

Settle & District Community News

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No. 179 February 2024



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Editor's Welcome



Welcome to your new-look Community News.

Having only moved to Settle from Bradford two years ago, I consider it quite a privilege to be entrusted with the role of editing this magazine.

I'd like to thank the outgoing editorial team for their hard work and dedication over many years and for allowing myself and the new team the opportunity to get involved.

We are looking to expand the range of content, so if you think there are issues we should be covering, people whose life and work would be of interest to others, or people and organisations whose activities deserve more attention, do let us know.

Whether it is an article ready for press or just a tip off that we should follow up, we want to hear from you.

We also want to use the cover as a platform for local artists. If you would like to see your own work on the cover in future, please do get in touch with your ideas.

As well as giving a new look to the magazine, we have also relaunched our website at www.settlenews.co.uk where you can read articles past and present and download a digital copy too, which we hope will be a great way for Settle folk who no longer live in the area to keep in touch with what's happening here.

If you're planning a holiday, we'd love you to take a copy with you and send us some photos with the mag in front of some iconic landmarks. Let's see how far afield we can take a little piece of Settle!

For now, I hope you will enjoy what we have put together for you in this issue, and I look forward to carrying on the conversation in future editions.

John Drake

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Issue 179: February 2024

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Published on a non-profit making basis
by The Settle and District
Community News.

Printed by
Caric Press, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 3TD

Distributed free of charge bi-monthly
to homes across Settle and District,
including Selside, Horton-in-Ribblesdale,
Stainforth, Langcliffe, Austwick, Eldroth,
Giggleswick, Long Preston and Hellifield.

The Editor reserves the right to edit
any material submitted for publication.
Views expressed by contributors do not
necessarily reflect those of the editor
or publishers.

Meet the New Team!

Hello; I'm the Hsouthron, the sassenach, the off-comed 'un, who has joined the revised management line-up for Settle Community News. Being a retired railway engineer I am delighted to have the occasional steam train literally at the bottom of the garden, but the main reason for moving up from the Deep South was to be closer to family now living in Yorkshire and in Scotland.



We were 38 years in darkest Sussex (historically, the last pagan district in England), though my ancestral roots, despite a London upbringing, are in Devon, Dorset and Cornwall. Now we are slowly learning the Settle language; twittens have become ginnels and the combes are all dales. A big source of confusion comes with the baked goods; tea cakes are no longer those glutinous Tunnocks creations or something you might get toasted in Betty's, but what I would have just called a good honest bread roll. In Derby where my wife is from, one would ask for a cob, but here you might end up getting a farmhouse loaf instead. And yet just over the hill in Preston they call them barmes; if my Cornish grandma were here she'd be asking for tuffs.

I was pleased to be 'set on' by the Community News team, having helped produce the local magazine in our old home parish. I think printed media still have an important role to play, especially as an expression of community in rural towns and villages. And the challenges of keeping that local spirit going are similar up and down the country - we must find ways of encouraging the forty and fifty-somethings to get involved so that we can keep momentum going when

we older folk run low on energy or ideas!

Six months in and we're very much pleased to have chosen Settle as our new home. I'd be dishonest if I didn't admit to a few things we miss about Sussex; walking the leafy byways of England's most wooded county, and rambling along the Downs within sight of the sea, but to be able to hike-up a real mountain (Penyghent) and back direct from my own front door seems a real treat, and Craven limestone is often drier underfoot than Wealden clay! One thing hasn't changed with our move – the bleating of sheep outside the bedroom window, for we have merely swapped Southdowns for Swaledales.

On the cultural front we have already taken good advantage of the offerings at the Victoria Hall. As we saw at the Community Carol Concert in Settle church, there is an impressive range of talent in the area, and I hope any literary side to those skills will be directed in your contributions to this magazine.

Phillip Hinde

I am looking forward to working with the new team on Settle Community News. I hope that we will be able to keep up the fine work of the outgoing editorial group, creating a regular and lively publication that allows residents to share their interests and experiences of living in this fascinating area. I hope too that we can engage more people and tell more stories about the folks who live around here through a magazine that is truly part of the community.

I have had a life-long interest in local news. As a schoolboy growing up in the East Riding, I occasionally contributed to the



Beverley Guardian and sent in one or two letters to the Yorkshire Post. At university in Liverpool I briefly edited the student newspaper, Guild Gazette. I then went on to serve my journalism apprenticeship as a reporter on the Darlington Evening Despatch. I spent most of my career in London working at the TUC, initially in the press office and then in the general secretary's office, where, among other jobs, I produced a newsletter for staff.

Since moving to Settle ten years ago I have helped support the swimming pool, first through the paper recycling scheme and now by working in the charity shop and acting as a pool trustee. I am also a keen member of Austwick Tennis Club and help with the Gallery on the Green, which as those who set it up shortly before our arrival here, say is 'probably the world's smallest art gallery'.

Mike Smith

I'm very pleased to have the opportunity to contribute to the production and distribution of Settle Community News for the coming months and years.

I started coming to the Dales over 40 years ago for walking and leading school expeditions, and to Settle over 20 years ago for summer holidays with my husband, and two, then very small, children. We loved visiting: enjoying all the natural wonders that Ribblesdale and the Settle area have to offer. Whenever we visited, I would look out for the latest copy of Settle Community News and read it from first to last page, absorbing the reported activities and musings of the community. The magazine introduced us further to the human, historic and social wonders and goings on of the area too. My mother, who grew up in Batley, has long family roots in the textile industry of



West Yorkshire, and I treasure my family links to Yorkshire strongly.

Eight years ago we were fortunate to buy The Tannery on the Green in Settle from Alan and Celia King. This has set up Gavin and myself, with occasional visits from our now grown up children, to be in Settle much more. We feel privileged to be able to be here, still enjoying all those wonders and the everyday living in this community.

I have professionally worked in education during almost all my adult life: as a teacher and headteacher, then for local government. I continue my interest in education as a school governor and trustee. I am really keen to get some of the children from the schools in the area writing for the magazine too: do look out for more information on this.

I am also keen, as my retirement gets under way, to spend more time walking (including with our new puppy, Finn), gardening and watching or participating in sport. Cricket is a particular family passion and I look forward to increasing the regularity of my visits to Settle matches and to Headingley. I enjoy running and have joined in the Austwick Amble and a couple of Settle Loop fell running events.

I have no particular writing skills but hope to be able to help with some of the back office organisation of Settle Community News. I think it is a special thing that this community led and run magazine gets delivered to every household in the area: long may it continue

Annie Gammon

The new honorary treasurer is **Paul Cochrane**. Paul brings his experience as treasurer of both Settle Parish Church and ACE [Action on Climate Emergency], Settle and Area.

He has already started work on moving the Community News' accounts to an online service linked to the bank accounts. This will improve the detail and timeliness of the management reports required by the team to monitor finances.

Artisan market is coming to Settle

R.S.H Artisan Markets have announced: Following talks with Settle Town Council, we have added Settle to our market venues. On the second Sunday of each month March to December, Settle Artisan Market will be located in Settle Market Place. The first market will be on Sunday 10 March, Mothering Sunday, a perfect day to bring mum and the rest of the family to Settle. It's great place to treat her to a Mothering Sunday gift, then maybe a spot of lunch at one of Settle's fabulous eateries, be it a cafe or pub, the food is delicious with a good variety of menus between all the different locations. So please pop the date in your diaries, and we look

forward to seeing you in Settle.

We have a good following of our regular stallholders applying for Settle, and should have around 20 traders to start with, some already from near, and the surrounding areas of Settle. We would love even more local traders to join us too. If you are an indoor trader and you've never done an outdoor stall before and would like to give it a try, we may be able to lend you a gazebo to attend one of our events and see if the outdoor market trade life is for you.

To find out more please contact us at: info@rshartisanmarket.co.uk or call 07595 360078. Website: <https://rshartisanmarket.co.uk/>

Settle volunteers help camouflage Ukrainian troops

A group of volunteers in Settle is coming together to help protect Ukrainian soldiers defending their country from Russian attack.

In the summer of 2023, Settle resident Alison Marshall spent several weeks in Lviv working as a volunteer. One of the jobs she did was to help produce camouflage nets and helmet covers (pictured).

All over Ukraine, there are groups working in colleges, churches and community centres, to make these essential items. Most of the effort has gone into making large nets, stretched across big frames to help disguise tanks or troop emplacements. This requires a lot of communal effort. However, people are now starting to make individual helmet covers. These can be made at home by individuals and small groups.

A request was sent to previous volunteers to make them in their home country. Alison saw this as a golden opportunity for people in Settle to contribute. A group has quickly come together and starting this month will be making nets to send out to Lviv.

The first workshop will take place at Victoria Hall on 12th February, from 3pm to 7pm. The



technique is simple, involving tying short strips of fabric into a net, stretched across a frame.

If you would like to join in, please drop in. No need to come for the whole time. For more information, or if you would like to donate towards the costs of materials, contact alison.marshall5@gmail.com.

If you have an interesting local news story, email us at contact@settlenews.co.uk

Library Help Wanted

We're sure we are not alone in expressing thanks to Alastair Cook for his hard work and dedication in leading production of Settle and District Community News for so many years, and also in expressing a grateful welcome to Paul, John, Annie, Phil and Mike for taking it on and keeping this valuable resource going.

Talking of which... are there any local residents ready to step up to the mark and contribute to the management of Settle Community Library?

In the course of 2024, several vacancies on the board of Trustees will occur and we hope to be able to plan an efficient handover, particularly for the roles of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary. Interested? Please get in touch to find out more using the contact details below.

Email: secretary@settlelibrary.org.uk

Phone: 01609 534535

Write: The Secretary, Settle Community Library, Limestone View, Lower Greenfoot, Settle, BD24 9RB.

Visit: Call in person and leave your contact details and someone will get back to you.

Easter News

Easter is early this year! Planning and rehearsals are underway for this year's Good Friday Street Drama, Journey to the Cross.

If anyone is interested in taking part, please get in touch with the producer, Sally Waterson by email at sally@thewatersons.org.

We particularly would appreciate help with the props in the Market Place.

We hope lots of folk will come along to see this year's production on Friday 29th March, which starts at St John's Methodist Church, off Church Street in Settle, BD24 9JH, at 10.30am, then walking to Millennium Garden, on to the Market Place for the trial scene, and finishes in the Parish Church grounds.

The event is free and all are welcome. Join in anytime; along the way if you prefer.

It is organised by Churches Together in Settle & District. Refreshments, including hot cross buns, are served by the Giggleswick with Settle Mothers' Union in the church afterwards.

Settle and District Community News

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Town Council agrees budget for 2024/25

Settle Town Council is required to set a budget for each financial year, and it is this budget that determines the local council element of your Council Tax Bill. The amount varies by the Council Tax Band of your home. The Council has set a precept for 2024/25 of £142,120 which works out at an extra £9.45 a year from a Council Tax payer in a Band D property.

The Council believes that this is justified by inflation and the commitment to repairs and maintenance.

In setting the 2024/25 budget, Councillors with the Town Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer have done a full review of our income, costs, and commitments. We have looked at the realities of our main activities – markets, allotments, play areas and open spaces, street lighting, cemetery etc. We have also looked at planning for future costs and have provided for investment in community facilities in a more focused way.

The council, like every person reading this, is faced with increasing costs, but we have worked hard to control them and to be realistic about our obligations to you.

The budget has been calculated following a full review of costs and income. We believe that the increase is prudent, appropriate, and



Settle
TOWN COUNCIL

justified. We have had a realistic look at costs. We have built in where we know of changes, we have provided for what we can anticipate and we have made estimates where there is uncertainty. The main difference is that we have increased the amount allocated to repairs and maintenance of community facilities. Should this expenditure not be undertaken in 2024/25 any balances will be taken forward to 2025/26 as earmarked reserves explicitly for those purposes.

Councillors believe that this will provide for a more planned approach to the facilities and services enjoyed by our parishioners.

There are still significant cost pressures and the Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer and Council are committed to managing costs and maximising income.

The full budget will be published on our website at <https://settle-towncouncil.gov.uk/> and will be available on request from the Clerk at: clerk@settle-towncouncil.gov.uk or ring the office on 01729 823617.

Scouts looking for volunteers

Settle Scouts needs new leaders and helpers across all its sections – Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers.

They would welcome as little or as much time as you can spare!

Do you fancy planning activities? Have a special skill or knowledge you'd like to share? You don't have to be Bear Grylls to volunteer.

They meet on various evenings across the week with the aim of inspiring 6-18 year olds to get going, get thinking and get stuck into all kinds of things to give them the skills for life.

For more information call Cherry on 07969 984182 or email settlescouting@gmail.com

Mental health help for men

Simon Wells from Mind in Bradford is now running a mental health peer support group for men at the main Settle Community and Business Hub office in Commercial Courtyard. This is open to any men needing support and will be a small group and meet during the daytime.

