

REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE

ISSUE NO. 224

JANUARY 2015



*Your local news magazine
for the Two Dales.*

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First Thoughts . . .

January: Named after the Roman god Janus, the god of beginnings and transitions. He is often depicted with two faces - one looking into the past and the other forward to the future. Quite fitting therefore that this edition of *The Gazette* marks the end of an era, with George Lundberg having relinquished his role as editor.

How things have changed since the early days of *The Gazette* when George, along with a small group of monks, transcribed by hand every single copy; while a dedicated team of nimble-fingered ladies carefully hand-stitched it together. Nowadays, a few clicks of a mouse, flick of the switch, and the job's a good 'un. Seriously though, *The Gazette* owes a great deal of gratitude to George for the amount of time he has devoted over the past twenty years to ensuring that it comes out every month. No doubt he would be the first to say that he was just one of a large team of volunteers who have ensured *The Gazette's* success over the years; but thanks George anyway for your tireless labours.

So what of the future? Whilst we are fortunate in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale to have such a good publication, we cannot afford to rest on our laurels. The strength of *The Gazette* lies in the number of people involved in its production: the more local people involved, the better it is. As was written in the very first edition of *The Gazette*: "The most important aspect is that it should be for and written by the residents of Reeth and District, young and old alike." With

that in mind, we would like to encourage you to send us items for publication. Many of you will have a story to tell or a memory to share which readers will be delighted to read, so please send us your contributions. And don't worry if you think your spelling or grammar isn't up to scratch; we can tidy it up for you.

Also, we welcome your comments on what we can do to improve *The Gazette* and suggestions for features you would like to see included in future editions.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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Published by
The Reeth & District Gazette Ltd.

Company Number: 06541854

c/o THE TREASURER

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All articles or items for inclusion should be sent to the editor (E-mail: editor@reethgazette.co.uk) or left at Reeth Post Office.



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GAZETTE DEADLINES

The deadlines for the next two months are:

February issue: January 10th

March issue: February 10th

PLEASE NOTE: We cannot guarantee any entry but submission by the deadline is of considerable help.

COVER PICTURE

**Great North Air Ambulance
by John Hunter, Grinton
www.hunterart.co.uk**

**Grinton Conservation
Project:
December update**

Burn off those Christmas excesses with some 'outdoor gym'! Come and join our winter maintenance sessions, clearing brambles from the informal paths and graves. Secateurs and thorn-proof gloves will be useful.

Bats: For 2015, NYBG plan regular survey nights, 1st Wednesday each month from April - October. Bad weather may mean we swap to a different night - we'll publicise these on our Forum (see link below).

Bees: We'll complete one more varroa treatment in December, then we won't open the hive until the temperature warms up around April.

Trees: Quite a few trees have grown rapidly and are encroaching on graves. We've got a selection of photos from the past (early 20th century onwards) showing fewer, and much smaller trees. Many yew trees are swamping other trees and making graves inaccessible for family visits. We're drafting a plan to prune (and fell if necessary), and will discuss this with YDNPA to agree a program for the next few years.

Wildflowers & Paths: We've summarised Marjorie Daniels' species records from the last 2 summers, and over the winter will clear the brambles from the informal paths at the West end. We're planning wildflower 'I-Spy' over the summer - more info later.

Across in the Wood (Grinton Forest Church) plans events for most months next year. Find out more and see photos from the 2013 events on Facebook - search for "Across in the

Wood". The next 2 events, both in St. Andrews churchyard, are: 2pm Sat 17 January, The Fish; 2pm Sat 7 February, The Cross, 2pm Sat 14 March, The Bible

Future Events: You can see our events calendar on our Google Group (see below). We've changed the format of our regular meetings, so that we now meet 10am-10:30 to discuss plans and progress, followed by events or working sessions from 10:30-12:00. So if you want to avoid the meeting, come along at 10:30! All events at St Andrews church, unless otherwise specified.

10th Jan Saturday: GCP meeting, maintenance, 10:30-12:00

14th Feb Saturday: GCP meeting, maintenance, 10:30-12:00

14th Mar Saturday: GCP meeting, maintenance, 10:30-12:00

April/May - date tbc - Dawn Chorus walk

Join our Forum on Google so you can find out about future events and news:

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/gcpforum>

or search Google Groups for Grinton Conservation Project. Info also on the parish website, Environmental page:

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Remembrance and More

The Bridge Inn, situated in the small village of Grinton, hosted an evening of wonderful musical entertainment on Saturday 15th November.

Natasha Harper, known for her appearances nationally at various Forties events and shortly to star in a production of "Dick Whittington" before playing "Little Voice" graced the pub with a mixture of songs from the last eight decades. She was ably accompanied by John Hunter, resident of Grinton, who regularly plays with Yorkshire based big bands as well as his solo appearances at the King's Head Hotel in Richmond.

The Programme covered a range of songs from Gracie Fields, through the Carpenters to Lloyd Webber, all fine vehicles for showing off both Natasha's and John's musical skills. The audience were made to do their fair share joining in with a selection of war-time favourites. The homely setting of the pub made the convivial atmosphere relaxed and those attending looked forward to other such events that may be held in the future.

Ian New

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In The Spotlight

To start off this new feature, the Editor has put himself in the spotlight.

