

REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE

ISSUE NO. 335

MAY 2024



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*Your local news magazine
for the two dales*

PRICELESS

REETH AND DISTRICT GAZETTE LTD

Reeth Gazette Supporters: Update 2

We are pleased to report on the continuing success of the Supporters of Reeth Gazette campaign, your generous donations helping us to balance the books and keep the Reeth Gazette free for the majority of people. Since its launch at the end of last year we have received over £2500. We are very grateful to The Reeth Literary Institute Trust, Melbecks Parish Council and the Swaledale Scout Group for their generous donations, and to all the readers who continue to support us with donations.



An addition to our campaign is new collecting tins which you may see in outlets where the Gazette is available. This may encourage donations from visitors to the area who pick up a Gazette. If you would like to suggest a good place to put a

collecting tin, then please contact the Treasurer. We shall monitor donations over the summer to refine our selection of locations.

We have completed our application to become a charity, and we await the decision from the Charity Commission. If successful, this will open up the opportunity to apply for more grant funding often available only to

charities and also allow us to publish a QR code within the Gazette whereby visitors can make an online donation easily as they read their Gazette. It will also allow us to claim Gift Aid on donations.

If you still wish to show your support, donations of any amount can be made by bank transfer to Lloyds Bank, sort code 77-91-29 account number 40807260 using the reference "Supporter". Your data will not be stored. Alternatively, you can pop some loose change into one of our new collecting tins!

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CLOSED on Mon 27th & Thurs 30th**

Cover photo, Spring Lambs by Katherine Calvert of Swaledale Snaps

The Gazette is online:
www.2dales.org.uk

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The Editor welcomes feedback

At the editor's discretion, your feedback will be published with Editor responses as appropriate.

Please send feedback to
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Gazette Deadlines

The deadlines for the next two months are:

June issue: May 14th

July issue: June 11th

Posting The Gazette

To post a copy of this Gazette to a friend or relative will require a Large Letter size and will cost £2.10 second class, or £2.90 first class.

PLEASE NOTE: We will endeavour to publish all suitable items submitted by the deadline date but this cannot be guaranteed and is at the sole discretion of the editor.

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A Word from the Vicar— Sabbatical

I have been granted a Sabbatical from 1 May to 31 July this year. The word is similar to Sabbath - a rest, a break, a change of focus. This is the first time that I have been able to do this, and it comes after 18 years in my current role.

Some of this time will be for rest and recreation and will give me some extended time to spend with my family, who all live south of London, and whom I don't see very often.

A clergy sabbatical also has to include a 'project', so I will be working with theological colleges in Salisbury and Oxford, learning about and contributing to their training for student vicars about rural ministry.

In Oxford, I will give a talk about my life and work as a vicar in the dales and offer a case study about our 2019 flooding for their course about Disaster Management. In Salisbury, I am going to talk to the students and visit local vicars, to do a small research project on how the training that is offered about rural ministry impacts their decisions about the kind of parishes that they decide to work in later on.

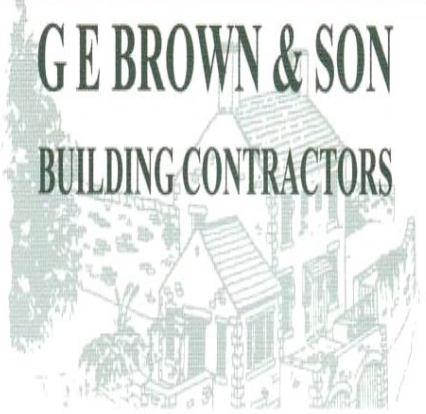
All this means that, while I will be at home for some of time, and you will see me around during the summer, I am officially 'not at work' in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale for those 3 months.

Our curate, Rev Linzi Blundell, will be stepping up to run things day to day, and she will be the first point of contact for Sunday worship, funerals, baptisms, weddings and other church matters. This should be good experience for her, as she is coming to

the end of her curate training ('apprenticeship') and will soon be looking to move to take on her own parish.

Contact details:
Linzi.Blundell@leeds.anglican.org, Tel. 01748 884491

Rev Canon Caroline Hewlett
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Arkengarthdale



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Keld Resource Centre

Events for May and June

19th May - Memoirs of a Swaledale Women. 14:00pm - 16:00pm Keld Resource Centre

Extracted from a 1984 interview with Maggie-Joe, the talk includes memories of school days, farming and cheesemaking whilst growing up on a remote hill farm on Oxnop Pass in the early 1900's. Told in the actual words of Maggie-Joe.

Charge: £10 pp incs afternoon tea served after.

26th May - Beldi Hill Lead Mine Walk 10.30am - 15.00 pm. Meet at Keld Resource Centre

A guided walk visiting the Old Field Hush, Crackpot Hall and Swinnergill mines/smelt mill, and Low Plate dressing floor complex. Will include an overview of the history of lead mining in Swaledale and the mining process. Please bring a packed lunch. Dogs welcome on a lead. Rating: Moderate, narrow paths adjacent to steep drops
Distance: approx. 4 miles
Charge: £7.50 pp

9th Jun - Pottery: Sculptured Clay Bowl Workshop 10:00am-15:00pm Keld Resource Centre

Suzie Wright will help you create a glazed/fired bowl sculptured in clay which will be imprinted with leaves and items collected from around Keld. Old clothes and/or an apron are recommended! Your work will be glazed and fired, & returned for collection or local delivery 2-3 weeks later. Please bring a packed lunch.

Refreshments served during the day.
Charge: £60.00 pp incs all material

23rd Jun - Wild Flower Walk 11:00am - 15:00pm Meet outside Keld Resource Centre

Join our short, guided walk led by Dr Sue Knight exploring the rich and varied flora of the Upper Dale.

Please bring a packed lunch. Distance: approx 4 miles, Rating: Easy
Charge: £7.50 pp

Full details and tickets available via Ticket Tailor, or

Email helenguy47@gmail.com

Booking essential due to limited places for some events

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Swaledale Festival begins on Saturday 25 May

It's that time of year again. The meadows will burst into flower and Swaledale Festival is ready to spring into action. With 55 events taking place across Swaledale, Wensleydale and Arkengarthdale, there is plenty to anticipate, with top-notch artists coming from Yorkshire, the UK and around the world. Make the most of this two-week window to experience outstanding professional music and arts in the northern Yorkshire Dales! If you're under 25, tickets for Swaledale Festival events cost just £3. Read on for some highlights, and visit www.swalefest.org for tickets and further information.

Comedy and music in one hit

The award-winning Montana native **Rich Hall** is renowned for his expertly crafted tirades, quick-fire banter with audiences and delightful musical sequences. Rich, who has won the Perrier Award (Edinburgh Comedy Festival) and featured in BBC One's *QI*, *Live at the Apollo* and *Have I Got News for You*, will perform his one-man show *Shot from Cannons* on 30 May at Tennants in Leyburn. Unmissable!

Graffiti Classics have just one aim: to make classical music wickedly funny and fantastically exhilarating. On 8 June they'll bring their 16 strings, 8 dancing feet and 4 voices to Grinton

with a musical comedy cabaret show. Perfect for audience members of all ages.

Classical

The Festival attracts a host of big classical names to the area.

Emma Johnson, Britain's famous clarinettist and former BBC young musician of the year, will perform a musical response to the climate emergency with the thirteen-strong **Orchestra of the Environment** on 6 June in Richmond - a group of hand-picked virtuoso players who share concerns about the planet, endeavour to travel in the greenest way and make a point of performing music that celebrates the natural world.

The fine string quartet **Revolutionary Drawing Room** will play a programme of Mozart, Mendelssohn and a new piece entitled *Euphonia* by the group's talented viola player Rachel Stott on 28 May in Richmond.

Julian Lloyd Webber will narrate the fascinating story behind Bach's iconic *Cello Suites* on 7 June in Grinton, with performances of the *Suites* by his wife and fellow cellist, Jiaxin.

The celebrated cellist **Raphael Wallfisch** will lead an all-star performance of Olivier Messiaen's haunting *Quartet for the End of Time* on 5 June in Aysgarth.