The group meet 10.30am until 12 noon every Monday and this is booked until Easter but if it is well attended then will continue.

Contact Simon via the Bradford Mind office 01274 730815 or for more info on Mind in Bradford see their website at mindinbradford.org.uk/



A Rubbish Tree

A Christmas tree displaying decorations made entirely from single use plastics (rubbish) – drinks bottles, cups and lids, plastic wrappings, food containers etc., was installed on Rotary Corner in Settle.

The tree was decorated by members of the Making Settle a Plastic Free Town Group, who are working towards freeing Settle and Giggleswick from single use plastics. The decorations were made by plastic free group member Sheila Gooch. Sponsorship was provided by Settle Rotary Club.

The plastic free group aim to gain national accreditation for Settle as a plastic free town by the lead organisation, Surfers Against Sewage. Many local businesses have been contacted to ask if they will sign up to become plastic free, and some have taken up the challenge. The Settle Swimming Pool fundraising shop and the Wholesome Bee have successfully been accredited. More business involvement is needed to try and reduce their use of single use plastics and to



gain accreditation for doing so, perhaps by providing paper bags to customers instead of plastic, by using cardboard rather than plastic containers for take away food, etc. Schools can take part too, letters have been sent to all local schools.

Settle Town Council and Giggleswick Parish Council support the initiative.

Interested in helping? Please contact Rosie Sanderson on 07968 171676 or rosiesanderson19@gmail.com

The picture shows Settle plastic free group members Rosie Sanderson, Melanie Fryer and Barry White.

Sowing the seeds of growth

Jo Rhodes from Settle Hub writes: At the Community Fridge last year we gave out hundreds of seedlings, plants, fruit bushes and small packets of seeds. Many of these were unusual heritage varieties so if you grew them and they did well then we'd really appreciate it if you could let us know what worked.

There are some great seed saving resources on the Vital Seeds website so do consider trying to save your own seeds if you get some good crops of fruit and veg that you like.

<https://vitalseeds.co.uk/growing-resources/seed-saving-resources/>

We are hoping to set up a sort of Seed Library alongside the Community Fridge this year and so will have lots of seeds in jars so you can just take a few. We will also make up small bags with a few seeds to hand out but lots of

vegetables and flowers have very tiny seeds so they are a bit fiddly to bag up.

If you have any spare seeds you want to donate you can always drop them off at the Community Fridge or pop them through the letter box of the office in Commercial Courtyard if we aren't there.

Even old seeds that have been hanging around a while may be okay so if you want to experiment there is a very simple way of testing germination rates on this Vital Seeds web page too.

<https://vitalseeds.co.uk/growing-resources/seed-saving-resources/germination-testing/>
Email hub@settlecommunityandbusinesshub.org.uk or phone 07977 040329 if you can help or want to get involved with Seed Library or other growing related things.

SUPPORTERS RALLY ROUND TO SAVE POOL



by Mike Smith



A new community fund raising initiatives group is to be set up to help Settle Area Swimming Pool tackle its serious financial crisis.

The move came out of an open evening on pool finances attended by well over a hundred pool supporters.

The new group will consist mainly of volunteers whose task is both to come up with new ideas and implement some of the suggestions made at the open evening.

They will work closely with the pool trustees and aim to build on the many initiatives already in place. Supporters wishing to join the group, who have not already been in touch with Elaine Owen, should send their contact details to secretary@settlewimmingpool.co.uk or leave a note at the pool or either of the two pool charity shops.

In welcoming those attending the open evening, pool chair Colin Coleman said Settle pool was not alone in facing severe financial problems. He cited a recent Swim England report that showed that hundreds of public pools

across England had closed in the past few years and predicted that many more would follow over the next decade.

Giving the background to the current problems, secretary Ian Orton said that in the mid-2010s when local authority funding was cut there was a serious danger that the pool, then 40 years old, would close. It had only been saved by the establishment of the charity shop that now generates almost £80,000 a year. Sport England had strongly recommended the rebuild programme that was completed in autumn 2022. The sports body had provided £200,000 of support. "It was the only option open to us," Ian said.

Speaking on the current issues, trustee Iain Crossley said the pool was currently losing £10,000 a month. Much of this was due to a gas bill of around £6,000. The pool was in a long-term contract with the Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation, the public sector procurement group that provides services to many organisations including schools and colleges. Whilst this had initially been very beneficial, prices were now well above the market rate. Despite efforts to get out of the contract, including the intervention of MP Julian Smith, it had proved impossible to do so before April 2025. Prices were expected to fall substantially

in the spring when usage would also go down. But this alone would not cover the monthly deficit and would continue to eat into the reserves currently standing at around £75,000.

Treasurer Rosie Sanderson outlined the range of measures already taken to cut expenditure and increase income.

Following a health and safety inspection, changes had been made to lifeguard coverage and the timetable had been revised to cut out badly attended sessions and increase the availability of the most popular ones. Plans were in hand for a promotional leaflet, financed by the Settle Stingrays group, to go to all households in the area via Royal Mail. The second charity shop had been opened and new sources of grants for specific projects, such as additional solar panels, were being pursued. A new membership scheme had been introduced to benefit regular users as well as increase predictable income. In the longer term the possibility of establishing and charging for a campervan park was being examined with North Yorkshire Council – such a scheme had proved a major money maker for a comparable Scottish pool.

Anne Galloway, who was recently named as North Yorkshire Volunteer of the Year for her work with the pool, spoke about the important role of volunteers both in the charity shops and helping in the café and on reception at the pool. She said there were currently around 40 volunteers who helped run the shops and undertake tasks such as checking electrical goods and seeking out items of particular value but more help was needed, most especially for the online sales team that generated substantial amounts of income.

Pool manager Tash Ward spoke of the importance of maximising use of the pool facilities. Use has grown substantially following the re-opening but there is still a lot of potential for further use. It was a matter of ‘use it or lose it.’

Overall there were 22 contributions from those attending the meeting and secretary Ian Orton said a report would be posted on the pool website.

Suggestions for fund-raising included the further encouragement of regular donations;

the setting up of a ‘patron’ category; and the organisation of regular sponsored events. Special mention was made of the pool team entry in the Skipton Rotary Club dragon boat event to be held at Coniston Hall on May 12. There was a need for paddlers to join the crew and, especially, for sponsorship.

The crucial role of the pool in teaching young people to swim was stressed by Vee Walker, who had been involved in the pool since its creation and who recently wrote a full page article in the Craven Herald on the importance of ensuring the pool remained open. Her remarks were echoed by 20 year old swimming teacher Lotte Harrison who spoke of dangers of young non-swimmers playing in open water.

Finally, North Yorkshire Council member David Staveley was asked how he could help the pool. He said that he had recently used part of his ward funding to support the installation of cc-tv and that a further tranche of funding from Sport England was now open and had been applied for, but like others he did not underestimate the challenge facing the pool and its supporters.



Pool chair Colin Coleman (left) and secretary Ian Orton address the meeting.

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email:janegraham@icloud.com

News from the Settle Community Hub



Evening Temperance Bars at Settle Quakers

We have run a few evening Temperance Bar events at the Settle Quaker Meeting House in the evenings over the summer. Picture above is Harry and Dave being Temperance bar men!

We have a small amount of funding for room hire and buying fancy cordials, teas and snacks from Craven Communities Together and Yorkshire Housing.

The idea is to offer an early evening social venue where people of all ages (and well behaved dogs) can come and socialise without the presence of alcohol.

In Settle after 5pm the only venues open are pubs which are not always appropriate for families with children or for people wishing to avoid drinking.

Saturdays 10th and 24th February

Saturdays 9th and 23rd and March

4pm to 8pm at Quaker Meeting House in the small meeting room.

All these will be alcohol free events, offering simple food like soup or a curry, snacks, cake and hot drinks and cordials. If you want to bring your own board games that is fine too.

At some of these we will do simple craft activities like soap making and maybe make chocolate.

Public Living Room at Settle Quakers

Our Public Living Room is open to anyone who wants to come along at Settle Quakers small meeting room on Mondays and Thursdays every week from 10.30am to 1.30pm.

We offer hot drinks and meals (but please come before 1pm if you want feeding), our visitors can play card games or Connect 4, there is always a jigsaw to do, craft activities or help with cooking, but no pressure to do anything if people just want a chat and some company.

All Public Living Rooms are run on similar lines and the first one started in Sheffield in 2016 but now there are over 200 around the world. They were originally run by a charity Camerados and early ones were based in libraries or as pop-up events in shopping centres or hospitals. Public Living Rooms try to encourage visitors to stick to these six Camerados ideas: understand its ok to be a bit rubbish, don't try to fix people, have fun, mix with people unlike yourself, disagree respectfully, if someone is struggling ask them to help you.

We often do simple activities like soap making or cake baking and have various people popping in to offer their time to do things like hand massage, or fused glass too. As the days (hopefully) start to get a bit warmer we will do more trips to the allotment and gardening for those that fancy it.

Hub staff are always on hand to have a chat with people who may need a bit more support in general or with things like understanding bills, advice about energy saving, filling in forms or directing them to other organisations for support.

Ink recycling at the Hub

We are still collecting any sort of ink cartridge, big or small, used or unused, for recycling. We can send them off and get a little bit of money back for them.

Small ink cartridges can be popped through the Settle Community and Business Hub letter box at Unit 1, Commercial Courtyard or left with us when someone is in the office. If we aren't in, you can also leave them with Craven Homelet next door or with Paul from Barclays when he is in the Hub on Tuesdays and Fridays.

There are now also collection boxes at the Quakers and St John's.



Community Fridge at the Little Hub

The Community Fridge is currently open Mondays and Thursdays 2.30pm to 4.15pm and Wednesday mornings 10am to 12 noon at the Little Hub in Commercial Courtyard next to Craven Homelet.

Our Community Fridge is a great way of reducing fruit and veg waste from local supermarkets but also allows local gardeners, residents and businesses to pass on surplus food they will not use. If you end up buying too much when you get visitors or get given foods you don't like, please think of us!

We are very grateful for all the interest in the Community Fridge and are now increasingly swapping 'non-food' things like toiletries, small kitchen items like crockery and pans, small items of gardening equipment and we will be doing a lot of seed and plant swaps when the weather improves. Thanks to the Co-op and Booth's for their support and donations of fruit, veg, baked goods and also the growing number of individuals and local businesses like

Wholesome Bee, Forage and Feast, Drake and Macefield, who are passing surplus or short dated things on to us.

If you would like to donate or pick up food but can't make it when the Community Fridge is open, you can come to us at Settle Quakers on Monday or Thursdays where we hold our Public Living Rooms between 10.30am and 1.30pm. You can also leave food with Paul from Barclays when he is doing the pop-up banking on Tuesdays and Fridays from our office between 9.30am and 3.30pm.

We also leave some food outside Victoria Hall by the 'free bookcase' on Monday and Thursday mornings if we have a lot of surplus veg and bread. Steve the Co-op cleaner leaves surplus food there sometimes too.



Knit (or Sew) and Natter every Wednesday

This group meets at the Settle Hub office in Commercial Courtyard every Wednesday 10am to 12 noon. We have sewing machines, lots of fabric, knitting needles and wool at the hub so feel free to come and use our materials and equipment or bring your own. We sometimes do sessions on felting, making lampshades or beeswax wraps but usually people bring their own things to work on.

All are welcome - no sewing or knitting skills required, you can always learn or just natter!

These sessions are free to attend and funded by the Well Together team at Bradford District Care Trust.

Any questions on any of the above items, or suggestions or offers of help please contact Jo Rhodes at hub@settlecommunityandbusinesshub.org.uk or call 07977 040329

School of Moon Rock

Meteorites land at Settle Primary School

Pupils from Settle Primary School got their hands on rare samples of moon rocks and meteorites during a series of science lessons which were truly out of this world.

Mrs Ambrose, Science Lead, launched this once in a lifetime opportunity in a whole school assembly that had the 219 Students enthralled. Children were encouraged to reach for the stars and learn more about the Universe around us during a week-long interactive experience of astronomy.

Children from Nursery to Year 6 were given the unique opportunity to actually touch a piece of space rock not of this Earth as they were allowed to handle some genuine meteorites.



“It has been astonishing to see how engrossed the children of all ages have been this week. A genuine buzz and excitement has filled the school,” said Mrs Ambrose.

These rare samples were provided free of charge by the UK’s Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC), which provides educational packs in a bid to inspire young people to get involved in science and complement classroom studies.

The pack provided by STFC includes a 1.2 billion-year-old piece of Mars rock and a 4.3 billion-year-old nickel meteorite. It is unlikely that students will ever get the chance to hold an object older than this, as Earth itself was formed 4.6 billion years ago.

