

Links

Upper Wharfedale and Littondale Parish Magazine



“He is not here; he has risen, just as he said!” *Matthew 28: 6*

The Link

The **Link** is the magazine and noticeboard for the Parish of Upper Wharfedale and Littedale, sharing news, reports and items of interest from the churches and our community. If you have something to contribute, please email it to your local correspondent or to the editor.

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month.

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The Link is distributed free to every household in the parish, and is also available on the Parish website at <https://www.upperwharfedalechurches.org/news-and-views.html>

If you would like to receive a copy of the Link by email, please contact the Editor at smithiwho@gmail.com

The Link is financed by advertising from local businesses, and gifts. If you would like to make a gift towards the publication of the Link, you can do so through the Parish website at www.upperwharfedalechurches.org or by scanning this QR code. Your donations to parish funds help towards publication of the Link and the upkeep of our churches.

Thank you for your contribution.

Cover art by *Parish Pump*



Churches Contact Telephone Numbers

Vicar: Revd Tom Lusty - 01756 761072 or 07779 990279

Methodist Minister: Revd Andrew Webb – 01756 691057

Roman Catholic Priest: Fr Christopher Angel – – 01756 699000

Congregational Minister: We continue to pray for the church, following the death of Peter Thomas

Parish Administrator: Andrew Hitchon – upperwharfedale@leeds.anglican.org or 01756 380237

A Dales Prayer

May the Father's grace abound in you
as the flowing water of the beck.

May the Son's love and hope invigorate you
as the rising slopes of fell and dale.

May the Spirit's companionship be with you
as the glory of the golden meadows.

Amen

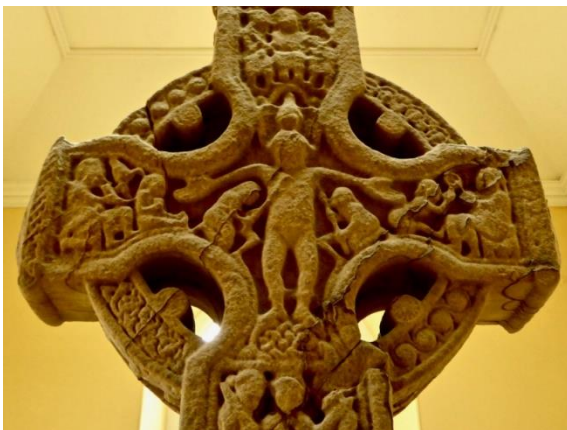
From the Vicar...

*'When in April the sweet showers fall
And pierce the drought of March to the root, and all
The veins are bathed in liquor of such power
As brings about the engendering of the flower
... Then people long to go on pilgrimages'*

So begins Geoffrey Chaucer's 'Canterbury Tales'. I'm off on my Irish pilgrimage soon. April seems a good a time as any to go. For a Christian to head off in this month of all months is to identify with Christ in his journeying to Jerusalem, his passion and his death. And then to keep going, through the far side of death to resurrection.

I find great joy being in the presence of the Celtic high crosses. I just like looking at them. A crucifixion scene is at the heart of the crosses, always facing east. The cross is surrounded by a ring. The ring represents the sun, the cosmos, the universe. It also is literally 'a wreath', a wreath of victory. Hence cosmic victory. The ringed high crosses manage to do a lot of work, celebrating both crucifixion and resurrection at the same time.

The theme of joy continues for this publication for another month. Last month I encouraged you to be joyful in Lent. I really hope that, come Easter, you don't feel you've run out of joy. Beyond Easter we have Pentecost, celebrating the Spirit of joy (Acts 13:52). I suppose we come back down to earth when we reach the Sundays after Trinity, a.k.a. 'Ordinary Time'. Then I guess Ian our editor will need to think of a new theme.



The High Cross at Durrow

If Lent might be envisaged as a time of contained 'quiet' joy, perhaps Easter could be seen as an explosion of unrestricted joy, the moment when we get to say the 'A' word again.

Wishing you much joy as Lent continues, and at Easter in due course.

Tom

From the Churches & Villages

Sabbatical Services

I thought folk might be interested in the clergy who will be leading the Sunday services in the parish while I am away on sabbatical.

April begins with **Canon Gordon Dey** leading our service at Arncliffe on Passion Sunday. Gordon was Vicar at Tong and Holme Wood in Bradford for 26 years. He starred in this role in a TV docu-soap in 2004. Gordon crafted the parish course 'Jesus Shaped People', encouraging churches to focus on five key principles in Jesus's own ministry. Gordon is a frequent traveller and leader of pilgrimages to the Holy Land.

I am overjoyed that our Area Bishop, **Bishop Anna Eltringham**, will be coming to walk with parishioners on the Palm Sunday pilgrimage from Buckden Green and then lead the communion service at Hubberholme Church. She is less than two years in post, but Bishop Anna has already visited us as a parish when she conducted the interment of JB Priestley's son, Tom, at Hubberholme in May last year.

Revd Richard Barber is curate at Holy Trinity Church, Boar Lane, in Leeds. Richard served the first half of his curacy with Revd Phil Arnold at Calverley - and Phil volunteered Richard as someone who might cover for me at Easter! Richard will be leading the Maundy Thursday communion at Hubberholme; also, the 'last hour' reflection on Good Friday at Conistone. An interesting fact about Holy Trinity: it was the tallest building in Leeds (186 feet tall) until Leeds Town Hall surpassed it in 1858.

