

THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER

Issue 319

May 2025

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ST ANDREW'S, AYSCARTH

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

Guest Editorial

There should be a website called www.confusingroadsigns.com. There isn't because I've checked. If there was, we would be able to look up why we have diversion signs where there are no diversions. Why these signs, when there is a diversion, point in the wrong direction or lead you to a closed road, leaving locals explaining to confused visitors how to get back to where they should be.

Then there are the road closed signs. It would be useful if you knew exactly where the road was closed. I know there are long stretches of road between villages and towns in the dales so it wouldn't be useful to say "road closed in the middle of nowhere", but, if we had some indication where the closure was, say in two, four or six miles etc. we would know whether or not we could reach our destination before the road works.

The most inaccurate road sign I've ever seen was when the Askrigg to Carperby road was closed. Coming into Askrigg from Bainbridge there was nothing to tell you of the closure until you had driven through Askrigg and were travelling along the steep, twisting road where you needed to concentrate on where you were going, not reading road signs. Not knowing how far down the road the closure was we had to turn round.

At Carperby the signs were more obvious. There were cones across the road leading to Askrigg and a diversion sign directed you to go past Aysgarth Falls to the main road. So far, so good until you read the sign which stated, "For Bainbridge and Askrigg go via Wensley." I read it several times to make sure I'd not got it wrong, but there in big black letters on a yellow background, were the misleading directions. Fortunately it was January so most people reading the sign would have been local and would know that when you reached the A684 you would turn right for Bainbridge and Askrigg and not left for Wensley unless you wanted to go round in ever decreasing circles until your fuel or patience ran out.

The signs along the A684 that warn us that there is ice in July and a few hundred yards along the road there is a warning of floods have now been removed. The trouble is, these signs are left by the roadside for so long that people don't take any notice of them, so if by some quirk of nature we were to get ice on the road

and a flood further down we could find ourselves skidding on ice and going bonnet first into a pool of water as everyone had ignored the signs.

Another thorn in the side of the motorist is car parking. There are still some car parks which accept coins but most want you to pay by card, which is alright as long as the instructions are clear and the sun is not shining onto the machine so you can't see what you are supposed to do. This can result in getting two tickets and can lead to doing a bit of ticket touting in the car park! There are some car parks where you require an app on your phone and if you haven't got the app you can't park there.

The car parks I like the most, especially when supermarket shopping are those which give you two or three hours free parking, especially if they haven't got cameras. It's in their own interest. If you have got limited time, you go round the shop and only buy what's on your list, whereas if you are not rushed, you can check out what's new, what is on offer and find something different for tea.

It is said that the three most stressful things in life are death, divorce and moving house. To that list I would like to add standing at a supermarket checkout when your parking time is running out. You think you have given yourself plenty of time and there are only two in the queue in front of you but the woman at the front of the queue has picked up the only item in the store without a barcode! A bell is rung, an assistant saunters up to find out what is wrong, she saunters back, then reappears again with the barcode which is as long as the alphabet. The cashier proceeds to type it in, makes a mistake and mutters something about "not having my glasses on". Oh for goodness sake, please hurry up, my parking time is nearly up and Big Brother is out there watching me.

At last the woman is served and there's only one man in front of me. He's only got two items so that shouldn't take long, but the till roll runs out. Why does the till roll always run out when I'm in the queue? You watch the changing of the till roll which takes nearly as long as The Changing of the Guards. The man decides to pay by phone but it is not accepted by the card reader and no matter how many times he tries the two devices won't talk to each other. Please, please use your card, or good old fashioned cash or I'm going to get a hefty fine.

At last I go through the checkout, pile everything into the basket and run through the shop, past the other tills trying not to skittle slow moving people and children with too much energy. I run across the car park, trolley wheels nearly on fire and throw the shopping into the boot. Pizza toppings slipping sideways, lids popping off yoghurt pots and you daren't even look at the eggs! In a manoeuvre worthy of Starsky and Hutch on a mission you screech out of the car park with a nano second to spare.

You may wonder why I don't do on-line shopping and save myself all this hassle. I've tried it a few times and I don't like receiving goods that only have a day to live and some of the replacements are imaginative.

I once wanted some ground almonds to make marzipan to ice a cake. Ground almonds were not available so I received a small packet of flaked almonds instead. I think even Mary Berry would have a challenge icing a cake with those.

I have decided that while I am still fit and able I will do my own shopping, choosing supermarkets which give you ample free parking time and especially without cameras. Assuming I can get to them of course, after I've negotiated all the diversion and road closure signs.

Sylvia Turner

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NEXT ISSUE IS**

**TUESDAY MAY 20th
PUBLISHED ON MAY 29th**



Eunice the Ewe

Last month I was hiding in the Preston and Castle Bolton entry in the Drop-off Points and Contacts box on page 4 and the lucky winner of the £10 prize is Agatha Welsh of Southend-on-Sea.

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

LACC Live Music Events

April To December 2025

Tickets £12 (LACC Volunteers £6). All concerts start at 7.30pm.

From April to December, as well as our regular Friday cinema and other cinema event screenings, we have monthly live music events.

May 3rd	Twangtown Paramours
June 28th	Edwina Hayes
July 19th	Liffy Live.
August 8th	Snake Davis
October 18th	Dixon County
November 15th	Gaelforce Folk Rock Band
December 6th	Paul Snowden

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May Competition

In the Dale or just over the hills. Some local places. Some are anagrams.

1. You'll find it in the dentist's chair
2. You'll find it in there
3. Nursing Dee
4. Two round here, one on Lune, another in Teesdale, and many more
5. With a fish you might spot it—in the water
6. Show her a gut
7. Angers toes
8. Prickle old weight with oxide
9. Lot con tables
10. The boiler's doing OK
11. Back mac finish
12. Applaud the pork.
13. Not a shallow valley
14. O Ramble O
15. Stem art

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

Central Dales Pharmacy Opening Hours

Please note that from **Saturday, June 7th** the Central Dales Pharmacy will only be opening from **9.00am - 2.00pm** instead of **5.30pm** on a Saturday. Weekday hours won't be affected.

Drop-off points and contacts

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

Hawes:	Community Office	667400
Bainbridge:	Sylvia Crookes, 3, Bainside	650525
Askrigg:	Sykes Shop,	650535
Carperby:	Anthony Abraham Hall Garth	663243
West Burton:	Nadine Bell, Margarets Cottage	663559
Aysgarth:	Hamilton's Tearoom	663423
Redmire:	Kevin Davis Westholme	624165
Thoraby:	Neil Piper	663747
West Witton	Christine Barker, Chestnut Garth	624934
Preston and Castle Bolton	Alastair McLachlan	07817 709167

April Competition Answers

1. Under the weather
2. By the skin of your teeth
3. Once in a blue moon
4. Speak of the devil
5. Chip off the old block
6. Your guess is as good as mine
7. Costs an arm and a leg
8. It ain't over 'till the fat lady sings
9. It's not rocket science
10. We'll cross that bridge when we come to it
11. The best thing since sliced bread
12. Cut a long story short
13. On a wild goose chase
14. It takes two to tango
15. Barking up the wrong tree
16. You can't make an omelette without breaking eggs
17. Don't give up the day job
18. Call it a day

Quite a few entries this month. The winning entry chosen at random was from Jane Lawes of Troon whose nominated charity to receive the £50 was Redmire Village Hall.



Yorebridge Sport and Leisure Centre

The Wensleydale Centre, Askrigg.
Tel. 01969 650060

Parlez-vous francais? Fancy learning or improving your French speaking skills? Come along and join our friendly group for French conversation with experienced tutor Liz Sowter in a relaxed and supportive environment. The emphasis is on communication, but we will work on vocabulary and structure to give you confidence and help you progress. Sessions are every **Tuesday from 9.30am to 10.45am**. The cost is £7 per week. Booking is essential.

Tennis Time! We are proud to be Members of the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), our courts can be booked through their website clubspark.lta.org.uk/YorebridgeTennisClub. You don't even need to worry about having the correct equipment, we have rackets and balls available on the court at no extra cost.

Planning to play regularly during the year? Our tennis membership includes LTA membership, free court bookings for 12 months and membership of our tennis club, which includes weekly club night and the opportunity to book lessons with our Level 4 Coach, Mark. Tennis membership can be purchased on our ClubRight website, we have individual and family memberships available:- yorebridgesportandleisure.co.uk/membership.

Can I come to the gym? Yes. A gym is a safe place to exercise for anyone of any fitness level. All gym users must receive an induction. This will build your confidence and understanding of how to get the best out of the equipment and machines. If you are visiting the Dales and would like to keep your regular gym sessions going during your stay, we have a self-certification form for those who have undertaken an induction in their local gym and are confident and competent gym users. This is available on the sign-in desk. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with any questions.

Gym membership – purchased through ClubRight gym management system <https://www.yorebridgesportandleisure.co.uk/>.

We have a variety of gym memberships including monthly, couples, student, and junior memberships, as well as pay as you go vouchers. These allow you to use the gym in a

way that suits you and have a great workout to meet your needs.

Fitness classes - via Zoom or live class as indicated. Booking is essential for all classes. Email admin@yorebridge-sport.co.uk or phone **01969 650060**. Classes are: (£9 pay as you go or class membership option available.)

Fit for Life - **Mondays** (live and on Zoom) **9.15am - 10.15am**. Building and maintaining strength to live life your way. Weights, resistance bands and equipment available to borrow in the gym.

Warm and Well – **Mondays** (live) **11.00am – noon**. Enjoy a social, active class building core strength. Standing and chair-based exercise.

Tennis – **Mondays** (live) **6.00pm – 7.00pm**. Social tennis, weather permitting. Get in touch to join the group: yorebridgetennis@gmail.com.

