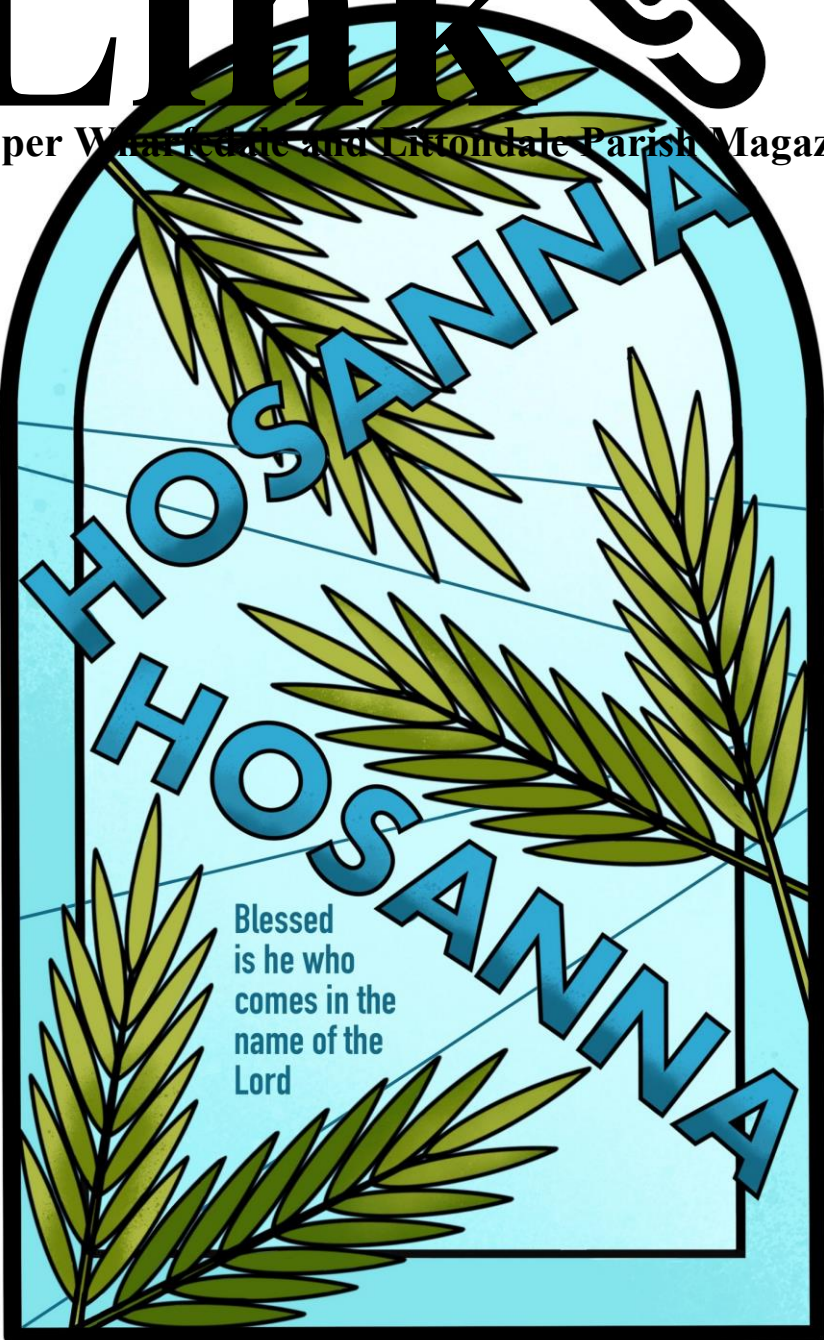


# Links


Upper Wharfedale and Listondale Parish Magazine



# The Link

The **Link** is the magazine and noticeboard for the Parish of Upper Wharfedale and Littondale, 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 20<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

-  Editor: Ian Smith - [smithiwho@gmail.com](mailto:smithiwho@gmail.com)
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-  Kettlewell with Starbotton: David Nelson - [DavidNelsondave@aol.com](mailto:DavidNelsondave@aol.com)

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](mailto: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](http://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

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**Methodist Minister:** Revd Susan Mclvor - [ministerskiptonandgrassington@gmail.com](mailto:ministerskiptonandgrassington@gmail.com)

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**Congregational Minister:** TBD

**Parish Administrator:** Andrew Hitchon – [uwandl@outlook.com](mailto:uwandl@outlook.com) 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.....

## *Reflecting on my role as a "DNC"*

This month I have started visiting parishes in the deanery as part of my new additional role as a networking coordinator. My pilot interview was of original Calendar Girl Angela and her husband Charles in Grassington, such enthusiasts and encouragers, who worship at St Michael's, Linton. Earlier this week I met Jane who is a co-founder of the Community Café at Holy Trinity Skipton, and in the next two weeks I hope to visit other folk from the Skipton Churches.

I have come away from the interviews so far aware that a fundamental part of the role is to celebrate the good stuff, to share the 'good news' stories. Jane's enthusiasm about the Café at Holy Trinity ... and the Church shop ... and the schools work ... reminds me of how I feel about the Scarecrow Festival and the Hubberholme Knitivity, being part of something that has a momentum and an outreach all of its own.

As I come back into the parish and drive past the sign that says 'Littondale's Got Talent' I am conscious of this opportunity to let the delight in all I have been hearing be a way into celebrating the commonalities as well as uniqueness of my own parish. Interestingly Holy Trinity have their own Knit & Natter group. And Doug the Vicar has just started up a Men's Breakfast. There will be plenty of scope to nick the good ideas.

