

RETURN TO UWNL HOMEPAGE

UPPER WENSLEYDALE NEWSLETTER ISSUE 157— APRIL 2010

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PLUS ALL THE REGULARS

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Editorial

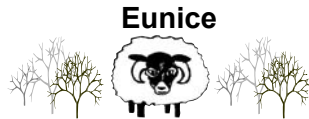
When we say that our Dales are 'special' (which they jolly well are!) we are more than likely referring to the landscape – the alternating layers of limestone and gritstone that give our characteristic 'stepped edges' and scars; our many waterfalls, gills, fosses and cave systems, or referring to the 'nature': lovely hay meadows, flowers, upland birds and the stock grazing and so on; or the woodlands (although people feel we could do with more tree-planting).

That isn't everything by a long way! The 'built environment', as it is usually referred to, adds a very human dimension to the Dales. Imagine the area without our dry-stone walls, our field barns, our laithes (long buildings with house, cowshed etc.) or our old cottages, often with most windows facing south to get what warmth there is, and looking as if hewn out of the hillsides, which really they were. Then there are the other, more public, community buildings. We have a legacy of village institutes, halls, meeting rooms, chapels and churches, all with a story to tell of their founding, their benefactors and much of the town and village life that revolved, and still revolves around them.

Now it's bad enough keeping our own homes upright or watertight or pleasant inside! So spare a thought for the farmers (in their spare moments!) out in all weathers sorting out and then rebuilding their walls either knocked down or falling down with age, and keen to keep these essential features rather than sticking a crude bit of fencing there; or maintaining a barn, especially one in a significant place within the landscape; or the committees (all volunteers) of our community buildings keeping them fit for purpose and often doing repair work themselves. We also have teams of volunteers who learn, and then practise, dry

stone walling.

Some of our public buildings are definitely under-used, but others are vital village resources getting heavy wear and tear. With the exception of Wensley Village Hall, they're all getting on a bit– as are a lot of the people keeping them going! So we ought to remember, with thanks, all these voluntary labourers! Maybe more importantly we should not let appeals for more help go unheard or without response



**I was hiding in J.T. Atkinson's
advert, and the winner was: Han-
nah Facer, The Greens, Hawes**

This Sounds Good

A Charity concert is to take place given by the Prize winning *Craven Accordion Orchestra*. on **Saturday, May 8th at 7 00pm** in Redmire Village Hall.

Harry Hinchcliffe has generously agreed to bring his 20 strong Orchestra to play for us, an amazing sound, lots of familiar tunes and some you won't have heard. The Concert is in aid of Amala Orphanage in India, and Marie Curie Nurses. Refreshments will be served. Tickets £6. Contact **Margaret Hall 623012 or Anne Day 624171**

Competition

Colourful Quiz submitted by one of our committee members.

Every answer includes a colour, e.g.:

A fairytale covering = Red Riding Hood

1. A damned elusive flower (7,9)
2. Two dozen in a pastry confection (10)
3. A vegetable butterfly (7-5)
4. Flowers for the bride (6-7)
5. What a good gardener has (5,7)
6. Something useless or not wanted (5,8)
7. In perfect condition (2,3,4)
8. A venomous spider (5,5)
9. Famous feature of a channel port (5,6)
10. Guinness and champagne drink (5,6)
11. A domestic fowl from the USA (5,6,3)
12. The path to fame in Oz (6,5,4)
13. A style of country music (4,5)
14. Beans (7,7)
15. Housekeeper to seven small miners (4,5)
16. Pupil of Christ's hospital (8)
17. Famous American bridge (6,4)
18. Chelsea Pensioners (8)
19. Ornamental fluorspar from Derbyshire (4,4)
20. Flag hoisted when setting sail (4,5)
21. A famous pirate (4,4,6)
22. Raw and jealous (5)
23. Plausible and eloquent (6-7)
24. A passage of over-ornate writing (6,5)

Last Month's Answers

Modes of transport

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. They sound like duties | Taxis |
| 2. Platform tutor | Stagecoach |
| 3. It's back in smart fashion | Tram |
| 4. Practise your sport | Train |
| 5. Esroh | Horseback |
| 6. A lean rope twister | Aeroplane |
| 7. I rinse lucre | Cruise liner |

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 8. A dine crash crashed | Sedan chair |
| 9. A bit of something has led
Gerald here | Sledge |
| 10. Latin at length | Tandem |
| 11. Two cuts back | Tuctuc |
| 12. Boule rampart muddled | Perambulator |
| 13. Back in the subjunctive | Bus |
| 14. Byway open to all traffic | Boat |

The winner of the £10 prize was:

Spring Concert

The East Witton Male Voice Choir will give its Spring Concert in Leyburn Methodist Hall on **Wednesday April 28th at 7.30pm**. Admission is free; there will be a collection in aid of the Martin House Children's Hospice, and choir funds.

Favourite Place

Living where we do beside Duerley Beck it's difficult to have another Favourite Place. An ideal day for us is to sit out in the front garden and listen to the beck as it flows by the garden wall, not always peaceful and quiet, sometimes wild and stormy when it is well stirred.

That's why one of our next Favourite Places is again near water at Cotter Foss. It's a nice little stroll any time of the day or year to wander up the good footpath, sit on the stone bench and just watch the water as it tumbles down over the rocks; again sometimes peaceful but sometimes a wild raging flood. We watch for the bird life, the dipper as it bobs on a rock, maybe a pair of ducks, always tits and chaffinches and once a deer.

In spring there are lots of daffodils and primroses, which light up the steep banks. Summer has lots of shady trees, which in autumn are golden and coloured as they shed their leaves into the beck.

This winter has seen the falls covered with ice, lovely shapes where the water had frozen on the rocks. It's an always changing landscape and is one of many Favourite Places in our lovely Yorkshire Dales.

Jim and Jean Sleightholm

Gayle Ladies

Gayle Ladies enjoyed an unusual and invigorating evening meeting on Thursday 24th February, with Linda Reynolds conducting a circle dancing session. On a cold and miserably sleeting evening, proceedings had to be lively and soon, amidst great hilarity, proceeded not to the dance of the seven veils but the dance of the seven thermal vests .

Circle dancing requires some concentration and the vital ability to distinguish left from right and this provoked the ability to body swerve, change leg in mid stride, even in mid air when necessary, and to perform several amusing manoeuvres not in the handbook !

After a steep learning curve, the ladies came to a grand finale involving a dance of increasing speed, after which refreshments were greeted with cries of relief

The next meeting is

Stay and Play

Hawes Methodist church rooms

Friday mornings, 9.15-11.00am

Starting 23rd April

Healthy snack provided and lots of fun activities for you and your child, (there is no charge for attending)!

Joanne Middleton

Food Hygiene Course

The Community Office in Hawes has been asked to put on a Food Hygiene Course and this can be done if there are enough 'takers'.

If you would be interested please ring and say so as soon as possible: **667400**

A Day in the life of an Askrigg Pensioner

I get up on the right hand side of the bed (right hand lying on my back). I sit on the bed and ponder as to what day it is; is it my day for bread? Is it wheelie bin day? Have I to put a clean shirt on for a coffee morning?

I put my spectacles and wrist watch on the left hand side – the side I “dress” on. But first to the bathroom – another waste to pay out of pension because before the hot water comes I have to run out 5 litres of Yorkshire Water @ £1.50 per cubic metre. This waste costs .00015pence (my father told me to look after the pence and the pounds would take care of themselves)

With arthritis I cannot wash the back of my neck (I told Bert – he said I was d----- lucky as he could not wash his face), however I have devised a long narrow flannel and can do a “rolla coasta” with hands at chest level.

And the wonders of modern technology! I have a dual flush button (to make up for losing the 5 litres).

A far cry from Grandmother with the privy down the garden! They have even abolished the chain and I have a lever-operated pop up plug; we live in a pop up age but often those which pop up do not always stay up!

And so to dress ... Marks and Spencer's vests do not have a label on the back of the neck (it might itch), so do not know which way round it goes. If I get it wrong I might choke : (Health and safety)

Going to have an uncomfortable day – the elastic in my under pants has lost its elastic! Try fastening shirt buttons with an arthritic thumb; why don't they put zip fasteners on shirts? They put them on trousers 1st April 1954 – but I remember buttons for which you did not need

spectacles.

But it is not all negative, I can still get down to cut my toe nails and fasten my shoes (made in Italy).

And so to breakfast... The Muesli – all raisins and nuts – I have picked the light brown box, should have got the tan one (or got out the specs and read the print). I reach for the milk – now in plastic bottles “From Town Head Farm Askrigg” – Askrigg a “Town”, what nonsense: no post office, no petrol pumps, vicarage empty (don't let me go on) but, editor, if the Trading Standards Officer comes on to you for misrepresentation tell him that Askrigg was a market town long before the title was usurped by Hawes!