The superb **Villiers Quartet** will take the stage in Grinton to perform Beethoven, Haydn & Goehr on 31 May. Named after Villiers Street in London, Villiers has become one of the most recognised quartets in the UK for the performance of British music and is the Quartet-in-Residence at the Jacqueline du Pré Music Building at Oxford University.

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Jazz, World and Folk Music

Martin Taylor

MBE, (right) the Grammy-nominated jazz guitarist, composer and musical innovator widely considered to be the world's foremost exponent of solo jazz and fingerstyle guitar playing, will dazzle the audience in Grinton on 2 June.



African fusion singers **The Ganda Boys** will be joined by the London based **Echo Vocal Ensemble** on 27 May in Grinton to share a vocal sound both joyful and compelling. The Ganda Boys have worked with many artists since collaborating on the 2009 BBC TV series *MOSES JONES* and Stevie Wonder is a fan, appearing in public with them in 2019 to support their charitable work in Uganda.

Northeast folk trio **The Young'uns**, renowned for their heart-on-the-sleeve storytelling, beautiful lyrics, warm harmonies and relentless repartee, will take the audience on a roller-coaster ride on Sat 8 June in Leyburn. The Young'uns have won three BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards. "The harmonies are glorious, the wit is waspish. The songs are powerful, the banter is relentless and the audience is happy. What's not to like?" (The Guardian).

Young Artists

Swaledale Festival's Young Artists' Platform showcases young people early in their careers, many of whom go on to become major stars.

The Whoop Group, (top right) a sensational and technically brilliant young classical saxophone quartet from

Poland, will play Vivaldi, Mozart, Tchaikovsky and Gershwin on 25 May in Grinton.

Echo Vocal Ensemble, an exceptional group of



young professional vocalists, directed by Sarah Latto, will perform an a cappella concert of some of Britain's most hauntingly beautiful music by William Byrd, Henry Purcell, Roxanna Panufnik and James McMillan on 26 May in Aysgarth.

Xiaowen Shang, a prodigiously gifted young pianist, will perform a delicious programme of solo French music by Couperin, Messiaen and Ravel on 28 May in Aysgarth.

Talks and Workshops

Adam Green will give an illustrated talk about the ground-breaking singing workshops he conducts in prisons around the UK on 25 May in Reeth.

Those who fondly remember The Old Grey Whistle Test will enjoy this year's Reeth Lecture - an illustrated talk on the music of The Beatles by 'Whispering' **Bob Harris** and author **Colin Hall** on 1 June, also in Reeth.

There will be plenty of opportunities to participate this year, including singing workshops with **The Ganda Boys** on 27 May in Reeth, and with **The Young'uns** on 8 June in Leyburn. Poet **Mary-Jane Holmes** will be back to lead her inspiring creative-writing walk on 29 May in beautiful Keld.

Local talent

Locally-based performers this year include **Swale Singers** on 31 May in Arkengarthdale; **Leyburn Brass Band** on 28 May in Aysgarth, **Reeth Brass**

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Band on 4 June in Arkengarthdale and Muker Silver Band on 7 June in Muker Public Hall. There are also exhibitions by talented local artists including the painters Rachel Antill, Michael Bilton, Garry Brannigan and Katharine Holmes, and a photography exhibition in Keld, Farming through the Seasons, brought to us by Tees-Swale: Naturally Connected.

Swaledale Festival, which is supported by Arts Council England, runs from Saturday 25 May to Saturday 8 June 2024 and includes an extensive community and education programme which takes top musicians into numerous care homes, schools and for the first time this year - a prison.

For tickets and information please visit www.swalefest.org.

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Many thanks again and to Reeth Post Office, Swaledale Woollens and Muker Stores for being the drop off points and also Hewsons Newsagents in Leyburn.

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Operation Gunnerside

We received this intriguing enquiry from Simon R Wilkinson, one time locum for Dr Bell in Reeth in 1974. If you can shed any light on this, please contact the Editor.

Many years ago now, while waiting in the fish and chip queue in Gunnerside we got talking with an elderly man who had been in the army and told us the story of Operation Gunnerside from WWII. He knew we'd be interested as we now live in Norway where the operation led to the successful blowing up of the facility which the Germans had been using in Rjukan, Norway, to supply heavy water. His tale said that the original plan had been for training of a joint UK/Norwegian team up the gill, but in the end only the Norwegians participated. I have never read about this story in any Swaledale literature and wonder if any of your readers might know anything about it?



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Gunnerside Chapel

Advance notice is hereby given for the annual "Longest Day" service, which will take place in the Chapel on Sunday 7th July.

Looking back to Easter, the School Easter Service with 80+ children and several dozen grown-ups in attendance was once again a festival of enthusiasm that was enjoyed by everyone present. This was followed a few days later by the Chapel providing refreshments for those taking part in the Keld to Grinton Good Friday walk, the Easter Sunday service, (with choir), and the Easter Monday Soup and Sweet. The last three events combining to raise some £830 for the Chapel funds.

Thanks to everyone who took part or contributed in any way to any of the above.

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Muker Parish Council Minutes of Parish Meeting Held January 2024

Present: Cllr Porter. Cllr Reynoldson, Cllr Rukin, Cllr Metcalfe and Cllr Calvert Chair presiding.

Clerk: Mr Michael Cleminson.

Apologies: Cllr Peacock.

Matters Arising

Transparency code. The Clerk informed the meeting that the council is required to make all documents and finances accessible to the public free of charge on line. At present this function is hosted by North Yorkshire Council (NYC). However, the hosting will cease on 25 March 2025. Therefore, the Council needs to develop a way to ensure all of its documentation is available on-line. At present the Clerk uploads documents to NYC, who load onto their site to be accessible to the public. The Clerk has been in contact with Cllr Peacock, who said that Hudswell Parish Council did not have a website either and face the same problem. The creation of a website is probably required. Cllr Metcalfe suggested the Clerk contacts the Yorkshire Local Councils Association to see if they can assist and advise. The clerk should also explore any other opportunities to enable the Parish Council to fulfil its transparency obligations. The Clerk pointed out that Arkengarthdale Parish council have a website that is suitable for a small Parish.

Circulation of minutes. The Clerk informed Cllrs that many Councils make their minutes available after the

meeting rather than waiting until the following meeting. Councillors agreed minutes be circulated once approved by the Chair.

Emergency Planning. The clerk is in the process of arranging a meeting between representatives of Keld and Muker Village Halls to submit grant applications to fund generators.

Car parking Muker. Cllr Metcalf informed the meeting that a resident of the Parish had been issued with a parking ticket for parking on the land on the left before the car park and Muker bridge. Cllr Metcalf and a member of the Moor committee believe this is not part of the Highway, previously used as the site for the village bonfire. The resident has appealed the ticket but this was rejected on the grounds that Highways own the land up to the wall. The moor committee are hoping to establish that this is common land. The Clerk to correspond with Highways and the Parking Enforcement to outline the Council's concern that Parking restrictions should not be applied on this land and the appeal reconsidered.

Finance:

An order to pay was raised for 2 new defibrillators batteries for Thwaite and Keld, also 3 defibrillator pads for Muker, Thwaite and Tan Hill a total cost of £885.60.

Highways

Cllrs noted that works had been completed at Scarr house, beyond Usha gap farm to Muker and Ivelet.

Cllrs wished it be noted that the works had been professionally completed in good time. Scarr House and Usha Gap bridges are still waiting planning approval by National Parks.

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Winter Gritting Policy. The Clerk said a reply had been received from NYC concerning gritting of West Stonesdale and Silver Hill reiterating it does not meet the gritting criteria. It was confirmed that the promised site meeting had not taken place. Cllr Rukin said the road had not been gritted during the recent cold spell, that he personally was gritting the hill. Further that Highways keep filling just the same 2 bins, instead of all of them, and some also need re-locating. Cllr Rukin also said that if Highways are not going to grit the roads then all the gulleys should be cleaned out regularly to prevent water running onto the road then turning into ice. It was agreed that a site visit was essential to ensure that this section of road can be made as safe as possible in the absence of gritting. Should a site visit take place, Cllr Rukin said he will take Highways up to Level Hill Top on the Tan Hill road at the 90-degree bend, which currently has no warning signage, this lack of signage and the potential danger has been reported twice recently. Clerk to contact Highways to arrange the promised site meeting. MP Rishi Sunak to be copied into all correspondence.