High Intensity Bootcamp **Tuesday and Thursday** (live) **6.00am – 7.00am**. Get that morning metabolism boost.

Circuits – **Wednesdays** (live and on Zoom) **9.15am - 10.15am**. Exercises to keep active people, active. Work at your level through a mix of cardio and strengthening exercises. Weights, resistance bands and equipment available to borrow in the gym.

Yogafusion – (£6) **Thursdays** (live) **9.30am – 10.30am** with Janesse. To book please email yogafusionbyj@gmail.com.

Strong and Able – **Fridays** (live) **11.00am – noon**. 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.

Over 40's Walking Football (£3) **Fridays** (live) **6.30pm – 7.30pm** with Glenn on the MUGA, yorebridgetennis@gmail.com.

Fundraising - We have an Easyfundraising account for The Yorebridge Sports Development Association Ltd. It is simple to join, doesn't cost you a penny and will help us to keep delivering. Simply scan the QR code and follow the steps, thank you so much for all your support!



Askrigg and District Produce Show Sunday, August 24th

In usual Dales style, Spring weather comes and goes on a daily, sometimes hourly, basis but whatever Mother Nature throws at us, it's still a wonderful time to be outdoors in Wensleydale, particularly if you are preparing the ground and sowing seed for the produce season to come.

At Produce Show Central, we have been busy working on this year's schedule and we hope that there is something to tempt lots of you talented growers, bakers, painters and art and craftspeople into entering something in the show this year. We really hope that you will take the time to look through our schedule and see what classes you might be able to enter.

As a small family show, we welcome entries from people of all abilities or even from those like me with no talent but lots of enthusiasm! We have kept a lot of the class titles very general to encourage as many of you as possible to have a go. Even in these technological and advanced years, there is still a huge buzz in creating something, displaying it at the show and winning a prize. The schedule will be available soon on our website and will be delivered to all houses in the Askrigg Parish in early June.

Parents of children in the BAWB schools may find that their children will have made something at school which will be entered in the show thanks to the support of our school network and our dedicated team. Why not help your kids to get creative over the summer holidays and make something else to enter along with their piece from school?

With the continuing popularity of Bake Off, I look forward to seeing a bit of healthy competition going on in the Home Cookery section. We have a few easy classes and some with a bit more of a challenge for the

experienced baker, so why not have a go and give our judge something to get their teeth into.

You can find out more details, look at previous entries and get inspired by visiting askriggproduceshow.weebly.com You can also find out how to get answers to any questions about the show rules or class information. We are happy to help in any way we can to enable you to enter.

We look forward to another creative and productive show. Our thanks for all of the support and appreciation we continue to receive from friends near and far. We are also indebted to the many local businesses who have contributed to cover our costs over the years so that we can keep this lovely traditional show going.

Mike Dechezeaux

Chairman – Askrigg and District Produce Association

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Penhill Benefice

Church Services: In case of bad weather, please check our website for updates at penhillbenefice.co.uk/services. There will be a Telephone Service each **Sunday at 9.30am**. Dial **0333 0110 946** and enter room number 61337190# and PIN 7450# (local charges apply).

Sunday, May 4th

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

9.30am Morning Prayer, St. Mary's,
Redmire.

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

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

Sunday, May 11th

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, followed by the
APCM, St. Bartholomew's, West
Witton.

Sunday, May 18th

10.30am Holy Communion Penhill Together
Service with The Rt. Revd. Nick
Baines, Bishop of Leeds,
St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.



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Sunday, May 25th

9.30am Holy Communion,
St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.

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

10.00am Swaledale Festival Service,
Holy Trinity, Wensley

4.00pm Evening Prayer,
Thornton Rust Mission Room.

Thursday, May 29th , Ascension Day

7.00pm Ecumenical Holy Communion
Service at Jervaulx Abbey
(East Witton Church if wet weather.)

May Mid-Week Services:

Thursday, 8th and 22nd at 9.30am.

Holy Communion, at St. Bartholomew's,
West Witton.

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

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

Thoralby and District WI

It has been a couple of busy months for our WI
with excellent speakers, very successful Soup
and Sweet events and planning for future events.

In March, Kay Richardson gave a talk about
"Pure Yorkshire Honey" which she makes from
her own hives. The talk was very interesting and
informative. She brought along samples of her
honey and some jars to sell.

In April David Poole, talked about the
"Leyburn Arts and Community Centre". It is a
very busy centre offering concerts, classes, a
community shed and is also an emergency hub
for Leyburn. Soup and Sweet has continued to
be successful with some weeks serving over
forty satisfied customers. This has now finished
for the summer but will start again in
September.

In the next few months there will be a trip to
Constable Burton to see the tulips followed by
lunch at the Wheatsheaf in Carperby, a visit to
Winton Park Gardens and a Dabble Day where
members can take part in flower arranging and
patchwork. If you are interested in joining us,
please contact our President **Sally Stone**
on **01969 663373**.

Nobody Likes a Grass

Well, not these days it seems, yet back in the 80's few gardens were without their pampas grass. Those long white plumes thrusting out from an unruly nest of spiky leaves could be found in both suburban postage-stamp sized plots and sprawling country estates. We had one particularly fine specimen three doors down from us, happily teasing low lying cloud with those 8-foot spears. Happily, you can come across renegade clumps up and down dale still clinging on, but, like many plant styles, it's gone out of fashion – why? What a shame that is – there's nothing finer than to see one of these huge Cortaderias used as a statement, sited slap-bang in the middle of a spacious lawn, its strength being as 'a solitary', uncluttered by contrasts or complimentary planting. Pint sized 'Pumila' is the baby, and at 4 foot to 5 foot, perfect if you're pushed for room, so buck the trend and treat yourself.

Fashion police victims abound, none more obvious than the aspidistra houseplant. Victorians couldn't get enough of these exotics. An ambitious family's social standing almost depending on their prized cast iron plant's size and number of leaves. Able to withstand toxic fumes from gas lights and dark draughty hallways, it was a firm favourite, regimentally plonked in a majolica planter next to the umbrella stand by the front door. Maybe in this age of central heating, it's lost its popularity, but, for me, it's a fabulously architectural plant and surely worth accommodating in a cooler, shady room.

Planting schemes can't escape this fickleness; sniffy disdain for neat rows of bright, bee friendly annuals have me scratching my head. That riot of colour created by a massed grouping of lobelia, petunia, geranium etc. is a joy in summer, and, more importantly, the anticipation is worth its weight in gold during those chilly, endless winter months. The last but one final straw (which means that it didn't quite drive me berserk, I'm getting to that) was when I was informed that even rockeries have had their day (who decides this?) and that raised beds are the way forward...speechless, I was.

Garden trends come and go: is bamboo in/out? Decking still ok? How long have those raised beds got? Let's talk about that giant monstera houseplant; along with 'Dallas' and Deely Boppers, is it pure 1980's and best consigned to

the history bin? It's too easy, with hindsight, to chuckle at how things were, but beware, in future we may be the targets for scorn, with our seasonal love of Christmas poinsettias (mine's still alive, just) or that valiantly attempted wildflower area. My passion for container gardens and hanging baskets could give them a right old laugh in years to come, who knows, who cares? On my own patch, gardening's all about being happily immersed in the task at hand with the freedom to create, often bodge, what I like, and future historians can... well, er, they're not a consideration.

When I was a kid I loved Livingstone daisies, still do. I hadn't a clue about plants, but Cleretum's tidy habit and innocently jolly colours appealed. When the sun shone, which was all day and every day back then, those artless reds, pinks and yellows struck me dumb, which took some doing, me being the chatty sort. Now here's the real final straw; last summer I asked for them at a local garden centre and was told that they weren't stocked as 'there was no demand for them'. Fighting back my finest 'disgruntled of Bainbridge' sulk, I settled for a tray of safe and secure mixed violas; colourful, compact gems which are guaranteed to flourish and be forever 100% in vogue. Now that's tempting fate, so I'll now await the inevitable hammering on the door, ominous splintering sounds followed by regulation boots in the hall as those relentless fashion police come a calling.

Ed Gardener

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Reeth Memorial Hall

All concert details on our recently refreshed website.

Friday, May 16th – Guy Davis

American Roots musician Guy Davis blends Blues, Roots and Folk music to comment on, and address, the frustrations of social injustice and common life struggles. Tickets £15 (£17 at door).

Saturday, May 31st – NE Street Band

The 5-piece band perform all the classic Springsteen hits and also cover all genres of his back catalogue - including fan favourites, rarities, iconic covers, solo and stripped back acoustic versions. Tickets £15 (£17 at door).

Friday, June 20th – The Often Herd

Vibrant, transatlantic bluegrass style music, deeply coloured by the striking natural and industrial landscapes of Northern England. Tickets £16 (£18 at door).

Coming in July

Baldy Holly Band (50's covers) and later in the month **The Abba Girls** 4 piece Band (the original Abba tribute band).

Tickets for concerts are available from Reeth PO or phone **Glen Steward 01748 884989** or visit www.reethmemorialhall.weebly.com – tickets half price under16s. All concerts **8.00pm** unless otherwise stated.

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Bainbridge Womens Institute

April was another busy month for our members with our groups getting out and about once again. Just for a change, we even enjoyed good weather for our outdoor activities which is a bit of a miracle really for April.

The Gardening Club members headed off to Clifton Castle where they enjoyed a fabulous time walking around the beautiful gardens before enjoying tea and cake by the swimming pool. The weather was so nice they probably imagined they were in warmer climes. The Lunch Club ladies headed to Sedbergh Golf Club where they enjoyed a delicious meal whilst overlooking the golf course where there was a competition going on. The Book Club and Walking Group didn't miss out either in April, both enjoying getting together to enjoy these activities but also each other's company - and food. The walkers went to Grassington for a walk in the woods followed by food at the Stripy Badger.