The lunar samples were collected in the late 1960s and early 1970s

during some of NASA's first manned space missions to the Moon. During these missions, a staggering 382kg of material was brought back to Earth – mostly for use by scientists, but small quantities are used to develop educational packs like this one.

Samples like these can tell us a great deal about the planets from which they originate, but there is still much to learn – and STFC hopes these packs will encourage students to become the next generation of astronomers.



Mr Wright, Executive Headteacher added, “We are thrilled to have been granted an exceptional opportunity to physically interact with rare lunar rock samples directly from the moon. The experience of touching and examining these celestial treasures has been nothing short of extraordinary. Witnessing the palpable enthusiasm among the children as they held these valuable specimens and explored them under the microscope was truly inspiring.



“I would like to express our immense gratitude for this unparalleled educational experience, which has seamlessly brought the wonders of the universe into our classrooms, significantly enhancing our ongoing study of space in ways that exceed our imagination.”



Have there been any interesting, exciting or unusual projects taking place at your school? We would love to hear about them! Email the details to contact@settlnews.co.uk and we may be able to include them in a future issue.



Review of 2023

Thanks to the seemingly endless succession of wet days in late Autumn and early Winter, team members turned out only once in November and three times in December.

As a result, the number of incidents for the year was down a little from the previous two years at 89. That number excludes the 13 occasions – we call them ‘alerts’ – when matters were resolved without going beyond the duty controller. It also excludes the eight occasions when our search-dog handler went out of area in support of other search and rescue teams. Those numbers, however, don’t tell the full story; it’s the variety of situations with which CRO’s team members deal that surprises people who assume that we rescue only cavers.

During the year we went to only ten cavers, in two groups, each reported overdue in the ‘Three Counties’ system beneath Casterton Fell. We also went ‘underground’ to a visitor who did not heed the sign warning those with a heart condition that the visit to White Scar

Cave is strenuous and to a walker who went too close to the edge while taking a photograph of Hull Pot. As team members arrived at Hull Pot, one of the crew of the (non-local) air ambulance was just radioing for a bigger helicopter, with a winch, not understanding that Hull Pot is one of the easier pot-holes to access and from which to haul a stretcher.

On the surface, the 67 ‘Mountain’ incidents involved 33 walkers who slipped, tripped or fell, 17 lost or reported overdue, twelve experiencing medical difficulties or events (three fatal) and ten exhausted, cold or possibly hypothermic, four climbers (one fatal), three fell-runners, a farm worker, a caver on the surface, a paragliding pilot and a cyclist who crashed over a wall. The least seriously injured walker in need of rescue had broken or dislocated a finger and the most curious was a fall from behind the waterfall at Thornton Force, while taking a selfie.

There were eight ‘Local’ incidents – using members’ skills/equipment to assist the Police or Ambulance Service. These involved supporting YAS paramedics following report of a worker’s collapse at a farm building, going to the aid of a couple whose car was stuck in snow and searching for or recovering people believed to be at risk. Sadly, three of these had proved fatal. Although CRO has a trained and equipped water rescue team and has access to divers, neither was deployed ‘in anger’ over the year.

Humans are not CRO’s only ‘clients’. During the year, ten sheep and lambs were rescued from pot-holes, rock ledges, a bog and a culvert, while one dog went lame



on a Three Peaks attempt and another fell from the top of Giggleswick Quarry. Sadly, it did not survive.

While the great majority of team members' time is spent on rescues, training and equipment maintenance, CRO's constitution includes an element of safety promotion. This is done through our annual incident report – *Rescue '24* – which should be available in mid-March, through our Facebook page and our website – www.cro.org.uk – which carries safety cartoons, a link to our brief YouTube videos and other educational material as well as incident reports from several years. Members are sometimes available to give talks or attend events and often welcome visiting groups – particularly those from local youth organisations. To enquire, please email secretary@cro.org.uk.

In addition to about 60 operational members, CRO has a smaller number

of support members who support fund-raising activities and are available for supporting roles (e.g. catering) in the event of a large-scale incident. We do not go out actively to recruit operational members but it would be very helpful if we had a supporter with experience of page design or small-scale publishing who could help with projects, from time to time. Offers to the Secretary, please!

We would like to thank all who have supported CRO, over the year, in whatever way. We are particularly grateful to participants in the Ingleborough Challenge (The next is on the 18th May) which raised over £7,000 and to customers and management of Booth's supermarket, in Settle, who contributed over £800, just before Christmas.

**Report provided by
Rae Lonsdale
(a duty controller)**

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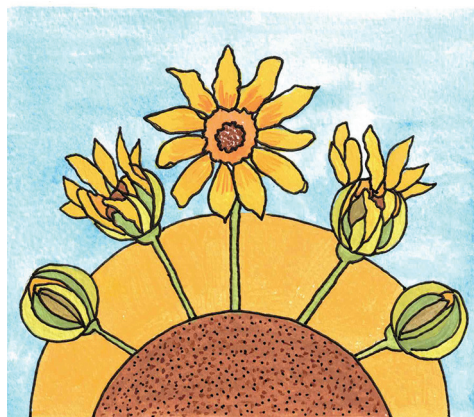
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Cover Artist

Pip Carr



I was delighted to be asked to create a painting for the front cover of the Settle Community News. The theme being 'new beginnings' immediately made me think of the new snowdrops, celandines, crocus and daffodils that will be pushing their way up into the light. I often like to paint in watercolour, but for this painting I used gouache which is more opaque than watercolour.



I come from a very creative and artistic family, with my Mum being a very good artist, my dad an excellent photographer, my sister an exceptional artist and a brother who was a chef, so it followed that I would explore my creativity. I've always enjoyed depicting nature in my artwork and having lived in the countryside all my life, I've had plenty of inspiration on my doorstep.

Just before the pandemic, an art group was set up in Hellifield, called Helliarts which I joined. We did the sessions remotely during covid, but since then have met monthly in person, where we choose

a theme and produce art work based on that theme. I love being part of the group as we all encourage and inspire each other and share our work in a supportive atmosphere.

As well as my art activities I work part time as a counsellor, working from my home therapy room. Counselling provides a safe and supportive space, using listening, empathy and understanding to help people recognise how they feel, their emotional response to certain situations and their behaviours. It looks at past experiences and how they may have brought people to their present situation. It helps people to come to terms with their past so that they are ready to move forward, whilst focussing on strengths and resources and how life will be better once changes are made.

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If you would like to know more about my sessions, please visit my profile at www.counselling-directory.org.uk.

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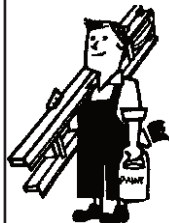
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by Robert Jackson

“Learn, laugh, live” is the strapline of the Settle District u3a which was founded over 20 years ago and remains among the most active and vibrant organisations in the town. When I moved here from Kent in 2022, one of the first things I did was to join the u3a both because I wanted to make the most of the opportunities that it had to offer and because it seemed to be an excellent way of getting to know people and to understand the local community. Becoming chair just 12 months later was definitely not on the agenda but then the u3a has a habit of pulling you in and persuading you to do things that you had never envisaged undertaking before. For me the underlying principles of the u3a have never been more relevant than they are today. They reflect the desire that we all have to try something new and to challenge ourselves long after we have left school, combined with the belief that learning anything is both more effective and more enjoyable if undertaken with others.

Going to my art class on a Thursday gets me out of the house, especially on those cold, wet days when it is all too easy to stay inside watching the rain come down and wondering if it will ever end. It gives me the chance to compare my own work with others in the group and to pick up ideas about how I can improve. Above all it offers me the opportunity to chat to friends both about art and about what’s going on in the town. And all this for only 50p! Even

Trevor’s Market Shop would struggle to offer value like that. Of course, it will be a while before my paintings appear in the auction houses of London but that’s not the point. The pleasure I get comes from the process not from the finished product. Talk to anybody about the u3a and they will tell you the same thing.

As we begin a new year, many of us will be making resolutions designed to improve our lives; eating and drinking less, exercising more and so on. However, research has shown that two of the more common but less well publicised resolutions involve learning something new and doing more for other people. If this is you then checking out what the u3a has to offer might well be the best way forward. To help here are some frequently asked questions with answers that may surprise you.

Who can join the u3a?

Contrary to popular belief, you don’t have to be old to join the u3a. Anybody can join who is no longer in full time work or raising a family. The third age is just that time in your life when you can undertake learning for its own sake.

What qualifications do you need?

In spite of the name, you don’t need any qualifications to join or to take any exams at the end. You just need to be enthusiastic and interested in learning something new.

What things can you learn?

Courses at the u3a cover a whole range of subjects. They include sport and exercise groups and practical subjects, as well as more traditional classroom-based activities. The range is as wide as the interests of our members and if the topic you want to study doesn’t appear, then we will help you to set up a group of your own.

Where and when do groups meet?

Groups meet throughout the week at different venues in Settle and the



immediate area. Some happen weekly, others every fortnight or every month. In addition, there is a talk on the second Thursday of each month at St John's Methodist church hall which everybody is welcome to attend. Recent subjects have included the life of Richard III, the evolution of the American musical and the dangers of fraud in the modern world.

How much does it cost?

It only costs £15 a year to join the Settle District u3a and this is reduced to £7.50 after Christmas to cover the period through until the summer when all memberships are renewed. Beyond this, members make a donation (normally 50p a session) towards the running costs of each group. You can join online or in person by contacting the membership secretary Kathy Parker – email: sdu3a.membership@gmail.com

Who is in charge?

The u3a is run by its members for its members. Groups are led by volunteers who have a particular interest in the subject and there is a committee of people elected to manage the organisation on a day-to-day basis. New members with new ideas are always welcome. As I have found it is easy to get involved and is very rewarding. If you think you might be interested why not come along to a committee meeting and see what we do?

How do I find out more?

More information is available on the webpage www.settledistrictu3a.org or through our Facebook page. You can find details of how to join and contact information for the members of the committee, any of whom will be happy to help you. Alternatively come along to a monthly meeting and see for yourself what goes on. As a non-member you'd be more than welcome. At January's meeting, John Dawson of Bleak Bank Farm, Clapham talked about his life as a farmer and on Thursday 8th February Peter Mathers will explore the royal gardens of Europe.

We really hope to see you at some of the u3a activities soon. It really could be a new year resolution that you manage to keep and it will certainly be one that you don't regret!



KEEP ON MOVING

by John Carey



Photo: Mark Rand

As we start the new year there is a slight glimmer of improvement in the services on our local railways. However, it fair to say that the final three months of 2023 were not a good time for passengers and there were a number of service issues, causes including train crew resource, weather incidents and autumn leaf fall, to mention but a few. Of course, we also had a number of days lost to industrial action. Whilst most of the unions have either settled their dispute or are engaged in meaningful talks, it was disappointing to learn that we will again see industrial action at the end of January.

It is clear that the rail industry does need to evolve and better fulfil the needs of the travelling public. Quite simply, work patterns and lifestyle have changed following the covid pandemic. The accepted norm of commuting to work Monday to Friday has been challenged and, for some, home working has provided a viable option. Prior to covid, video conferencing was virtually unheard of, but now fully embraced, alleviating long-distance journeys for meetings. However, we must remember that there are those who have no option but to travel for employment or education and we must ensure that they still have viable public

transport opportunities.

Whilst commuting has generally decreased, this has been more than compensated by leisure travel on the weekends and evenings. Indeed, the visitors are a benefit to the local economy. The public expect a 7-day railway and yet it seems slightly bizarre in this day and age that the train operators are still dependent on voluntary rest day working and we still have a reduced Sunday timetable.

Naturally, the Friends are primarily concerned with the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle line. We monitor the services on a daily basis and have regular meetings with the train operator in order to seek improvements in performance and timetable. Whilst it might be difficult to justify more than the 8 full-line trains we currently receive, we would like to see these spaced to nearer a 2-hour clock-face timetable enhanced to suit to commuting times. Critically, trains need to stop at all stations to alleviate the 4-hour gaps which occur at some locations.

Meanwhile, there remains scope for the railway to be used by a regular long-distance operator and we believe that a service between the East Midlands and Scotland would make eminent sense and has gained support from various quarters.

Thus, the railway might regain its original purpose, as a fast main line.

As many will know, the Friends are also passionate about bus services and have provided financial support to a number of services in the past. We work closely with our DalesBus colleagues and would like to see increased connectivity between bus and rail. However, the challenges are immense. Neither the Yorkshire Dales National Park nor North Yorkshire Council currently see funding of services into the Dales as being a priority, as a consequence of which, there is an over-reliance on the private car.