Tell us about yourself in 50 words or less:

Former policeman, toymaker and head teacher; not to mention bar manager, vending machine engineer and painter & decorator. Supporter of Hull RLFC and Hull City AFC. Slow cyclist. Presenter of Monday Drivetime and Saturday Breakfast Shows on Radio Teesdale. (Listen online: www.radioteesdale.co.uk) Bruce Springsteen fan.

Tell us something about yourself that not a lot of people know:

In 1979 I represented the City of Norwich on BBCTV's *It's A Knockout* programme.

What was the first job you ever had?

Apart from a paper round, working in a greengrocer's. I got sacked after five hours because the owner 'didn't think I would make the grade.'

If you won the Lottery jackpot, what's the first thing you would buy?

Anonymity.

Which is your favourite film /book?

The Magnificent Seven film and The Lord of the Rings book. The only ones I have watched / read numerous times.

What do you like/dislike about living or working in The Dales?

I love the ever changing scenery, but just wish there weren't so many hills to cycle up.

Who would you most like to go for a drink with?

No question - Bruce Springsteen.

Is the glass half full or half empty?
Definitely half full.

What would be your luxury on a desert island?

It would have to be my music collection and a massive solar-powered sound system.

If you could ban one thing in the country, what would it be?

All those reality Voice Pop Idol X Factor's Got No Talent programmes.

Your house is on fire. You can save one item. What would it be?

My ipod, which houses most of my music collection.

What's your favourite joke?

The shortish version is:

Dad, am I really a polar bear?

Of course you are son.

So I'm not a brown bear or a grizzly bear then?

Nope, you are definitely a polar bear.

Why do you ask son?

Because I'm flippin' freezing.

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Thanks, Gunnerside

An evening's entertainment took place in Gunnerside Village Hall on 15th November, featuring Five Pearls and a Piano, The Artyfacts, musicians Phil Cox and Margaret Forward, and Graham's Uke Group. The reason? To celebrate the re-opening of The King's Head in Gunnerside. The audience packed the hall, laughed in all the right places and then, with many of the cast, adjourned 'across the road.'

Impresario Jackie McCartney thanked all who took part and was delighted that the profit of £357 was able to be donated to the Alzheimer's Society.

Andrew Horn

Swale Singers Support Macmillan Cancer Charity

The concert on November 22nd in St Mary's, Arkengarthdale, was a huge financial success, thanks particularly to the generosity of all those who attended and those who gave and served refreshments. A total of £895 (including Gift Aid) was raised for Macmillan.

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Message From The Swaledale Museum in Reeth

While the Museum is closed until the spring, we are busy as usual helping people with their enquiries. For example we are delighted to be working with a second year MA student at the University of York. One of her modules is entitled 'Concepts, Principles and Practice' which explores the theory, politics and application of heritage management plans, specifically in larger site contexts. Her assessment for this module consists of formulating a management plan for Grinton Lead Smelting Mill and Peat Store. She is interested in proposing the theoretical development of this site into an Interpretative Centre. She has been using images from our online archive and we hope that we can persuade her to give the Friends of the Museum a talk next year on her research.

Stephen Eastmead our digital archivist has been busy creating online presentations relating to our archive material, and other resources associated with the Museum. His first 'show' is on Neddy Dick and his 'Rock Band' and the second features Jocelyn Campbell's beautiful watercolours of Swaledale flowers, perhaps an inspiration to buy her book, now available from Hayloft Publishing (<http://www.hayloft.eu>). Go to the Archive section of our website to see them both.

Thank you Tracy Little for creating our Autumn 2014 Friends of the Museum Newsletter, packed with information, articles and news. You can also find this on the Museum Website. We are also busy taking bookings for

groups, including Pannal School, Easingwold Ladies, visitors to Grinton Youth Hostel, Middleham Study Group who are coming for a day on historic shopping in the Dale and others.

Why not become a Friend of the Museum (or encourage a friend to become a Friend!); annual membership: single £10, joint £15, family £20. Membership gives you unlimited free entry to the Museum, discount on talks with preferential booking, and our twice-yearly Newsletter!

For more information, bookings and special tours contact Helen Bainbridge museum.swaledale@btinternet.com or on 07969823232. Or check our website for news and this year's programme of activities and talks: www.swaledalemuseum.org

Finally, we wish you all a very happy New Year and look forward to welcoming you to the Museum in the Spring.

Helen Bainbridge

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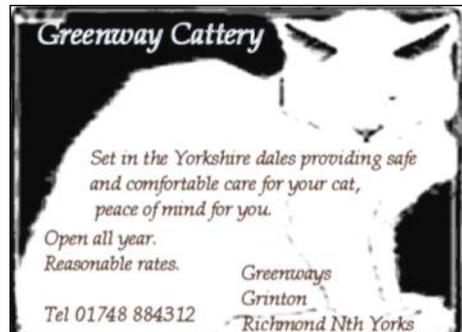
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Big Dig: End of Season Report

During the summer, householders and teams of enthusiasts dug 27 one-meter-square test pits on private and public land throughout Reeth. These excavations produced nearly 2,000 pieces of dating evidence, mostly in the form of pottery fragments but also glass, nails and even a medieval metal lock. Project leader Alan Mills, of the Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Archaeology Group (SWAAG) which organised and managed the project, reports on the first season's work of The Swaledale Big Dig:

The principle of digging multiple test pits throughout a single community is to see what dating patterns emerge from among the finds by assessing their composition and style, and taking into account the depth at which they are found. It's a method that is supported by professional archaeologists and that has produced remarkable results in other parts of the country.