We began April with our Annual Community Lunch which we host for the older members of our local community. This year, we hosted 58 guests, all eager to catch up with friends over a delicious, homemade three-course meal. Although we were a bit short on volunteers, we managed to successfully pull off an efficient lunch service and everyone said they had really enjoyed themselves, and particularly the food. Phew. We had enjoyed it too, but didn't relish the washing up quite so much.

Our April meeting was a 'members only' event where we welcomed Shannon Acton to guide us through a workshop to make an Easter flower arrangement. We all watched on as Shannon created a beautiful basket of flowers with such ease, wondering whether ours would look anything like hers. Well, as it turned out, they weren't too bad. Of course, we did have a range of abilities amongst our members, from those who are long-standing members of the local flower clubs to those who can barely manage to plonk some supermarket flowers in a vase.

Despite this, we were all really proud of our efforts and every single basket arrangement was beautiful and, of course, different, as we all interpreted the suggestions differently. Amazingly, there were no fingers chopped off or water spilt in the process and we went home with something lovely to put on our Easter

dining tables. Thank you so much Shannon for another fun event - and for your patience.

We are already booking up for numerous events and activities in May and we hope that there will be more good weather for those held outside. Fingers crossed. Our May meeting will be held at Bainbridge Village Hall on **Thursday, May 15th starting at 7.30pm** when we will be learning more about CPR and using de-fibrillators. This could give us some valuable skills, although I am sure we all hope we won't ever need to use them. The last Soup and Sweet lunch of this season will take place at Bainbridge Village Hall on **Monday, May 19th from noon**. Do come along to enjoy a delicious homemade soup followed by a selection of homemade puddings - all for just £5 per person. Everyone welcome.

Our subscriptions for the next year are now due and, with a subsidy from our own funds, the cost will be £39. This represents excellent value for money as we do not just offer a monthly meeting but membership also entitles you to join any of our Clubs (Book, Craft, Garden, IT, Lunch, Walking and Theatre). The opportunities are endless. If you would like more information about our busy and friendly WI or any of our events and activities, please contact our President, **Sue Stokes on 07816 955723**.

News from Bainbridge Vets

With the weather starting to warm up land and the midges starting to come back, we would just like to remind clients to be vigilant looking for the signs of blue tongue in sheep and cattle.

- Fever.
- Reddening of the mucosal membranes, eyes, and/or region above the hoof.
- Sores on the nose, gum and/or dental pads.
- Discharge from the nose.
- Swelling of the face, lips, nose and/or tongue.
- Lameness.
- Depression

If you have any concerns please ring us at the surgery on **01969 650263** as this is a notifiable disease.

Wensleydale Railway Dates for your diary

Indian Tea Train – **Sunday, May 4th and May 18th at 2.30pm** - Join us for our first ever Indian Afternoon Tea Train! Enjoy a scenic journey through the Yorkshire Dales whilst being served a glass of prosecco and then a selection of sandwiches, scotch egg wedges, samosa, scones and cakes on delicate vintage china with unlimited tea and coffee. Price £49 per head including lunch and travel. For more details see wensleydale-railway.co.uk/indian-tea-train/.

Model Railway Weekend – **May 10th and 11th**. Join us for two days of trains big and small at Leeming Bar Station! More details shortly on our website.

Fish and Chips Trains - All aboard the 'Wensleydale Fryer' - our Saturday lunchtime Fish and Chips dining trains. – The last three will run on **August 9th, September 13th and October 11th**, all previous runs having been sold out. For more details see wensleydale-railway.co.uk/wensleydale_fryer/.

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 Gins and Tonic from the comfort of a private carriage travelling through the spectacular Yorkshire Dales scenery on our Railway! They will run on **June 21st, July 19th, August 2nd and October 4th**. For more details see - wensleydale-railway.co.uk/gintrainexperience/.

Polar Express 2025 - Tickets out now to join us on board THE POLAR EXPRESS™ Train Ride this Christmas 2025! Don't miss out on this magical experience and book your tickets today at yorkshiredalesthepolarexpressride.com.

Alex Kravchenko

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'Stop Ure Pollution' receives grant

A group which aims to stop the River Ure being polluted has received a donation of £500 from the Wensleydale and Swaledale Quaker Trust to purchase testing equipment and reagents. Stop Ure Pollution was set up in June 2024 and its citizen scientist volunteers, with the help of the Yorkshire Dales River Trust, carried out two river-length water-testings last year. The onet in October showed that the E.coli levels at Aysgarth Falls were eight times higher than is officially allowed for safe bathing.

Thanks to a grant from Surfers Against Sewage and a donation from the Jervaulx Fly Fishers the group has bought monitors for checking the levels of such pollutants as phosphates and nitrites. It also wants to purchase equipment to check levels of E.coli and to work with Save Our Swale on DNA testing. It now has its own website: <https://stopurepollution.co.uk/>. It aims to follow-up on

the water sampling carried out last year and to check specific sites regularly so that a clear and balanced picture can be obtained of the levels and causes of pollution.

Its chairman, Professor Richard Loutoka, said: "We hope to continue to raise public awareness of the state of the river and address the causes of the pollution with the polluters. We will also try to raise funds for our water-testing projects and possibly other projects including measuring bacterial endotoxin levels and looking at invertebrate life in the river."

The Wensleydale and Swaledale Quaker Trust has its origins in the 17th and 18th centuries with bequests in Wills which sought to provide for the poor and the maintenance of local Quaker Meeting Houses. The money was mainly invested in dwellings in Wensleydale which are maintained and rented to those living and/or working locally. The objectives of the Trust include assisting local charitable work and maintaining the Quaker Meeting Houses at Bainbridge, Countersett and Leyburn. Last year it donated £500 to Save Our Swale.

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Tyler 07376 487776



Hawes in Bloom 2025

Once again, in this our 11th year, our dedicated band of volunteers will be planting up and positioning containers around the town. Colours this year will be a bright mixture to include orange, yellow, scarlet, blue and white in varying shades and varieties which will stand up to our 'Dales summer' weather.

We are supported by the parish council, local charities and fund-raisers and individuals both financially and with practical help. Without this help the scheme would be unable to continue. If anyone wishes to contribute there is a donation box attached to the traffic island railings at Town Foot. It is checked daily during the season. If you wish to support in another way you can reach me via the Community Office.

The plants should arrive at the end of May (as usual) and be in place around the town during the following week.

I would hope too, that any excess plants could be offered for general sale as usual. I will pop up notices to give details nearer the time. Let's hope for some kind weather this summer!

Richard Noble
Your resident Plant Pest

Mason Scarr remembers V.E. Day.

I was born in February 1941 so I was just over three years old when VE Day was celebrated in Bainbridge.

I was woken up by my mother in the 'middle of the night', She dressed me and put me into my 'sirensuit' a warm all in one garment, what would be called a onesie nowadays. Apparently she had said to me "Come on you might remember this when you are older".

We went to the top of Brough hill, the large hill to the East of Bainbridge with the remains of a Roman fort on top. A large bonfire had been prepared earlier in a grassed -over hollow,

one of the pre-war excavations. There were a lot of people about. I next remember seeing a long string of flickering lights (burning pitch in a tin-can fastened to a long stick) on the road from Askrigg making their way slowly towards Bainbridge, a torchlight procession.

They eventually made their way through the village and up onto the top of Brough then proceeded to throw the lit torches onto the unlit bonfire which was soon burning well, everybody seemed to be making a lot of noise and having a happy time. I slowly became aware of the significance of what it was all about, but I certainly remember it.

Mason Scarr



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Mystery Picture

Last month Mystery Picture was of the bench by the bus stop at Woodhall. Where would you find this waterfall in spate?

Tuesday Hawes Fish Market

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Askrigg Stone Cross. **9.30am to 10.45am**
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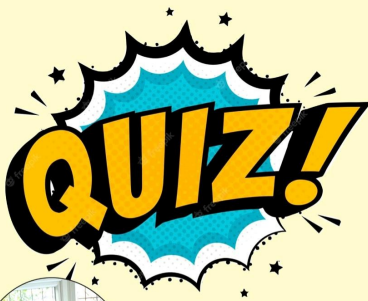
75th Anniversary Concert
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Friday, May 9th, 7.30pm

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Exhibition of the Talents

An Exhibition of the Talents will again be held in Bainbridge Quaker Meeting House **on June 14th and June 15th**. This is the weekend of the Beamish Vintage car rally, and also Father's Day. We are again inviting anyone to contribute to showcase the amazing talents in our area. Do you craft, bake, sculpt, write, whittle, draw, paint, knit, sew, crotchet, use clay /wood or any medium to express yourself? We are delighted to have our local school and WI participating already.

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Gwen Clark on 01969 667411.

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Penhill Ladies Visit to York

On **Wednesday, May 21st** we shall be visiting York. A choice is available to either visit the York Designer Outlet or to use the Park and Ride facility to travel on into the city.

Why not save the fuel, stress and parking fees and enjoy the day. Carpe diem and all that!


The cost for the return coach journey is £20.00 per person. The Park and Ride will cost £3.80 return and just £1.30 if you are a proud owner of a bus pass.

Seats are available for the public to book, so please book early to avoid disappointment as seats will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Payment must be made to secure a booking. The final date for Booking and Payment is **Friday, May 16th.**

To book or for further information please contact one of the following: **Christine: 07776 132966, Jill: 07393 893773 or Joan: 01969 663557.**

We will be leaving **Carperby at 9.00am** then **Redmire at 9.10am** and **Leyburn at 9.20am** at the respective bus shelters. We will depart from the York Outlet at **4.00pm.**

Looking forward to my day out. See you there.



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DALESPLEY



The children in Dalesplay have had lots of fun over the Easter holidays. The Easter bunny called by and left some chocolate treats for the children. They made bird feeders to take home and hang

in the garden with some seeds to feed the birds. We baked some Easter treats to take home and share with our families. We made nests outside, made dens and played football. We made Easter masks, went on an Easter egg hunt and made Easter headbands.