Meanwhile, the volunteer DalesBus management team face the dilemma of increased operator costs and limited funding opportunities. However, priorities, remain improved services into Malham, which is over-burdened with parked cars, a Sunday 581 to Kirkby Lonsdale and reinstating the route from Settle to Clitheroe via Slaidburn amongst other services. It remains to be seen what can be achieved for this year. We can but hope.

It was, however, welcome news that the government-supported £2 fare cap has now been further extended until the end of December 2024. As we emerged from the covid pandemic bus ridership was low and this was seen as a way of encouraging passengers back onto public transport from the private car, particularly in urban areas. Of course, the initiative benefits those areas which already have services whilst, for many rural communities, bus services are a distant memory. Fortunately, Settle is still relatively well connected in contrast to similar-sized Sedbergh which recently lost its weekday bus service.

There is no better time get out and use the local bus services, perhaps in conjunction with the train. The 580/581/582 still provides the regular Monday-Saturday connection to Skipton,

Kirkby Lonsdale and Lancaster whilst the No. 11 provides a useful Monday-Saturday service to Horton and Tosside. These services all call at the Market Place, Settle.

Further up the line, the Western Dales Bus provides the Saturday S1 connection from Dent Station to Sedbergh and Kendal. From Garsdale Station, the Little White Bus provides a Monday-Saturday connection to Hawes. From Kirkby Stephen station, the Saturday Stagecoach 563 runs to Penrith and connects with the 08:50 northbound train from Settle. For details of all these services please see www.dalesbus.org.

I should also remind you that the Dales Railcard winter offer runs until 24th March, providing 50% off a normal day-time fare for destinations including Leeds, Carlisle and Morecambe plus stations in between. This is definitely worth having, offering a one third discount for the remainder of the year, and can be purchased from Settle or Skipton ticket offices or online via the Settle Carlisle Railway Development Co with proof of local residency.

Please do get out and use the bus and rail services and for assistance on any local transport matter please feel free to contact john.carey@settle-carlisle.com.



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Going for Gold!

by Judith Allinson

Just before Christmas, St John's Methodist Church, Settle heard that they had achieved a Gold Eco Church Award. They gained the bronze award in 2019 and the silver award in March 2022. The award scheme is organised by the charity A Rocha UK.

They are the 42nd church in England & Wales of any denomination to achieve a Gold Award and the 7th Methodist Church.

The church is keen for other churches in the Settle Methodist Circuit to enter for at least the bronze award. If that happens the Methodist Circuit can apply for a bronze award at Circuit level.

There are 18 churches that have gained an Eco Church award in the Craven Area:- Ten at bronze level and six at silver level and two including St John's at gold level. Could your church be the next?

Settle Catholic Church gained a "Living Simply Award" in February 2020, having started working for it in 2018 (This is the Catholic equivalent of an Eco Church award). The other church with a gold award is St Mary's Church of England, Embsay. The silver award churches, working NW to SE through Craven are at St John's Low Bentham, All Saints Burton in Lonsdale, St Mary's the Virgin, Ingleton,



the Priory Church at Bolton Abbey, Silsden Methodist, and St Stephen's Steeton. Further afield Clitheroe URC have a gold and Clitheroe Quakers have a silver award.

To gain an award a church has to show they have carried out activities in five areas:

- Worship and teaching
- Management of church buildings
- Management of church land
- Community & global engagement
- Lifestyle

Philip Taylor of St John's Eco Group said, "St. John's is recognised in the town as a community that has committed itself to making a positive impact on climate change. By showing the outside community that we are making practical changes to the way we live, we are setting an example to others. Hopefully it will encourage other community groups to tread more lightly on the planet and make similar lifestyle changes."

You can see other churches in England and Wales which have achieved Eco Church Awards at different levels here. <https://app.ecochurch.org/map>

GOING GLOBAL



While visiting family in USA, we came across this road sign in an old New England township near Boston. It actually warns motorists to take care as they are entering a residential area – but for some of us, the possible alternative interpretations are intriguing! - **Phil Hinde**

From the Editor: We are lucky enough to live in an area visited by many tourists from other parts of the world, so we thought it would be fun to see where Settle people go on their travels. We would like to encourage SCN readers to take a little bit of Settle with you on your next trip by packing a copy of this magazine and taking a few snaps with it around the local landmarks, then sending them in to us. We'll print some of the best ones in future issues!

Email your photos, and brief details about your trip to us at contact@settlenews.co.uk

Talbot in the Times

Congratulations to The Talbot Arms which earned a glowing review in The Times.



Talbot Arms
2 h · 📍

Nice little write up in The Times today 🍷

21. Talbot Arms, Settle, North Yorkshire

This is Mathew Carver's favourite pub in Settle, the small market town near his new cheese restaurant, Rind. "They offer a great Sunday roast, normally just focusing on one meat option each week and affordably priced at around £12 to £14, which helps to avoid the taxing task of deciding what you fancy. They're also known for a great selection of local Yorkshire cask ales to wash it down."

COUNTY QUIZ

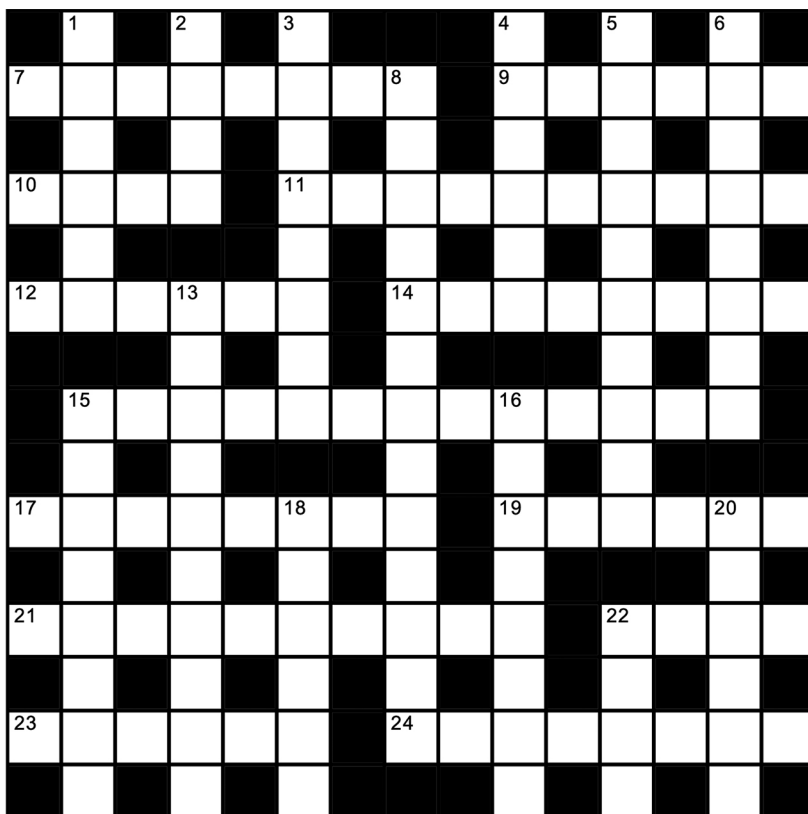
Do you remember when we all lived in proper counties, before politicians and bureaucrats started messing about with unitary authorities and metropolitan districts? All the answers here are the names of traditional historic English counties.

1. Highest point in this county is Dunkery Beacon.
2. Judith [.....], lead singer with The Seekers.
3. The only English county with two completely separate coastlines.
4. Clark [...], has a problem with Kryptonite.
5. Its motto is 'One and All', and it borders only one other English county.
6. The Only Way Is [.....]
7. Shakespeare was born in this county.
8. Sing along to 'The [.....] with the Fringe on Top'.
9. D'ye ken John Peel, and which was his native county and hunting ground?
10. John [.....] played eight Tests for England and scored lots of runs for our home team, but Yorkshire wasn't his surname!

Check your answers on Page 61

How did you score?

10: County Champion
7-9: Caught on the Boundary
4-6: Stumped
0-3: Tail Ender



Across

7. Separate (8)
9. Advanced school exam (1,5)
10. Butt (4)
11. Disarm (a bomb) (10)
12. Cup (6)
14. Ordinary writing ie not typed (8)
15. Oxford and Cambridge college (6,7)
17. Warsaw ----- (8)
19. Prickle (6)
21. Process of unfolding into flower (10)
22. Solid fuel (4)
23. Relating to the USSR (6)
24. Condiment occurring naturally as a mineral (4,4)

Down

1. One who owes (6)
2. Dress (4)
3. Expression of gratitude (5,3)
4. Bunny ----- in Porridge (6)
5. A good choice (4,6)
6. Capital of Finland (8)
8. Betrayer (6-7)
13. Heavy grating to block a gateway (10)
15. Water plant (white flowers) (8)
16. Economise (8)
18. Infrequency (6)
20. The ----- Lads (6)
22. Johnny ---- (singer) (4)

Crossword set by Ian Gray - Answers on Page 61

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SPORTS SCENE: CRICKET NEWS

The highest level of club cricket in the country beckons Settle Cricket club for the new season, which sees the town's cricketers play in the Northern Premier League against the likes of Blackpool, St Annes, Fleetwood, Kendal, Netherfield and reigning Lancashire Champions Longridge.

After a successful last six seasons in the Ribblesdale League and the fledgling North West Cricket League, the Settle players now hit the dizzy heights of premier status club cricket, where not only do most opponents have Test or County professionals but most have ex-County players such as Lancashire's Richard Gleeson and Cumbria Minor County players in their ranks.

Club chair Andrew Davidson says "It will be a big ask for a small club like Settle to go toe to toe with some of the biggest and best clubs in the North, such as Blackpool and Kendal, but we are aspirational, can match most clubs on our day and are a talented bunch ourselves.

"Our track record over the last six years has led us to being invited into the top tier of English cricket and we are relishing the opportunity."

It is quite something for a small club from a population base of 2,850 to be dining at the top table, but the club is one of the strongest in Yorkshire, this season boasting 14 teams, a hard core of coaches and a junior system the envy of many.

Settle's first game on April 20th sees them travel to Garstang, premier winners from 2022, then on the 27th to Lancashire Champions Longridge with a 1st home game v St Annes on May 4th.

The 2nd XI will play in The Westmoreland League Division II and the 3rd XI in Division



IV. It is hoped to also put out a Sunday Friendly XI this year also.

"We try and cater for all ages and abilities, male and female," Davidson added. "If you are a county superstar or someone who has never held a bat there is a place and a team for you. Just come down to the club and join

in.

"There isn't a better place to be on a sunny afternoon than at The Marshfield playing or watching cricket."

The surge in girls cricket is another area that the club has welcomed and developed.

"All girls and ladies are welcome as are any young players interested in the game. You will find a team that you can join."

Sri Lankan Professional Ashen Silva returns to the club for a fifth spell.

Get Involved

Winter nets are now ongoing for all ages and teams - contact Ian Walker on 07766 400236. 1st XI and Senior teams plus last year's U15 players will start at Giggleswick School on Tuesday Feb 20th. Any new players interested or anyone new to the district that would like to join in and help out please contact Andrew Davidson (Chair) on 07561 780384.

Junior Teams

Ian Walker: 07766 400236

Ladies/Girls Cricket

Julia Graham: 07515 548995

Walking Cricket

Ian Grey: 07930 091315

Friendly Mid-Week Cricket

James Eather: 07496 804389

Sponsorship

Tom Strickland: 07447 934902

Facilities & Clubhouse Hire

Gemma Hickling: 07487 248047

EASTER CHURCH SERVICES

Settle Parish Church (S), St. Alkelda's (G), Giggleswick, Holy Trinity (R), Rathmell

- 24 Mar 10.00am Palm Procession (S) to St Alkelda's (G) for shared Holy Communion
- 25 Mar 7.30pm Taizé Service (G)
- 26 Mar 7.30pm Tuesday Meditation (R)
- 28 Mar 7.30pm Holy Communion & Vigil (S)
- 29 Mar 2.00pm Stations of the Cross (S)
- 30 Mar 7.30pm Service of Light (S)
- 31 Mar 8.00am BCP Communion (G)
9.30am Holy Communion (G)
9.30am Holy Communion (R)
11.00am Holy Communion (S)

St. Mary and St. Michael Catholic Church, Settle

- 23 Mar 5.30pm [Vigil Mass]
- 24 Mar 11.15am Mass
- 26 Mar 10.00am Mass
10.30am Confessions
- 28 Mar 7.00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
- 29 Mar 3.00pm The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ
7.00pm Stations of the Cross
- 30 Mar 5.30pm Easter Vigil
- 31 Mar 11.15am Easter morning Mass

St. John's Methodist Church, Settle

- 24 Mar 10.30am Palm Sunday Worship
- 24 Mar 6.30pm Reading the Passion Story
- 28 Mar 7.00pm Service of Prayer & Reflection in the Garden
- 29 Mar 7.30pm Good Friday Service of Light and Darkness
- 31 Mar 10.30am Celebration with Communion
- 7th Apr 10.30am Relaxed Easter Celebration (Cafe Style)

Society of Friends (Quakers), Settle

- 31 Mar 10.30am Meeting for Worship + children's meeting

St Mary's, Long Preston

29 Mar 2.15 pm Joint service of prayer and reflection, with Methodists, at St Mary's, followed by 3.15pm Walk of Witness to The Edge, starting from Maypole Green.

