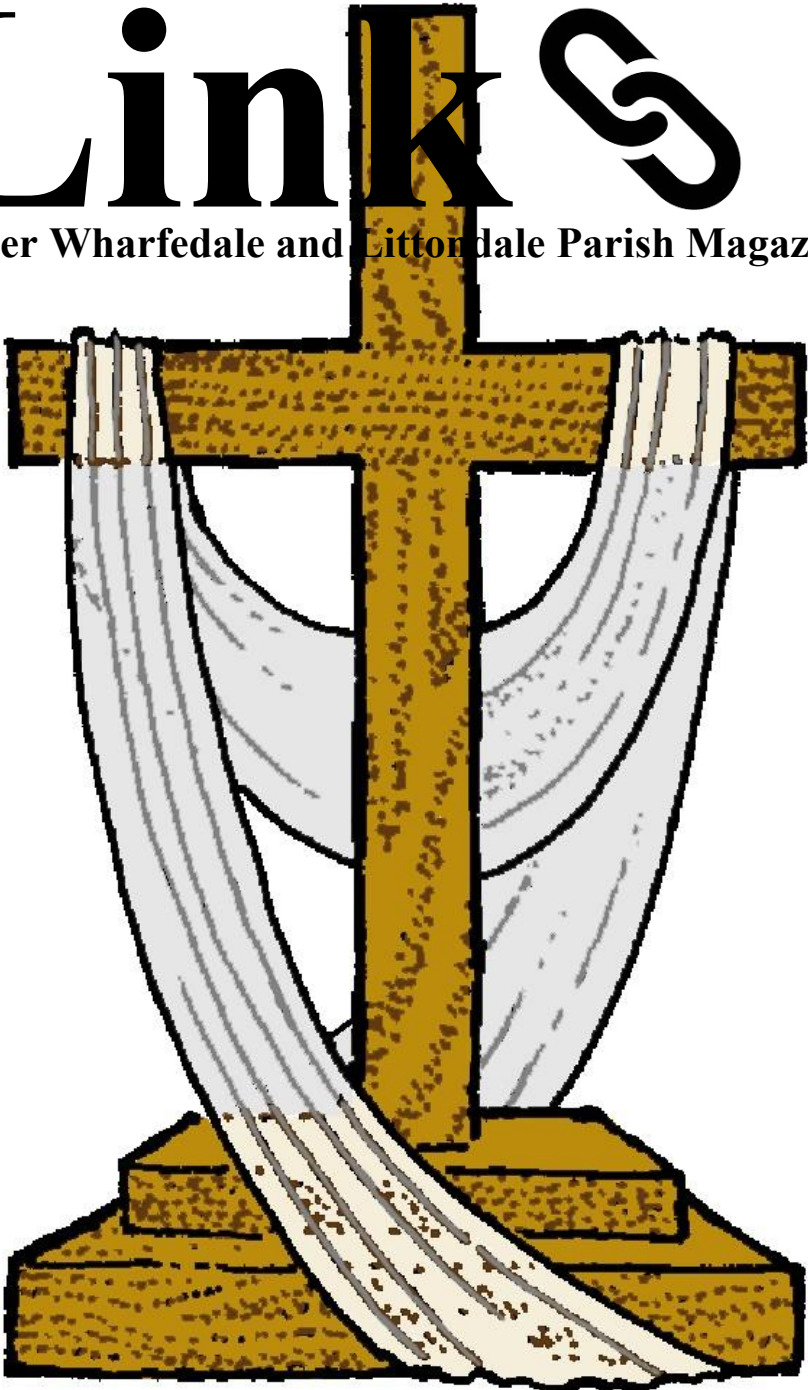


# Link

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 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)
-  Advertising Manager: Jenny Inocco – [jeninocco@gmail.com](mailto:jeninocco@gmail.com) & 07552 034264
-  Buckden & Langstrothdale: Ric Halsall - [ric.halsall@aol.com](mailto:ric.halsall@aol.com)
-  Conistone with Kilnsey: Kathryn & Philip Butterfield - [philip.butterfield@outlook.com](mailto:philip.butterfield@outlook.com)
-  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

**Vicar:** Revd Tom Lusty - 01756 761072 or 07779 990279

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

**Roman Catholic Priest:** Fr Christopher Angel – – 01756 699000

**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.....

This time last year I was in Ireland on sabbatical, following in the footsteps of the great Irish saints. Easter morning began early (at midnight) in the company of a thousand Romanian Orthodox Christians at an Orthodox monastery near Clonmacnoise. I then travelled from there early that morning to Kildare Cathedral for their Easter Eucharist.