Cllr Calvert reported that the Grit Bins needed replenishing on Hoggarths Hill and surrounding area.

NYC: nothing specific to report

YDNPA:

Planning Ref R/06/180A/LB at Rash Grange, Muker, has been approved.

R/06/226A permission for construction of replacement bridge Lodgeside Bridge Birkdale Common. Councillors, having reviewed the application, support it recognising

despite this being a 100-year-old excellently engineered bridge it requires a new structure to accommodate modern larger vehicles. Clerk to inform planning.

YLCA: nothing to report

Date and Time of Next Meeting: 7.30pm Tuesday 21 March 2024 at Muker Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm.

The advertisement is a vertical rectangular poster with a green-to-orange gradient background. At the top, it features three logos: a circular 'NACS MEMBER' logo on the left, a central circular logo for 'SWEEPIN THE DALES CHIMNEY SWEEP' with a chimney icon, and a 'HETAS APPROVED' logo on the right. The main text is centered and reads: 'YOUR LOCAL TRADITIONAL CHIMNEY SWEEP', 'NACS & HETAS qualified & registered', 'We set ourselves very high standards and take every care in your home', 'We offer a comprehensive service', 'All types of chimneys swept to relevant BS Std.', 'Bird guards & cowls, etc. supplied & fitted', 'Advice freely given, problems solved', 'Carbon monoxide detectors', 'Chimney pots replaced'. Below this is the phone number '01765 688078' and the website 'www.sweepinthedales.co.uk'. A list of services follows: 'Stove Refurbishment', 'Stove servicing and repair', 'Solid fuel stove installations', 'Stainless steel flexible linings', 'Stainless steel rigid flue systems', and 'Only high quality components are used'. At the bottom, it says 'HETAS qualified & registered installer' and 'STOVE INSTALLATION'. The bottom section features a circular logo for 'HEATIN THE DALES SOLID FUEL INSTALLATION SERVICE' with a stove icon, and two smaller logos: 'HETAS' on the left and 'NACS MEMBER' on the right.



Sustainable
Swaledale

Sustainable Swaledale

Dark Skies in Yorkshire Dales
Permanent light meters at locations across the dales and one-off readings at a further 46 locations in 2023 consistently produced sky quality meter readings of above 21 indicating that the Yorkshire Dales National Park offers good opportunities for stargazing.

Swaledale is part of an internationally recognised Dark Sky Reserve and advice on how you can reduce light pollution at your property can be found on the Yorkshire Dales National Park website: <https://tinyurl.com/2wnty6uv>

No Mow May and butterflies

Plantlife is encouraging people to stop mowing their lawn in May to enable wild flowers to support more pollinators. Resources supporting **No Mow May** including information on how to increase wild flowers can be found on the Plantlife website: <https://tinyurl.com/234akj58>

More flowers should support more **butterflies**. The BBC reports that UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme recorded the lowest count ever for some species in Britain in 2023. They recorded a mixed picture for 58 types of butterflies with increases in numbers of Chequered Skippers, Brimstones and Large Blues but a decline for the

Small Tortoiseshell and the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary. Scientists say that human activity, including habitat destruction and climate change, are behind the change in numbers. Statistics available at: <https://tinyurl.com/2j7rjsbx>
Source: <https://tinyurl.com/yvuxa29p>

North Yorkshire Council Climate Change Strategy 2023-2030

This sets out how North Yorkshire Council is **proposing to respond to climate change** and is available at: <https://tinyurl.com/5yrsr2ap>

Reeth Medical Centre veg plots

As the weather improves, salads and herbs will hopefully be available for use at the **Reeth Medical Centre veg beds**. The produce can be used by anyone. Feel free to remove any weeds you see and we are always on the lookout for more volunteers.

Swaledale Farmer podcasts

Listen to **Swaledale Farmer**: six 15-minute podcasts on sheep farming and farming with nature in Swaledale and Teesdale. Produced with support of Tees-Swale: naturally connected, the podcasts feature Swaledale sheep breeders Christine Clarkson, from Muker, Sue and Ray Ridley, from Kexwith, near Marske, and Michael Watson from Harwood in Upper Teesdale. Available via podcast services or on the Dales Countryside Museum's website: <https://tinyurl.com/yxmurtmr>

Water pollution

Northern Echo article dated 28th March on the work of Save our Swale.

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The group has been testing **water quality** monthly at points along the Swale and has found potentially pathogenic coliform bacteria, like E. Coli, exceeded the recommended levels in 56% of samples taken, and that phosphate levels (from detergents and fertilisers) were higher than recommended in over half the samples. There was an increase in levels in samples taken below the Richmond Sewage works over those upstream from the works

Source: <https://tinyurl.com/38x9x3y2>

Save Our Swale has a facebook site:

<https://www.facebook.com/SaveOurSwale/>

A speaker will be coming to speak at our meeting in July. Watch out for further details - all are welcome.

The Environment Agency published **storm overflow spill data for 2023** at the end of March. The data for 2023 shows a 54% increase in the number of sewage spills compared to 2022, and a 13% increase compared to 2020. The increase is partly due to 2023 being so wet (6th wettest year since Met Office records began in 1836).

Environment Agency data is available at:

<https://tinyurl.com/mrpd75pa>

Source: Environment Agency Press release 27 March 2024. <https://tinyurl.com/tzekjnkf>

WingIt boxes installed on the Low Row Institute

Sustainable Swaledale WingIt

volunteers have installed a **swift box and some sparrow terraces on the refurbished Low Row Institute** (see picture below) Mud baths will be installed to allow returning house martins to collect mud to repair the 20 nests located on the south side of the building. The team will monitor bird numbers over the summer..



Margaret

Sustainable Swaledale Group

Find out more and join in:

Meeting: first Thursday of the month at 7pm. Please contact us for venue details.

Email: info@sustainableswaledale.org

Phone: the Secretary on 01748 886 381

Facebook Group:

Sustainable Swaledale

Website: www.sustainableswaledale.org

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MOUNTAIN & CAVE RESCUE TEAM

On average we respond to between 40 and 50 calls each year. In 2023 we attended 46 incidents.

Incidents March 6th to 7th April 2024

4 Incidents this edition

Incident 12: 06/04/2024: The team are out supporting the Dales Runner DR20 fell race, a few minor casualties dealt with.

Incident 11: 04/04/2024: Called by the Ambulance Service to rescue a walker suffering a medical emergency on the footpath above Keld. First team members gave immediate care, followed by the air ambulance. As the rest of the team arrived, we were able to assist the casualty to the aircraft and then meet it again in Keld village. Thanks to Rukins farm for use of the field for a landing site.

Incident 10: 30/03/2024: Called by the Ambulance Service to rescue an injured walker, following a 30ft

vertical fall, just below the waterfall above Gayle. Treated by the Ambulance Service and team Dr / medics. Evacuated out of the gorge and carried, with help from the Ambulance HART, to the waiting Coastguard Helicopter. The casualty's party and team then hauled out. See picture right, stretcher haul out of Gayle Beck.

Incident 09: 28/03/2024: Called by the Police to locate a couple of missing walkers who had become benighted. Using our Sarloc Rescue technology we quickly found them safe and well and returned them to civilisation. Thanks to Neil White, the farmer for his assistance too.

Thanks to the following for their recent support:

Barclays, Richmond £22.57
Hardraw Force Waterfall Café £125.68
Gunnernside Phone Box Book Exchange £16.27
The Laurels B&B, Reeth £146.50
The Old Dairy B&B, Low Row £104.54

This season's fundraising neck tubes are now available from the link on our Facebook page or from the Tan Hill Inn, Kings Head, Gunnernside & The Black Bull Reeth.