31 Mar 7.00am Dawn Service at The Edge
11.00am Holy Communion at St Mary's

Settle Christian Fellowship

31 Mar 10.45am Easter Celebration with Communion

Langcliffe (L), Stainforth(S) and Horton in Rib (H) Anglican Churches

28 Mar 7.30pm Holy Communion, Vicarage, BD24 0AP
29 Mar 12 noon Follow the cross from Rowe House to St Oswald's (H)
30 Mar 7.30pm The First Eucharist of Easter (S) and lighting of candles
31 Mar 10.30am Holy Communion (L)
31 Mar 10.45am Holy Communion (H) followed by Grand Easter Egg Hunt

Hellifield: St Aidan's [StA] & Methodist [M]

28 Mar 7.00pm Holy Communion [StA]
29 Mar 1.15pm Service of prayer and reflection [StA]
31 Mar 9.30am Holy Communion [StA]
31 Mar 2.00pm Easter Sunday Communion [M]

Austwick [A], Clapham [C], Eldroth [E], Keasden [K]

24 Mar 9.30am Holy Communion [A]
11.00am Holy Communion [C]
7.00pm Evening Service [K]
28 Mar 6.30pm Maundy Thursday Last Supper [E]
29 Mar 2.00pm Good Friday Devotions [A]
31 Mar 9.30am Easter Day Holy Communion [A]
9.30am Easter Day Holy Communion [E]
11.00am Easter Day Holy Communion [C]
4.00pm Short Easter Service + Easter Egg Hunt [K]

You are also welcome to join these free events

Good Friday - Journey to the Cross - A Drama in 4 parts starting at 10.30 am
at St John's Methodist Church

Easter Sunday - Dawn Service: 7.30 am at green space next to Friends' Meeting House
followed by a Simple Breakfast at Friends' Meeting House

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North Yorkshire Council Home Upgrade Grants

Grants are available to help homes that are not on mains gas and have poor quality insulation and inefficient heating systems. Grants can be used for improvements such as insulation and solar panels, along with air source heat pumps and smart heating controls. See North Yorkshire Council website at northyorks.gov.uk for more details and whether you might qualify for a grant.

ACE website resources

Looking for ways of cutting your carbon use and supporting nature? We have lots of information and ideas on our website across energy, food, transport and biodiversity, as well as articles on topical issues.

ACE's Spring Activities

Saturday 10th February (10.30-12.30pm)
Green Cafe at St John's Methodist Church Hall

Find out about our campaigning activities

for 2024 with both local events and how to join national ones. If you are also a whizz with social media and organising events, come along and help us promote and engage more people. Free. All Welcome. Cafe fair-trade teas, coffees and biscuits.

Biodiversity Group

Sessions once a month on Saturdays (10-12 Noon) – tree care and planting events throughout the year. The next will be in February – see our social media and website for details of this and future sessions.

Saturday 9th March (10.30-12.30pm) **Green Cafe at St John's Methodist Church Hall**

Following on from COP28 in Dubai, at the end of last year, we will be finding out more about where we fit with our local actions and in combination with other local groups. Free. All Welcome. Cafe for fair-trade teas, coffees and biscuits.

Advanced notice for April

We are planning a 'meet your mayoral candidates' event ahead of the election (2nd May) for the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority. See our website and social media for details nearer the time.

Sarah Wiltshire
ACE Settle Co-ordinator

Website: acesettleandarea.org
Email: acesettleandarea@gmail.com
Facebook & Twitter: ACE Settle

Landscape Recovery grant to boost Dales climate work

The National Trust has been successful in its bid to pursue an ambitious Landscape Recovery project for the Yorkshire Dales.

The bid – to be known as the Heart of the Dales project – was announced by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) as part of the second round of the national Landscape Recovery scheme.

Heart of the Dales will focus on delivering significant gains for habitats and farming in partnership with tenant farmers and landowners across the Yorkshire Dales – which includes large areas of the iconic landscapes of Malham Tarn and Upper Wharfedale.

The initial phase of the project will focus on planning how landscape recovery can be delivered within the Dales' challenging terrain while delivering for nature, climate resilience and carbon sequestration, with a bespoke approach for each farm.

Eventually, Heart of the Dales could see more trees in the landscape, improvements to water quality and associated habitats, alongside other steps to mitigate the effects of climate change and improve biodiversity such as peatland restoration and species reintroductions.

Alongside its landscape recovery work, the National Trust is looking at changing land management practices to improve Malham Tarn National Nature Reserve to further protect and promote its status as a wetland site of international significance.

Gwen Potter, Project Manager for the National Trust in the Yorkshire Dales, said:

“We’re so thrilled to have yet more support for the National Trust’s work to make our iconic Yorkshire landscapes fit for a rapidly changing climate.

“Having this part of the bid approved is a significant milestone in what will be a long-term project for the Dales – working with farmers, other local landowners, and many different communities along the way.

“Nature-based solutions are an essential component in the fight for climate resilience, but of course this is equally about ushering in an exciting new era for farming and wildlife too, ensuring financial and environmental sustainability for the long term for our farming communities. It’s as much about ensuring economic resilience for the area as it is about climate.”

Malham Farmer Neil Heseltine, whose Hill Top Farm will be included in the Trust’s Landscape Recovery scheme, said: “I’m delighted that the Heart of the Dales scheme is progressing to the next stage, and I’m particularly pleased to see that local farmers will be at the forefront of the design and planning process.

“No two farms are the same in the Dales, so it’s essential that we’re able to work collaboratively with landowners like the National Trust to find nature-based solutions for the challenges brought about by climate change.

“Landscape recovery is essentially about creating a more sustainable environment for everyone – ensuring that our farms are thriving, not just surviving, for generations to come.”



Photo: Shutterstock

The news comes after the Trust national report on climate change – A Climate for Change – highlighted an alarming forecast that 71% of places cared for by the charity could be at medium or high risk of climate hazards by 2060. The report specifically highlighted Darnbrook Farm – which is situated on National Trust land near Arncliffe – as being a good example of best practice when it comes to adapting to challenges presented by climate change.

The Trust's Heart of the Dales project team, which recently relocated to the historic Malham Tarn House site, will now begin planning a number of public engagement and consultation events to be hosted across the Yorkshire Dales in 2024.

**For more information visit
www.nationaltrust.org.uk**

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DON'T BANK ON IT

by John Drake



The disappearance of high street banks is not something unique to Settle, but the town has been hard hit by the rapid loss of all its physical financial outlets, with the exception of Skipton Building Society, the latest being the closure of the HSBC branch late last year.

The alternative to a presence on the high street with all its expensive overheads, clearly favoured by the banking industry, is to encourage – some might say force – its customers online by removing all other options.

Now, if you are the proud owner of a computer, tablet or a smartphone, and grew up in the technological age we now inhabit, you perhaps won't have a problem with this. After all, how many of us do our shopping online, book holidays, download or stream films and television?

I would consider myself to be an 'early adopter' of any kind of whizzy new gadget, and also joined the UK's first telephone-based bank, First Direct, way back in the 1990s, not long after it launched. They introduced online banking services very early too, and I've been using them ever since, without issue.

But we are not all the same.

Some people are very unsure about technology, are wary of using a computer and may not own a smartphone at all, so to ask them to 'go online' or 'download the app' can be like asking them to fly to the moon. When that becomes the only option to access their money, to pay bills, or to manage savings, it becomes a huge problem that the banks have largely ignored, leaving many of their customers in distress or feeling anxious about what to do.

The closure of HSBC in Settle last year brought this problem to the fore for many of their customers and I saw first-hand how bewildering the transition from popping into the branch to speak to a human being behind the counter, to suddenly being forced to bank online can be, when I was asked to help someone out with the process.

Initially, we were directed to the HSBC website to watch a short video, narrated by a very calm voice that tries to make the whole thing sound easy. So far, so good. Except the video assumes ownership of a smartphone, which this customer did not possess, and also assumes knowledge of a 'Telephone Security Number' which again, we did not have.

To obtain your Telephone Security Number, you have to call the Customer Helpline. Can you feel the sense of dread rising already?

After negotiating the various options, press 1 for this, press 2 for that, and a lengthy wait, we eventually got to speak to a human,

Mobile banks in Settle

Lloyds bank have stopped doing their pop up banking service from the hub in Commercial Courtyard but the mobile bank still comes to Settle on Wednesdays every other week.

They will be in Whitefriars car park between 10.30am and 12.30pm on alternate Wednesdays. You can check dates on the Lloyds website.

<https://www.lloydsbank.com/banking-with-us/mobile-branch/yorkshire.html#Settle>

NatWest mobile van is also in Whitefriars car park every Monday (except Bank Holidays) between 12 noon and 12.30pm.

If you miss it, they go on to Ingleton and are in the Wheatsheaf car park 2pm to 2.30pm.

Barclays at the Hub

Barclays branch in Skipton will be closing in March but they are continuing a pop-up banking service from the hub in Commercial Courtyard. Barclays have confirmed this will continue in 2024 with the existing hours so will be in Settle on Tuesdays and Fridays 9.30am to 3.30pm.

Paul who used to work in the branch is usually the one running these sessions. He will not be able to handle cash or pay cheques in but can help with a range of other banking queries and get people set up with phone or online banking or how to use the Barclays app or post office for transactions. If you want to talk to Paul you need to come in person.

and after several more minutes of (perfectly understandable and necessary) security questions, we were told a Telephone Security Number would be winging its way through the post, along with a digital key device to use when logging on via the website in future, in the absence of a smartphone.

Neither arrived, which prompted another lengthy call to the Customer Helpline the following week, and the person we spoke to had no record of the previous call, so we had to start from the beginning again; an experience that can best be likened to a frustrating game of snakes and ladders.

Eventually, we got two of everything, resulting in, you guessed it, another call to the Customer Helpline to determine which Telephone Security Number was the correct one to use, as we now had two different ones, and what to do with the spare digital key device. The answer to that question made us laugh with exasperation, as the person on the end of the call suggested we 'drop it into your local branch'.

If we had one of those, we wouldn't be in this situation to begin with!

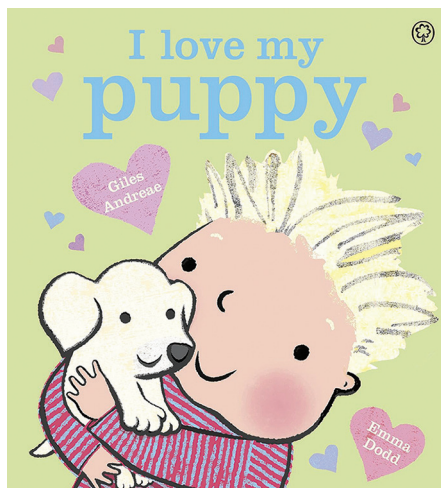
Much gnashing of teeth later, we managed to get the whole thing set up, although using the digital key device, if you are not nimble-fingered, poses another problem as you have to press a lot of buttons on it very quickly to get the codes you need to proceed with logging into your account.

Although this tale has a – sort of – happy ending, in that we negotiated our way through the process to finally get online, it was not as simple or straightforward as popping into a local branch, and without additional help, I struggle to see how this customer would have gained access to what is, after all, their money, not the bank's.

More help and advice should have been given to their customers to get them online while the local branch was still open. Now it has gone, more consideration needs to be given to those who are struggling to access online services.

Perhaps a pooling of resources, where all the major banks can get together and use one building between them to serve as a 'local hub' in places like Settle is the answer. It's already happening elsewhere, so why not here?

KIDS CORNER



I Love My Puppy by Giles Andreae and Emma Dodd

Many young children enjoy books about animals. This is a delightful early reader book. It describes in simple pictures what happens when a new puppy joins the family. Easy sentences mean beginner readers can appreciate this book and read many of the words themselves.

It is written in verse with elementary rhymes such as feet/sweet and chews/shoes. The new puppy is not yet toilet trained and don't young children love it when the word 'wee' appears in a book? A clever, funny and gentle read.

Hazel Richardson

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The Friends of the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle Line are “independent champions” of one of the finest railway journeys in the world which happens to run through our part of the Yorkshire Dales.

We all have our individual reasons for thinking it is a bit special, whether it is the spectacular scenery along the line, the inspiring stories from its history (including the efforts made by those who built it in the 1870s, and those who worked to save it from closure in the 1980s) or the huge range of activities and communities that can be accessed from stations along the line. And of course it provides a much more sustainable travel option than using the car!