The toaster – if I set it at ‘2’ the bread slice comes out luke-warm, if I set it at ‘3’ it comes out black. I reminisce and look longingly at my old polished brass toasting fork (with apologies to Roger Iveson).

The door opens and the seventy year old paper boy brings me the Daily Depress'o' graph.

I will tell you more about the dreadful morning next time D.V. (God willing)

Askrigg Pensioner, M.W. Ax 871237D
(not my pin number)

News From the Wensleydale Railway

TRAIN SERVICES BEGIN on Good Friday (April 2nd) and in April and May run on all Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and the three Bank Holiday Mondays.

THE VINTAGE BUS service (from Ripon, Masham and Middleham) will run between Leyburn/Redmire stations, Aysgarth, (not Askrigg this year), Bainbridge and Hawes/Garsdale station on Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays until the end of October.

CUMBRIA CLASSIC COACHES run on Tuesdays from Kirkby Stephen to Hawes and Ribbleshead station. In addition, scheduled services by Dales and District (Proctors), Royal Mail's Postbus, Alan and Harry's Little Red Bus and some week-end seasonal buses from West Yorkshire serve Hawes. Senior Citizen bus passes are valid for FREE TRAVEL on all these bus services; on WR's trains a Senior Citizen concessionary price applies).

Timetables will be widely available and include full details of diesel and steam trains, special events and excursions throughout the year.

For special early-day excursion to Middleham Stables (**April 2nd**) and Family Easter Egg Hunt (**April 5th**) please ring **01677 425805** to book.

Choir says thanks

Gayle Chapel Choir were short of funds but needed some new song books. Thanks to an anonymous donor the shortfall in purchasing the books has now been covered. Through the Newsletter we want to say 'Thank you very much'.

Irene Bergerund

Best Foot Forward

Lots of walks are 'rounds', that is, they start and finish in the same place. Linear walks are splendid because they take you further afield but then you have to get back to the start. Of course, local buses and railways are useful for this but the timing isn't always convenient.

So most of us do round walks. Few of these are actually circular. More commonly they are up one side of a valley and down the other. There are some classic examples of these: Mallerstang via Wild Boar Fell and High Seat from Kirkby Stephen for the energetic; a circuit of Raydale from Semer Water for more casual walkers. Some are easy to plan, others require a bit more ingenuity and maybe local knowledge.

One example of the latter is the Bishopdale round. A first glance at the map doesn't look very promising with only the B-class road and one footpath up the dale. Purists might argue that a valley circuit should follow the watershed from and back to the stream's confluence with the river, but that is usually impracticable and certainly not possible in Bishopdale. However, there is a round which is well worth doing. It starts at Thoraby, where cars can be parked behind the village hall, and crosses the valley to Newbiggin. From there a bridleway climbs steeply onto Wasset Fell and abandons the walker in a morass of heather. Rather than follow the watershed over Naughtberry Hill it is best to follow an excellent little buggy track all the way along the escarpment, giving fine views down to the valley and across to the north. There are one or two scars to descend but it's not difficult to reach the road at Kidstones Pass.

From here the simplest way is to take the Stalling Busk track and then the Stake Road back to Thoraby. But it's more chal-

lenging to climb up along a wall side on to the scar and cut across the open access. This section, skirting the heads of Back Gill and Lockah Beck, is a touch tricky: it helps to know where the gates and wall gaps are, and it can be rough under foot. But it gives much more interesting views and eventually leads round to High Scar, seen so prominently from the valley road below. Walking along the top of the scar with panoramic views of Bishopdale is one of the highlights of the walk. Soon afterwards the route is back on the Stake Road to Thoraby.

There's a good chance of meeting nobody on this round (Wainwright would have loved it), but there's plenty of birdlife in summer and rabbits galore all year. In winter it is an Arctic wasteland experience and it's worth bearing in mind how remote some spots are. It's not a walk for the faint-hearted but it's certainly a good day out.

N. P.

Carperby Pavilion Project – Latest News

The current status of the project is that we have just received some detailed tenders providing us with the likely costs to erect a basic water tight building. The lowest quote was around £80,000 and this gives us a chance to complete a water-tight shell. However, we will need extra funding. At the moment we have around £40,000 in cash and we think we can secure a commitment for a further £20,000 from another source. We have also discussed the possibility of a community loan to make sure we get the building finished, and we are going to apply for numerous small grants in the next week or two. The intention is to get started on the access and building works before summer and finish the internal works at a later stage, as funds and time permit.

The next fund raising event will be a concert at Carperby Village Institute on **Saturday 10th April. ColvinQuarmby** make a welcome return and anyone who saw them last year will want to be there again. The five-piece band play "refreshingly different acoustic music". A potent mix of driving rhythm laced with liberal helpings of folk, country and skiffle, with an intelligent use of pop, topped off with irresistible harmonies and lyrics of pure poetry and subtle wit. Growing favourites on the Folk/Acoustic circuit, the band have recently won the Best Live Act category at the prestigious Hancock Awards. "Their live show is spontaneous, unpredictable, often hilarious and always hugely entertaining." Tickets are £10 in advance and are selling fast. Please contact me on **663808** if you are interested.

Steve Sheldon

**Middleham and Dales Local
History Group**

**Tuesday 20th April 2pm Middleham
Key Centre**

“From Teesside to rural Yorkshire”: exploring the life and art of Viva Talbot, (1900-1983) (with particular reference to her North Yorkshire connections)

Dr Joan Heggie

Dr Joan Heggie is a Research Fellow at Teesside University and project manager of the British Steel Archive Project.

While looking through the archive, Dr Heggie found an intriguing album of ‘*Steelmaking woodcuts*’ by Viva Talbot (1900-1983). Her enquiries led her to discover that Viva was an artist and musician who was the daughter of industrialist Benjamin Talbot. Viva’s early life was spent at Solberge Hall, Danby Wiske, near Northallerton, and then later, after her marriage to Sir Thomas Nussey, she lived at Rushwood Hall, West Tanfield. Viva was also well known in Thoraby, Bishopdale where she owned Heaning Hall farm.

Annual membership of the group is £10 and visitors are welcome to attend individual meetings for a fee of £3. For further information, please contact:

Tony Keates 640436 or email dotand-tonyk@btinternet.com

Gayle Ladies Open Evening

Garden Makers: Andrew Shaw of the North’s leading Garden and Design Centre, near Wigglesworth, Settle will give a talk on **Thursday April 29th at 7.30pm** in the Gayle Methodist Sunday School room.

There will also be plants for sale and everyone is most welcome.

Upper Dales Family History Group

The next meeting is at **2.00pm on Wednesday, April 28th**, in Middleham Key Centre, when the speaker is Eric Houlder on 'The Black Death - Bubonic Plague in England'. The talk will be followed by the AGM. On **Saturday, May 8th**, a drop-in Family History computer club will be held from 1.00-5.00pm in Hudson House, Reeth. The computer clubs are informal drop-in sessions for anyone interested in getting started with research on the internet or looking for further suggestions, and are suitable for anyone from complete beginners onwards. Group members are on hand to help - stay as long as you like, £1 per hour.

The UDFHG is a branch of the Cleveland Family History Society and admission to talks is free to all members of Cleveland FHS; non-members £2.00.

For details contact: **Glenys Marriott 663738** or email:

glenys@bishopdale.demon.co.uk

or see the website at:

www.upperdalesfhg.org.uk for details of all events and the worldwide email discussion group.

Tracy Little

The Lonely Skier

The ski season came round and this year my hopes were up; my girlfriend's family had booked a farmhouse in the Vosges mountains in Alsace, Northern France, and despite not having skied for four years I was a) up for the challenge and b) – more importantly – invited!

No sooner had the news broken of the holiday-to-be than a glorious white sheet blanketed Wensleydale. My girlfriend's father, a fifty year old ski virgin, had acquired some excellent equipment from a charity shop in Ilkley (Ilkley is the sort of place where people give away skis when the wax has worn off) and some ex-army cross country stuff from ebay and was keen to hit some slopes. Little did I know that in his eyes, Middleham gallops constituted a slope!

Gaining access to the local rough and ready 'pistes' proved to be no mean feat. On first ascent, Witton Steeps triumphed over the family 4x4. The car crawled its way to the first hairpin, where all four passengers (three men and the dog) slithered in their 2 tonne bobsleigh, backwards 75 feet to the foot of the 'mountain'!

Time for plan B: past Spigot Lodge along a snow covered, treacherous track. This time the monstrous vehicle conquered the slope with a roar of the engine like a wild cat's snarl. The landscape that met the eye upon our arrival at the Gallops was breath-taking. The rolling moorland buried beneath two feet of delicious, pristine, sparkling snow, was like a scene from 'On Her Majesty's Secret Service'. It was beautiful! The still quietness of the entire dale engulfed us, stunning us with its beauty.

