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No. 189 Oct/Nov 2025



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Editor's Welcome



The nights are drawing in, Halloween is on the horizon, followed by Bonfire Night and then Remembrance Day, when we remember the fallen of the many conflicts that have sadly scarred our history. A sombre moment, reflected in the poppies on our cover.

Also featured on the cover is the *Yorkshire Festival of Story* which runs from 3rd to 9th November in Settle. We have full details inside and our thanks go to Sita Brand of Settle Stories who provided the artwork.

The *Community News* Annual General Meeting takes place on 7th October. It's your chance to meet the team behind this magazine and have a say on its future. Turn to page 4 for more details.

We may like to complain about repeats on TV, but '*The Long Drag*', a documentary first broadcast in 1988 about the impending closure of the Settle-Carlisle railway line popped up again on BBC Four recently. It was a fascinating glimpse into a past that could have made the future of the district very different indeed if the original closure plan had been carried out. It seems unthinkable now to imagine Settle without its famous railway, so thanks are due to all those who had the vision and the vigour to successfully campaign to keep it open.

Our next issue will be out just as the countdown to Christmas gets serious and we are inviting local schoolchildren to send us their designs for our cover. We can't wait to see what their imaginations will come up with!

John Drake

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Pictured: Andy Swinscoe, Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, Sheila Dillon, Kathy Swinscoe

Courtyard Dairy up for BBC Award

The Courtyard Dairy (cheese shop and cheesemaker based near Settle) has been selected as one of three finalists in The BBC Food & Farming Awards' 'Best Food Producer 2025'.

This award is presented by BBC Radio 4's Food Programme. The Courtyard Dairy was selected as a finalist by the judges for 'being at the forefront of the cheese revolution in the UK', and 'the work they've done experimenting and researching traditional cheese recipes and spreading knowledge.'

The Courtyard Dairy co-owner Andy Swinscoe is delighted to be a finalist. "My wife Kathy and I were incredibly surprised and honoured to be chosen as a finalist for this amazing award," he said, "It's a real credit to the whole team, the cheesemakers and the customers, all of whom are helping to support and assure the future of handmade farmhouse cheese. We're thrilled that the cheeses we make here on site are held in such high repute."

The final judging is in the hands of Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall and Sheila Dillon and takes place over the next two months. The winner will be announced mid-November at a live ceremony in Bristol.

Kathy Swinscoe explains what the awards team are looking for: "The Food & Farming Awards team were particularly impressed by the synergy between us, the small nearby organic farm whose milk goes

into our cheese, and the other businesses at The Courtyard Dairy," she said, "For example, whey and cheese are used by the brilliant on-site bakery, Ambry, to ferment and make bread. The awards team also said that key to the nomination was the research, seminars and collaboration we undertake through our development dairy and Northern Cheese School Seminars to advance farmhouse cheese-making and knowledge in the UK."

Community News AGM

The Settle & District Community News Annual General Meeting takes place on Tuesday 7th October at 7pm at the Friends Meeting House, Kirkgate, Settle.

We would be delighted to see you if you would like to attend. All are welcome.

The agenda will include: Confirmation of management committee, any new nominations; Editor's comments; Reports on finances, advertising, distribution; Open forum, Q and A; Update on actions from last year's meeting; Social events and public events; Any Other Business.

Hot drinks and biscuits provided. Please send any comments or questions you would like us to prepare a response to phil@settlenews.co.uk

Air Ambulance charity says thanks

Yorkshire Air Ambulance want to thank all those who attended and/or contributed in any way to their very successful coffee morning on Wednesday 6th August at St John's Methodist Church Hall. A pleasing total of £481.99 was reached for this very vital and worthwhile emergency service.

The event at Horton Cafe Bar at Horton in Ribblesdale railway station on Saturday 9th August raised another £297.71 which was pretty good for a cold and blustery day. We were hoping to set up our stall outside, but Phil Cottam the volunteer who oversees the running of the cafe, kindly accommodated us inside. £150.00 of the money raised was as a result of a previous private event and arrived in an envelope!



Season's Greetings

The current exhibition at Gallery on the Green in Upper Settle features works by two local artists: photographer Mike Kilyon and poet Sue Vickerman (*above*).

The title, Season's Greetings, draws on the tradition, still practised by many, of sending greetings during what Sue describes as the season of melancholy and darkness. The exhibition is subtitled Love Would Come Down and consists of three photomontages and three related poems each on the inside panels of the gallery that is housed in a former BT phone box and is said to be probably the world's smallest art gallery. The exhibition runs until the end of November when it will be succeeded, as has become customary by the all-knitted Twelve Days of Christmas.

Quarry rail link will cut carbon emissions says owners

The recent re-opening of the Horton quarry rail link after 60 years was marked by an event at the site hosted by the quarry owners, Heidelberg Materials UK, who also used the occasion to celebrate the 50th anniversary of rail freight on the Settle-Carlisle line.

Horton quarry has been producing limestone and high-quality gritstone since 1889. Its original rail siding was removed

in 1965, but the newly constructed rail terminal is, once again, allowing aggregate to be delivered to construction projects across the North West by rail.

The event was organised in conjunction with GB Railfreight (GBRf), which runs the freight services, and the Settle and Carlisle Railway Trust. It brought together customers, industry representatives and other interested parties to see the quarry's new rail link as well as the unveiling of a commemorative GBRf-Heidelberg Materials liveried locomotive aptly named Settle & Carlisle 150.

"The first freight train ran on the Settle-Carlisle line in August 1875, and the reopening of our rail link at Horton quarry is a perfect way to mark this anniversary," said Becky Murphy, Aggregates Regional Director at Heidelberg Materials UK.

"The investment is part of our strategy to improve our network of rail connected quarries and depots and to help deliver our sustainability commitments.

"Each rail movement allows us to supply around 1,650 tonnes of high-quality aggregate across the North West of England, reducing vehicle journeys on the wider road network and cutting associated CO2 emissions."

John Smith OBE, Chief Executive Officer of GBRf and Trustee of the Settle and Carlisle Railway Trust, said: "In a year of milestones, we are proud to name our locomotive after this special railway line. Like rail freight, the Settle and Carlisle line has played a key role in driving the economy.

"Since 2019, we've had a fantastic partnership with Heidelberg Materials UK, moving six million tonnes of aggregates and cement nationally. Now with this new rail link, we can continue to move more aggregates via rail out of Horton quarry to projects across the North West, reducing emissions in the local area."

The work has been carried out by Duo Group, VolkerRail and AECOM, in partnership with Network Rail.



Inflatable fun

Settle Area Swimming Pool has a new inflatable for its popular family friendly sessions that make a trip to the pool about more than just a chance for a dip. The predominantly red coloured floating contraption that fills most of the 20-metre pool was installed at the start of September after the old one had to be replaced following a number of years of entertaining service. Details of the inflatable session times are on the pool website.

Meanwhile the pool's fund-raising shops are continuing to flourish, thanks to generous donations of pre-loved clothes and all sorts of household goods. The new unit on the industrial estate – opposite Arla is proving particularly popular with longer opening hours (full details are on the pool website). And with plenty of Christmas decorations having been donated over the past few months, once again there will be a special pre-Christmas sale held at pool on Saturday November 1 – look out for more details.

Flowerpot finale

And then there were none. Almost overnight, on 7th September the flowerpot creations that had dominated nearly every corner of Settle for much of the summer were gone – returned to their winter home at Watershed Mill. They then reappeared for a final curtain call at the shopping centre as the festival came to an end with a family funday on 14th September.

The brass band played and *Community News* was among the local organisations taking part in the funday, alongside Settle

Town Council and the scouts and guides among others. We will also be there at the next big event in the town – the Christmas Lights Switch On that takes place in the Market Square on Saturday November 29.