We are all volunteers - why not join us in one of the many interesting roles we have available, such as helping to make our stations look their best, looking after our signal boxes, or assisting with guided walks and visits to one of our heritage sites, such as Ribbleshead?

At the moment, we are particularly seeking people to join the teams based in

our shops at Appleby and Settle stations, meeting passengers and selling our range of products. We are also looking for new colleagues in our team of On Train Guides, who give commentaries for passengers travelling up and down the line. And in addition to our present cafe at Ribbleshead station, we are very excited about opening a new cafe/bar at Horton-in-Ribblesdale station in the Spring; again we need volunteers to help us make that a success. Full training is available of course, whichever role you are interested in.

So if your New Year resolutions have so far fallen a bit flat, or you would just like to try something new, do get in touch with us and see if we have the right opportunity waiting for you! You'll be joining a great team, and of course helping to support this famous railway line.

**Contact Jon at
volunteers@settle-carlisle.com
or call Nick on 07831 451634 (On Train
Guides) or Margaret on
07860 855689 (Shops)**

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Our On Train Guides talk to groups of passengers about the history and geography of the line.

For more information contact: volunteers@settle-carlisle.com



Oh Mr. Porter!

(what shall I do? I want a ticket to Birmingham, but I can't buy one from you!)



Photo: Shutterstock

It's quite difficult to do a U-turn on a railway track, but the government seems to have managed it with their controversial plan to close the majority of railway station ticket offices, before then completely scrapping the idea in the face of public protest.

In the process they have further upset staff at a time of already strained industrial relations, and hacked off a lot of hard pressed railway managers who were pushed into producing proposals that they knew would be unpopular and difficult, and who were then left holding the baby when the politicians pulled the rug from under.

Understandably the chorus of complaint was particularly loud in Settle, it being a tourist destination and one where the station has extreme difficulty, due to its siting, in providing safe and easy access to the down platform for the less mobile. On both these issues the friendly assistance from our regular station staff is

particularly appreciated.

Yet similar proposals regarding the actual ticket offices went through on London Underground (though admittedly there is usually still a staff presence somewhere on each station) in the face of protest, and civilisation as we know it has not yet collapsed! And on many railway networks in mainland Europe, station staff, at least in the traditional ticket office role, are a scarce breed.

Even older generations are becoming increasingly savvy about buying tickets online – and the station machines are getting steadily more versatile and user-friendly. I can't help noting that my old home station down in Sussex, though having a higher footfall than Settle, was only staffed in the morning and even then many travellers preferred to use the ticket machine rather than queue at the window.

So I was not one of those out signing the petitions, because as an ex-railwayman myself I know that we have

tricky times ahead in ensuring a positive future for the rail network, and change must be embraced if we are to go forward.

Covid has left us with difficult legacies; although long distance leisure traffic has recovered well since the pandemic, business travel and commuting less so, leaving multi-million pound holes in budgets, just when inflation (and not just in wages) is driving up cost. At the same time covid restrictions brought training programmes to a halt and encouraged early retirements, all contributing, along with the current overtime bans and strikes, to services being cancelled due to lack of available traincrew. And quite apart from expense, the demographics of our ageing population mean that the suitable workforce pool is shrinking, so we need anyway to find ways of making rail operations less labour intensive.

Meanwhile the increase in weather-related infrastructure problems, almost certainly due to climate change, is evidenced by costly flooding, landslips and damage from stormy winds. Our Victorian forebears, excellent as they were in many aspects of engineering, didn't understand soil mechanics so well; as a result, many cuttings and embankments were built with steeper sides than you would see on a new road or rail project today. So when we get sustained and torrential downpours, earth slips and rockfalls become all too probable. Piling, soil reinforcement by 'stitching', and netting of cutting sides are all possible mitigations, but come at a price.

There are no easy answers. Trade union rhetoric about 'protecting jobs' and tabloid newspaper outrage about alleged inconvenience to passengers when staffing changes are proposed, will not square the

circle when costs exceed income, and we cannot expect the railways to get limitless subsidy when there are many other worthy calls on the public purse. Having served until recently as a school governor I am particularly aware of the financial pressures on education, especially in rural areas. As my old boss used to say, 'You can't have the penny and the bun'; choices will have to be made and priorities set.

So I can't give you any simple solutions, just a plea for people to be more constructive about how we can secure an affordable future for our rail services. And with a general election coming ahead, pressure your politicians to take the holistic view, to avoid knee-jerk reactions when finance is tight and to be open and honest with staff and passengers about the options. Push especially for improved reliability, and coherent timetable patterns, for these are the things that will attract people and sell tickets (whatever the actual means of sale) and thereby generate income.

Meanwhile please do use your trains (and buses), not just from Settle but on the Benthall line and beyond as well, and treat public transport as an attractive alternative to sitting in a jam on the motorway and grumbling about car parking!

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Rugby is thriving in North Craven

Local rugby club North Ribblesdale in Settle is celebrating its centenary season this year and began its season with a Charity Ball at Stirk House, Gisburn, in August (pictured below) attended by 250 people. What a fantastic event it was and made me extremely proud as club chairman that so many attended, and we raised £7,500 split between three charities close to our hearts. It was a truly memorable occasion, and a great night was had by all.

That was merely a prelude to the playing season and a game against our first ever opponents in 1923, Giggleswick School, took place on 27th August.

Rules now dictate that schoolboys cannot play against men, so it was an 'Old Boys' team that took to the pitch for a festive game (pictured above) that Ribb won by a couple of scores. The score did not matter, it was the occasion that mattered and our centenary season was well and truly underway.

The club has made many modifications to its

facilities since covid, not least being a vertical disabled lift to allow access to all in the local community, which was installed as a large investment without any substantial grant money. It was a big commitment for the club but one we felt was needed, as we want to be attractive to everybody in our community.

We are, we believe, truly a community club providing rugby for all genders from the age of four through to our mature members who play Walking Rugby on a weekly basis on Friday afternoons. There are several Octogenarians who attend so please do not think you are ever too old. A warm welcome is guaranteed so please come on down and get involved.

On the playing side we welcomed Thomas Davidson as head coach who played at Ribb as a youngster before playing 'Over t'ill' at Wharfedale with much success and several county caps. More of our playing record in future editions, but suffice to say we are having a successful season and under Tom's tutelage our young side are improving game by game.

So, for anyone who is unaware that a thriving rugby club is on your doorstep please come down and support us. We endeavour to make it a welcoming place to be and for those of you who maybe think that rugby clubs are a place full of drunken men please give us a try and I know you will be pleasantly surprised at what you will find here.

Gavin Davidson
Chairman, North Ribblesdale Rugby Club
northribblesdale.co.uk



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Pirates of Penzance raid Hellifield!

This is going to be an extravaganza so book early to be sure of a seat! Whether you are an ardent Gilbert and Sullivan fan, or have not yet dipped your toe in the water, please support local villagers who have joined together to become **HelliSingers** and perform their version of this popular comedic musical. They have been rehearsing for several months to make this a very special event.

For those unaware, the story concerns Frederic, who, having completed his 21st year, is released from his apprenticeship to a band of tender-hearted pirates. Frederic meets Mabel, a daughter of Major-General Stanley, and the two young people fall instantly in love. If that has whetted your appetite, there's only one way to find out what happens next... by booking your tickets to the show at **Hellifield Village Hall!**

There will be a matinee performance during the afternoon of **Thursday 21st March**, then evening performances starting at 7.30 pm on **Friday 22nd and Saturday 23rd March 2024**. Tickets are £10 each for all performances. They can be obtained from Karen Dunwoodie, Tel: 01729 851070 or mobile 0775 686 2086 or email: kalydun@btinternet.com. Please bring your own nibbles and drinks.





The Mirror and The Light: Hilary Mantel - Reviewed by Bob Young

Nearly three years ago, the *Settle and District Community News* was kind enough to publish an article I wrote on two historical novels by Hilary Mantel – *Wolf Hall* (2009) and *Bring Up the Bodies* (2012) – both of which deal with Henry VIII's chief fixer, Thomas Cromwell. Each won a Booker Prize – a truly remarkable achievement. No writer had ever won a Booker with two novels in the same series, and no woman writer had ever achieved two Bookers. Happily, public recognition deservedly followed, and Hilary Mantel became Dame Hilary in 2014.

Having first reckoned that Thomas Cromwell's life would require two novels, she began to realise that he would need a third, and in 2020 that third book duly emerged – *The Mirror and The Light*. For me, reviewing *The Mirror and The Light* completes unfinished business. But two other events have given me an additional push. The first, sadly, is Hilary Mantel's death from a stroke in September last year at the age of seventy. The second is the BBC's recently intention to televise *The Mirror and The Light*, which, if it is a good as its treatment of *Wolf Hall*, will be a worthy tribute to its author.

The Mirror and The Light starts and ends with a beheading: it opens in 1536, moments after the execution of Anne Boleyn, and closes in 1540, with Cromwell's own head on the block. Each scene is portrayed not in buckets of blood

and pain but obliquely, in a manner both unexpected and memorable. While Anne Boleyn's women gather up her remains and look for somewhere to put them (an arrow-chest had to suffice) the menfolk shuffle about, unsure what to say or whether to go off for breakfast. Four years later comes Cromwell's decapitation. The last we read of him is not the awful act (it took three blows to sever his head) but what his mind plays back – the Mirror of the book's title – as he mounts the scaffold. As he emerges from his cell in the Tower, the Light is the morning sunlight that dazzles him. Few authors have the imagination to write such horrors from such unusual perspectives.

During the four years between 1536 and 1540 Thomas Cromwell reached dizzy heights as reward for his unfailing services to Henry VIII, then fell precipitously to disgrace and death for failing. The son of a Putney brewer and blacksmith, Master Cromwell becomes head of Henry's Privy Council, then Lord Privy Seal, then Henry's Vicegerent in church affairs, and finally Earl of Essex. That he was so effective, and that he rose so high from such base origins angered the established noble families at the snake-pit that was Henry's court. They remained ever watchful for means of bringing Cromwell down, and when Henry's marriage to Anne of Cleves, which Cromwell had helped to engineer, disappointed the ageing tyrant, they seized their chance.

For all its meticulous accuracy, *The Mirror and The Light* is leavened, where Mantel feels it necessary, with characters drawn from her imagination. We meet Cromwell's cook, Thurston, and admire his gruff devotion to Cromwell, right down to the last repast of his master's life. We meet too Cromwell's French servant, Christophe, who, raised from nothing and equally devoted, is often downright funny, his wit showing up to disadvantage the plodding intellects of the grandees – the ambassadors, dukes, earls and bishops with whom Cromwell has to do business. We also meet Cromwell's daughter, Jenneke, from an affair he had in Flanders in his younger years; and Dorothea, the daughter of Cardinal Wolsey (!) who spits venom at Cromwell for an stubborn but entirely mistaken belief that it was he who brought her father down. These characters, no less than their authenticated opposites, serve to hold up a mirror (there you go – mirrors again) to the colourful, brutal, malodorous Tudor England into which Mantel immersed herself for over a decade.

If *The Mirror and The Light* did not win a third Booker prize, is it the equal of *Wolf Hall* and *Bring Up The Bodies*? In my view, and not only mine, it certainly is. Not only that, it seems to me astonishing that someone with a less than ideal education (Mantel described

her upbringing in a Catholic school as “childminding with violence”), trained not as a writer but as a lawyer, beset with chronic ill health (“perpetually at war with my own body”) should go on to write the most accomplished and sustained work of historical fiction of our time. She was, as she has been described, “ferociously

intelligent” but that doesn't begin to sum her up. She had imagination, sensitivity, unflinching respect for historical truth, immense single-mindedness, and an ability with the English language which borders on the magical.

And so to the BBC. It has already made *The Mirror and The Light* available in abridged form on BBC Sounds, but fans of Hilary Mantel will surely be eager to see the intended televised version. No

date has been announced, but the part of Thomas Cromwell will again be played by Mark Rylance, and the series will again be produced by Peter Kosminsky, who so successfully masterminded *Wolf Hall*. Don't miss it! But while you're waiting, do read the book.

Photo Credit: Fred Duval, Shutterstock



You can read previously published book reviews by Bob Young, including *Wolf Hall* and *Bring Up The Bodies* on our website at settleneews.co.uk

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The Mysterious Knight of Knight Stainforth Hall

by Kathleen Kinder



In the last year several of us have been preparing Visitor Guides for the three parish churches of the Castleberg benefice, Giggleswick, Settle and Rathmell. The guides should be ready for publication and display soon. The one that has taken longest to do is the one for St Alkelda's, Giggleswick because the church, in vicar Julie's words, "oozes with history". Some material has had to be omitted in the basic Visitor Guide. A larger booklet is planned. Similarly, we also hope to publish new research material on St Alkelda.