Some children have now moved onto school nursery as they prepare the transition to start school in September. We will miss them dearly and they have become a big part of Dalesplay, But we know it is time for them to start their next chapter and wish them all the very best. Some will return in the holidays to join our holiday club and we will be excited to hear about their school adventures. We also welcome some new children into the setting this month and we are excited for them to join our little Dalesplay family.

Dalesplay is very pleased that following a food hygiene inspection we continue to have all five

stars on our rating as we continue to provide nourishing food for the children in our care.

We would like to take the opportunity to say a very big thank you to Gary Riley who set up the Hare and Hounds walking group, planned and lead lots of fabulous walks in and around the dales for people to join in and explore.

He has raised a wonderful £260.77 for Dalesplay through the walks, which helped to purchase some flags, windchimes, plants, compost and bark for the outside area and a new sensory tray for the Ducklings room. Please look on Facebook for his group and feel free to join in. The group is very friendly and welcoming to everyone.

From September Dalesplay will be offering the 30 hours government funding for working families the term after the child is nine months old. This is alongside the deprivation 2 year funding and 3 and 4 year funding. To see if you are eligible please visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk. Dalesplay is also able to offer the funding either term time only or spread over the full year. Just speak to Joanne for more details at dalesplay1@btconnect.com or phone 01969 667789. We do still offer the paid sessions and holiday clubs for children, 3 months - 12 years.



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Middleham and the Dales Local History Group

Wednesday, May 21st at 2.00pm at Harmby Village Hall

'Being Sick in Body' – aspects of life through local wills. By Marion Moverley

'Being Sick in Body' is snippets of life from times past gleaned from probate documents. Not at all morbid, just a look at human life and interactions and what we can learn. Marion, well known to many of our members, is making a welcome return. An adult education lecturer and expert in local and family history she is an entertaining speaker, passionate about Yorkshire and was a founder member of the Middleham and the Dales Local History Group.

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**, dotandtonyk@btinternet.com.

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Wensleydale Concert Series 10th Anniversary Series

Back on May 13th 2015 we organised a concert at St Andrew's Church Aysgarth. Time really does fly by and incredibly on **May 17th 2025** we start our tenth year of concerts!! Why not come along and celebrate with us!

We are very pleased to welcome the New London Chamber Ensemble, who are celebrating 25 years since the wind quintet launched. NLCE have performed throughout the UK at major festivals as well as touring around the world. They have commissioned new music and undertaken collaborations with other notable musicians (including the percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie).

Their programme includes music by well known composers (Mozart, Debussy and Holst) and more adventurous works by Hindemith, Medaglia and Moondog.

Full details of all eight of our 2025 concerts, the programmes and tickets are available from our website. Heavily discounted season tickets are also available. See www.wensleydaleconcertseries.co.uk for more information.

Please note that parking arrangements have changed at Aysgarth Church - the car park no longer accepts cash payments. To avoid delays in the car park you can pre-book parking before you set off. Full details of parking arrangements are at our website under Venue Information.

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Thornton Rust Institute Events

There will be a celebration for VE Day (80th Anniversary) on **May 8th starting at 12 noon**. Everyone will be welcome.

We are also holding a Summer Quiz Night on **Saturday, May 17th starting at 7.00pm**. Light refreshments will be available. Admission £3.00.

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115th Wensleydale Tournament

Thank you to everyone who was involved in this year's event. So many talented people, both young and old, took part and our adjudicators, Carol Schroder and Caroline Clemmow, were very encouraging and gave a lot of excellent advice.

The Choir Day was packed, and those choirs new to us enjoyed every minute and look forward to returning next year.

Special thanks to all the participating schools. We know how busy you are and we are very grateful for the effort that you all make to bring the children. They are always the highlight of both speech and music classes.

Next year's Tournament will take place from **March 9th - 20th**. The Choir Day will be on the **20th**.

This year's AGM will take place at **6.00pm on June 10th** in Leyburn Art Centre and is open to the public.



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***MAY WHATS ON LISTING;
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May

- 2 Dominoes. 7.30pm. Carperby Institute.
- 3 Ride2Stride walk. 9.21am. Garsdale Station.
- 3 Twangtown Paramors Concert. 7.30pm. LACC.
- 4 Indian Tea Train. 2.30pm. Leyburn Station. See p.11.
- 8 V.E. Day Celebration. 12 noon. Thornton Rust Institute. See p.18.
- 9 East Witton Male Voice Choir concert. 7.30pm. St.John's Church. East Witton. See p.14.
- 9 Dancing Round the Dales. Hawes Market Hall. 6.30pm. See p.29.
- 9 and 10. Plant Fayre. 10.00am-4.00pm. LACC. See p.30.
- 10 and 11. Model Railway Exhibition. Leeming Bar station. See p.11.
- 10 VE Day concert. Hawes Market Hall. 3.00pm. See p.39.
- 11 VE Day concert. 2.00pm. St. Matthew's Leyburn. See p.39.
- 12 Hawes Panto Meeting. 7.00pm. The Fountain, Hawes. See p.25.
- 14 Dales Charity Bingo. Hawes Market Hall 7.00pm. See p.11.
- 15 Bainbridge W.I. Meeting. 7.30pm. Bainbridge Village Hall, See p.10.
- 16 Concert at Reeth Memorial Hall. 8.00pm. See p.9.
- 16 Leyburn u3a AGM.
- 17 Wensleydale Concert Series. 7.30pm. St. Andrews, Aysgarth, See p.18.
- 17 Quiz Night. 7.30pm. Thornton Rust Institute. See p.18.
- 18 Indian Tea Train. 2.30pm. Leyburn Station. See p.11.
- 19 Soup and Sweet Lunch. Noon. Bainbridge Village Hall, See p.10.
- 21 Penhill Ladies. Trip to York. See p.15.
- 21 Local History Group Lecture. 2.00pm. Harmby Village Hall. See p.17.
- 24 Ayrton Family Concert. Hardraw church, See p.18.
- 24 Swaledale Festival starts. See p.21.
- 25 Felt exhibition opens. School House Gallery, Muker. See p.39.

28 Ladies Luncheon Club. Noon. Street Head Inn. See p.31.

31 Concert at Reeth Memorial Hall. 8.00pm. See p.9.

Hawes: Focus of An Amazing 2025 Summer Transport Network

For a Sunday day out without the car, for holiday visitors coming for seven nights, or to invite friends and relations who do not drive to visit you in Upper Wensleydale, the six month DalesBus summer network is imaginative and well-connected (including with some trains at Garsdale and Ribbleshead stations).

Sunday DalesBus services include Route Nos 830, 831, 832, 856, 857, 858, 875 and 876. Drivers and vehicles include those from operators Arriva North East, First Leeds, Hodgsons, Little White Bus, Lonsdale Bus, Proctors, York and Country. Note that whether services run on Bank Holidays (or on which Bank Holidays) varies according to the operator but is clearly shown on DalesBus timetables.

LWB's Monday-Saturday Hawes-Garsdale station no 113 is replaced on summer Sundays by DalesBus No 857 Wensleydale Explorer (still a familiar LWB minibus) but including Redmire Monument, Castle Bolton, Carperby, Askrigg and Bainbridge on its route.

A new Saturday bus service starts on **Saturday, May 3rd**, the Yorkshire Dales Explorer No 80. Its route from Lancaster, via Hornby, Ingleton Community Centre, White Scar Caves, Chapel-le-Dale (Hill Inn), Ribbleshead Station (where there is a connection with Northern's Saturdays only train from Rochdale and Clitheroe) and Hawes Market Place (arr **10.45am**) and Hawes N.P Centre (arr **10.50am**).

This connects with the weekday LWB No 156 dep Gayle **11.05am**, Hawes (Market Place) **11.07am**, arr Bainbridge **11.17am**, Sycamore Hall **11.18am**, Askrigg **11.23am** and onwards to Catterick Tesco arr **12.26am**.

Printed copies of bus timetables are available free from the Community Office in Hawes; the DalesBus website is www.dalesbus.org, for LWB see www.littlewhitebus.co.uk.

Ruth Annison

Swaledale Festival Starts on Saturday, May 24th

A celebration of music, arts, and walking in the spectacular Yorkshire Dales. Book tickets at www.swalefest.org.

The meadows are blooming, the evenings are lengthening - and the wait is nearly over for Swaledale Festival 2025! Festivities commence on **Saturday, May 24th** with a diverse range of world-class concerts, talks, exhibitions, theatre and guided walks in breathtaking settings over fifteen days.

Royal Northern Sinfonia, the North East's internationally renowned orchestra, will take the stage at The Garden Rooms at Tennants in Leyburn on **May 25th**. Acclaimed across the globe, the Gateshead-based ensemble will be joined by superstar trumpet soloist and champion of her instrument Matilda Lloyd for a programme featuring Beethoven's iconic Fifth Symphony and Haydn's celebrated Trumpet Concerto.

Multi award-winning, BAFTA-nominated writer and comedian Mark Steel presents his hilarious new touring show 'The Leopard in My House' at The Garden Rooms at Tennants on **May 29th**, tackling the sobering subject of his cancer battle with his trademark garrulous humour.

English folk supergroup Granny's Attic will round-off their UK tour with a Festival performance on **May 24th** in Grinton. Expect foot-tapping fiddle, guitar, melodeon and vocals from this BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award nominated trio.

Also in Grinton, New Orleans swing mingles with French musette and intoxicating Latin grooves in the hands of the sassy Moscow Drug Club with their set on **May 26th**.

Outstanding Yorkshire-based choir Jervaulx Singers take us on an enchanting choral journey through the night on **May 31st** in Aysgarth with 'The Dream', a sequence of sacred and secular music. "Performing to the always warm and engaged audience of Swaledale Festival will be a real joy for us," said Director Charlie Gower-Smith.