Servant God,  
Keep us  
Intentionally  
Praying  
Towards  
Our  
Neighbours,

Delighting in  
Each new  
Attempt to  
Network, encouraging  
Everything to  
Rest in  
You.

My job in phase one of this project is to listen - a state of 'humble enquiry', of not knowing things. I am already getting the sense that there is there is so much I don't know, so much to discover. I hope you will be curious as I am to know how much life is out there in our deanery.

In rural areas people can often feel isolated. Without connection we can feel that we are on our own. I've only just started but already I'm enthused by all that I am learning. Lent admittedly has a strong introverted focus, on matters of the heart, but this season can also be a golden opportunity to celebrate living outwardly, loving one's neighbour in the parish of Upper Wharfedale and Littondale.

Tom

# From the Churches & Villages

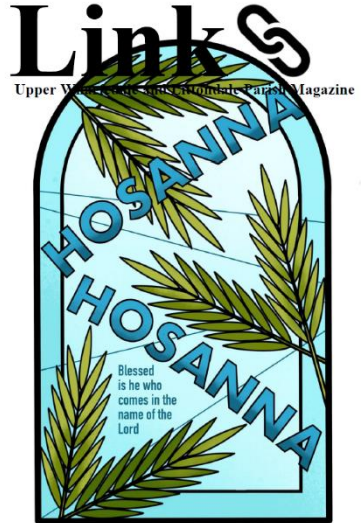
Please support the Link!

It's very easy to do! You can scan the QR code below or click on the 'Donate' button on the home page of our website ([www.upperwharfedalechurches.org](http://www.upperwharfedalechurches.org)) to make a payment online, or alternatively place cash or a cheque in the envelope contained in February's edition of The Link. It costs about £500 a month for us to keep the Link going – about half of which comes



our wonderful advertisers (please do use their many services!) and the other half from your generous gifts. Many thanks for your support.

No. 603      www.upperwharfedalechurches.org      March 2026



## Services for Holy Week

Do join us for a series of short (30 minute) services in Holy Week (the week between Palm Sunday and Easter Day), with readings, meditations, prayer and songs. The services will be held each evening at 7.30pm, except for Good Friday, which will be at 2pm. Here's the programme:

<b>Monday 30 March</b>	Conistone	<i>'Is He the One?'</i>
<b>Tuesday 31 March</b>	Kettlewell	<i>'The Anointing at Bethany'</i>
<b>Wednesday 1 April</b>	Hubberholme	<i>'Breaking'</i>
<b>Maundy Thursday 2 April</b>	The Falcon, Arncliffe	<i>'Foot Washing'</i>
<b>Good Friday 3 April (2pm)</b>	Conistone	<i>'The Final Moments'</i>



## Lent Lunches



Lent Lunches will be held in the district on Wednesdays throughout Lent. Donations for a simple meal of soup, bread and cheese will be given to Christian Aid. A short Lenten address will follow the meal. Everyone welcome.

### Lent Lunch Dates– 12noon-1.30pm

25 Feb Grassington Congregational Church  
4 Mar Kettlewell Village Hall  
11 Mar Buckden Institute  
18 Mar Kettlewell Village Hall  
25 Mar Church House, Grassington

## From the Parish Registers

### FUNERALS

27 January – St Michael and All Angels Church, Hubberholme – Sarah Jayne Thompson.

## St Mary's, Kettlewell

### March Rotas

#### Sidespeople

8 Clare Blakey-Williams

**After Service Tea/Coffee**

8 Di Blakey-Williams

**Cleaning** Jenny Inocco

**A Churchyard & Church Work Morning** will be held at St Mary's, Kettlewell on Saturday 28 March 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 small group who

endeavour to keep the churchyard and church tidy, clean and welcoming. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available for encouragement.

## Labyrinth of Listening

'She listened to the vastness, the open hills...climbing to a certain stillness' Olivia Mulligan



MEADOW LABYRINTH KETTLEWELL CHURCHYARD

To walk a labyrinth is to step into an ancient space for the soul. Take a moment to unburden yourself of expectation. Become aware of the present moment, then ...

walking in listen to the vastness all around you

in the centre open your heart and soul to a stillness within

as you return along the same path reflect on what thoughts and feelings are with you as you leave to take your place again in the world around you

Kettlewell Churchyard Project - [upperwharfedaleschurches.org](http://upperwharfedaleschurches.org)

## St Michael & All Angels, Hubberholme

### March Rotas

#### Sidesperson

1 J Cowpe & S Kilvington

15 D Halsall & C Winpenny

22 H & K Jeddere Fisher

29 J Yarrow & L Hird

#### Cleaning (Lent - no flowers)

1 L Smith

8 D Scott

15 D Scott

22 D Halsall

29 D Halsall

### Easter Lilies In Hubberholme Church

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 380 237 (If you are a UK taxpayer and would like to ‘gift aid’ please add your name, address and postcode). If you prefer, dedications can be sent via email to [sjlusted@gmail.com](mailto:sjlusted@gmail.com)

Do call into church (when 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](http://www.buckden.org) for photographs. A most sincere ‘Thank you’ for supporting our beautiful, ancient church.

### Future Events and Fund Raising by Hubberholme Church

At the beginning of another year of events thank you for all your support and help in previous years and we hope you will feel able to support us again.