Revd Brunel James is an experienced parish priest – after 5 years as Vicar at Barwick-in-Elmet Brunel went on to be Archbishop John Sentamu's chaplain. After a long time serving the Lord in parish ministry at Cleckheaton, Brunel is now the Archbishop's Adviser on Racial Justice. He currently resides in my former parish in Headingley. Brunel is doing the hat trick, conducting all three of our Easter Sunday services in the parish. You will have to come to all three services to see if he prepares three different sermons (like me)!

Our own parish Reader, **Pauline**, concludes our April services on Low Sunday at Conistone. I am really grateful to **Anne and Peter** and **Clare and Sue** - assisted by local clergy colleague **Matthew** - who are keeping our midweek 'Sanctuary@6' services going.

Tom



plus additional dates for Lent Course



A simple lunch of soup, bread & cheese for a donation to Christian Aid

Wed 12 th Mar	Lent Lunch with Lent Course, Kettlewell Vicarage, 12noon – 1.30pm
Tue 18 th Mar	Lent Course, Church House, Grassington, 11am – 12noon
Wed 19 th Mar	Lent Lunch, Church House, Grassington, 12noon – 1.30pm
Wed 26 th Mar	Lent Lunch with Lent Course, Kettlewell Vicarage, 12noon – 1.30pm
Sat 29 th Mar	Morning Prayer with Stations of the Cross, St. Michael's Linton
Tues 1 st Apr	Lent Course, Church House, Grassington, 11am – 12noon
Wed 2 nd Apr	No Lent Lunch
Wed 9 th Apr	Lent Lunch with Lent Course, Buckden Institute, 12noon – 1.30pm
Tues 15 th Apr	Lent Course, Church House, Grassington, 11am – 12noon
Wed 16 th Apr	Lent Lunch, Church House, Grassington, 12noon – 1.30pm



All welcome

Coming up - our annual Parish Meetings!

Two important events for our Parish are due to take place at the end of this month. The **Annual Meeting of Parishioners** and the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**, usually known as the APCM, are both due to take place from 7pm on Wednesday, April 30. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has agreed to hold both meetings by Zoom because recent experience suggests that more people take part when we do this.

We will start with the Annual Meeting of Parishioners. This is usually a brief event at which our Church Wardens are elected, followed shortly by the APCM.

The APCM is open to everyone on the Electoral Roll and includes the election of PCC members and of Parish representatives to the Deanery Synod. It also provides an opportunity to consider the Annual Report for the Parish in 2024, including the Financial Statements to the end of last year, and a report on the Electoral Roll.

If you would like to take part in these meetings, please email the Parish Office at upperwharfedale@leeds.anglican.org to be registered. Before the meeting we will send everyone who has registered the necessary documents and a Zoom link for the meeting. Notices for the meetings and nomination forms for elections will be placed in our Churches in time for the meetings.

From the Parish Registers

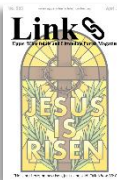
BAPTISMS

2 March – St Michael and All Angels, Hubberholme – Florence Martha Peacock and Otilie Belle Peacock.

WEDDINGS

22 March – St Oswald's, Arncliffe – Thomas George Crapper and Kate Beth Shelton

Please support the Link!



It's not too late to donate towards the cost of producing the Link! Donation envelopes were included in the February edition, but you can also online on the parish website or by scanning the QR code on the inside front cover of the Link.

Would you like to be on the Parish Email list?

Each week the Parish Email is sent to people who have requested it containing information about Services in the coming week and other notices about events or activities involving our Church communities. If you would like to be included on the list of people who receive the Parish email, please contact upperwharfedale@leeds.anglican.org. The

email is usually sent out on a Thursday morning, though this can vary, depending on circumstances at the time.

Are you planning to attend the installation of James Theodosius?

It has been suggested that we run the Venturer to Ripon for James' installation as Archdeacon on Sunday 6 April. If there is sufficient interest it is something we can consider doing. Details of departure times etc would be arranged nearer the time but essentially, we would pick up in and return to Buckden, Kettlewell and Arncliffe road end. We would ask for a modest contribution towards fuel. Places are limited to 16. If you are interested, please email anne@vetch.co.uk. Places would be allocated on a first come first served basis.

St Mary's, Kettlewell

April Rotas

Sidesperson

20 *Easter Day* Clare Blakey-Williams

After Service Tea/Coffee

20 *Easter Day* Di Blakey-Williams

Cleaning

Sue Nelson

Flowers

Easter – Barbara Lambert & Team

Easter Flowers

An open invitation is extended to anyone who would like to help decorate the church for Easter on **Saturday 19 April** from 10am. Spring flowers will be available, but if you have greenery or garden flowers you can spare, please bring them along. Tea, coffee and hot cross buns will be available to keep you fortified and motivated!

Churchyard & Church Work Morning

Do join us on **Saturday 12 April** from 10am to spruce up the churchyard and get out the benches from their winter storage in preparation for Easter. Inside, brasses need cleaning, cobwebs removing plus other jobs

that only get done once in a while. If you could offer an hour of your time, it would be very much appreciated by, the now, small group who endeavour to keep the churchyard and church tidy, clean and welcoming. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available for encouragement.

St Michael & All Angels, Hubberholme

April Rotas

Sidesperson

13 *Palm Sunday* 10.00am S&D Parsons

17 *Maunday Thursday* H&K Jeddere-Fisher

20 *Easter Sunday* S&D Lusted

Flowers/cleaning

6 *Lent* no flowers/D Halsall

13 *Lent* no flowers/D Halsall

17 *Easter decoration* 10.30am

Easter Lilies

The days are lengthening, and the birds are singing – both signs of Spring, when our thoughts turn to Easter – a celebration of new life and resurrection. At Hubberholme Church we like to celebrate in the traditional way, by decorating our church with lilies as a thanksgiving for all our blessings.