Internationally acclaimed guitarists Ahmed Dickinson and Eduardo Martín will perform an unforgettable evening of Cuban rhythms, virtuosity, and soul-stirring melodies on **June 1st** in Grinton.

Dales brass bands are always a highlight. We will be treated to performances from Leyburn Band on **May 28th** in Aysgarth, Reeth Brass Band on **June 3rd** in Arkengarthdale and Muker Silver Band on **June 6th** in Muker Public Hall.

A record ten Young Artist Platform concerts will shine a light on rising stars, including trumpet and tuba players with local roots Stan and Nona Lawrence on **June 1st** in Muker. "Our family lived in Swaledale for many generations," said Stan Lawrence. "It's great to be able to reconnect with our heritage, and very inspiring to be playing music in such a beautiful part of the world." Tickets for all concerts are available to under-25s for just £3.

The 2025 Festival offers a wealth of opportunities to participate and create, with a traditional Dales Dance Workshop on **May 29th** in Reeth, a Photography Masterclass among the Muker meadows on **June 4th**, and Foraging Walks with professional forager Jim Parums in Hudswell Woods on **May 28th and June 4th**.

Allan Guy, an attendee at the sold-out Foraging Walk in last year's Festival, said, "Jim is extremely knowledgeable and has a wonderfully engaging way of explaining how to go about identifying plants and how to tell which are good, and which should be avoided!"

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How Parents Can Help Assist Their Children During Exam Season

Exam season can be a stressful time for students, and as parents, it's important to provide support to ensure their children are not only prepared but also mentally and emotionally equipped for success. The role parents play during this time can have a significant impact on a child's ability to manage stress, stay organized, and perform their best. Here are some ways parents can assist their children during exam season.

Creating a positive and supportive environment. The environment at home plays a crucial role in how children approach their studies. A positive and supportive atmosphere can reduce stress and help students stay focused. Encouraging a routine that balances revision and relaxation can promote productivity while preventing overworking.

Helping with time management. One of the biggest challenges students face during exam season is managing their time effectively. Parents can assist by helping their child create a revision timetable. Breaking down revision sessions into manageable chunks and scheduling regular breaks can help children feel less overwhelmed.

Provide emotional support for your child. Exams can cause anxiety, and it's important for parents to be there emotionally for their children. Be sure to listen to any concerns your child may have about the upcoming exams. Offer reassurance and encourage them to stay positive. Sometimes, a simple "you can do it" or reminding them of past successes can boost their confidence. Ensuring your child knows that you're proud of their effort, not just their results, will help remove the pressure.

Offer practical revision assistance when your child is revising. While some students prefer to revise independently, others may benefit from more direct assistance. Parents can offer practical help such as discussing difficult topics, helping with organizing notes, or even testing them with practice questions. However, it's important to strike a balance. Offering help without taking over the revision process allows the child to take responsibility for their learning.

Celebrate progress, not just results. After the

exams are over, take time to celebrate the effort your child has put in, regardless of the outcome. Recognizing their hard work will help reduce feelings of failure and increase their motivation for the future. Exam results are just one part of their educational journey, and showing your child that you value effort over perfection can boost their resilience.

The exam period can be a time of stress, but it's also an opportunity for parents to actively participate in their child's academic journey. By providing emotional support, creating a conducive study environment and helping with time management, parents can play a key role in ensuring their child's success during exam season. With the right support, children can approach their exams with confidence, knowing they have a strong foundation to rely on.

Ruby Simpson

Yr 11 Student

A Date For Your Diary

On **Saturday, June 21st at 7.00pm**, at St. Margaret's Church, Hawes, Amy Cockett (vocals) and Mal Carruthers (Keyboard) will present "Musicals for a Midsummers Evening". Whatever your tastes, whether it be Lloyd-Webber or Sondheim, there will be something for everyone to enjoy. Entry is free, with retiring donations towards the Organ Restoration Fund at St. Margaret's. Further details will be given in the June edition of the Newsletter. This event is kindly supported by J. Blades and Sons, Hawes.

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Farming and health in crisis: New report reveals rural North Yorkshire is struggling

Healthwatch North Yorkshire, an independent organisation who listen to experiences and work to make care better, has uncovered shocking evidence of the struggles faced by farmers and rural communities when it comes to accessing healthcare. Their latest report highlights the stark reality: many farmers are feeling left behind, suffering in silence, and battling a system that isn't built for them. What needs to change? The report calls for urgent action, including:

*Better access to healthcare in rural areas – Mobile clinics, flexible GP appointments, and mental health outreach services must be prioritised.

*Support tailored to farmers' needs – Services need to understand farming life: long hours, seasonal pressures, and financial strain.

*Tackling stigma around mental health – Farmers must feel safe and supported when seeking help.

*Farmer drop-in days at GP practices – This approach, allows farmers to access healthcare advice without disrupting their work. It has proven effective in identifying serious health issues early, providing timely interventions, and preventing long-term problems.

*Bring health services to farmers – Covering Skipton, Benthams, Otley, and parts of Lancashire, Field Nurse offers vital frontline support for farmers, helping to bridge the gap

between rural communities and healthcare services. Expanding similar initiatives could save lives and improve overall well-being.

The full report is available on the Healthwatch North Yorkshire website. They encourage everyone—farmers, policymakers, and the public—to read it, share it, and demand better.

Planning application to extend Preston under Scar Quarry

Properly known as Wensley Quarry but situated above Preston under Scar, this area is worked by Tarmac, who have applied to extend operations to the east and south of the existing workings. This will reduce the distance between the village and the quarrying to 300 metres in places. There is existing consent which will also be extended to 2053. The application is due to Tarmac not finding suitable rock in the existing workings; thus they are bringing forward the remaining phases (4, 5 and 6) in the hope of finding usable material. The previous 2015 application submitted an Environmental Impact Assessment which has been resubmitted for the 15 year working scheme, to take them to 2030. The application reference is NY/2025/0024/ENV.

The application was submitted to North Yorkshire Council in January 2025 and is currently out for consultation. Preston under Scar Parish Council and village residents have submitted objections. Comments will still be considered by NYCC even though the submission date has passed. Anyone interested to find out more and comment on the application is encouraged to view it at [Planning Register | North Yorkshire County Council](#). The reference is NY/2025/0024/ENV and NYCC's email for comments is planning.control@northyorks.gov.uk. Rishi Sunak is aware of the situation and interested to monitor his constituents' concerns.



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Notes From Thorney Mire

Spring 2025

I didn't hear the first curlew until March 2nd. I did hear what could have been a curlew at the end of February, but I don't record them as being officially here until I have actually seen one.

Five lapwings were circling the two fields along the lane where the lapwings usually nest, but unfortunately they didn't stay, but about half a mile away where lapwings are not normally seen, we were treated to a really agitated air display by one of these black and white birds, presumably defending its nest and obviously upset by our presence. Lapwings were seen along Bands Lane, another area where they return each year.

I have been told that there are two pairs of oystercatchers nesting on the far side of the wood. They make their presence felt when they fly overhead calling in a very vociferous way. They do this to communicate with each other to keep the group together when flying. Their calls are also part of their courtship and mating displays when they are returning to their breeding grounds in the Spring.

We couldn't take part in the RSPB bird count this year on account of Storm Eowyn snapping the bird station in two and it was beyond repair. New bird feeders are now in place and we have had our regular blue, great and coal tits, several goldfinches, nuthatch and of course our resident collared doves, the latter who Hoover up any food the other birds deem too inferior to eat.

Looking through our bedroom window I saw a white stoat. I periodically see them in their brown coats but not one wearing its ermine before. It stood out against the greenery in the garden. Ermine has been used to decorate formal clothes worn by royalty as it was thought to offer some divine protection to the wearer, that didn't include the stoat! It was expensive and worn to display wealth and power.

Driving down our lane one morning a red squirrel ran in front of us, then emerging from the verge, what I thought looked like a fawn turned out to be an enormous hare! Sat.Nav. is directing an increasing number of vehicles along our single track lane which is not helping the wildlife. A pregnant red squirrel was found dead

on the lane a few weeks ago. Research has shown that putting up warning signs about red squirrels makes no difference.

It is at this time of year that I find myself walking along our lane looking for coltsfoot. To me, they are one of the first signs of Spring. I think it stems from when I was a young child, I had a mile to walk to my first school and I liked to look at the flowers on the verges along the way. I remember there was the occasional red poppy. I knew exactly where the coltsfoot grew, in a dip just before the main road. It wasn't a very large patch but they appeared in the same place every year.

My reward for climbing the steep hill on my return from school was a small field of flowers at the top of the hill. I used to stand in the field looking at all the different colours, shapes and textures and occasionally, I have to admit I would pick a few to take home. Imagine then, my dismay when I learnt that a home for the elderly was going to be built on that field. Even at the ripe old age of five I was so upset and indignant. I remember asking my mother why the old people couldn't live somewhere else? The home was built and that field of flowers was lost forever.

We had scarlet pimpernel growing in our garden when I was young. We knew it was a weed, but we left it in the ground as it was so delicate and pretty. We liked to look at its petals to see if they were open or closed as this would give us some indication of whether it was going to rain or not. Such were the pleasures of the young before computer games!

I am fortunate that I now live on a lane which has a wide variety of wild flowers. I know where the wild primroses will be, they are always later than the garden ones. The coltsfoot can be found in several different patches and later in the year I look to see if the ragged robin, which only grows in one small patch, will flower again and if the lesser spotted orchid has spread even further along the verge.

I'm not going to say how many years later, but I still find myself doing the same thing, looking out for wild flowers on grass verges. Such are the pleasures of the elderly, even though they do play computer games!