This year's flowerpot festival – the thirteenth – is widely reckoned to be the biggest and most successful to date. Not only were there more creations, in more imaginative spots – the top of the church tower for instance – but more trail guides were sold than ever before. And with well over 2,000 guides going mainly to families, that means that an awful lot of visitors spent an awful lot of time this July and August going round the town – and as the festival slogan has it - being made to smile.

The visitors book at Gallery on the Green, the former phone box in upper Settle, that staged a photographic exhibition showing what went on behind the scenes to make the festival creations, was a revelation. The first three entries came from Durham, Texas and Brighton respectively. And their comments? "Fantastic effort everyone. You clearly love your town. Came for the flowerpot festival and discovered a unique place"; "Fantastic. Well done Settle"; and "We have been amazed, amused and delighted". And so it went on. There were visitors from Spain, the Philippines and almost every part of the UK. Most significant though were the number of

visitors who said that they love coming to the festival year after year. As Richard Handscombe, one of the chief flowerpot men put it: “It is comments like that that keep us going during the winter months dreaming up new ideas.” And as for the impact on the town’s hospitality industry – that is just impossible to calculate.



Girlguiding adventures in Settle and Clapham

Girlguiding groups in and around Settle have enjoyed a busy and exciting summer. Settle Rainbows, along with Clapham Brownies and Guides, took part in some wonderful adventures – from a fun-packed day of activities and a train journey kindly organised by the Friends of the Settle to Carlisle Railway, to joining the excitement of county camp in Ripon, where girls from across North Yorkshire came together to share in the fun of camping, activities, and friendship.

As we move into September, our units are looking forward to restarting their weekly meetings. Girlguiding gives girls the chance to make friends, try new activities, and build confidence in a supportive environment. We do have a few places available across some of our local units, so this is an ideal time for new members to join.

We are also always keen to welcome new volunteers. Whether it’s helping regularly or lending a hand occasionally, giving a little of your time can make a real difference in providing these opportunities for local girls.

If you know a young person who would like to join, or if you are interested in volunteering yourself, please visit the girlguiding website and click on the Register button: www.girlguiding.org.uk



Manchester Master to conduct Settle Orchestra

Settle Orchestra are looking forward to another enjoyable season, including a further collaboration with Langcliffe Singers after our very successful performance of Brahms’ Requiem in 2023. The conductor for this season will be Andre Chan (*above*), another graduate student of the masters course at Manchester’s Royal Northern College of Music. A native of Hong Kong, Andre has already assisted various world-class orchestras, such as the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic and the BBC Philharmonic. He has also conducted the Hallé, Manchester Camerata, and MAV Symphony (Budapest) in masterclasses. He is excited to be bringing music that is close to his heart to audiences in the Yorkshire Dales.

For the joint concert Andre has chosen Beethoven’s Mass in C, a wonderfully tender and personal interpretation of the Latin mass which is not performed nearly as often as it should be. Other highlights for the year include Dvorak’s lyrical

and nostalgic cello concerto, with the orchestra's own Bob Buller as soloist, and a French-inspired concert with music by Debussy, Ravel, Poulenc – and Mozart. (OK, so Mozart wasn't French, but he had a happy association with Paris, and we are playing his Paris Symphony!).

The orchestra always welcome applications to join us, especially from younger players and from string and brass players. We would also be very interested to hear from any composers who would like to write music for the orchestra.

We give two concerts each term, one in Settle and one in Skipton; this year the dates are 22nd and 29th November 2025 and 21st and 29th March and 20th and 27th June 2026. Full details are on our website, <http://www.settleorchestra.org.uk>

Christmas lights date set

Settle's popular Christmas market and festive lights switch on will take place in the town square on Saturday 29 November. Once again there will be entertainment and activities for families. The highlight will be the closing firework display from Castlebergh Crag timed for around 5pm. The event is again being sponsored by Arla. Many other local organisations and businesses will be supporting the event by giving prizes for the great Christmas raffle. It's not too late to get involved in the event by performing, having a stall at the market, donating a raffle prize, becoming a sponsor, or volunteering on the day. You can get more information about how you can contribute by emailing your details or stall request to clerk@settletowncouncil.gov.uk or ring 01729 823617. *Community News* has already applied for a stall.

Council vacancy

There is still one vacancy for a councillor to serve on the Settle Town Council. To

qualify you must be at least 18 years old, appear on the register of electors for the Settle Parish or have worked in Settle or have lived within 4.8km of Settle for the past year. Councillors assist in making decisions about the local services that the council provides. These include allotments, street lighting, play areas and open spaces, the cemetery and the town market. To find out more about the role contact the council clerk on 01729 823617 or email: clerk@settletowncouncil.gov.uk. You can also find out more about what the council does by visiting its web site: <https://settletowncouncil.gov.uk/page/services>

Awards for council staff

As reported in Phil Hinde's account of the September council meeting (*see page 20*), town clerk Katie Dugdale has achieved the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA). This level three qualification demonstrates a broad knowledge of all aspects of a clerk's work including roles and responsibilities, the law, procedures, finance, planning and community involvement. Achieving the certificate is a significant milestone for any council clerk, reflecting dedication and skill in the field. The

certificate is recognised as a qualification that demonstrates a commitment to local governance and administration.

Congratulations have also been given to Emma Rayner, assistant clerk who has recently passed the introduction to local council administration (iLCA) qualification.

Town mayor Joe Lord said: "These qualifications demonstrate the council's ongoing commitment to growth, improvement, and delivering the highest standards of service to our community. Both Katie and Emma have worked hard in gaining these new qualifications, and their dedication to learning, growth, and



excellence not only strengthens their own skills but also contributes to our shared success.”

Birds of prey focus for “Eyes on the Skies” campaign

Yorkshire Dales environmental campaigning charity, Friends of the Dales, will launch its next major campaign on 21 October 2025, with an online event featuring talks and a panel discussion.

The Eyes on the Skies campaign speaks up about the continued illegal killing of birds of prey in the Yorkshire Dales - one of the UK’s black spots for this criminal activity.

The online launch, starting at 5:30pm on 21 October, offers a chance to:

- Learn about the vital role birds of prey play in the Yorkshire Dales ecosystem.
- Hear from leading experts about the scale and impact of their persecution.
- Find out the ways in which you can speak up for birds of prey and support the campaign.

Everyone is welcome to sign up and join this free event at: www.friendsofthedales.org.uk/events. Photo: Peregrine by Dave Dimmock.



Craven Wildlife Rescue Invites Applications for New Trustees

Craven Wildlife Rescue is inviting applications for three new Trustees in the run-up to a very exciting chapter in its development.



“We care for nearly 500 animals each year,” says Penny Hunt, Co-founder. “Our patients are varied and beautiful

- owls, hedgehogs, swans, otters, birds of prey, to name a few.

“We’ve developed our animal care facilities within the rescue hospital and expanded the network of agencies, mentors and experts that we work with. We need to expand our facilities, whether at our current site or elsewhere, and there is a huge opportunity for us to expand our education activities. We are inviting new Trustees onto our Board to help us achieve our vision for the future.”

Craven Wildlife Rescue is looking for Trustees with the following areas of expertise:

- Veterinary practice or animal care
- Events organisation and fundraising
- Business and legal
- Architecture
- Technology

In July, Patrick Grant, best-known for his role as a judge on hit BBC One show “The Great British Sewing Bee”, was appointed the Rescue’s first Patron.

Interested applicants should send a covering letter and details of their experience to the Board of Trustees, by email - cravenwildliferescue@gmail.com. The closing date is Friday 31 October 2025.



Photo Credit: John Toms

On song

Langcliffe Singers’ winter term begins with what is becoming a great tradition – joining with Giggleswick School Chapel Choir to sing Faure’s Requiem and other items for Remembrancetide in a Remembrance Day concert in the glorious school chapel.