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Parish Council's Response to the Proposals for Secondary School Pupils from 2025

Taken from Muker Parish Council Minutes on 31st March. Full minutes will be published in June.

Proposal to move Senior Upper Dales school children to Kirkby Stephen from September 2025. The consultation by North Yorkshire Council (NYC) to engage with the community has been poor, arranging meetings in distant locations, none in Upper Swaledale and at inconvenient times. A meeting could have easily been held in Muker Village Hall or Reeth to improve access for parents at convenient times. Parents have received no correspondence from NYC and Schools at Richmond and Kirkby Stephen were unaware of the proposals until contacted by concerned parents. The concept of moving senior school children to the nearest school has not been thought through; there is no consideration of geographic and weather conditions experienced in Upper Swaledale, particularly the route from Swaledale to Kirkby Stephen. There are real concerns about children's safety travelling to Kirkby Stephen. The road is currently not gritted and Cumbria Council will not grit Tail Brigg hill as some years ago a gritter left the road. The road is in a very poor state of repair having been neglected for some years, in sections there are no suitable passing places, erosion and passing vehicles have caused the shoulders of the road to collapse, reducing further the width

of this single-track road. The one person who was able to attend a consultation meeting understood that there was no certainty about how children would be transported to school. They were informed that the present arrangement is not financially viable. The Parish Council does not believe that the move from the catchment area to the nearest school is viable. The Parish Council is also aware that the move to transport children from Arkengarthdale to Barnard Castle, and Reeth children to Leyburn School all involve traversing high ungritted moor roads. All of these proposals have a high potential of placing children at risk. All of these routes in winter are subject to adverse weather conditions and the severity can vary across the route from fine weather to heavy snow in a short space of time. Diversions on safe routes would be excessive and would shorten the education significantly by increasing travelling times.

The children from Upper Swaledale have attended Richmond Schools for 70 years without issue. This is undoubtedly a cost-saving exercise for NYC with no consideration at all of the logistical consequences, safety to children and their long-term well-being and mental health. The Parish Council is firmly of the view that North Yorkshire, the largest county, is very diverse, ranging from City, Urban, Town, Village, Hamlet and remote rural dwellings. This one size fits all blanket proposal is not suitable for Upper Swaledale. The Parish Council therefore believe the policy proposal needs to carefully consider each area individually and exceptions in unique

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circumstances should be catered for by NYC using its discretionary powers. Safety and child well-being must be paramount and financial considerations by NYC should not be the primary concern. It was agreed that the Parish Council should communicate far and wide with Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP and senior officials at NYC. This proposal may be implemented from the September 2025 school term.

Big Breakfast Appreciation

Ellie & Gill wish to thank all the people who supported the Big Breakfast recently. Coming along to eat, buying raffle tickets, tombola, and home made bakes. We would like to thank people for any donations received, and finally, a big thank you to all the local businesses for donating to a local girl's fundraiser.



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Weds 26 June
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Library matters

This month's recommendations

Gyles Brandreth may not be everyone's cup of tea, but one of his books has proved surprisingly popular with some of our readers. So much so that several have bought their own copy rather than hogging the one that we have in the library. The book is called **Dancing by the Light of the Moon**, subtitled "How poetry can transform your memory and change your life." Quite a claim.

Gyles suggests that you can improve your memory (and I'm sure most of us would like to do that) by learning two lines of a poem each day, repeating tomorrow what you learnt today until you know the whole poem. At 10,565 lines, Paradise Lost probably isn't the best one to start with, but there are lots of easier ones in the book to set you off.

The book is full of poems, interesting anecdotes, useful information and handy hints - and is very funny. I'd quote a few choice snippets, but I'd probably be contravening copyright.

Other recommendations this month come from Yvonne Howard - **The Rose Code** by **Kate Quinn**, and **The Zookeeper's Wife** by **Diane Ackerman**. And William Manning suggests **The Bright Edge of the World** by **Eowyn Ivey**.

Become a library volunteer

One of our eight volunteers is moving away from Reeth, and we'd like to find a replacement. The demands on your time would be very modest - about half an hour each month. And the duties aren't onerous; shelving returned books, tidying the shelves, and changing

the date stamp.

A volunteer goes in at 10am or thereabouts each Monday, and another one pops in sometime on a Thursday.

If you're keen to get to grips with the Dewey Decimal system we can (try to) enlighten you, but really you just need to know the alphabet, and be able to recognise a book of fiction from non-fiction, and a hardback from a paperback.

And every three months or so a few of us go to Northallerton library to choose fresh stock and have a lovely time rummaging in the rolling stacks in the basement of what is unappealingly known as County Pool.

Just give me a ring if you might be interested.

Elizabeth 07957 207579
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& Thursdays at Reeth Memorial Hall
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“A Matte of life and death...” by John Hunter

...No, not a typo, but a reference to one of my favourite movie tricks. As an artist I've always been fascinated by this process, and even as a young boy used to try and find 'matte lines' when watching the TV (not easy on the old B&W 425 lines!) - so, a short detour from the usual 'review' for a little look at how paintings can do things cameras can't and often increase the apparent budget of any film.

Originally called 'glass shots' because they were actually oil paintings done on sheets of glass - with areas of the picture left 'blank'. If the camera filmed *through* this sheet at the live action 'behind' then the illusion of 'fake' and 'real' images should blend seamlessly - well that's the concept! Over the decades some real masters of this craft developed at the big studios, and many exteriors *and* interiors were created by these paintings, with the audience usually blissfully unaware! Peter Ellenshaw was the supremo at Disney (Mary Poppins etc) Mike Pangrazio in the 80s (Raiders of the lost ark etc) and the great Brit Albert Whitlock (see below) who razed San Francisco to the ground *and* made the Hindenburg fly again!

The process developed to include 'travelling mattes' where basically an object could be 'matted in' and move across a background (think Superman flying) - and many more complex variations still. From the 1990's onwards, much of the hard labour was absorbed by computers ('digital mattes' etc) although someone, somewhere

often created a 'traditional' painting initially. As this is essentially a 'visual' topic, I'll let these few pictures tell their story and encourage you to read further (and look out for the occasional 'fuzzy' edge where a painting meets live action!)

Everyone has seen the 'Love Bug' - here is Herbie's 'home' (totally fictitious) shown in the Alan Maley matte painting, along with the same scene in the film. The only live action is the garage door and road immediately in front of the building, where we see cars drive up - hence the 'black' (blank) area in the painting (pictures 1 and 2)



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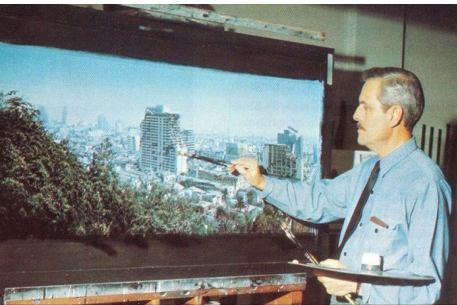
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Talking pictures cont..

Picture 3 - In this scene showing Dr No's laboratory, the sound stage (live action) is only the central strip - artist Cliff Culley has added the foreground railings and the girder roof for extra scope



Picture 4 - The great Albert Whitlock painting one of his many mattes for 'Earthquake' - small 'holes' in the painting will later have live action fires and smoke added to them.