I was shown around afterwards by Revd Philip McKinley, a mission priest based at Kildare. Interestingly Philip has now been appointed to serve as a pioneer minister based at Clonmacnoise. It felt serendipitous meeting William Steacy earlier that week who is parish priest at Athlone which includes Clonmacnoise as part of his parish. William's wife Roberta has a wonderful ministry of hospitality at Clonmacnoise offering visitors coffee and cake.

William and Roberta came to the Dales for their summer holidays last year (they are big fans of *'All Creatures Great and Small'*). They turned up at my Sunday service at Hubberholme, and it was a joy to see them both again. Two weeks later Philip and his wife and four children were over for a family celebration in the Lake District. Philip left me a message saying he was in Grassington heading to the Lake District and saw that his route would take him via Kettlewell. Could he call by? Yes, he could!

It was a delight to see folk who had been integral to my Irish trip and to reciprocate hospitality. Philip is a Church Army evangelist involved with leading training at Mirfield four times a year. Last week Philip arrived for the training a day early. It gave me an opportunity to show him St Robert's Cave in Knaresborough, St Cedd's crypt at Lastingham and St Wilfrid's crypt at Ripon.

I felt I made the most of my first Easter off in 27 years. I had wanted to celebrate the resurrection somewhere special in the company of Cieran of Clonmacnoise, Bridget of Kildare and Kevin of Glendalough. This year I am delighted to be spending Easter here again with you.

We celebrate the resurrection this week in the company of the big saints and the little saints, both living and departed.

Wishing you and your loved ones much joy at Easter.

Tom

# From the Churches & Villages

## Services for Holy Week & Easter

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 2.30pm. 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 2.30pm</b>	Conistone	<i>'The Final Moments'</i>



## EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES 5 APRIL

Arncliffe	8.00am	Holy Communion
Kettlewell	9.30am	Holy Communion
<i>(United service for Kettlewell &amp; Conistone)</i>		
Hubberholme	11.15am	Communion

## Annual Parish Meeting & Annual Parochial Church Meeting

The Upper Wharfedale and Littondale Annual Meeting of Parishioners (AMP), Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM), and an exhibition of old parish records will be held on 22 April at 7.30pm in Kettlewell Village Hall. We will start with the AMP (open to all parishioners), which is usually a brief event at which our Church Wardens are elected, followed 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, and presentation of the Annual Report for the Parish.

We will also have an exhibition featuring old parish records from the 1800s and 1990s, and a light supper, so do join us!

## St Mary's, Kettlewell

April Rotas

### Sidespeople

5 Clare Blakey-Williams

12 Dave Nelson

### After Service Tea/Coffee

5 Di Blakey-Williams

12 Pauline Thompson

### Cleaning

Sue Nelson

### Easter Flowers

Sue Nelson/ Barbara Lambert & team

### Easter Flowers at St. Mary's, Kettlewell

An open invitation is extended to anyone who would like to help decorate the church for Easter on Saturday 4 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.

### Christian Aid Lent Lunches.

Thanks to all who helped and to those who attended. £150 was collected across the Parish for Christian Aid.

## St Michael & All Angels, Hubberholme

April Rotas

### Sidesperson

5 *Easter Sunday* S&D Parsons

19 S&D Lusted

26 H&K Jeddere-Fisher

### Flowers/cleaning

*Easter decoration* everyone please on Thursday 2 April at 10.30am

5 S Lusted

12 TBA

19 TBA

26 TBA

### Hubberholme Church Action Group

The **annual quiz** is now available to purchase for the bargain price of £1. These

sheets can be obtained from members of the action group, the Buck Inn, the George Inn, and churches within the parish. All proceeds go towards the upkeep of our church, although there will be a prize for one person who provides all the correct answers.