After our successful Knitvity display in church in December our next event which we postponed from Christmas until Spring 2026 is **Easter Bingo** at the Buck Inn on Saturday 28 March at 6pm for food at 6.15pm. A meat or vegetable hotpot with crusty roll + 1<sup>st</sup> bingo card costs £10 and £5 for children under 12 years. A ticket is required for supper; please ring Deirdre 01756 760296 by **20 March** to buy your ticket. If you don’t want supper just turn up on the night and buy your cards to play.

Games start at 7pm. There is a prize for a line and a full house. There will also be a raffle. We look forward to seeing you to enjoy good company, food and plenty of fun.

Here are some of our other planned events with more to follow.

Get ready to buy one of our **Annual Quiz** sheets for £1 that will be available at the Buck on the bingo night, and later on from the Parish churches, and members of the Action Group and other local places. They will be available from Easter, and the closing date is the end of September so plenty of time to work out the answers.

**Buckden School Room Porch Book Stall** is open to collect a book for a donation and to leave any soft backed books you no longer need. We thank all who have supported over the years and to date since starting this facility for the community it has raised £721. So once again a big thank you to all who have found this a useful space.

**August 31<sup>st</sup> Bank Holiday Monday** refreshments and stalls at Buckden School Room. Further information later in the year.

**Coffee Morning on 10 October** in Buckden Village Institute organised by members of Hubberholme church.

## St Mary’s, Conistone

### March Rotas

#### Sidespeople

22 Hilda Dibb & Jo Foster  
30 Philip & Kathryn Butterfield  
Apr 3 Philip & Kathryn Butterfield

#### Flowers & Cleaning

Lent so no flowers in March.  
Apr 4 All help.

#### Opening Church

2 Philip Butterfield  
9 Lewis Adams  
16 Allison Clarke  
23 Jane Pighills/Michelle Parkin- Vaughan  
30 Philip Butterfield  
Apr 6 Lewis Adams

We will be cleaning and decorating the church for Easter on Saturday 4 April from 10 till 12. All will be welcome as will donations of Spring flowers.

## St Oswald's, Arncliffe

### March Rotas

#### Opening church w/c

- 1 Rebecca Ward-Dooley
- 8 Hilary Follows
- 15 Ian/Sally Smith
- 22 Elspeth Miller
- 29 Sarah Paul

#### Sidesperson

- 1 Sarah Paul
- 15 Elspeth Miller
- 22 Rebecca Ward-Dooley

#### Coffee

- 1 Sally Smith
- 15 Lynda Barker
- 22 Vena Rogers

#### Cleaning

Vena Rogers

**Flowers** (no flowers in Lent)

## Buckden & Langstrothdale

This month the **Library van** will be in Buckden car park on **Wednesday 25 March** from 10.30am until 11.30am, before heading down to Kettlewell.

The **Buckden Whist** evenings will take place on **Wednesday 4 and Wednesday 18 March** in Buckden Village Institute. Doors open at 6.15pm and play starts at 6.45pm. There is an entry charge of £3.50 which includes refreshments.

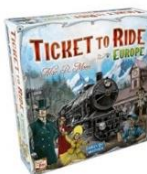
The **Buckden Village quiz** will take place on **Sunday 1 March** in the Buck. Please take your seats from 7.00pm. Quiz starts 7.30pm. Entry fee - £2.50 per person. In aid of the Yorkshire Air Ambulance Further info email: [quiz@buckden.org](mailto:quiz@buckden.org)



The **Buckden Coffee Morning** in March will be on **Saturday 7 March** from 10.30 - 12.30. and will be organised by the Young Farmers. Coffee and cake - £3. Please do come along and support this local cause. All welcome.

## Board Games Café

Come and try some new board games!



...and many more!

### Buckden Village Institute

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 7pm

£3 – dessert included

All welcome – email: [tickets@buckden.org](mailto:tickets@buckden.org)

There will be another **Board Games Café** in Buckden Institute on **Friday 13 March** at 7.00pm. There will be a selection of different modern board games to play in small groups, with guidance on to how to play. It is a fun event, and at a bargain price of just £3 per person including a pudding, we hope that this event will be well supported. As there is some catering involved we will need to know the numbers attending. To reserve your place, please email: [tickets@buckden.org](mailto:tickets@buckden.org)

### Buckden Gala 2026

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 20 June 2026 in your diaries. More details will follow in the May Link, and at [www.buckdengala.co.uk](http://www.buckdengala.co.uk)

## Kettlewell with Starbotton

### Water Matters

Kettlewell with Starbotton Parish Council policy is to ensure conservation and maintenance of important heritage features within the Parish – watering gaps being one such example. The Council notes that watering gaps are sometimes being obstructed by dumped waste, apart from being unsightly, this prevents public access.

In addition, recently some large branches were deposited into Kettlewell (Cam) Beck, where they subsequently became lodged increasing the potential for flooding.

The Council therefore reminds residents, property owners and their contractors that these water-related assets should not be used as dumping sites, and that the Council may claim back any costs incurred if it is necessary to clear these areas from the persons responsible. Please bear in mind that fly-tipping is a serious offence with fines of up to £1000.



The two themes for the Scarecrow Festival this August will be 'Thrillers' and 'Sports'. The 'Thriller' scarecrows on the trail are: Black Swan; Silence of the Lambs;

Dracula; Wallace and Gromit Vengeance most Fowl; Jaws; Psycho; The Birds; Phantom of the Opera; Halloween; 29 Steps. **Please avoid replicating these, thanks.** Other ideas are: 12 Angry Men; Misery; the Fugitive; Dr No, Goldfinger; Murder on the Orient Express; Dial M for Murder; Vertigo; V for Vendetta; The Dark Knight; Alisiscooby Doo; Stranger Things - to name but a few!

