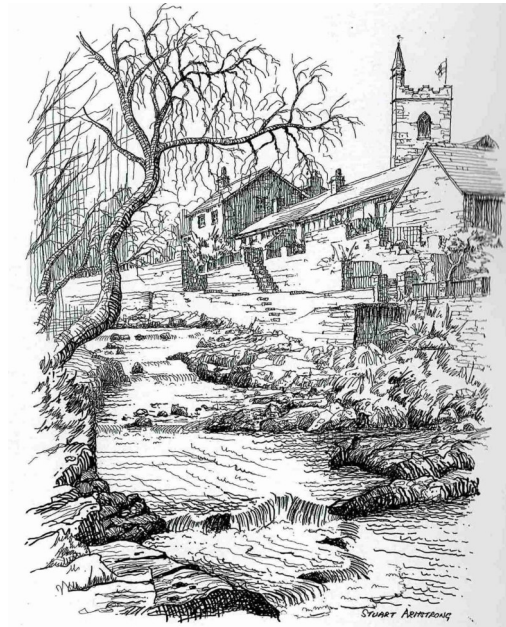


# THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER

Issue 307

Easter and April 2024

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

## Guest Editorial

March 8th was International Women's Day, first marked in the early twentieth century by labour movements and established in Britain in 1977. Some countries pay more attention to this day than others; in Italy, women are given flowers by friends and relatives, and since the end of the Second World War that flower has been mimosa, because it is not only beautiful but very hardy, so it has become a symbol of resistance and strength. I have been fortunate enough to have three daughters and a wonderful daughter-in-law and I send them greetings every March 8th. Sadly, mimosa is not available in North Yorkshire but daffodils are a good yellow compensatory flower and they are pretty hardy too.

When that day comes round every year, I start to think about what has changed for women in my lifetime, looking back on previous generations and reflecting on what my thirteen-year-old granddaughter will find as she grows into adulthood. Are things changing for the better for women in the world today and if so, is that likely to continue? These are the big questions. Right now my granddaughter is kind, confident, self-assured, doing well at school and is a passionate footballer, playing for a local girls' team. Women's football is increasingly recognised these days, so could this be a sign that things are getting better?

There is a line of matriarchs in my family; one grandmother was married three times and had run away at the age of 16 to go on the stage as a music hall singer. The other grandmother stayed at home, bringing up two daughters and caring for a husband who had been badly injured in 1917. Both those women were born in the same year, 1887 and lived until well into their eighties. They lived through two world wars and witnessed huge changes in their home lives. They grew up without all the things that we take for granted - electric light, central heating, washing machines, electric kettles, not to mention cars, radios, televisions, the cinema. They made their own entertainment, and used to tell me about playing the piano and the violin, needlework, knitting, long walks, gardening, amateur dramatics, dancing, parlour games and, of course, reading. My grandmas were assiduous church-goers and my parents both remembered long very dull Sunday afternoons when no music or games were allowed and all they had to occupy themselves with was reading

books deemed suitable for the Sabbath.

If we look at how much easier it is these days to run a home with all the electronic assistance to take the burden out of washing, drying, cleaning and cooking then clearly things have improved. Medicine has advanced enormously since one of my grandmothers nearly died in childbirth and cancer can now be treated in ways that were impossible just a few years ago. These days we take flying off for holidays, phones, (both landlines and mobiles) for granted. We look things up on the internet and get answers in seconds instead of having to walk to a public library. There have been big social changes too. One of the advances I have seen in my own lifetime is greater provision for the disabled and greater recognition of the rights of disabled people, though many would say that this is just a drop in the ocean and a lot more needs to be done.

So have things improved for women? I think the answer to that question is not so clear-cut as the list of technological advances might seem to suggest. Are women safer in the streets than in my grandmothers' age? I doubt it. Judging by the horrendous attacks on women reported in the media, women are not safer at all. Women may be members of Parliament, but they are subjected to both physical and verbal abuse on a scale that is leading many of them to choose another career. Has domestic violence diminished? No, to judge by the statistics of how many women are beaten up and murdered by their partners in twenty-first century Britain. Do women have equal rights in the workplace? No again, we are constantly reading about inequalities of pay even in august institutions like the BBC. Part of the reason why Birmingham City Council is in debt and cutting services all over the place is because they have had to find the money to settle years of wage discrimination against women after losing a court case.

If women do have jobs, do they have access to good childcare facilities? Here too the answer is no. I don't think things have improved in the last 40 years since I tried to find a nursery for my own children and was stunned by the cost. Britain lagged behind many European countries back in the 1980s and still does both in terms of the expense of childcare and its availability. The result is what it always was, with legions of grandmothers helping out where they can. And care of the elderly and infirm is still done by

millions of (usually) unpaid women, because just as childcare provision is poor, so too is care for the elderly as we saw during the horrific covid months. The level at which care assistants are paid, given the importance of the work they do, is disgraceful.

Still, couldn't we say that women today can be Prime Ministers and Presidents, they can run companies and be in charge of huge financial enterprises, they can be Vice-Chancellors of ancient universities, have major roles in the armed forces, women can drive trucks and pilot planes, there are more women studying at university in Britain than there are men, 57% to be precise.

But, and it is a big but, many of those women students are part-time, trying to do what generations of women have always done, which is multi-tasking. For despite the vacuum cleaners and the dishwashers, despite women going out to work as well as their partners, the bulk of household chores, child-care and care of the elderly is still done by women. Those women who rise to the top of their chosen profession are a minority and of course they can then afford to employ other women to do the domestic work. I have never believed in the exceptional woman theory, because those women who appear exceptional have had the money to help them up the ladder.

Do we still need an International Women's Day in 2024? I think we do, because although there have been some improvements in the lot of women in this country, things are dreadful for women across the world. Images of gatherings of politicians still feature a huge majority of middle-aged men and only a handful of women, in some countries women remain illiterate and can be married off by the age of 10. Rape is still used as a weapon as it has been for millennia and as we saw last October in Israel when Hamas attacked.

I would like to think that my granddaughter will grow up into a better world, and that the lives of women will improve not only in Britain but across the world. However, the only way for things to improve is for women to do what they have always done, to roll up their sleeves and prepare to fight for their rights. We are going to need International Women's Days for a long time yet.

**Susan Bassnett**



### **Eunice the Ewe**

Last month I was hiding on the drum kit in the advert for Supersonic Queen on page 20 and the lucky winner of the £10 prize is Anne Middleton of Askrigg.

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

### **Thank You**

Hawes Christmas Lights would like to thank everyone who supported our Jumble Sale. It is much appreciated.

### **Submission of articles**

Please note that all submissions should comply with current copyright legislation. If submitted articles are not the original work of the person submitting them, then all relevant permission should be sought and granted for reproduction.

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## April Competition

Take a trip round the thirteen National Parks in England and Wales.

Below you will find anagrams to either a tourist spot or a landscape feature in each of the parks. We think you will find one or two of these quite hard!

1. HE'LL CHASE CART (7,6)
2. DAFTERS TELLY (12)
3. DENY SIMPLY RED (6,7)
4. EAT LUNDS LACER (7,6)
5. CRUSH LARK BED (8,4)
6. DRAB BOAT RON (6,5)
7. BE GROWLER NOAH (5,3,5)
8. HAMMERER DODO LEONORA  
LAW (9,4,5,4)
9. DETER WARLIKE (7,5)
10. CRAG LOADERS (7,4)
11. LANCER BATH (10)
12. NECK YEAR BOUND (7,6)
13. DO STEW BRIG (3,7)

Please send in your answers (as many as you can solve) to arrive by **Tuesday, April 23rd**. Don't forget to include details of your nominated charity which will receive the £50 prize should you win.

## March Competition Answers

1. SCRABBLE. 2. TRIVIAL PURSUIT
3. JENGA 4. TWISTER
5. MOUSETRAP 6. RISK 7. MONOPOLY
8. OPERATION 9. ARTICULATE
10. SNAKES AND LADDERS
11. BATTLESHIP 12. KERPLUNK
13. CONNECT 4 (OR FOUR)
14. PASS THE PIGS 15. LUDO
16. FRUSTRATION 17. CLUEDO
18. DRAUGHTS

Only a few correct entries this month and the winning entry was sent in by Liz Lawson of Hawes. Her chosen charity to receive the £50 prize is Hawes Christmas Lights.

## Springtime Travel Opportunities

We are fortunate to have three in-person sources of travel information in the upper dale: two National Park Centres (Aysgarth and Hawes) and Upper Wensleydale Community Office in Hawes. These three will be among the top priority to receive newly-printed bus and train timetables and guided walks leaflets.

Two services that are special Sunday favourites are the **Through Bus** (no changes) between Hawes and Northallerton (No 856, via Leyburn and Bedale, with a maximum £2 adult single fare) and - on Sunday afternoon - a **Through Train** from Garsdale station to Leeds which continues to Wakefield, Sheffield and Nottingham.

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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

## Wensleydale Concert Series

As we begin our ninth year of concerts at St. Andrew's Church in Aysgarth, we are proud to bring an ambitious programme of eight concerts between May and September to Wensleydale. Our concerts feature musicians with international reputations and a wonderfully diverse programme of music.

The series starts on **Saturday, May 11th** with the Jervaulx Singers. The Jervaulx Singers are a Yorkshire based professional soloist choir including singers from across the UK from choral and operatic traditions. They will be performing the beautiful and dramatic "A German Requiem" by Brahms accompanied by the composer's own four-hand piano version of the score. The two solo parts are performed by members of the choir.

We have two concerts in June, both featuring the wonderful pianist Daniel Grimwood who is a regular and favourite with our audience. On **Saturday, June 15th** he is joined by the Australian pianist Yasmin Rowe and their programme features romantic works and Stravinsky's wild and dramatic Rite of Spring, which caused a riot at its Paris premiere.

On **Friday, June 21st** Daniel is joined by the amazing Azerbaijani-born violinist Nazrin Rashidova to give a beautiful and varied violin and piano recital including works by Arvo Pärt, Grieg, and Szymanowski and more.

