	12.30 Soup followed by Communion	Evening prayer by telephone
13 February				Pancakes 12- 1.30	
14 February			Ash Wednesday Service 6.30-7.30		
18 February	Holy Communion	Jubilate Family Service	Morning Prayer	Pathfinder Lent Group at Vicarage 5-6.30pm	Evening prayer by telephone
25 February	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Afternoon Prayer & Pathfinders Lent Group at Vicarage	Evening prayer by telephone
26 February		Lent Lunch at Gayle Chapel 12 noon followed by short service			

### Penhill Ladies

We are having a Bring and Share evening on **February 21st 7.30pm** at Carperby Institute.

We are asked to bring along clothes/accessories in good condition that we are able to buy and all the proceeds will go to DEMENTIA UK. All clothes left over will be taken to the CANCER RESEARCH UK shop (Catterick).

This will be an open evening, for friends to attend (£5). Wine will be served at £2 a glass, and there will be free tea/coffee, cakes etc.

Penhill Ladies meet in Carperby Village Institute at **7.30pm on the third Wednesday in the month.**

New members and visitors are warmly welcomed. For more details it's **Shelagh 01969 663958 or Rosie 01969 662691.**

### Hawes Library

The Home Library Service is a free personal service for people of all ages who live in North Yorkshire and are unable to physically visit their local Library. The service is available on a permanent or temporary basis. Our Home Library team drop off and collect items. We can also choose your books and arrange for a friend or relative to collect and return them. This can be standard print, large print or audio books.

Contact Hawes Library on **01969 667400** or email [hawes.library@outlook.com](mailto:hawes.library@outlook.com) for further information.

Are you also aware that you can access Press Reader for online newspapers and magazines through the library service and Borrow Box an online service to download e books and e audiobooks to your devices such as a mobile phone or Kindle.



## LEYBURN ARTS & COMMUNITY CENTRE

Richmond Road, LEYBURN, DL8 5DL

Bookings & Info: **01969 624510** [leyburnartscentre.com](http://leyburnartscentre.com)

### C I N E M A

(£6, or £5 for 60+ / U14. Unless otherwise stated)

<b>THU 1 FEB</b>	7pm	<b>Kinky Boots: The Musical</b> (Live Event) *£12
<b>FRI 2 FEB</b>	6pm	<b>The Red Shoes</b> (U) 2h 15
<b>TUE 6 FEB</b>	7pm	<b>Alcarràs</b> (Exploring Film) (15) 2h 0
<b>FRI 9 FEB</b>	6pm	<b>Typist Artist Pirate King</b> (12A) 1h 48
<b>THU 15 FEB</b>	2pm	<b>Peppa's Cinema Party</b> (U) 1h 5 (£5 Under 14s £3)
<b>FRI 16 FEB</b>	6pm	<b>Sleepers (1996)</b> (15) 2h 27
<b>SUN 18 FEB</b>	2pm	<b>My Favourite Things: The Rodgers &amp; Hammerstein 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert</b> (Live Event) *£12
<b>THU 22 FEB</b>	7pm	<b>Vanya</b> (NT Live) *£15
<b>FRI 23 FEB</b>	6pm	<b>The Miracle Club</b> (12A) 1h 30

### OTHER EVENTS & NEWS (\*Half price entry for our volunteers)

**SAT 10 FEB** 7:30pm **Edwina Hayes** (Live Music) \*£12

*Please book events in advance if possible. Call us Mon-Fri 1-4pm*



## Edie Peacock Hairdressing At the Parlour

Call: **07817 312906**

### Advertising

Boxed adverts: £6, £12, £18  
(dependent on size)

There is a big reduction for six issues or more, so for six issues the totals are:

**£25, £50 or £75**

Greetings etc. £2

What's ons (non-commercial) are free

Contact for adverts:

**Barry Cruickshanks**

**01969 667458**

**[uwnlinput@gmail.com](mailto:uwnlinput@gmail.com)**

*Whilst we try to ensure that all information is correct we cannot be held legally responsible for omissions or inaccuracies in articles, adverts or listings, or for any inconvenience caused. Views expressed in articles are the sole responsibility of the person by-lined. Articles by committee members carry just their initials.*

*We appreciate being asked before any part of the Newsletter is reproduced.*

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If you would like to receive the Newsletter by post every month the cost is £14 per annum. Please pay by BACS (Account 74237721, sort code 51-61-33) and send your full address details to [uwnlinput@gmail.com](mailto:uwnlinput@gmail.com). Or send a cheque for this amount (made out to the Upper Wensleydale Newsletter) plus your details to Karen Jones, Skellgill Cottage, Skellgill Lane, Askrigg, DL8 3JG.

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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**