Wading up the blocked road to the summit of the pass, the scene of the sunlight scattering over the entirety of Coverdale through a dappled sky, and showering the

cairn of Pen Hill, made me realise why I came back to Yorkshire. After a few more footsteps, and glimpses of the panoramic view into the dale, I turned on my heel (I had to, I was wearing ski boots) and hurtled full pelt back down to the car.

For a starter activity, we potted about on our assortment of hand-me-down skis at the side of the gallops. However, I felt as though, in the time it took to herringbone my way up the incline, sliding backwards every other step, and finally gliding at a snail's pace down what I would call a snow drift, I was in need of some adrenaline! As my companions muttered to each other and moaned about the lack of a piste basher and button lifts (someone should really see to that!), I gathered my mountaineering gear (if you could call a mac, bobble hat and some wellie socks mountaineering gear) and my friend Josh and I embarked upon what was to be an exhilarating, yet rewarding journey. An expedition to the summit of Pen Hill!

We set off just after mid-day, and by half past one had made satisfying progress up the icy, barren ridge that was Pen Hill after two weeks of blizzards and sub-zero temperatures. If anyone is as daft as me, and is planning a hike up a rather large hill, through a ski-pole's depth of snow, in ski boots dragged forward through space and time from the 1970s to the present day and shouldering museum-piece skis, can I just advise: don't!

So, after hours that dragged their feet, and were determined to feel like weeks, we encountered a rotting wooden signpost, that looked like it belonged in one of the scary chapters from Frankenstein. To be quite honest I half expected to read 'turn back now, save yourselves!', however the sign merely said 'Pen Hill' - as though after the pain I had endured to get this far, I needed reminding of exactly where I was! It was

with one last, excruciating push that we reached the summit, where I immediately, after hugging Josh with the delight of a lottery winner, fell to my knees and groaned. After taking a couple of snapshots (see below), we geared up for the descent.

Probably the most dangerous thing I have ever done! Sliding down a hill of worrying steepness, on two antique rustic lengths of wood considerably taller than myself: something no one should ever attempt! But we did it – my friend on his practically new glossy snowboard, and me on my borrowed vintage skis, that would not look out of place wielded by a knight of the round table. This experience I will *never* forget, mainly due to it being more heart-stoppingly scary than fun.

Now, trained up, keen and inspired, I bought myself a lovely pair of prototype, one-of-a-kind, snowblades – all ready for the Vosges!. So, I had conquered Pen Hill, but as you may know, I myself was conquered by my motorbike the following weekend! Rendering me, and my knee, useless as far as skiing was concerned.

It was with a heavy heart that I waved off my girlfriend and her family to France. Leaving me alone for a week to hobble around Wensleydale. The lonely skier.

Tom Stephenson, Bursary Student

Thoralby W.I. Fashion Show

Tuesday May 11th; 7.00 for 7.30pm

Thoralby Village Hall

£3.00 admission includes wine, nibbles and a raffle ticket.

Clothes by 'Complete Clothing Co.'

Free Entry

into the Upper Wensleydale Business Directory

Have a listing of your business printed in a handy booklet which will be delivered to every household in Upper Wensleydale.

Contact: The Business Association, Wensleydale Press, **667575** wpress@tiscali.co.uk for more information

Hawes Cricket Club

Quiz Night and Raffle

Fountain Hotel

Friday April 2nd 8.00pm

£6.00 per team

(Maximum of four per team)

First prize £50; 2nd, £20; 3rd, £10

Raffle prizes include Sunday lunch for four at the Fountain, wine and chocolate cake, plus many others.

If anyone would like to donate a raffle prize, please drop it in for Steve Raw at 14, Little Ings, Hawes any time.

Gayle Mill

From March 30th:

GAYLE MILL OPENS FOR THE SEASON Tuesday to Saturday and Bank Holiday Sundays and Mondays for one-hour daily tours starting @: 11.00am, 12.30pm, 2.00pm and 3.30pm. ALSO First Sunday of each month for Demonstration Day Tours starting @: 11.00am and 2.30pm. Booking advised. **667320**

Demonstration day tours: Admission. £10 adult, £5 child (including refreshments)

April 12th

“Daffodils and Catkins” -Painting with Moira Metcalfe, well known Wensleydale artist. Exploring light and colour at the start of Spring- 10.00am to 4.00pm Fee £55; www.gaylemill.org.uk or **667320**. Booking essential

Volunteer Opportunities

As the Mill gears up for the start of the season, there are opportunities for volunteers to join the team.

There are a variety of ways in which people can become involved and the principal opportunities are ideal for anyone who enjoys meeting others. For instance, Tour Guides take groups of up to 25 people around the historic Mill and explain to visi-

tors how its role has changed and developed over more than 200 years. Receptionists also carry out a very important role welcoming visitors, selling admission tickets and Gayle Mill wood products.

New volunteers will be provided with full training and familiarisation which will be tailored to suit their individual needs. There are also training sessions with the whole team providing an opportunity to meet fellow volunteers.

Anyone who would like more information and have an informal chat should get in touch with the Administrator

Last Month's Mystery Picture

Plenty of 'spotters' and much information sent in!

Neil Dyson, Carperby writes:

Littleburn Bridge, Thoraby

The bridge crossing the beck to Littleburn Hall was built as a memorial to the Duke of Wellington's victories, and dedicated to him in a Latin inscription, which also states how dangerous the beck can be in times of flood. The opposite parapet inscription says 1814.

Edmund Bogg, writing in the poetic language of 1908 translates the Latin as:-

“In God the Only Security

This Egeraian Bridge, at the expense of the neighbourhood thrown over this river, awkwardly narrow and at times most dangerous, in memory of peace and security, is, under God, dedicated to Wellington.

O chieftain, courageous arbiter of war, who bringest peace, as patron of this bridge, receive floods of this bounding water. May the Great Ocean take these floods of the fountain, and may this arch to thy triumph shine.”

Neil Piper writes:

The Latin stone was removed from Littleburn Bridge in 1991 for its preservation. The original is in the village hall. The replica is on the bridge.

The poem was written by Lord Rokeby about whom I know very little but maybe he was around when Wellington was alive. It sounds as though he was. Here's the translation:

OUR ONLY SALVATION IS GOD

The Egarian Bridge, built at the expense of the local inhabitants over a river perversely shallow, but quickly becoming very dangerous, is dedicated to peace and safety under the godlike Wellington..

Leader in war, whom peace searches out,
bold judge

Receive to bridge-bearing waves of leaping water

Let the sea of rich waves receive its spring born waters

And let the joyful arch glory in the triumphing general.

Apparently Rokeby lived at Littleburn. It sounds as though he was after a pension from Wellington.

Annual Report

We must begin once more by saying thank you to very many people:- our advertisers who support us, many of whom would like more space than we can allow because we have so many articles, announcements and reports of events and news; you, the readers, obviously- and thank you for your comments; our distributors and people who allow copies to clutter up their shop counters; the team of workers who month by month collate, fold, staple and bundle at our room in the Wensleydale Sport and Fitness Centre in Askrigg; our writers and front-cover artists, printers, proof readers, auditor and webmaster; sender-out of postal copies, and our committee, whose dedication, ideas and brightness make our meetings business-like, but also, would you believe, fun! The whole thing is entirely voluntary and the very large number of people involved is its strength.

It has been a year taken up with *equipment*. Our new and expensive printing machine, a Ricoh 4640 duplex, still has the upper hand, baffling not only our printers but also the 'experts' who keep coming to service it. When in a good mood it prints both sides together, speedily and with clarity. That's brilliant! When off-colour, usually early in the day, it's a

This year we have also invested in three very heavy duty stapling-cum-folding machines which take a bit of mastering, but we are getting there.

All this has meant a drain on funds but we have still been able to give grants (*see the financial report*). Our Bursary scheme continues to supply us with competent and enthusiastic students.

Circulation continues to increase steadily but we do not intend to step outside our area which consist of the main dale from Garsdale Head down to Wensley, the side dales: Walden, Bishopdale and Raydale,

plus the very top of Swaledale and Dentdale (because they tend to identify with Hawes for Market, Mart and Doctors).

We ask that you continue to make our lives difficult by sending in more material than we can fit in each issue!

Eunice rules O.K!

A.S.W

Treasurer's report for Year 2009/10

The accounts were audited and approved on 9 March 2010 by Barry Wilcox, MCML.

The balance in hand last year was boosted by the award of a grant for the purchase of a new printer in 2009. The printer was bought during the 2009/10 financial year and we also purchased three new electronic staplers and a laptop computer: we hope that this considerable outlay on equipment has enhanced the final product that our readers receive each month.

Income from donations and postal subscriptions is down compared to last year because we did not seek any grant money. However, a donation of over £500 from the former Jujitsu Club in Askrigg, enabled the committee to redirect those specific funds to support sporting activities in the area. Income derived from advertisements has increased significantly this year.