On **Saturday, July 6th** married couple Benjamin Frith and Heidi Rolfe join us for another four-hand piano recital including music by Field, Satie, Schubert and Brahms and featuring Rimsky-Korsakov's colourful Scheherazade.



The Herschel Trio joins us on **Saturday, July 27th**. Named after the famous astronomer, and North-East composer, the Herschel Trio (flutes, harpsichord and viola) is bringing us a baroque performance entitled "Baroque Britannia!" including works by Handel,

Arne, Purcell and Finger with traditional airs by Oswald, O'Carolan, together with Welsh airs and a North/North-East connection with music by Avison, Garth, and Herschel.

Internationally recognised pianist, Ashely Fripp is performing on **Saturday, August 17th** with a programme Schubert/Liszt transcriptions from Schwanengesang, a selection JS Bach Prelude and Fugues from the Well-Tempered Clavier and two late Beethoven sonatas.

Get your dancing shoes on for **Saturday, September 7th** when we welcome Tango Siempre. Tango Siempre have toured the UK and Europe since 1998 with projects ranging from traditional tango dance shows to collaborations with orchestras, contemporary dance companies and jazz musicians. They are unique in having three composers/arrangers within the band. Their repertoire consists exclusively of original compositions and of music that they have transcribed and arranged from historical recordings of the great Argentinian orchestras and of Astor Piazzolla's Nuevo Tango ensembles. They have also appeared on BBC Strictly Come Dancing and were the driving force behind the massive hit touring show Midnight Tango featuring Vincent Simone and Flavia Cacace.

Our final concert is on **Saturday, September 21st**. Russian pianist Vitaly Piasarenko is in great demand, has performed in over 30 countries in solo recitals and as concerto soloist with major orchestras around the world. He was the winner of the eighth International Franz Liszt Piano Competition in Utrecht and took third prize in the Leeds Piano competition in 2015. His programme will include works by Liszt and Schubert.

Full details of all our concerts can be found at [www.wensleydaleconcertseries.co.uk](http://www.wensleydaleconcertseries.co.uk).

All concerts are at **7.30pm** in St Andrew's Church, Aysgarth. Tickets are £20 or £1 (for under 18s and full-time students) at the door or £18/£1 when purchased in advance. You can order tickets with a printed programme for £1.50 extra. Heavily discounted season tickets available for £97 for all 8 concerts.

Parking is £1.50 at the Pay and Display car park (there is limited disabled parking at the church – please let us know on **01969 663026** in advance.) Tickets can be purchased online (please visit our website), by phone on **0333 666 3366** (quote date, artist name(s) and Wensleydale Concert Series) or by post using the printable booking form available on our website or in brochures which will be distributed around the Dales shortly.

## Hawes in Bloom 10th Anniversary!

It hardly seems possible that we have been going since 2014, the year that the Tour de France came through, but yes, our merry band of volunteers have been decking the town with flowering plants for the last 10 years!

Although for the last few years I have been unable to supply and hang those original large mossed, baskets, I am delighted to see that so many businesses have made their own arrangements or joined the combined effort organised by Wayne, of Whites of Wensleydale.

Hawes in Bloom have fortunately been able to continue with all the other containers around town, including the recent large permanent planted tubs. I am also greatly encouraged that financial support has continued each successive year. This has been generously given by Hawes and High Abbotside Parish Council, The Woodcraft Studio (formerly Gayle Mill Trust), Hawes Market Tolls Trustees, Gayle Whist Drives, JR Hopper and Co, the memorial collection from the family of Basil Allen and numerous others who generously add a donation to their order. I must mention, also, the individuals around town and nearby villages who personally make donations.

Of course without the help of others, including W Metcalfe and Sons, of Appersett, who so generously allow us to use part of their yard for a week or two each year, GTec in the past, plus those that help in other practical ways to keep 'the show on the road', we could not be able to keep going.

This year we will have a vibrant mix of colours including blue, white, cream, red, burgundy and pink. By carefully choosing plants and varieties I hope that the displays will withstand all that nature can throw at them!

I have taken this opportunity, our 10th Anniversary, to try and thank everyone who has supported our voluntary enterprise. I must, therefore, conclude this article with a special heartfelt thank you to the band of volunteers who, each year, turn up, rain or shine, to do all the hard work. Apart from the obvious planting up, positioning, watering and feeding there is always that backbreaking job of clearing everything away in October.

So, a big thank you to you all and let's hope that this, our 10th year, will again bring a bit of added colour and interest to our Town in the Dales!  
**Richard Noble, The Plant Pest.**

## Middleham and the Dales Local History Group

Harmby Village Hall,

**Wednesday, April 17th at 2.00pm.**

Richmond Castle - Prison of Conscience

by Steve Erskine

Richmond Castle was where Conscientious Objectors were held prior to being taken to France where, subject to military law, they were court-martialled and sentenced to death for refusing to obey orders. This talk tells the story of some of these men, their experience, the impact their stance took on the families and their individual lives, all told within the context of the principle of contemporary political and conscientious objection.

Steve Erskine is the Regimental Researcher at the Green Howards Museum and a Freelance Battlefield Guide. He previously worked for English Heritage at Richmond Castle which brought him in to close contact with the story of the conscientious objectors.

Members, new members and visitors are always welcome, annual membership is £12 for nine meetings and visitors can attend for £3 per meeting. For more information contact: **Tony Keates 01969 640436**, or [dotandtonyk@btinternet.com](mailto:dotandtonyk@btinternet.com).

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## Penhill Benefice

**Church Services.** In case of bad weather 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#.

### March 28th Maundy Thursday.

**7.00pm** Holy Communion,  
Thornton Rust Mission Room.

### March 29th Good Friday -

#### Witness of the Cross:

**8.55am:** Preston, The Cross is Blessed and service outside the Church.  
**9.25am** Redmire, High Green.  
**9.55am** Castle Bolton, Millennium seat.  
**10.25am** Carperby, Cross.  
**11.05am** Thornton Rust, Outside Village Hall.  
**11.35am** Thoraby, Upper Green.  
**12 noon** Newbiggin, Waterfall.  
**12.30pm** West Burton, Market Cross.  
**1.25pm** West Witton, opp. Wensleydale Heifer.  
**2.00pm** Aysgarth Village, on the Green.  
Please think of joining for some or all of the round.

#### Good Friday Church Services.

**9.30am** St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar.  
**2.00pm** St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.  
**2.00pm** St. Andrew's, Aysgarth



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### Easter Day, Sunday, March 31st.

**9.30am** Holy Communion,  
St. Mary's, Redmire.  
**9.30am** Holy Communion,  
St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar.  
**11.00am** Family Communion with activities,  
St. Andrew's, Aysgarth.  
**11.00am** Holy Communion,  
St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.

### Sunday, April 7th.

**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, April 14th.

**10.30am** Holy Communion Penhill Together Service. St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.

### Sunday, April 21st.

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

### Sunday, April 28th.

**10.30am** Holy Communion, St.  
Bartholomew's, West Witton  
followed with the APCM.

### April Mid-Week Services.

**Thursday 11th and 25th at 9.30am**  
Holy Communion, at St. Bartholomew's,  
West Witton.

Church Coffee Morning.

**Wednesday, April 3rd** from **10.30am to noon** at Redmire Village Hall.

Church Afternoon Tea.

**Wednesday, April 17th** from **2.00pm to 4.00pm** at Redmire Village Hall.

## Newsletter Chairman's Annual Report 2024

Last year the Newsletter celebrated a very significant milestone – the printing of the 300th edition in August 2023 and next year in November 2025 we will also celebrate the 30th anniversary of the first Upper Wensleydale Newsletter in 1995.

I hope you agree with me that to have continued to produce the Newsletter every month for close on 30 years is a tremendous achievement for which we must thank the numerous individuals who have managed and contributed to the Newsletter over this period. (Even Covid didn't stop us!)

As for the present we would like to particularly thank our team of Guest Editors and regular contributors without whom the Newsletter would be much reduced in volume as well as interest. Also to our advertisers, many of whom have been with us for many years and who provide the income stream from which the Newsletter can fund and support various projects and students in our area.

As for the current Newsletter team then in particular I would like to thank Kevin Davis who alternates with me as Editor and does an excellent job of maintaining the Newsletter standards of layout and grammatical content as our esteemed original editor, Alan Watkinson, specified.

Also to Karen Jones who in her first twelve months as Treasurer has managed to transfer the Newsletter Account to an on-line system that provides a timely analysis of income flow from our advertisers and postal subscribers.

Karen also did a splendid job of organising the Schools Writing Competition in 2023/24 and a big thank-you to our judge Jane Huntington who for the second year selected the winning entries from some excellent pieces of work.

We must also say a sad farewell to our longest standing committee member, Janet Thomson who has been with us since August 2005 and acted as the Newsletter Treasurer for 16 years. Janet has been an invaluable member of the Newsletter Committee all this time and we wish her all the best in her 'retirement'.

Of the remaining committee members, Malcolm Carruthers has taken responsibility for producing the minutes of our committee

meetings and Neil Piper is now responsible for managing our advertisers east of Askrigg. Karen Prudden continues to provide articles for the Newsletter and provides the committee with lots of 'insights and observations' at our meetings. Tony Hutchinson continues to get more involved in the preparation of articles for the Editors.

Once again I must finish with a plea. Have you recently moved to the area? Are you looking for a way to get involved with the Wensleydale community? Do you have some computer skills? If so the Newsletter needs your help.

Contact us at [uwnlinput@gmail.com](mailto:uwnlinput@gmail.com) and we will arrange for someone to chat to you about how you might be able to help us keep the Newsletter alive over the next few years.

**Barry Cruickshanks**  
Chairman

Note:- See page 26 for the Newsletter Accounts for 23/24.



The Children have been learning about Spring and how things grow. Our Sunshine group's room role play area has transformed into a flower shop and the children have made some gorgeous arrangements. They made special cards for their mummies to say thank you on Mother's Day and dressed up in red clothes for Comic Relief.

We have been sharing our love of stories and dressed in pyjamas and book characters for World Book Day. Our activities were based around the story 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. The children compared sizes, served up porridge, reenacted the story and made bear pictures.