If you would like to celebrate with us by dedicating lilies for our wonderful environment, for your loved ones – the love of parents, the joy of grandchildren or other family members and friends - the blessings we enjoy are endless – please join with us by sending dedications for the displays of lilies. Please send cheques & dedications by post to Mrs. Susan Lusted, 11 Dalegarth, Buckden BD23 5JU (cheques payable to UW&L PCC) or by BACS and card through the Parish Office on 01756 380237. If you are a UK taxpayer and would like to 'gift aid', please add you name, address and postcode. If you prefer, dedications can be sent via email to sjlusted@gmail.com

St Oswald's, Arncliffe

April Rotas

Opening church w/c

6 Ian/Sally Smith
13 Elspeth Miller
20 Rebecca Ward-Dooley
27 Hilary Follows
4 May Ian/Sally Smith

Sidesperson

6 Rebecca Ward-Dooley
20 Sally Smith
4 May Elspeth Miller

Coffee

6 Lynda Barker
20 Rebecca Ward-Dooley
4 May Ian Smith

Cleaning

Susan Woodhead & Ginette Hawkins

Flowers

Susan Woodhead & Ginette Hawkins

The displays will be created on Maundy Thursday (17 April), so do call into church (ribbons will be available, and dedications can be added) over the Easter period. If you have difficulty attending to see the lilies, do visit www.buckden.org for photographs.

A most sincere 'Thank you' for supporting our beautiful, ancient church.

Palm Sunday

Our traditional **Palm Sunday procession** will assemble on Buckden Village Green and leave at 10.00am, led by the Bishop of Ripon. The procession will go down the road to Buckden bridge, stopping for singing and readings, and leaves the road to walk the river path until it rejoins the road just before Hubberholme. Please wear appropriate footwear as the ground is likely to be muddy. At approximately 11am the procession should arrive at church for the remainder of the Palm Sunday service. Anyone unable to walk the route is welcome to make their way directly to the church.

St Mary's, Conistone

April Rotas

Sidespeople

18 *Good Friday* Allison Clarke & Hilda Dibb

27 Kathryn & Philip Butterfield

Flowers and Cleaning

Lent no flowers

20 Sue Metcalfe

27 Sue Metcalfe

Opening Church

7 Lewis Adams

14 Allison Clarke

21 Jane Pighills/Michelle Parkin-Vaughan

28 Philip Butterfield

May 5 Lewis Adams

Decorating and cleaning of the church for Easter will take place on Saturday 19 April from 10.00 o'clock. Any help or donations of flowers will be much appreciated.

Memorial Service; Andrew Hamer

A Memorial Service to celebrate the life of Andrew Hamer will be held on Monday 7 April at St Oswald's Church, Arncliffe, at 12.30pm. The family would be grateful if you would join them after the service at The Tempest Arms, Elslack, BD23 3AY.

Buckden & Langstrothdale

The **Library van** will be visiting Buckden car park on Wednesday 9 April, from 10.00am until 12 noon.

Buckden Whist programme reaches its thrilling climax this month on 2 April, which culminates in our presentation evening in the village institute. Doors open at 6.15pm and play starts at 6.45pm. There is an entry charge of £3.50 which includes refreshments.

The **Buckden Village quiz** will take place on Sunday 6 April in the Buck. Please take your seats from: 7.00 p.m. Quiz starts: 7.30 p.m. Entry fee - £2.50 per person. In

aid of the Yorkshire Air Ambulance Further info – email: quiz@buckden.org

The **Buckden Coffee morning** in April will be on Saturday 12 April from 10.30 - 12.30. and will be organised by Buckden Parish Council. It is being held to raise money for supplies (batteries, pads) for the three defibrillators in Buckden parish, as these are quite expensive. Coffee and cake - £3. Please do come along and support this very worthy cause. All welcome.

Buckden Village Institute AGM

The Buckden Village Institute Annual General meeting will be held on Tuesday 29 April at 19.00 p.m. in the Institute. Please come along and hear about some important upcoming changes. All members of Buckden Parish welcome.

Buckden Gala 2025

This year's Buckden Gala as well as The Buckden Pike Fell Race will be held, as is traditional, on the third Saturday in June – so please put Saturday 21 June in your diaries. More details will follow in the May Link, and at www.buckdengala.co.uk

Kettlewell with Starbotton

Scarecrows are awakening!

Scarecrow Festival; 9-17 August

At this time of year you may be having a clear out, ready for spring. If you come across any **clothes, boots or wellies** you no longer want, please consider donating them to the scarecrow festival. You can drop them off at Kettlewell village store for collection by a member of the committee. We desperately require more **freezer space**. Please contact any of the committee if you can help.

This year the trail themes are **Festivals and Celebrations** and **Magical and Mystical**. The list of scarecrows on the Festivals and Celebrations trail is: Mother's day, Festival of the dead, Remembrance

Day, St George's Day, Pride festival, Yorkshire Day, Glastonbury, 60th Wedding Anniversary, Pancake day, and Halloween. **Please avoid replicating any of these themes - thank you.**

Other ideas include; Notting Hill Carnival, Diwali, Valentine's Day, St Patrick's Day, Easter, Eid and Ramadan, Thanksgiving, New Year, Burn's Night, Bog snorkelling, National Beer Day, Rip Carnival, Up helly-AA, Fell running, and Gig racing. The list is almost endless!

Our judge this year is the wonderful BBC Look North presenter Amanda Harper who will judge a group of scarecrows forming a scene, and individual scarecrows. There are about 15 awards to contest so make sure your scarecrow is up to the task!!