For the Christmas concert on 13th December the singers are performing Alexander L’Estrange’s Wassail!, a

sequence of choral arrangements of uplifting traditional carols, accompanied by jazz musicians and, hopefully, some children from local schools. There will be opportunities for audience participation in some festive favourites. Tickets will be available from Forage and Feast and Car and Kitchen as well as via the website www.langcliffesingers.org.uk.

The choir rehearse in St John's Methodist Church Hall in Settle from 7.30pm to 9.30pm on Tuesdays during term time. New members are always very welcome. You can turn up on a Tuesday evening or email secretary@langcliffesingers.org.uk in advance and can attend three rehearsals before committing to membership.

Aid for Ukraine

Two and a half years after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and after suffering increasing attacks on civilian targets, there is a growing need in Ukraine for essential supplies, especially, to help displaced families. That is why a group in Settle has been collecting goods to send to that country.

The Settle group meet every few weeks at the swimming pool car park on an agreed date and fill a vehicle which is then driven, by volunteers, to Chorley, where the Chorley and District Support Group for Ukraine have a warehouse from which they arrange transport by lorry across Europe. A list of what is needed can be seen on the group's Facebook page and at <https://chorleyukraineunit.org/> Items on the list include medical equipment, candle wax and toys as well as warm clothing. Knitted squares that can be made into blankets are among the things that are especially useful.

If you would like to join the mailing list for information about dates and times of collections, please message Angie Pedley on angie.pedley@gmail.com.

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distribution@settlenews.co.uk**

Settle's Most Colourful Show Yet!

Settle Amateur Operatic Society (SAOS) is pulling out all the stops this November with their latest production, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

Rehearsals are already in full swing, and the excitement is palpable. With a vibrant cast of children, teenagers, and adults, this year's production is bursting with energy, colour, and heart.

From toe-tapping Country & Western to joyful Calypso, Joseph takes you on a musical journey like no other. And this isn't just a retelling - it's a celebration. With choral harmonies, bold personalities, and a few surprises along the way, the show radiates pure fun from beginning to end.

This year's cast includes performers of all ages - from complete newcomers to seasoned SAOS stage veterans - and the joy is infectious.

Led by director Paula Griffiths and musical director Steven Lawson, our committed production team are working hard to make the magic happen. Alongside our experienced stage managers we are collaborating with professional tech experts, sourcing dazzling costumes and putting together a live orchestra that'll bring every note of Andrew Lloyd Webber's iconic score to life.

12-15 November at Victoria Hall, Settle
Tickets: £18 adults, £12 children

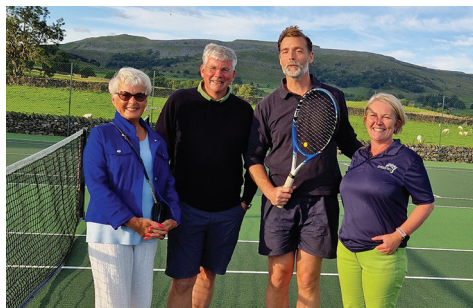
Evening shows: 7pm Wed-Sat
Saturday matinée: 2.30pm.

Book now: www.settleoperatic.org

Sewing Bee's Patrick Grant a big hit at tennis club

The recently resurfaced tennis courts at Austwick Playing Fields have now been officially re-opened. The celebration was led by Great British Sewing Bee judge Patrick Grant, who lives locally and describes himself as 'keen on a game of tennis'.

Before joining club members for a few sets of men's and mixed doubles, Patrick, who is the founder of ethical British



(L to R) Jenny Thistlethwaite of the Craven Trust, Tennis Club chairman Robert Bellfield, Patrick Grant and Fiona Ross of the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust.

clothing brand Community Clothing, declared the courts re-opened and made a point about his principal interest saying that his tennis kit: sweater, shorts and socks were all made in Britain by companies committed to sustainable and ethical production.

Also present at the event were representatives of the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust and the Craven Trust, two of the charities that helped fund the £32,000 resurfacing project, along with the Tarmac Landfill Communities Fund and club members.

Meanwhile, the club is celebrating the success of its A team topping division two of the mixed doubles Wharfedale League and now looks forward to the winter league when it enters teams in the Morecambe and Lancaster Vets Leagues.

The club, which draws its members from a wide area including Settle, Giggleswick, Bentham, Ingleton, Stainforth and Horton as well as Austwick itself, is open to new members of any standard including beginners.

Full details, including court booking arrangements for visitors are on the website at <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/AustwickTennisClub>.

If you have a local news story or feature suggestion please email us at features@settlenews.co.uk

Settle and District Community News

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TRANSPORT NEWS

The news from the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle line is much the same and we seem to be experiencing an increasing number of infrastructure issues which have led to disruption. It is clear that the resilience of the railway needs to be addressed, particularly as we approach the winter months. It is heavily dependent upon manned signal boxes and, whilst the mechanical elements have stood the tests of time, the interface with electrical equipment is often to blame. Delays are compounded by the distances that maintenance crews have to travel whilst, in the past, personnel would have been based locally.

Clearly, these issues are not the fault of the train operator, but we have urged that control decisions made following any incident are customer-focused rather than for operational convenience. Too often a train is terminated at Skipton to suit the operator or, even worse, cancelled. It is imperative that attempts are made to run trains where possible as there are immense difficulties in recruiting rail replacement buses at short notice, plus, the geography of the line does not easily lend itself to road alternatives.

Meanwhile, the thorny issue of carriage allocation continues to provide challenges with no real prospect of an interim solution. As I have said before, perhaps we do need to be a little more savvy as to booked parties on already heavily used trains. We cannot escape the fact that a significant number of the passengers will be travelling for leisure purposes and are often concentrated on certain northbound mid-morning trains. Loads are slightly more spread out on the return. The situation was particularly bad over the August bank holiday weekend when festival-goers travelling to and from Leeds-Fest had to share carriages with a few booked parties

and an increased number of users because of the holiday period.

The irony is that not all of our trains are full, and it seems to me that that we should make increased efforts to fill spare capacity and, in particular, attract the commuters back to the line as well as the long-distance traffic. After all, this is a heavily subsidised transport asset which, at present, is not best utilised. Believe it or not, the online journey planners do not always offer the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle as a possible option despite occasionally providing a shorter journey time.

It would appear that the December 2025 rail timetable will reflect little change from the existing one. The rail industry does not seem to be flexible and whilst we have argued for relatively minor changes it is particularly disappointing that none of these requests have been acceded to. We will therefore continue to see four-hour gaps in timetable at some of the minor stations and poor commuter times, particularly at the northern end of the line.

Whilst we often see steam charters passing Settle, a recent highlight was a ten-coach Avanti West Coast train on 20th August. This was a somewhat unusual visitor, and it reminds us that it is just over 15 years since the line was regularly visited by Virgin 'Pendolino' trains, on diversion, hauled by diesel locomotives. Such traffic emphasises the strategic importance of our line as a viable alternative route to the north.

Moving on to our local bus services, I have often remarked that Settle is reasonably well connected for a town of its size although lacking in evening and Sunday services. Hopefully, these shortcomings can be addressed by the new combined authority. The Lonsdale Buses 580/581 continues to provide the regular Monday-Saturday connection from Settle Market Place to Skipton and Kirkby Lonsdale. Also, the No 11 provides a service to Horton and Clitheroe on weekdays and Saturdays whilst the

seasonal Saturday 75 service to Malham, due to finish at the end of October, will hopefully return in 2026.

