

THE UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER

Issue 329

April 2026

**Donation please:
50p suggested**



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

Guest Editorial

As I am writing this, the price of petrol has gone up from 132p to 143p in a week. Goodness knows what it will be by the time you read this newsletter.

Like everyone I'm horrified by the war, innocent people dying or being displaced from their homes. But also I begin to think about myself, and our community here. I worry about not being able to afford to fill up my car, and I worry about the farmers paying more for fertiliser and fuel for their machines. And maybe tourism will be hit by fuel costs, which would hurt us all.

There's nothing I can do to protect myself, and we need our cars to get around. I had a rather annoying message about my petrol worries from someone who lives in the city, who said 'Oh well, you did choose to go and live out in the wilds.' She is the same person who came to see me the day after I moved into Bainbridge. She brought me some tins of food because she imagined there were no shops 'out in the wilds'.

I soon discovered that upper Wensleydale is well supplied with food. After all, we got through the foot and mouth crisis when we were not supposed to travel far, and the Covid crisis when we could not go shopping either. So I'm sure we'll survive the petrol crisis. In fact, it may encourage those who do not shop local that there are great advantages in doing so.

We are so lucky to have the shops in Hawes. Some of them have been there for 175 years or more. I read in last month's newsletter how Cocketts (butchers and bakers) and Elijah Allen's (high class grocers), used to travel by horse and cart to Ribbleshead taking provisions for the families of the navvies building the viaduct. And in the 1950s a young Mr Blades started a business taking fish around the farms by horse and cart. He then opened a shop which is now the Spar supermarket. Because they cater for visitors in holiday cottages or caravans in the tourist season, we locals can take advantage all year round of a wide choice of goods.

We have a really good mix of shops, some catering for Hawes and surrounding villages, and others attracting visitors from far and wide. I have a friend who's been coming for many years to buy his tailored waistcoats from Whites

of Wensleydale. My son brings his family to buy walking gear at Cunningham's, and when they've finished shopping, they go and eat and drink in local pubs and cafés. We have some real quality antique shops. I have a friend who travelled from far to buy a grandfather clock. He says the quality of stock is better than places like Harrogate.

The little shops, such as the Rock and Gem Shop, and the old-fashioned sweet shop provide pleasure for folks walking round town, especially on a rainy day. And we still have a chemist and a pet shop, which many small towns do not. I hope I have not forgotten anyone, but I'm just illustrating how the shops make the community. And they are friends as well as rivals. I once saw an assistant from the Spar shop buying a few items at Elijah Allen's to complete a Spar order for delivery to a customer 'out in the wilds' (as my city friend would say).

And who can forget the day when Barclays bank was burgled and there was a notice on the door telling us to go across the road to HSBC to be served. The two bank clerks, side-by-side, in their different uniforms, looked after their respective customers!

We adapt. The Spar shop now sells newspapers, because there was a need, and when Shannon moved her floristry out of town, she took her excellent shelves of greetings cards across the road to Carol at Twisted hair salon. So we haven't lost that useful stock. And the chiropodist has a regular day at that salon. It saves us travelling to Richmond.

On a larger scale, a group of local business people took over the Wensleydale Creamery when it was in danger of closure. And look at it now! Similarly, the petrol station was rescued by making it into a community asset, with many of us holding a share. This literally has paid dividends, 5%!

Sadly, some shops have closed recently. Not because the owners failed but because they retired (the launderette) or moved down the dale (the florist). I'm sure that someone interesting will move in soon and we will be ready to support them. The one that is most missed is Roger Iveson and his electrical shop. He was the perfect example of a community business. Soon after I moved here, my TV broke down. It was on Christmas Eve and I thought I'd be without it for the holiday, but my neighbour

said 'Ring Roger'. And he came out with his toolbox and a spare telly in case he couldn't repair it on the spot. And since then, he's mended my dishwasher when the filter was full of plum stones, and my washer when its brain got confused.

There have been some meetings with officers from Yorkshire Council, asking what sort of things we'd like to help smarten up the town; the project is called Pride in Place. I think we all already have pride in this place, but anything that can be provided to make it even better is welcome. I agree with those who want the council to reinstate more of the cobbles. My personal wish would be for a new electrical shop but I don't suppose the council can magic up another Roger, alas. Maybe some visitor reading this.....?

Sylvia Crookes

Dales Charity



Wednesday 8th April 2026
Hawes Market Hall


Entry from 7.00 pm, for
 Eyes down at 7.30pm

Tea, coffee available during the break

In Aid of Bainbridge Village Hall

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

DEADLINE FOR COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE
TUESDAY APRIL 21ST
PUBLISHED ON APRIL 30th



Eunice the Ewe

In March I was hiding in the front cover on the shore of Semerwater. The lucky winner is Averil McGregor of Bishopdale whose £10 prize is to go to Guide Dogs for the Blind.

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

Postal Subscriptions

If you would like to receive the Newsletter by post every month the cost is £16 per annum. Please pay by BACS (**Account 74237721, sort code 51-61-33**) and send your full address details to **uwnlinput@gmail.com**. Or send a cheque for this amount (made out to the Upper Wensleydale Newsletter) plus your details to Karen Jones, Skellgill Cottage, Skellgill Lane, Askrigg, DL8 3JG.

Submission of articles

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

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April Competition

The following are clues to places in the UK. All the places contain a male name.

1. Administrative unit after an apostle (12)
2. Boxing Day saint is how old? (9)
3. Financial help for overacting performer (8)
4. In front (5)
5. 1970s singing duo missing sand (8)
6. Ascend M&S label (2,8,5)
7. Inter a holy Blackadder (4,2,7)
8. Public school for a happy cat (10)
9. Buttoned leather high back chair (12)
10. Winner with backward artificial intelligence (8)
11. Meadow with a faulty explosive (6)
12. Motor with a smooth cotton thread (8)
13. Herb with a university professor (8)
14. Mixed up soy owners (4,2,3)
15. Bill's castle (4,7)
16. No more NE on the mainland (9,4)
17. Barbie's boyfriend split pulses (6)
18. Brillo pan ltd is a bit muddled (8,4)

Please send in your answers to arrive by **Tuesday, April 21st**. Remember to include the details of your nominated charity which will receive the £50 prize should you win.

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 West Cottage	624165
Thoralby:	Neil Piper Fernlea	663747
West Witton	Christine Barker, Chestnut Garth	624934
Preston and Castle Bolton	Alastair McLachlan	07817 709167

March Competition Answers

1. Metcalfe
2. Calvert
3. Iveson
4. Dinsdale
5. Peacock
6. Hopper
7. Bell
8. Allen
9. Blades
10. Lambert
11. Thwaite
12. Fawcett
13. Fothergill
14. Raw
15. Pratt
16. Teasdale

A few correct entries this month. The winner is Barbara Jolley of Bellerby, whose chosen charity to receive the £50 prize is Swaledale Mountain Rescue.



Amy & Mal present an evening of songs and music in

MUSICALS, MOVIES & MORE...

Saturday 18th April 7.00pm.
ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH AYSGARTH.



AMY CROCKETT
Soprano



MAL CROOKSHANKS
Baritone

Free entry.
Interval Refreshments.
Retiring Donations towards
Church Fabrics Fund



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Excursions With the Little White Bus

The Little White bus which provides scheduled bus services in both Wensleydale and Swaledale is putting on some excursions further afield this year. Join your friendly community bus for a fun day trip out. Trips are going to:

Day trip to Northallerton:

Saturday, May 9th and Saturday, June 13th.

Ticket price: £10 per person. Picking up from: Appersett, Hardraw, Hawes, Gayle **9.20am**, Burtersett, Countersett, Bainbridge, Bainbridge (Sycamore House), Leyburn and Leyburn (Kirkwood Hall).

Day trip to Thorpe Farm and Barnard Castle:

Thursday, May 28th (school holidays).

Ticket price: £15 per person / child (you'll have 90 minutes at each venue). Picking up from: Redmire, Askrigg, Bainbridge, Hawes (Dales Countryside Museum), Hardraw, Thwaite and Keld.

Day trip to Skipton:

Monday, June 8th.

Ticket price: £14 per person. Picking up from: Askrigg, Bainbridge, Hawes and Gayle.

For more information or to book, please phone **01969 667400**, email www.littlewhitebus.co.uk/day-trips/ or drop into the Hawes Library and Community Office.

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Richmondshire – We Need Your Voice!

I'm really pleased to share that North Yorkshire Police are looking for new members to join our Independent Advisory Groups within Hambleton and Richmondshire (IAGs).

IAG members play a vital role in shaping local policing by offering honest feedback, sharing community perspectives, and helping us better understand the issues that matter to you. We're looking for people from all backgrounds, experiences and communities across Hambleton and Richmondshire. We will also have guest speakers attending from different departments within North Yorkshire Police.

You don't need any special qualifications, the only requirement is being able to receive, send emails and join our on-line meetings which will occur quarterly. The first meeting will be held on **Thursday, May 21st** between **6.00pm and 7.30pm**.

If you want to be added to our distribution list to be involved with the meetings, please email lauren.wilkinson@northyorkshire.police.uk or lucy.mawer@northyorkshire.police.uk.

Thank you for your support!

Police Sergeant 375 Lauren Wilkinson

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Newsletter Chairman's Annual Report 2026

Last November we celebrated the 30th anniversary of the first Upper Wensleydale Newsletter which was first published in 1995. I hope you agree with me that to have continued to produce the Newsletter every month for over 30 years is a tremendous achievement for which we must thank the numerous individuals who have managed and contributed to the Newsletter over this period.