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Church Opening Times and Services in May

5th May	9.15 am	St. Mary's Muker	<i>Eucharist</i>
	10.30 am	St Joseph & Francis Xavier Richmond	<i>Mass</i>
	10.30 am	Low Row URC	
	11.00 am	St. Edmund's, Marske	<i>Holy Communion</i>
	11.00 am	Holy Trinity Low Row	<i>Eucharist</i>
	11.00 am	Reeth Evangelical Congregational	
	3.00pm	St. Andrew's Grinton	A service of thanksgiving for the harvest of lambs. All welcome
	6.30 pm	Reeth Evangelical Congregational	
12th May	9.30 am	St. Andrew's Grinton	<i>Eucharist</i>
	9.30 am	St Michael's Downholme	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
	10.30 am	St Joseph & Francis Xavier Richmond	<i>Mass</i>
	11.00 am	Reeth Evangelical Congregational	
	11.00 am	St. Edmund's, Marske	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
	11.15 am	St. Mary's Arkengarthdale	<i>Christian Aid Service</i>
	6.30 pm	Reeth Evangelical Congregational	
	6.30 pm	Gunnarside Methodist	<i>Holy Communion</i>

Church of England

Reverend Canon Caroline Hewlett
Vicar of the Parish of Swaledale with Arkengarthdale
01748 884 706 carolinejhewlett19@gmail.com

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Quaker House, 7 Grove Square, Leyburn every Sunday at 10.30 am
The Scout Hut, Quakers Lane, Richmond 2nd and 4th Sundays at 10.30am
www.dalesquakers.org.uk

REETH AND DISTRICT GAZETTE LTD

Church Opening Times and Services in May

19th May	9.15 am	St. Mary's Muker	<i>Eucharist</i>
	10.30 am	St Joseph & Francis Xavier Richmond	<i>Mass</i>
	10.30 am	Low Row URC	
	11.00 am	Reeth Evangelical Congregational	
	11.00 am	Holy Trinity Low Row	<i>Eucharist</i>
	11.00 am	St. Edmund's, Marske	<i>Holy Communion</i>
	6.30 pm	Reeth Evangelical Congregational	
	6.30 pm	Gunnarside Methodist	<i>@ Richmond Circuit Service</i>
26th May	9.30 pm	St Michael's Downholme	<i>Holy Communion</i>
	9.30 am	St. Andrew's Grinton	<i>Eucharist</i>
	10.30 am	St Joseph & Francis Xavier Richmond	<i>Mass</i>
	11.00 am	Holy Trinity Low Row	<i>Village Trinity Sunday Service</i>
	11.00 am	Reeth Evangelical Congregational	
	11.00 am	St. Edmund's, Marske	<i>Holy Communion</i>
	11.15 am	St. Mary's Arkengarthdale	<i>Holy Communion BCP</i>
	6.30 pm	Reeth Evangelical Congregational	
	6.30 pm	Gunnarside Methodist	
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Staff exchange to China

It's difficult to capture the true essence of my recent visit to China, in just a few paragraphs. Nevertheless, I was given the opportunity to immerse myself in the rich tapestry of Chinese culture, particularly through my visits to local schools in Hebei, Baoding, Cangzhou and Qinhuangdao. One of the most striking aspects of my experience was the dedication to education evident in the several schools I visited. With longer hours and larger class sizes, some high schools even extended their days until 10 pm, accommodating up to 8,000 students, with 50 students per class, many of whom board at school due to the demanding schedule.

Beyond academics, I was captivated by the diverse cultural offerings presented by the schools. From traditional dances and music, to opera performances and martial arts demonstrations like kung fu and tai chi, every moment was a celebration of heritage and artistry. I marvelled at the intricate paper cutting, beautiful calligraphy, sipped on fragrant teas, and tried my hand at time-honoured tie-dyeing and fan decoration.

The culinary experiences were equally unforgettable, with delicacies such as starfish, cow tendons, and donkey burgers offering a unique taste of local flavours. The interactive dining experience, where we cooked our own

food on grills or in communal pots of water, added an extra layer of authenticity to our gastronomic journey. As well as mastering my chopstick skills and enjoying the fresh and varied flavours of genuine Chinese cuisine.

The warmth and hospitality of the Chinese people left a lasting impression on me, as I was welcomed into every school with open arms and treated like royalty. The students' curiosity and excitement at encountering a white British visitor were palpable, with requests for autographs and countless photo opportunities creating cherished memories.

In conclusion, my visit to China was a transformative experience that deepened my appreciation for its culture, history, and people. From the bustling schools to the majestic landmarks and the lively streets, every moment was a testament to the beauty and diversity of this remarkable country. I look forward to building and continuing the friendships with the Chinese Schools and widening this exchange for our students and staff in 2025.

Mrs Brice- Support staff

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

Saturday 22nd June - Gaelforce - play a mixture of up tempo traditional folk songs plus their own songs and tunes written in traditional style as well as plenty of jigs for an audience in the mood for dancing. Tickets **£15** (£17 door).

Friday 26th July - The Everly Brothers & Buddy Holly Tribute Show - A spectacular two-hour show featuring the UK's Number One tribute to The Everly Brothers along with Buddy Walker with his tribute to Buddy Holly, performed worldwide for more than thirty years. Tickets **£16** (£18 door).

Please see website for further details of all concerts booked. There are some links to videos by some of the performers on there.

Tickets for concerts are available from Reeth PO or phone Glen Steward (01748 884989) or visit www.reethmemorialhall.co.uk - tickets $\frac{1}{2}$ price u16s. All concerts 8pm unless otherwise stated.

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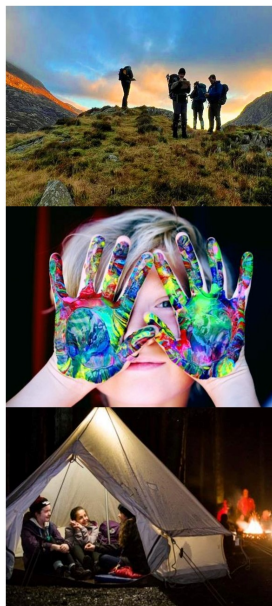


We still need 2 Leaders to help the Group grow back to strength again and to work with our young people in the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts Sections.

In addition we also need volunteer helpers to assist the Leaders at meetings.

For further information on the role of Scout, Cubs and Beavers Leaders please visit our website or contact me:
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Nick Caldwell, Group Scout Leader on 01748 884340



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The Hall is a registered charity run by a small and dedicated volunteer committee. You can book the Hall by phoning or texting the bookings secretary **Alison Tupman** on **07967 839494** or by email at **fremingtonvillagehall@outlook.com**

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The Arts Society Wensleydale presents “From Downton to Gatsby: Jewellery and Fashion from 1890 to 1929”

For the series and film Downton Abbey, Andrew was commissioned to make many jewels for the main characters and this inspired him to create a talk based on this unique period.



Jewellery and Fashion are often seen as two entirely separate and distinct fields of design, but this is very far from the case.

In his talk, Andrew Prince guides you through the extraordinary decades and events between 1890 and 1929, where the great couturiers collaborated with the finest of jewellers to produce jewels and clothes of outstanding quality and glittering opulence.

Along with this, he illustrates the

clients and patrons who commissioned the jewels and shows how they were worn with their sumptuous gowns.

The lecture will take place at Tennants Garden Rooms, Leyburn, DL8 5SG on Tuesday 21st May at 2pm. Guests welcome, £10.

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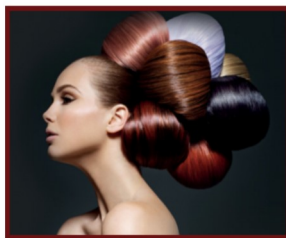
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Wensleydale Concert Series 2024 Season

On Saturday 11th May we begin our 9th year of professional concerts in Wensleydale featuring numerous musicians with an international reputation.

The opening concert is very special featuring the Jervaulx Singers. Founded by Charlie Gower-Smith and Jenny Bianco they are based in North Yorkshire and perform across the UK. The group comprises some of the country's finest professional voices, all passionate about giving expressive, beautiful performances. The Jervaulx singers took part in the Swaledale Festival last year and were much appreciated.



They will be performing Brahms's masterpiece "A German Requiem" sung as eight voices with step-out soloists and accompanied by pianists Martin Pickard and Christopher Pulleyn, in Brahms' own arrangement of the score.

Tickets are £20 at the door (£1 for F/T students), or £18 purchased in advance. See our website for details www.wensleydaleconcertseries.co.uk

Tickets can be purchased online, by phone (0333 666 3366 - quote date and Jervaulx Singers), or by post (booking forms are available via our website or in the series brochure distributed locally).

Finally, until 11th May a season ticket for all eight concerts (May - September) is available for £97 (a saving of £63 on tickets purchased at the door)..

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Carol Haynes or Elizabeth Sowter on 01969 663026.