A list of scarecrows on the 'Sports' trail will be published in next month's Link magazine. However, as always, please feel free to do any scarecrow of anything!

As last year we will have a prize for the best 'Scene' where there are multiple scarecrows involved as well as a prize for the best singular scarecrow (or perhaps 2 together). We will also have the 'People's Choice' winner which will be voted on by our visitors and announced at the end of the Festival. In 2025 this was won by the splendid Chinese New Year scarecrows. So . . . get thinking and creating!

### **REQUESTS FOR HELP!**

**We need more bakers!** If you would like to be a part of the wonderful baking team, especially if you can bake **cheese scones**, please contact Catharine on [catharine.scarecrows@outlook.com](mailto:catharine.scarecrows@outlook.com)

If you have an **old boiler suit** (preferably blue or grey) that you can donate please contact Clare on [canddaway@gmail.com](mailto:canddaway@gmail.com); or 07779933262

We still require **bucket sized tubs and wooden posts** or slats 2 x 1 - all and any types and sizes would be appreciated.

Please contact Charlotte (07866 031377) or Lucy (07768 752218) if you can help. If you want to become involved or want to know more, please get in touch with Clare Blakey Williams (07779933262 or [canddaway@gmail.com](mailto:canddaway@gmail.com)). Any help, big or small, is valuable. Thank you

*Kettlewell Scarecrow Committee*

### Kettlewell Film Nights



The March film is 'The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Society' on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> at 7.30pm. Adults £6, School age £3. Tickets available from the village shop or on the door. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Ice creams available in the interval.

*'In the aftermath of World War II, a writer forms an unexpected bond with the residents of Guernsey Island when she decides to write a book about their experiences during the war. Then she learns the secret they are afraid to reveal.'*

On Saturday 18 April we have 'The Choral' and the last one of the season is on Saturday 16 May, 'Lad: a Yorkshire Story', set in the Yorkshire Dales.

### Kettlewell Lunch Club



The Lunch Club will meet on **Thursday 19 March** at 12.30 for 12.45 in Kettlewell Village Hall. If you didn't put your name forward at the February meeting, please ring or text Sue on 760887 or 07765506738 by 4pm on Sunday 15 March 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 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 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 all who are over 55 and live 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 Society



The themes for the Photographic Sections of The Show in September 2026 are 'Best of Friends', 'Great British Weather' and the usual 'Any Subject.' Photographs not to exceed 8" x 6" before mounting

### Kettlewell & District WI

# the WI

## INSPIRING WOMEN

Sadly, we conducted our last meeting in February, as the Institute, after eighty-five years, will be finalising its closure at the Members' Meeting on Tuesday 10 March at 2pm in Kettlewell Village Hall. It is important that as many members as possible attend please, so that formalities, to be supervised by Sue Earl Armstrong and Niki Rutland from Federation, can be completed.

At the meeting in February, members were delighted to welcome lots of guests for a nostalgic film show, arranged and presented by Mr David Nelson. This caused some hilarity and perhaps a tiny amount of embarrassment as viewers recognised participants on stage, in costume, sometimes themselves. David was thanked by President Maureen Heseltine for his time and skill. Afterwards refreshments were served.

Please bring a small amount of food to our final meeting to create a 'Jacob's Join' refreshment.

## Kettlewell Primary School



The whole school came together to celebrate National Mental Health Week. Every child painted a tile showing their favourite place, creating a collection of fantastic pictures that will be proudly displayed around school.

Class 2 enjoyed an amazing trip to Murton Park near York, where they immersed themselves in life as Romans. The children dressed up and experienced what it was like to be part of the Roman army – a truly memorable day!

Class 1 have been exploring the story of the Titanic. They enjoyed a full day on it, building mousetraps to 'catch the missing mouse' learning about why and how the Titanic sank, the children have fully engaged with this fascinating historical event.

Year 5, alongside children from our federation schools, had a wonderful walk from Starbotton to Kettlewell. We are so lucky to have such a beautiful area on our doorstep to explore and enjoy.

Well done to Willow, who took part in a Cross Country League – a fantastic achievement!

We will be holding a Coffee Morning at Kettlewell Village Hall on Saturday 14

March, 10-12. Everyone is very welcome – we hope to see you there!

## Littondale

### Amerdale Hall Events



### Coffee & Cake

### Amerdale Hall, Arncliffe

**Saturday 14 March 10.30am - 12.30pm.**

A chance to catch up with neighbours and friends. Tea, coffee and homemade baking to eat in or take away. Payment by donation. We look forward to seeing you.

### Family Bingo

### Friday 27 March

Doors & bar open at 6.30pm. Eyes down. 7pm. Fun for all the family. Great prizes! Pay as you play (£1 per game). Please book your table by contacting; [info@amerdale-hall-littondale.net](mailto:info@amerdale-hall-littondale.net).

## Parish wide & beyond

### Project Reverb

The children have all been very busy at craft club and gardening club across the Federation of primary schools.

We've planted snowdrops, made bird feeders, picked bunches of herbs, decorated candle holders for Candlemas, and LOVE themed things to give away to someone we love for Valentine's Day.



A big thankyou to pupils from years 5 and 6 from Threshfield Primary School for coming to plant some new trees at St Michael's, Linton, and having a go on the Labyrinth. We shall very much look forward to the addition of decorated stones from all the pupils; we can then make the Labyrinth bigger!