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

Kevin Davis from Redmire and myself currently act as joint editors, generally alternating from month to month. Karen Jones is the Treasurer responsible for the management of the Newsletter's income streams and expenditure. (See Karen's separate report on the Newsletter finances.) Neil Piper manages all the advertisers east of Hawes and Malcolm Caruthers produces minutes of our monthly meetings. Karen Prudden and Tony Hutchinson provide articles and Karen issues the 86 postal copies that we send out every month. I must also mention Liz Lawson of Wensleydale Press who not only prints over 1,000 copies of the Newsletter every month but also acts as an additional proof-reader.

Our three new committee members have integrated well with the existing team. Roy Chapman is now adept at applying the Newsletter editing standards to submitted articles and turning them into finished pieces for the Newsletter Editor. This will increasingly help to reduce the monthly workload of Kevin and myself. Alyson Jones took over the responsibility of judging the schools writing competition this year and has also stepped in to produce the committee meeting minutes when Malcolm was unavailable. Alastair McLachlan has succeeded in expanding our outlets into the Leyburn area and acts as our unofficial 'Music in the Dales' reporter.

Every member of the committee chips in with

the numerous tasks that need to be undertaken every month. Interviewing, writing articles, proof-reading, distributing newsletters and collecting the donation boxes that are scattered throughout the circulation area. We have also had specific help from volunteers Robin Peters in Hawes and Alan Cook in Askrigg for Newsletter distribution. Alan is retiring from his duties this month and we would like to thank him for his help over the last few years.

I must finish once again with a cautious note concerning the future of the Newsletter which faces two significant challenges over the next few years. Firstly we have the general decline in the readership of the 'printed word' especially in the younger generation, coupled with the decline of cash available to put in donation boxes. We do publish the Newsletter 'on-line' every month but this does not contribute funds to cover our costs. We have seen a fall in our 'hard copy' circulation from 1500 to 1000 copies over the last five years, with a consequent drop in income.

The second challenge is age-related. We are all getting older. One of your editors and their assistant are both in their mid -70s and it must be doubtful that they will be willing and able to produce the Newsletter in say five years time. We need some 'fresh blood' to train and take over the reins.

So once again we ask:- Have you recently retired to the area? Are you looking for a way to get involved with the Wensleydale community? Do you have some computer skills? If so please contact us at uwnlinput@gmail.com and we will arrange for someone to chat to you about how you might be able to help us keep the Newsletter alive over the next few years.

In the meantime we will hopefully continue to provide you, our readers, with a Newsletter that is informative, enlightening and sometimes humorous and worthy of the 50p or more donation you put in the boxes every month.

**Barry Cruickshanks
Chairman and Editor**

Wensley Annual Car Boot Sale.

Easter Monday, April 6th

Vans £8 Cars £6.

Sellers from 7am, Buyers from 8am.

Admission £1. Children under 12 free

Refreshments in the village hall

Upper Wensleydale Newsletter Accounts

March 1st 2025 to February 28th 2026

Income

Balances b/f	<u>11756.75</u>
Donations & postal subs	1182.96
Collection boxes	3020.00
Adverts	8162.00
Interest	91.60
Year's income	<u>12456.56</u>
Plus b/f	<u>24213.31</u>

Expenditure

Production costs	8460.00
Distribution costs	941.56
Donations	980.00
Committee expenses & computer services	72.78
Prizes (inc. story writing comp.)	531.75
Grant scheme for students	3307.82
Year's expenditure	<u>14293.91</u>
Balance c/f	<u>9919.40</u>

The accounts were examined and approved on March 31st 2026 by Alan McDonald.

This financial year we have supported a record number of college/university students with grants totalling just over £3,300 towards the cost of equipment and laptops. We also donated money to 14 nominated organisations and charities through our competition prize winners. These included, Bainbridge and Redmire Village Halls, Bainbridge and Hawes Christmas Lights, Askrigg PCC, Cleveland Mountain Rescue, Yorkshire Cancer Research, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and Yorkshire Air Ambulance. We only received one request, however, for a grant which was from Hawes Operatic Society-



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so if you know of a local organisation in need of funds – please get in touch as we would like to support as many local groups as possible.

The Children's Story Writing Competition was a great success and I want to thank Hawes and BAWB Schools for supporting the competition. Thanks should also go our new judge this year Alyson Jones.

I would especially like to thank our readers who put a little extra in our collection boxes or send donations in with their subscriptions.

I also want to thank all businesses who support the newsletter by taking an advert each month. I can confirm that we will not be raising our advertising rates and despite the rising costs of postage we have decided to keep the postal subscriptions at £16 a year. I hope you all feel as we do, that the newsletter is great value for money.

Thanks must also go to Alan again for examining the accounts for us. We go forward with a healthy bank balance, which should enable us to support more local projects in the future.

K.J.

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Saturday, May 23rd – Saturday, June 6th

Whether you're a resident or a visitor seeking a vibrant burst of culture in the spectacular spring Dales, the 2026 Swaledale Festival promises a kaleidoscope of music, art and discovery.

Alongside world-class concerts, you'll find compelling visual art, thought-provoking film and literature, hands-on creative workshops, and a rich programme of guided walks exploring the landscapes and stories that make the Northern Dales so special. Head to www.swalefest.org to book your tickets!

Reeth Day – Saturday, May 23rd - A celebration of people, place and culture.

We open the 2026 Festival with a feast of music, talks and film rooted in local Reeth life. Book one event, or make a day of it and enjoy them all!

At **11.30am** in Reeth Congregational Church, enjoy music from violinist Jo Lawrence and lutenist Susanna Pell who present a fresh new take on a century-old poem in a delightful musical adventure for all the family.

From **noon to 3.00pm** in Reeth Memorial Hall, drop in for a series of fascinating 30-minute talks from local groups and experts, offering insight into the history, landscape and community of our dale. Contributors include the Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Archaeology Group, land management specialist Robert Frewen, Swaledale Mountain Rescue, and Sustainable Swaledale.

At **3.30pm** back at Reeth Congregational Church, enjoy an afternoon gig featuring singer and guitarist Ian Anderson, multi-instrumentalist Roger Jones, and close-harmony trio The Pearls in a special musical gathering.

Round off the afternoon with the premiere of a specially commissioned film exploring Swaledale's cultural life, past and present: A Concert Party with Marske Choir in Reeth Memorial Hall at **5.00pm**. Lindsay Ibbotson, conductor of the choir, says: "Members of Marske Choir have been talking to locals up and

down the dale, gathering memories of Swaledale's cultural life and teaming up with those who are out there and at it these days. The result is a film featuring interviews with well-known figures from the local music scene, alongside a recreation of the traditional Concert Party – a community variety show where contributors perform their own talents. Expect music, comedy, Swardle dialect, and a few surprises, all celebrating the spirit of people coming together. Join us and be part of this special occasion!"

Leyburn Band at Bolton Castle. **Monday, May 25th at 3.30pm.** - Set against the magnificent backdrop of Bolton Castle, the award-winning Leyburn Band performs a programme of greatest hits and classic brass band favourites: a Festival treat for all ages in a truly stunning setting.

A Special Day at The Georgian Theatre Royal, Richmond. **Wednesday, May 27th.**

Sally Coulthard: The Wildlife Year, **11.00am - noon.**

The bestselling author and columnist reads from her book 'The Wildlife Year: How to Reconnect with Nature Through the Seasons'. Drawing on over two decades of writing about nature, history and craft, Sally offers an inspiring guide to rediscovering the rhythms of the natural world.

All-Age Musical Seasons Safari, **2.30pm – 3.30pm.**

Multi-instrumentalist Eleanor Grant – known for her appearances in Avatar Live in Concert across Europe and Asia – joins three outstanding musicians: percussionist Delia Stevens, violinist Fenella Humphreys and accordionist Valerie Barr, for a sparkling afternoon exploring the magic of the seasons. Featuring excerpts from Vivaldi's The Four Seasons alongside other musical gems, this captivating concert is perfect for all ages, from those who have never experienced live music to seasoned aficionados.

Creative Workshops:

Plein-Air Painting: Life in the Meadow, **Friday, May 29th, 10.30am – 4.30pm** at Gunnerside Village Hall.

Brilliant artist Martin Lever invites painters to

capture the movement and music of world-renowned violinist Fenella Humphreys, performing live amid the breathtaking wildflower meadows of Gunnerside. Hear a superb musician in the open air, paint a live art form, and receive expert guidance, all in a meadow in its golden glory (“plein air” means painting outdoors!)

Stir the Air: Creative Writing for All Ages, **Saturday, May 30th, 2.00pm – 3.30pm** at the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes.

Local writer Beth Daley leads an imaginative and relaxed creative writing workshop inspired by music, imagery and the changing world around us. Open to all ages from five years old to one hundred and five years young!

“I’m excited to be exploring nature and the seasons in this wonderful rural location,” says Beth. “Everyone is welcome, whether they are experienced writers or are new to putting thoughts into words. It’s an informal and friendly workshop, with no obligation to share or read. The emphasis is on discovery and enjoyment, and giving participants a range of ways to get started with any piece of writing.”

The Reeth Lecture: Alison O’Neill, **Saturday, May 30th 2.00pm** at Reeth Memorial Hall.

The celebrated shepherdess with a mega social media following, Alison O’Neill reflects on the seasons of the year and the seasons of life, describing the ‘labour of love’ that shapes her unique way of life on a hill farm in the Dales.

“I work quietly in the old way, woven to my landscape, betrothed to the life of a shepherdess. I don’t like sheep, I love them and I always have. I care for my flock and in turn they provide for me. I fashion their wool creating beautiful products, offering provenance and heritage as hallmarks for every item I produce. I enjoy sharing my world.” – Alison O’Neill.