We have lots of fun activities planned for the Easter holidays and we will share these on our Facebook page.

Dalesplay is now taking bookings for September for the nine month funded places that the government has made available to working parents, if you would like a place please get in touch ASAP as places are very limited and we do have a huge demand for them.

Contact us at [dalesplay1@btconnect.com](mailto:dalesplay1@btconnect.com).



## Heavens Above

Now that the bright winter stars have faded away into the evening twilight, the southern sky is filled with the main springtime constellations led by Leo and Bootes the Herdsman. Leo the Lion is fairly easy to recognise. The fearsome creature's head and shoulders are outlined by a distinctive pattern of stars often called The Sickle. In the sky it looks like a backwards facing '?' with a bright pure-white star, Regulus, marking the sickle's handle and the question mark's dot. Bootes (pronounced Bo-oh-Teez) is not so easy to pick out. It lies high in the SE by mid-evening and looks a bit like a large kite. None of its stars are particularly bright apart from its leader, orange-tinted Arcturus, the fourth brightest star in the sky, marking the 'kites' southern tip. According to the old Greek myths Bootes was set in the heavens as a reward for inventing the plough. He's often called the Herdsman as he appears to shepherd the two celestial bears, Ursa Major and Minor, around Polaris the Pole Star. The seven brightest stars in Ursa Major (the Great Bear) make up the famous asterism we call The Plough. You'll find it high overhead during Spring and early Summer.

April is a good month for viewing the longest of all the constellations, Hydra the Water Serpent, which snakes right across the low southern sky for over 100 degrees. The reptile's head is formed by a distinct pentagon of 5 stars lying just below the dim constellation of Cancer the Crab over in the SW at this time of the year. Its body is so long, however, that the end of its tail isn't properly visible until well on into June.

It's another disappointing month for planet spotting with Mercury, Venus, Mars, Saturn and Neptune all too near to the Sun for viewing. Jupiter and much dimmer Uranus are still on the scene but they'll soon be gone as well and by the end of April we'll have a rare instance when there will be no planets at all visible in the sky right through the night.

On **April 8th** there's a total Eclipse of the Sun. Sadly we won't get to see any of it as it's only visible along a narrow track across North America. You'll have to hang around until September 2090 to see the next one visible from the UK. Let's hope there's better weather than the damp and dreary days we've had to endure for the last few months. Have clear skies!  
**Al Birio**



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## Swaledale Festival - Events in Wensleydale

Swaledale Festival, the award-winning annual celebration of music, arts and walking, returns on **May 25th** for a fabulous fortnight.

There will be fifty-five world-class events in the area's chapels, churches, halls and outstanding outdoor spaces, and five free art exhibitions. Under 25s get tickets to ALL events for just £3!

Since Swaledale Festival's formation in the early 70s, it has expanded over the fells and now encompasses the three northernmost dales. Here we round up the events taking place in broad, green Wensleydale. Feast your eyes on this selection of comedy, classical, brass, world and folk music, jump on the Festival website and book your tickets while you can!

### Echo Vocal Ensemble Sweet Harmony

**Sunday, May 26th 4.00pm** - St. Andrew's Church, Aysgarth

An exceptional group of young professional vocalists, directed by Sarah Latto, in an acapella performance of some of Britain's most hauntingly beautiful music - by William Byrd, Henry Purcell, Roxanna Panufnik and James McMillan.

### Xiaowen Shang

**Tuesday, May 28th 4.00pm** - St. Andrew's Church, Aysgarth

A prodigiously gifted young pianist performs a delicious programme of solo French music by Couperin, Messiaen and Ravel.

### Leyburn Band

**Tuesday, May 28th 7.30pm** - St. Andrew's Church, Aysgarth

Rebecca Lundberg conducts Lower Wensleydale's award-winning brass band in the superb acoustic of St. Andrew's Church. Dulcet tones from Wensleydale's finest!

### London Tango Quintet

**Wednesday, May 29th 7.30pm** - St. Andrew's Church, Aysgarth

A foot-tapping feast of Argentinian Tango music from this all-star quintet comprising violinist David Juritz, guitarist Craig Ogden, accordionist Miloš Milivojević, pianist David Gordon and double bassist Richard Pryce. Music by the legendary composer Astor Piazzolla is interspersed with stunning instrumental solos. The result is an energetic, inspiring and thoroughly enjoyable evening of relaxed virtuosity.

### Rich Hall: Shot from Cannons

**Thursday, May 30th 7.30pm** - The Garden Rooms at Tennants, Leyburn

The star comedian from Montana delivers an evening of rants, knife-edge observations and thrilling musical interludes. Side-splitting!

"Vital and incredulously angry...hilarious." - The Scotsman

"Blissfully funny" - The Guardian.

### BONE-AFIDE Trombone Quartet

**Wednesday, June 5th 4.00pm** - Holy Trinity Church, Wensley

Four of Europe's leading young trombonists perform an arrangement of Tchaikovsky's ballet music, including Swan Lake and Romeo and Juliet, alongside works by Dan Jenkins, Brian Lynn and Callum Au.

### Raphael Wallfisch and Friends: Quartet for the End of Time

**Wednesday June 5th 7.30pm** - St. Andrew's Church, Aysgarth

An all-star quartet, led by the legendary cellist Raphael Wallfisch, plays Brahms, Schumann and Fauré, plus Olivier Messiaen's extremely moving Quatuor pour la fin du temps, which was composed and first performed in a WWII German prisoner of war camp.

### John Law and Jon Lloyd: Naissance

**Thursday, June 6th 4.00pm** - St. Andrew's Church, Aysgarth

Composer and jazz pianist John Law and saxophonist Jon Lloyd present their ambient, mesmerising and gently uplifting music in the ideal acoustic of St. Andrew's Church.

## The Young'uns Singing Workshop

**Saturday, June 8th 2.00pm** - The Garden Rooms at Tennants, Leyburn

The North-East super-trio returns to the Festival to lead a fun and informal folksinging workshop for singers of all styles and abilities. Previous participants have been wowed by their effortless combination of wit and musicality. The room will be rocking. Come and experience it for yourselves!

## The Young'uns in Concert

**Saturday, June 8th 7.30pm** - The Garden Rooms at Tennants, Leyburn

The famous Teesside folk trio will capture your heart with their close harmony singing, heart-on-sleeve storytelling, and infectious banter. Don't miss this flagship evening concert on the Festival's final day.

For more information, and tickets, please visit: [www.swalefest.org](http://www.swalefest.org).

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## Crazy Golf Meets the Movies!

Following the tremendous success of last year's enthralling pop up Halloween event, Crazy Golf is making an exciting comeback in Askrigg this Easter holiday season. This time around, guests can look forward to facing an engaging, Movies-themed 18-hole golf course.

This much-anticipated event will be hosted at Uredale Mill in Askrigg daily, from **noon to 8.00pm**, between **March 23rd and April 7th**.

Bookings now at [www.buytickets.at/incredibleartists](http://www.buytickets.at/incredibleartists). Discounts available for Groups / clubs and associations (over ten people).

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## Photography Competition Celebrates the Yorkshire Dales in all its Glory

Entries are now open for the popular Yorkshire Dales photography competition – which celebrates the beauty and character of the Dales landscape.

The competition, run by charity Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT) and The Garden Rooms at Tennants in Leyburn, hopes to inspire amateur photographers of all abilities to get out into the Dales and capture its unique landscapes and wildlife.



Last year's winner: "Facing the Storm" by Brian Stallwood

Photographers have until **April 28th** to enter, with 35 finalists to be included in a gallery exhibition at The Garden Rooms in June. Twelve of the shortlisted images will also be featured in a Yorkshire Dales 2025 charity calendar.

This year's competition is also open to under 18's, whose work will be included in the gallery exhibition.

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust's Lindsay Wallace said, "The Yorkshire Dales is an inspiration to so many people and every year we're blown away by the standard of photography that people are producing for the competition. We're excited this year to see entries from younger photographers and discover their unique perspectives of the Dales."

The competition will run until **April 28th**.

If you would like to enter please email [info@tennantsgardenrooms.com](mailto:info@tennantsgardenrooms.com) or visit [www.tennantsgardenrooms.com/what-s-on/events/yorkshire-dales-photography-competition/](http://www.tennantsgardenrooms.com/what-s-on/events/yorkshire-dales-photography-competition/).

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## Calling all Handbell Ringers.

Have you ever fancied having a go at playing Handbells?



If the answer is YES, then the Askrigg Handbell Ringers would very much like to meet YOU! We will restart our rehearsal

sessions for 2024 on **Thursday, April 25th 7.00pm - 9.00pm** which will take place in the back room of Askrigg Village Hall.

If you think this might be for you, then come along and see what goes on during a rehearsal session. We'll give you a brief introduction to Handbells, a little coaching, get you to have a go, then you can see whether you would like to be a part of our team going forward. If you have any questions you would like to ask beforehand then please contact us at [askrigghandbells@gmail.com](mailto:askrigghandbells@gmail.com).

Come along, give it a go – who knows, you might be a natural!

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## Dales Charity Bingo

Dales Charity Bingo (DCB) kicks off with a Bingo Night in Hawes on **Wednesday, April 3rd**. The aim of DCB is to provide a fun bingo night and to raise money for community initiatives that make the Dales a better and safer place.

The cost will be £6 per person, to play the standard round of 6 games. An additional one or two games may be offered, depending on whether the recipient charity wish to do so or not. A bingo dabber will be available to purchase, if you need one.



**Wednesday, April 3rd**

**Hawes Market Hall**

Entry from 7.00pm, for  
Eyes down at 7.30pm

**Entry £6**

Tea, coffee, with a biscuit available during  
the break

Proceeds to Hawes-in-Bloom

## Tuesday Hawes Fish Market

Also door to door delivery every **Friday**. Pre-order or just turn up on a **Friday** at

Askrigg Stone Cross. **9.30am to 10.45am**  
Bainbridge playground. **11.00am to 11.30am**  
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Prizes will be modest in value, in line with one of the aims of the night being fund raising. Winners can expect to win varying prizes such as a Chicken Dinner for four, Bakery box, Planted trough, Fruit basket, useful household items, etc.