**Coming up....** Keep a look out for details of the soon-to-happen after school boardgames hangout at the Congregational church. Also in the pipeline is Youth Club for ages 11-16 at Cracoe Village Hall, somewhere in Grassington (any suggestions!?), Burnsall Village Hall and Kettlewell Village Hall.

**Easter Events....** Everyone is very welcome to our Easter crafts at St Michaels, Linton, on Saturday 28 March from 2-4pm. There will also be an interactive storytelling session of the Easter story or simply come along to see our 2-star guests, the donkeys! Tea, coffee and a hot cross buns provided, and hopefully, some sunshine!



Project Reverb  
Hop on over for our family

# EASTER Crafts

&  
Join us for an interactive storytelling experience!

**Saturday 28 March 2pm - 4pm**


Refreshments

Come and meet the donkeys  
Pebbles and Dinky!

St Michael's Church, Linton



# Good Friday



## Walk to the Cross at Rylstone

**10.00am Friday 3rd April from St Peter's**  
Everyone very welcome  
*Hot Cross Buns, tea & coffee afterwards at the church*



PROJECT REVERB

# EASTER EGG HUNT

**SATURDAY 4TH APRIL**  
ANYTIME BETWEEN 2PM TO 4PM

COLLECT YOUR MAP FROM CHURCH HOUSE, GRASSINGTON

Route will take you around Grassington, with things to find and questions to answer along your way

**£2 per family**

Finish at the Congregational Church for refreshments and to collect your prize

For more information email [CYPREVERB@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CYPREVERB@GMAIL.COM)



Join us for a walk up to Rylstone Cross on Good Friday at 10am from St Peter's church. Tea, coffee, squash and hot cross buns afterwards.

Come to Grassington on Saturday 4 April for our Easter egg hunt! Maps available 2pm - 3pm from Church House, refreshments and prizes at the Congregational church 2pm - 4pm.

If you'd like to get involved with craft clubs, gardening clubs, youth clubs, special events, Anne would love to hear from you. email: [cypfverb@gmail.com](mailto:cypfverb@gmail.com) or phone 07979 415731

### *Home to School Transport Changes*

A recent public meeting in Kettlewell highlighted serious concerns about North Yorkshire Council's new Home to School Transport policy, which disproportionately affects remote rural communities. The policy removes transport to Ermysteds and Skipton Girls from Upper Wharfedale and Littondale, applies a rigid "nearest school" rule based on walking distance rather than road safety or distance by road, and ignores the dangers of the road over Fleet Moss. A flawed appeals process excludes safety, cost, and distance impacts, leaving families facing unsafe journeys or expensive private transport, with long-term risks to rural schools, farming communities, and village sustainability. Those present were asked to contact county councillors and others to express their concerns and make their voices heard. Since the meeting, an extraordinary meeting of the NYC Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee voted to take no action, in spite of officers admitting that mistakes had been made and real concerns which were voiced by members of the public. To find out more and join the fight against discrimination against our communities, go to [www.upperwharfedale.org](http://www.upperwharfedale.org)

## *Yorkshire Camps*



**EASTER CAMPS**

31 MARCH - 2 APRIL	SCHOOL YEAR 7-10
7 - 9 APRIL	SCHOOL YEAR 3-6
9 - 11 APRIL	SCHOOL YEAR 5-8

BOOK NOW AT  
[YORKSHIRECAMPS.ORG.UK](http://YORKSHIRECAMPS.ORG.UK)

**YORKSHIRE CAMPS**  
Making Christ's love real with young people

The poster features a group of children in a field, some with their arms raised, wearing camp lanyards. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting.

The spring term brings many groups to Yorkshire Camps. Between January and Easter there will be 21 different churches coming on camp. Some churches are local (Skipton), some come as far away as Manchester, Cheshire, Hull or York.

Every camp has the same ingredients of fun, food, friendships, memory making and taking time to look at what the Bible says and why it is relevant to us today. Campers can ask questions, discuss what they hear, and we hope leave feeling they have had a great holiday but also know more about Jesus and who He is.

Our gap year team of 14 young people run each camp and provide the energy and games for the young people. They also have the unenviable task of encouraging campers to go to bed at night. Our Staff Team are always on hand as well and are fully involved in the camps. This means that we can have up to about 80 people on site at any one time. Perhaps you have driven past Netherside Hall and seen campers out playing on the bottom field or heard them at night singing around the bonfire.

Bookings are open for both our Easter Camps and Summer Camps, as well as (new

for this year) a camp in May half term. Please go to our website for more details: [yorkshirecamps.org.uk](http://yorkshirecamps.org.uk)



### *Sprrrring into Shakespeare!...*

..with a day's practical exploration of his language and texts in preparation for our 'Midsummer Madness' project....find your voice and have fun and games with a variety of extracts....get involved with this local RSC-inspired project.

Bard-Curious? New starters very welcome; no previous experience assumed! **Saturday 21 March, 10am–4pm** at Amerdale Hall, Arncliffe. Only £5, including tea/coffee. For more info or to reserve your place please contact: [uwalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:uwalsociety@gmail.com)

### *Dales Music and Song Pub Session* **Sunday 8 March**

Thank you, Kevin and the staff at the Racehorses in Kettlewell, for welcoming our Dales Music Sessions in January and February. We enjoyed playing and singing in front of the fire in the bar and meeting passing walkers or Kettlewell folk. However, for the next session and the last of the Winter season we are returning to the Buck in Buckden on Sunday 8 March, 1pm to 4pm. The Buck is our 'spiritual home'; it is where the Beresfords and other Dales musicians held their sessions till the 1970s and where the move to revive such open pub sessions began in June 2022.