Epic Evenings Out:

The Future is Ancestral, **Thursday, May 28th, 7.30pm** at St Andrew’s Church, Grinton. Experience the artistry of Suntou Susso: singer, percussionist and master of the kora, West Africa’s 22-string harp that has carried the soul of Mandinka culture for centuries. A powerful and atmospheric evening in a beautiful setting.

Clare Teal: **Saturday, May 30th, 7.30pm** at The Garden Rooms at Tennants, Leyburn.

The masterful singer and broadcaster brings her signature silken-voiced style to a Festival Saturday night: sophisticated, soulful and effortlessly entertaining.

Rachel Parris: **Thursday, June 4th, 7.30pm** at The Garden Rooms at Tennants, Leyburn.

Award-winning comedian and musician Rachel Parris (The Mash Report, Live at the Apollo) delivers razor-sharp wit, inventive satire and glorious musical comedy in what promises to be a sell-out evening.

Mishra and Deepa Shakthi: **Saturday, June 6th, 7.30pm** at St Andrew’s Church, Grinton.

Global folk collective Mishra join forces with international fusion and Sufi vocalist Deepa Shakthi to close the Festival with infectious style, rich rhythms, dazzling musicianship and beautiful energy.

Join us and make Swaledale Festival part of your spring in the Yorkshire Dales! For full programme and tickets, see www.swalefest.org.

Friends of BlueBoxt invite you to a
Spring Lunch
 At Thoraby Village Hall
 DL8 3SU
 On Saturday 2nd May 2026
 12.30pm for 1.00pm
Two-course lunch
 (Welcome drink, main and dessert, Tea and Coffee)
 Entertainment by Vocalists
Colin Bailey and Gail Barlow
Tickets £15
 Limited places - early reservation advisable
 Book your place at
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 01969 745810
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A New Community Space Opens Its Doors

The Upper Dales Community Partnership Ltd is delighted to announce the official opening of our brand-new Community Cabin designed to support learning, connection, and promote well-being for members of our community, regardless of age or circumstance. From April, you will find us in Dryden House, next to the Library and Post Office (where the Children's Clothes shop used to be). This is a wonderful 'coming full circle' moment for UDCP Ltd, as the Community Office first opened in that very building almost 30 years ago, back in 1997.

For the past three years we have had the great fortune to be able to host the Community Hub in the Market Hall in Hawes, and we are very grateful to the Trustees and staff for looking after us so well during this time. Unfortunately, changes in funding have meant we need to adapt our approach, and we have spent many months looking for alternate ways for us to continue to provide much needed support in the community.

Opening on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10.00am and 3.00pm**, we will provide welcoming, accessible opportunities for people of all ages. This new space will offer:

Learning Sessions – informal workshops and short courses to help build confidence, skills, and knowledge. These include Digital Skills, Mobile Phone Skills, using the NHS App, Dementia Awareness, CPR, Online Banking, Scams, and AI.

Citizens Advice 1:1 Private Appointments – online face to face sessions offering guidance on practical issues such as benefits, housing, employment and more. No need to worry if you are not very 'digital', we can guide and support you.

Community Activities – a growing programme of social support, wellbeing activities, and events to help bring people together and tackle the very real problem of social isolation.

Cuppa Connect – our monthly coffee and chat sessions will be continuing on the **1st Monday of the month** (2nd Monday if there is a Bank Holiday).

Bookable Hot-Desk/Meeting Space - The rooms will be available to hire on Mondays and Fridays. Are you a hobbyist looking for Pop-Up

Space to see if you could turn that hobby into a viable business? Do you work from home but sometimes need accessible meeting space to meet your clients? Do you offer physical therapy/health services and need space to see patients?

Whether you're looking to learn something new, meet others, seek support, or simply enjoy a warm, friendly environment, we would love to welcome you.

Activities in **April** are as follows:

- 1st** – Catterick Integrated Care Community Engagement
- 7th** – Techy Tuesday – need help with your phone, tablet, laptop?
- 13th** – Cuppa Connect – informal group meeting over a warm cuppa.
- 14th** – Digital Next Steps
- 17th** – CPR Course (TBC)
- 21st** – Digital Next Steps
- 23rd** – Dementia Awareness **11.00am to 1.00pm**

More information about future session times and activities will be shared in upcoming Newsletters, posters and leaflets, and on our social media and website: www.udcp.co.uk. In the meantime, feel free to pop in, say hello, and see what the space has to offer. We look forward to seeing you there!

Abbie Rhodes
General Manager, UDCP Ltd

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Hawes Cricket Club

After 141 years, Hawes Cricket Club faces an uncertain future. We all want to see the game continuing to be played in our beautiful surroundings but we require some support to achieve this.

We would like to meet any people interested in playing for the club (any age/gender/beginner or experienced). We have a weekly practice and play local evening fixtures a few times a season.

We would love to have help with the ground, fundraising events and within our committee. If you have any time to spare then come and join us.

For all who are interested in being a part of Hawes Cricket Club, please come to a meeting on **Thursday, April 23rd at 8.00pm** in The Fountain, Hawes.

We hope to see you there.

Penhill Ladies

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday, April 15th** at **7.30pm** in Carperby Village Institute. It is an open meeting and non-members are welcome.

Pepperfield Farm Hedgehog Rescue - A talk by the team of wildlife rehabilitators and vets who work tirelessly to provide the best care and medical treatment for injured hedgehogs. To date, 1,050 hedgehogs have been rescued and 980 successfully released into the wild.

There is a charge of £5 for non members. We look forward to seeing you there!

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Hawes School News

World Book Day Fun: As well as dressing as their favourite book characters and sharing lots of stories, the children paired up for a whole school story write in the morning. We have had some absolutely amazing book in a box and potato character competition entries too. Thank you to all the staff and parents who make such an effort to bring books to life every day and create a true reading culture here at Hawes for our children.

And a huge 'Thank You' to Claire at The Wonky Tree Bookshop in Leyburn for coming in so the children could swap their vouchers for books

Clubs: After Easter we are looking forward to our Gardening Club and Yoga starting in school. These will be added to our after school Zumba and multi-skills clubs. We also run lunchtime clubs for the children on mindfulness, music and library club. As a school we try to provide a range of clubs and would be interested to speak to anyone who may be able to offer any club ideas or contacts.

KS1-Skipping Festival: Our key stage 1 children went to Catterick Leisure Centre and took part in a skipping festival with other schools. The children all learnt how to hold their special skipping ropes properly so that every skip and turn of their rope counted. The upbeat music and motivating countdowns kept the children going throughout the session, with the aim of keeping on trying to get better through practise and perseverance.

Wensleydale Tournament of Song: Our KS2 children enjoyed taking part in the Tournament of Song at Tenants in Leyburn.

The children won three out of four of our songs and introduced their songs with confidence. They sang all their songs with feeling and received very positive comments from the adjudicator. They won a trophy and a plate for the highest score out of the harmony song and unison song.

We are so proud of all the children who took part and their special performances. Thank you to Mrs Foxwell and Mrs Clark for all their time and work supporting the children with this.

For further information phone **01969 667308**, email hawes@ycatschools.co.uk or visit www.hawesprimary.co.uk.

Market House Fundraiser

The Market House are running a fundraiser on **Saturday, May 30th.**

We have the fabulous Synthian playing. They are an electro80's synth pop duo, delivering iconic songs, a packed dance floor and a full visual show. Come along and dance to the old favourites by Erasure, Depeche Mode, Ultravox, Gary Numan and many more.

Tickets are £15 and can be bought from Laura at Hawes Community Office or by email - markethousehawes@gmail.com. Doors open at **7.30pm** - the band are on stage from **8.00pm** and will be performing two sets.

Over 18s only with a cash bar on the night (please note only alcohol purchased on site can be consumed). This is going to be a fab night, so don't miss out. Get your tickets now!

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Leyburn and District u3a

Thomas Coram's Foundling Hospital and the Hallelujah Chorus by Joanne Aston

Friday, April 17th at 10.30am

Discover the link between Handel's Hallelujah Chorus and a historic institution for abandoned children.

Retired sea captain Thomas Coram established the Foundling Hospital in 1739, to help deal with London's growing number of abandoned babies.



Joanne's talk sets out this history and includes case stories both successful and tragic.

After retiring in 2008, Joanne completed an MA in Classical Studies (Leeds); before walking the 500 mile Camino to Santiago de Compostela. She now gives talks on this experience and other subjects reflecting her interests, studies and travels. She lives in Thirsk with husband John and cat Pea.

Visitors and new members are always welcome. Doors open at **10.00am** for **10.30am** at Leyburn Arts and Community Centre, Richmond Road, Leyburn DL8 5DL.

For details contact Membership secretary www.leyburn.u3asite.uk.

Churches Together in Upper Wensleydale

Good Friday Walk of Witness

The annual Churches Together in Upper Wensleydale Walk of Witness will start at **10.30am, Good Friday, April 3rd** from Gayle Methodist Church. We will process into Hawes to conclude with the **11.30am** service at St Margaret's Church.

If you can't make the walk you are still welcome at the service. We hope you will join us.

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Reeth Memorial Hall

Saturday, April 18th – The Haar:

With their radically fresh, boundary-pushing take on traditional songs, Anglo/Irish quartet The Haar combine the formidable singing talent of Molly Donnery with three of the most exciting instrumentalists on the folk and traditional music scene. Tickets £20 (£22 door).

Saturday, April 25th – Rosie Hood Band:

Reworked traditional English songs and original material, touching on nature, human struggle, women's voices and unheard stories. Powerful and clear vocals, with melodeon, fiddle and percussion. Tickets £17 (£19 door).

Saturday, May 2nd – The Bar-Steward Sons of Val Doonican:

Bar-Stewardised parody versions of well-known songs on folk instruments with new satirical comedy lyrics, by a band known for their stylish choice of sexy knitwear and no-holds-barred, anarchic live shows. Tickets £20 (£22 door).