SylviaTurner

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Hawes Amateur Operatic Society

If you would like to get involved with our next panto, please join us on **Monday, May 12th at 7.00pm** in the Fountain back room. There's lots of fun both on and off stage to be part of! A warm welcome awaits all.

Chris and Fiona Kilgallon

Congratulations on your Ruby wedding anniversary on May 25th
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The Repair Shop

Almost 5 years ago we decided to see if a special chair with an interesting story, in need of repair, would be accepted by the Repair Shop. We made the necessary video and sent it off and heard nothing, not even an acknowledgement. Last summer (2024) I decided that when I returned from my holiday I would find an upholsterer and have the chair repaired.

I was staying overnight with a friend on our way to Greenland. To my astonishment I received a phone call from the Repair Shop asking me to do a Zoom interview / audition there and then. Fortunately, we found someone who could do Zoom and I had a bizarre half hour with a very pleasant young man who said it was fine but would have to be passed by the next level up. They also auditioned my daughters, Lou in the north of Scotland and Kate near Windsor, together on Zoom. We all passed and were told we would be on the programme. To my amazement they phoned me while I was in Greenland to ask for some extra information.

Finally we were given a date for the filming in August. Holiday plans were hastily adjusted but then we got the message that it would now be October, and so began a wonderful and friendly experience. You have to visit twice, once to film what the item means to you and then to have the repaired item revealed. They flew Lou from Scotland, Kate came by train and I had a taxi to Northallerton, train to Kings Cross and taxi to Chichester which was incredible. We were put up in a Travel Lodge right by Chichester Cathedral and a taxi took us to the Repair Shop barn.

You are asked to wear sensible shoes, quite rightly as the barn is in a field which in October is very muddy. It was very interesting to see behind the scenes and to be part of the programme. Everyone was incredibly kind, helpful and friendly and the experts were there at their stations repairing items. Our taxi was late and not only was there no idea of make-up we didn't even have time to comb our hair before we were before the cameras. You can imagine what we looked like on a damp, breezy October day. Before we went we had been joking about being made to carry the chair. To Kate and Lou's horror that was exactly what happened. On screen in the Summer you see

people appearing amongst flowers in pots, we were between the barn and a shed full of junk in a muddy space just wide enough for the chair which could not be put down. I had to go in front and open the barn door. We did this three times to get the camera angles right and by the time we actually got into the barn Kate and Lou were exhausted.

The barn is smaller than it seems on the television but people's work stations are just the same. We had five or six cameramen and various other people necessary for filming. They were all so friendly that you were not in the least intimidated. We had already 'miked up' so it was all systems go. Steve, the clock expert, was there as were the Bear Ladies. We saw Dom and Will in passing but our interview was with Sonnaz, the upholsterer, who is incredibly attractive and very friendly. What was strange was that we 'knew' all these people because they were in our living rooms every week but they had no idea who we were.

The whole filming took about an hour and a half and felt as if we had known all the crew and experts forever. There were some amusing moments such as when the producer asked me in a short break which war I was talking about. I said well certainly not WWI. Things like this reminded me that most of the crew were younger than my children and knew nothing of the war, as indeed why should they. We had our own 'green room' in a portacabin so were able to leave stuff and use their fridge for cold drinks or have a hot drink which someone would bring you. Nothing was too much trouble. Apart from us carrying the chair the filming was done in one take so we were only in the green room before we started and at the end. When the filming finished taxis arrived and we did the journey in reverse.

Ten days later we were back to see the re-upholstered chair. We had to be filmed walking towards the barn on what always looks like a drive but was a muddy farm track. Our friendly helper who was in charge of us was hidden behind a tree listening to instructions which were then relayed to us. Walk, not too fast and don't talk. The camera crew were by the barn and we did the walk three times, once with the camera lady walking backwards in front of us. Then into the barn where the chair was covered up and so to the Reveal. People at home had instructed us not to say 'wow' but we wondered how to react if we didn't like it. However, it was

stunning; so beautiful. Sonnaz had got the silk in Paris and apparently it had been held up in the customs so she was still working on the chair at 8:30 the previous evening. Lucia, the art restorer, came over to speak to us when the filming had finished and said everyone in the barn had been enthralled by the restoration and were longing to see how we reacted.

We were in fact stunned by the French silk, which was a tribute to the history of the chair. Sonnaz told us it was one of the most beautiful chairs she had worked on. Of course, the



continuity people were there, very professional, as they got us to do certain actions to be filmed. "You touched the back of the chair with your left hand." "You rubbed your right hand lightly along the chair back" so that these could be edited into the final cut.

We had the most fabulous time but were brought down to earth a bit when, as we left, the next people came and the whole thing would take place again without us. They film 4 items in a day and yet remain so relaxed and friendly. To be part of The Repair Shop was a joy, an experience and a lesson in public relations. We were made to feel that we were the most important people and yet they had to do this four times a day during filming. Our chair was collected and returned by courier. The only problem now is daring to sit on a chair beautifully upholstered in French silk.

P.S. We were told most people heard if they had been accepted within eight months. No one could believe we had waited 5 years.

MaryRose Kearney

STOP PRESS: We have now seen the programme and were fascinated by the editing. Three hours of filming was reduced to 15 minutes and yet the natural flow of the story was kept. Clearly with such reduction of material there were things left out that we would have liked in. But we are left with great admiration for the skill of the team which filmed and edited our story and made us feel so welcome. You can watch the programme on BBC iPlayer series 14 episode 14, aired Wednesday, April 16th.

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Strength in partnership: how collaboration drives natural flood management

Natural flood management (NFM) thrives on collaboration. Ousewem's latest video, filmed at Smaden Head Farm, highlights how partnerships between farmers, landowners, environmental organisations, and local authorities turn strategies into action. By bringing together local knowledge and resources, we ensure NFM solutions are effective and grounded in community needs.

As Ousewem continues its work across the SUNO catchments, including the Hawes area, partnerships remain central to our approach. By working together, we can:

Support farmers and landowners in implementing solutions that protect Yorkshire communities.

Strengthen engagement with downstream communities, showcasing NFM's real-world benefits.

Help policymakers and funders recognise NFM's long-term value for flood resilience.

This video builds on Ousewem's previous work. Watch to see how collaboration shapes NFM's future. Get in touch to join the conversation and make a difference in Upper Wensleydale. You can watch Ousewem's latest video on <https://youtu.be/WTPXS880P90> and can find the rest of the series on YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/@ousewem>.

If you have wet or hard-to-farm areas, Ousewem would love to explore how we can support tailored NFM solutions for your land. To find out more, visit www.ousewem.co.uk, email ousewemdelivery@ydrf.co.uk or call us on 01423 714 841.

Heavens Above

If you look north on a clear night during the Summer months you might be lucky enough to catch a display of rare Noctilucent (Night Shining) Clouds. At fifty miles up they're the highest clouds in the atmosphere and because of this stay illuminated well after the Sun has dropped below the horizon.

They're only visible from our part of the world from late May until early August and are probably formed by ice coating minute particles of interplanetary or volcanic dust.

A good display makes a really impressive sight with softly glowing bands and filaments of silvery-blue clouds stretching right across the sky. The best time to catch a glimpse of them is around one to two hours after sunset when other clouds have disappeared into the gathering darkness.

You'll need to find a site with a clear unobstructed view to the north-west as they can appear quite low over the horizon. As the night wears on they slowly drift across the northern sky before ending up low in the north-east just before dawn.

You won't need any fancy equipment to see them apart from possibly a set of binoculars which will reveal details of their intricate structure invisible to just your naked eyes. They're a great photographic subject if you can get hold of a camera capable of taking long exposures along with a tripod to hold it steady.

There's a dearth of bright planets in the evening sky this month apart from mighty Jupiter. Its unmissable, shining brighter than any star low in the north-west where it sets around 11.00pm by the end of the month.

Much dimmer Mars follows on behind Jupiter sandwiched between Regulus, Leo's brightest star, and Castor and Pollux, the twin stars of Gemini. It sets a few hours after Jupiter around 2.00am.

Mercury, Neptune and Uranus aren't visible at all this month so if you want to glimpse a really bright planet you'll have to drag yourself out of bed just before dawn when you'll be able to catch Venus blazing away like a miniature beacon low in the west. Have clear skies.

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Marie Curie Wensleydale Street Collection

Friday, April 4th, was a beautiful outdoor collection day for the charity, Marie Curie, organised by the Wensleydale Fundraising Group.

The collection raised £550.26, and this amount will provide just over two and a half nights of nursing care in the home for some with a terminal illness. This nursing service is a great support for everyone in that situation when living in a rural area like Wensleydale. Hospital and Hospice facilities are at a distance, transport links aren't easy and put added stress on already difficult situations, so care in the home helps to smooth the path somewhat.

There are still boxes of daffodils available in a number of pubs, shops, etc. around the area and will be until after Easter. Please drop your loose change into these; all the pennies add up. Thanks to everyone who supports us, especially Scott's Wright's office in Leyburn that provides the Fundraising Group with a base for street collections.

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Dancing Round the Dales – Traditional Village Dancing

The No Lazy Dancing Dance Band with caller Peter Barnard will be playing for an evening of traditional dances from the Yorkshire Dales in Hawes Market House on **Friday, May 9th** (doors open at **6.30pm**, dancing from **7.00pm-10.00pm**).

Expect to dance more dances than you would normally expect at a ceilidh! Peter has been working on unearthing the dances that were still danced in the Dales villages in the 20th century, and it seems that couple dances were as popular as the set dances. Many of these dances are simple to learn and to dance. There will be waltzes, polkas, and named dances such as The Boston Two Step, together with local favourites such as Buttered Peas and the Huntsman's Chorus. A good time for all!

No experience - or partner - needed. Sensible shoes recommended. Bring your own drinks.