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<p>Email: mail@swaledalewoollens.co.uk or visit our website where you can order online: www.swaledalewoollens.co.uk</p>	

**TLC@Gunnernside talk –
Fun with a glue gun!**

Well, this is an event that cannot be missed. To say the mind boggles would be rather an understatement.

Sarah Baldwin will be giving us ideas on uses for a glue gun. So when you're lying in bed trying to get to sleep, instead of counting sheep just see what ideas you can come up with. Then come along to TLC and see whether they are ones Sarah has already thought of.

Everyone welcome, TLC members free (£10 annual membership) £4 for guests, home-baked delights and a cuppa included.

**Thursday 23 May 7.30
Gunnernside Village Hall
Sue Barron 884937**

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Open 12pm until closing time. Serving food until 8:45 pm. It is recommended to book in advance to avoid disappointment.

Booking is available directly or on Booking.com. For more information, call 01748 884224 or visit our Facebook page [The Bridge Inn-Grinton](#).

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Christian Aid

Christian Aid Week 12 - 18 May

www.christianaid.org.uk

Seven days, so many ways to make a difference.

Every Christian Aid Week, people across Britain and Ireland raise funds, act and pray for their global neighbours in a celebration of hope for a fairer world.

This year's appeal is focussing on the organisation's work in Burundi, one of the most densely populated and poorest countries in Africa.

Christian Aid has been working in Burundi since 1995. Now, alongside local partners, the organisation helps establish Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs). These community-led groups mean people can save and borrow money, making small businesses possible, offering reliable and diverse incomes so families can eat regularly, get medicine when they need it, and build safer homes.

Thirty-five-year-old Aline Nibogora is the chairperson of a VSLA which supports some 25 families in a remote village, in Makamba Province. Aline escaped an abusive marriage only to find herself on the streets begging for a place to stay.

Her life changed when she went to a three-day, Christian Aid-funded community workshop. With a small start-up loan, Aline began trading avocados and peanuts locally. She's now a grocery wholesaler and living on her own plot of land where she's building a home for her family.

"I don't want my children to have a painful life like mine. I could never have dreamed I would one day have a

brick house and be a successful businesswoman, able to feed and clothe my children.

- £30 would help a family buy two Jerrycans to collect water from the river to carry back to their farm.
- £50 would mean a vulnerable family can purchase a water storage tank
- £100 could help a woman set up her own small business with a starter kit.
- £100 could also help buy a family a bicycle meaning easier transport to school, quicker access to medical treatment in emergencies or support carrying produce from farm to market.



Aline Nibogora outside her house, with the bike she bought to help her grocery business.

Credit:
Christian Aid/
Armstrong
Too.

This year we are collecting donations in two ways. We will have an e-envelope



fundraise.christianaid.org.uk/envelope-2024/SwaleArk

We will also deliver envelopes in some of the villages. These envelopes will come with a request to leave the

REETH AND DISTRICT GAZETTE LTD

envelope at a local location. Envelopes may also be left at the Post Office in Reeth.

So please give generously this year in the annual Collection which will be taking place from **12th to 18th May**. Please consider signing the Gift Aid declaration which is attached to the red envelope. This is at no cost to you but allows Christian Aid to receive a total of 25p in addition to every £1 you contribute.

We will also have a cake stall on Reeth Market on Friday 17th May. We look forward to receiving your support. Very many thanks in anticipation.

Pauline Oldershaw
Secretary - Upper Swaledale & Arkengarthdale Christian Aid Group

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- *Open Bank Holiday Mondays

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Dales Police Crime Bulletin



Monthly Police Report Mar 13th - Apr 5th

We do not report crimes whereby victims could be identified, for example Domestic Violence or harassment although they are included in the totals below.

Crimes of note;

Between January and April approximately 100 sheep have been taken from the Marske area.

7 - Highway disruptions (Floods/Trees/Animals).

5 - Road related offences (manner of driving/vehicles without tax or insurance and possible OPL).

19 - Abandoned Calls.

13 - Suspicious Circumstances.

3 - Fraud/Forgery (online/phone).

5 - Concern for Safety.

14 - Road traffic Collisions (minor).

1 - Road traffic Collision (serious).

7 - Violence (including dog bites).

3 - Civil disputes.

2 - Lost/Found.

2 - Wildlife/poaching.

1 - Anti Social behaviour (personal).

1 - ASB (nuisance).

1 - Criminal damage.

In total 95 calls were received reporting either the above or making general enquiries.

If you wish to receive information and updates of events/incidents, sign up to North Yorkshire Community messenger either by visiting:

<https://www.northyorkshirecommunitymessaging.co.uk> or contact me, Donald.watson@northyorkshire.police.uk, providing your first name, last name, House Number/Name, postcode, Mobile number and email address and I will sign you up.

PCSO 5232 Don Watson.

PC355 Heather Campbell.

PCSO Sharon Diamond.

PCSO 5550 Tracie Taylor-Paige

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Yorkshire Dales environmental campaigning charity, Friends of the Dales launches its summer programme on 1 May with a seven mile easy-moderate walk from Long Preston railway station to Settle station as part of the popular ride2stride Settle-Carlisle walking and music festival programme. With further guided walks offered throughout May to August in Wensleydale, Smardale, Grassington and the Howgills, there is something for everyone.

The charity is also hosting its first all-terrain wheelchair guided walk, in collaboration with the charity Access the Dales and walking company Where2Walk. Early bookers can also secure the use of an all-terrain Tramper or Terrain Hopper wheelchair for this event. For full details and booking links for all these free events visit: www.friendsofthedales.org.uk.

Why not sign up from Friends of the Dales free e news on its homepage to receive news and events information direct to your inbox!

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**Arkengarthdale
Community Hub**



Thursday, 9th May at 7:30pm - **NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN** - An evening with Wilf Bishop describing his trek to Everest Base Camp by the Tree Passes Route. Enjoy his photos of the Nepal Khumbu Valley and his description of his wonderful journey. Wilf's talk is in support of Classrooms in the Clouds: the Nepal educational charity providing schools and teachers in remote mountain communities. Tickets are £5, including refreshments, and are available on the door.

Jill Lundberg

After several sell-out performances, local Jazz group 'Good Vibes' are presenting another 'Jazz and Cocktails' evening at The Station, Richmond, as part of the 'Mayfest' celebrations on Saturday 4th May. John and Jane Hunter's group will be augmented once again by top saxophonist John Padfield from Liverpool, who will join them in arrangements of many 'great American songbook' classics as popularised by Ella Fitzgerald and Nat King Cole, plus some light classics and film themes. "Jazz fans won't be disappointed" John says "as there will be 'soloing' galore,

**Upper Dales Mobile Skip
Service**

Muker Car Park
Sat 18th May 11.30-1pm
Reeth Green, Saturday 20th July
9am-1pm

The following household waste is accepted at all mobile centres:

- furniture (including beds, mattresses, sofas and chairs), bric-a-brac;
- paper, cardboard, telephone directories, books;
- glass, food and drink cans, foil, scrap metal;
- mixed textiles and clothes;
- fluorescent tubes, TVs and monitors, fridges and freezers, large appliances, small appliances;
- wood.



but our arrangements of classics such as 'Claire de lune' and some intriguingly obscure film themes always keep our audiences on their toes!..and everyone loves the 'George

Shearing' treatment of several numbers".

John recently played with members of the famous Pasadena Roof Orchestra in Morecambe, and will be very busy over the Richmond Mayfest weekend - playing the grand piano in the Town Hall during the coffee morning on Saturday, and also on the Sunday for another 'live' dance class with Charlotte Jaqueline's pupils.

So come and enjoy an evening of Jazz and Cocktails with the Good Vibes Trio at The Station CafeBar on Saturday 4th May whilst eating a delicious two course meal. For more information and tickets call 01748 825967 or email reservations@thestation.co.uk.