While we already know that this general area of Swaledale has been more or less continuously inhabited since the Bronze Age, and we did recover one piece of Roman pottery in this project, the striking thing about this year's Big Dig finds is that within the built-up area of the village of Reeth we found no dating evidence older than pottery fragments from the late 1100s and the 1200s. It suggests that this was the time, beginning around the reigns of the first Plantagenet kings, Henry II and Richard I, when a thriving community became properly established. We found 52 pieces from this period, but only 21 dating from the 1300s to the 1500s, which the professional archaeologists tell us is indicative of an economic decline.

That fits with the known history of Swaledale, which was devastated in the 1300s, first by Scottish armies, which for a period of 30 years came south to raid the wealthy Yorkshire monasteries. They often travelled the length of Swaledale on their way in and out of the county, and early

accounts talk of them rampaging throughout Richmondshire, destroying religious buildings, including Marrick and Ellerton Priors in Swaledale, and also burning villages and manors. Then in the second half of that century came the bubonic plague which is known to have depleted vastly the population of Yorkshire, just as it did in most of the rest of the country.

Our finds of more than 130 pieces of pottery from the 1600s indicate that this was the period in which Reeth was finally restored to vibrancy, leading to the royal grant of a market charter in 1695. This coincides with the known expansion of the lead-mining industry in the area, which drew more people to live and work in what was then a relatively stable environment. As you would expect the number of datable finds from the 1700s to the present day increased dramatically.

We feel satisfied that the Big Dig has already provided us with a great deal of useful information about the history of Reeth, and no doubt more will emerge as we obtain more specialist advice and guidance on the individual finds and on the indications they have for our understanding of the past.

Next year, which is the second and last year of the project, we will probably do more work in Reeth but our main focus will move to the neighbouring villages of Fremington and Grinton. Not only do we hope to learn more about them individually, but also to compare the findings from the three villages to see whether common patterns emerge that might help us to take a broader view on the history of the whole area. We have a number of locations lined up for test pits next year but we are still keen to hear from anyone else who would like to offer a patch of ground to be explored in Fremington and Grinton.

Alan Mills

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“The Great Nils Lofgren”

Bruce Springsteen's words, not mine; but to describe Nils Lofgren as one of the guitarists in Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band, would be to do him a grave injustice: he is a singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist in his own right who has fronted his own band and worked with many other musicians, notably Neil Young.

Nils started playing the classical accordion at the age of five and studied it seriously for 10 years before switching to guitar. In an interview for Radio Teesdale, I asked Nils what it was that turned him to the rock guitar. "Well, I blame The Beatles," he said. "I really fell in love with popular music through The Beatles and the flood gates opened thanks to The Beatles and just their more sophisticated melodies and chord structure really grabbed me as a classical musician and that was it. It was a great hobby for a couple of years - in Middle America nobody thought you could do it as a living - then when I was 16 in Washington DC I saw The Who and then we all ran over to see Jimi Hendrix on The Late Show with Pete Townsend and that night I was possessed with the notion of trying to be a rock musician so I hit the road at 17 and 46 years later here I am."

He was fortunate that Neil Young took him under his wing and when he was only 18, was asked to play on Young's album *After The Goldrush* - as a pianist. "Well, they said guitar, singing and piano and I questioned that and said 'I'm really not a professional piano player' but they had more faith in



Photo by Jo Lopez

me than I did and said they were confident I would figure out a few simple parts. I was blown away and never left the piano, practising day and night but I played some good simple parts on what turned out to be a very landmark beautiful record."

Nils had a "great time" following a musical career and "fell in love with performing which is by far the most fun thing of my job, When I know I have a show at night I'm just so excited to wake up and prepare physically, mentally, spiritually, musically and getting out and singing in front of An audience is like a second home to me."

Then Bruce Springsteen came along. "We had been friends for a long time," Nils explained, "I used to buy tickets and go see Bruce and The E Street Band regularly in the seventies and early eighties and I told him one day that I really enjoyed being in a great band and not being the boss every day of my life. So I think he filed it away and when he needed a guitarist I got a call. We jammed for two days with the band and he asked me to join - another landmark musical moment for me right up there with the *After The Goldrush* experience when I was eighteen. And

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thirty years later hear I am and we've just been inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame."

The most poignant part of the interview was when Nils talked about his close friendship with band member, the late Clarence Clemons. "It was a devastating blow to everybody [when he passed away] and he was always so kind . . . so yes, a terrible loss. I didn't want Bruce to put anybody next to me playing sax, and he didn't, he got a five man horn section. There was nobody like Clarence, not just the brilliant sax playing but the camaraderie. I often remember just sitting on the riser in the dark whispering while Bruce would do something alone . . . from just talking about life and people and kids, to guessing what we were going to play next because Bruce would never follow the set list and we got pretty good at it. It was an honour to have him around and stand next to him for 27 years and I just wish it was a lot longer."