Tickets for concerts are available from Reeth PO or phone **Glen Steward 01748 884989** or visit www.reethmemorialhall.weebly.com. Tickets are half price for under 16s. All concerts start at **8.00pm** – doors open **7.30pm**.

Tuesday Hawes Fish Market

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

Askrigg Stone Cross. **9.30am to 10.45am**
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Hawes in Bloom

It only seems just a few weeks ago that my faithful voluntary team and I were clearing away last summer's floral efforts around the town, and here we are preparing for this year's displays!

HIB will be going ahead as usual for this, our 12th year, and the hundreds of plants that I ordered back in November are growing on well at the big wholesale nursery near Thirsk.

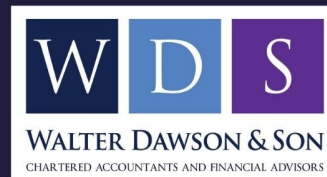
As usual we hope to take delivery around the last week of May when I, and the usual band of volunteers, will plant up and distribute the many containers around the town.

The colour scheme this year will be a vibrant mix including crimson, orange, yellow and violet with some white and silver to blend the colours.

For those of you that enjoy our efforts throughout the season and would like to support us in some other way, can I ask you to pop a date in your diaries? On **May 13th** one of the popular fund-raising 'Bingo Nights' has been kindly earmarked for Hawes In Bloom. The proceeds are a real boost to help with the ever increasing costs and I look forward to seeing a crowded Market Hall for a fun evening complete with an array of prizes, including plants.

Let's hope for a bit of kind weather to support our efforts too!

Richard, Your Resident Plant Pest



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Hawes Drama Club

In 1944 'Hawes Players' began performing plays to raise money for Bradford Royal Infirmary. After 1945 the profits were for the local 'Welcome Home Fund'. Rehearsals were held in the Band Room at Ings House.


In 1948 the members decided to put the 'Players' on a business footing by becoming 'Hawes Drama Club' and being affiliated to 'the British Drama League'. Thus began fortnightly play readings with approximately forty members present. The plays were performed in Hawes Market Hall or the Temperance Hall in Askrigg.

In 1944 the producers were Maimie Lewis and Sidney Mason, but later they were Bill Hodgson and John Cockett. Over the years many three-act plays, such as 'Journey's End', 'Blythe Spirit' and 'The Reluctant Debutante', were performed to paying audiences.

In Coronation year (1953) six plays written by Cecily Hodgson about local history and legends were staged. At the Queen's twenty fifth jubilee there were two one-act plays about Hawes obtaining its Market Charter also written by Cecily Hodgson. In the seventies and eighties plays were performed at the Leyburn One Act Play Festival and play readings were held at local W.Is. and the O.A.P. Club.

Hawes Drama Club was always a friendly club with theatre trips and a Christmas dinner at various venues where charades and quizzes were enjoyed. By the Millennium, play readings were held in Gayle Institute but attendance was falling. Members were getting older and no younger people joined. Last year it was decided that 'Hawes Drama Club' would close after eighty one years.

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Wensleydale Fundraising Group

Since the last note from this fundraising group, another £1,500+ has been raised via a Christmas concert, a stall at a Christmas fair and generous donations.

The Christmas Fair organised by Leyburn Primary PTFA, the music from the choir Musicality, and donations from various sources, plus tins on shop counters, have all helped add to the money for the charity. Thank you to everyone!

Step Into Spring!

The first date in our 2026 calendar is **April 8th** when Milner's are holding a Fashion Show in Harmby Village Hall, showing the New Spring stock, and there'll be a store discount for ticket holders.

Tickets are £7.50, light refreshments will be served, there'll also be a raffle. The doors will open at **7.00pm for a 7.30pm** start. Tickets will be available from Milner's store, Mary Sadler **0751 654 4744**, or Janet Sheppard **0798 995 7745**. Hope to see you there.


Great Daffodil Appeal:

For this year the street collection dates are **April 10th** in Leyburn, and **April 21st** in Hawes. If you're able to spare an hour to help at either of these, either visit <https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/get-involved/fundraise/collect> or contact: Gemma Hewitt - gemma.hewitt@mariecurie.org.uk.

The money raised will be used locally, wherever possible, to help those who are living with any terminal illness. The Marie Curie Nursing Service will give Hospice Care at Home to those in need.

If you are interested in helping Wensleydale Fundraising Group to raise more money for Marie Curie, or can help with any of the above, please email: wensleydale.mariecurie@gmail.com.

Helping to organise, or to help at, events, holding a tin at a street collection, putting up a poster, etc., if you're able to give an hour or two here and there, you'll be very welcome.



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Art Exhibition at West Burton

West Burton Art Group will be holding its annual Easter Exhibition on **Saturday, April 4th and Sunday, April 5th, from 10.00am to 4.00pm.**

The group, founded 22 years ago, meets every Wednesday morning in the award-winning West Burton Village Hall (DL8 4JY). The artists, from around the upper dales, use oils, acrylics, watercolours and clay to produce outstanding works of art, most of which are for sale at very competitive prices.

There is no charge for entry and free refreshments are available. Donations are invited for Herriot Hospice Homecare charity which we have supported for many years.

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Three Reforms to Stop the Criminal Killing of Birds of Prey

Despite more than 70 years of full legal protection, raptor persecution remains a serious and persistent wildlife crime. The Yorkshire Dales is one of the UK's worst-affected areas, with 152 confirmed incidents of persecution or suspicious disappearances recorded between 2009 and 2023.

To tackle these wildlife crimes effectively, the charity Friends of the Dales is asking people and supporting organisations to add their name to its Petition to Government seeking better national recording of wildlife crime, the introduction of sentencing guidelines and the strengthening of penalties for offenders, and more effective regulation for those industries where the crimes often happen.

Head over to its website at www.friendsofthedales.org to find out more and add your name.

The charity also has the following events scheduled to support its Eyes on the Skies campaign speaking out against birds of prey persecution:

Birding for Beginners: **Saturday, May 9th, 10.00am – 4.00pm.**

Designed especially for 18-35 year olds, this event offered in collaboration with the Upper Wharfedale Field Society, comprises an informal but informative morning session near Grassington to get you clued up on what to look (and listen!) for. In the afternoon participants

will then venture out on a 4 - 5 mile scenic walk, spotting birds along the way and learning how different species use the landscape throughout the year. To book email: victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk.

Online Talk – Talking Raptor Persecution with Dr Ruth Tingay: *New date* **Wednesday, May 20th, 5.30pm – 7.00pm.**

A unique opportunity to hear from wildlife conservationist Dr Ruth Tingay, who has worked in the field of raptor research and conservation for more than 30 years. A former President of the international Raptor Research Foundation, Ruth now focuses on campaigning against the illegal killing of birds of prey in the UK through the blog Raptor Persecution UK. Ruth is also a co-director of the wildlife conservation organisation Wild Justice, with Chris Packham.

Book at www.friendsofthedales.org.uk/events.

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Hawes Mobile Recycling Collection

There will be a mobile household waste recycling collection at the Upper Wensleydale Business Park in Hawes on **Saturday, April 18th from 9.00am to 1.00pm.**

The following household waste is accepted at all mobile centres:

- Furniture (including beds, mattresses, sofas and chairs), bric-a-brac.
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**APRIL WHATS ON LISTING;
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April

- 3 Dominoes. Carperby Institute. 7.30pm.
- 4-5 Art Exhibition. West Burton Village Hall. 10.00am. See p.17.
- 6 Car Boot Sale. Wensley. 7.00am. See p.6.
- 8 Fashion Show. Harmby Village Hall. 7.00pm. See p.16.
- 8 Charity Bingo. Hawes Market Hall. 7.00pm. See p.3 & 33.
- 11 National Youth Brass Band Concert. Garden Rooms, Tennants. 5.00pm. See p.32.
- 15 Local History Group Talk. LA&CC. 2.00pm. See p.32.
- 15 Penhill Ladies Meeting. Carperby Village Institute. 7.30pm. See p.11.
- 16 Coffee Morning. Gayle Institute. 10.00am. See p.35.
- 16 Bainbridge WI Meeting. Bainbridge Village Hall. 7.30pm. See p.30.
- 17 u3a Meeting. LA&CC. 10.00am. See p.13.
- 18 Mobile Skip. Hawes Business Park. 9.00am. See p.19.
- 18 'Tributaries' Open Rehearsal. LA&CC. 10.30am. See p.29.
- 18 Concert. St Andrew's, Aysgarth. 7.00pm. See p.4 & 29.
- 18 Concert. Reeth Memorial Hall. 7.30pm. See p.14.
- 23 Hawes Cricket Club Meeting. 8.00pm. The Fountain Hawes. See p.11.
- 25 Concert. Reeth Memorial Hall. 7.30pm. See p.14.
- 26 Table Top Sale. Thoraby Village Hall. 10.00am. See p.19.

Happy Easter

Georgina Devine would like to wish everyone a very Happy Easter.

Thank You

Georgina Devin would like to thank Sharon from The Folly and the shopkeepers in Hawes for the donations for the Life Steps Coffee Morning.



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DALESPRAY

The children in Dalesplay have been busy planting some lovely gifts for their wonderful Mummies for Mother's Day. We talked about how to take care of our bulbs to help make them grow. In the Ducklings room the children have enjoyed playing in a garden role play area. We have been planting vegetables, sorting the coloured fruits out and we have enjoyed lots of sensory play with flowers in ice, soil and slime.



In the Sunshine's room the role play area has been transformed into dinoland following the children's interests. The children made their own dinosaur tails and acted out being dinosaurs. They have been helping to hatch the dino eggs, made skeleton dinosaurs and made dinosaur fossils. We have also been teaching the children about recycling and helping to save energy.