The Buckden School Room Porch **Book Stall** is open for anyone who wishes to take a book in exchange for a donation to church funds, and also to leave any soft-backed books that are no longer needed. Thank you to everyone who has made use of this facility over the years as it has raised over £700.

## St Mary's, Conistone

April Rotas

### Sidespeople

3 Philip & Kathryn Butterfield

26 Allison Clarke & Philip Butterfield

### Flowers and Cleaning

*Easter* all help please on Sat 4 April

12 Kathryn Butterfield

19 Sue Metcalfe

26 Sue Metcalfe

May 3 Allison Clarke & Sue Sprigs

### Opening Church

6 Lewis Adams

13 Allison Clarke

20 Jane Pighills/Michelle Parkin-Vaughan

27 Philip Butterfield

May 4 Lewis Adams

## St Oswald's, Arncliffe

April Rotas

### Opening church w/c

5 Rebecca Ward-Dooley

12 Hilary Follows

19 Ian/Sally Smith

26 Elspeth Miller

### Sidesperson

5 Sally Smith

12 *No Service*

19 Elspeth Miller

26 Rebecca Ward-Dooley

## Coffee

5 Elspeth Miller

12 *No Service*

19 Rebecca Ward-Dooley

26 Sarah Paul

## Cleaning

Rebecca Ward-Dooley

## Flowers

Sarah Paul

## Buckden & Langstrothdale

The **Mobile Library van** will be in Buckden car park from 10.30am until 11.30am on Wednesday 22 April, before heading down the road to Kettlewell.

Sadly this month sees the final evening of the **Buckden Whist**. This will take place, appropriately enough, on Wednesday 1 April. Doors open at 6.15pm and play starts at 6.45pm. There is an entry charge of £3.50 which includes refreshments. Thank you to everyone who has supported this group over the winter and hopefully we will start the new season in September so look out for next year's dates.

**Advance notice** of the Buckden Art Group Exhibition which will be held in Buckden Village Institute on August 28-31. Further details will be available nearer the time.

## Kettlewell with Starbotton



**8-16 August**

**Scarecrows are thinking!** At this time of year you may be having a clear out, ready for spring. If you come across any clothes or boots you no longer want, please consider donating them to the scarecrow festival. You can drop them in to Kettlewell

village store and they will be collected by a member of the committee.

This year the trail themes are 'Thrillers' and 'Sports', more on the latter in the next month's magazine.

Our judge this year will judge (1) a group of scarecrows forming a scene, and (2) individual scarecrows. There are about 15 awards to contest so make sure your scarecrow is looking sharp!! If you require props or advice, please look out for the workshop date in future Link magazines.

**Please be ready to volunteer to help.** An email will be coming your way in the next week or two if you have volunteered in the Village Hall in the past. If you are new to the village, you may receive information through your letter box and a chat from one of the committee members. If you require any more information, please contact Clare ([canddaway@gmail.com](mailto:canddaway@gmail.com) or 07779933262) 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 as long as we have plenty of people doing their bit. Thank you in advance!

*The Scarecrow Committee*

## Kettlewell Film Night

Join us for the April film, 'The Choral' on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. Adults £6 School age £3. Tickets available from the village shop or on the door. As usual bring your own drinks and nibbles. Ice creams served in the interval. *As World War I rages on, Dr. Henry Guthrie takes over a British choral society that's lost most of its men to the army. The community soon discovers that the best response to the chaos of war is to make beautiful music together.* The principal location for this film is Saltaire.

Look out for 'The Lad; A Yorkshire Story' on 16 May. This was filmed in the



Yorkshire Dales within a 10-mile radius of Settle. It will be the last film of the season.

### *Sunday Whist at the Racehorses*

Dates for the Sunday Whist at the Racehorses Hotel are 19 April, 17 May, 14 June, 12 July, 9 August, 20 September, 18 October, 15 November, and 13 December.

### *Kettlewell Lunch Club*



Kettlewell Lunch Club will meet on Thursday 16 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 12 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 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 16 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 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 are 'Best of Friends', 'Great British Weather' and the usual 'Any Subject.' Photographs not to exceed 8" x 6" before mounting.