Please be ready to volunteer to help as rotas begin to be organised.

The proceeds from the festival helps to keep our small community vibrant and active. The festival will be a huge success and lots of fun with many hands. Thank you

The Scarecrow Committee

Kettlewell Lunch Club

Kettlewell Lunch Club meets one week earlier than usual on Thursday 10 April at 12.30 for 12.45 in Kettlewell Village Hall. If you didn't put your name forward at the March meeting, please ring or text Sue on 760887 or 07765506738 by 4pm on Sunday 6 April to reserve your place. If there's no answer on the landline, please leave a message. The cost is £6 for two courses plus coffee and wine is available by donation. If, for any reason, you need to cancel your meal between Monday 7th and Thursday 10th April or are an absentee on the day, the meal will still need to be paid for as provisions will have already been ordered or purchased. The Lunch Club is open to anyone who is over 55 and lives in the Parish Council area of Kettlewell with Starbotton. If you are able, it is expected

that the 'younger' folk attending would be willing to help clear following the meal.

Kettlewell & District Horticultural Show

The themes for the Photographic Sections of the Show in September are 'Vehicles', 'A Village Activity' and the usual 'Any Subject.' Photographs not to exceed 7" x 5" before mounting.

Tuesday Coffee morning at The Kettlewell Hostel



The weekly coffee morning hosted by Dot and Rhona is a great opportunity to get out of the house and share stories with neighbours and spend time with friends old and new. It is just £2 and is from 10.30am till 12 every Tuesday all year round come rain and shine (tea, coffee and biscuits all provided!).

Kettlewell Film Night

The April film at the village hall on Saturday 19 April at 7.30pm is 'The Critic' (Cert 15). Sir Ian McKellen stars as a powerful London theatre critic in 1930s London who becomes entangled in a web of deceit and murder. In a bid to escape, he lures a struggling actress into a blackmail scheme with deadly consequences. As usual, bring your own drinks and nibbles. Ice creams served in the interval. Tickets available from the village shop or on the door. Adults £6 School age £3.

Look out for 'Conclave' on Saturday 17 May – it's the last film of the season.

Kettlewell Duck Race

The annual Duck Race in aid of hall funds is, as usual, on bank holiday Monday 26 May. More details in the May Link.

Kettlewell Primary School



The children spent some time as a whole school creating kindness charms to leave around the area to spread joy and hope to others after learning about how to keep ourselves mentally healthy. Thank you everyone who has posted when they have found one.

Class 2 continued their work on the body, learning how muscles and bones move and even creating their own model of a mouth with teeth!

Class 1 started work on the Great Fire of London and worked as a team to use different sources to find things out. They learned about the fire starting in a bakery in Pudding Lane in 1666.

Class 2 have been learning about the artist William Morris and created their own Morris inspired wallpaper to put in a shoebox house, they looked impressive.

We celebrated world book day by dressing in something comfortable to read in. Everyone joined together so the older children could read and enjoy books with the younger ones.

Kettlewell & District WI

In March we were treated to insight into the environmental management of the National Trust Land in Upper Wharfedale. Mr Peter Katic, the Area Lead Ranger since 1992, gave a very interesting talk, with explanatory slides of the areas of land given to the Trust by the late Graham and David Watson, brothers who bought up farms with the intention of giving them to the National Trust. Almost all the land is tenanted, and the Trust works closely with farmers to make improvements for the benefit of all. He covered particularly, the restoration of peatland, woodland creation, and access for everyone by clearing footpaths of dangerous trees and paving them to prevent erosion. We thank Peter very much and wish him a very happy, imminent retirement.

Our next meeting on Tuesday 8 April is something completely different. Rev'd Annie Naish from the Scargill Community is kindly coming to Kettlewell Village Hall at 1.30pm to tell of her adventures and volunteering charity work on a Mercy Ship in Africa. We welcome non-members and friends to our meetings at a cost of £5, which includes refreshments, so, please do join us. Mrs Sue Nelson will be our hostess and there will be a Raffle. For members, the competition will be 'Z'.

Conistone with Kilnsey

Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group Wall Survey Complete

A busy summer of activity by dozens of volunteers from Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group in the fields of Conistone parish, together with a lot of digging through archives has now reached its conclusion. A report on what the walls indicate about the development of Conistone and the history of land use over centuries is now ready for publication.

A free launch event for the report will be held in Conistone Village Hall on Saturday 12 April, to which everyone interested and involved is invited. The programme for the day will include talks by Professor Angus Winchester of Lancaster University about the significance of walls in their historical context and by Dr David Johnson, the project leader looking at the results of this survey. After lunch there will be a walk led by Dr Johnson to illustrate the findings of the survey, weather permitting.

Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group is very grateful for the co-operation of the people of Conistone parish, particularly those who gave permission to walk across their land and those who joined in our survey. Pretty well the entire parish was covered and all walls noted, even if not studied closely. In all, 46 walls were surveyed in detail and recorded and will be described in the report. It is the story of the changes in land-use over hundreds of years from the monastic period to the enclosure to modern times. The report will be available to the public as a printed book available from Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group for £6 at the meeting, or you can request a copy by email. Look out for posters for the launch event. Full details are available on the Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group's website: www.uwhg.org.uk If you would like to attend, please let Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group know via uwhg.enquiries@gmail.com Please bring a packed lunch and suitable footwear and clothing for potentially changeable weather conditions.

Littondale

What's Happening at Amerdale Hall?

Thanks to a grant from the Shared Prosperity Fund, work started at the end of January to extend and refit the kitchen and



link it to the bar. We expect the Hall to reopen in April or May.

WHAT'S NEXT?