We have introduced two new roles which two children take on each day, these are 'light supervisor' and 'tap supervisor'. The children have taken their new roles with lots of responsibility checking that lights are turned off when we go out to play and regularly checking

the taps have been turned off. We have been making sure we recycle products as much as we can to help save our planet and have a box to put all our recycling in.

Everyone dressed up in pyjamas or as a book character for World Book Day and we shared some of our favourite stories. We have lots of fun activities planned for the Easter holidays with workshops, Easter egg hunts and a visit from the Easter bunny himself.

We are now taking bookings for September, so please get in touch as soon as possible if you would like a funded place, as places are filling up fast. Please contact Joanne or Louise on dalesplay1@btconnect.com.



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Dales Countryside Museum News

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**.

Kids in Museums Nomination - The Dales Countryside Museum needs your votes!

We're thrilled to say our museum has been put forward for a national award for going the extra mile to welcome children, families and young people and has been nominated for the Kids in Museums Family Friendly Museum Award 2026. The prestigious award recognises museums, galleries and heritage sites that provide a great experience for children, young people and families. It's the biggest family focused museum award in the UK - the only one to be judged by families themselves and this is the first time we have been nominated! If you have enjoyed a visit with your family, we would be grateful if you could send your experience to Kids in Museums to give us the strongest possible application.

To nominate the Dales Countryside Museum for the Family Friendly Museum Award please go to the Kids in Museums website <https://kidsinmuseums.org.uk/>. Nominations for the Family Friendly Museum Award close at **5.00pm on Monday, April 27th**.

Our cafe is temporarily closed so on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and everyday through the school holidays, we are pleased to have Dave and his Coffee Truck on site so you can still get refreshments. We also have picnic benches in our garden and along the outdoor trail.

Exhibition: February 1st to May 31st:

Middle of Somewhere:

We are receiving really interesting comments from visitors to this, our latest exhibition. Joanne Coates is a working-class visual artist who lives and works in the Yorkshire Dales. She uses photography to question the concepts of power, identity, wealth, and poverty. In the creation of this exhibition, Joanne collaborated with participants to explore parallels between people and places. She has delved into questions around climate change, the cost-of-living crisis, disparities of wealth and the impact on low-income communities. Those

who have visited have found it a thought provoking snap shot of the realities of rural life.

Young Creatives:

Our Young Creatives group have been learning about oral history, how to make recordings and how these can be used within displays, exhibitions and online. They're all developing ideas for their exhibition pieces and have been choosing the objects that will tour to the different venues in the network. Going Places is an Art Fund programme made possible with major support from The National Lottery Heritage Fund and The Julia Rausing Trust, with additional support from a generous group of trusts, foundations and individuals. If you're aged 18-30 and are interested in getting involved, just get in touch - we'd love to hear from you!

We're also looking to meet with groups of young people so that their voices can be shared through the project. If you're in a group or lead a group and would be interested in having a chat, please just get in touch.

Daughters of the Dales:

We are continuing our research into women in the Dales for our Daughters of the Dales exhibition. People are kindly sending in suggestions, so if you have stories to share of women in your family, from your village, or any other sources of information, please do get in touch at dcm@yorkshiredales.org.uk

Yorkshire Dales Young Archaeologists' Club:

In February we looked at the theme of gatherings and the passing of time. Members made sun dials, ceremonial pots and constructed a henge! Please email dcm@yorkshiredales.org.uk if your child is aged between 8 and 16 and they're interested in joining us for a trial session.

Learning:

Our loan boxes can be booked for a half term to enrich learning in your school or as part of a free led session. Give us a call to chat through your needs. Check this website to see supporting material to help you make the most of our resources.

[Home - Out Of The Box Learning:](#)

Home educators: If you're interested in bringing your children to explore the museum and our collections, please get in touch.

DCM events coming up in April and May:

Events are included in the Museum admission unless otherwise stated. Bookings can be made online and via hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk. For the full listing, please see www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk.

Easter Badges:

Wednesday, April 1st, 1.00pm – 4.00pm.

Come along to our family activity, embrace spring and design your own easter badges.

Hands on History - Viking Cord:

Thursday, April 2nd, 1.00pm – 4.00pm.

Have a go at making Viking cord, perfect for key chains and friendship bracelets.

Recipes and Remedies from the Museum Archives:

Tuesday, April 7th, 11.30am – 12.30pm.

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.

Drystone Walling Demonstration:

Tuesdays April 7th and 14th, 11.00am – 3.00pm.

Join Dales Volunteers as they showcase the traditional craft of drystone walling. They will explain the construction of this iconic feature of the National Park landscape. Demonstrations will run throughout the day.

Easter Baskets:

Wednesday April 8th, 1.00pm – 4.00pm.

At our family activity this week we'll be making and decorating woven paper easter baskets.

Hands on History - Viking Clothing:

Thursday, April 9th, 1.00pm – 4.00pm.

Find out what we know about Viking clothing and make a peg doll to take away with you.

Small Object, Big Story: a talk by Roger Martlew:

Friday, April 17th, 7.30pm – 9.00pm.

A Friend of the Dales Countryside Museum talk. Donations welcome from non-members

Barns, Walls and Bridges:

Tuesday, April 21st, 11.00am – 3.00pm.

Join Dales Volunteers for a 4 mile walk to discover the important features of Wensleydale, its local industry and agriculture. Starts at the Dales Countryside Museum. £6 Booking essential. No dogs allowed.

Summer DalesBus Service

Most (but not quite all) week-end summer DalesBus services start in early April. Some also run on Bank Holiday Mondays.

All Dales Bus timetables are shown on www.dalesbus.org and printed timetables will be available free from Hawes Community Office, the Dales Countryside Museum, and other local outlets. The range of week-end DalesBus destinations includes Sunday's No. 157 Wensleydale Explorer minibus from Garsdale station to Hawes - Bainbridge - Askrigg - Carperby - Redmire - Castle Bolton (starting **April 5th**).

A new Sunday DalesBus service No 832 also starts on **April 5th**. It runs from Hawes to Sedbergh, Casterton and Kirkby Lonsdale. The return of the summer Saturday DalesBus No 80 does two return trips every Saturday from **April 4th**, from Lancaster - Ingleton - White Scar Caves - Ribbleshead - Hawes, making a day out in either direction possible OR with onward DalesBus connections from Hawes to other destinations. Also, the rail-bus connection at Ribbleshead enables travel on Northern's Saturday Yorkshire Dales Explorer train from Rochdale, Blackburn, Clitheroe etc via Hellifield, for walking in the Ribbleshead area or (using the connecting No 80 bus) in and around the Hawes area - with the further possibility of connecting with the Little White Bus Monday - Saturday 156 service between Gayle/Hawes - Leyburn.



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Holy Week Lent Reflections in Church at 7.00pm,

Wednesday April 1st: St Mary's Redmire.

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd at 7.00pm: Holy Communion in Thornton Rust Mission Room

**Good Friday, April 3rd -
Witness of the Cross:**

Starting at **8.55am** The Cross is Blessed and the pilgrimage begins at **9.00am** outside the church at Preston under Scar. Travelling around the villages as follows:

- 9.25am** Redmire High Green.
- 9.55am** Castle Bolton Millennium Seat.
- 10.25am** Carperby Cross.
- 11.05am** Thornton Rust Outside Village Hall.
- 11.35am** Thoraby Upper Green.
- Noon** Newbiggin Waterfall.
- 12.30pm** West Burton Market Cross.
- 1.25pm** West Witton Mill Dam.
- 2:00pm** Aysgarth Village Green.

Good Friday April 3rd Church Services

- 9.15am** St Mary's, Preston under Scar.
- 2.00pm** St Bartholomew's, West Witton.
- 2.30pm** St Andrew's, Aysgarth.

Sunday, April 5th, Easter Day:

- 6.30am** 'Sonrise' Service at Penhill followed by bacon butties at West Witton Village Hall
- 9.30am** Holy Communion, St. Margaret's, Preston under Scar.
- 9.30am** Holy Communion, St. Mary's, Redmire.
- 11.00am** Holy Communion, St. Bartholomew's, West Witton.
- 11.00am** Family Communion with activities, St. Andrew's, Aysgarth.

Sunday, April 12th:

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

Sunday, April 19th:

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

Sunday, April 26th:

- 9.30am** Holy Communion, St. Bartholomew's, West Witton..
- 11.00am** Morning Prayer, St. Andrew's, Aysgarth.
- 4.00pm** Evening Prayer, Thornton Rust Mission Room.

April Mid-Week Services:

Thursday, 16th and 30th at 9.30am.

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

(No service on **April 2nd** as Maundy Thursday)

Church Coffee Morning: **Wednesday April 1st, 10.30am to noon** at Redmire Village Hall.

Church Afternoon Tea: **Wednesday, April 15th, from 2.00pm to 4.00pm** at Redmire Village Hall.

Saturday April 18th:

Concert at St Andrew's Aysgarth 'Musicals, Movies and More'. Presented by the 'Musical Duo' Mal Carruthers and Amy Cockett.

A feast of themes from musicals and films old and new with audio links by Mike Hirst between pieces informing us of interesting details. Interval with Refreshments. Free Admission - Donations Please – Towards the Church Fabric.

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Heavens Above

If you look south on a clear night this month, about halfway up the sky you should be able to spot the Spring Triangle, a bright, seasonal asterism at its best during April. Asterisms (just in case you're wondering) are very distinctive star patterns that don't belong to the official list of 88 constellations. They can be formed by stars from a number of different constellations and can be very useful guides to help you navigate your way round the sky.