The night is open to both the local community and visitors alike. Children will need to be accompanied by an adult. Tea and coffee will be available during the break in play.

Attendance is limited to 100 playing participants. There will be a minimum of twelve prizes per night, more if an additional game or two is being played, so the odds of winning are good. Please come and support us. We look forward to seeing you. DCB is seeking to run a monthly bingo night going forward. If your group would like to partner with us for a night and the night's proceeds please call **Jan on 07736 017459**.

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667428** to arrange a free initial consultation.



## Easter Fun in Bainbridge

Easter family fun and coffee morning on **Saturday, March 30th** at Bainbridge Village Hall from **10.00am to 1.00pm**.

A fun-filled morning for all ages raising funds for Bainbridge Christmas Lights including

- Coffee morning with cakes
- Toy sale stall
- 'Decorate a boiled egg' competition
- Chocolate tombola
- Bottle stall
- Village Easter trail
- Name the Easter teddy
- How many biscuits in a jar

For more information visit our Facebook page 'Bainbridge Christmas Lights -England'.



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## Flooding in Haylands Bottoms.

The scourge of flooding every time there is an inch or so rain updale may be over in the not too distant future.

A civil engineer who spent a long spell in the Hawes area recuperating from a nasty car accident saw at first hand the problem of the flooding.

His first thought was to have a flood wall of sufficient height built along the west side of the road from the bottom of Rains hill to the high ground at the Hawes end with suitable flood gates at all access points. This was abandoned when he realised this scheme would put too much pressure on Haylands bridge.

His next idea was to get rid of the water altogether. If a new deep wide cut was created from somewhere near the confluence of Widdle beck and the Ure round the north side of Floshe Hill across the old football field, under a new bridge at the foot of Rains Hill and across the next pasture to rejoin the present course of the Ure you would cut out all the huge meanders and the water would have an easier flow.

The civil engineer Mr A.P. Rili stated if this scheme went ahead it would solve the flooding problem altogether.

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## Wensleydale Railway Events

Easter Sunday Tea Train **Sunday, March 31st at 2.30pm** Make your Easter 'eggstra' special onboard our Easter Sunday afternoon tea train! Enjoy a scenic journey through the Yorkshire Dales whilst being served a glass of prosecco and then a selection of sandwiches, sausage rolls, scotch egg wedges, scones & cakes on delicate vintage china with unlimited tea & coffee. Price £45 per head including lunch and travel. For more details see below or <https://wensleydale-railway.co.uk/easter-tea-train/>.

Fish and Chips Trains - All aboard the 'Wensleydale Fryer' - our Saturday lunchtime Fish and Chips dining trains. – They will run on **April 13th (sold out), May 11th (sold out), June 8th, July 13th, August 10th, September 7th and October 12th.**

Places are limited with the first two trains sold out, so booking is essential. For more details see <https://wensleydale-railway.co.uk/wensleydale-fryer-2/>.

The Gin Train Experience - All aboard The Gin Train Experience! We are pleased to announce that we will once again be hosting the Taplin and Mageean Gin Train.

Enjoy a full range of their award winning Gin and Tonics from the comfort of a private carriage travelling through the spectacular Yorkshire Dales scenery on our Railway!

They will run on **April 20th, May 25th, June 1st, July 20th, August 31st, September 14th and October 26th.** For more details see - <https://wensleydale-railway.co.uk/gintrainexperience/>.

Model Railway Show – We will again be holding our annual model railway show at Leeming Bar on **May 4th to the 6th.**

Driver Experience Days - Our Driver Experience Days offer you an unforgettable experience on one of our heritage diesels – Class 14 loco, Class 37 loco, Class 142 Pacer Unit or the Class 121 'Bubblecar'. For more details or to book, see - [https://wensleydale-railway.co.uk/driver\\_experiences/](https://wensleydale-railway.co.uk/driver_experiences/) or contact our office at [admin@wensleydalerailway.com](mailto:admin@wensleydalerailway.com) or call **01677 425805.**

Polar Express 2024 - Did you miss out on tickets in 2023, or perhaps you're looking to climb back on board in 2024? Tickets are on sale at <https://yorkshiredalesthepolarexpressride.com>.

## Thoralby and District W.I. - February Meeting

This was our first meeting of the year as the icy and snowy weather made it too dangerous for members to venture out in January. It was lovely to see everyone and wish members a Happy New Year.

Trish Bedale was our speaker talking about her Trinkets and Treasures. Her business started out during lockdown when she supported a friend who sold antiques. She was given a tangled box of jewellery to sort and started to repair it as she wove her way through the chains and gems. She realised that she was good at this and it became a hobby and then her business. Trish demonstrated how she makes necklaces and earrings using mainly sterling silver.

Many of her items are requests from customers but she makes a variety of pieces including key rings and novelty necklaces and earrings e.g. gummi bears, highland cattle, do-nuts and bees. On a Saturday morning, she sells her trinkets on Northallerton market.

Soup and Sweet is at Thoralby Village Hall on the third Thursday of every month. For only £5 there is a choice of soups plus a roll, followed by a choice of sweets and a cuppa. This is open for anyone to attend. You will be made very welcome. Come along and enjoy a delicious lunch with us. If you have any questions about membership or any of our events, please contact our President, **Sally Stone. (01969 663373).**



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## April Events at LACC

### Saturday, 13th at 7.30pm

Live Music. The Alex Hamilton Band. £12 (£6 for our volunteers).

Back by popular demand! A night of hot blooded Californian Blues! Not to be missed, book early - it will be a fantastic night

### Thursday 18th at 7.00pm

Live Event Cinema. An American in Paris - The Musical (PG). £12 (or £6 for our Volunteers).

The streets of Paris become the backdrop to a sensuous, modern romance of art, friendship and love in the aftermath of war. Featuring the gorgeous music and lyrics of George and Ira Gershwin.

### Tuesday 23rd at 7.00pm

Live Event Cinema. Nye (12A TBC). £15 (or £7.50 for our Volunteers).

Michael Sheen plays Nye Bevan in a surreal and spectacular journey through the life and legacy of the man who transformed Britain's welfare state and created the NHS. Live broadcast from the National Theatre.

### Reeth Memorial Hall Concerts

Thanks to all who came out to our first two concerts of 2024. We have plenty more planned for the year.

**Friday, April 19th** – Leveret - A unique collaboration between three of England's finest folk musicians, each regarded as exceptional performers and masters of their instruments. Andy Cutting, Sam Sweeney and Rob Harbron. Tickets £18 (£20 door).

**Friday, May 17th** – Rant - Four of Scotland's finest fiddle players who together weave a spellbinding tapestry of melodies, textures, layers and sounds, using just their instruments. Tickets £18 (£20 door).

Please see website for further details of all concerts booked. There are some links to videos by some of the performers on there. If you are a Facebook user it would be helpful if you are able to like our page. Tickets for concerts are available by phone from **Glen Steward (01748 884989)** or visit [www.reethmemorialhall.co.uk](http://www.reethmemorialhall.co.uk) – tickets ½ price for u16s. All concerts **8.00pm** unless otherwise stated.



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Anyone for Tennis ?

Yorebridge Tennis Club located in Askrigg has two excellent carpet Tennis Courts. The MUGA (multi use games area) was carpeted a couple of years ago and is also used for football, basketball and hockey.

For 2024, we have taken the plunge and registered the courts with the LTA (Lawn Tennis Association). The courts are available on a Pay and Play basis or there are several membership options available.

We are always pleased to welcome new members to our club. We welcome all abilities, whether you are a junior or an adult, a beginner on the court or returning to tennis after a long break. If you don't have a Tennis racket or balls then we have spares which you can use free of charge.

After Easter, Social Tennis starts on a **Monday from 6.00pm to 8.00pm**. There is also coaching available from our LTA Level 4 coach, Mark Hamilton. Mark offers one to one as well as small group coaching sessions.

The courts can be booked here: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/YorebridgeTennisClub>.

To get more information you can email [yorebridgetennis@gmail.com](mailto:yorebridgetennis@gmail.com).

Yoga classes

Yoga classes with Michelle. Yoga (for those with some yoga experience) **Tuesdays 2.00pm – 3.00pm**.

Costs are £8.50 pay as you go. Michelle is an advanced yoga teacher, teacher trainer and yoga therapist. Please contact her directly for more details at: [yogamichelle@gmail.com](mailto:yogamichelle@gmail.com).

Gym facility and membership – now available through Clubbright gym management system.

We have a variety of gym memberships that allow you to use the gym and have a great workout to meet your needs. Come down to a well-equipped gym with a variety of kit to suit everyone's workout needs.

There are several different gym membership packages including 6-month memberships; monthly pay as you go; couples, student, and

junior memberships as well as guest day passes. See [yorebridgesportandleisure.clubbright.co.uk/Account/Login](http://yorebridgesportandleisure.clubbright.co.uk/Account/Login).

Soft Play We now have a dedicated room which is available for hire - £5 per family for 2 hours or why not try our monthly subscription £15 unlimited use? For social, active play with your babies and pre-school child. Book and pay online.

Fitness classes - via zoom or live class as indicated: Booking is essential for all classes.

Booking and enquiries can be made via our management system [Yorebridgesportandleisure.Clubbright.co.uk/Account/Login](http://Yorebridgesportandleisure.Clubbright.co.uk/Account/Login) or email [admin@yorebridge-sport.co.uk](mailto:admin@yorebridge-sport.co.uk) or telephone **01969 650060**. Classes are: (£8 pay as you go or class membership option available).

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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.

With Millie; Move and Tone – **Wednesday (live) Aerobics session to music followed by core strength exercises for toning. 7.00pm (£8)**.

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

High Intensity Bootcamp with Kirsten, **Tuesday and Thursday 6.00am -7.00am** – get that morning metabolism boost.

We also offer Conversational French – **Tuesdays 9.30am -10.45am**. Cost is £6 per session.



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

**March**

- 28 To April 7. Crazy Golf. Askrigg. See p.11.
- 29 Good Friday Walk of Witness. 10.30am. Gayle Methodist Church
- 30 Easter Fun Day. 10.00am. Bainbridge Village Hall. See p.15.
- 30/31 Art Group Exhibition. 10.00am. West Burton Village Hall. See this page.
- 31 Easter Sunday Tea Train. Leeming Bar Station. See p.16.