Meanwhile, the DalesBus summer services will be coming to an end for this year on 19th October following another successful season and planning will shortly commence for 2026. However, there are still several journey opportunities away from the railway during the winter months. From Dent Station, the Western Dales Bus provides the all-year Saturday S1 connection to Dent village, Sedbergh and Kendal, whilst the Little White Bus provides a Monday to Saturday connection from Garsdale Station to Hawes, both of these services connecting with the 10.21 train from Settle. From Kirkby Stephen or Appleby, it is possible to use the 563 to reach Penrith, Monday to Saturday. I should perhaps mention that the popular Wednesday Cumbria Classic service from Kirkby Stephen station to Barnard Castle will be withdrawn as from the end of September which is sad news.

For regular journeys on the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle and Morecambe lines, it may be worthwhile purchasing a Dales Railcard which saves a third off a standard ticket purchased on the day. Unfortunately, these cannot be used for advance purchase tickets and have a pre-08.15 travel restriction. However, priced at £15, the card represents excellent value for money and can be obtained from Settle or Skipton ticket offices or online from the Settle Carlisle Railway Development Company.

Please do get out and use our local bus and train services including the Morecambe line. Details of all local bus services can be found at www.dalesbus.org whilst for rail services visit www.northernrailway.co.uk However, for assistance on any local transport matter, please feel free to contact john.carey@settle-carlisle.com and I would be delighted to help.

John Carey
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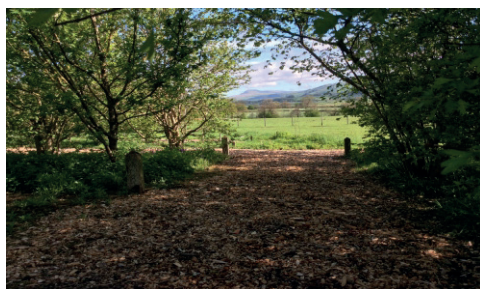
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Diane



Helen



Christine



Paul

Ear Wax Removal – It's one of our most popular services. We run daily clinics offering microsuction, irrigation and dry removal in Silsden BD20 0EE (most other clinics only offer one method). We also run twice monthly clinics at The Place in Settle on Saturdays from October 2025 – read below Christine's story and her motivation to bring a valuable service to Settle and it's surrounding areas. Our company video - <https://bit.ly/3mgTbuG>

The Place in Settle, 11 Commercial Courtyard, Duke Street, Settle BD24 9RH

To book ear wax removal - www.hab.online/ear-wax-removal - (01535) 606350

Christine's Background – My name is Christine Grange. I have had a career of 30 years in the District Nursing Service and ear wax removal was always a part of that job role I found satisfying.

I have also previously worked in the community in Settle and at Castleberg hospital on the night service.

When I retired from nursing in 2020, I was looking for a job which used the skills I had developed as a nurse that would also fit in with my beef and sheep farming duties as the wife of a local farmer – farming runs in my blood!

I found the perfect job at HAB Hearing in Silsden and with extra training in the use of microsuction and updated in the use of irrigation, I have improved my skills over the last 5 years.

Working with my colleagues at HAB Hearing who show great integrity and passion for supporting people with hearing challenges has been uplifting.

In my role I get to meet wonderful people, discuss their hearing issues and remove their wax if present or signpost them to health services if necessary.

The service based in Silsden is great for helping local people and also those willing to travel, however, as the ear wax removal service provided by the NHS is limited, I have found people who are living in more rural and farming communities struggle to receive this opportunity for care, as I experienced in my previous career working in the Yorkshire Dales and Nidderdale.

As my skills have developed, my passion for bringing this service closer to these communities has grown.

I am so excited to be starting ear wax removal services supported by HAB Hearing in the close, caring community of Settle and the surrounding areas. Please support me in this endeavour and spread the word!





ACE's Future What Next and Get Involved

The Settle Area Action on Climate Emergency steering group has recently taken some dedicated time out to reflect on what's worked well so far and to start thinking about the next couple of years, to identify what ACE's role might be and how this can be resourced.

We very much felt that the original objectives are still relevant and that ACE has achieved a lot in a relatively short time. We have grown from very small beginnings in March 2019 to a position in which we have more than 75 members and have undertaken a lot of activities.

However, the actual running and work of ACE is being carried out by a small number of people - the current steering group and a small group of non-steering group members - which is unsustainable. Some members of the current steering group will also be standing down by March 2026, including myself as co-ordinator.

You'll hear about 'climate conversations' at our October Green Cafe (details below) and why it's so important to keep pressing for action on the climate and nature crises. If you can lend a hand please attend one of our autumn cafes and get in touch through the channels below to find out more.

Autumn activities

Saturday 11th October (10.30am-12.30pm) Green Cafe at St John's Methodist Church Hall. Join us for a chat about topical issues over fairtrade tea, coffee and biscuits (10.30am-11am), followed by our Annual General Meeting (11am-11.45am) and a talk by Dan Tipney titled Climate Conversations: why talking about climate change could well be the most effective tool to reach crucial tipping points of engagement.

Saturday 8th November (10.30am-12.30pm) Green Cafe at St John's Methodist Church Hall. This features as an event in Settle Stories 2025 Yorkshire Festival of Story. Come and hear local academic Nicholas Temple speak (online) on the theme 'Nature, Violence, Courage'. This also forms part of a larger project (*Nature Transformed: Erosion and Recovery of Solidarity*) that focuses primarily on the current environmental and socio-political crises.

Recycling at Green Cafes: drop off your used blister packs and clean, old toothpaste tubes and toothbrushes. Donations appreciated.

Thermal imaging camera available at Green Cafes: take a look and borrow the camera to show where insulation can reduce drafts and cut bills or contact us below.

Find out about ACE and our events - via our website: acesettleandarea.org; our newsletter - sign-up by emailing us on: acesettleandarea@gmail.com or via Facebook, as ACE Settle. Sarah Wiltshire. ACE Settle Co-ordinator

The Place, where things happen

By the time you read this summer will probably already feel like a distant memory. But here at The Place we have much to celebrate about our summer and lots to be thankful for and we would love to share some of that with you.

You may remember that we had the great opportunity to run an afternoon tea fundraiser at the Langcliffe Institute in August. We were thrilled with the amazing support from businesses that gave raffle prizes and the local community who got behind us with offers of home -made cakes and the donation of tombola prizes. Of course, we couldn't have done it without the wonderful support from those of you who came along on the day and ate cake and bought raffle and tombola tickets! We raised a fantastic £1,394. Thank you to all of you.



During the school summer holidays, our allotment volunteer Barbara joined forces for the first time with the great team at



the library to put on two activity mornings for local families at our allotment at Dog Meadow Lane. These were free events and involved learning about plants in an engaging and fun way and creating a garden box to take home. A fab time was had by all.



As we now embrace the autumn months, please check out the *Community News* Directory (on pages 58-62) or our website to see what activities we have at The Place that you can join in, or what services we can offer to support you. In particular we would like to highlight our Wellbeing Cafe on a Tuesday afternoon. This is open to all 2-4pm. Come along for creative activities, puzzles, bingo or just a brew and a chat! Our digital support day on a Monday with our volunteer John is still going strong 9.30am-3pm. Please just pop in or call to book a slot - for anything techie or online.

Don't forget we are here on Commercial Yard (opposite Ruchee) every weekday 9.30am - 1pm to support the health and wellbeing of residents in Settle - do pop in or give us a call 01729 824868.

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meetings, like those of other councils across the country - town, parish and county, are open to the press and public. It is an essential part of our local democracy. But whilst some local residents with an interest in a particular issue turn up to hear what their elected representatives have to say, these days it is rare for a reporter to be present to record the discussions as a whole. Community News generally relies on the report sent to us by the councillors themselves. But for the September meeting, our reporter Phil Hinde, got out his notebook and pencil and listened as the councillors went about their business. Here is his report:

The formal business of the first autumn council meeting was briefly delayed in order to congratulate town clerk Katie Dugdale who has now qualified as a fully accredited clerk through the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) programme.