We will (i) create a separate meeting room by installing a glazed screen between the main hall and the bar area, (ii) increase storage, and (iii) insert a door to access a new paved area where we hold events in the summer. We need to raise £30,000 to complete this work.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We should be delighted and grateful if all the communities receiving the Link would unite to help us reach our goal. Every home in Littondale has received a letter detailing our **Buy-a-Brick** scheme (a relaunch of the 1976 scheme which helped fund the building of the Hall, to which some of you may have contributed). Please follow the instructions in the letter or visit our website to join the scheme (£20 per brick). Visit our website - www.amerdale-hall-littondale.net to contribute online. If you can, please use Gift Aid. Your donation to the Hall will be boosted by £5 for every Brick you buy. Look out for updates in future editions of the Link. Many thanks!

Amerdale Hall Events 'On Tour'

Whilst the Hall is closed for the next phase of renovation works, the fundraising continues with events being planned at Kilnsey Village Hall and Halton Gill Reading Room.

Friday 11 April - Family BINGO! Kilnsey Village Hall. Doors and bar open at 6.30pm for 7pm start.

Fun for all the family. Great prizes! Pay as you play (£1 per game).

Saturday 12 April - Coffee & Cake. Halton Gill Reading Room. 10.30am - 12.30pm.

Our monthly coffee morning and chance to catch up with neighbours and friends. Tea, coffee & homemade baking to eat in or take away. Payment by donation.

Saturday 10 May - Littondale Cross Country Golf Day.

Advanced notice of this very 'unique' and popular event. Just a few Tee times remaining. £60 per team of 4. Please contact Richard Paul; call, text or WhatsApp 07788 142837.

Parish wide & beyond

Yorkshire Camps

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF BEING AT NETHERSIDE HALL

MONDAY 5TH MAY, 10-4PM
Netherside Hall, Threshfield, BD23 5PP

- Tours
- Pottery Making
- Cakes
- Balloon Modelling
- Activities
- Free burgers/hot dogs (Ticket given on arrival on a first come first served basis)
- Yorkshire Dales Ice Cream

YORKSHIRE CAMPS yorkshirecamps.org.uk
For more information contact: 01756 753227 | info@yorkshirecamps.org.uk | [@yorkshirecamps](https://www.instagram.com/yorkshirecamps)

February 24th marks 10 years since Netherside Hall was purchased at auction, and March 2015 was when we got the keys and began work to renovate the house and estate. We held our open day in November that year and welcomed campers in December. Since then, we have continued to breathe life into the Hall and change it from the institutional feel that it had as a school, to a place where children and young people come and feel at home.

In the last academic year, we had 1500 camper visits over 38 camps. Work on the

Coach House to provide housing for staff as well as an indoor climbing wall and craft room have been completed. We are currently renovating some outbuildings to provide office space and a laundry room.

On 5 May we have our annual open day, but this year we will also celebrate our 10th anniversary as well as look forward to the next ten years. You are welcome to join us anytime between 10am – 4pm.

Threshfield And Linton WI

Unfortunately, our January meeting had to be cancelled due to the weather, so our members were pleased when our February meeting went ahead, and they could socialise again. The February meeting was our Annual Meeting, and we were pleased that Hilary Follows was once again elected as our President. The meeting was followed by social time and a quiz which concentrated on unusual angled photographs of buildings and signs in and around Grassington and Hebden. Our March meeting had the members doing Armchair Pilates with Nicky Sykes. She had us doing some simple exercises that we could all do each day to keep us fit and healthy.

On 16 June Threshfield and Linton WI in conjunction with The Stripey Badger Bookshop will be hosting 'An Evening with Patrick Grant.' Patrick, respected fashion designer, founder of Community Clothing and beloved Great British Sewing Bee judge, will be coming to Grassington to talk about his book, 'Less: Stop Buying So Much Rubbish', a passionate and revealing book about loving clothes but despairing of a broken global system. Threshfield and Linton WI will donate their share of the proceeds to Yorkshire Cancer Research as it is their Centenary in 2025. Tickets available at The Stripey Badger Bookshop for £22 to include Patrick's book (which he will sign) or £15 for ticket only, or at: <https://www.thestripeybadger.co.uk/event->

[details/an-evening-with-patrick-grant-author-of-less](#)

We have lots of exciting events and talks planned for the forthcoming year. If you would like more information, please contact Sheila Carr – Secretary Tel. 07879 845771

Discover Shakespeare: Country Matters **Saturday 5 April, 5pm - 7pm.**

Spring into Shakespeare at Kettlewell Village Hall, with *Country Matters!* Only a few places still available for this highly original UWALS *Discover Shakespeare* entertainment - a multi-media presentation & performance by a cast of 26 on the theme of Town and Country in Shakespeare's plays. Reserve yours now (advance booking only) just £3! - via uwalsociety@gmail.com

The UWALS *Discover Shakespeare* Project presents.....

Country Matters

A multi-media presentation/performance exploring the worlds of city, court and country in three of Shakespeare's best-loved plays



In several of his plays, Shakespeare explores the contrasts and tensions between the city and the country in ways that have startling contemporary and local resonance.

Join a cast of 25 enthusiastic Shakespearians in the Dales as they take us on a unique and thought-provoking journey, using image, song, story-telling, commentary & readings alongside performed extracts from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *As You Like It* and *The Winter's Tale*.