Visitors to St Alkelda's Church often wonder about the identity of the three mutilated effigy images now placed together in the north east corner of the church near the organ. One stone effigy is of Sir Richard Tempest, a 15th century knight of Knight Stainforth Hall, and next to him are stone effigies of his wives, Dame Mabel and Dame Sybil. Sir Richard's effigy has lost both hands and part of the right foot while the other two effigies are decapitated and severely mutilated. Why were they so damaged? The answers came when the church floor was dug

up during the restoration of 1890-92 and the effigies found separately buried in shallow earth graves amongst the skeletons under the floor. The local historian Thomas Brayshaw knew from records that the effigies of St Richard and his wives had been on view in the church but then had disappeared around 200 years before. We are indebted to Thomas Brayshaw for leaving in the parish archives details of what he had researched and for accompanying his written explanations with excellent black and white photos, now over 130 years old.

One of the photos shows the skeletons in the area near the modern organ where the effigy of Sir Richard was found. These remains were eventually reverently reburied in an underground crypt beneath the new floor. The second photo shows the head of Sir Richard's effigy to be in a better state than it is now. He is clad in the armour of a 15th century Lancastrian knight. He is wearing the Essess collar awarded by Lancastrian kings to loyal adherents. His helmeted head is lying on the head of a horned and bearded goat. On page 226 of *A History of the Ancient*

Parish of Giggleswick, Brayshaw tells us that goats featured on the coat of arms of the Stricklands of Sizergh, and Mabel, the second Tempest wife, was a Strickland. Maybe that is the reason for the head rest.

Sir Richard Tempest of Stainforth, was born around 1425. He lived during the tumultuous period of the Wars of the Roses. The Lancastrian Henry VI proved a weak king, unable to halt the erupting feuds between Lancastrian and Yorkist factions. Giggleswick was on the Lancastrian side in the conflicts that followed. Richard Tempest fought at the battle of Wakefield in 1460 and was knighted by Henry VI for his loyalty and bravery. Thereafter, Richard seemed to have misgivings about Henry's leadership and switched sides to support the Yorkists. For this act, in 1461, he was found guilty of treason and imprisoned in the Tower of London. In 1465, when the Lancaster cause seemed hopeless, he was pardoned by the Yorkist King, Edward IV. Sir Richard Tempest fought on the losing Yorkist side in the battle of Bosworth Field in 1485, and survived. Giggleswick, strongly Lancastrian, punished his effigy by chopping off the foot and two hands, both medieval punishments for treachery.

The discovery of Sir Richard's buried effigy was made before those of his two wives. The pieces of the two decapitated effigies were found in the earth of the chancel amongst the skulls and skeletons of former parishioners. These too, were reverently reburied later. Thomas Brayshaw, on page 225 of *A History of the Ancient Parish of Giggleswick* describes what he saw when the pieces of the effigies were first removed from the ground in the chancel.

"Both figures are clothed in the garb of the Guild of Corpus Christi of York, and when they were first dug out of the ground the colours of the robes were very vivid, but

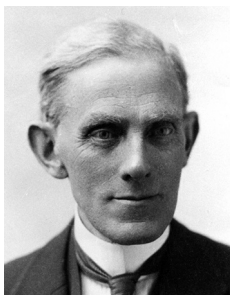


Pre-restoration burial site

are fading fast. They are habited in crimson cassocks, over which fall white cottas, short in the front but having yellow tassels from the neck to a little above the waist."

The team had a mammoth task of fitting and glueing the pieces together. Great chunks of stone remained missing. In spite of an exhaustive search, the heads of the effigies were never found. Medieval Catholic beliefs enshrined in the Guild of Corpus Christi were heresy to the Protestant mind. As the effigy heads were the focal points of veneration, they probably were smashed to smithereens by the iconoclasts. Even though the effigies were just partially restored, the colours and splendour of the robes made a marked impression on the onlookers. Now, on the effigies, after over 130 years of exposure to the air, we can just make out a touch of red here and there.

The fact that the effigies were hastily dumped and buried in shallow earth, is a testimony to the contempt in which they were held. Although these objects were an abomination to the Protestant mind, they were not thrown out on to the common tip, but left to disintegrate, hidden below ground, in consecrated earth.



Thomas Brayshaw

Photo Credits: Top L & R: Giggleswick Church Archives. Centre: The Thomas Brayshaw Collections, Giggleswick School



Shirley and Tom

Tom closed the door behind him and stood his stick next to the brolly. ‘Only me’, he called and headed for the loo.

The house was quiet.

‘That hill’ll be the death of me!’

He went into the living-room and slumped into his chair, next to hers.

‘I’ll have to have five.’

He looked automatically at the clock breaking a line of family photos on the mantelpiece.

‘Oh, I must have dozed off.’ He’d had twenty-five.

‘Let’s have a cuppa, eh?’

He slowly got out of his chair and made his way through to the kitchen.

‘Same as usual?.....I thought so.’

A few minutes later, he was back with his ‘Keep Calm’ tray carrying two mugs and half a packet of Hobnobs.

‘These’ll tide us over till dinner-time.’

He leant forward and picked up the paper. There was nothing he liked better than tackling the cryptic with his cuppa.

‘Here’s a short one for you. “Pursue hospital in legal matter”. Five letters,

staring with ‘c’, ending with ‘e’. What can we make of that, then? I’ll leave you with that one and I’ll try another.’

Tom solved a few whilst sipping his tea and smiled at the photos. Adam had bought him a crossword compendium for his last birthday, but it wasn’t the same as the newspaper ones, somehow. Mind you, he was still using the rubber-tipped pencils Hannah had got him a few Christmases back.

‘Oh, and your middle letter’s an ‘a’. So that’s C_A_E. Must be ‘chase’. Yeh, that’s it. ‘Case’ with an aitch in it, meaning ‘pursue’. Clever clogs, aren’t we?’

Tom got up, loaded his tray and padded back to the kitchen.

‘I’m going to have a little read in the conservatory and watch the grass grow.’

Tom wasn’t one for gardening. That had always been Shirley’s speciality, but he liked looking at it, if not weeding it. There were two novels on the coffee table—Shirley’s ‘Pride and Prejudice’ and his Ian Rankin thriller. Shirley was the real brains in the family. He just wanted ‘a good read’. He read for an hour, but then

lost concentration and stared out of the window, enjoying the flowers Shirley had planted last year. Suddenly a deep rumble in his stomach reminded him of dinner.

Back in the kitchen, he called out 'I'll start getting some fodder. You must be getting a mite peckish by now. Fancy a spot of salmon?'

Tom was no cook but he reckoned he was a decent 'steamer'. He put a pan of water on to boil and fetched the vegetables from the 'futility room', as Shirley called it. He then set about scrubbing potatoes, chopping carrots and preparing sprouts. Fiddly things! Still, they were Shirley's favourite. He put the potatoes in first, then went back to the living-room.

'We're missing 'Pointless'! Good heavens! This won't do, will it, old girl?'

He finally found the remote and brought up the smiling features of Alexander Armstrong.

'It's the Head to Head already. Right, what's this question? Capital of Malaysia? Oh, we know that, Shirl'. We had a stop-over there on the way to Hannah in Brisbane. What did you use to call it? Koala Lumpy? You carry on watching, while I put the veg on.'

Tom checked the spuds were softening up and added the carrots and sprouts. He then went into the dining-room and lifted the plates and glasses out of the cupboard and took the everyday cutlery from the drawer. After he'd set the table, in the same two positions as always, he got back in front of the box just in time for the jackpot.

'Five thousand pounds! Blimey! What would we do with that, Shirl'? I know! Give it to the grandchildren! I can read your mind! They look a nice young couple, don't they. Takes

you back, doesn't it? Fifty years this September.....I'll.....I'll go and dish up.'

The veg was doing nicely. He popped the salmon under, not over them and poured himself a beer and Shirley her elderflower cordial.

'Grub up! Don't let it go cold after I've been slaving over a hot stove for hours!'

The meal was so-so. A tasty sauce would have improved it but Tom wasn't into recipes and culinary niceties.

After dinner, the evening was spent triumphantly finishing the crossword, reading the next few chapters of his Rankin, watching a medical documentary and snoozing to the relaxing tunes of Classic FM. Tom woke with a start during 'The Lark Ascending'. They'd once heard the 'Jaws' theme on Film Night and Shirley had re-Christened it 'The Shark Ascending'. Typical!

'Well, if I'm going to sleep, I may as well be in bed.'

He looked at the time on the clock and dragged himself to his feet. At the mantelpiece he picked up a photo and kissed it before putting it back with the rest. He crossed the room to the door and turned again.

'See you in the morning, my love', he croaked and switched off the light.

This story was written in response to a neighbour's embarrassment when telling me that she still talked to her deceased husband. I hope this piece will help to convince her and many others like her that it's perfectly normal.

Our loved ones are still with us. We no longer see them but we know they'd be interested in what we have to say. Keep talking!

Ian Gray

Aromatic Cooking for Hard Times

by **Kathleen Kinder**



I have followed several interests in my long life; one of them is cooking, particularly of main course savoury meals. There is at present a ‘cost of living’ crisis, growing food poverty and a questioning about how often we can afford to cook because of rocketing fuel bills. I’ve chosen therefore, for this series, recipes for some of the most economically priced and nourishing meals from my collection. Most of them contain at least one spice. Spice cookery features in the cuisine of the rich; it also has an unmistakable presence in the ‘street food’ of the poor.

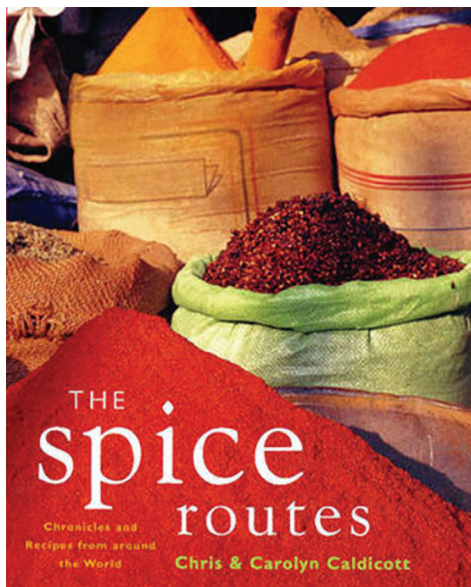
The story of spices is a long and fascinating one, going back thousands of years and there are many books on the subject. Until the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries the East Indies were the main sources. Then European navigators discovered in the Americas a whole new series of different spices. In 1493, Christopher Columbus was the first to bring chilli seeds to Spain. Until the Portuguese took chilli and other New World spices to the Indian sub-continent, curries there were

‘hotted up’ with ginger and black pepper. During the Middle Ages, because of their high cost, spices became a kind of currency. Finchale Priory, Durham, owned the living of the ancient parish of Giggleswick. Langcliffe paid its dues in cumin, Stainforth in ginger and Giggleswick in pepper. Not many know that many spices including the ‘hot’ ones, chillies, paprika and cayenne pepper, as well as the sweet peppers are rich in health-giving properties. Spices were used for medicine and in the cuisine of the rich, while the poor ate mostly vegetable ‘pottage’ flavoured with

herbs which are from the leaves and flowers of plants, spices being from the fruits and roots. We can still see on the hilly edges of our Dales villages, the medieval lynchets, the strip cultivation, where our forebears grew their vegetables, barley for beer and oats for bread and gruel.

From the end of the seventeenth century, spices and recipes for spiced meals were brought from India by members of the East India Company and

later, by officers of the British Raj. Chicken curry was on the menu of a London coffee house in the 1740s. Recipes appeared about the same time. It was not until the middle of the twentieth century with the influx of workers from the Indian sub-continent, that curry and spicy meals became popular foods with many, especially with the young of the population.



At the end of WWII, my mother (a Scot) procured some long-grained rice and some curry powder and was able to make again a basic kedgerree, a mildly curried, simple and cheap fish dish brought to Scotland from India. Its main ingredient was smoked haddock. Now I often substitute the flesh of a poached kipper (as here), or a tin of sardines, or mackerel, and choose broccoli instead of spinach. Kedgerree then is a cheap and nourishing meal.

My first experience of eating curry regularly came when from 1957-9, I was teaching at a union missionary training college in Eastern Nigeria. For social occasions the missionaries took turns to invite the rest of us for dinner in their compounds. The table was always beautifully laid and we went in our best frocks. The main meal was usually a ground nut stew or a curry which we ate with little bits of fruit and nuts. I remember one occasion when the location was a remote station. We ate at a table on the verandah amid the disturbing night sounds of the African bush.