Expenditure, other than on new equipment, is slightly down on last year. Although we ran fewer competitions, thus reducing the amount of prize money issued, we have been pleased to see an increase in the number of applications for the book and equipment grant scheme for local college and university students. There were seven awards under this scheme.

Other donations included:

£500 - Haiti Earthquake Appeal

£200 - Blue Boxt Productions

(Young People's Drama)

£200 - Castle Bolton Meeting Room

£150 - Tournament of Song
 £100 - Askrigg Primary School
 £100 - Bainbridge Primary and
 Nursery School
 £100 - Hawes CP School
 £100 - Hawes Cricket Club
 £100 - West Burton School Fund
 £100 - Dales Harvest Event
 £100 - Hawes Christmas Lights
 £20 - Wensleydale Chorus

Janet W. Thomson
Treasurer

Accounts March 2009 to February 2010			
		Software & computer servicing	1120.45
Income		Office rental	290.00
Balances b/f	13726.79	Donations & distribution costs	2014.38
Donations & postal subs	1075.68	Prizes	180.00
Boxes	2214.50	Equipment – printer, staplers,	10107.10
Adverts	8727.00	Printer maintenance	134.19
Interest	147.69	Bursary student	250.00
	25891.66	Book grant scheme	885.00
Expenditure		Balance carried forward	7996.06
Production costs	2111.98		
Committee expenses & honoraria	802.50		

Janet W. Thomson, Treasurer
4th March 2010

Setting up a website

I have been asked a number of times about how to set up a website and there are a number of things you should consider; first what do you want to put on a website and second how much do you want to spend?

If the answer to the first question is to write about things that interest you in an online diary style (commonly known as a blog) there are plenty of free options that require little more than filling in a few forms. One option worth looking at is www.blogger.com from google where you can quickly set up a weblog such as <http://myblogger.blogger.com> (where myblogger is the name of your website).

With these free blogging sites you usually get a choice of colour schemes and layouts but they don't often offer a lot of control over the look and feel of your website. For other alternatives try using Google to search for "free blog hosts".

If you want something more specific and customisable then a lot more work is involved and whilst there are some free options, you may want to consider paying someone to help set up your website, especially if you want to set up a professional website or a shop. There are number of things to consider before you start.

You will need to decide on the purpose and content (articles/information etc) you would like to present on your website. You can get someone else to write this sort of thing for you but even then you would need a clear idea of what you want visitors to see.

In order for people to find your website you will need to get a domain name (such as mywebsite.co.uk). Prices vary but expect to pay around £10 for a .co.uk domain name for a 2 year registration. The website will need to be designed, so have a clear idea of how you would like it to look. Look

at other websites for inspiration. Also you need to decide how easy you want it to be to add pages and information and edit information. Building websites that make this easy may be more expensive to set up but will cost much less in the long term because you will be able to manage the content of your website yourself.

Once you have a design and a registered domain you will need your website to be hosted on a web server so that people from all over the world can see your creation. There is a wide range of potential costs here (from free to anything you are prepared to pay). If your website is going to be important to you it is probably best to avoid free hosting packages. Expect to pay up to about £10 a month for hosting your website (less if it is a simple site, more if it is big and complex).

Finally, consider how your website is going to be looked after in the future. If the website uses a software framework to make editing your pages easy, then that software will need to be updated regularly. This can be a tricky process, so consider paying the person who designed your website for regular maintenance support.

I hope you found this useful – if you have any questions do contact me via my website at www.dalescomputerservices.com.

Carol Haynes

Easter Exhibition

Paintings by local artists Ann Kerr and Brian Alderman in the Burtersett Institute,

Easter Saturday, Sunday and Monday

10.30am to 4.30pm

Refreshments and home-made cake stall; all profits from these to be donated to the Brooke Working Animal Charity.



The children have been making gifts and cards for their mothers to celebrate the special day. We have decorated our setting ready for Easter with rabbits on the windows and hanging Easter egg decorations from the roof. The after school clubs have been busy making mosaic collages to represent their community and making lots of delicious recipes such as cheesy chicken and tomato spirals.

The children helped to transform our role play area into a pirate ship and have enjoyed sailing the seven seas in search of treasure and fortune. Dalesplay are now collecting vouchers from Tesco's and Sainsbury's; we welcome your unwanted vouchers to help purchase new ICT equipment for the children using Dalesplay. You can drop them into the box in the entrance hall.

We have lots of activities planned for the Easter holidays including mums and baby painting, Easter egg hunt, cinema experience and much more. For full details of workshops please contact Dalesplay 667789. All workshops are open to all including visitors to the area! **DON'T FORGET THE EASTER DISCO, Friday April 16th, 7.00- 8.00pm AT DALESPLAY, £1.50 ENTRY AND REFRESHMENTS 20P EACH. ALL CHILDREN 4-12 YRS WELCOME, BRING ALL YOUR FRIENDS!** We would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter.

Askrigg School News

Askrigg School News

A Visit to County Hall

At County Hall it was so cool! I went down a hall and my picture was on the wall! It was a picture of the world and it

was surrounded by clouds. After that we went on a walk and we got lost because the place was so big. The walk was so long I got tired. Then we had a posh lunch it was very nice.

Next we went into a big building and we got our picture taken and got a prize. It was a hat with some sunglasses and a fan on it. It was like a sun hat but it was a cap. Then we went home.

Tilly Wallington Year2 Eco-Warrior

The Big Tidy Up!

On Wednesday 3rd March Askrigg School's Eco group had a Big Tidy Up. It was Jack H, Simon, Noah, Sophie A, Ben C, Rupert and Tilly, one member was not at School. We all went out on the School field. What we did was put rubber gloves on and a shirt made out of a plastic bag they are called Tabards! (We were going to use litter pickers but we could not find them.) We found lots of things like: wrappers, bottles, tissues and we even found a lager can, and an empty cigarette packet! And lots of used tape that footballers use to keep their shin pads on. We all found a lot of things including an electric socket cover! We all had a good time but it was a bit cold. Two of us will go out and do it again every Friday!

Sophie A and Rupert C

What's Up?

This two-letter word in English has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that word is 'UP.' It is listed in the dictionary as an [adv], [prep], [adj], [n] or [v].

It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?

At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP, and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report?

We call UP our friends, brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver, warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and fix UP the old car.

At other times this little word has real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses.

To be dressed is one thing but to be dressed UP is special.

We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night. We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP!

To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look UP the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4 of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions

If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more.

When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP .. When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP. When it rains, it

soaks UP the earth. When it does not rain for awhile, things dry UP. One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP, for nowmy time is UP!

Oh...one more thing: what is the first thing you do in the morning & the last thing you do at night? U P!

Where Else Can You Hear:

One of Britain's favourite sopranos, Emma Kirkby?

Peter Donohoe, one of the greatest living pianists?

One of the finest British string ensembles, the Fitzwilliam Quartet?

The prizewinning Carlton Main Frickley Colliery Band?

Northern Sinfonia, but not on the banks of the Tyne?

Star cellist Natalie Clein?

'Wearing purple' poet Jenny Joseph?

Riverdance star Niamh Ni Charra?

The second Reeth Lecture from Brian Sewell?

Answer: You can hear all this and much more at the 30th Anniversary *Swaledale Festival!*

The Festival runs from **May 29th to June 13th**, and packs an exciting programme into a summer fortnight, with classical, folk, jazz and brass band music, poetry, art exhibitions and guided walks in stunning scenery. Events take place in intimate venues throughout Swaledale, Wensleydale and Arkengarthdale, and this year, in Barnard Castle.

Booking opens on **April 19th**, and tickets are available via the website – www.swaledale-festival.org.uk –or

the Box Office **01748 880019**, or from Leyburn and Richmond TICs and Hawes Community Office.

Prunings

A personal take on Plants, Propagating and other related rural ramblings.

It might just be time to put away the thermal vests, (17th March) but I'm still waiting for the pots of Tête à Tête on the patio to flower. They are showing well but the cold has held them back. We should get good displays this year, as last, if the winter has done it's job.

A week ago I was driving down the valley and I was forced to conclude that if the agricultural fraternity valued their FYM as much as gardeners do, they might put more of it on the land and less on the road. Driving through the "muck" reminded me of a hilarious character call Sep who was the creation of genius Henry Brewis in a series of booklets produced for one of the feed firms many years ago. The two I remember were "Any Fool Can Be a Farmer", and "A Beginner's Guide to Peasantry". Sep's only concession to dressing up was to put on his better wellies, significantly, his farm rejoiced in the name of "Clartiehole". From the state of my car I could have been there last Friday.

I received a copy of "Flourish", a magazine from Thompson and Morgan. With a cover price of £2.49 I am not likely to buy it, and its aim is clearly to sell. There were one or two interesting articles, but in a recipe for using home grown potatoes, olive oil was listed as an ingredient. What a pity they could not suggest butter or Canola (rapeseed) oil, neither of which have to be imported.