Nils has recently released a career-spanning 10 disc limited edition box set called *Face The Music*. "When I went back there were hundreds and hundreds of recordings and I've hand-picked my favourites. There's a 144 page booklet; my wife Amy was the artistic director and we have put a beautiful package together. It was a year and a half's work and we are very proud of it." Nils will be performing some of the songs on the box set when he tours England in January. He is appearing at The Sage, a venue he has visited before, "The audiences there have been fabulous and usually afterwards I try to get out and sign for an hour or so - anything you want -

and I'll encourage them to keep the pub open so people can have a chat. The best part of great rock and roll is getting out and singing for people and having a visit with them after." This will be Nils' first solo tour of the UK for over three years and he says, "I am very inspired and excited about it. We are planning on doing a great show for everybody in every town."

Nils Lofgren is appearing at The Sage, Gateshead on Friday 23rd January 2014. *Face The Music* can be ordered through his website: www.nilslofgren.com

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Cave Rescue
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provides mountain search and cave rescue within the area of Swaledale & Wensleydale. The team is made up of highly trained volunteers who are available, any time day or night, in any weather. SMRT provide a 24 hr, all year round rescue service. If you would like further information, or would like to help the team with fundraising, please visit our website or drop a few coins into one of our collection boxes in the local pubs & shops.

Incidents & training

Total incidents for 2014: 58

Total incidents for 2013: 49,

2013 was our busiest year ever for rescues, until now! So far this year the team have been called to attended 58 incidents, with a few weeks still to go. Thanks to all team members, families & employers for making this possible. This places an extra demand on the team for fund raising as well as actual rescues. Thanks to all our supporters!

Incidents for the team this month:

22/11/2014 (58) 15.30hrs:

The Team were called by the Ambulance Service to assist with the rescue of an injured kayaker at Aysgarth Falls, alongside the ambulance crew we treated & evacuated the casualty.

17/11/2014 (57) 20.30hrs:

Team called by North Yorkshire Police to search for a missing vulnerable young person with learning difficulties

& medical condition. As the team arrived on scene the Police found the missing person safe and well.

Want to help but don't fancy going on the hills? Then join our supporters group? Details on our web site and Facebook page.

If you would like a collecting box for your place of work, drop us an email.

Fund raising news:

Thanks to The Farmers Arms, Muker for hosting the quiz in Nov. £89 raised Sales of the Tour de France Beer, Buttertubs raised £1,706 from the Yorkshire Dales Brewery.

We now have some Swaledale MRT business supporter window stickers and have started distributing these. If you'd like one and we haven't got to you yet then please contact Jill Armstrong our fund-raising officer on 01748 886807.

All money raised is used to pay for insurance, maintenance and running of our three emergency vehicles, operating and up keep of our base, and the replacement of rescue and medical equipment.

DON'T FORGET IF YOU NEED MOUNTAIN OR CAVE RESCUE, call the POLICE on 999.

They will call us & an ambulance if required. If you call for an ambulance, that's what you will get! This might not be much use if you are underground or up a hill. By calling the POLICE you can save time & stop an ambulance arriving only to find they need to then call us out.

Thanks for the continued support to all our readers. Happy New Year!

www.swaledalemrt.org.uk



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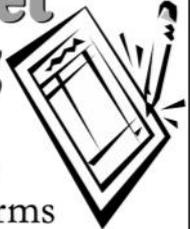


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Post Office News

Beware the scammers!

You often hear about people who have been scammed out of sometimes thousands of pounds—and it is very easy to think: 'It won't happen to me.' However over the past few months we have had four customers in the post office requesting to send a moneygram overseas. This is an instant money transfer that cannot be reversed. Whilst a moneygram is a legitimate, secure way to send money abroad, if someone contacts you out of the blue and requests you to carry out a transfer on their behalf, chances are that it is a scam.

In the cases we know about, the victims have been contacted in different ways, perhaps over the phone, via their computer or even by letter. The people carrying out the scams are very persuasive and extremely clever in the ways they convince people to part with their money. And if they think they have 'hooked a victim' they will be relentless in their attempts to get their money, often requesting increasingly large sums of money.

We do our utmost to handle these situations sensitively and will not carry out a transaction if we suspect it is a scam. But the age old advice still applies: if it sounds too good to be true, it is. (*See advice on next page.*)

And finally, on a more positive note: Don't forget that we can process Home Shopping Returns at the shop till when the Post Office is closed; and if shopping online, some companies (for example Amazon) will let you have items delivered to the Post Office.

Avoiding Telephone Scams

Figures published last month by Financial Fraud Action UK (FFA UK) show a significant rise in the number of consumers who have been targeted by phone scammers over the last year. In response they have issued advice to consumers on how to take steps to avoid this type of scam:

Be wary of:

- Unsolicited approaches by phone.
- Cold callers who suggest you hang up the phone and call them back. Fraudsters can keep your phone line open by not putting down the receiver at their end.

Your bank or the police will never:

- Phone you to ask for your 4 digit card PIN or your online banking password, even by tapping them into the telephone keypad.
- Ask you to withdraw money to hand over to them for safe-keeping.
- Ask you to transfer money to a new account for fraud reasons, even if they say it is in your name.
- Send someone to your home to collect your cash, PIN, payment card or cheque book if you are a victim of fraud.
- Ask you to purchase goods using your card and then hand them over for safe-keeping.

Never disclose your:

- Four digit card PIN to anyone, including the bank or police.

- Your password or online banking codes
- Personal details unless you are sure who you are talking to.