With the declining number of players and singers able to come these days there is some doubt whether the sessions will restart in October for the next winter season. If readers of the Link want to enjoy seeing and hearing us in action in the future, please come and support us on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

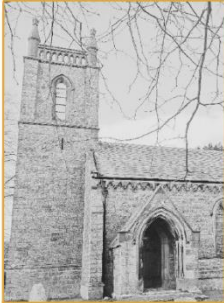

### *Hebden Concert Series*



Following on from an extremely successful 2025, raising £6,000 for Hebden's St Peter's Church roof repair fund, the Hebden International Concert Series will continue during 2026. Highlights for the year include the St Francis Players on 25 April - made up of members of The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra performing Kevin Malone's Sea of Tranquility – just one week after its World Premiere, and Leeds Symphony Orchestra's cello section with special guest, Soprano Jo Sexton, in September.

The monthly series is the brainchild of Mark Webb, a notable cellist and Flugelhorn player in his own right who is principal cellist with Leeds Symphony Orchestra and plays with a number of local Brass Bands. Mark, who moved to the village with his wife last year said: "We have been thrilled with the month on month turn out for these concerts in the church and delighted to be able to bring such national talent to the village of Hebden. The series, to which everyone is welcome, wouldn't be

possible without the generosity of the musicians themselves, our local sponsors; Hargreaves Coaches, Longthornes Haulage and The Old School Tea Room Hebden, and the volunteers from the village who organise the ticketing and refreshments.”

<b>CONCERT</b>	
	 Hebden International Concert Series One of the monthly series of varied concerts being held at St Peter's Church, Hebden (BD23 5DX)
28TH MARCH 2026 AT 3 PM JON BUDWORTH AND BAND Jon is an accomplished musician from Otley. His band will be playing songs covering various genres such as rock, blues, folk, and jazz. His versatility as a musician has allowed him to collaborate with a wide range of artists and explore many different aspects of the music world.	
FOR MORE INFO: Mark Webb 07957 901340	TICKETS £8 Grassington Hub, Old School Tea Room & on the door 

The Hebden International Concert Series commences on **Saturday 28 March** with Jon Budworth and Band from Otley and is hosted monthly thereafter on the last Saturday of each month. Tickets are available from The Old School Tea Room in Hebden, Grassington Hub and from Ticketsource via the following link: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/grassington-hub/jon-budworth-and-band/2026-03-28/15:00/t-xdmgore>.

The full 2026 lineup will be as follows. Each concert is on the last Saturday of the month at 3pm.

♫ **March:** *Jon Budworth*, Otley based musician and songwriter.

- ♫ **April:** *The St Francis Players*, made up of members of The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra performing Kevin Malone’s *Sea of Tranquillity* a week after its World Premiere, plus a number of other well-known classical pieces.
- ♫ **May:** The *ACA Ensemble* back by popular demand
- ♫ **June:** The annual *Organ Recital*
- ♫ **July:** our very own vicar *Matthew Wood*
- ♫ **August:** *The Hebden String Quartet*, also back by popular demand
- ♫ **September:** the triumphant return of the *Leeds Symphony Orchestra cello section* plus Soprano Jo Sexton
- ♫ **October:** possibly the most requested return of *Wetherby Silver Band*
- ♫ **November:** *The Eurythmia Choir*

## Grassington Bridge Club

**If you enjoy playing bridge come and join us at Yorkshire’s friendliest club any Wednesday afternoon at 1.15p.m. at Cracoe Village Hall**



**We welcome players of all standards and experience, from beginners to experts. Come along with or without a partner – we’ll soon fix you up**



**Maybe you have never played but would like to try it out? Just talk it through with Gordon Brown to see whether it’s for you**

**Gordon Brown 07845 547734  
gordon2brown@btinternet.com**

# Upper Wharfedale Venturer

## Volunteer drivers needed



In April, the 72B Upper Wharfedale Venturer service will have been running for 10 years. Several of our volunteers have recently retired or left the area, so we are looking to find some new drivers.

Volunteers typically drive once or twice a month subject to their availability. Full training and DBS clearance are provided although you will need a D1 or PCV entitlement on your licence. The Venturer operates from Buckden YDNPA car park.

If you might be interested please call Peter on **01756 761155** or email: [peter@upperwharfedale.com](mailto:peter@upperwharfedale.com)

**Your community needs you!**

# Rainfall for January 2026



**Arncliffe:** 123.8 mm/4.86 ins

January rainfall 2000-2025

**Highest:** 405.6 mm/15.97 ins (2008)

**Lowest:** 55.8 mm/2.20 ins (2019)

**Average:** 193.7 mm/7.62 ins

in support of



# Charity Lunch for Manorlands Hospice 12 March

Guest Speaker:-  
Chevalier de L'ordre national du Merite  
**LIONEL STRUB**

Chef-Patron  
Clarendon Hotel & Croquemouche

Wharfedale Support Group invite you to a soup and pudding lunch at BURNSALL VILLAGE HALL 12 for 12.30pm.  
Tickets £12

Raffle



**Tickets:- June Robinson 01756 753139**  
**Hanneke Dye 01756 752012**  
Email:- [helloitshanneke@gmail.com](mailto:helloitshanneke@gmail.com)

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**FAMILY BINGO NIGHT**  
**Amerdale Hall, Arncliffe.**  
**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**



**Doors & bar open 6.30pm for 7pm start.**  
**Fun for all the family. Great prizes!**  
**Pay as you play. £1 per game – 5 games.**

Please book your place via the website.  
[www.amerdale-hall-littondale.net](http://www.amerdale-hall-littondale.net)  
email; [info@amerdale-hall-littondale.net](mailto:info@amerdale-hall-littondale.net)



All proceeds to Amerdale Hall (CIO No. 1198881)

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## 50 years of the Link

The 50<sup>th</sup> edition of the Link in February 1980 was celebrated with a change in design of the cover – submitted by 11-year old Richard Poole.