**April**

- 2 Film 'Six Inches of Soil' 7.00pm at Leyburn Arts and Community Centre. See p.32.
- 3 Charity Bingo Night. 7.00pm. Hawes Market Hall. See p.14.
- 5 Dominoes. Carperby Institute 7.30pm.
- 17 Local History Group Talk. 2.00pm. Harmby Village Hall. See p.6.
- 17 Penhill Ladies Meeting and talk. 7.30pm. Carperby Village Institute. See p. 22.
- 18 Bainbridge W.I. meeting. 7.30pm. Bainbridge Village Hall. See p.37.
- 19 Leyburn u3a talk. 10.00am. LACC. See p.25.
- 19 Concert Reeth Memorial Hall 8.00pm. See p.17.
- 20 Mobile Household Waste Recycling at Business Park, Hawes, 9.00am to 1.00pm.
- 21 Wild Curlew Day. See p.33.
- 25 Askrigg Handbells. Askrigg Village Hall. 7.00pm. See p.13.
- 27 Bob Ellis Musical Tribute. Rose and Crown., Bainbridge. See p.25.
- 28 Deadline for entries to Photo Competition. See p.12.
- 30 Save the Ure meeting. 7.30pm. Leyburn Methodist Church Hall. See p.22.

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

**SATURDAY APRIL 20th  
(Note earlier deadline date)  
PUBLISHED ON MAY 1st**

**News from the Vets**

Lambing and calving season is well upon us. It's a great time to revisit the very important issue of colostrum. This is massively important for the future of the lambs and calves and their development.

For lambs, they need 200ml/kg in the first 24 hours of life and 200ml of that needs to be in the first two hours of life. Getting the nutrition of your ewes right to make sure the quality and quantity is right is essential. We can offer pre-lambing bloods to check this and if you're unsure if adequate colostrum is being fed we can run some simple tests on the lambs to check.

For more information please don't hesitate to contact us at the surgery **01969 650263**.  
Bainbridge Vets

**West Burton Art Group  
Easter Exhibition**

**Saturday and Sunday, March 30th and 31st,  
10.00am to 4.00pm.**

This talented group from the Dales produces some amazing art work. All the artists are amateurs, most are retired and painting is their hobby. The artists meet every Wednesday in the hall where they exhibit, West Burton Village Hall, DL8 4JY.

You are cordially invited to visit this exhibition and to take home an original artwork that won't break the bank. Entrance is free but donations are welcome and proceeds go to The Herriot Hospice.

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## **News from Dales Countryside Museum**

Opening times: Daily **10.00am to 5.00pm**  
February to October, **10.00am to 4.00pm**  
November and December. Closed Christmas  
Eve to Boxing Day and January 6th to 31st. Last  
entry one hour before closing.

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

**Cry of the Curlew Exhibition** – running until  
**April 10th**.

Visitors are leaving great comments about our  
Cry of the Curlew Exhibition which shares the  
work taking place to try to support this at risk  
bird. There are a few weeks left to see the  
stunning photography of Paco Valera, and  
beautiful artwork of Sally Zaranko, Hester Cox,  
Judith Bromley and Robert Nicholls who have  
all been inspired by the Curlew. The paintings,  
poetry and campaign posters by children from  
Settle and Kirkby Malham schools are all  
generating a lot of interest too and it's  
wonderful to be able to share young voices in an  
exhibition.

**Yorkshire Dales Young Archaeologists'  
Club:**

In March we explored recipes from Roman  
times and made and tasted food that Roman  
soldiers may once have eaten in the Dales. We  
also said goodbye to Debbie as it was her last  
meeting. Debbie has been supporting the club  
since it first started in 2006 and we will really  
miss her. The club meets once a month on a  
Saturday morning, **10.00am - noon**. 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 April onwards.

**Scurry Club Pass:**

We've a full events programme for this year  
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.

We're really sorry to say goodbye to three of  
our staff this month. Audrey Thwaite, Debbie  
Allen and Fran Coates are all retiring. We can't  
thank them enough for their enthusiasm for  
DCM, their hard work and everything they have

achieved over the years on behalf of the  
Museum and National Park Visitor Centre.

We're looking forward to seeing you in  
2024 – here are our events coming up in April.  
Events are included in the Museum admission  
unless otherwise stated.

**Curlew Calling:**

**Tuesday, April 2nd. 10.00am – 3.00pm**

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

**Drystone Walling demos:**

**Tuesday, April 2nd. 11.00am - 3.00pm**

Join our Dales Volunteers as they showcase the  
traditional craft of drystone walling and explain  
the construction of this iconic feature of the  
National Park landscape.

**Make a collage curlew nest, family activity:**

**Thursday, April 4th. 1.00pm – 4.00pm**

Timed slots

**Hands on History - Maps:**

**Friday, April 5th. 1.00pm – 4.00pm**

Look at maps through time and have a go at  
making your own.

**Curlew Calling:**

**Saturday, April 6th. 10.00am – 3.00pm**

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

**FDCM lecture:**

**Friday, April 19th. 7.30pm – 9.00pm**

Meet the Artist event for the Labour of Love  
exhibition.

**Hawes Town Trail**

**Tuesday, April 23rd. 2.00pm - 4.00pm**  
£5 Booking Essential.

**Landscape Interpretation Dayschool**

**Saturday, May 4th. 10.00am - 4.00pm**

Join Dr David Johnson at the Museum for an  
illustrated talk and discussion, followed by a  
circular walk from Aysgarth NPC to Carperby  
looking at historic fieldscape.

£40 Booking essential. Car parking tickets for  
both sites will be included.

## River Ure

There was a very encouraging response to my editorial in last month's edition about the need to take action concerning the River Ure. Very many thanks to all those who have contacted me.

The Association of Rural Communities has organised a public meeting to discuss this issue. It will be held in Leyburn Methodist Church Hall at **7.30pm on Tuesday, April 30th**.

The presentation by Charlotte Simons of Yorkshire Dales River Trust will cover river health, what makes a healthy river and the work it has done on the Wharfe and the Nidd.

Do contact me at [pipspatch@gmail.com](mailto:pipspatch@gmail.com), with River Ure as the subject, and let me know if you are interested in attending that meeting.

Pip Pointon

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## Penhill Ladies April meeting

We are sure to have a fascinating evening on **April 17th at 7.30pm**, as our visiting speaker is giving a talk entitled: Blood Bikes "Saving the NHS money - One run at a time".

This is an open meeting and visitors are particularly welcome. Cost is £5 to include refreshments.

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**.

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## News from The Wensleydale School

The Wensleydale School and Sixth Form is currently oversubscribed for September and is working hard to arrange additional transport for new students out of the catchment area. The school has also taken in twenty new students since the start of the academic year which is a reflection of its impact within the community.

The journey to this point has been steady and gradual under Headteacher Julia Polley, who has been at the school for eight years. Changes have been made to foster a culture of good behaviour and safety. Plus, some adaptations made during covid have become a permanent feature to facilitate a calm and safe environment. The uniform has also been relaxed, yet maintains a clean and professional finish to reflect the down-to-earth ethos of the school.

With no supply teachers having taught at the school in the past four years, the teaching is strong and the dedicated staff provide a stable and familiar environment for students. The school is fully inclusive and takes children of all abilities and social and emotional needs, with all staff highly trained to meet SEND needs. Headteacher Julia Polley, who is a teaching head and therefore knows students well, is a big believer that whatever is good for children with SEND needs, is good for all. As a result of such changes, poor behaviour in the school is low and academic achievements are on the increase.

The most recent Ofsted report states: "Leaders have constructed a carefully planned and appropriately sequenced curriculum. Where this curriculum is strongest, lessons are exciting and engaging for all pupils. Leaders have strong ambitions for pupils at the school. There are high expectations for behaviour and conduct. Staff ensure that every pupil has the opportunity to flourish. Pupils speak with pride about the inclusive nature of the school, telling inspectors 'We are a tight-knit community'."

Alongside five academic lessons per day, students can choose from a range of extra-curricular activities through the school's enrichment programme. Activities include climbing, chess, Mandarin, cooking, various sports, the school newspaper, drama club, calligraphy and much more. The school is immensely proud to be the only state school in North Yorkshire to have a Combined Cadets Force with 40 students who parade twice a week.

Mental health support is also embedded into the heart of the school culture, with onsite counsellors and support from the NHS 'Wellbeing in Mind' team. The school uses restorative practice and restorative justice and parents and students are encouraged to talk openly with school staff.

Headteacher, Julia Polley, says: "We believe that by investing in our staff, creating consistency and setting clear expectations, children have the security and support they need to truly engage with the curriculum and reach their potential. A famous quote says, 'a little progress every day adds up to big results'. This perfectly sums up the last eight years of my time at the school. I am extremely proud of all we have achieved at the school and we welcome children from all backgrounds and of all abilities to join us."

To find out more about The Wensleydale school please email or call:  
[Admin@wensleydaleschool.net](mailto:Admin@wensleydaleschool.net) 01969 622244.



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## Growing Pains

I was once gardening on a large holiday complex down south. It was a straightforward task, clearing neglected borders, planting up perennials and then pruning hard back the neglected forest of shrubs which cast a gloom over the whole site. Everyone's an expert though, especially when on holiday, so all the well-meaning advice slowed things down a tad. A laborious week and it was done, but it got me thinking that a bit of planning pre planting can lead to a more satisfying and cheaper outcome. Close to the main building, many of those hacked back shrubs had been placed too near windows and doors – the annual hard pruning back of viburnum, ceanothus etc inflicted yet another barren year on the unfortunate shrubs: flowerless and misshapen, potential unrealised. I find that it's a good tactic to get ideas down on paper i.e. height, spread, colour etc and then, if there are any failures, I can 'deny any wrongdoing' and blame the suppliers, ahem.