Once under way the council reviewed a number of current and pending planning applications. No serious concerns were raised, other than disappointment that the proposals to add some new signage outside Boots the Chemist did not go as far as councillors wished in improving the appearance of the building, particularly in view of its prominent location. It was pointed out that Boots are merely tenants and some of the desired improvements were the landlord's responsibility. However, fears were raised that the poor condition of the windows might be a security risk given that pharmaceutical drugs are stored on the premises.

A topic which is affecting residents in Upper Settle, some of whom attended the meeting, is the use of the track across The Green as a short cut by lorries and farm machinery to bypass congestion caused by (legal) parking in adjoining streets. The concern is that The Green as a public amenity is being damaged, and utility cables and pipes at a shallow depth are at risk. This is not a new problem but is getting worse due to the increasing size of

tractors and other vehicles. The matter is complicated by the fact that one parcel of land is of uncertain ownership, and that some possible solutions such as tighter parking restrictions, require action by North Yorkshire Council; the access needs of properties around The Green also have to be respected. A number of possible mitigations including more signage, and bollards that could be raised and lowered were discussed, and it was agreed that a site meeting with North Yorkshire as the highway authority should take place as soon as possible.

Two further issues of on-going concern to the council, the closure of the Arla plant and change in the management of the toilets in Whitefriars Car Park, were deferred to the next meeting as, due to the holiday period, there has been limited input from the other parties involved.

There was a lengthy discussion about how the council should respond to the current pattern of display of Union and St. George's flags. It was agreed that to avoid being drawn into political debate the council should adhere to the government's national flag policy as regards dates for flying flags on public sites (including Castleberg Crag). (It has subsequently been reported that North Yorkshire Council, as highways authority, had already issued a clear statement that flags placed on street furniture such as lampposts would be removed on safety grounds.) The meeting noted that the national flag policy does allow for displays on special occasions, such as the white rose being flown on Yorkshire Day, and that Settle has its own town flag to be flown when appropriate.

Other reports received illustrate the variety of issues that the council manages, or for which it acts to represent the town: allotments, the market, signage for visitors, the upcoming Christmas lights and the council's involvement with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Management Plan.

Lastly, but by no means least, councillors were reminded that there is still one vacancy on the council, and nominations to fill the place would be most welcome.

Phil Hinde



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Banking hub - where next?

Extensive efforts to bring a banking hub to Settle have so far failed. But Barry White, who has been following the story closely, thinks there could be scope for a new approach next year. Here he explains the background.

The April 2024 edition of *Community News* outlined efforts to secure a banking hub for Settle following the closure of HSBC, the last bank branch in Settle, on 6 September 2023. Barclays, Lloyds and Nat West had all pulled out of the town over the previous five years.

Banking Hubs offer easy access to cash and face-to-face banking in communities across the UK and are operated by the Post Office. They are owned by Cash Access UK and applications for a banking hub are made to LINK, the organisation responsible for the UK's cash points (ATM's) network. LINK considers a wide range of factors in deciding whether communities needed a new 'cash service'. Among the factors are existing cash and banking services, population and age profile, the number of shops on the high street, the nearest banks and the location of local cash machines.

Jonathan Kerr (then Chief Officer of North Craven Age Concern and member of the Settle Chamber of Trade) submitted an application to LINK towards the end of 2024. This was supported by Settle Town Council.

LINK replied saying that they were

not recommending any new services in Settle as they did not find any gap in the cash access services available in the town that caused a significant impact for the community.

Subsequently Jonathan Kerr and I met our MP, Sir Julian Smith, who was very supportive of Settle's case. We put to him not only our disappointment at LINK's decision, but the need for LINK to review their criteria for considering applications from smaller communities like Settle.

Sir Julian then raised the issue with the Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves, asking her to relax the LINK criteria to help meet the needs of rural communities. However, the Treasury stuck to the line that the government could not intervene as the assessment criteria were a matter for LINK, the financial services sector and the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

Following further pressure, the Treasury told Sir Julian that LINK would 'consider undertaking new community requests after a year and that the closure of a further 'core cash service' such as a bank branch or post office would automatically trigger a new assessment'.

Settle's case could therefore be resubmitted to LINK next year. In the meantime, it would be useful, in building up the case to put to LINK to hear what impact the lack of banking facilities in the town is having on local businesses, organisations and individuals.

Lancashire's first banking hub opened in Barnoldswick in March last year and Ilkley should have a hub up and running in March next year.

Barry White

**Please send your feedback to:
bankinghub@settleneeds.co.uk**

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First Responders

If you ever have to call 999 due to a medical emergency, the chances are first person to come to your aid will be a community first responder. But who are these local residents who answer calls for help? Settle and Giggleswick first responder Brian Cowie answers some key questions.



Who are we?

We're volunteers who attend serious 999 calls in our area in our own vehicles for the Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS). We give gold standard care to patients until an ambulance arrives, and carry a defibrillator (AED), oxygen, and other equipment to assess and assist patients.

What sort of incidents do we attend?

Callouts are primarily for cardiac issues, breathing difficulties, strokes, other medical issues and falls. We don't attend trauma incidents, collisions, or calls involving young children. As first responders, we are expected to log on for about five hours a week. We don't need to stay at home whilst logged on, but we do need to be able to respond immediately. We usually work solo, but new volunteers can shadow an experienced responder until they're comfortable working on their own.

What training do we get?

No prior medical experience is needed – the initial training covers everything we need to know to attend incidents, with plenty of practical scenarios. We meet one evening every two months with our ambulance service trainer to update and practice our skills. Some compulsory on-line training and assessment is also required. There are other optional CPD (Continuous Professional Development) events for those who want to learn more.

What is it like on the front line?

When the callout comes, you know you are likely to be first on scene. It can seem intimidating, but the training kicks in. People are always relieved to see you. The worst-case scenario, fortunately rare, is a full cardiac arrest where you're performing CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and deploying the defibrillator. More commonly, the patient is still breathing but has a medical issue. You assess them, record the information, and then monitor and reassure them until the ambulance arrives. We are supported by the dispatchers working for Yorkshire Ambulance Service and the paramedics who work with them, so advice is always just a phone call away. Once the ambulance arrives you brief the crew and may be asked to help further. Then it's back home, replace any kit used, and get ready for the next callout.

Why do we do it?

It's the satisfaction of helping a person in distress, and the appreciation you get from the patients and their families. I've been a volunteer for more than 11 years. Having escaped the teaching profession after 33 years I moved to Settle and joined the Cave Rescue Organisation – the local cave and mountain rescue team. Other team members were first responders and I decided to give it a go. If I didn't find it interesting, challenging and enjoyable I wouldn't still be doing it.

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Brian Cowie



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Horton celebrates 'best ever' show



Horton-in-Ribblesdale Show held on Saturday 6th September is a traditional village show, where generations of local families either take part or support older or younger members.

The 2025 show was probably the best ever in terms of attendance. Vice Chairman Barrie Thomas scooped five out of the seven trophies in the Swaledale sheep section. He also had the on-field overall reserve champion. Daughter Zoe tackled the set recipe for pistachio and orange biscotti, beating many of the acclaimed adult bakers to win the Sargison trophy which is awarded to the winner of a different confectionery class each year. She also won the Horton Landscaping Cup for the best photograph taken by a child under sixteen years of age.

The Dalesbred classes attracted almost fifty entries, so selecting a winner was a hard task for the judge, who had travelled over from Richmond. Horton-in-Ribblesdale farmers fared well with John Carr winning four trophies and Frank Jackson that for best fleeced Dalesbred.

Father and daughter Gavin and Abbey White had some excellent results in the blue-faced Leicester and the mule lamb sections where they came away with trophies for the champion in each section and also received the Marmaduke White Cup and rosette for the champion on-field animal with their outstanding blue faced Leicester gimmer lamb. Co-incidentally

the trophy was donated some years ago by Gavin's uncle who farmed at Low Birkwith.