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Greetings from Patricia Firth

Many of you will remember Patricia Firth, longtime resident of Low Row and regular advertiser in the Gazette. You may have wondered why you haven't recently seen her adverts for her garment alterations, repairs and restorations. Many a new zip she inserted, trousers she shortened or lengthened, and waistlines she eased or tucked over her years in the dale. Patricia has moved to be closer to her family in Halifax and is now living at **Summerfield Nursing Home Gibbet Street Halifax HX1 4JW**. She very much misses Swaledale and all her friends and customers and is sorry that she isn't able to provide her sewing services any longer. She sends

her best wishes and would love to hear from anyone who might like to drop her a line.



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May Update

Fundraising Events and Activities. Wensleydale Community Arts Festival

June sees the return of our annual celebration of all things community arts. It is only our second year and we are taking the whole month - simply to accommodate everything and everyone who has expressed an interest in taking part! It's not too late to let us know your planned activities taking place across Wensleydale and Swaledale. There will be workshops with local Artists, talks and demonstrations, theatre, dance, concerts by community groups, established and emerging performers, competitions for all ages, a family fun day and more. Some events will be held around the Dales with the majority taking place at St. Matthew's Church, Leyburn Methodist Church Hall, Leyburn Arts and Community Centre, Leyburn Library and in the grounds of Thornborough Hall. Events will again be 'pay what you can afford' with suggested donations and some fixed fee to ensure we are able to meet costs. Booking is recommended to avoid disappointment. Full details are available at www.wensleydale.org or look out for the Festival brochure coming soon to community information points. Our box office and enquiry line is **01969 745810**.

Here is a flavour of what's in store...

Sunday 9th June: Remembering D Day 80 years on. [MUSIC and SPOKEN WORD]

Join us for afternoon tea, a nostalgic mix of war time and sing along favourites with guest vocalist Rebekah Austin, and words of remembrance from Donovan Leeman at Leyburn Methodist Church Hall, 2.30pm. Tickets £15 per person.

Tuesday 11th June: Holmes and Watson. [THEATRE]

We are thrilled to bringing live theatre back to the Dales. By popular request we announce a welcome return to Pyramus and Thisbe Productions. Dominic Goodwin and Julian Finnigan perform their hilarious *Holmes and Watson - The Farewell Tour*. This comedic tale written by Stuart Fortey recalls one of the detective duo's most baffling cases - The case of the Prime Minister, the Floozie and the Lummock Rock Lighthouse! The Performance takes place at Leyburn Methodist Church Hall, 7.30pm. Tickets £15 per person.

Friday 21st June: Richmond School Music Department. [Music]

Ahead of their forthcoming tour to Italy, Richmond School's Choirs, Concert and Jazz bands and ensembles present an evening of music from their Summer programmes at St. Matthew's Church, 7.00pm.

Saturday 22nd June: Puppet workshop [STORYTELLING]

Fun for all the family with David Watterson's interactive puppet workshop and performance. Ideal for younger Children to explore and discover storytelling through creative play with puppets. St. Matthew's Church, 2.00pm.

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Dales Variety Show [DANCE, MUSIC and more]

Dales Dance, Wensleydale School Music Department and BlueBoxt's performers come together to present an evening of entertainment which showcases the variety of performance arts taking place across Wensleydale and Swaledale. St, Matthew's Church, 7.00pm [If you know of a young person who would like to take part please get in touch].

Sunday 23rd June: Family Fun Day with Leyburn Band [Crafts, Games and Music]

Fingers crossed for good weather as we transform the grounds of Thornborough Hall into a hub of activity for all ages. From Crazy Golf, Giant Games and Circus Skills with Edwina and the team from North Yorkshire Youth to 'Printing with Nature' with Matt Magnus. There'll be fundraising activities including a book exchange, tombola, guess the name and refreshments. There will be performances throughout the day including Maypole dancing with Dales Dance, Storytelling with Rhoda Fraser, BlueBoxt Performers and Leyburn Band. From 11.00am to - 4.30pm.

Friday 28th June: From Wensleydale to the West End [TALK, DRAMA & SPOKEN WORD]

Enjoy an evening with Nobby Dimon as he recalls anecdotes and insights as a writer, director and actor touring the country from Richmond, North Yorkshire. Donovan Leeman entertains with a selection of his favourite poetry and prose and Jennifer Siggers shares news of our writers project. Tickets £15 per person

including buffet supper. St. Matthew's Church, 7.00pm.

Plus Yoredale Strummers and Liffy (Tuesday 25th), Musicality (Wednesday 26th), Friends of Dave and Leyburn Jazz Collective (Saturday 29th), Light My Choir and the Dales Community Pop Choir (Sunday 30th). Workshops with Lynn Ward, Maxine Ahmed, Nora Yates, Jan Bell and Wensleydale Camera Club and much more...

Let's Get Creative Competition - open to all ages. Closing date: 31st July 2024.

Open to all creative art forms with a choice of two themes. 1) A view from a window or 2) Rural Life - Wensleydale and Swaledale. Full details available in the next update.

Coffee Morning,

Thursday 16th May at Richmond Town Hall.

Wensleydale Tournament of Song

Congratulations to all our competitors who took part. Excellent feedback from the adjudicators and lots of celebrating personal achievements, certificates and trophies. Well done.

Volunteering

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

To find out more or register your interest please contact Colin Bailey on 07711 21169 or admin@blueboxt.org or visit www.blueboxt.org

REETH AND DISTRICT GAZETTE LTD

St Andrew's News

Update from St Andrew's, Grinton

Thank you for all those who supported events and activities in 2023, we look forward to your support in 2024! May events at St Andrew's include the following:

Lambing Service - A Celebration of Sheep - Sunday 5th May at 3pm.

This special service will be held at Grinton Church to celebrate the end of lambing time. All are welcome to this service with tea and refreshments to follow. Farmers and their families are most especially welcome at this informal service to thank you for your work all year round. Lambs will be present and if the weather is good, the service will be held outdoors.

Conservation Group meeting at St Andrew's will take place on **Saturday 18th May**. All are welcome so please come and support our conservation efforts in the churchyard [or cleaning efforts indoors] by joining us for coffee and scones and a bit of 'outdoor gym' activities from 10am - 12 noon.

Bat counts are at dusk on: **Wed 1st May at 21.02; Weds 5th June 21.59pm and Wed 3rd July at 22.08pm**. Meet on the church path.

St Andrew's Annual Car Boot Sale on Bank Holiday Monday 27th May on Parks Field, Grinton by kind permission of the Brown Family. It is time then to turn out your cupboards, fill up your car and make some money! Gates open at 7am for sellers [£10 entry] and at

8am for buyers [Donations at the gate]. Please note that no trade stands are allowed on the field for this charitable event.

General enquiries, please ring Susan on 01748 884366 otherwise just turn up on the day.

ADVANCE NOTICE: St Andrew's will be hosting another Heritage Day on **Saturday 6th July** [tower tours, bell ringers, textile/wool craft stall and refreshments] and concerts are also planned for Sunday 30th June and Saturday 14th September. Further updates and information in future gazette editions.

Please see the parish website or church noticeboard for further details of any of these events.
www.swaledalearkengarthdaleparish.org.uk

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Notice of Wensleydale Tournament AGM 2024

All members of the public are cordially invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Wensleydale Tournament of Song. To be held at Leyburn Methodist Hall on Monday 1st July at 7pm.

If you are interested in getting involved in this long-standing festival, or have any comments or suggestions that you would like to put to us, please come along..

Jacqueline Wilson



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Cleaning duties usually fall on Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings.

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“Swaledale Farmer” podcast on Sheep and Nature

as well as the sounds of Swaledale and Teesdale - woven in.

Series Three of Voices From The Dales, Swaledale Farmer, has been produced by journalist Andrew Fagg, from Hawes, with the support of the Tees-Swale: Naturally Connected programme.

VOICES FROM THE DALES



Series Three
Swaledale Farmer

Professor Sir John Lawton, who chairs the Tees-Swale: Naturally Connected programme board, said: "Swaledale Farmer' gives a voice to the farmers of Swaledale and Teesdale. We are working with farmers to share knowledge and skills, at a time when we need to make England's wildlife and

Hill farmers and people interested in land management are being urged to tune in to 'Swaledale Farmer', a new series of the Voices From The Dales podcast published by the Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes.