Here's a basic but effective planting scheme using hardy perennials, which will provide late summer colour long after your flimsy annuals have given up the ghost. Let's start with the bomb proof, spreading perennial, rudbeckia



'Goldsturm', 2 feet tall and essential for any respectable border. This coneflower demands a contrasting rival so let it slug it out with the common sneezewort, either helenium 'Moerhelm Beauty' or 'Coppelia'. Both garden stalwarts flourish late in summer, the rudbeckia's showy yellows battling to outdo helenium's fiery orange tones. In front let's amass clumps of vivid blue geranium wallichianum, 'Buxton Blue'. Don't be mean,

use plenty for a rich and full effect: newly bought geraniums can often be divided immediately – I split one plant into eight last year but that's me being diabolically tight, opt for quarters. So now you have the two brutes at the rear, perhaps topping a couple of feet, with the lowly Buxton cowering at the front, all colours shown off to full advantage.

That's a straightforward planting scheme guaranteed to give interest from midsummer through to the last days of October. All you do then is simply cut back all dead growth and mulch with leaf mould, manure or spent compost. The larger clumps of all plants will need splitting after a few years to maintain vigour, otherwise enjoy the show.

Any other spaces I will fill with last year's annual geraniums. They've all been serving time on the overtaxed windowsill and by May will be desperate for outdoors. What a sorry bunch they look when first liberated: pale and stunted, can they survive? Well, the fancy leaved varieties I go for, like 'Henry Cox' and 'Distinction', seem to relish the fresh air and soft rain. Within days they're greening up and fresh buds are appearing as they ready for summer. It brings a lump to my throat as I've had the same plants now for seven years. No, they don't have pet names.

Ed Gardener

### GOOD FRIDAY 2024 WALK OF WITNESS

*with Churches Together in Upper Wensleydale*



The annual Walk of Witness will begin at

**Gayle Methodist Chapel**  
**10.30 am on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

Members and friends of Churches Together in Upper Wensleydale will reflect on events of that first Easter nearly 2000 years ago, as we walk through the town to take part in a Good Friday service at

**11.30 am at St Margaret's Church**

## Leyburn and District u3a

The next meeting is on **Friday, April 19th**. In 'Life before Sat. Nav. - the story of the humble milestone' Hilary Jones explores how we find our way around; now and in the past. She considers the development of the road network and why these stones appeared. Hilary who is vice-chair of the Milestone Society will describe its work and why these often overlooked stones now need friends! Local examples from North Yorkshire will be featured with plenty of opportunity for discussion.

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**. Everyone is welcome.

Annual membership is £12 or £20 for two people at the same address, For details contact Sue Mellish **01748 850471** [susiemellish148@g.mail.com](mailto:susiemellish148@g.mail.com).



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## Bob Ellis – A Musical Tribute

There will be a Musical Tribute held at the Rose and Crown in Bainbridge on **Saturday April 27th** in memory of Bob Ellis who passed away in January.

The night will feature music groups of which Bob was a part including Crook Morris and the No Lazy Dance Band.

Among his many interests Bob's greatest legacy was probably his research into, and revival of, the music and dance of his beloved Dales.

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## Newsletter Accounts

### March 2023 to February 2024

#### Income

<i>Balances b/f</i>	<u>13689.63</u>
Donations and postal subs	1134.00
Collection boxes	3775.50
Adverts	9342.00
Interest (Skipton and Natwest)	203.14
Year's income	<u>14454.64</u>

Plus b/f 28144.27

#### Expenditure

Production costs	9763.00
Distribution costs	788.43
Donations	1610.00
Committee exp & comp services	416.33
Prizes (inc story writing comp)	535.99
Student grants	1247.99
Bank charges/refunds (HSBC)	205.43
Year's expenditure	<u>14566.97</u>

*Balance c/f* 13577.30

#### The accounts were examined and approved on 10th March 2024 by Alan McDonald.

Many thanks go to Alan for examining the accounts and to Janet Thomson our previous treasurer who guided me through the handover and worked alongside me this year until the HSBC and Skipton accounts could be closed and all money transferred to our new NatWest online community account. There are no bank charges with the new account and we have also opened a NatWest savings account which earns us interest. Having the accounts online has helped speed up our financial processes.

This financial year we have helped four college/university students with grants towards the cost of equipment and laptops in their first year of studies. We would like to support as many young people as possible, who live in the newsletter area, to access Further and Higher Education so look forward to an increase in applications from those starting courses in the Autumn. The Children's Story Writing Competition was again a great success and this year B.A.W.B. schools and pupils received £370 worth of book vouchers in prizes.

Through our monthly competitions, we donated to several local and national charities on behalf of our competition winners, these

included Yorkshire Air Ambulance, St John's Hospice, Little White Bus, Hawes Christmas Lights, Gayle Mill, RNLI, Access the Dales, Low Mill and Heriot Hospice. We have recently increased the prize money we donate to nominated charities to £50.

There were only two requests for donations this year, one from Hawes Graveyard Maintenance team and one from the Wensleydale Tournament of Song. We would love to help more local groups and societies so if your organisation is struggling to finance any local projects, please email us to apply for support. The Committee decided again to make donations to the Great North Air Ambulance Service and the Yorkshire Air Ambulance in lieu of sending Christmas cards and also made a donation to the Disasters Emergency Committee in response to the various appeals during 2023/24.

I would like to thank our readers who enter our competitions, put a little extra in our collection boxes and send donations in with their subscriptions. Despite increases in production and distribution costs we will be keeping our suggested donation at 50p and our postal subscriptions at £14.

We go forward with a healthy bank balance, so hope we can increase our future financial support to the Upper Dales community that we serve. **K.J.**



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## BAWB Schools News

Our spring term has gone by in a flash! We have not let the damp weather dampen our spirits, that is for sure. We have welcomed Mrs Allenby and Mrs Stone to coach us for The Wensleydale Tournament of Song and are truly thankful for their support. Mrs Allenby has started an after-school choir which joins our other after-school provision of science club with Clarkson Learning, Mr Bullock's sports club, Stage1 Cycles cycling club and forest skills with Mr Stokes. Our pupils are thoroughly enjoying our new lunchtime dance club with Miss Hannah from Dales Dance and running club with Miss Collins.

Looking ahead to this term we are excited to see the sunshine (It's all about the positive thinking at BAWB)! We are busy planning residentials for Years 3, 4 and 6, I wonder if you can remember going on a school residential?

There will also be swimming, a trip to Bradford, class geography trips, sporting events, learning about our local environment with the Moorland Group, and many more exciting activities. We



can't wait to tell you all about these in future additions.

For now, I shall leave you with a picture of some Comic Relief fun, there is something very special about throwing a cream pie at a teacher! Well done to all involved.

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**Blueboxt  
– April  
Update**

**Fundraising Events.**

**Spring Lunch.**

We invite you to come along to Thornborough Hall on **Sunday, April 21st** for our Annual Spring Lunch. Tickets are £15 which includes a two course lunch (main and dessert, welcome drink, tea and coffee, and entertainment). Vocalists Colin Bailey and Gail Barlow will present a selection of 'Springtime' favourites. Bar and refreshments available. Early booking is advisable at [www.wensleydale.org](http://www.wensleydale.org) or call/message **Judith Clarke 07882 331421** or **Jennifer Sagers 07815 679897**

**Coffee Mornings,**

The first of our coffee mornings at Leyburn Methodist Church Hall takes place on **Friday, April 12th**. Come along for a cuppa and chat, cake stall, raffle and more.

**Workshops and Regular Activities.**

Get Musical Workshops and Junior Jam Band. It's not too late to join our Junior Jam Band sessions, which take place on **Friday evenings** in Leyburn from **4.30pm to 6.00pm**. The sessions for Children aged 6 to 11 years old are 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. See website for full details.

**Play, Record, Perform**

Ten young people enjoyed a trip to Darlington Hippodrome to see The Story of Guitar Heroes concert tour in February half-term. The trip included a visit to Nando's for tea before the show. Our regular sessions for 11yrs to 19yrs take place on **Sundays 2.00pm to 5.00pm** at Thoralby Village Hall.

**Wensleydale Community Gospel Choir**

Our mixed voice choir is welcoming new members. The sessions are led by Debbie Allenby and take place on Monday evenings in

Leyburn from **7.00pm - 8.30pm**. Contact us for more details.

**Volunteering**

Do you have an hour of two to spare? We are interested in hearing from anyone who can help with poster and leaflet distribution and/ or help out in the charity's office or at our fund-raising events.

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

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## Old Photographs and Advertisements

Here is another page from 'Hawes and its Immediate Neighbourhood – An Illustrated Guide for Visitors' which features the Crown Hotel. We particularly like the strategically placed old motor and the reference to the golf links at Hardraw.

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April 5	Communion at Sycamore Hall			
April 7	The Gathering – St Oswald's Church 10.30 Family Communion			
April 14	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Cafe Style	Soup Lunch from 12.30pm Followed by Afternoon Prayer
April 21	Holy Communion	Jubilate Family Service	Morning Prayer	
April 28	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Afternoon Prayer & Pathfinders
Evening Prayer by telephone is held at 4pm every Sunday for details see our website <a href="http://www.upperwensleydalechurch.org/services">www.upperwensleydalechurch.org/services</a>				

## The Truth Will Set You Free

It was Winston Churchill who said, “A lie gets half way around the world before the truth has a chance to get its pants on.” In the internet age it can feel like this is reduced to the time it takes you to draw a quick breath. Truth is an essential quality the world over. Our Prime Minister Rishi Sunak hasn't yet been drawn on a date for our General Election but with 49% of the world's population heading to the ballot box this year it feels like the concept of truth is already being weaponised. Pictures of political candidates being adapted to show them in favourable situations with the electorate or ‘Deep Fake’ videos and audio messages supposedly sharing their ‘real’ beliefs are already being circulated and challenged as to their authenticity. It appears that not all will be as we think it is or would want it to be.

We might all wish at times that the truth was different. It was the 17<sup>th</sup> century Japanese philosopher Miyamoto Musashi who said: “*Truth is not what you want it to be; it is what it is and you must bend to its power or live a lie.*”

The Bible speaks a great deal about the value and need of truth and as billions of Christians have just completed the celebrations of Easter the words of Jesus on the matter are fresh in their minds.<sup>Jn1:46</sup> I'll leave the last word to King Solomon, as it looks like we may all need his wisdom to work our way through the coming months. ‘*Get truth ... get wisdom, get instruction, get understanding.*’<sup>Prov.23:23</sup>

With every blessing.