### *Kettlewell and District Wi*

It is with great sadness that members held their final meeting on Tuesday 10 March in Kettlewell Village Hall, to formally close our Women's Institute, eighty-six years after its formation in 1940. Two Officers from Yorkshire West Federation attended to help with the official closure. We enjoyed afternoon tea and Mrs Sue Nelson was hostess. Thank you, Sue. It need not be such a disaster, as members are able to join and attend other local institutes, enabling them to continue enjoying the companionship and interesting meetings as before.

Kettlewell and District, 'now former' members, would like to thank everyone involved in entertaining them during the last few years, all officers and the committee, for arranging excellent speakers, visits to open gardens, museums, canal cruises, food and flower, demonstrations, the list goes on. We have enjoyed the friendships formed and hope they continue.

### **Littondale**

### *Arncliffe Annual Parish Meeting*

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 1 April at 7:30pm at Amerdale Hall. All residents of the parish are welcome to attend.

### *Amerdale Hall Events*



### *Coffee & Cake*

### **Halton Gill Reading Room**

**Saturday 11 April 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.

## The Gatsbys

### Saturday 16 May. Doors & bar open 7pm

Chris & Maria Gatsby are a Yorkshire based acoustic music duo, playing all your favourite tunes along with a few of their own. Tickets available from [www.amerdale-hall-littondale.net](http://www.amerdale-hall-littondale.net). £10 per person.

## Parish wide & beyond

### Project Reverb

At last! Some sunshine for gardening club! We've turned the compost heaps at Cracoe primary school and topped up the raised beds with lovely homemade compost ready for planting. We've chitted potatoes and planted garlic. We made cress heads at Kettlewell school and another batch of bird feeders.

KS1 craft club have made paper daffodils for St David's day, little lavender bags for Mother's Day, and we decorated plant pots at Burnsall school and planted them with daffodils and spider plants.

### Our vision for Project Reverb...

*"We want Project Reverb to provide a safe, nurturing, inclusive environment for people of all ages, where everyone's experiences are appreciated and valued, and where diversity is celebrated.*

*We aim to build a sense of togetherness and community and create a safe space in which to ask questions, where everyone always respects one another, and where we build friendships, have fun and grow together.*

*We aim to encourage and enable young people to have their own say, we want to nurture everyone's gifts and talents, and help develop a vibrant, thriving, caring and loving community where everyone is equally valued."*

**We need more Volunteers! If this speaks to you, we would love you to get involved!** Would you like to help with craft

club, youth club or board games club? This need not be a weekly commitment, just as and when you are able to help. We'd love to hear from you, for more information, please email Anne at [cypfereverb@gmail.com](mailto:cypfereverb@gmail.com)

### Coming up...

We are hosting our first Youth Club pilot session on Monday 20 April at Cracoe Village Hall. This is open to anyone aged 11 to 16 - you don't have to live in Cracoe, the plan is to use a different venue each week. Please do come along and tell us what you'd like to do ...this session there will be table tennis, some games, space to chat, drink hot chocolate and eat pizza.

Board games after school club will hopefully be launched in May. This will be open to primary and secondary school age. there will be games suitable for everyone. The Congregational Church is a great venue in the centre of Grassington (and there is a table tennis table too!)



**PROJECT REVERB**

# YOUTH CLUB

**Are you age 11 to 16?  
youth club provides space  
and time for YOU!  
Come along for pizza and  
tell us what you'd like to  
do...**

**MONDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> APRIL  
CRACOE VILLAGE  
HALL  
6PM - 8PM**

**EVERYONE WELCOME!  
WE HOPE TO HOST IN  
GRASSINGTON, KETTLEWELL AND  
BURNSALL SOON**

**For any more information  
email Anne  
[cypfereverb@gmail.com](mailto:cypfereverb@gmail.com)**

PROJECT REVERB IS A REGISTERED CHARITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES 1140928

The poster features a green palm frond on the left, a smiling pizza character on the right, and a blue mug of hot chocolate at the bottom right. The text is in various shades of blue and green, with some words in bold.