Tickets: £10, children free. Book online at: www.ticketsource.co.uk/nidd-music-and-dance.

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Leyburn Arts and Community Centre

We expect you are all busy in the garden and feeling more energised now the weather is improving so we thought it was a good idea to mention our volunteering opportunities!

Gardening first because the gardeners are preparing for the Plant Fayre on **Friday, May 9th and Saturday, May 10th, 10.00am – 4.00pm**. So, we would welcome any help with tasks in the Community Garden and re-potting donations from any thinning out of plants in your own gardens.

Do you like cooking? Could you help with preparing light meals and a pudding for our Lunch Club and Tuesday Club?

Would you be willing to serve in our cafe/bar for cinema and events?

Do you like watching cinema on a big screen? Would you be able to help with operating the film projection equipment, act as Front of House, sell tickets?

Are you available on Monday mornings for a regular reception slot or to cover for holiday periods including some afternoons?

Do you like decorating? Would you be able to do some simple maintenance?

Do you like cleaning? A little light cleaning and tidying up is always required.

Would you like to help people in our Digital Support sessions?

If interested in any of these, get in touch, some would be regular sessions of 2-3 hours.

There are three support sessions in May:

Carer's Plus, a drop in session, **Thursday, May 1st, 10.00am - noon**.

Digital Support, **Tuesdays, May 6th 3.00pm – 4.00pm and May 13th and 27th, 10.00am – noon**.

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Independent and Connected, **Friday, 9th May, 10.00am – noon**.

All the above give access to people who need advice, guidance and support from specialised providers including Citizen's Advice and Mind. Informal drop-ins, no appointments necessary; free tea and coffee available. If you need further information please call us on **01969 624510**.

As usual there is a great selection of entertainment of offer in May, including a special screening of The Dam Busters as part of the VE celebrations.. For full details please see our website, or sign up for our regular what's on emails.

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Upper Wensleydale Ladies Luncheon Club

The Luncheon Club meets on the **4th Wednesday in the month** at Street Head Inn at noon for 12.30pm lunch.

Why not come along and join us, we are a small group and would make you very welcome. Anyone wishing to join please contact **Ray Wilkinson** on **01969 663613**, or **Sue Ryding** on **01969 663551**.

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Dales Charity Bingo Report

Our April bingo night was for Hawes PFTA and the hall was full of players and supporters, young and old. It was good to see some younger players from last year attending and taking home some of the night's prizes.

Our caller for the night was Stephen Reynolds who cleverly managed to incorporate a few local facts about the school and the new 10% US tariff in to his calls. A good night was enjoyed by all, if the buzz and chatter in between games is a guide, and a mighty £359 was raised for the PFTA who would like to thank everyone for their support of the night.

Our next Bingo night will be in Hawes on **Wednesday, May 14th** for the Hawes Christmas Lights – please see our advert on page 11. We hope to see you there.

You can also find details for our May bingo night and that of future nights on the posters around Hawes and neighbouring villages for details. If you would like to know more, please email us at dalescharitybingo@gmail.com.

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Woodcraft Studio Make £11,000 Donations to Local Causes

Over the past two years, the Woodcraft Studio based at Raygill Farm have made donations to local groups and support organizations in Wensleydale, Swaledale and the wider area.

Volunteers meet every Friday and enjoy making wood products, for home, kitchen, garden and general use. These goods are sold at their stall at Muker Show in Swaledale and then in late November, early December Christmas Shopping Days are held over two weekends and these have proved so popular, over the last two years the group has been able to donate £11,000 from income raised to give to local causes.

The recipients include Bainbridge Christmas Lights, Great North Air Ambulance Service, Hawes Primary School, Hawes Christmas Lights, Hawes in Bloom, Hawes Fireworks, Keld Resource Centre, Muker Silver Band and Swaledale Mountain Rescue Team.



The Woodcraft team are most grateful for the continued support of their volunteers and the wonderful public who come and shop at these events. Do look out for their Christmas shopping days later this year and in the meantime, if you are attending Muker Show on Wednesday, September 3rd, come and support their stall, the volunteers will be delighted to see you.

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News From Sycamore Hall

Our Dominoes Group is expanding and they seem to be getting together several afternoons a week to enjoy a few games of dominoes. Why not come along at **2.00pm** to have a game or two?

We were able to mark Easter with a service by Revd Dave Clark on Good Friday which was well attended. We then had a great time at one of Sonja and Karen's Vintage Afternoon Teas on Easter Saturday. With the help of volunteers, we enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea.. We were entertained by Diana Hartley and some of her talented ladies who sing. We particularly enjoyed the chance to join in with some of the good old classics.

We are now looking forward to May when we are hoping to have some events to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Our new gardener has started work and we wait with expectation to see what he can do to the gardens. Meanwhile, Doreen is still busy slaving away outside to keep things neat and tidy - we really appreciate her efforts.

Our restaurant is open Tuesday to Friday and Sunday for some delicious food. You will perhaps have seen information on Facebook and boards locally but why not come along and try it for yourself?

Our regular weekly events are as follows:-

Mondays at 2.00pm - 'Knit and Natter' and Dominoes.

Tuesdays at 10.30am - Bingo or Quiz.

Thursdays at 10.30am - Coffee Morning.

Fridays at 11.00am - Gentle Seated Exercise with Janet Seymour.

Monthly services take place with Revd Dave Clark and the local Methodist Preachers. Please check for dates each month.

You are very welcome to join us for any of these events and activities. Don't forget to put your name on our mailing list for the new Community Cinema - forms available from Karen or Sonja or email sycamorecountrystore1@outlook.com.

Our independent businesses are open, as usual. Sycamore Country Store is open **Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 1.00pm** for your everyday shopping needs with regular deliveries of fresh milk, eggs, bread, pasties and cakes.. Mabel and Maisy's Little Gift

Shop is open at Sonja's Hair Salon (generally Thursday, Friday and Saturday). Call in to see the range of toiletries, jewellery and other gifts available. You could also make an appointment to have your hair done while you are there.

The Post Office is with us on **Mondays and Wednesdays between 9.00am and 11.00am** and the library is open **every day from 8.30am to 7.00pm**. . If you have any queries or would like to discuss the availability of apartments, please contact the Manager, Nicky Cooper, on **0370-192-4055**.



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Upper Wensleydale Benefice May 2025

	St Mary and St John's, Hardraw 9.00am	St Margaret's Hawes 10.30am	St Oswald's Askrigg 10.30am	St Matthew's, Stalling Busk 2.30pm
4 May	The Gathering – Benefice Family Communion St Oswald's Church, Askrigg at 10.30am			
9 May	Sycamore Hall – Communion in the TV Lounge at 10.00am			
11 May	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Café Style	12.30pm Soup followed by Communion
18 May	Holy Communion	Family Service	Morning Prayer	
25 May	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Afternoon Prayer Pathfinders and Explorers
Evening Prayer by telephone is held at 4.00pm every Sunday. For details see the website www.upperwensleydalechurch.org/services				

Fish and Fowl

Easter is done but what a joyful time we had of it as a Church in Upper Wensleydale. Billions of Christians the world over celebrate the new life and hope that there is in an empty tomb and the resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday and we started the party in style with our usual daybreak service on the shore of Semerwater.

Just like Jesus did on that first resurrection morning, we shared BBQ fish and freshly baked bread but this year we had the added celebration of two adult baptisms by immersion in the lake, and yes - it was cold!

Combining the new life celebrations of Easter with the new life start of a baptism is an ancient Church practice and it was wonderful to hear the shared stories of faith and encounter with God that had led to this decision.

Easter is a festival familiar to so many but the feast of the Ascension less so. After 40 days of appearing to hundreds of witnesses, the disciples record Jesus being taken back to Heaven 'in a cloud' (Acts 1:9). Traditionally, in remembrance of this 'flight', Christians would

feast on various fowl to mark the day.

Whatever you may end up eating, Wensleydale will commemorate the occasion with an outdoor service with Bedale Band in the wonderful grounds of Jervaulx Abbey **on Thursday, May 29th at 7.00pm**. It's always a memorable event and it would be wonderful to welcome you there.

Per Dave.

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News from Dales Countryside Museum

Opening times: Daily **10.00am to 5.00pm**
February to October, Last entry one hour
before closing.

Contact: hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk or call
01969 666210.

For those of you who don't know the
Museum, here are a few things it's good to
know:

- You can pop into the lovely Firebox Café on site.
- We're an accessible site with a Changing Places facility.
- Assistance dogs are welcome and we have a dog owners shared ticket.
- We're family friendly – pushchairs and breast feeding welcome.
- You can get a £1 discount on our admission fee for one person with a DCM car parking ticket.
- We have electric car charging points in the car park.
- We have free WiFi and can access Ancestry from our research room.
- We're a base for the Yorkshire Dales Young Archaeologists' Club.
- We're supported by a volunteering team and the Friends of the DCM.

Exhibition:

Inspiration – from past to present

May 10th to July 13th

The Small Group investigated the museum's archive to discover unusual artefacts and recorded items which captured their imagination. 'Inspiration- from past to present' is their response showcasing vintage garments repurposed to illustrate facets of the collection alongside contemporary textile and mixed media pieces.

Yorkshire Dales Young Archaeologists' Club:

The club meets once a month on a **Saturday morning, 10.00am – noon**. At our meeting in

April, Steve Collinson, Archaeologist for North York Moors, came and spoke about the Sutton Bank dig which is on a WWII airfield. This is in preparation for their visit to the dig in May. They made wooden gliders like the dummy ones that would have been on the airfield. Please call **01969 666210** or email dcm@yorkshiredales.org.uk if your child might be interested in joining us.

Education and community engagement

We're thrilled to be part of The HERDS. This is an international creative initiative on an unprecedented scale – an ambitious coming together of culture and climate action.