Saturday April 5th, Kettlewell Village Hall 5pm – 7pm £3

Advance Booking Only: via uwalsociety@gmail.com

Spring Concert

Buckden Singers and Grassington Singers present 'A Spring Sing' in Grassington Town Hall on Sunday 4 May at 3.00pm. Tickets (£12 including refreshments) are

available on the door or from Grassington Hub, or online from ticketsource.co.uk

Settle Orchestral Society

Our Summer concerts will take place in Settle and Skipton as follows:

- Saturday 21 June at 3.30 pm, Settle Parish Church
- Saturday 28 June at 3.30 pm, Christ Church, Skipton

And we will be playing:

- Mendelssohn Overture “Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage”
- Weber Horn Concertino
- Schubert Symphony No. 3

Thanks to a generous legacy from a former member of the orchestra these concerts will be free. Why not come along to enjoy an exhilarating afternoon, support local musicians and help keep live music alive?

More info: www.settleorchestra.org.uk

Friends of the Dales Spring Campaign Update

Make your Verges – Living Verges

#NoMowMay



The last 80-90 years have seen the acceleration of a biodiversity emergency in the UK as more intensive farming – driven by farming policy – has eroded our once prevalent hay meadows. Species-rich

Grassington Singers
and
Buckden Singers
present
Upper Wharfedale Spring Sing
Grassington
Town Hall
3pm
Sunday 4th
May 2025

Tickets £12, including refreshments,
available from Grassington Hub or
online from ticketsource.co.uk.

grassingtonsingers.org.uk; follow us on facebook
Registered Charity: No 1204562

meadows are not only more resistant to climate change and store more carbon than non-biodiverse grasslands, but they also support hundreds of varieties of plants, myriad insect life and dozens of bird species. The good news is that there is something we can all do to help and prevent further decline in biodiversity – we can look to protect and enhance those former strips and remnants of traditional grassland that have survived as roadside verges.

The principles of nature positive verge management are simple:

- ✂ Cut verges or other village grassland no later than April and clear cuttings away to prevent the build-up of thatch, which increases soil nitrogen levels and can encourage docks, nettles and thistles to take hold
- ✂ Do not cut the grass between May and August (inclusive) to allow plants to flower and set seed
- ✂ If cutting can't be avoided, consider mowing paths or narrow edge strips but

leave some areas uncut as a wildlife refuge. This can also help to address concerns about untidiness and safety

- ✂ Remove invasive weeds (nettles, thistles, docks) by chopping down/uprooting, not spraying
- ✂ Do a second cut in September – clearing all cuttings away. In other words, Cut Less, Cut Later, Takeaway!

We have several resources available on our website to help you get started. Visit <https://friendsofthedales.org.uk/campaigns/verges> to access our Village Guide, Monthly Planner, a campaign video by our Living Verges campaign champion, Dr Anne Readshaw, and a 'No Mow' sign you

can print off to let your neighbours know that you are managing verges for nature.

Do let us know if we inspire a change of approach – and please send any photos of any botanically rich verges and grassland you encourage! For questions, comments and feedback please email: victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Rainfall for February 2025

Arncliffe: 70.7 mm/2.78 ins

February rainfall 2000-2024

Highest: 512.0 mm/20.16 ins (2020)

Lowest: 27.6 mm/1.09 ins (2009)

Average: 170.2 mm/6.7 ins

To Daffodils

Fair Daffodils, we weep to see

You haste away so soon:

As yet the early-rising Sun

Has not attain'd his noon.

Stay, stay,

Until the hasting day

Has run

But to the even-song;

And, having pray'd together, we

Will go with you along.

We have short time stay, as you,

We have as short a Spring;

As quick a growth to meet decay

As you, or anything.

We die,

As your hours do, and dry

Away,

Like to the Summer's rain;

Or as the pearls of morning's dew

Ne'er to be found again.

Robert Herrick (1591-1674)



(with thanks to Mike Stephenson for suggesting this poem for the Link, and Rebecca Ward-Dooley for the photo)



'We play loads of fun games, do activities and challenges and sometimes get badges'
Matilda

Rainbows

Come and join Threshfield Rainbows on Mondays 4.30pm to 5.30pm. Follow the link below to sign your daughter up and we'll be in touch soon with details.

Girls play, learn and have tons of fun
for ages 4 to 7



Join a local Rainbows group girlguiding.org.uk/joinus



'I had never climbed before. I was scared of heights. But I climbed and rang the bell all by myself and felt really proud of myself'
Poonam

Brownies

Come and join Threshfield Brownies on Mondays 5.45pm to 7.00pm. Follow the link below to sign your daughter up and we'll be in touch soon with details.

for ages 7 to 10

At Brownies, we welcome all girls to explore their creative side, get out into the great outdoors and start to learn to look after themselves, others and the world we live in.



Join a local Brownies group girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

Join Us for a Demonstration of The Chocolatier's Skills



You are invited to an afternoon with Paula Bui of Fusion Chocolate Ilkley who will be demonstrating the art of chocolate and sharing some samples with us. Places will be limited to ensure everyone is able to enjoy the demonstration.

Fusion Chocolate
Luxury Artisan Chocolatier

Monday 12th May 1pm at Kilnsey with Conistone Hall. Cost: £5 including tea, coffee etc. Please book your place by contacting UWALS email: uwalsociety@gmail.com or 'phoning 01756 770350

A Celebration of Beresford Music



Bringing together the music of present day Beresfords and the traditional Dales dance tunes of the Langstrothdale Beresford/Cockerill clans

Sunday April 13th, 2025 - 2pm to 5pm

Buckden Village Institute

...In Upper Wharfedale itself

Entry Free – Tea and biscuits
Email Beresford@buckden.org to reserve seats

Donations to BIASAN & Yorkshire Air Ambulance




An opportunity to celebrate the music of the Beresford family, who for eight generations have lived, worked and made music in Langstrothdale, Upper Wharfedale and beyond. The event will explore both their musical heritage and their more recent and contemporary work



Meet..... Louise Smith, Church Building Supervisor

Louise Smith recently started working as Church Buildings Supervisor for the Upper Wharfedale and Littondale Parish. This is a new part-time role that the parish has created to ensure that our beautiful churches are maintained in a state of good repair. Louise and her husband came to Oughtershaw from Ilkley about five years ago - she has extensive experience as a project manager, having restored their own house over the last few years!