*Rev Dave*

## Hawes School News

### Science KS2

As part of British Science week, Class 2 and 3 took part in an online, interactive workshop looking at the role of science in engineering. The learning was around looking at how businesses can reduce their carbon footprint by using smart, green, renewable and eco-friendly technologies in their buildings and businesses. The children helped to create a virtual net zero factory. The pupils had to make several decisions during the show and each decision helped the factory to work towards achieving 100% net zero. The decisions taken included location of the factory as well as the building materials used to build the factory. At the end of the live show children had the opportunity to ask Matt, the engineer and Nao questions.

### World Book Day



We had a lovely day celebrating books with a special assembly, reading across classes and bookish scavenger hunts and quizzes and of course lots of stories. There was a real buzz in school. Thanks to everyone for coming in PJs and for your story spoons

too and for sharing a love of reading!



Robin Jessop

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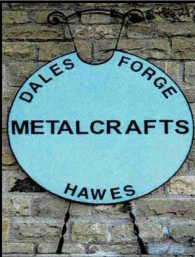
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## Bainbridge W.I. – A Thank You

I was a guest at the Bainbridge W.I Annual Community Lunch on Saturday, March 16th - this year in Bainbridge Temperance Hall.

Thanks to the ladies of the W.I. who worked all Saturday morning to provide an excellent lunch, perfectly cooked with all the trimmings in such a small kitchen. With prettily decorated tables and wine, for 50 plus people, there was a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

A. Guest

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In September 2022, we opened a Post Office at Aysgarth Garage which is integrated into the retail area and offers customers a wide range of Post Office services from posting letters and parcels to collecting and returning online items. It also offers banking services including cash withdrawal, deposits and bill payments.

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## Leyburn Arts and Community Centre

On April 2nd we are hosting a screening relevant to our area. It is the new documentary film, 'Six Inches of Soil'.

The film tells the inspiring story of young British farmers transforming the way they produce food - to heal the soil, our health and provide for local communities. The screening will take place at the Centre in Leyburn on **Tuesday, April 2nd at 7.00pm** with a ticket price of £8 which will include a local sausage buttie prior to the film. Following the screening there will be a Q and A session with a panel representing our local farming, food production and retail community.

We are excited to host this screening, to discuss the positive messages in the film and also to hear the ideas and thoughts that come from the meaningful discussions that we are sure will follow the screening.

To book: **Tel 01969 624510** or see the website, [Leyburnartscentre.com](http://Leyburnartscentre.com) for this and other events.



### Mystery Picture

The two 'characters' in last month's Mystery Picture can be found on the ends of the horizontal arms of Carperby Cross. Now where is this?

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## Save the Curlew!

With curlew now one of the UK's most critically endangered species, Yorkshire Dales environmental campaigning charity, Friends of the Dales have taken action to make this year's World Curlew Day on **Sunday, April 21st** really count. Its Creative Campaigners (aged 20-30) and other friends have made about twenty life-size curlew sculptures from foraged and recycled wire thanks to the expert guidance of Dales based artist, Lesley Knevitt.

Make a date to come and see the team at its one-day outdoor installation and awareness raising event on **Sunday, April 14th** at Malham. The curlew will be placed in the field alongside the pathway that links Malham village to Janet's Foss (by kind agreement of farmers Neil Heseltine and Leigh Weston). Through information giving, activities and instructions on how to make your own wire curlew, Friends of the Dales aims to raise awareness of the bird's endangered status and the things we can all do to help improve their survival rate. There will also be a short online curlew knowledge quiz with the chance to win a year's individual membership to the charity.

Friends of the Dales will also be making available the resources created for this event to village, community and environmental groups wanting to run similar events. Contact: [www.friendsofthedales.org.uk](http://www.friendsofthedales.org.uk).

## Badminton

Are you feeling you would like a change and want to stay fit after all the seasonal festivities? If so, why not come along and join our Badminton Club at Thornton Rust Institute. We start at **7.30pm on a Tuesday** and play for about two hours. No previous experience is necessary. We are able to supply a racquet! Please come along and make new friends. You will be made very welcome. For more details please ring **Martyn on 01969 662649**.

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## Notes from Thorney Mire

### Early Spring

I heard the first curlew on February 24th which is two days earlier than last year. It was a bona fide curlew, not a starling impersonator as I saw it flying around later in the day. It's lovely to see and hear them in the Spring especially when their numbers are declining - they have red conservation status. People used to eat curlews and recipes appeared in several books. Up to 1942 in Britain you could still buy curlews in butchers' shops and in Cornwall they were so plentiful they were made into pies.

On March 5th I saw the first coltsfoot and the flower heads of the butterbur pushing through the grass on the verges. The pinky/purple flowers of the butterbur always appear before the leaves. Years ago butter was wrapped in butterbur leaves, hence its name, to protect it and keep it cool. It is also known as bog rhubarb as it has large leaves and prefers wet soil. It should be happy this year then! I had, a few days previously, seen primulas and celandines on the verges along the lane so it would have seemed that Spring was on the way if it hadn't been for the very cold, strong easterly wind.

On the same day I heard what I thought was a lapwing, another bird on the red conservation list. Then I saw nine of them flying around before landing in the field where lapwings return to nest each year. We usually have four arrive each Spring, but last year there were none. I am hoping that these nine birds will settle and nest here, but they could have been on their way to some other breeding ground. They did rise up and circle round for a while rather than fly off, so I'm hoping they may stay. If it stops raining for long enough I'll take another walk along the lane and see if they are still here. I hope so because even though they dive at me when they are nesting I do like to see them.

The collared doves have started nest building in the cypress tree. The robin has found a mate and so has the dunnoek. There were two thrushes in the garden. One was trying to chase the other one away, but it refused to go and started doing a bit of feather fluttering. I don't know if this was for territorial rights, flirting, or playing hard to get, but no doubt they will sort it out. We have had visits from a flock of goldfinches but have not seen any more long tailed tits.

There is a small upstairs window in our house where I can observe the wildlife without it observing me. I can watch the treecreeper ascend the sycamore tree, deer in the field looking nervously about and red squirrels running along the wall. Last week looking through this window I saw two very large rabbits, sitting outside the fenced off area of the vegetable patch enjoying their breakfast of grass, which is what rabbits should eat. I was just thinking to myself how long it would be before these rabbits increased in number and their offspring would be in the garden eating what I have so lovingly grown. In the Beatrix Potter book about Peter Rabbit I have to confess that I do have some sympathy for Mr. McGregor.

I was also thinking to myself that I had not seen a stoat around for a while. Then, as if on cue I saw a white flash in the vegetable patch, I wondered if it was a stoat and as it turned sideways I could see the distinctive black tip on the end of its tail. The sight of the stoat sent one of the breakfasting rabbits running passed the vegetable patch and into the field. For some unknown reason the rabbit did an about turn and came flying down the lane at great speed and jumped over the wall like an Olympic show jumper, (so much for trying to keep them out) into the vegetable patch. At exactly the same moment the rabbit was jumping over the wall, the stoat was squeezing itself through the stones in the wall and leaving the vegetable garden. The stoat on seeing the rabbit, did an about turn and followed it into the fenced off area. I held

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my breath. Unfortunately, or fortunately, whichever way you look at it, both rabbit and stoat were obscured by the wall and I couldn't see what was happening.

After some time the stoat appeared, running up and down and desperately looking for a way out. It found a small hole in the netting and ran down by the side of the barn, and was never seen again. Once the stoat had disappeared the rabbit came into view. It was agitated and ran up and down the vegetable patch looking for some means of escape. It totally ignored the brassicas and other tasty vegetables it would have normally devoured, as it was so intent on leaving the vegetable patch. It finally found a hole large enough through which to escape and ran up the field at great speed.

I once saw a rabbit chase a stoat which in turn was chasing a baby rabbit. The outcome of that was the baby rabbit escaped whilst the mother chased the stoat away. The outcome of this, is that no animals were hurt in the telling of this story!

I must leave a note to myself, "Fencing around vegetable patch in need of repair".

Sylvia Turner

## Penhill Ladies Annual Trip Wednesday May 15th

On **May 15th** we are looking forward to a visit to Raby Castle and Deer Park: "One of England's finest medieval castles, set within 200 acres of lush parkland".

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## Best Foot Forward - Buckden Gill

How lucky we are to live in the Yorkshire Dales! There are downsides, of course, like the distance to shops, jobs, entertainment or hospitals, but there are many plus factors as well. From a walker's viewpoint it is amazing. I have written before about the delight of being able to walk from the doorstep, leaving the car behind; and not having to travel fifty miles from a nearby city is a big advantage, saving time, money and the planet.

Walking from the doorstep is all very well but the paths near home do become a bit repetitive if walked regularly. From time to time it's nice to find new territory, and what a choice we have: Swaledale, Wharfedale or Coverdale? Dentdale, Ribblesdale or Mallerstang? There is so much choice and none of them are far away.

For this walk we are at the top end of Wharfedale, starting at Buckden. There is plenty of good walking further up the Wharfe, where the valley becomes known as Langstrothdale, but our target today is Buckden Pike, by a less well used route. Sixty years ago, when I first climbed the hill, the normal ascent route was up Buckden Gill. Later, the National Park Authority promoted and improved a more circuitous route over the moorland to the north. It is safer and offers more expansive views but it can be very wet. The gill route is unofficial, that is, not a Public Right of Way, but it is on Open Access land as soon as the car park is left.

It was a while since I had been up the gill, so I was looking forward to climbing it again. I turned up at the Buckden car park on a fine Saturday in mid March. It was late morning so there were about sixteen cars there, which is roughly half full. It was a lovely day, quite a contrast to recent wet weather, so there were people meeting up, getting kit on and setting off, mostly going up Buckden Rake; all serenaded by a singing blackbird.