We will be running two-Family drop-in activities to make your own puppet on **Tuesday, May 27th, 10.00am – noon and 1.00pm – 3.00pm** and **Wednesday, May 28th, 10.00am – noon**.

Here are the DCM events coming up in May

Events are included in the Museum admission unless otherwise stated and bookings can be made via hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk unless otherwise stated.

Lines and Lino Workshop:

Friday, May 2nd, 10.00am - 4.00pm.

Printmaker Sally from [@ashfordcottagedesign](http://ashfordcottagedesign) will lead a day workshop on mark making which will result in lino cutting a simple print. This is suitable for beginners or anyone who enjoys the beautiful process of mark making and wishes to have a lovely morning playing with textures and making a small lino print in the afternoon. Bring along any locally foraged treasures or images that you want to work with. This will form the basis of your artwork which will form a postcard sized print. £50 Booking essential.

Hawes Town Trail Walk:

Tuesday, May 6th, 2.00pm - 4.00pm.

Join our experienced Dales Volunteers on this short 2.5 mile (3.5km) guided walk and explore the history of Hawes and the village of Gayle.

Walking through this lovely market town, discover the origins of Wensleydale cheese, see where the railway once went and follow a section of the Pennine Way.

Starts at the Dales Countryside Museum. £5 - No dogs allowed - Booking essential.

Dances of the Dales - Dance workshop:

Wednesday, May 7th, 1.00pm - 3.00pm.

Musician and workshop leader Mark Wallace on fiddle from The No Lazy Dancing Dance Band. Peter Barnard – dance caller and workshop leader. In this workshop you will dance some of the over 50 dances (a mixture of folk dances and old-time dances) collected in the 20th century in the Yorkshire Dales. These dances were danced in the villages throughout the Dales and were a regular point of social contact for those who lived in these remote villages. In 2020, local musician and researcher, Bob Ellis, published a wonderful book, *There was None of this Lazy Dancing!* in which he set out the collected tunes, dances, and accounts from people. It is a fantastic resource in which you can note not only the similarities and differences between some of the various versions of the dances and tunes, but also the gaps in some of the accounts of the dances that were regularly danced.

For this workshop, you don't need any experience of these dances, nor a partner. Sensible footwear is advisable. The workshop will be led by folk dancer, musician, caller and researcher Peter Barnard with music by Mark Wallace of The No Lazy Dancing Dance Band which is a collective whose aim is to promote the music and dance of the Yorkshire Dales. £5 Booking required.

Recipes and Remedies from the museum archives:

Tuesday, May 13th, 10.00am - 4.00pm.

Join Jane for a pop-up session in the museum to talk about some weird and wonderful recipes from our archives. Recipes for tasty traditional favourites, writing ink or poisons and remedies for aches, pains, coughs and colds for humans and animals.

FDCM talk:

Friday, May 16th, 7.30pm - 9.00pm.

Stephanie Durrant: The inhabitants of Askrigg Churchyard. Donations welcome.

Dales Knitting Study Day – Part 1:

Saturday, May 17th, 10.00am - noon.

An illustrated talk about all aspects of knitting in the Dales, followed by a question and answer session. £15 (includes museum admission) Booking required.

Dales Knitting Study Day – Part 2:

Saturday, May 17th, 2.00pm - 4.00pm.

This workshop gives participants the chance to experience hand knitting in the Dales way using traditional tools and materials. £30 Booking required.

Still Hidden? Black History of the Yorkshire Dales:

Tuesday, May 20th, 12.30pm - 1.30pm.

Following on from our exhibitions of Hidden History and of Dales and the Wider World project, Audrey Dewjee's talk will give us an update on her ongoing research into the Black history of the Yorkshire Dales.

Rag Rug Demonstration:

Saturday, May 24th, 11.00am - 4.00pm.

A demonstration of Rag Rugging using two techniques, hooking and prodding using traditional tools and fabrics and have a go at using an old peg to prod a rug. On display will also be rugs and related items. Demonstrations throughout the day.

Walling demo:

Tuesday, May 27th, 11.00am - 3.00pm.

Drop in event.

Family Activity – Make your own puppet:

Tuesday, May 27th, 10.00am – noon and 1.00pm – 3.00pm.

Wednesday May 28th, 10.00am – noon..

As part of The HERDS initiative in this family drop-in session you will make a puppet relating to animals that migrate to the National Park.

Family Activity – Glass painting landscapes

Wednesday, May 28th, 1.00pm - 4.00pm.

Paint your own suncatcher inspired by our beautiful Yorkshire landscape.

Hands on History – Roman Surveying:

Thursday, May 29th, 1.00pm - 4.00pm.

Romans are famous for their straight roads. Find out how their engineers got them so straight and have a go yourself.

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Blueboxt May Update

Community Events:

VE Day - 80th Anniversary Commemorative Concert – **Sunday, May 11th** at St. Matthew's Church - **2.00pm** (doors open **1.30pm**). As part of a weeklong programme of FREE events coordinated by Leyburn Town Council, BlueBoxt joins community organisations and representatives in a concert of hope, peace, thankfulness, and light through music and spoken word. Donations in aid of Help for Heroes UK and The Royal British Legion.

Wensleydale Community Arts Festival - **From Monday, June 9th to Sunday, June 22nd** Wensleydale will be host to a series of events around Wensleydale highlighting the arts in our local communities. It is another packed programme including regular favourites Leyburn Band, The Dales Pop Choir, Liffy, The Yoredale Strummers and Dales Variety Show featuring young people from BlueBoxt and Dales Dance to name a few. There will also be workshops from local artists and makers. For full details visit www.wensleydale.org or pick up a leaflet from local information points for full details.

Switcheroo - Theatre performance by Clap Trap Theatre in association with York Theatre Royal. We are thrilled to welcome back popular actors Dominic Goodwin, Thomas Frere and Cal Stockbridge with their latest touring production. Switcheroo, written by Tom Needham and directed by Paul Birch, is a story told twice! "It's not what you say, it's how you say it." Witness this emotional rollercoaster of live theatre as a family's secrets are revealed and presented as both a drama and a comedy on **Wednesday, June 11th, 7.30pm** at Askrigg Village Hall. Tickets £15, U18s £7.50.

Colours (Fun)draising Fashion Show – **Wednesday, June 18th 7.00pm** at West Burton Village Hall. We have teamed up with Colours, a nationwide retail organisation that specialises in supporting charities to raise funds. "Our ladies fashion show and shopping events are uniquely designed to offer a fun and entertaining experience. We bring premium high street brands to you at great prices!" There will be a Bar and Refreshments, Raffle, local makers'

stalls and entertainment with vocalist Bee Darcey. Ticket: £5.00 inc. welcome drink.

To find out more or book places for our events and activities visit www.wensleydale.org or contact **Colin Bailey** on **01969 745810/ 07711 21169** or email: info@wensleydale.org.

News:

New Charity Chair - Ray Wilkinson has taken over as Chair of Trustees. We say a huge thank you to outgoing chair Judith Clark and her partner Neil who have supported the BlueBoxt team and worked tirelessly behind the scenes to establish our programme of annual fundraising events.

Wensleydale Tournament of Song – Well done to all our entrants and supporters who took part in the competition. We had a great time celebrating personal successes and are spurred on for next year thanks to the encouragement from the adjudicators.

Community Consultation - Enterprise and Creative Hub Feasibility Study.

The first draft of our feasibility study is hot off the press. Once we have shared the findings and agreed a draft set of actions, we will be able to present the results and options for developing an enterprise and creative hub to support rural arts provision and career pathways for employment. Thanks to everyone who has taken part so far and to Ryedale Creative who were commissioned to undertake the research, funded by the UK Strategic Prosperity Fund.

V.E. Day Celebration Cream Tea Concert.

On **Saturday, May 10th**, Hawes Silver Band will be celebrating the anniversary of V. E. Day with a concert of great melodies followed by a cream tea. The concert starts at **3.00pm** in Hawes Market Hall and tickets are just £5 including the cream tea.

The Old School Art Gallery, Muker

We're holding an exhibition of Hardraw artist Andrea Hunter's work to celebrate 25 years of felt making.

Event title: Heartfelt 2025, celebrating 25 years of felt artistry by Andrea Hunter. Date: **Saturday, May 25th to Sunday, July 6th.**



	Friday 2 May 6pm Sing Sing (15) 1hr 47m		Friday 30 May 6pm Satu: Year of the Rabbit (12A) 1hr 33m
	Tuesday 6 May 7pm How to Make Millions Before Grandma Dies (12A) 2hrs 05m		Thursday 1 May 7pm Cinema Live: Bonnie & Clyde The Musical (12A)
	Thursday 8 May 6pm The Dam Busters (1955) (PG) 2hrs 04		Saturday 3 May 7.30pm Live Music Event: Twangtown Paramours
	Friday 9 May 6pm I'm Still Here (15) 2hrs 17m		Thursday 8 May 2-4pm VE Day Celebrations: Tea & Cake
	Friday 16 May 6pm Juror #2 (12A) 1hr 54m		Friday 9 and Saturday 10 May 10am-4pm Plant Fayre LACC Rear Garden
	Friday 23 May 6pm A Complete Unknown (15) 2hrs 21m		Thursday 22 May 2025 7pm Exhibition on Screen: Michelangelo: Love and Death

Please book tickets online where possible. You can book & pay online via our website. Our licensed café/bar opens 30 minutes before all events & screenings. Visit our website for a full list of May's screenings and events.

The Old School House, Richmond Road, Leyburn, DL8 5DL

www.leyburnartscentre.com



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Editors: Barry Cruickshanks,
Kevin Davis,

Committee: Malcolm Carruthers, Roy Chapman,
Tony Hutchinson, Alyson Jones, Karen Jones
(Treasurer), Alastair McLachlan
Neil Piper, Karen Prudden,

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