Does anyone have any unwanted games? We would welcome games that can be played in an hour or under, suitable for any age group, please get in touch with Anne. If you would like any more information, please do get in touch. Anne Peart email: [cypfreverb@gmail.com](mailto:cypfreverb@gmail.com)



### *Kettlewell Primary School*

A big thank you to everyone who joined us for our coffee morning! We raised over £150 for our school, which is fantastic.

On World Book Day, we had a wonderful time dressing in our PJs and building reading dens with friends. We even got creative by transforming potatoes into our favorite book characters and enjoyed sharing stories between the older and younger children. We also held a book token design competition.

Class One had a fantastic time exploring the universe at a Federation planetarium session at Cracoe. Class Two engaged in an exciting science lesson focused on forces and gravity. They each crafted mini parachutes and had fun testing how they worked! Class one also enjoyed a fun morning discovering the senses. They experimented by removing two senses and tried different foods to guess what they were tasting: a truly engaging science experiment!

### *Three Reforms to Stop the Criminal Killing of Birds of Prey*

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



suspicious disappearances recorded between 2009 and 2023.

To tackle these wildlife crimes effectively, the charity *Friends of the Dales* is asking people and supporting organisations to add their name to its Petition to Government seeking:

- 🔗 better national recording of wildlife crime
- 🔗 introduction of sentencing guidelines and the strengthening of penalties for offenders
- 🔗 more effective regulation for those industries where the crimes often happen

Head over to its website at [www.friendsofthedales.org](http://www.friendsofthedales.org) to find out more and add your name.



*Female Hen Harrier Photo: Mark Herder*

The charity also has the following events scheduled to support its **Eyes on the**

**Skies campaign** speaking out against birds of prey persecution.

### Birding for Beginners

**Saturday 9 May, 10am – 4pm**

Designed especially for 18–35-year-olds, this event offered in collaboration with the Upper Wharfedale Field Society, comprises an informal but informative morning session near Grassington to get you clued up on what to look (and listen!) for. In the afternoon participants will then venture out on a 4–5 mile scenic walk, spotting birds along the way and learning how different species use the landscape throughout the year. To book, email:

[victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk](mailto:victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk)

### Talking Raptor Persecution

**Online Talk with Dr Ruth Tingay.\*New date\* Wednesday 20 May, 5.30pm – 7pm**

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

[www.friendsofthedales.org.uk/events](http://www.friendsofthedales.org.uk/events)

### Mobile Library Dates Apr-Dec 2026

- 🔗 Wednesday 22 April
- 🔗 Wednesday 20 May
- 🔗 Wednesday 17 June
- 🔗 Wednesday 15 July
- 🔗 Wednesday 12 August
- 🔗 Wednesday 9 September
- 🔗 Wednesday 7 October
- 🔗 Wednesday 4 November
- 🔗 Wednesday 2 December

Buckden: 10.30 to 11.30

Kettlewell: 12.00 to 13.00

I will be accompanied by an ‘IT Buddy’ who is able to offer help to anyone to access the online world to learn new digital skills and access online services.

*Nick Lombard*

*Library Supervisor Mobile Library*



### Settle Orchestra Concludes Season with French Flair and Classical Brilliance

Settle Orchestra brings its 2026 concert season to a sparkling close this June with a vibrant programme celebrating French elegance and classical vitality. Under the baton of conductor **Andre Chan**, the orchestra presents an afternoon of colour, charm and wit, performed in two beautiful Yorkshire venues: **Christ Church, Skipton** on Saturday 20 June at 3.30pm and **Settle Parish Church** on Saturday 27 June at 3.30pm.

The programme opens with Claude Debussy’s **Sarabande**, heard in the luminous orchestral arrangement by Maurice Ravel. Originally written for piano, the work unfolds with quiet dignity and impressionistic beauty, its gentle harmonies and subtle colours setting a reflective tone for the afternoon.

From French impressionism, the orchestra turns to classical exuberance with **Mozart’s Symphony No. 31 in D major, “Paris.”** Written during Mozart’s time in the French capital, the symphony brims with energy, elegance and theatrical flair. Its bold opening, graceful slow movement and dazzling finale capture the excitement of an 18th-century Parisian audience.