The Spring Triangle is one of the easiest star patterns to recognise at this time of the year as it's at its highest in the sky, a great boon if you're just a budding stargazer. It's formed by three bright stars – Arcturus, Spica, and Regulus – all from different constellations. Arcturus, marking the Triangle's top left-hand corner is the easiest to identify. It's the 4th brightest star in the sky and lies at the bottom of the large kite-shaped constellation of Bootes the Herdsman. You can use another well-known asterism, The Plough, right overhead at the moment, to help you find it. If you follow the Plough's handle round in a curve you'll soon come to Arcturus, unmistakable due to its brightness and pale golden-orange colour. Carry on going and you'll eventually reach Spica, the Triangle's second brightest star. It lies in the constellation of Virgo the Virgin, famous for being the location of the Virgo Cluster – a region of space containing over a thousand galaxies.

To find Regulus, go back to the Plough. The two stars at its right-hand edge are called The Pointers as an imaginary line drawn upwards through them shows you the way to Polaris, the Pole star. Following this line downwards towards the horizon brings you to the constellation of Leo the Lion. The one slain by Hercules in the old Greek myths. The Lion's head and mane are outlined by a large curve of

stars forming yet another asterism called the Sickle. It looks like a giant backwards facing '7'. Regulus marks the '●'.

There's not much action on the planetary front this month as Mars, Saturn, Mercury and Neptune are lost in the bright evening twilight. Venus and Jupiter are still with us though shining brilliantly low in the west after sunset. Venus climbs high enough by the month's end to let us see it in a properly dark sky – a glorious sight. Finally this month, look out for a fair number of 'shooting stars' on the night of **April 22nd/23rd** when the Lyrid meteor shower reaches its peak. Unfortunately, this isn't until **2.00am** after the Moon has set.

Have clear skies!

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admin@yorebridge-sport.co.uk

Gym Renovations: March saw the next stage in the exciting renovations here at the gym. With new flooring on the corridors and a new cable machine in the Elm Suite it has been incredible to watch the developments over the past few months. The feedback has been fantastic and it is wonderful to see the Charity sparkle with the support of our growing Membership.

A welcoming space for locals and visitors: We pride ourselves on being welcoming and accessible for our local community and for visitors to the area. We saw a big increase in holiday makers over the half-term, taking advantage of our pay-as-you-go vouchers.

These vouchers, and all our Memberships, are available through our ClubRight system, linked from our website: www.yorebridgesportandleisure.co.uk/.

Yorebridge Sport and Leisure is open **6.00am - 10.00pm**, 7 days a week.

Tennis: Tennis has got underway this spring! Our adult tennis club meets on a Monday evening. Individual and family tennis memberships are available on our ClubRight system and did you know that gym members get free access to the MUGA!

Courts are available for anyone to book through the LTA Clubspark www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/ YorebridgeTennisClub. We have tennis equipment available on the courts.

Class Timetable - Pay-as-you-go and class membership options available.

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

Fit for Life - **Mondays** (live and zoom) **9.00am - 10.00am**. Building and maintaining strength to live life your way. Weights, resistance bands and equipment available to borrow from the gym.

Warm and Well - **Mondays** (live) **11.00am - noon**. Enjoy a social, active class building core strength. Chair-based and standing exercises.

Adult Tennis Club - **Mondays** (live) **5.00pm - 7.00pm**. Social tennis, weather permitting. Get in touch with the tennis club to join this group yorebridgetennis@gmail.com.

Circuits - **Wednesdays** (live and zoom) **9.00am - 10.00am**. 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 from the gym.

Yogafusion - **Thursdays** (live) **9.00am - 10.00am**. 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 joints. Chair-based and standing exercises.

Walking Football - **Fridays** (live) **6.00pm - 7.00pm**. Get in touch with the tennis club to join this group yorebridgetennis@gmail.com.

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Leyburn Arts and Community Centre

Yesterday was a beautiful Spring day, but as I began to write this it started snowing! The top of Penhill is white again. So looking forward to April even more now!

At the Centre we have a short break at the beginning of April as we do not open over Easter (no Friday film) but the rest of the month has a lot going on - a Fashion Show; 'Musik', a Cinema Live production starring Frances Barber in a bold and hilarious one-woman odyssey through the 20th and 21st centuries; National Theatre Live, Arthur Miller's 'All My Sons'; Live Music with 'An Evening with Cathryn Craig and Brian Willoughby'. Cathryn was a former studio musician in Nashville and both musicians come with an impressive musical CV; and a Cinema Live screening of popular comedian James Acaster's stage show.

The Community Shed is getting busier, you can sign up for their emails at shed@leyburnartscentre.com if you wish to know more, opening days etc. Carer's Plus and Staying Healthy Independent and Connected continue with their regular help sessions. More information can be found on our website or pick up a flyer for cinema and events.

In March we hosted the Wensleydale Tournament of Song and in May we shall host two film screenings for the Swaledale Festival. Our regular Friday films are a mixture of the current popular releases but also films which are not usually shown at other cinemas.

Thank you: The Arts Centre would like to thank all those who bought raffle tickets for our fundraising raffle at the Co-op on Friday and Saturday, March 6th and 7th.

Both hampers have now been collected and the winners were highly delighted. One was won by a lady who lives locally on Woodside and the other by a lady who only visits Leyburn on Fridays for the market.

The funds raised are going towards the cost of the new double glazed windows which have recently been fitted in the Centre.

Thanks also to the Co-op for allowing us to fundraise in the shop.

Have you considered volunteering?

For all these events and activities, like all

charities LACC needs willing volunteers who wish to support the community activities and local endeavours to keep Wensleydale a thriving community with local support should you need it. If you can spare a few hours a month please get in touch, an enquiry does not mean a commitment so just call in or give us a ring to find out more!

At present we are particularly seeking assistance in the following roles:

Morning and Relief Reception - As the first point of contact, reception plays a key role in creating a warm and helpful environment for visitors and groups using the centre and is integral to ensuring things run smoothly.

Community Cinema - If you love the Big Screen moments and want to help bring it to your local community, this could be right up your street. At present we are looking for additional volunteers to help with showing the films. Some are on DVDs and others are via a simple download but training is given and is much easier than it sounds. Help is always at hand.

Website Management - If you have experience in website maintenance and a little time to spare we sure could do with your help. This would be on a fairly casual basis, primarily for updating the site.

If you are interested in volunteering but none of the above particularly appeal, there are various other roles to help with such as Lunch and Chat, General Repairs, Fundraising, Project Management, Digital Support*, The Little Cafe, Marketing, Gardening and more. There really is something for everyone, so if you have an hour or so to spare please do get in touch. To find out more please visit the website below which takes you to the volunteering section of our website. <https://www.leyburnartscentre.com/Support-Us/Volunteer>

*For information about how you can help with our free Digital Support/Tech sessions visit the website below and scroll down to Digital Support.

<https://www.leyburnartscentre.com/Support-and-Guidance>

For more information, or to arrange a chat with our team, drop us an email at admin@leyburnartscentre.com or phone **01969 624510, 10.00am – 4.00pm.**

Ripon and Wensleydale Community Play

'Tributaries'

I was approached by Catherine Mason of Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust to produce a community play about our rivers with a particular emphasis on the Ure. The piece will be performed at the DCM in Hawes on the last weekend of June and in Ripon at the Workhouse on July 4th to open the Theatre Festival. I have been working with primary schools along the length of the watercourse, and part of the idea is to link both ends of the Dale.

I hope to get as broad a range of community participants as possible; those interested in acting, local musicians, people to help backstage etc young, old, experienced or not. It will be an inclusive process and everyone is welcome.

The next open rehearsal is at Leyburn Arts Centre on **Saturday, April 18th between 10.30am and 12.30pm**. This is a last call for participants to join.

Ripon and Wensleydale Community play 2026 will discover the spirit of our very own River Ure, exploring its history, folklore and importance to communities who have lived along its banks through the ages, to the current challenges facing the health of our rivers, connecting communities along the River Ure's watercourse and creating theatre collaboratively. It promises to be a rich theatrical event, with music, poetry, Greek choruses, a giant and a kelpie!

It will be performed at the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes on **Saturday, June 27th at 5.00pm and Sunday, June 28th** (time tbc, probably 5.00pm)

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'Musicals, Movies and More....'

Having had a few months rest from last year's busy schedule, Amy Cockett (vocals) and Mal Carruthers (Keyboard and Organ) reunite to present 'MUSICALS, MOVIES & MORE....' at the wonderful venue of St. Andrew's Church, Aysgarth on **Saturday, April 18th at 7.00pm**.

The concert brings together some of their particular favourites from previous shows as well as one or two new pieces. The evening will showcase a mix of main themes and songs from the big screen and the West End stage. Mike Hirst will be on hand once again to provide audio-visual support which always helps to make these concerts that extra bit special.

The event aims to raise money for the Church Fabrics Fund so whilst entry is free, retiring donations will be greatly appreciated. Refreshments will be available during the interval. A huge thank you to the Aysgarth Falls Hotel, WS Hartle Butchers in West Burton and Marcus at Penny Petroleum for kindly supporting this event. It would be fantastic to welcome you to St. Andrew's for what we are sure will be a superb evening of musical excellence. So..... see you there !

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Bainbridge WI News

Another month and another packed diary! The ladies of the Garden Group had a fabulous day out at Kiplin Hall where they enjoyed a walk amongst the snowdrops in the lovely gardens before a fascinating tour of the house with some excellent guides. Needless to say, there were several visits to the cafe during the day - just to keep our energy levels up!

Another fabulous lunch was enjoyed at Hamiltons in Aysgarth and, although Steve won't agree with us, we are thrilled that he hasn't managed to sell up yet! There surely can't be another Steve out there who would look after us so well and provide such great entertainment!