Louise's main responsibility is to ensure that relevant repairs and work are carried out on our churches, based on the recommendations of the Quinquennial Inspection (QI) report.

What is a QI report? Every five years, each of our churches is carefully surveyed by an architect, who looks at the church building and the churchyard, and makes recommendations on necessary repairs, highlighting the most urgent, and including an estimate of the approximate costs. The parish is then responsible for ensuring these recommendations are implemented. Our four ancient churches share the same problems of many historic buildings, such as damp, leaking roofs, and weathering of stone and wood. Some of the work is relatively straightforward and can be done by the local congregation and community,



Arncliffe church in 1841 (painting by Rev William Boyd)



such as keeping paths clean and churchyards tidy, but other work needs professional expertise, for example, roof repairs, replacing rainwater goods, repointing stonework, and rewiring.

This is where Louise comes in. She is responsible for working with the churchwardens to plan the relevant work, identify local contractors who can carry it out, and commission and supervise the repairs once the necessary budgets have been approved.

Louise started at the beginning of the year and is gradually working her way round the four churches. She began with St Mary's, Conistone, as the roof is leaking and urgently needs repairs. She recently visited St Oswald's, Arncliffe and will develop a plan for the most urgent work there, including repairs to gutters, and the roof of the 15th century tower.

We are delighted that Louise has taken on this important role in helping us maintain our beautiful church buildings as places of welcome and worship.

🔗 Impact of cuts to international funding for HIV/AIDS

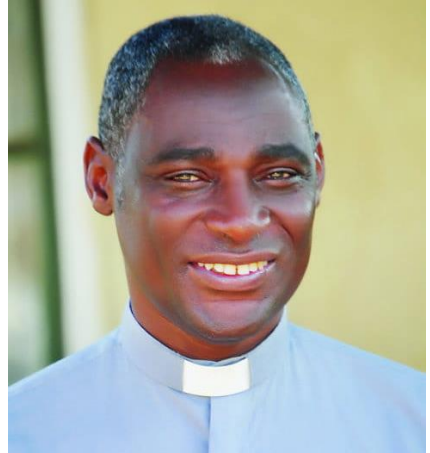
For over 20 years I have worked on the HIV response, and in the space of just a few weeks, work that has taken decades to build up and saves millions of lives has collapsed. Many people now face a recurrence of their disease and death. This is something we thought was behind us when antiretroviral drugs became widely available in the late 1980's and later when it became possible to prevent transmission of HIV from a mother to her unborn child.

One of the first actions of the new US administration was to stop funding for the AIDS response. Here in the UK many people are unaware of this, as our news has been filled with other political actions of the Trump administration. But this action, along with the decision to withdraw from WHO, is having very serious consequences on HIV treatment and prevention, and on work to prevent and respond to pandemics and emergencies. Several other donor countries are also cutting back their aid budgets, including our own government. The consequences for people living with HIV are appalling.

HIV programmes provide access to life-saving treatment to millions of people worldwide. Globally, 39.9 million people were living with HIV at the end of 2023 – two thirds of them in Africa – and 30 million were on antiretroviral therapy.

In many countries churches and other faith-based organizations provide care, support and treatment to people living with HIV. This work has been seriously disrupted in recent weeks.

The African Christian Health Associations Platform is working in 32 countries, providing training, logistical and other support. They continue to provide hospital and community care, in



some countries contributing up to 20% of national health care. But many have had to lay off staff and are running out of HIV drugs.

The International Network of Religious Leaders openly Living with AIDS: INERELA+ brings together many friends who have faced stigma and discrimination from churches and communities but have boldly led advocacy for a different and more positive faith response to HIV. Canon Gideon Byamugisha was the first religious leader to publicly declare his HIV positive status and establish the African Chapter-ANERELA+. He is an Anglican Priest in Uganda. I know him well and he has visited Yorkshire.

What can we do? If you would like more information, Christian Connections for International Health (CCIH) has an online hub that provides factual, up to date information about the impact of these cuts, how to advocate and how to pray. <https://trello.com/b/ep7yqZ34>

Please pray and advocate for a change in government policy – here and in the US.

Sally Smith

Country Diary - April

This spring as it comes bursts up in
bonfires green,
Wild puffing of emerald trees, and flame-
filled bushes,
Thorn-blossom lifting in wreaths of smoke
between
Where the wood fumes up and the
watery, flickering rushes.
I am amazed at this spring, this
conflagration
Of green fires lit on the soil of the earth,
this blaze of growing"
The Enkindled Spring

DH Lawrence

These early months of spring that see us emerge out of Winter's grasp, are enough to awaken the poet in anyone. DH Lawrence here depicts it as a wild unstoppable blaze rolling over everything in its path and giving it life; fresh, green life.

There are many features of April in the countryside that delight that eyes and ears; the humble daisy and dandelion, the lilting call of the curlew as it returns to the uplands, the first warm sunshine that nourishes us. One of my very favourites is the sight of the buttermilk yellow wild primrose that stud the woodland floor like stars stud the sky.