Remember

It takes two people to terminate a call. If you feel something is suspicious or feel vulnerable, hang up, wait five minutes to clear the line, or where possible use a different phone line, then call your bank or card issuer on their advertised number to report the fraud.

If you don't have another telephone to use, call someone you know first to make sure the telephone line is free.

Your bank will also never ask you to check the number showing on your telephone display matches their registered telephone number. The display cannot be trusted, as the number showing can be altered by the caller.

Criminals may already have basic information about you in their possession (e.g. name, address, account details), so do not assume a caller is genuine because they have these details or because they claim to represent a legitimate organisation.

For more advice go to:

www.financialfraudaction.org.uk

LADIES

Don't forget the get-together
regarding the new
Townswomen's Guild
7.00 pm
Low Row Institute
Tuesday 13th January

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Church Services January 2015

4th Jan.	9.15 am	St. Mary's Muker	<i>Eucharist</i>
	10.30 am	Low Row URC	
		Reeth Methodist	
	11.00 am	St. Edmund's, Marske	<i>Holy Communion</i>
		Holy Trinity Low Row	<i>Eucharist</i>
		Reeth Evangelical Congrega- tional	
	6.00 pm	St. Andrew's Grinton	<i>Evening Prayer BCP</i>
	6.30 pm	Reeth Evangelical Congrega- tional	
	2.00 pm	Keld URC	
	2.30 pm	Gunnarside Methodist	
11th Jan.	9.30 am	St. Andrew's Grinton at Fre- mington Sunday School	<i>Eucharist</i>
		St Michael's Downholme	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
	10.30 am	Low Row URC	
		Reeth Methodist	
	11.00 am	Reeth Evangelical Congrega- tional	
		St. Edmund's, Marske	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
	11.15 am	St. Mary's Arkengarthdale	<i>Holy Communion BCP</i>
	6.00 pm	St. Mary's Muker	<i>Evening Prayer</i>
		Reeth Evangelical Congrega- tional	

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Meetings are at Quaker House, 7 Grove Square
Leyburn every Sunday at 10.30am.
Additionally on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every
month at the Scout Hut, Quakers Lane,
Richmond at 10.30am.

For further information contact
Judith Calow on 01748 884320 or
www.dalesquakers.org.uk

Roman Catholic Services

For information contact
Father O'Neil on 01748 822175
or
www.stjosephsfx.co.uk

**Don't forget
the Gazette is online.
Go to
www.2dales.org.uk**

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Church Services January 2015

18th Jan.	9.15 pm	St. Mary's Muker	<i>Holy Communion BCP</i>
	10.30 am	Low Row URC	<i>Holy Communion</i>
		Reeth Methodist	<i>2.30 pm Gunnerside</i>
	11.00 am	Holy Trinity Low Row	<i>Eucharist</i>
		Reeth Evangelical Congrega- tional	
		St. Edmund's, Marske	<i>Holy Communion</i>
	2.00 pm	Keld URC	<i>Holy Communion</i>
	2.30 pm	Gunnerside Methodist	<i>Covenant Service</i>
	6.30 pm	Reeth Evangelical Congrega- tional	
22nd Jan.	7.30 pm	Low Row URC	<i>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ser- vice</i>
25th Jan.	9.30 am	St. Andrew's Grinton at Fre- mington Sunday School	<i>Eucharist</i>
		St Michael's Downholme	<i>Holy Communion</i>
	10.30 am	Low Row URC	
		Reeth Methodist	<i>Family Service</i>
	11.00 am	Reeth Evangelical Congrega- tional	
		St. Edmund's, Marske	<i>Holy Communion</i>
	11.15 am	St. Mary's Arkengarthdale	<i>Holy Communion BCP</i>
	6.30 pm	Reeth Evangelical Congrega- tional	

Reeth Literary Institute Trust

Limited grants are available from the Trust for voluntary bodies working for the interest of social welfare and education, with the object of improving life within the township of Reeth. Applications are invited to the Trust at:

5 Langhorne Drive, Reeth, DL11 6SS
by 28th February 2016.

A financial statement must accompany any application.

Memorial Hall Ceilidh

With many thanks to all who supported the Ceilidh on November 22nd. It raised a lot of laughs and £298 towards the Hall's Phase 2 of the repair and refurbishment programme.

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**Muker Parish Council
Minutes of meeting held
on 25th November 2014**

Matters Arising

Abandoned Trailer: RDC to remove it abandoned trailer near Thwaite

Ivelet Bridge: The safety and mortar mixture was discussed, and it was suggested to contact YDNP and Highways, Councillor Gardener to agreed to contact both parties.

Barn Restoration: Councillor Whitehead read out letter received from YDNPA on the legacy they have received for barn restoration within Muker Parish. Councillor Gardener also read out an email he had received on the same subject mentioning that grants may be available.

Crow Trees: Councillor Porter informed the meeting that the 'Road Closed' sign had been left in place for the last three weeks, even though the road had not actually been closed during that time. The works had still not yet been completed. It was requested that an email to be sent, by the clerk, to Highways asking about the signage and how much longer would the job take to be finished.

Silver Hill: Bushes on the bend were being arranged to be cut down.

Highways

A1 Notice: Cllr Whitehead read out notice received in regard to the overnight closure of A1 scheduled for Saturday 6th December and Saturday 13th December.

Keld Drains: Work to be started this week on the drains at Keld.