The second half returns to the refined world of French orchestral music. Ravel's beloved **Pavane Pour Une Infante Défunte** offers a moment of poised nostalgia, its flowing melodies and delicate orchestration evoking the grace of a distant courtly past.

To conclude the season, Francis Poulenc's lively **Sinfonietta** bursts onto the stage with playful rhythms, bright orchestral colour and irresistible charm. Written in the mid-20th century, the work perfectly balances wit and sophistication, providing a jubilant finale to the orchestra's summer programme.

With music that ranges from shimmering impressionism to sparkling classical brilliance, this final concert of the 2026 season with Andre Chan promises a joyful and uplifting celebration of orchestral colour to round off the season in style. For more information visit <https://www.settleorchestra.org.uk/>

**Winpenny Photography**  
 Contact number change to:  
 07860 735380



**Rainfall for February 2026**

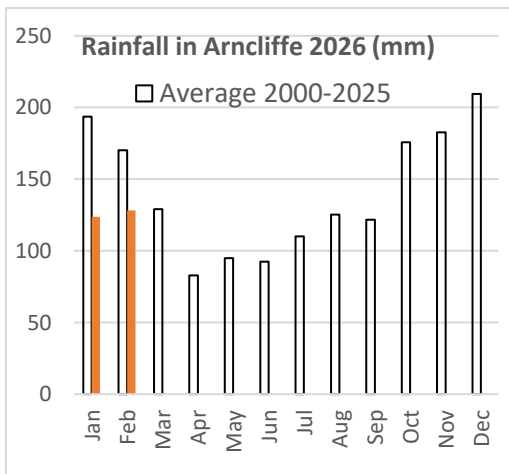
**Arncliffe:** 128.1 mm/5.04 ins

February rainfall 2000-2025

**Highest:** 512.0 mm/20.16 ins (2020)

**Lowest:** 27.6 mm/1.09 ins (2009)

**Average:** 170.2 mm/6.70 ins



## 50 Years of the Link....

The January 1981 edition of the Link celebrated the centenary of the parish magazine for Upper Wharfedale and Littondale. We'll be celebrating 150 years before too long!

---

### GENERAL NEWS

---

#### 100 YEARS ON

January 1881 saw the publication of the first issue of the Upper Wharfedale Parish Magazine, covering the parishes of Arncliffe, Hubberholme and Kettlewell. It cost two pence and comprised three pages of news from the parishes and a nationally published supplement which the editors described as containing many well written articles plus a story and sermon.

The editors were the clergy of the three parishes, Archdeacon Boyd and the Rev. F. Howson, of Arncliffe, the Rev. E.W. Bereton, of Hubberholme, and the Rev. D. Hazlewood, of Kettlewell.

3.

The first news item recorded that during 1880 rainfall at Arncliffe totalled 64.05 inches. At Kettlewell in that year there were nine baptisms, five marriages and five burials. Twenty-nine offertories produced a total of £14.2s. Choir boys at Hubberholme toured that parish on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day singing carols.

In the second issue of the magazine the editors gave themselves a pat on the back "on the great success which has already attended our little venture". The original print order, they explained, was for 100 copies "since it was thought that no great demand would be made for them in so scattered a district". But "this number was very quickly disposed of and a further supply was obtained from the hands of the printer, so that we now have about 100 subscribers".

The Link, distributed free to each household in four parishes and to some readers outside their boundaries, has a circulation of just under 400 copies a month.

## A Song of the Yorkshire Dales....

*Richard Hargreaves of Hawskwick participated in the very jolly Littondale's Got Talent evening as usual this year. Not with the flute this time but with a non-singing rendering of FW Moorman's 'A Song of the Yorkshire Dales' in full Dales' dialect. As hoped, the audience joined in lustily with the chorus after he'd given them an idea of how it sounds!*

### **A Song of the Yorkshire Dales**

A song I sing o' t' Yorkshire dales,  
That winnd frae t' moors to t' sea;  
Frae t' breast o' t' fells, wheer t' cloud-rack  
sails,

Their becks flow merrily.  
Their banks are breet wi' moss an' broom,  
An' sweet is t' scent o' t' thyme;  
You can hark to t' bees' saft, dreamy soom  
I t' foxglove bells an' t' lime.