In theory we should start on lots of outside jobs now, planting summer bulbs, staking perennials and the like, but as everything is so late this year I am grateful to see the tiny green shoots appearing, and I am thrilled to see crocus alongside the

snowdrops. Clearing up is a must, but it may be a while before I can say that some of my favourites have survived both the snow and the rabbits. That being the case I shall continue to pot up seedlings as soon as they are strong enough, and I've been very pleased with the quality of the plants from the Vernon Geranium Nursery. I felt that I wanted more scented specimens and fancy leaved varieties.

In spite of the winter the Aeoniums have survived and are responding spectacularly to the increasing light levels. Some of them are huge and will need to be cut back. I'll root plenty of new ones and hope that the summer lets them thrive outside. This year I have plenty of other succulents: at least three forms of Echeveria: to plant with them so they'll make interesting combinations of both colour and texture.

Its far too early to plant most things outside here at 800+ feet above SL, but I'll be trying my first batch of French beans in the sun of the greenhouse shortly. I'll resist the temptation to over-water them and see what happens!

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

Rose Rambler.

Wensleydale Writers

...wish to announce the launch of "*Trains of Thought*" an anthology of railway related writing published in co-operation with Wensleydale Railway. It will be on sale in Hawes, Leyburn, Richmond and all Wensleydale Railway outlets.

A great evening – the walking group barn dance

Wensleydale walking group held their third barn dance in the market hall in February. About 85 people attended and had a really fun evening. The Roosters entertained us with their music and the caller, dressed in an outrageously garish outfit, did an excellent job of getting folks moving in the right sort of direction at the right sort of time!

The walking group would like to thank everyone who helped to make the evening such a success – Reg at the chippy extremely generously donated the mushy peas yet again, and again the Fountain magnificently heated up the pies at no charge. The pies were excellent and came from Cocketts who gave us a very generous discount! Les as usual organised the hall brilliantly. Everyone brought their own plates and drinks so they very kindly took all their washing up home!

Although the main aim of the evening is a social event we actually made just over £400 profit – Lesley and Margaret Kinsman organised a very good raffle. The majority of this money will go to ‘air ambulance’ but £100 will go to research into motor neurone disease.

Finally a big thank you to everyone who came and so enthusiastically joined in.

Penny Blanch

New Arts Group

Wensleydale Outdoor Arts Initiative has been formed by a group of influential artists.

Taking its inspiration from the many large iconic art-works which have become popular over the last few years, being erected in prominent positions, the aim of the group is to place large art-works visible widely down the dale, but unlike structures in other places, these will be *ephemeral*,

that is to say, not intended to be there for a long period of time.

The first one to appear, and erected on the top of Lady Hill, will be a suitably-timed one for the Easter period, namely a large multi-coloured egg. The group sees no problem with planning permission.

Anyone interested in joining the group might like to see the website:

www.wensoa/aprone.com

Hawes Community Emergency First Responders.

It is now nearly 2 years since our group was formed and in that time we have responded to over 20 emergency calls in our local area (Hawes and surrounding villages).

First responders are trained to deliver Basic Life Support and Defibrillation to patients in cardiac arrest and also administer oxygen to appropriate patients. Emergency responders are sent to unconscious patients as well as patients with chest pain and breathing difficulties.

Responders are activated, in conjunction with the Yorkshire Ambulance Service through the 999 system. An emergency ambulance I

s always dispatched to any incident attended by our responders.

New recruits are always needed. If you would like to join or need more information please ring **Gordon. Sleightholm (667348)** or **Darren Smith (667433)** or come and meet Dave Jones (Yorkshire Ambulance Service Defibrillation Trainer) for an informal chat over a cup of tea. He holds regular training nights for our responders at Gayle Institute. Next meeting Thursday, 13th May.

A big thank you to all the past members and to the present ones for their time and effort.

The present team is

Stuart .Armstrong

Harry Balderston.

Nigel Lawson.

Sara Mason

Janet .Middleton

Brenda Peacock

Mamie Peacock

Mick. Rhodes.

Barbara Sleightholm

**Gordon Sleightholm/Darren Smith.
Co-ordinators**

Police Report

This month I'm going to start talking POO (some might say "What's new?" – and I can hear the laughter from here). Now I have your attention, on a serious note there has recently been an increasing number of complaints about the stuff, particularly via the Parish Councils. The problem has probably been made worse by the recent weather and the fact that piles of doggy droppings have been preserved and have not decayed away, so there appears to be a lot more lying about.

However not cleaning up after your dog is an offence, for which the Council have extensive powers and large fines. It is not the dog's fault it's yours as it's owner. It's not only lazy – it is anti-social. One particular area that has been highlighted to me is Back Lane in Bainbridge. I drove down there slowly on Tuesday 9th March and counted fifteen separate piles. I am not anti-dog as I am an owner myself. However from my experience with my dog I conclude that one dog is responsible for 70 per cent of the fouling in Back Lane, therefore we have one very irresponsible owner. I will be watching out for you – remember I work 24 hours a day and pop up at the most unexpected of times. What irks me, and obviously other members of the Bainbridge Community, is that the School is on Back Lane and dog faeces contain organisms that can damage children's eyes – so there is a Health issue. In short take your dog elsewhere and CLEAN UP your act.

On a similar note after cleaning up after your dog, deposit the little package in an appropriate place- namely a bin. Hiding it in dry stone walls or dropping it over hedges/walls means you are now committing another offence - littering - again there are substantial fines for that offence. Remember - plastic retains fingerprints.

On 5th March a Range Rover car was sto-

len from the Green Dragon at Hardraw and mysteriously appeared in the middle of Gayle Lane, locked, lights on, and engine running. It strikes me that someone took it from the pub and used it to drive home. Anyone with any information that may assist me identifying the person responsible please get in touch.

Too many are still risking their lives and the lives of others by drinking and driving. Most people will be aware of a recent incident in Upper Wensleydale where someone was left in a car badly injured after a crash which was not of their making. Several other people locally are now pending court and face driving bans and possible loss of livelihoods if convicted. There is no excuse for this and it is only a matter of time before offenders are caught.

Andy Foster PC826
Leyburn Safer Neighbourhood Team
Wards of Addlebrough and Hawes &
High Abbotside
0845 60 60 247
SNTLeyburn@northvorkshire.pnn.police.uk

Children Learn Traditional Skills

Bainbridge pupils are very grateful to volunteer Anne Hewitt for giving up her time to run a Knitting Club at the school. After a few weeks of perseverance and dropped stitches the children have now mastered the craft.

They are very proud of their achievements and have produced purses, tissue holders, toy rabbits, scarves, leg and wrist warmers although they are not yet taking orders for jumpers!

Quotes from the children:

"We have now learnt knit and purl so we can try different patterns"

"It's good to challenge yourself to make learn new things."

Bainbridge School News

“I can do something my Mum can’t. When I make a mistake at home I have to wait until my next session at school as Mum can’t help me.”

“I like making things.”

Elaine Hopwood
Headteacher

Easter is upon us – already! At the time of writing, the children are looking forward to a “Creating an Easter Garden” Competition and celebrating Easter at a Joint Easter Service with friends from West Burton and Askrigg Schools at St Oswald Church on 31st March.

Trees, trees and more trees....The Junior Class have been busy planting a new hedge at the bottom of the school field.....30 “down”- kindly donated by The Woodland Trust - only 120 to go! The “working party” have also been busy making three large raised beds and building fences – preparing the way for the future development of the school garden. If you have any rabbit guards at home which you don’t need, please contact School as we are in need of more to try and protect the fledgling hedge from all the “Easter Bunnies”!

World Book Day was a great success, with many inventive costumes coming to school that day. The teachers enter into the spirit of it all with such gusto it’s hard to know who had more fun.....the staff or the children.....

Thank you! We have just received a donation of £2000 from the Bainbridge & Raydaleside Millennium Association which is to be put towards the cost of our recent building and refurbishment work. This is greatly appreciated and on behalf of the whole School, I’d like to thank the Millennium Association for their extremely gener-

ous donation.

PFA 100 Club membership is up for renewal and new subscriptions are most welcome! Each ticket costs £5 with 3 draws taking place in a year when a total of £60 is given away to the winning ticket holders. The 100 Club helps raise funds to provide equipment and facilities to the children which would not normally be available through the school budget. If you would like to become a **100 Club member**, please contact School.

Emma Arblaster
Parent Governor

Things I Didn't Know about Moles

Walking through the fields early in the year, the eruption of mole hills set me thinking that I should find out more about them. There's lots of info on the www, quite a lot of it contradictory, but here are some of the more consistent facts.