There was a great display of vintage tractors, implements and cars Show President Malcom Campbell won the tractor section with his Massey 1200 whilst the tractor and implement class was won by Chris Armstrong with his Fahr tractor and Billy Middleton had the best vintage car with his four-wheel drive Haulinger, a Lotus Elan was placed second and a Sunbeam in third.

The young handlers' classes were so well supported that it took all the sections sheep judges some time to peruse the performances and to ask the right questions to the exhibitors and more importantly to get the correct answers from them about their animals. Rebecca Lambert won the best Zwartble on the field and won the Joan Barker Salver. The Zwartble judge, John Stevenson had travelled all the way from Saltburn and was envious of the green



grass on the limestone fields after a dry summer on his land on the east coast where the fields remain pretty brown and parched of moisture.

The indoor section exhibits were of a standard.

The Mrs Mason Memorial Cup for the best exhibit overall in the confectionery section was awarded to Lizzy Swainson with her gingerbread loaf and she also won a trophy for the best overall photograph with a stunning black and white shot of a dog. Lizzy is the granddaughter of the show Secretary, Paula Swainson, whose other grandchildren Harry and Bill Walker of Dunsop Bridge also entered the spirit of the show, with exhibits in the children's crafts and showing the families Swaledale sheep.

A special mention must go to Leila Newhouse who won the trophy for the under sixteen champion handicrafts. Leila had made her first patchwork quilt using recycled material and bits from nanna's stash of fabrics! She also won a trophy for gaining most points in the confectionery section, twelve to sixteen years old. Rosie Wilson again produced some exquisite handwriting to win the Thomas Metcalfe memorial trophy. April Quigley gained most points in the horticultural section and had the best exhibit of garden flowers.

The dog and pet show is certainly gaining in popularity. The winner of the large dog class was Willow with Andrew Hargreave, the small dog class was Blue with C Eggleston and the working dog was Duke with Simon Cresswell. The winner of the any other pet class was Torti the tortoise.

Paula Swainson



Full list of trophy winners:

On Field Champion: Gavin White – Blue faced Leicester gimmer lamb.
 Reserve on field champion: Barrie Thomas – Swaledale
 Champion Dalesbred – John Carr
 Champion Swaledale- Barrie Thomas
 Champion Texel – Ryan Middleton
 Champion Blue faced Leicester-Gavin White
 Champion Zwartble- Rebecca Lambert
 Champion any other breed-Tracey Sutcliffe
 Best five mule gimmer lambs-Gavin White
 Best male in Swaledale section – Barrie Thomas
 Best fleeced sheep in Swaledale section-John Walker
 Best exhibit in local Swaledale section-Barrie Thomas
 Best pair of local Swaledale gimmer lambs-S & D Robinson
 Best tup lamb in Swaledale section-Barrie Thomas
 Best female in Swaledale section-Barrie Thomas
 Best Male in Dalesbred section-John Carr
 Best fleeced sheep in Dalesbred section-Frank Jackson
 Best Dalesbred group-John Carr
 Best female in Dalesbred section=John Carr
 Best Masham lamb-Frank Jackson
 Young handler-up to age 11 years -Florence Millman
 Young handler-11-16 years-Sheeba Brinsden
 Young handler-17-21 years=Abi White
 Sargison cup-Pistachio and Orange Biscotti – Zoe Thomas
 Best exhibit in confectionery section-Lizzy Swainson
 Best Fruit cake-B.Reynolds
 Most points in confectionery section(adult)-H.Huddleston
 Most points in the flower section-E.Staig
 Best exhibit in flower section-A.Quigley
 Best exhibit in handicrafts section, 11 years and under-Harry Hudspeth
 Best photograph, 16 years and under-Zoe Thomas
 Under 16 Champion exhibit in the indoor section-Leila Newhouse
 Most points in Confectionery section, 12-16 years-Leila Newhouse
 Most points in Confectionery section,11 years and under-Oscar Newhouse
 Best piece of handwriting-Rosie Wilson
 Best exhibit in Needlecraft-J.Crowson
 Most points in Horticultural section-A. Quigley
 Best exhibit in horticultural section-R.Aiken
 Best exhibit in handicraft section-S. Moorhouse
 Best Overall photograph-Lizzy Swainson
 Vintage Tractor-Malcolm Campbell
 Vintage Car-Billy Middleton

Ribble Rivers Trust Celebrates Restoration Projects in North Yorkshire

The Ribble Rivers Trust is a dedicated charity working tirelessly to improve the health and vitality of the River Ribble and its tributaries. Since 1997, the charity has been committed to ecological conservation and river restoration. Recently, Ribble Rivers Trust has made significant progress on three exciting projects around the Settle and Long Preston areas, as part of our *Ribble Revival: Room for Rivers* initiative.

This programme is funded by the Government's Species Survival Fund. The fund was developed by Defra and its Arm's-Length Bodies. It is being delivered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund in partnership with Natural England and the Environment Agency. The current projects are part of many other conservation activities collectively aimed at restoring 3,300 hectares of critical habitats.

Ribble Revival: Room for Rivers aims to rejuvenate the Ribble catchment, targeting strategic locations to benefit river species and local communities alike. With a focus on reversing declines in nationally significant species such as smelt, European eels, Atlantic salmon, and brown trout, this initiative marks an important step towards restoring the health of our waterways.

Backed by 16 years of data collected by the Ribble Rivers Trust, the programme addresses key issues affecting catchment health including, water quality, water quantity, habitat quality, and habitat connectivity. Many of these problems, often stemming from human activities, have led to a decline in wildlife populations and impacted communities. During 2025 the Ribble Rivers Trust has undertaken three exciting projects within

the Settle and Long Preston area, with Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) being employed to tackle these challenges directly, including large scale de-culverting and wetland creation.

Historically, culverts - underground structures which convey water, often made from stone, pipe or concrete - were introduced to maximise land use, improving efficiency for farming or development. However, culverts can cause significant issues; mostly by preventing natural river processes and features. Therefore, they tend to be poor habitats and prevent wildlife using the watercourse, often becoming barriers to upstream habitats. Additionally, culverts can contribute to water stagnation, nutrient build-up, and increased flood risk due to unseen blockages or reduced watercourse capacity. Historical maps of the Settle and Long Preston area show many culverts dating back to the 19th century, reflecting their long presence in the area.

Working with the local landowners, Ribble Rivers Trust has undertaken large-scale de-culverting along multiple lengths of a small watercourse at two locations on farmland west of Giggleswick train station. Sections of culvert have been removed (a process known as daylighting), opening the waterway to sunlight, which encourages aquatic vegetation growth and wildlife access. In some parts, a new, meandering channel has been constructed, featuring pools, riffles, and meanders. By restoring the natural shape and flow of the river, the project has created and enhanced habitats for fish, aquatic insects, and other wildlife. Excitingly, new channel



Above: Aerial view showing old culvert being filled on the right and a new meandering stream course on the left.

is already filling with gravels essential for salmon spawning, and the Trust has already discovered invertebrates using the habitat! On top of this, the open channel also improves local flood resilience by better managing surface water runoff.

In addition to the de-culverting on these two sites, Ribble Rivers Trust has dug four ponds, which will form wetland areas to support numerous species, as well as natural flood management benefits of increased upstream water storage.