The gill is right behind the village but the obvious gate just leads into a caravan park. Better to go through the Rake gate at the other end, then turn sharp right and double back towards Buckden Beck. The miners' track crosses the beck here and slants diagonally above the village but there is no bridge and the stream crossing is awkward. Our route doesn't cross, it goes left up the north bank past a Yorkshire Water stone hut, probably monitoring the flow of water. It is a delightful walk, grassy

at first alongside a beck with lots of little falls and waterslides. Fairly soon it starts to get stony, with frequent outcrops of limestone. This is the classic Great Scar Limestone found in the Malham area but largely absent from Wensleydale. Angular scree slopes now stretch up the hillsides to vertical escarpments and it looks quite dramatic.

There were four people exploring the gill as I walked up but they didn't get very far. They were the only people I saw anywhere in the gill. There is plenty to put people off. Rock walls come together at a twenty foot waterfall and it looks like a dead end; but a path doubles back up to the retaining wall at a point where it is possible to scramble up a narrow cleft. This is not for the feint-hearted but it is easy enough, given reasonable agility. At the top the path turns right and returns above the waterfall. Take care, there are steep drops and the path isn't very wide.



There are more waterfalls ahead but take a moment to look back; the view behind is worth it. Continuing upwards there are two waterfalls, one above the other. The lower one is probably the tallest of them all; the upper one is smaller but sits in a delightful little amphitheatre with a grassy floor. Again, the route out is a zigzag through another rocky escarpment, easier this time, and back above the falls. Over a broken stile the gradient becomes gentler and the path easier. This was a good lunch stop for me, with the curlew calls piercing the background roar of the cascading beck, The sunshine, the seclusion and the solitude – Wainwright would have loved it.

## Bainbridge W.I.

The most picturesque parts of the route are now behind us but there is still plenty of interest ahead. Altogether there are five main waterfalls as well as all the little cascades, but the path becomes muddier and less well defined. The stream is smaller now and it can be stepped over more easily, but most of the route is still on the north side. Just as I was lamenting the lack of flowers in the gill, I came across a clump of primroses, quite high up but in full bloom. Later in the Spring there would probably be a lot more.

After a few more stiles the spoil heap of Buckden mine becomes visible. It looks strangely orange after all the white/grey limestone. This is largely due to the crushed sandstone rock but there are other minerals in there as well, no doubt including some iron. The steep and loose heap has to be climbed and above it the remains of mine buildings begin to appear, leading to the shapely arched entrance to the adit of the lead mine. The miners would have come up their track to here after a thousand feet of climbing to get to work. On fine Summer days they must have been tempted to sleep out overnight to save the climb next day.

From here we climb up the hillside and head for the summit ridge. Suddenly the solitude has gone and there are people around, in my case a dozen or more on or near the top, including quite a few small children. Good for them!

From the trig point the standard descent route sets off northwards, following a path which has been substantially improved by the Park Authority. The steeper bits have some huge stone blocks brought in by helicopter. Elsewhere a gravel surface has been laid. Lower down rolls of coir matting have been wedged across the worst bogs to slow down the water runoff. The path curves round over a lot of boggy ground to reach the track on Buckden Rake and from there it is just a steady descent back to the car park.

The whole route is only about four miles, although it does have over fifteen hundred feet of ascent. It has a lot to offer for anyone who likes a bit of a scramble but it is probably best to choose a time when the ground has dried out a bit, partly because this makes it easier, but also to reduce erosion of the path.

Exploring new routes is always great fun, so go and enjoy this one sometime.

March started with our Easter Craft Workshop. We created some Easter trees, Easter bonnets and other seasonal items which was great fun. We were joined by some local children who had lots of fun sticking and creating!

We then hosted our annual Community Lunch for the older members of our community who meet the criteria. This was a lovely occasion where guests enjoyed a delicious two course meal followed by entertainment from some of our members who revived the pantomime 'Cinderella' that had originally been performed at our Christmas Party.

Our clubs continue to keep our members occupied between monthly meetings. The Book Club are meeting monthly to discuss their latest read whilst the Lunch Club continue to tour local hostelrys, sampling their offerings. March saw them at The Wheatsheaf in Carperby enjoying some delicious home-cooked food.

The IT Club meets monthly at Sycamore Hall where they try to grapple with a range of technology issues. The Gardening Club are planning some visits to 'Moss and Moor' near Ilkley and Beetham Garden Centre and the Walking Group are waiting for better weather before trying to venture out for a wander!

We welcomed visitors to our March meeting which was held at Sycamore Hall and saw Shannon McIntyre demonstrating her amazing flower arranging skills by creating displays for Easter. It was a great night, enjoyed by all and lovely to see one of our local youngsters doing so well.

Our April meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 18th at 7.30pm** in Bainbridge Village Hall when our speaker will be Tiv Wallington (ex of Carperby) talking about her 'Life in Crime', working for the CPS. This will be a very interesting and entertaining talk so do come along and join us.

The new membership year is about to start, meaning that subscriptions are due. We are subsidising these in the hope that this encourages you to join and make the most of this great value membership! 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 N. P. 650801**. We would be delighted to see you and can assure you of a very warm welcome.

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## Sycamore Hall News

March has been a busy month for us with more works going on - this time, the installation of a new CCTV system to keep residents and staff safe.

Sonja and Karen held another Vintage Afternoon Tea to celebrate Easter which was well-attended by our residents who enjoyed some delicious treats, all served on vintage crockery and with musical entertainment from Diana Hartley.

We are delighted to have been awarded a £1,000 grant from North Yorkshire Council's Stronger Communities Fund to help us launch our Community Cinema. This means we can go ahead and purchase the licenses necessary to allow us to legally open this facility to the public. Until then, we have been showing films for our residents which have been well-received. Look out for details shortly of our forthcoming programme along with details of how the Community Cinema will work.

'Helping Hands' have very kindly given us some new gardening tools for those enthusiastic green-fingered residents who are just itching to get outside and start tinkering. As if that wasn't enough, we were thrilled to receive two very large 'sun canopies' from the company who installed our new windows and we really hope they will get plenty of use this year when the weather eventually improves! Our existing garden furniture has been repaired and treated by 'Pud' Iveson which is fabulous and we are very grateful to him for his efforts and time. The summerhouse is currently undergoing repairs before being painted and prepared for the summer when, with any luck, it will get lots of use - hopefully offering shelter from the sun rather than the rain! How wonderful it is that this support has been forthcoming to improve the lives of our residents - thank you to everyone who has contributed in any way.

Meanwhile, our regular activities continue with 'Knit and Natter' at **2.00pm on Mondays**; Ron's Quiz or Karen's Bingo at **10.30am on Tuesdays**; Coffee Morning at **10.30am on Thursdays** and Gentle Exercise at **11.00am on Fridays**. You are very welcome to join us for any of these activities. In March, Julia and Nicky organised a Coffee Morning raising funds for the Brain Trauma charity. We had a fun quiz to see just how much we all knew about Sycamore Hall and those who live and work

there - we weren't very good and clearly need to brush up on our observation skills!! Still, we had fun and managed to raise £197 for the charity, so a big 'Thank You' to everyone involved.

Our small businesses are prepared for the summer season and looking forward to welcoming you to see just what is on offer. Sonja's Hair Salon with Mabel and Maisy's Mini Emporium has a lovely range of gifts including jewellery, toiletries, scarves and gloves, cushions, greetings cards etc. Sycamore Country Store has a vast range of groceries, toiletries, stationery, frozen food, fresh fruit and vegetables, dairy and household products. There are three deliveries a week from J W Cockett and Son in Hawes offering fresh bread, savouries and cakes along with fresh sandwiches delivered from Proper Tasty twice a week and fresh milk and eggs delivered three times a week from Dales Dairies. Sycamore Restaurant is open daily for lunch and the Post Office visits every **Monday and Wednesday between 9.00am and 11.00am** for your banking and postal needs. Come along and see what we have to offer!

If you have any queries or would like to discuss the availability of apartments, please contact the Manager, **Nicky Cooper**, on **0370-192-4055**.



Stone House Hotel

Join us this Easter Sunday (31<sup>st</sup> March) for a fantastic Stone House Sunday Roast served between 12-2.30pm. Our Mother's Day Sunday Roast was completely sold out - why not come and find out why?

Drinks will be served in our newly refurbished bar throughout the day, and a superb 3-course menu will be available in the evening.

Plus, our beautiful private dining room is available for up to 10 people. Perfect for getting together with friends and family.

Advance booking is strongly advised - call 01969 667571 or email [reception@stonehousehotel.co.uk](mailto:reception@stonehousehotel.co.uk) to secure your table.



## 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>TUE 2 APR</b>	7pm	<b>Six Inches of Soil</b> (Exploring Film) *£8 (Includes a local sausage buttie or veg option before the film and a Q&A chat after)
<b>FRI 5 APR</b>	6pm	<b>Battle Over Britain</b> (15) 1h 20
<b>FRI 12 APR</b>	6pm	<b>Typist Artist Pirate King</b> (12A) 1h 48
<b>THU 18 APR</b>	7pm	<b>An American in Paris: The Musical</b> (Live Event)*£12
<b>FRI 19 APR</b>	6pm	<b>Anatomy of a Fall</b> (15) 2hs 31
<b>TUE 23 APR</b>	7pm	<b>Nye</b> (Live Event) *12
<b>FRI 26 APR</b>	6pm	<b>Next Goal Wins</b> (12A) 1h 44
<b>THU 2 MAY</b>	7pm	<b>John Singer Sargent: Fashion &amp; Swagger</b> *£12

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

<b>SAT 13 APR</b>	7:30pm	<b>The Alex Hamilton Band</b> (Live Music) *£12
<b>SAT 11 MAY</b>	7:30pm	<b>Chris Bannister</b> (Live Music) *£12
<b>SAT 25 MAY</b>	7:30pm	<b>Maybe Dick</b> (Live Theatre) *£12

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



## Edie Peacock Hairdressing At the Parlour

Call: 07817 312906

## Postal Subscriptions

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 [uwnlininput@gmail.com](mailto:uwnlininput@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,

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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**

[uwnlininput@gmail.com](mailto:uwnlininput@gmail.com)

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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