Mammals, 6" long, with half-inch tail, weighing 70 - 120 grams. Eyes and ears insignificant but they are very sensitive to vibration. Live about 3 years. Their fur isn't "angled" into the body, so can lie any direction. They have the most teeth of any British mammals. 44. (Worms must need a lot of chewing.) Worms are the favourite food but they also eat wireworms slugs, leatherjacket larvae etc.. Worms can be immobilised and stored for later use if there is a glut. The Mammal Society says the most found in one store is 470.

Their front hands are large and very efficient at digging, using breast stroke action. They can shift 10lbs soil in 10 minutes, that's the equivalent of 4 tons for a man! They can turn in the tunnel, or reverse, perhaps using the tail as a feeler. This they do every so often in order to push the excavated soil up to the surface via one of the holes that they have made for the purpose. They are solitary animals, - except at breeding time when the male can stay around for a few weeks - each one having an extensive network of tunnels amounting to anything up to 200 metres (600 feet). One reference says that fields average about 4 moles to the acre. I don't know how this ties up with mole-catchers hanging about 20 on a field gate.

A mole hill will be adapted as sleeping quarters and as a nursery. The mother mole will make a rare trip above ground to collect dried grass etc. to make the nest. They

are very vulnerable to predators if they venture up, as they can't see or hear the owl, cat or whatever. Tunnels are 2" to 8" below ground. They have 4 hour shifts day and night and need to eat about 80% of their body weight every 24 hours.

In Feb-March, a male mole will extend his run over a large area searching for a mate. 3 - 4 young are born in March - April and these will leave home to set up their own home at about 5 - 6 weeks of age. Permanent tunnels are used over long periods of time, often for several generations of moles. The worms are usually found on the floor of the tunnel, so they only need to dig more when there is a shortage, or to remove subsidence. So much of the mole-hill activity is just in Spring with the male hunting, or young digging new territory if they don't find an empty one. Most areas cleared of moles by man will be re-inhabited shortly.

Farmers usually dislike moles because of the damage that molehills cause to machinery and because the soil can contaminate silage. But they do bring advantages too, by eating leatherjacket larvae and aerating and draining the soil. After all, Mole Drains are regularly installed by farmers and gardeners to improve wet ground. Spreading the soil across the ground does no harm to the mole.

Trish Tate

**FESTIVAL OF
FLOWERS AND ART**

St Andrew's, Aysgarth

*Displays of flowers by local
flower arrangers
Art Exhibition by local
artists*

*Saturday 1st, Sunday 2nd
Monday 3rd May 2010*

Saturday 1st May 10.00am - 5.30pm

**Sunday 2nd May 1.00pm to 4.30pm
6.30pm **Songs of Praise****

Monday 3rd May 10.00am - 5.30pm

Entrance to the Flower Festival is
£3.00, children free,

Light refreshments will be available in
the Lady Chapel

Spring Clean Your Life!

Spring is in the air, lambs are in the fields and Easter's just around the corner. It's often around now that "us women" begin to feel the itch to sort through cupboards, give the house a really good clean and generally, shed that winter feeling –and doesn't it feel good? But when did you last **spring clean your life?**

Personal performance, or life coaches suggest that taking stock of "where you're at" twice a year or so is really beneficial. Life's so hectic, it's hard to keep pace with the everyday tasks, far less clarify what it is we are wanting to achieve in the next 3 months, 6 months or beyond. Would you set off on a long car journey without knowing where you were going, without a map or Sat Nav or without an idea of how long it might take you to get there? – so why do it for that Most Important Journey – your life!

Where do you start? Generally a happy and fulfilled life is one in which the most important areas of your life are balanced and in harmony. Which parts of your life are priority areas for you? (eg. Relationship with partner/family/friends, work/career, finances, health/well being, time management, spirituality...). Taking each one of your priority areas and ask yourself:-

1. How much attention am I devoting to this area of my life on a scale of 0 (low) to 5 (high)?
2. What would be the ideal level of attention for each life area? (Remember, balance is not about getting 5 in each area. Some areas need more attention and focus than others at any time. Choices and compromises are inevitable as your time and energy are not in unlimited supply!)
3. Where are the gaps between your cur-

rent life balance and your ideal life balance? Some areas may need more attention, others may be taking up more of your attention than you'd like.

4. Now you've identified your priority areas that need attention it's time to plan the action needed to work on regaining balance. Start with the neglected areas. What things do you need to start doing to regain balance? In the areas that currently sap your energy and time, what can you stop doing or re-prioritise or delegate to someone else?

Well done! You've just begun to take stock of where you are and where you want to be with your life.

5. For each of those areas, ask yourself "If everything in that area of my life was perfect, what would be going on?" Set yourself a really specific, personal to you "end" goal. Write it in the present tense as if you are already achieving it (eg. I am...), state it positively and make it measurable and with a date (how can you hit a target you can't see?)
6. List your strengths to help you achieve your goal, the resources you can draw on, and also barriers which may get in the way.
7. Finally, select a "1st journey goal" for each of your priority areas. A step along the way – if you are starting today, what could you do?
 8. List all the actions you need to take to lead you to your "1st journey goal" and set a realistic but challenging target date.

Now do it! Told you you'd feel good!

Emma Arblaster
Accredited Life Coach
Simonstone Hall
are holding a
Wedding Fayre

on
Sunday 18th April
10:00am till 4:00pm

This is a chance to view the hotel
and the facilities we can offer along
with a host of exhibitors to help make your
special day perfect

Admission is free

Receive a complimentary glass of sparkling
wine

Everyone is welcome

Tel: **667255**

Web: **www.simonstonehall.com**

Wensleydale Decorative and Fine Arts Society

The Secret Influence

Colour is referred to as 'the secret influence' and we are often unaware of how it can affect our choices, change our mood or energy level. In *'What Colour is My Red? The fascinating world of colour'* John Ericson uses his own colour blindness as a starting point to explore what we understand by colour and how it affects our lives.

John has recently retired as Director of Studies, School of Education, University of Bath.

This Wensleydale Decorative and Fine Arts lecture is at Middleham Key Centre on **Tuesday 13th April at 2.00pm.**

Non-members are welcome at £5 per lecture, to book a place or for more information ring the Membership Secretary, tel. **624203.**

Semer Water in Wensleydale- Landscape, Legends and People

Debt, drunkenness and a private army, pacifism, plant collections, visits from angels, the devil and a giant – all these facets of history are celebrated in a new book by **Stuart Lennie** “*Semer Water in Wensleydale: Landscape, Legends and People*”

For the first time a book covers the story of Raydale and its lake from glacial origins to the most recent farm diversification and conservation projects. The book takes the form of an intimate stroll around this place of quiet beauty which has been worked and settled by Norsemen and Quakers. The homes and places of worship in the villages of Marsett, Countersett and Stalling Busk are full of interest and this small dale has seen all facets of human character from the scientific and humanitarian works of such as physician John Fothergill to the desperate violence and scheming of the indebted Sir Thomas Metcalfe.

The legend of a city drowned for its wickedness features in poems, and ghostly events are reported. For today's visitor Raydale and Semer Water seem to lie almost sleeping in the peace of a rural farming environment, seemingly cut off from the world; yet from this hidden place went out the good, to minister either to the sick in body or spirit, travelling as far away as to London and to the United States.

Outsiders from Romans and Bishops to modern day water skiers have all tried to leave their mark on it but Semer Water remains the jewel in what was once Yorkshire's own lake district. This book with colour photographs is an essential read for anyone who longs to discover more. It is on sale in Hawes at Mason's Newsagent, the Dales Countryside Museum and Wensleydale Creamery or obtainable directly from Hayloft Publications

Heavens Above

Brilliant Venus holds centre stage in the evening sky for the next few months. During the spring and summer and well on into September, you'll find it low down in the western twilight shining like a beacon - far brighter than any star. As it slowly draws away from the sun, the planet climbs higher in the sky, brightening all the while until it reaches a dazzling magnitude, minus 4.6, by the middle of August. A very young crescent moon lies just above it on April 15th and 16th while on April 24th you'll find it close to the beautiful Pleiades star cluster - a lovely sight in binoculars.

As an added bonus during the early part of April, the innermost planet - tiny Mercury - joins Venus in the twilit sky putting on its best evening display of the year. Look for it just below and to the right of Venus a few nights either side of April 8th. You'll probably need binoculars along with good weather and a clear horizon to help you pick out the planet against the bright twilight, but with Venus in attendance you'll rarely get a better chance of glimpsing this elusive little world.

Elsewhere on the planetary front the night of April 16th also sees the planet Mars at its closest to another impressive star cluster, the Beehive, in the constellation of Cancer the Crab. Again those trusty old binoculars will let you have the best view showing you the Red Planet lying just over 1.4° to the north of this distinctive sparkling swarm of stars high in the SW by late evening. Over in the east see if you can spot another markedly orange tinged object - Arcturus, leader of the constellation of Bootes, the Herdsman. You can find it by following round the curve of the Plough's handle - almost overhead at present. To veteran observers, the return of Arcturus to the evening sky is a sure sign that the long

winter nights will soon be over and that spring is well on the way. And not before time this year - have clear skies!