YDNPA

Trees: Notice received to fell one ash tree next to Stockdale House. This work has already been carried out.

Crake Holme: Notice received of approval for planning application for installation of Solar Panels.

Correspondence/AOB

Bus Timetable: New LWB Swaledale Service timetable mentioned.

Motor Rally: A Notice has been received from YDNPA in regard to a proposed motor rally which will pass through the Parish during 6th-8th December.

Bank Signatures: Cllr Whitehead to enquire at Bank to change from two to three signatories on Parish Bank Account.

Financial Risk Assessment: The Clerk to write a 'Financial Risk Assessment' for the Parish Council and present to next Parish Council meeting to be signed by Chairman.

Date and Time of Next Meetings

7.30p.m. on 13th January 2015 and 11th March 2015.

Pat Coates
Clerk for Muker Parish Council

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Nowt's same ... Or is it?

In 1965 tourism was in its infancy in Swaledale. Visitors would stay at B&Bs, one of the hotels or at a youth hostel. The proliferation of holiday cottages and Bunk Barns was yet to come.

When two cottages we owned (which were on life tenancies with a combined yearly rental of £47) became available in 1964, we decided to renovate, furnish them and let them to visitors. This was an innovative and exciting idea and we believe we were the first in this area. Little did we know it would become a life style and we would still be in business 50 years later!

How things have changed over those years. Or have they?

All enquiries were by phone or letter. Payment was by cheque. Advertising was via the Dalesman. Paper work was run off on a Gestetner machine. You typed onto a wax A4 sheet which was put onto the inked machine and copies produced by turning a handle. The season was Easter to October; no bookings of less than a week, no winter lets at all. Always fully booked we had a waiting list for cancellations. As visitors left they reserved the same week for the following year. The price for one week was £12. Four weeks booked and we had achieved the same income as long letting for a year.

Today most enquiries are via email. Online direct bank transfer has been added to the use of cheques. Advertising has become more of a necessity and the Dalesman has been augmented with other magazines. The advent of large agencies has made a good website essential if you choose to 'go it alone'. A presence on Social media helps to 'spread the word' and good reviews all help. Administrative work has been made easier (or harder) as computers have become more widely available. Our first computer in 1981 was a Commodore Pet for which you wrote your own programs in Basic. Today we have an i mac, laptop, smart phone and laser printer. Booking and attracting new visitors is far more costly and complicated. Cottages

are open all year with short breaks being offered. Supply has exceeded demand and many villages have more cottages available for holiday letting than for permanent residency.

Visitors' expectations have altered and cottages are more like mini hotels with welcome packs and toiletries. Cooker and a basic fridge have expanded to include separate freezer, fridge, washing machine, microwave, dishwasher, flat screen Television, CD players, cycle storage and internet access. All furnishings, crockery, kitchen utensils are coordinated with frequent updating.

A lot has changed but much remains the same, an annual inspection by the tourist board and the fact that satisfied visitors and personal recommendation are more important than any advertising. How grateful we are to our loyal regulars, many coming for over 20 years and one couple for over 40 years. So many have become family friends and it is sad when they can no longer make the journey.

We had few restrictions in the early days. About our fourth let, a visitor turned up with three black labradors. We gulped and requested they stayed downstairs. We spent the changeover day removing black hairs from our lovely new golden wool blankets.

Another visitor complained because their dog was too fat to get through the stiles and there were sheep in the fields. (Well, this is Swaledale.)

We hand-built our present properties on our site in the 1980s and decided no pets at all and aim for an allergy free zone. After some very responsible regular visitors had gone home we found all these hairs on the lounge suite. We were amazed. We then discovered they had purchased local Swaledale sweaters! Would we have to ban those?

It has been a life commitment. Would we do it again? Yes, our regulars will not allow us to retire and now Dave (son) is on hand to do the maintenance we can sit down - occasionally.

R. Hodgson

www.reethcottages.com

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Proposed Library Reorganisation

People across North Yorkshire are being asked to give their views on proposals for a major expansion of community involvement in the county's library service.

By 2020, the County Council will have seen its library budget fall dramatically from around £7.8m in 2010 to an expected £4.2m for 2019-20. The reduction is part of a cut of some £167m to the council's overall spending.

A three-month county-wide consultation on the proposals began on 3 November. It's hoped that as many people as possible will take part in a constructive examination of the suggestions put forward for meeting the latest budgetary restraints while continuing to provide an effective and valued service. The council would continue to provide a Home Library Service for people who have difficulty reaching a library, and a Supermobile service.

The library service would continue to support outlets such as the Hudson House library in Reeth and local collections in pubs and village halls.

"Libraries are community assets and with the enormous financial pressures the County Council is under, we need to appeal to the communities themselves to help keep as many libraries as possible open and available to all those who use them," commented Councillor Chris Metcalfe.

You can have your say at:

www.northyorks.gov.uk/libraryconsultation

Richmond & Leyburn Embroiderers' Guild

The first meeting of the Richmond & Leyburn Branch of the Embroiderers' Guild in the New Year is on:

**Thursday, 15th January 2015 at 1.30 pm
at Harmby Village Hall.**

There is no speaker this month as we will focus on ideas and inspiration for our competitions in 2015. Stitching from 10.00 am. Visitors are most welcome. Please ring 01609 748811 for further details.