Some months later, I attempted to introduce a home-made curry to my just married husband. The reaction was unexpected, "I'm not eating a mush that smells just like the medicine given to sick cows." He soon changed his mind. That initial reaction was understandable. He had been a farmer, before becoming a teacher. Every Sunday, his mother, roasted a huge joint of meat which they ate hot, and then cold the rest of the week. The farm had no refrigeration and the shops were nine miles away. My mother-in-law's collection of recipes included those for cakes, biscuits, buns and scones, but not one for a savoury main course. The choice reflects the needs of the time, but the complete silence regarding mainstream cookery left no tradition of skills to pass on to the next generation.

Is the art of cooking then becoming the sole preserve of the elderly, affluent and leisured?

KEDGEREE



Ingredients (for 1 person)

1 kipper, head and tail removed
1 hard-boiled egg
Handful of spinach
1 small onion
Juice of a lime (or lemon)
½ teaspoon each of mild curry, cayenne pepper and nutmeg
Oil for frying
60g long-grained rice

Method

1. Slice/chop the onion finely and fry lightly in oil.
2. Add the rice, and spices.
3. Stir and fry for 1-2 minutes.
4. Remove and cook mixture as you would boil rice (I use the short microwave method).
5. Hard boil and slice the egg, and sprinkle with cayenne pepper.
6. Keep the above warm as you poach prepared kipper for 4-5 minutes.
7. Remove kipper flesh and discard the bones, and sprinkle with lime (or lemon) juice, and mix with spiced rice and boiled egg slices.
8. Keep all warm as you steam the spinach and integrate with the rest.

Enjoy!

COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

PLEASE HELP US TO KEEP THESE LISTINGS UP TO DATE

Community Group leaders – are your details up to date? Please notify any changes to contact@settlenews.co.uk so we can ensure that your information is correct in future issues.

Due to our bi-monthly publishing schedule, some details in the Community Directory may have changed after publication so please try and check with the listed contact before trying to attend an event or try a new challenge!

New additions

Time Together Tuesday Dementia Cafe: for people living with Dementia and their Carers. Every Tuesday afternoon 1.30-3.30pm at St John's Methodist Church. Join us for a cuppa, homemade cake, information and chat.

Coffee Pot: Held every Wednesday at St John's Methodist Church from 10.30-12 noon. Scones, cakes and hot drinks available.

Warm Space Film Club: Held at St John's Methodist Church from 1.30pm with the film commencing at 2pm, from Thursday 11th January until end of March. Free refreshments available including popcorn.

Settle Community Library: Stay and Play Fridays, 11 am (term time only); Knit and Natter first and third Thursday, 10.30am; Lego Club, Fridays from 3.30pm (term time only); Breathe Easy Asthma and Lung UK Peer Support Group second Wednesday 2pm (Meetings start again in March). All groups are free, donations welcome. For details visit www.settlelibrary.org.uk, check our Facebook page or call 01609 534535.

Craven Conservation Group present:

February 15th – Professor Carly Stevens from Lancaster University on the vegetation of limestone pavements and what is needed to conserve them; 7.30pm at St John's Methodist Church, Settle, BD24 9JH.

Every Month

Settle Town Council meetings are on the first Monday in the month (excl Bank Holidays) 7pm at Settle Town Hall, BD24 9EJ. Agendas and Minutes will be posted on the Market Place Notice Board and on the website at www.settletowncouncil.gov.uk Contact the clerk, Rebecca for further details, email clerk@settletowncouncil.gov.uk or call 01729 823617.

Every Tuesday

Settle Market, Market Place. Indoor Market at the Royal Oak – very early until late afternoon.

Community activities

Giggleswick Gardening Group: First Monday in the month. Litterpicking section. 10.00 am. Church Porch, St Alkelda's, Contact Tony Carroll.

Rotary Club: 2nd and 4th Thursday each month at 6.30pm in the Maypole, Long Preston. All welcome. Secretary David Blackburne 01729 822445.

Action on Climate Emergency (ACE)

Settle and Area: Monthly Green Cafe second Saturday of each month 10.30-12.30 at Settle Methodist Church. Details about individual Cafes on the ACE website at www.acesettleandarea.org

Music

Settle Voices Choir: Every Monday (term time only). Catholic Church Hall, Tillman Close, Craven Terrace. 1-3pm. All welcome. For information contact Liz Eastman (01729) 823777.

Langcliffe Singers: Every Tuesday Rehearsals at St John's Hall Settle, 7.30–9.30pm (term time only). Contact musicdirector@langcliffesingers.org.uk

Settle Orchestra: Rehearsals every Friday evening during term time, St John's Methodist Hall, 7.40–9.40pm. Strings especially welcome! Contact (01729) 825806.

St Alkelda's Church Choir: First Sunday of the month Sung Evensong (Book of Common Prayer) 6.00pm, Giggleswick Parish Church.

Black Horse Jazzmen: Every First & Third Thursday. The Talbot 8.30-10.15. Sitters in welcome.

Recreational

Settle Photographic Group: Every third Monday, St. Johns Methodist Church Hall and on Zoom, 7.30 – 9.30pm and on the 1st Monday of the month, October–April. Visitors welcome. £4.00.

Settle Rifle Club: Every Monday 7pm, Giggleswick School cadet range (behind St Alkelda's Church).

Settle Bridge Club: Every Tuesday 7.00–9.30pm. Online bridge using the RealBridge platform and every Thursday 1.30-4.30pm in person bridge at St John's Church Hall. For more information see <https://www.bridgewebs.com/settle/> or contact Rosie Sanderson – phone 01729 825944 or email rosiesanderson19@gmail.com

Settle Chess Club: Every Monday evening 6pm to 8ish at Settle Social Club, 10 Duke Street. All standards welcome. Website: settlechessclub.uk

Monthly Whist Drives: Every second Tuesday Golden Lion Hotel, Horton-in-Ribblesdale 7.30pm. Tel. (01729) 860206

Settle & District Gardening Club: Fourth Wednesday of the month January-May and September-November at the Quaker Meeting House 2pm to 4pm. Visitors welcome: £5.

Ingleborough Archaeology Group: Third Monday of the month from October to April. Talks 7:30pm at Ingleton Community Centre. May to September monthly local guided walks/visits. For details, please see: ingleborougharchaeologygroup.org.uk or email: ingleborougharchaeologygroup@gmail.com

Settle Business Hub (Commercial Courtyard)

Waste food cook up at the Quakers 10am-2pm on Mondays - people are welcome to come along and help or just join us for lunch from 12 noon.

Socially distant social at the Quakers. Every Thursday 10am-2pm - all welcome for a chat, cuppa, lunch and occasional walks, trips to our allotment and other activities.

Community Fridge at the Little Hub in Commercial Courtyard. Every Monday and Thursday 2.30pm-4.15pm. Come and help yourself to surplus fruit, veg and other food or drop off any spare food you may have. Contact settlehubfood@gmail.com or phone 07421 369778.

Sport and physical activities

Austwick Piccalillis Pickleball: Every Tuesday morning at Eldroth Village Hall 10am-1pm. Every Thursday evening at Giggleswick School 6pm-8pm. Every Saturday morning at Giggleswick School 9.30am-11.30am.

Table Tennis: Every Monday, Hellfield Village Institute 7.30pm–9.30pm. Contact John Flitcroft (01729) 851358.

Line Dancing: Every Monday 7.00pm-9.30pm and Friday 2.00pm-4.00pm, St John's Church Hall. All welcome. Proceeds to charity.

Settle Badminton Club: Every Tuesday (Sept-April), Giggleswick School Sports Hall. 7.30pm–10.30pm. Contact Ian Reid 07854 211114.

Badminton: Every Tuesday Hellifield Village Institute 7.00 – 9pm. Contact Bob Moore (01729) 851660.

North Craven Strollers: Every Wednesday meets at Millennium Garden, near Booths Car Park, 1.30pm.

Tennis: Regular social and competitive tennis for all standards including beginners at Austwick Tennis Club. See <https://www.austwicktennisclub.co.uk/> for details of regular sessions.

Settle Area Swimming Pool: A wide variety of sessions for adults and children – including lane swimming; fun sessions and water-based exercises. Dry space activities including static cycle ‘spinning’, high intensity training and more gentle exercise. See <https://www.settleswimmingpool.co.uk/> for timetable.

Chair-based exercise classes for Older Adults: Mondays 12-noon Langcliffe Institute, Wednesdays 11am Limestone View, Thursdays 10.15am Horton-in-Ribblesdale Village Hall, Balance & Leg Strength Class for Falls Awareness - Settle Swimming Pool. Call Jo Wulf for further details on 07966 981985.

Indoor Bowling: Every Wednesday, Hellifield Village Institute 10am–12 noon. Contact Bob Moore (01729) 851660.

Scottish Country Dancing: Every Thursday St John’s Hall 7.30pm with a fully qualified Scottish Country Dance teacher.

Nordic walking: Yordic Walkers Mondays/ Tuesdays 9am and Fridays 10.30am - Moderate to vigorous 1 hour walks. Racing Snails, Fridays 2pm - slow and steady Nordic walks, 30 mins £5. Please book in advance: jowulf@wolftracks.co.uk / 07966 981985.

Support Groups

Amnesty International Letter Writing Group. No longer meeting in person but continue their work on-line. Enquiries (01729) 268912.

Age UK North Craven: Trips for the over 60s. For destinations and prices etc. contact Sandra on (01729) 823066.

Women’s Groups

Settle Women’s Institute: Every first Wednesday St. John’s Church Hall, 2p.m. New members always welcome.

Giggleswick with Settle Mothers’ Union: Every second Wednesday, The Lounge, Limestone View, Settle, 2pm. Contact: Branch Leader, Catie Jones, (01729) 822676 for more details.

Giggleswick Women’s Institute: Every first Thursday in the month, we meet at 7.00pm at Settle swimming pool, Kendal Road, Giggleswick. New members and visitors are always welcome. Follow us on our Facebook page.

Yoga classes

Vinyasa Yoga: Weekly classes for all abilities including beginners. Thursdays, 5.30pm–6.30pm, Long Preston Village Hall. Email: yogabyscarlett@gmail.com or call 07532 264561 to book.

**Thank you for reading
Settle and District
Community News.
We hope you have
enjoyed this issue.
We welcome your
feedback.
See you again in April!**

Financial help for the ill or immobile

Do you, or someone you know, need help with the extra costs that come with illness or immobility?

The Settle and District Aid in Sickness Fund is a Registered Charity, operating since 1960, and its entire purpose is to help people with those increased costs. The fund makes one-off gifts to applicants in the Settle Parish and all the 11 parishes that surround Settle.

Examples of the kinds of help available are towards the cost of: travel to hospital for both patient appointments and for family visits; winter fuel bills for the housebound or immobile; equipment to help with immobility; domestic help.

The Charity aims to help those who are less well off, but there are no formal means tests. Applications are handled in the strictest confidence, there are no age limits and no complicated procedures or forms to be filled out. The amount of each gift is at the discretion of the Trustees, except the rules say there can be no commitment to recurring gifts.

If you think the Fund can help, give me a call or email.

Janet Heap, Chair and Trustee
Settle and District Aid in Sickness Fund
Tel: 07709 252613
Email: janheap@hotmail.co.uk

County Quiz Answers

1. Somerset; 2. Durham; 3. Devon; 4. Kent;
5. Cornwall; 6. Essex; 7. Warwickshire;
8. Surrey; 9. Cumberland; 10. Hampshire

Crossword Solution

Across: 7. Detached; 9. A level; 10. Stub;
11. Neutralise; 12. Trophy; 14. Longhand;
15. Corpus christi; 17. Concerto; 19. Tingle;
21. Effloresce; 22. Coke; 23. Soviet;
24. Rock salt.

Down: 1. Debtor; 2. Garb; 3. Thank you;
4. Warren; 5. Well chosen; 6. Helsinki;
8. Double-crosser; 13. Portcullis;
15. Crowfoot; 16. Retrench; 18. Rarity;
20. Likely; 22. Cash.

ADVERTISE WITH US

Ordinary commercial advertisements are charged at the rates below.

Charity Rates: No charge will be made to advertise charity events or matters of general social interest. If participation in an event is to be charged for then our normal advertising terms apply.

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95 x 63 mm OR 47 x 128 mm = £40

Eighth page

47 x 63 mm = £20

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ALL ADVERTS TO BE PREPAID

To enquire about advertising
or to book space, please email
advertising@settlenews.co.uk
or call 07484 174333

HOW TO PAY

Advertising payments and voluntary
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Account Number: 53002016

Or, cheques payable to Settle & District
Community News to:
1 Dawson's Court, Settle, BD24 9RX.

Next Issue (April 2024)
is published on 12th April

The deadline for copy and advertising
bookings is 18th March 2024



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