Al Bireo

Doctors' Rotas as Supplied by the Surgeries																	
AYSGARTH SURGERY ROTA Wb - week beginning						HAWES SURGERY ROTA Wb - week beginning											
Wb	April 5th		12		19		26		Wb	April 5th		12		19		26	
Day	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	a.m.	p.m.	
Mon	C	C	W	W	A	W	J	J									
Tues	JA	J	FA	A	WF	WF	WJ	W									
Wed	WF	F	W	W	F	F	FA	A									
Thur	A	A	A	A	WJ	J	WJ	W									
Fri	F	F	W	W	J	J	A	A									
Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed Morning Surgery: 9.00 - 10.30 a.m. (no appointments) Afternoon Surgery: 4.00 - 5.30 p.m. (appointment only) For appointments and all enquiries ring 663222									Doctors: A - Arblaster, F - France, J - Jones, W - West, C - Closed Morning S'y: 8.45-10.15 Tues till 10.45 (no appointments) Afternoon S'y: 5.00-6.00 Tues 1.00-4.00 (appointments only) For appointments and all enquiries ring 667200								

Request for Help

River Bain Hydro update.

Another hurdle has been passed now that the development plans for the generating plant at Bainbridge have been approved by the Yorkshire Dales National Park planning committee. With planning permission achieved the founding members of River Bain Hydro Ltd are ready to issue shares in this social enterprise company. The share offer gives people, both local and national, an opportunity to become members of a renewable energy project which will provide clean green electricity here in the dales.

If you are interested in becoming a shareholder then come to the *share launch* on **Thursday April 8th at Sycamore Hall Bainbridge at 6.00pm**

Representatives will be there to explain about the concept of a community funded hydro, show details of the technical aspects, and give information about the shares. If you are unable to attend the launch but wish to invest in this sustainable environmental project then you can pre-register interest and download a prospectus at www.h2ope.co.uk

Deborah Millward

I would like to locate a photograph for a house in Aysgarth; it was in 1900 the home of the man who looked after the National Hunt. I am trying to get a photograph of this house for family history reasons and wondered if your newsletter would by any chance have a photo of this house in your records. It is called Flatlands.

Thank you in anticipation for your help.

Ann Witton (Mrs)

(We haven't, but wonder if any reader can help. Please get in touch and we will put you in contact with Mrs Witton.)

What's on in the Churches over Easter

HC= Holy Communion

March**28 Palm Sunday**

- 9.00am Breakfast in Redmire Village Hall then:
- 9.40am Donkey Procession to Redmire Church then:
- 10.00am Family Service, St Mary's Redmire
- 9.30am HC at St Margaret's, Preston
- 9.30 Methodist Service at St Bartholomew's, West Witton
- 10.30am Bainbridge Methodist Church, Sycamore Hall service
- 9.45 am Café style service at St Margaret's, Hawes, then
- 10.30am St Oswald's, Askrigg
- 2.00pm Choir Sunday at Gayle Methodist Chapel

29 Monday - Holy Week Begins

- 9.00am Prayer and Meditation. St Mary and St John, Hardraw
- 7.30pm Meditative Service at St Margaret's, Preston under Scar

30 Tuesday

- 9.30am Prayer and Meditation, St Margaret's, Hawes
- 7.30pm Meditative Service at St Oswald's, Castle Bolton

31 Wednesday

- 10.00am Prayer and Meditation at St Matthew's, Stalling Busk
- 7.30pm Meditative Service, St Bartholomew's, West Witton

April**1 Maundy Thursday**

- 6.00pm Supper at St Oswald's, Askrigg
- 7.30pm HC at West Burton Methodist Chapel.
- 7.30pm HC at Thornton Rust Mission Room

2 Good Friday

Witness with Cross round Penhill benefice:

- 9.05 am Preston-u-Scar church
- 9.15 am Preston- u Scar village #
- 9.35am Redmire Green
- 10.00am Castle Bolton near church #
- 10.55am Carperby village green cross
- 11.25 am Thornton Rust by institute

- 11.55am Thoraby upper green
- 12.20pm Newbiggin by new notice board
- 12.50pm West Burton market cross
- 1.20 pm Wensley by gates to Bolton Hall
- 1.45 pm West Witton opposite W Heifer #
- 2.10 pm Aysgarth Falls Motel car park then process to church #
- 10.00am Walk of witness Gale to Hawes then:
- 11.00am Service at Hawes Methodist Church
- 2.00pm Meditation on the Cross with HC at St Matthew's Stalling Busk

3 Easter Saturday

- 7.00pm Easter Eve Vigil at St Oswald's, Askrigg
- 8.00pm Service of Light, St Mary's Church, Redmire

4 Easter Day

- 6.30am "Sonrise" Service, Penn Hill top
- 7.00am Service of Light at St Mary & St John, Hardraw, breakfast after.
- 9.30am HC St Oswald's, Castle Bolton
- 9.30am HC St Margaret's, Preston
- 9.30am HC St Bartholomew's, W Witton
- 9.45am Café style short service at St Oswald's, Askrigg. Bus to Hawes
- 10.30am HC St Margaret's Hawes
- 10.30am Easter Celebration at Hawes Methodist Church
- 10.45am Family Worship, West Burton Methodist Chapel
- 11.00am Family HC and children's activities, St Andrew's, Aysgarth
- 6.00pm Songs of Praise, Holy Trinity Church, Wensley followed by bring and share supper in Village hall to bid farewell to Rev Judith Walker
- 6.30pm Gayle Methodist Chapel service (Changed from 2.00pm from April)

Church service follows in church at this location approximately 15 minutes after Witness with Cross

Hill Farmer in Spring

The title itself conjures up all kinds of images. Spring is probably the season most hill farmers look forward to with the greatest expectation, especially after the long dark cold winter. The thought of warm sunny evenings, lambs skipping up and down the meadows, and curlews flying overhead, this is the vision that keeps most farmers going through those hard wet and weary days of trudging round the farm feeding sheep, thawing out pipes, carrying buckets of water, shovelling brown stuff and spending seven months smelling of silo. So the thought of spring drives us on like pioneers over the next horizon.

Few farmers will ever get tired of the first lambs to be born, the first calves that appear. All our hopes are placed on breeding that elusive pen of prize winning lambs, which the majority of us know will never happen, but somehow we still dream that the old tup we bought for 50 quid might just be the one that everyone else missed. The thought of the fields returning to their spring green after months looking like a barren landscape, being able to walk round the sheep with strong healthy lambs at foot and trusty sheepdog by your side. It's thoughts and dreams like this that keep most farmers sane as we long for the spring to come again.

And then the weather man goes and spoils it all by telling us of a deep low-pressure heading towards the British Isles just as lambing time kicks off. The dreams suddenly turn into nightmares, every disease and infection known to sheep, seem to thrive in such conditions. Cold wet weather is a shepherd's greatest enemy. Vulnerable lambs under a two weeks old succumb to anything and everything that would spoil the very dream that kept us going the previous six months. Hypother-

mia, watery mouth, joint ill, rattle belly and a host of other little nasties all do their best to spoil the party.

Hill farmers are a hardy and slightly crazy bunch of people, but we still dream of a perfect spring, we forget about last year's disasters and optimistically look forward to the best lambing time we will ever have.

Martin Coates

WHAT'S ON LISTING

March

- 28 British Summer Time begins
- 30 YDNPA Full committee. Yoredale 10.30am
- 30 Gayle Mill reopens for its summer season of Guided tours
- 30 Gayle Fellowship AGM at 7.30pm