The third project site, situated just outside Long Preston, has converted an area of unproductive agricultural land into a vibrant wetland ecosystem, offering significant benefits for wildlife. The heart of the site features two interconnected ponds. As with all our projects, the design of the ponds kept nature in mind and incorporated a variety of depths, including shallow margins and deeper zones, to support a wide range of wildlife. Trees were planted, and wild grass seed was spread around the ponds, allowing natural wetland vegetation to establish. Given its proximity to important wading bird habitats at Long Preston Deepes SSSI, the project aims to create new habitat for species like curlew and lapwing. Wetland habitats are among the most biodiverse native ecosystems, supporting countless

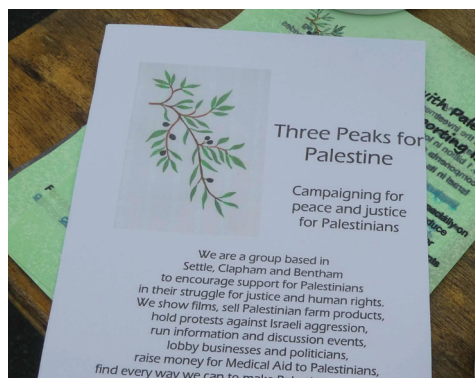
plants, insects, amphibians, birds, and mammals. Yet, they are in significant decline, with approximately a third of wetlands lost since the 1970s. Therefore, the creation of new wetlands within the Ribble catchment is of great importance, both locally and nationally, to help reverse this decline. Wetlands are not only crucial for supporting biodiversity but also play a key role in slowing and filtering water. The new wetlands around Settle and Long Preston will help prevent sediment and pollutants from entering the River Ribble, thereby improving water quality downstream. They also support sustainable farming by utilising areas of farmland that are otherwise suboptimal for grazing due to poor drainage. As the ponds establish, better drainage in surrounding areas is expected, making the land more suitable for grazing—demonstrating how conservation and agriculture can coexist and even enhance each other.

These projects demonstrate the Ribble Rivers Trust's commitment to ecological restoration, flood management, and community engagement. As habitats are revitalised and connectivity restored along the river system, a resurgence in wildlife populations and landscape enrichment is anticipated. The Trust plans to continue monitoring these sites using methods such as invertebrate sampling, pond netting, and water chemistry analysis to assess the impact of their work.

The success of these projects has generated interest among other landowners, leading to plans for additional similar schemes in the area.

For more information and how you can get involved, visit www.ribbletrust.org.uk.

Cody Beaghan
Community Engagement Officer
Ribble Rivers Trust



Three Peaks for Palestine

For the past thirteen years there has been a group based in Bentham and Settle that endeavours to share information about Palestine and to challenge misconceptions. It was formed in 2012 after four women from the area travelled to a Palestinian village to help pick the olive harvest. The previous year, Annie Neligan (pictured), from Bentham, had visited the same village, again, to pick olives.

A deep sense of injustice about what is happening daily to Palestinian people, and having witnessed the increase in the level of violence against them first hand, drives Annie and others to share information using talks, films, walks and vigils, to make people here aware of what is happening in Gaza and the West Bank. Annie has visited the village five times and says the situation has become worse each time.

Three Peaks for Palestine wants to show that Palestinians are human beings with a distinct culture, who want to make a living, and to raise their children in safety and peace. The group also believes that the solution to problems is not through violence.

The group holds vigils in Settle every fortnight and in Bentham monthly. More and more people are coming to speak with them and they are finding a lot of support.



People are often encouraged to sign a letter or a petition to a business or a member of the government, laying out information and what could be done.

Lobbying MPs is another activity, as is promoting a boycott of Israeli goods such as dates, avocados and potatoes. There are regular sales in Settle of dates, almonds and olive oil from Palestinian farmers via Zaytoun, a UK company with a fairtrade accreditation. Plant sales also help to raise money for Medical Aid for Palestine.

Three Peaks for Palestine is an anti-racist group and opposed to all anti-Semitism. The group includes Jewish people. It believes it is not anti-Semitic to oppose the actions of the Israeli government. Many Israelis also oppose the actions of their government, as demonstrated by Ofer Cassif's article in *The Guardian* "Protests in Tel Aviv, army reservists refusing to serve in Israel, more of us are saying no to this endless war."

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2025/aug/25/israel-protest-tel-aviv-army-war-gaza>

The horrific actions of Hamas on October 7, 2023 are condemned; the group stresses that those actions were perpetrated by a small minority of the Gazan population.

Supporters attend protests against businesses manufacturing parts for arms sold to Israel, which are used against Palestinians. Their objections are to the behaviour of the current government of Israel. Most of the marches in places like Leeds, Liverpool and London are joined by Jewish supporters. Annie says, "If we address justice for Palestine, that is what will bring peace".

If you would like more information, please email threepeaksforpalestine@gmail.com

There is a Facebook page Three Peaks for Palestine.

Angie Pedley



The art of peace raises funds for children

In just two weeks this summer, Settle raised £15,000 for children in Gaza and the West Bank – a phenomenal amount for a town this size.

The source of funding was The Flower Show- Fine Art Exhibition, hosted by the Quakers in the Kirkgate meeting house. The show included nearly 150 works by 36 artists from around the region and beyond. Local Quakers, members of Three Peaks for Palestine and many other individuals volunteered to invigilate or help in other ways. Visitors included tourists as well as local people and we had a great symbiosis with Victoria Hall, our neighbour directly opposite, because they offered a free drinks voucher to anyone who spent £10 in the exhibition.

As well as the sale of the artworks themselves, ranging in price from a few pounds to several hundred, many spontaneous extras came during the exhibition as word got round, including donations of further works by renowned artists who heard of the venture; the busker at the gate, Gwenda, who played Jewish klesma music and whose Jewish mother arrived in the UK on the Kindertransport. There was also an impromptu visit by Rabbi Douglas Charing and his wife Eve. Rabbi Charing oversees the Bradford Synagogue, which is famous for its interfaith friendship

with the Muslim community in which it is situated. He joined volunteers for a brunch, at which he gave a heartfelt speech that included a strong message against the Israeli government whose “genocidal policies towards Palestinians”, he said, were “contrary to Judaism’s core value of peace”.

The exhibition was an initiative by Settle Quakers in response to this year’s series of five Lent group discussions organised earlier this year by Clapham’s vicar, Rev. John Davies, on the theme of ‘peace is a doing word’. Quakers are perhaps best known for their peace testimony, and the final session of the Lent series felt, to many, like a ‘call to action’, hence a subgroup of Quaker members and attenders looked at how they might respond to the Palestinian crisis.

They decided to raise money for the West Bank and Gaza appeal of the British Shalom Salaam Trust. The Trust’s principle of supporting co-operation across all communities in Israel and Palestine in hope of a future of peace and reconciliation align with Quakerism’s core values. The Trust’s patrons include Miriam Margolyes, Alexei Sayle and Susie Orbach.

The exhibition was presented in Arabic and Hebrew alongside English to demonstrate the challenge of bringing peoples together across language and cultural barriers, where sometimes English functions as a bridge.

Further initiatives by Settle’s Quakers will aim to promote peace education and awareness in Settle and beyond. As co-ordinator of The Flower Show, I feel that aside from the money raised, a great thing about the venture was how it drew together so many people and triggered new friendships.

Sue Vickerman

Story festival for the town and the world

This November, the Yorkshire Festival of Story (YFOS) returns to Settle, and 2025 promises to be Settle Stories' most ambitious festival yet. For one week, from 3rd to 9th November, our town becomes the beating heart of storytelling. There will be intimate events in The Joinery and live broadcasts from across the world, YFOS is your chance to experience powerful stories that spark connection, courage and conversation.

The people and places of Settle are at the heart of the festival. As well as a vast array of international voices, this year's programme brings together a rich line-up of local voices and events that celebrate the spirit of our community.

While Settle is our home, YFOS stretches far beyond our town. This year's online and hybrid programme brings voices from across the globe directly into your living room. From Kenyan caves to Celtic myths, you'll experience a breadth of stories that connect the local with the global.

Our international highlights include Where Lions Meet Selkies, a unique cross-cultural collaboration that weaves together African and Scottish myths, and Sand and Stone, a workshop exploring a powerful Palestinian folktale and its lessons for courage and forgiveness today.