### **Chorus**

*O! Swawdill's good for horses,  
an' Wensladill for cheese,  
An' Airedill fowk are busy as a bee;  
But whersoe'er I wander,  
My owd heart aye grows fonder  
O Whardill, wheer I'll lig me down an'  
dee.*

Reet bonny are our dales i' March,  
When t' curlews tak to t' moors,  
There's ruddy buds on ivery larch,  
Primroses don their floors.  
But bonnier yet when t' August sun  
Leets up yon plats o' ling;  
An' gert white fishes lowp an' scun,  
Wheer t' weirs ower t' watter hing.

*O! Swawdills good for horses...*

By ivery beck an abbey sleeps,  
An' t' ullet is t' owd prior.  
A jackdaw thruf each windy peeps,  
An' bigs his nest i' t' choir.  
In ivery dale a castle stands—  
Sing, Clifford, Percy, Scrope!—  
They threaped amang theirsels for t' lands,  
But fowt for t' King or t' Pope.

*O! Swawdills good for horses...*

O! Eastward ho! is t' song o' t' gales,  
As they sweep ower fell an' lea;  
And Eastward ho! is t' song o' t' dales,  
That winnd frae t' moors to t' sea.  
Coom winter frost, coom summer druft,  
Their watters munnot bide;  
An' t' rain that's fall'n when bould winds  
soughed  
Sal iver seawards glide.

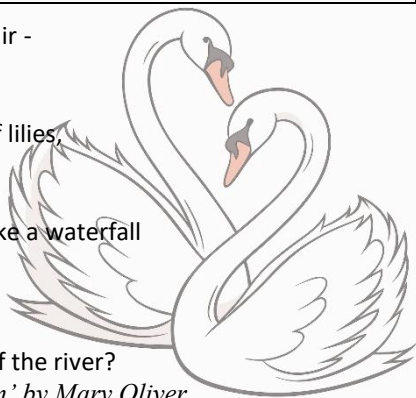
*O! Swawdills good for horses...*

*Frederick William Moorman*

F W Moorman was born in Devon in 1872, probably in humble circumstances and maybe, with that name, somewhere on Dartmoor. Somehow, he completed his education with a degree in English from Strasbourg University in Germany. He became an English teacher at Yorkshire College in Leeds and when that became Leeds University in 1912, he was its first Professor of English Language and Literature. For 20 years he co-rented Garris House in Hawskwick from where with his keen interest in the language and dialect of farming and working families he visited their homes throughout the Dales to record their stories and songs on an early Dictaphone device. In 2016 he published a book *'Yorkshire Dialect Poems 1673 – 1915'* and then in 2018 a collection of his own writing in Yorkshire dialect, *'Songs of the Ridings'*, which included *'A Song of the Dales'*. Very sadly, on 9 September 1919, when swimming with his family in the Skiffare, he drowned. He was only 47. His successor as Professor of English at Leeds was J.R.R. Tolkien, author of *'The Hobbit'* and *'Lord of the Rings'*, etc.

Did you see it in the morning, rising into the silvery air -  
An armful of white blossoms,  
A perfect commotion of silk and linen as it leaned  
Into the bondage of its wings; a snowbank, a bank of lilies,  
Biting the air with its black beak?  
Did you hear it, fluting and whistling  
A shrill dark music - like the rain pelting the trees - like a waterfall  
Knifing down the black ledges?  
And did you see it, finally, just under the clouds -  
A white cross Streaming across the sky, its feet  
Like black leaves, its wings Like the stretching light of the river?

*'The Swan' by Mary Oliver*



Sometimes, watching wildlife is all about being in the right time place at the right time, and when we are afforded these fleeting moments, it can feel as if a light is shining through all the many dark and difficult layers of life.