April

- 1 - 19 Exhibition at Herriot's, Hawes "In all winds and Weather".
- 1 - 20 Exhibition in DCM "Brigantia" - crafts people bringing you a wide variety of quality arts and crafts from Yorkshire
- 1 Wensleydale Country Market. Leyburn Methodist Hall, 2.00 to 4.00pm
- 2 Good Friday
- 2 Hawes Cricket Club Quiz night and Raffle. Fountain Hotel at 8.00pm
- 3 Breakfast for men. See page 41
- 3 Pathfinder - an introduction to basic navigation in the countryside suitable for all the family 12.30 - 4.30pm at the DCM
- 3, 4, 5 Easter Art Exhibition. Burterset Institute. See page 20
- 4 Gayle Mill Demonstration Tours at 11.00am and 2.30pm
- 4 Easter Day
- 5 Sale of cakes and plants outside St Oswald's, Castle Bolton. Refreshments in church
- 5 Book sale, plants and coffee morning in Preston Village Hall
- 5 Car boot sale, Wensley Park, Wensley in morning
- 6 Coffee Morning and stalls. Hawes Methodist Rooms 10.00am to noon
- 6 Dry stone walling demonstration at the DCM 2.00 - 4.00pm
- 6 Spinning demonstration in the DCM foyer with museum friends
- 6 ColvinQuarmby in concert, Carperby. See page 11
- 6 Hawes Drama Group reads "Respecting your Piers". Gayle Institute, 7.30pm
- 7 Discover and Do - children's craft afternoon, DCM 2.00 - 4.00pm £3
- 8 Wensleydale Country Market. Leyburn Methodist Hall, 10.00 to 11.30am
- 8 Vacation chamber orchestra in St Andrew's church, Aysgarth
- 10 Guided walk - Harddraw via Sedbusk 6km. Meet Hawes National Park centre at 1.00pm
- 10 Children's service, activities and short HC at St Oswald's, Askrigg
- 11 HC Benefice service at St Andrew's Aysgarth for Licensing of Rev Penny Yeadon by the Bishop followed by bring and share lunch
- 11 Patchwork and quilting demonstration and "try your hand" at the DCM 10.00am to 4.00pm
- 12 Art course with Moira Metcalf at Gayle Mill
- 13 YDNPA Planning Committee; Yoredale 10.30am
- 13 "Sheep to Scarf" Fran Coates explains the processes from raw fleece through dyeing, carding, spinning and knitting techniques. DCM foyer 2.00 - 5.00pm
- 13 Decorative and Fine Arts society. See page 32
- 14 Discover and Do - children's craft afternoon. DCM 2.00 - 4.00pm £3
- 15 Wensleydale Country Market. Leyburn Methodist Hall, 10.00 to 11.30am
- 15 Hawes WI "Fleeces and Fluffy bits" spinning yarns
- 15 Dry stone walling demonstration at the DCM 2.00 - 4.00pm
- 16 Museum Friends "Settle to Carlisle Railway - Ribbleshead and Blea Moor" 7.30pm
- 17 Rotary Wensleydale Wander
- 17 Three Peaks Challenge
- 18 Wedding Fayre, Simonstone Hall. See Page 31
- 18 Guided walk - Semerwater and Raydale 8km. Meet : Foreshore car park at 1.00pm
- 20 Middleham and Dales Local History group. See page 12
- 20 Christian Aid presentation with refreshments at Wensley Village

- Hall 10.30am to noon. All welcome
- 21 Pole Dancing classes start at 7.30pm at the Fountain, Hawes. £4 per session. Phone Lesley on **650398** for details
 - 21 Gentle Tap Dancing for the Young at Heart starts. See page 3
 - 22 Wensleydale Country Market. Leyburn Methodist Hall, 10.00 to 11.30am
 - 23 Victorian Kitchen. Museum Friends in costume talk about work in the kitchen in the DCM 1.00 - 4.00pm
 - 23 Business Association AGM. See p 41
 - 24 Annual Three Peaks race
 - 24 Bainbridge Methodist Church gift day
 - 24 Race Night at the Fountain, Hawes for Gala funds, 8.30pm. All welcome
 - 25 Table Top sale at the Market House, Hawes for school funds
 - 28 Upper Dales Family History group. See page 13
 - 28 Gayle Chapel gift day
 - 28 Spring Concert. East Witton Male Voice Choir. Page 4
 - 29 Wensleydale Country Market. Leyburn Methodist Hall, 10.00 to 11.30am
 - 29 Christians in the Dales. See page 11
 - 29 Gayle Ladies open evening. See P 6
 - 30 Yoredale Natural History Society AGM. Methodist Hall, Leyburn. 7.30pm

Market Place and Greetings

FOR SALE

Beautiful mahogany veneer television cabinet with fitting Sony television in full working order. Excellent condition ,
£25.00
01748 886811

MOORE

Congratulations to John and Nora on the occasion of their Golden Wedding on April 2nd
Love from Mum,
Alice and families

Happy 4th Birthday, Jessica

April 12th

Lots of love and kisses
Daddy, Mummy and Lauren

For more information on DCM events phone 666201

For Geoffrey Moorhouse– With Grateful Thanks

When someone you love dies, the whole world changes shape. Colours, tastes, sounds are all more dull, even time seems to move at a different speed, now painfully slow, now so fast that whole days vanish without you realising where they have gone. I am told that this goes on for a long, long while. Probably forever. I shall need to get used to it.

When my Geoffrey, the writer Geoffrey Moorhouse died, suddenly, at the end of November, grief took over. I was already a widow when we met, but had been unprepared for the impact of the unexpected death of my partner, as opposed to my earlier loss that had been long anticipated.

But I was equally unprepared for the outpouring of sympathy, affection and friendship that I have experienced over the last few months from members of this community. Geoffrey always used to say, jokingly, that he hoped he would go before me, and that when he did, 'the folk here will see you all right'. He could not have known how prophetic his words were: not only have people in the Dale offered sympathy verbally, they have offered practical help as well. I have had innumerable good meals, help with the house, with carrying shopping, with sewing curtains, with repairs in the house. I have had dozens of phone calls, and have become used to people I barely knew pulling up alongside me, winding down the car window and asking me how I am doing. I have had invitations to events, to concerts and walking meetings and knitting circles.

And so I have come to understand what Geoffrey meant in one of the last chapters he wrote, of the book he never finished, in which he expressed his thoughts about

what true belonging means. He was a Lancastrian by birth, but had lived in Gayle for nearly 40 years and had come to feel that this was the place where he really belonged. The Dale was a place, he wrote, where people mattered, and whereas in a city if he fell over in the gutter, people would step over him, here someone would be sure to stop and remark 'Eee, that's our Geoffrey' and set about with good practical Yorkshire common sense to summon help. That good practical Yorkshire common sense, with a good leavening of caring affection is what I too have been experiencing.

And so I come to my purpose, which is to say thank you- to all of my neighbours, friends, shopkeepers, members of the community who have been so kind and so helpful to me and so respectful of Geoffrey's memory. He rests forever in the upper churchyard of Hawes; my plot is next to his and when my time comes, there I shall be. Meanwhile, I shall be walking the dogs and gardening and taking up invitations to become closer to the community and doing so with immense gratitude. To all of you who have given me so much- thank you, and thank you also for what you all gave to Geoffrey in the years he spent in this beautiful, very special place.

(Prof.) Susan Bassnett

Invitation for Men - for Breakfast

A new group has started to meet at Sycamore Hall, Bainbridge. The next meeting is on Saturday 3rd April at 8.30am and all men will be most welcome to come along. There will be prayers, a short talk by Keith Richards, discussion and, of course, breakfast. Men choose their own breakfast but a full English with tea or coffee is about £5. The subscription each time is 50p to cover costs.

The Business Association

(Wensleydale) Ltd.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Gayle Institute

Friday 23rd April

12 noon

Refreshments

West Burton School News

Do you recognise this symbol? Pupils at West Burton CE Primary School all do! West Burton is a Fairtrade School, and the pupils are working hard to try and make sure that EVERYONE not only recognises the Fairtrade symbol, but also understands that buying Fairtrade means helping producers in poorer countries receive a fair price for their products. In order to do this, the Fairtrade council (four pupils from the Junior Class together with two of their teachers) have been writing to and visiting other local schools to try and convince them of the benefits of becoming a Fairtrade school.

The Tasting Table at the Coffee Morning

To try and spread the message further into the local community, the school held a Fairtrade Coffee Morning along with the world book day celebrations on 11th March in West Burton Village Hall, providing free Fairtrade tea, coffee and refreshments to parents, governors, friends and members of the local community (kindly provided by the Co-op in Leyburn for the event). Children talked to the visitors about Fairtrade, and played informative games and quizzes with them. Fairtrade displays of art and project work by both infants and juniors were on the walls along with a display and video showing the work of Water Aid, the chosen charity of the school council for the year. At the end of the morning, the children had managed to persuade over 50 people to change their ordinary products for Fairtrade products – and were very proud of their achievements and a total of £110.93 was raised for the Water Aid charity's "buckets of pennies for buckets of water" appeal. A very big thank you to all who helped in organising and those who kindly donated during the event.

A very colourful and literary rich World Book Day was enjoyed by pupils, staff, parents and the wider community. The range of books and authors went from Scarface Claw (Hairy Mcclairy), Woody (Toy Story) and Goldilocks in Upper foundation stage to Stig of the dump (Y4) Asterix the Gaul, Harry Potter and Polly in Y5.

The whole school visited Wigton Moor Primary School near Wetherby – a school of some 400 pupils which was quite an eye opener to our 43 pupils! A very interesting day was had by all children and staff as the day had already been planned as "India Day" where a variety of activities including henna painting, Bollywood dancing, yoga. The children returned home tired but excited at seeing such a different school "in the flesh" and at meeting some of the 25 different nationalities represented by the pupils at the school. A return trip for (some!) Wigton Moor pupils and staff is being organised for the future.

Simon Greenslade
Parent Governor

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Mystery picture