Unbelievably, the Book Club is celebrating ten years with a visit to the Hexham Book Festival. I wonder how many books our ladies have read over the ten years?

Our February meeting with Ruth Lindsay was absolutely fascinating and we learned a lot about the management of the peat bogs with her wool logs - what a brilliant use of fleeces which these days hold no value as wool.

Our March meeting saw Bob Coombes come along to talk to us about The Wensleydale Railway. Bob was dressed as Station Master, Matthew Newton, and talked us through his life on the railway. It was really interesting. We heard how busy the railway used to be, transporting many sheep and race horses! The work continues to restore the railway and we were pleased to hear that we could enjoy refreshments at Leeming Bar Station, so that may be another visit to plan!

Looking forward to April we have lots more to keep us busy. Our monthly meeting will take place at Bainbridge Village Hall on **Thursday, April 16th from 7.30pm** when Andy Swinscoe from The Courtyard Dairy near Settle will be coming along to talk to us about their cheese production - and maybe give us a taste!

On **April 18th**, we will be hosting our Community Lunch for invited guests from our community. This is our chance to give back and we are really looking forward to seeing everyone and serving up a delicious lunch.

Our Clubs are naturally busy with all manner of activities and visits. The Lunch Club will be sampling the fare at the Redmire Village Pub and the Garden Club will be visiting the garden

of one of our members. The Theatre Group are planning their programme for the next few months and are hoping to get to the theatre at Windermere for a production very soon.

If you are interested in joining our busy and friendly group you will be very welcome to come along to any of our monthly meetings and see what we get up to. There is no commitment to join on the day, so give us a try! A new membership year is about to start so it is a good time to join and get full value from your membership. You can get further details from our President, Sue Stokes on **07816-955-723**. We would be delighted to see you and offer a warm welcome and lots of opportunities. Do come along!

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**Community Spirit and Global Horizons:
What's New at The Wensleydale School**

It has been an incredibly busy start to the spring term at The Wensleydale School, with our students traveling across continents, giving back to the community, and preparing for their futures. Here is a roundup of the latest stories from our hallways (and beyond!).

Passport to Adventure: Berlin and China:

Our students are becoming true global citizens this month. Our Berlin trip departs tomorrow, giving students a chance to immerse themselves in German history and culture. Hard on its heels is our highly anticipated China trip, which sets off on 7th March. We look forward to seeing the photographs and hearing the stories from Mr Hadfield and Mr Barnett when they return!

Beyond the Barracks: Supporting Our Service Families:

We are proud to have launched the second year of our Beyond the Barracks programme. This unique six-week initiative is specifically designed for our service children, focusing on the transition to higher education. The programme culminates in an inspiring day at York St John University, helping students see that the world of university is well within their reach.

Community Spirit in Full Colour:

A massive thank you to the team at Sanderson's for their incredible donation of over £400 worth of paint. Running a rural school means we often have to get creative with our budget, and the generosity of local businesses like Sanderson's is what makes our school a "community effort." We'll be busy with DIY over the summer break to ensure our walls are bright and welcoming for the new term in September.

The Fight for our Astro:

While our community spirit is high, we are currently facing a challenge with our sports facilities. Our Astro pitch is in desperate need of refurbishment. Despite our best efforts to secure funding, we feel somewhat neglected by the FA's recent allocations. We are currently putting in a fresh bid and would appreciate any community support as we fight to ensure our students have the facilities they deserve.

Dates for the Diary:

Murder Mystery Night: Our Year 5 and 6 primary pupils will be joining us for another thrilling "Whodunnit" before the Easter break.

Parent Voice: Thank you to everyone who completed our recent survey. We are delighted to report that parental satisfaction remains high, and we are already working on the "You Said, We Did" actions based on your feedback.

Julia Polley, Headteacher



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The National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain

Easter Concert 2026: New Horizons

Saturday, April 11th, 5.00pm at Tennants Garden Rooms, Leyburn. Join The National Youth Brass Band of Great Britain for an unforgettable evening of world-class music-making from over 90 of the UK's most talented young brass and percussion players. Conducted by world-renowned Professor Nicholas Childs with special guest soloist Mike Cavanagh (baritone), the Band's 2026 Easter concert "New Horizons" celebrates the spirit of innovation, youthful energy and musical excellence that defines The NYBBGB.

Don't miss this inspiring evening of musical excellence. Whether you're a lifelong brass band fan or discovering this rich tradition for the first time, this concert will leave you uplifted, moved and amazed by the talent of some of the UK's brightest young musicians

Tickets can be booked on-line at <https://www.tennantsgardenrooms.com/whats-on/events/?> £18.00 General Admission, £15.50 Concession. Free for under 18s

Middleham and the Dales Local History Group

Wednesday, April 15th, 2.00pm
at Leyburn Arts and Community Centre

How the Stockton and Darlington Railway got the world on track - by Chris Lloyd

The historic 26 mile journey between Shildon and Stockton via Darlington on September 27th 1825 transformed how the world traded, travelled and communicated. Engineered by George and Robert Stephenson, it was the world's first public railway to use steam locomotives. The opening drew 40,000 spectators and a holiday was declared in Darlington.

Local journalist, historian and excellent speaker Chris Lloyd will provide stories and images from the railway's beginnings.

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.

Dales Charity Bingo Report

We enjoyed a good night of bingo in March with a near record number of players coming out, despite the weather. We welcomed back some regular visiting players for the first time this year, in addition to our local players and entertained all with a nod to the late Ken Dodd. The night raised £426 for the Hawes Band Room Ceiling Fund.

March completed our second year of bingo. In many ways it has been a year consolidated on the foundation built in our first year. Player numbers have slowly increased, more events held, more prizes won and more money raised. But the two best things in our second year have been the support from our players and from our volunteer team. A very big thank you to all, none of this would be possible without you.

In our second year we raised a total of £5,095 for the various local charities we work with and 265 bingo prizes were won by players.

Our next bingo night will be held in Hawes on **April 8th** in aid of Bainbridge Village Hall – please see our advertisement on page 3.

If you would like to know more, please email us at dalescharitybingo@gmail.com.

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	St Mary & St John's, Hardraw 9.00am	St Margaret's, Hawes 10.30am	St Oswald's, Askrigg 10.30am	St Matthew's, Stalling Busk 2.30pm
April 2nd Maundy Thursday	Communion at Sycamore Hall 2.00pm			
			Benefice Supper 6.00pm followed by Communion 7.00pm	
April 3rd Good Friday		Walk of Witness - Gayle Chapel to Hawes 10.30am Service 11.30am		Walk - Semerwater to Stalling Busk 2.00pm Hot Cross Buns 3.00pm
April 5th Easter Sunday	Daybreak Service at Semerwater including baptism 6.30am			
	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	
April 12th	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Café Style	12.30pm Soup followed by Communion
April 19th	Holy Communion	Family Service	Morning Prayer	
April 26th	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Afternoon Prayer Pathfinders 3.15pm
Evening Prayer by telephone is held at 4.00pm every Sunday. For details see the website www.upperwensleydalechurch.org/services				

Let's focus on Easter Hope.

There is a great deal of attention given to the subject of 'Fake News' these days. The claims are invariably made by someone who doesn't like to hear or accept the truth of what is taking place around them so they declare that the information is inaccurate, biased or a blatant lie. Well, 'Fake News' is old news because the accounts of the death and the resurrection of Jesus were subject to the same accusations and denials over 2000 years ago. Then it was the religious and political authorities who did their very best to try and dishonour and debase these astonishing events with lies and bribes but, as the old maxim goes: 'the truth will out'.

St Paul interviewed and spoke with many who had met the risen Jesus and invited those who were sceptical to do the same. The disciples all went to their deaths proclaiming the same news. Lies tend to break down under torture, but not so here. Something truly wonderful had taken place that totally transformed their lives and nothing could stop them talking or writing about it. And billions of people all over the world

today (including Wensleydale) continue to encounter the risen Jesus and cannot be silent about it either.

So: when personal circumstances or national and global events aren't looking good and our hearts are heavy, it's good to remember that it didn't look good at the crucifixion either. BUT the message of Easter is one of life changing HOPE and we can all experience it first-hand if we want to.

There are lots of exciting events and Easter celebrations across the breadth of Wensleydale for you to engage with and it would be wonderful to welcome you to any of them. Maundy Thursday suppers, Good Friday walks or perhaps you'd like to start your Easter day by joining us to celebrate an open water immersion baptism at Semerwater followed by a BBQ fish breakfast, or maybe join the Aysgarth churches in a walk up Penhill ... however you spend the day: may the joy of the risen Jesus be with you.

Happy Easter!



Coffee Morning

Thursday, April 16th, 10.00am till noon

at Gayle Institute

For sarcoma cancer

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A massive thank you for everyone's donations which made £140 at the last coffee morning in March.



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Mystery Picture

Last month's picture was taken in Shaw Gill Wood above Hardraw.

Where would you find this decorative column?



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In the Post

I'm sitting here on pins and needles, waiting for that precious parcel to be delivered; *Actaea 'rubra'*, the red baneberry, has been in the post for 8 days and I'm fretting - parcelled up and without water, what are its chances of survival? I've gone for mail order rather than a garden centre as it seems to be quite a rarity – my local supplier was stumped so that forced my hand. What an attractive plant in an understated way, with slender 2 foot high columns of white flowers in summer; however, it's the autumn berrying that attracted me. Clusters of bright orange fruits, poisonous, as are all parts of the plant, so careful where you site it, are produced late in the year, before the high stalks collapse into winter. This specimen demands shade and heavy soil so that describes my goth patch perfectly.