One of the topics that was reported on several times that year was the new Littondale village hall – planned at a cost of £40,000!

And there was also news of Littondale Fete with events that included ferret racing, milk kit rolling, clay pigeon shooting and welly throwing – worth considering for future Littondale Fetes??

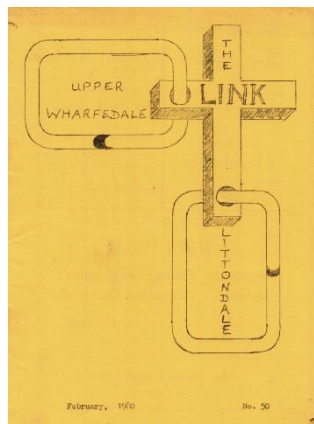
### GOAL IN SIGHT

Those who have laboured for so long to raise funds for a new village hall for Littondale are now in sight of the promised land. The Department of Education and Science have agreed to make a £20,000, to which the Craven District Council will add £10,000. With the £10,000 raised in the dale, the Amerdale Hall Committee can now take steps to erect a £40,000 building. Planning permission is being sought for a main hall 42ft. 10ins. by 28ft., with provision for a moveable stage. There will be a kitchen 18ft. 6ins. by 10ft. 3ins. as well as toilets and an entrance hall. A condition of the grants is that work must begin before March 31st next year.

Before work can start, the existing hall must be dismantled and removed. Anyone interested in buying and removing this wooden building is asked to get in touch with Major Maude, whose telephone number is Arncliffe 215.

If there seems to be something miraculous about the way Whitehall and Skipton have been prepared to allocate these grants at a time when economy axes are being wielded, inflation will soon restore an atmosphere of cold reality. Money must still be raised for such things as equipping the kitchen.

For some tasks connected with walling and the fencing of the car park, voluntary help will be welcome. A number of people have already expressed their willingness to co-operate.



D O N ' T F O R G E T

L I T T O N D A L E F E T E

S P O R T S A N D D A N C E

Saturday August 2nd, at Arncliffe

Ferret racing and milk kit rolling are among new attractions listed for this year's fete and sports at Arncliffe in aid of the Amerdale Hall Rebuilding Fund. The money is needed to equip the new hall which it is hoped will be completed in time for next year's fete.

Other attractions on August 2nd will include the fell races, children's sports, welly throwing, a pet show, prize draws, clay pigeon shooting, a bottle stall and others for cakes and plants, an auction sale of household and other items, and a flower arranging contest.

Festivities will begin at about 1.30 p.m. with a children's fancy dress procession to the Vicarage field where the fete is to be officially opened by Major Hammond Maude, chairman of Arncliffe Parish Meeting. Refreshments will be served during the afternoon.

In the evening dancing will take place from 9.00 p.m. to midnight in the village hall for the last time before it is dismantled to make way for the new building. The last waltz that night will have an unusual air of finality about it. More than 50 years of Dale's community life will be whirled away to its strains. It is hoped that many will come to savour a nostalgic occasion and to toast old times and new plans at the bar.

All who would like to help on fete day are invited to a meeting of the Village Hall Entertainments Committee in th hall on Tuesday, July 8th at 8.00 p.m.

D O N ' T F O R G E T T H E B A R B E C U E  
at Nether Heselden on August 15th. Full details next month.

Daffodils,

That come before the swallow dares, and take  
The winds of March with beauty.

*The Winter's Tale - Shakespeare*

One of my favourite things to do at the back end of Autumn is to plant expansive amounts of spring bulbs that will start to peep their head above the ground, even when winter determinedly holds its grip on the land. It provides such hope and anticipation to see those early tangible signs of the earth's renewal. This year happily kitted out with a new lovely greenhouse, I bought miniature iris bulbs and delicate highly scented paperwhite narcissi and planted them behind glass to 'force' them, with the plan of bringing the early signs of spring indoors to enjoy. There is really nothing like the joy of those first blooms.

Daffodils are very much the floral symbol of March; bright sunshine yellow blooms nodding their heads in the often still icy wind. This welcome spring herald has a darker association with the Greek myth of Narcissus, where the word 'narcissist' originates from. Narcissus, a youth of celestial

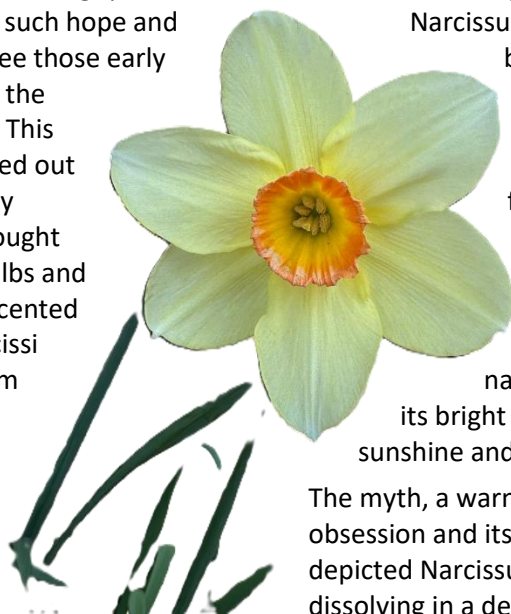
beauty, went to quench his thirst at a pool of water. Seeing his own beautiful, reflected image in the water, he became enraptured with it. Each time he bent down to kiss the reflection, it simply disappeared.