Ralph Porter's 70th Birthday Party

I would like to thank everyone who came to my 70th party at the Buck Hotel on 18th October. I hope everyone had a good time. The final total collected for the Air Ambulance was £630 which has now been forwarded to them. So thank you all for your generous contributions and thanks to Jackie and Jim at the Buck Hotel for making it a good night.

Ralph Porter

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Born in January?

Who do you share your birthday with?

- 1 J Edgar Hoover, Director of FBI
- 2 David Bailey, photographer
- 3 Mel Gibson, actor
- 4 Sir Isaac Newton, clever bloke
- 5 King C Gillette, inventor of the safety razor
- 6 Rowan Atkinson, actor
- 7 Lewis Hamilton, go kart driver
- 8 Elvis Presley, The King
- 9 Kate Middleton, kingmaker
- 10 Rod Stewart, old age Mod
- 11 Clarence Clemons, greatest ever saxophone player
- 12 Joe Frazier, pugilist
- 13 Orlando Bloom, florist
- 14 Faye Dunaway, actress
- 15 Martin Luther King Jn, civil rights leader
- 16 James May, big kid.
- 17 Muhammad Ali, The Greatest
- 18 Oliver Hardy, piano removal expert
- 19 Paul Cezanne, painter & decorator
- 20 Tom Baker, Time Lord
- 21 Jack Nicklaus, reasonable golfer
- 22 Walter Raleigh, inventor of the bike
- 23 Arjen Robben, Dutch diver
- 24 Neil Diamond, geezer
- 25 Robert Burns, haggis expert
- 26 Paul Newman, King of Cool
- 27 Francis Drake, English bowler
- 28 Elijah Wood, Hobbit
- 29 W C Fields, open-air toilet designer
- 30 Phil Collins, gorilla-suited drummer
- 31 Mario Lanza, plumber, I think.

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NB: Simon Stories are true!
They contain exactly 50 words.

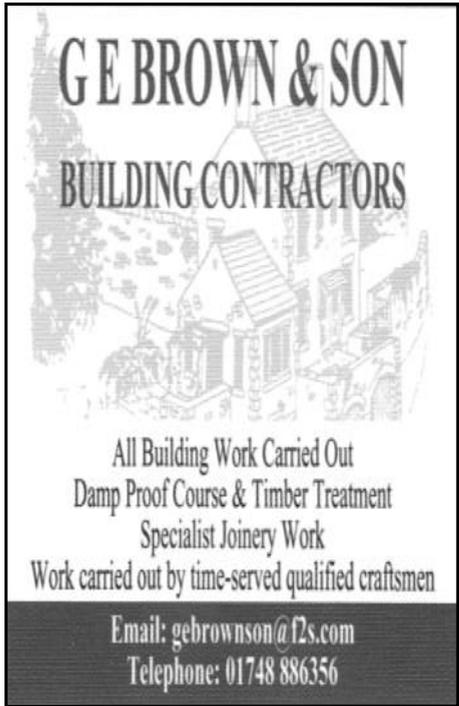
GAZETTE DEADLINES

The deadlines for the next two months are:

February issue: January 10th

March issue: February 10th

PLEASE NOTE: We cannot guarantee any entry but submission by the deadline is of considerable help.



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Arkengarthdale School News

It's been an incredibly busy, yet immensely rewarding, couple of months at Arkengarthdale School, with so many proud moments to share with you. As part of our World War 1 week, the children, staff and parents created a stunning and poignant piece of artwork that featured more than 1,000 hand-made poppies. The stunning display, inspired by the sea of poppies at the Tower of London not only proved popular with residents and visitors to the Dale, but also led to over £600 being raised to support injured, wounded and sick soldiers and veterans. Help For Heroes northern Recovery Centre Phoenix House Recovery Centre, in Catterick, was chosen as the charity to benefit from the School's project and the KS2 children were delighted to have the opportunity of visiting the Centre. They enjoyed a tour of the facility and were proud to donate the cheque from their fundraising activities. Comments Eoghan, a year 3 pupil at Arkengarthdale School on his visit to Phoenix House Recovery Centre, "It was interesting and funny seeing Mrs Brown on one of the bicycles that the injured

soldiers use in the gym! We were able to see where people recover and how the money we donated can help them." The money was raised from a number of activities. As well as selling poppies the children hosted a World War 1 open afternoon, where they sang songs such as 'It's a long way to Tipperary', read war poems and served delicious refreshments to the audience.

Our World War 1 project has received overwhelming support from the community and what started out to be a small contribution by a small school has developed into something we could not have imagined when we embarked on our acknowledgement to those who lost their lives in the war. As a result of our Poppy display, we have in fact reached out to a much wider audience than we had ever anticipated. The week also involved the children taking part in a remembrance service at Arkengarthdale Church, kindly led by Rev Caroline Hewlett, on 11th November to commemorate the centenary, as well as learning about life as a serving soldier in World War 1, from local war expert Chris Best, plus creating displays from their own research and writing letters based on what they have learnt about life on the frontline. The children also remembered



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the five men from Arkengarthdale killed in World War 1. Mrs Brown (KS2 teacher) Graham White (governor) and Thomas Barningham (Y6 pupil) were also in the media spotlight, being interviewed on BBC Radio York.