Six, 15-minute episodes feature Swaledale sheep breeders: Christine Clarkson from Muker, Sue and Ray Ridley from Kexwith near Marske, and Michael Watson from Harwood in Upper Teesdale.

The chief subjects are Swaledale sheep breeding and farming with nature, with elements of oral history -

ecological network bigger, better and more joined up.

"I would warmly invite hill farmers across the Yorkshire Dales and North Pennines, as well as all those interested in land management in the uplands, to tune in to this fascinating podcast series."

Largely funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Tees-Swale programme is led by the North Pennines National Landscape team and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, working with farmers and land managers to enhance and connect

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habitats in these special landscapes for the benefit of wildlife and local communities.

Each episode of Series Three of *Voices From The Dales*, 'Swaledale Farmer', takes its title from a direct quote from the farmer contributors, while descriptions reveal the highlights of each episode:

Episode 1 - 'Deep Black' (Christine Clarkson part 1). Champion Swaledale sheep breeder Christine checks on tup Mo. (see picture left). She shares the story of her farming career and her thoughts on the direction of the Swaledale breed, as well as a conversation between tourists overheard in Muker's famous meadows.

Episode 2 - 'Eager To Learn' (Christine Clarkson part 2). Christine speaks about wildflower identification, hay meadow management and peat depth testing. She reveals how the authorities once regarded Kisdon hill top as being of insufficient environmental interest to warrant stewardship payments, and closes with

stirring advocacy of the importance of local communities.

Episode 3 - 'So Much Grass' (Sue Ridley). Sue describes the unique location of Kexwith Farm in lower Swaledale, with its moorland rights for sheep. She humorously rejects the title of 'farmer's wife', tells the story of the revival of a remnant of ancient woodland, and reveals how engagement with stewardship schemes has led to healthier stock and more grass.

Episode 4 - 'Side By Side' (Ray Ridley). As Ray gives his beloved White Park cattle a scratch in a rain-battered shed, he reveals how Swaledale sheep numbers have come down over the years as stewardship schemes have come in. He describes how lapwings and sheep 'look out for each other', how 'scrapes' have been dug to provide habitat for the birds, and how he grew up on the farm wondering at the abundance of wildlife.

Episode 5 - 'Maar Rain No Hay' (Michael Watson part 1, see picture below of Michael at Stoney Hill Farm). Michael fothers the sheep in a high allotment. He paints a picture of the scene in Upper Teesdale, and describes how much the stock means to him. The talk turns to the changing climate and Michael reveals that 2023 was the



Sue and Ray Ridley at Kexwith Farm. Photo credit - Ruth Starr-Keddle



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first time no hay was made at Stoney Hill.

Episode 6 - 'A Big Part' (Michael Watson part 2 and Rachel Watson) Michael shares his knowledge of bird life on the farm, stressing that there is as much wildlife about as there ever was. He describes how the farm business is dealing with the government's major change to farm payments. Michael shares his views on the Swaledale breed while looking over his gimmer hogs, and there's a cameo from daughter Rachel who describes her attraction to a career in hill farming.

'Swaledale Farmer' is available from podcast apps such as Apple Podcasts, or Spotify, and is also available to listen at Buzzsprout or the Dales Countryside Museum website.



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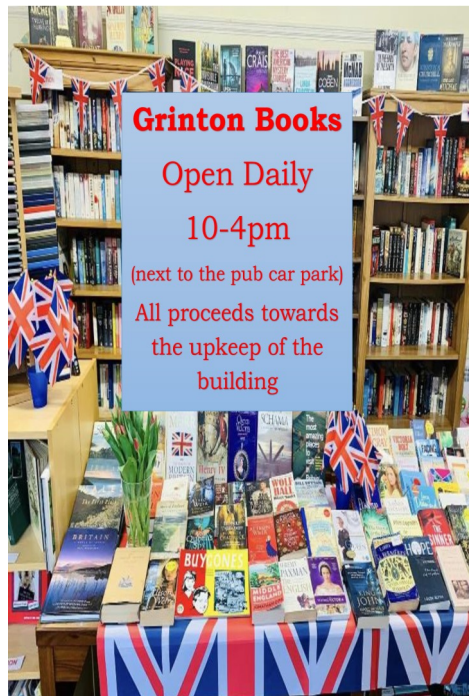
The Nutmeg Gallery

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Leyburn Arts and Community Centre

We know Spring is here, it is just the weather (as I write this, it is raining yet again!) is not improving much! But we have lots going on in May to cheer us up!

Lots of activities and events as always so book early if you can! Another Exhibition on Screen, John Singer Sargent: Fashion & Swagger. The gardeners are busy planning for the Plant Fayre (Fri 10th & Sat 11th) and the live theatre event, Maybe Dick is selling well. There is live music from Chris Bannister and 42nd Street on the big screen.

The volunteers are busy working on the Community Shed. If you would like to receive the regular Shed newsletter please get in touch. We are also well into plans for our new Accessible Toilet block and cannot wait for the improvements to the building that that will bring!

We had a repeat screening in April of Six Inches of Soil, such was the interest it generated in our rural agricultural community. We are always happy to support our local area by events and specific film screenings. Get in touch...

Best wishes, from the Directors and Management Team.



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Diary Dates

May

Fri 3rd May - Drystone Blues Collective, RMH, 8pm

Sat 4th May - "Jazz and Cocktails Evening" with the Good Vibes Trio at The Station CafeBar, Richmond

Thurs 9th May - 7:30pm An evening with Wilf Bishop, The Hub in St Mary's Church.

Fri 17th May - 17th - Rant - Reeth Memorial Hall 8pm

Sat 18th May - 11.30 to 1pm mobile skip service, Muker car park.

Sat 18th May - 10am to noon, Coffee Morning, Reeth Evangelical Congregational Church

Sat 18th May - Drop in at RMH to learn more about helping at Reeth Agricultural Show

Sun 19th May - Memoirs of a Swaledale Woman, Keld Resource Centre 2-4pm

Thurs 23rd May - 7.30pm talk by TLC@Gunnernside Village Hall: Fun with a Glue Gun

Sun 26th May - Beldi Hill Lead Mine Walk 10.30-3pm. Meet at Keld Resource Centre

June

Sun 7th Jun - Longest Day service Gunnernside Chapel

Sat 15th Jun - 10am to noon, Coffee Morning, Reeth Evangelical Congregational Church

Sat 22nd Jun - Gaelforce - Reeth Memorial Hall 8pm

Thurs 27th Jun - Gunnernside Village Hall, 7.30, flower arranging

demonstration by Shannon from Feather and Ferns in Hawes

July

Thurs 4th Jul - Over The Moon - Reeth Memorial Hall 8pm

Sat 20th Jul - 9am to 1pm, mobile skip on the green

Fri 26th Jul - Everly Brothers & Buddy Holly Tribute Show - Reeth Memorial Hall 8pm

Market Place

Football Table adult size, VGC £20. Ono.

Twin 1930s oak school desks and 2 chairs. VGC £50. Ono.

Contact Mo on 01748 884369

The Friends of Marrick Prioory invite you to a night of Blues with Drystone Blues Collective
Reeth Memorial Hall, Friday 3rd May from 8.

A fun evening with a Pie and Peas supper, plus raffle. Tickets £12.50 from Reeth Post Office or Kathy (01748 886763).

Please buy in advance for catering numbers. Bring a bottle of your choice!



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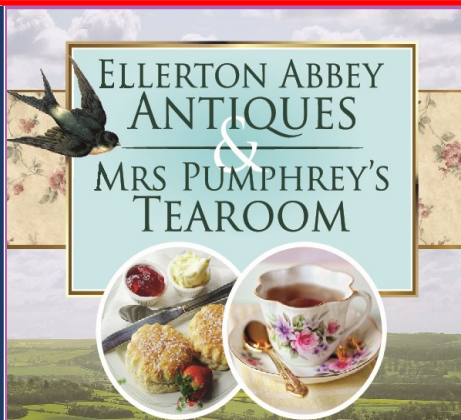
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