I had one of those moments this week as I was out for a slow dog walk as the sun was setting in the hazy balmy evening; amber and pink ribbons spreading out across the sky, when I became aware of an insistent noise overhead. Looking up I saw what I thought was a skein of geese, but my Merlin app (fantastic birdwatching app for all those interested) picked the sound up as whooper swans. As I watched them soar overhead, in a tidy V, I could see their elegant necks stretched out, moving with purpose and poise.

In the spring, whooper swans will fly, non-stop, from Scotland to Iceland, (apparently in this instance via Littondale!), having wintered in the North of the UK. They are classified in the UK as Amber under the Birds of Conservation Concern 5: the Red List for Birds (2021).

Whilst very familiar with Mary Oliver's poetry, especially *Wild Geese*, which is one of my all-time favourite poems, I came across this searingly beautiful description of the scene that I had just witnessed. And one of the last lines: "And did you feel it, in your heart, how it pertained to everything?" articulated so perfectly the scarce and random beauty of these moments.

*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

Sat 11 April	Coffee and Cake, Halton Gill Reading Room
Sun 12 Apr	Village Quiz, Buckden Village Institute
Thu 16 Apr	Kettlewell Lunch Club, Kettlewell Village Hall
Sat 18 Apr	Coffee Morning, Buckden Village Institute
Sat 18 Apr	Film Night <i>'The Choral'</i> , Kettlewell Village Hall
Sun 19 Apr	Sunday Whist, Racehorses Hotel, Kettlewell
Mon 20 Apr	Youth Club, Cracoe Village Hall
Wed 22 April	Mobile library, Buckden and Kettlewell
Wed 22 April	Annual Meeting of Parishioners, Annual Parochial Church Meeting, and Exhibition of old Parish Records, Kettlewell Village Hall

## FUTURE EVENTS

Mon 4 May	Yorkshire Camps Open Day, Netherside Hall
Sat 9 May	'Birding for Beginners', Grassington
Sat 16 May	Film Night <i>'Lad: A Yorkshire Story'</i> , Kettlewell Village Hall
Sat 16 May	<i>The Gatsbys</i> , Amerdale Hall
Wed 20 May	<i>'Talking Raptor Persecution'</i> Online talk
Sat 20 Jun	<i>'Midsummer Madness'</i> Shakespeare festival, Arncliffe
Sat 20 Jun	Buckden Gala and Buckden Pike Fell Race
Sat 20 Jun	Settle Orchestra Concert, Christ Church, Skipton
Sat 27 Jun	Settle Orchestra Concert, Settle Parish Church
8-16 Aug	Kettlewell Scarecrow Festival
28-31 Aug	Buckden Art Group Exhibition, Buckden Village Institute

## 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)

### Holy Week Services

Mon 30 March, 19.30	'Is He the One?' Conistone Church
Tue 31 March, 19.30	'The Anointing at Bethany', Kettlewell Church
Wed 1 Apr, 19.30	'Breaking' Hubberholme Church
Thu 2 Apr, 19.30	'Foot Washing', The Falcon Inn, Arncliffe
Fri 3 Apr, 10.00	Walk to the Cross at Rylstone, Rylstone Church
Fri 3 Apr, 11.45	Walk of witness, Grassington Square
Fri 3 Apr, 14.30	'The Final Moments', Conistone Church

### Sunday 5 April EASTER DAY

08.00	Arncliffe	Holy Communion
09.30	Kettlewell	United Holy Communion, Kettlewell & Conistone
11.15	Hubberholme	Holy Communion

### Sunday 12 April

10.00	Kettlewell	Iona Communion
-------	------------	----------------

### Tuesday 14 April

18.00	Kettlewell	Sanctuary@6 Healing
-------	------------	---------------------

### Sunday 19 April

09.30	Arncliffe	Morning Prayer
11.15	Hubberholme	Holy Communion

### Sunday 26 April

09.30	Arncliffe	Holy Communion
11.15	Conistone	Holy Communion
16.30	Hubberholme	Evening Prayer

### Tuesday 28 April

18.00	Kettlewell	Sanctuary@6 Taizé
-------	------------	-------------------

Holy Mass is celebrated on Sundays at 9.00 am at St. Margaret Clitherow's R.C. Church, Threshfield