Our six Year 6 pupils enjoyed a fabulous week at East Barnby, the outdoor pursuits centre near Whitby with their friends from the Methodist School in Richmond. They enjoyed activities including shelter-building, beck-scrumbling, rock-climbing, orienteering, fossil-hunting, sea-shore study and canoeing. A year 6 pupil said, "It was an amazing experience, we all had a fantastic time especially when Mr Allison and Mrs Brown did the *Looney Leap!*"

Our team of Eco Warriors visited a workshop at Harlow Carr Gardens, Bramall Learning Centre, where they took part in activities informing them about energy saving in school, global environment, team building and a tour of the Eco building, seeing first-hand how recycled products are used and ideas to save energy. They were inspired to bring energy/eco saving ideas to school and encourage us all to be as eco friendly as we can. They are now drawing up an action plan to begin their improvements. Ryan, Amy, Gideon, Izzy, Hannah and Eoghan agreed that "it was a fun morning, which has informed us to achieve the bronze flag for our school. It was a shame we couldn't have stayed all day!"

The year 6 pupils visited RAF Leeming for the 'Crucial Crew' project, which is a day of hands-on safety activities where the children have the chance to experience potentially dangerous situations in safe and supervised environments. Comments Amy Atkinson, "It inspired me to go home and practice the recovery position on my Mum! It's given me more confidence if I had to deal with an emergency situation."

On the performing arts front I have been amazed at how the children have embraced music, singing and drama. The choir's outstanding performance in the Snowman production deserves a mention.

The children, joined by pupils from Richmond Methodist School, sang alongside the Richmondshire Orchestra for a very moving rendition of the Snowman. Only a few days later, all the school children took part in our Christmas play. As part of our WW1 studies, the children produced their own letters and diary entries, which depict what life would have been like in the trenches. Along with carols and readings the children re-told the story of the Christmas Truce. Thank you to everyone who supported the play and especially to the church wardens for allowing us to use St Mary's Church as the venue and the Friends of Arkengarthdale School for providing refreshments.

Our Thursday night sports club has continued well into the winter and culminated in a hard-fought football match against our friends and neighbours from Reeth and Gunnerside School. The match was completed in torrential rain and near darkness with the result of 4-1 to Arkengarthdale being secondary to the excellent spirit in which the game was played.

So the end of 2014 was packed full of great work by the children. We are already looking forward to our projects for 2015.

Mark Allison, Headteacher

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Reeth Methodist Church Under Threat

Invitation to attend a
PUBLIC MEETING
to discuss the future of
Reeth Methodist Church
Wednesday 14th January 2015 at
7.30pm in the Chapel.

The congregation, members and friends of Reeth Methodist Church are inviting you to an important meeting to discuss the future of the Methodist Church in Reeth.

Our church exists to worship and serve God. We want to make our church relevant to the current age and need your help to do this.

We realise that our witness through the chapel building will not be sustainable unless we strive to meet the needs of the people we seek to serve with extra practical support and manpower.

Please come to this meeting to gain an understanding of the current situation and to help us to discern a way forward.

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Full Moon Run

What could be better on a cold winter's night?

It's good to stay active through the winter but often difficult to keep motivated during the dark months. One of our favourite things to do is a monthly 'full moon run'. It's a social run and a great way to get out. If you're heading into the hills or running at night, it's also much safer going out in a group.

On Friday 5th December 32 runners from across the region met at Swaledale Outdoors to join us on our monthly run in the hills of Swaledale. Inov-8, the UK's leading off road running brand was here in Reeth with a demo pool of shoes for the runners to try out. As were Petzl, with their market leading 'reactive' head torches. Once all the runners got themselves kitted out everyone headed out for a beautiful run to Grinton along a very silvery Swale before heading up Harkerside. The conditions were perfect. The full moon was spectacular



in a cloudless sky. The grassy trails were sparkling under a layer of frost, the firmer ground also helping keep our feet a little drier. After climbing to the top of Harkerside we made our way down returning to Reeth along the river. Of course crossing the Swing Bridge would have been the sensible option but wading across the river near Healaugh's stepping stones was much more fun and our own version of a recovery ice bath. Luckily the Buck Hotel had a roaring fire and refreshments waiting.

The next 'full moon run' will be Tuesday January 6th meeting at Swaledale Outdoors Shop at 6:30pm.

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January

2nd Muker Auld Roy Domino Drive
7.30pm Village Hall

6th Full Moon Run
6.30pm Swaledale Outdoors

14th Reeth Methodist Church
Meeting 7.30 in the Chapel

15th Embroiderers' Meeting
1.30, Harmby Village Hall

February

27th Muker Show Domino & Whist
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Poppy Appeal 2014

This year the poppy appeal raised £1929.71 for the British Legion so thank you to everyone for giving so generously.

I would like to thank especially all the House to House ladies who kindly give up their time to collect in their villages; and the invaluable help I get from the ladies who help count the money is very much appreciated. Thanks also all the pubs, shops, restaurants and outlets who kindly allow a tray of poppies on their premises. If there is anyone else who would like a tray of poppies next year, please contact me on 884684.

After 10 years as a poppy appeal organiser I intend to resign after the Poppy Appeal 2015. So if anyone would like to volunteer to take over this worthwhile cause, maybe someone who has just retired or someone younger, please ring me on the number above.

Many thanks again to everyone.

Chris Porter
Poppy Appeal

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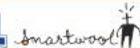
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