Narcissus grew ever thirstier but would not leave the pool of water for fear of having to be separated from his own image. At length, he died of thirst, and there, on the very spot, appeared the narcissus flower, with its bright open face of sunshine and gently bowed neck.

The myth, a warning against self-obsession and its damaging effects, depicted Narcissus's ego only dissolving in a death that saw him transition into a daffodil—a bloom that flowers early, and can often be cowed by the prevailing wintry weather.

After what feels like one of the gloomiest, greyest winters I can remember, the shocking bright splash of yellow in gardens, lanes and verges will be welcome indeed.

*Rebecca Ward-Dooley*



# 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

Sun 1 Mar	Village Quiz, Buckden Village Institute
Sat 7 Mar	Coffee Morning, Buckden Village Institute
Sun 8 Mar	Traditional Dales Music, Racehorses Hotel, Kettlewell
Tue 10 Mar	Kettlewell & District WI Members' Meeting, Kettlewell Village Hall
Thu 12 Mar	Charity Lunch for Manorlands Hospice, Burnsall Village Hall
Fri 13 Mar	Board Games Café, Buckden Village Institute
Sat 14 Mar	Coffee Morning, Kettlewell Village Hall
Sat 14 Mar	Coffee & Cake, Amerdale Hall, Arncliffe
Thu 19 Mar	Lunch Club, Kettlewell Village Hall
Sat 21 Mar	'Playing with Shakespeare' Workshop, Amerdale Hall
Sat 21 Mar	Film Night 'Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Society' Kettlewell Village Hall
Sat 21 Mar	Settle Orchestra and Langcliffe Singers, Settle Parish Church
Sat 25 Mar	Supermobile Library, Buckden and Kettlewell
Fri 27 Mar	Family Bingo, Amerdale Hall, Arncliffe
Sat 28 Mar	Churchyard and Church Work Morning, Kettlewell Church
Sat 28 Mar	Project Reverb Easter Crafts, St Michael's, Linton
Sat 28 Mar	Easter Bingo, Buck Inn, Buckden
Sat 28 Mar	Hebden Concert Series, <i>John Budworth &amp; Band</i> , St Peter's Hebden
Sun 29 Mar	Settle Orchestra and Langcliffe Singers, Christ Church, Skipton

## FUTURE EVENTS

Sun 12 Apr	Village Quiz, Buckden Village Institute
Sat 18 Apr	Coffee Morning, Buckden Village Institute
Sat 18 Apr	Film Night 'The Choral', Kettlewell Village Hall
Sat 16 May	Film Night 'Lad: A Yorkshire Story', Kettlewell Village Hall
Sat 20 Jun	'Midsummer Madness' Shakespeare festival, Arncliffe
Sat 20 Jun	Buckden Gala and Buckden Pike Fell Race
8-16 Aug	Kettlewell Scarecrow Festival

## REGULAR EVENTS

What	When	Where
Chess Club	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues, 7-9pm	Kettlewell Village Hall
Play Table Tennis	Wed 4-5, 5-7pm	Kettlewell Village Hall
Funk Wire	Thur -fortnightly 2pm	Conistone & Kilnsey Village Hall
Whist Evenings	Alternate Wed, 7pm	Buckden Village Institute
Buckden Singers	Thurs – 7.30pm	Buckden Village Institute
Indoor Bowls	Wed 1.45-3.35pm	Kettlewell Village Hall
Coffee Morning	Thurs – weekly 10.30-12.00	Halton Gill Reading Room
The Monday Club	Monday - weekly, 1pm	Amerdale Hall



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](http://www.upperwharfedalechurches.org)

<b>Sunday 1 March</b>		
09.30	Arncliffe	Holy Communion
11.15	Hubberholme	Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 8 March</b>		
10.00	Kettlewell	Iona Communion
<b>Tuesday 10 March</b>		
18.00	Kettlewell Vicarage	Sanctuary@6 Healing
<b>Sunday 15 March: Mothering Sunday</b>		
09.30	Arncliffe	Morning Prayer
11.15	Hubberholme	Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 22 March: Passion Sunday</b>		
09.30	Arncliffe	Holy Communion
11.15	Conistone	Holy Communion
16.30	Hubberholme	Evening Prayer
<b>Tuesday 24 March</b>		
18.00	Kettlewell Vicarage	Sanctuary@6 Taizé
<b>Sunday 29 March: Palm Sunday</b>		
10.00	Buckden Green	Palm Sunday Walk
11.15	Hubberholme	Holy Communion
<b>Services for Holy Week</b>		
<b>Monday 30 March</b>		
19.30	Conistone	'Is He the One'
<b>Tuesday 31 March</b>		
19.30	Kettlewell	'The Anointing at Bethany'
<b>Wednesday 1 April</b>		
19.30	Hubberholme	'Breaking'
<b>Thursday 2 April: Maundy Thursday</b>		
19.30	The Falcon, Arncliffe	'Foot Washing'
<b>Friday 3 April: Good Friday</b>		
14.30	Conistone	'The Final Moments'
Holy Mass is celebrated on Sundays at 9.00 am at St. Margaret Clitherow's R.C. Church, Threshfield		