Buying the mature plant's been a bit of a cheat as I am also attempting to grow masses of it from seed. This is a bit complicated, but basically you need to trick these seeds into believing they've gone through a cold snap, stratification, before they germinate. I gave them a double dose, storing them amongst the fish fingers and frozen pizza at the back of the fridge, prior to sowing in November. Potted up and standing in a sheltered area of the garden, let's just see what happens now... scientific or what? It could take 12 months for one tremblingly valiant little shoot to appear, so, with all that effort and delay, and with me having the patience of a 5-year-old, THAT'S why I ordered a 'ready-made' through the post. The 'pachypoda' variety has white berries against red stems - a bonny one looks to be 'misty blue' so that's also on order. Unknown territory for me, this is all a bit 'trial and error' so I can't claim any *Actaea* authority – hmm, that's three sneaky disclaimers in a row.

So where to plant? Well, all the massive *Gunnera 'manicata'* has long gone from around the pond. This 6-footer, with leaves to match, had overstayed its welcome, smothering all and gradually succumbing to rot around the base. Fresh leaves were appearing eaten away and deformed, so out with it. One door shuts etc, and what a place for Baneberry to take up residence; dank and gloomy should have it spreading along under the wall and pestering that toffee nosed laurel hedge, here's hoping. It'll combine well with a *Salvia microphylla* 'Hot Lips', which I

introduced last year - and what a delight it was. Striking little red blooms attracted bees throughout summer, before it gradually gave up the ghost for winter. I pruned it into shape in February and am now in that happy state of expectation, awaiting its return. What an agreeable plant, 3ft height and spread, easy to grow, just provide a tad more sun than *Actaea* and lighter soil.

With battalions of sleet attacking the east facing windows, it seems an odd time to be planning my mowing campaign for the summer, but with no sign of that postman yet and me heroically resisting daytime telly, my mind's casting around, so, memo to self - this season, DO NOT mow too closely, leave a bit longer so's not to let the moss in and, in the unlikely event of a drought (we are talking North Yorkshire here), to give more protection. There are lots of lawn experts around who may disagree, hats off to you, but last year, this suited my little bit - the slight neglect working a treat, encouraging a thicker, juicier growth at the expense of a more manicured look, so I will stick with it.

Well, that courier's just delivered the *Actaea*, it came all the way from mediterranean Cheshire so will need acclimatising. My mail order choices have aged along with me; funky vinyl LPs and travel tickets back in the 70s, later on, DIY stuff and vitamin tablets and presently, plants and comfort wear... hmm, viewed from any angle, that's a downward spiral. Anyway, although dormant, there's plenty of root on my latest delivery, so thumbs up to that nursery, a far cry from the one years back which promised a 'Fiesta' apple tree which got lost in the post for 3 weeks. Turned up dried out and as dead as a doornail; laughably, I then received a jolly little e-mail innocently asking for positive feedback...

Ed Gardener

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News From Sycamore Hall

The months are already flying by and here we are looking forward to April and Easter. We do hope that this will mean some nice weather and a little bit of warmth, not to mention a few sightings of that big yellow thing in the sky!

March saw us celebrate the 90th birthday of another of our residents. How they manage to retain their youthful looks is beyond me!

Some of our residents got very excited with the Cheltenham Festival showing on the TV! I don't think they were very successful with picking the winners, but they certainly enjoyed the races.

Looking forward to April, we are thrilled to be invited to the WI's Annual Community Lunch and have the date in the diary.

On **Monday, April 27th, at 2.00pm**, we will be welcoming Gerard Marsh from the Yordale Mine and Cave Group who is going to come and talk to us about the activities of the group. They explore local mines and caves and undertake renovation and conservation work on these which should be interesting to hear about. Do come along and join us.

Our keen gardeners are desperate to get outside but so far there haven't been many days that have been dry or warm enough, so hopefully that will start to change.

If you would like to come along to join our residents in any of their activities, or would like to start a new activity, please get in touch as we are always looking for something to keep us busy. The dominoes has really taken off and we love to see visitors joining in the daily games.

Lianna, our Beauty Therapist, is visiting us every five weeks or so to keep us all looking beautiful and provide some lovely pampering treats. This service is available to everyone in the area (men and women), not just our residents and staff, so do get in touch with Lianna if you fancy a bit of pampering - or if you would like to buy a gift voucher.



The next visits are on **Monday, April 13th, May 11th and June 15th**. Call Lianna on **07792-086189** to make an appointment or discuss a gift voucher.

Meanwhile, our regular activities continue as follows:-

Mondays at 2.00pm - 'Knit and Natter'

Tuesdays at 10.30am - Bingo or Quiz

Thursdays at 10.30am - Coffee Morning

Fridays at 11.00am - Gentle Seated Exercise with Janet Seymour

Every weekday at 2.00 pm - Dominoes

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

You are welcome to join us for any of these activities. We love to meet new faces as well as familiar ones and can offer a warm welcome.

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, sandwiches, bread, pasties, pies and cakes. Come and visit us to see our range!

Sonja's Hair Salon is open **Thursdays and Fridays, 9.30am to 2.00pm and Saturdays, 9.30am to 1.00pm**. If you wish to make an appointment, please try to do so at least a week in advance to ensure you can get booked in. Maisey's Little Gift Shop will be open the same hours. Call in to see the range of toiletries, make-up, jewellery, candles, and other gifts available. There is an extensive range of greetings cards, including some with local scenes!

Olive's Cafe is open to all from **8.30am to 4.00pm** daily for breakfast, lunch and tea as well as takeaway. Fish and chips are available as a takeaway on Fridays - check out Facebook for details and other options. If you want to go along for a delicious Sunday lunch, it is best to make a booking as it gets very busy. Contact Emily on **01969 629826**.

The Post Office is with us on **Mondays and Wednesdays, 9.00am to 11.00am** for your posting and banking needs, and the library is open every day from **8.30am to 7.00pm**.

Come and pay us a visit - you don't know what you are missing! 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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Blueboxt April Update

As I sit down to write, we've just held our first joint fundraising event of the year with Leyburn Arts and Community Centre. A packed venue enjoyed a music themed quiz hosted by Angela Horner and Bee Darcey who tested our knowledge of number one hits, song intros, album covers and music trivia. Thank you to everyone who attended and helped support the event.

Raising Creative Aspirations -

We are now welcoming applications from young people aged 16 to 26 who are interested in working in the Creative Industries Sector. Supported by Youth Music and using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England, we will be able to support 20 young people with coaching and business advice and three paid Freelance Creative placements designed to build careers in the music and creative industries. See website for more details or contact us to find out more.

Get Musical Jam Band –

New sessions are running on **Wednesdays 4.00pm – 5.30pm** at Leyburn Scout and Guide Hall. If you play an instrument and would like to gain experience of being in a band with other young people, this session is for you. Current artists being covered include Cold Play, Imagine Dragons and Journey to name a few. Contact us to find out more.

Light My Choir! –

Our mixed voice community choir is welcoming new members (16 years and over). No prior experience required - come and meet our fun and friendly group and give it a try. We meet on **Monday evenings 7.00pm – 9.00pm** at Leyburn Methodist Church Hall. Contact us to find out more.

Wensleydale Community Arts and Leyburn Jazz Festivals -

The programmes for both Festivals which take place in June and October are now available. Full information and tickets are on sale at www.wensleydale.org and www.leyburnjazz.org. Pick up an information leaflet from community information points to find out more.

Fund Raising Events in May:

Spring Lunch – **Saturday, May 2nd, 12.30pm for 1.00pm** at Thoraby Village Hall. Entertainment by vocalists Gail Barlow and Colin Bailey. Tickets are £15 each which includes welcome drink, two course meal with tea and coffee.

Live Music with The 684s at Leyburn Arts and Community Centre – **Saturday, May 9th, 7.30pm**. Local live 7-piece band take you on a nostalgic journey, celebrating the best of **Laurel Canyon Americana**. Expect hits and hidden gems from artists such as Carole King, The Byrds, James Taylor, Joni Mitchell, Mamas and Papas, Crosby, Stills and Nash and many more!

Coffee Morning at Leyburn Methodist Church Hall – **Friday, May 22nd, from 9.30am**. Pop along and enjoy a cuppa and a chat. There will also be a Cake Stall and Raffle.

Don't forget tickets are also on sale for:

Live Theatre: Twice Nightly - A celebration of the glory days of Variety. Dominic Goodwin is back for 'another titter' as Freddie Francis in his hilarious one man show, 'Twice Nightly'. Freddie recalls his life as a second spot comic touring the country for 30 years on every variety bill going. The show also includes routines from Max Miller, Rob Wilton, Jimmy James and Norman Evans and renditions of many of the popular songs of the time. Performances take place: **Friday, June 5th** (Askrigg), **Saturday 6th** (Leyburn) and **Sunday 7th** (Reeth). Tickets £15; U18s £7.50 - Bar and refreshments available.

Colours Fashion Show – **Wednesday, June 17th, 7.00pm**, at West Burton Village Hall. Back by popular demand so book your tickets early! 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, refreshments, raffle, local makers stalls and entertainment with vocalist Bee Darcey. Tickets are £8.00 including a welcome drink.

To find out more or book places for our events and activities visit www.blueboxt.org or contact **Colin Bailey** on: **01969 745810 / 07711 211169** or email: info@blueboxt.org



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Saturday 18 April 7.30pm £15/£7.50
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- Song Sung Blue
- Hamnet
- H is for Hawk

Coming Soon

- Thursday 7 May - Cinema Live: James Acaster: Cinemagoers Welcome
- Saturday 9 May - Live Music with A684
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Email for submission of articles, what's ons, letters etc.: uwnlinput@gmail.com

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Archive hard copies back to 1995 are in the Dales Countryside Museum resources room.

Editors: Barry Cruickshanks,
Kevin Davis,

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

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