There is something about the delicate freshness of their colour that lifts the spirit alongside a sense of underlying magic that makes the primrose special. Upon doing a little research I discovered that there are many links in folklore associating the plant with fairies. In fact, an alternative name for them is 'fairy cups' owing to the belief that if you eat a primrose flower, you would be able to see fairies!

From being a child, I have long loved Cicely Mary Barker's 'Flower Fairies' illustrations and poems. Originally created

in the 1920s, they are still popular today and I made the trip to the Lady Lever Art Gallery on the Wirral so see a wonderful expansive exhibition of Flower Fairy illustrations in Autumn 2023.

The Primrose Fairy is of course one of my favourites, and I will leave you with her poem – do enjoy spotting these wild delights; a sure sign that spring is blooming all around us.

Rebecca Ward-Dooley

The Primrose opens wide in spring;
Her scent is sweet and good:
It smells of every happy thing
In sunny lane and wood.
I have not half the skill to sing
And praise her as I should.
She's dear to folk throughout the land;
In her is nothing mean:
She freely spreads on every hand
Her petals pale and clean.
And though she's neither proud nor
grand,
She is the Country Queen.

Cicely Mary Barker



Community Events

The following events have been announced, and details are inside the Link, however, please confirm with the organisers, as the situation may change.

THIS MONTH

Wed 2 Apr	Arncliffe Parish Meeting, The Falcon
Sat 5 Apr	UWALS Shakespeare Project ' <i>Country Matters</i> ', Kettlewell Village Hall
Sun 6 Apr	Buckden Village Quiz, Buck Inn
Sun 6 Apr	Installation of Rev'd James Theodosius as Archdeacon, Ripon Cathedral
Tue 8 Apr	Kettlewell & District WI, Kettlewell Village Hall
Wed 9 Apr	Supermobile library visits to Buckden and Kettlewell
Thu 10 Apr	Kettlewell Lunch Club, Kettlewell Village Hall
Fri 11 Apr	Family Bingo, Kilnsey Village Hall
Sat 12 Apr	Buckden Coffee Morning, Buckden Village Institute
Sat 12 Apr	Coffee & Cake, Halton Gill Reading Room
Sat 12 Apr	' <i>Drystone Walls in Conistone</i> ' Conistone with Kilnsey Village Hall
Sun 13 Apr	' <i>A Celebration of Beresford Music</i> ', Buckden Village Institute
Wed 16 Apr	Christian Aid Lunch, Church House, Grassington
Sat 19 Apr	Film Night ' <i>The Critic</i> ', Kettlewell Village Hall
Tue 29 Apr	Buckden Village Institute AGM, Buckden Village Institute
Wed 30 Apr	Annual Meeting of Parishioners & Annual Parochial Church Meeting

FUTURE EVENTS

Sun 4 May	' <i>A Spring Sing</i> ', Grassington Town Hall
Mon 5 May	Yorkshire Camps 10 th Anniversary and Open Day, Netherside Hall
Wed 7 May	Supermobile library visits to Buckden and Kettlewell
Sat 10 May	Littondale Cross Country Golf Day
Mon 12 May	' <i>Demonstration of Chocolatier's Skills</i> ', Conistone with Kilnsey Hall
Sat 17 May	Fim Night ' <i>Conclave</i> ', Kettlewell Village Hall
Mon 26 May	Kettlewell Duck Race
Mon 16 Jun	' <i>An Evening with Patrick Grant</i> ' Grassington Town Hall
Sat 21 Jun	Buckden Gala and Fell Race, Buckden Gala Field
Sat 21 June	Settle Orchestral Society Concert, Settle Parish Church
Sat 28 June	Settle Orchestral Society Concert, Christ Church, Skipton
9-17 Aug	Kettlewell Scarecrow Festival

REGULAR EVENTS

Buckden Singers Thursday – 7.30pm *Buckden Village Institute*

Coffee Morning Thursday – 10.30-12.00 *Halton Gill Reading Room*

Coffee Morning Tuesday – 10.30-12 *Kettlewell Hostel*

Dales Music & Song Second Sunday - 1-4 pm *Buck Inn*

Funk Wire Thursday fortnightly - 2pm *Conistone with Kilnsey Village Hall*

Kettlewell & District WI, Second Tuesday – 1.30pm *Kettlewell Village Hall*

Play Table Tennis Wednesday – 4-5pm, 4-5.30pm, 5.30-7.15pm *Kettlewell Village Hall*

Whist Evenings Alternate Wednesday - 7pm *Buckden Village Institute*



The following schedule of church services in our parish is planned for this month, however, please check the parish website for confirmation at www.upperwharfedalechurches.org

Sunday 6 April		
10.00*	Arncliffe	Holy Communion
Tuesday 8 April		
18.00	Kettlewell	Sanctuary@6 Healing
Sunday 13 April: PALM SUNDAY		
10.00	Buckden Green for service at Hubberholme at 11.00	Holy Communion - Bishop Anna Eltringham
Thursday 17 April: MAUNDY THURSDAY		
18.30	Hubberholme	Holy Communion
Friday 18 April: GOOD FRIDAY		
10.00	Rylstone Church	'Walk to the Cross'
11.45	Grassington Square	'Walk of witness' and service
14.00	Conistone	'Hour at the Cross'
Sunday 20 April: EASTER DAY		
08.00*	Arncliffe	Holy Communion
09.30	Kettlewell (& Conistone)	United Holy Communion
11.15	Hubberholme	Holy Communion
Sunday 27 April		
11.00*	Conistone	Morning Prayer
Sunday 4 May		
10.00*	Arncliffe	Holy Communion
Holy Mass is celebrated on Sundays at 9.00 am at St. Margaret Clitherow's R.C. Church, Threshfield		

**Please note the changes in service times*