For schools, YFOS 2025 brings free online story performances into classrooms across the UK including The Brave Little Parrot and The Gunpowder Plot. These digital sessions make history, folktales and resilience come alive for children of all ages.

YFOS has never been just about watching stories, it's about feeling them, sharing them, and discovering what they mean for our lives today. Many events include opportunities for reflection, discussion, creative writing and workshops where you can learn new skills. These sessions give you the tools that you can carry with you long after the festival ends.

One teacher who attended school events

at YFOS24 said, "I came looking for classroom ideas, but I left with something much bigger. I left with a deepened understanding of the power that stories can have in the classroom."

A local YFOS24 attendee told us, "I never thought the festival was for me, but the events I attended made me see folktales in a whole new way."

That's the power of YFOS. It welcomes everyone, whether you've been to countless arts events or none at all.

This year's theme is Courage, and across every event, you'll find stories that challenge, inspire and remind us of what truly matters. Some truths are hard to hear, but they give us hope. Some stories are ancient, but they speak directly to today. Some moments will make you laugh, others might make you cry, but all will stay with you long after the festival ends.

Whether you've never been to YFOS before, or you're a frequent attendee, this is the year you can't miss. Tickets for in-person events in Settle are limited, and some will sell out fast, so book your tickets early. But don't worry if you can't make it in-person, many of our events are also available online where you can join from home and still feel part of the conversation.

As one YFOS24 audience member said: "An incredible performance - we were right there with everyone via a screen, we felt everything deeply."

How to get involved

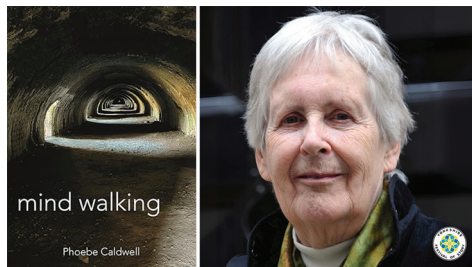
The Yorkshire Festival of Story runs from 3rd–9th November 2025, with events in Settle and online. Whether you come for a morning talk, an evening film, or a global broadcast streamed to your screen, you'll be part of something truly special.

To see the full programme, scan the QR code and discover everything YFOS25 has to offer.

Because in Settle, stories don't just entertain. They bring us together.



Here are the details of the local events that comprise the festival:



Mind Walking with Phoebe Caldwell Monday 3 November, 11am

One hour of transformative poetry with Settle's acclaimed Phoebe Caldwell. Her words invite us to see the world differently, with a fresh sense of wonder and empathy.



Words, Walks, Wisdom Tuesday 4 November, 11am

Discover how poetry, walking, and reflection restore balance from local writer Wendy Bowers. Leave with an understanding of how to renew your energy, balance and peace.



Bombs at My Feet Wednesday 5 November, 7pm

Join Settle Stories Artistic Director/CEO Sita Brand on a journey into Laos to reveal the scars of war and the strength of its people. Come ready to listen, question, and leave changed.



Breakfast with Wainwright Thursday 6 November, 11am

A rare glimpse into the private world of fell-walking legend Alfred Wainwright, shared by his close friend Bob Swallow. Expect stories that reveal the man behind the maps and the hills that shaped him.



Nature, Violence, Courage Saturday 8 November, 11am

From climate despair to creative action, join ACE Settle for urgent answers. This thought-provoking talk explores how today's environmental and social crises call us to courage and solidarity.



Settle: The Film and Q&A Saturday 8 November, 2.30pm

Attend a special screening of a father-daughter story filmed in Settle. Don't miss this deeply moving local film about family, resilience and love, created here in the town that shares its name.



Do it the Friends' Way!

It was over a post-Nordic walking coffee in the Old Sawmill café in Clapham that the plan was hatched. Before I knew it, I had half a dozen interested Nordic walkers joining me for the challenge...

There are many well-known long-distance footpaths criss-crossing the Yorkshire Dales. For example, the well-trodden Dales Way, Pennine Way or Ribble Way to name a few, but have you heard of the Friends Way?

The Friends Way follows in the footsteps of George Fox, who in 1652 walked from Barley, over Pendle Hill where he had a vision of 'a great people to be gathered'. Fox continued his journey, preaching and gathering support as he went through Lancashire, Yorkshire and Westmorland. He led discussions which united dissident Christian religious groups (including the Westmorland Seekers) and so the Society of Friends, first known as Quakers, was founded. Fox's journey ended at Swarthmoor Hall in Ulverston where he met Margaret Fell who was to become a good friend and later on, his wife.

If you were to do it all in one go, the Friends Way would take you twelve or so days to complete, but there are two guide books that split the route into two six-ish day walks of 62 and 58 miles respectively. The route is not named on OS maps and there are no signposts to mark it out. The highlight section is undoubtedly the Quaker Trail, a nine and a half mile circular walk that visits important locations in and

around Sedbergh associated with Fox's journey.

It was a member of my Nordic Walking group who first mentioned the route and I could see why she was intrigued. The well-written, detailed guide books (written by co-authors, Martin Budgett and Jacquetta Megarry) were very helpful for planning, and full of interesting facts and photos – from wildlife to geology, from landscapes to Quaker heritage. The books helped us appreciate special places relating to Quakerism, such as Fox's Pulpit, an impressive outcrop of rock above Sedbergh where George Fox preached to the fast-growing crowd for three hours. Another memorable place was Briggflatts Meetinghouse, established in 1675 and now a Grade I listed building. The peaceful garden there left a lasting impression on us as we rested there a while.

As a local, living in the Dales, it felt good to journey on foot through well-known countryside, but with a fresh perspective. I enjoyed the strange mix of familiarity with places I knew, and the excitement of seeing things close-up or from a new angle. A few such places spring to mind: the Downham Ice-Cream (delicious!) shop after our climb over Pendle Hill, Malham Cove, whose quiet splendour seemed far more rewarding at the end of a day's walking, ancient buildings - Sawley Abbey! Hubberholme Church! (Why had I never stopped to look at those before?), beautiful, old bridges that we passed beneath when I'd

only ever driven over them, missing their fine stonework. And then walking along stretches of the Ribble that I'd never been on previously or cooling our hot feet in the upper Wharfe at Yockenthwaite.

Another high point of the route is the Quaker Tapestry Museum, accessible by car if you just fancy a day out in Kendal. For the tired walker it is a haven of quiet rest with a courtyard café for refreshments (The Garden Cafe & Take Away, Vegan café) and the cool, peaceful interior of the grand, old building after a relatively hot day's walking. The exhibits themselves were a wonder! I couldn't get over the detail, the sheer volume of tapestries in the hall, each one clearly telling a story, giving us insight to the ethos and way of life of the Quaker community.

As we neared my childhood home town of Ulverston, I felt immersed in the landscape of my memories as I looked across to the Coniston fells and eventually the prominent 'lighthouse' memorial on Hoad Hill, a gleaming, white beacon that for me marked the finish line.



The writer at Hubberholme Church

Logistical planning was a challenge in itself, but we soon had it all worked out, starting with Bosh & Becks Private Hire taxi to take us to the start line in Barley. I will not bore you with details but if you do fancy doing the Friends Way, I would be very happy to share how we went about things. The Nordic Walkers have so enjoyed The Friends Way over the past

two years, that we are about to embark on our third long-distance walk, the Gritstone Trail! This is a three-day hike in Cheshire from Disley to Kidsgrove. I'm so looking forward exploring a completely new area, steeped in industrial history of the potteries, silk production, gritstone quarrying, the railway and the Macclesfield canal. Doing things slowly and in great company – yes, that is the part I look forward to most of all.

Tips for planning the Friends Way:

- Check opening times before you plan your trip! Eg. Quaker Tapestry Museum and Swarthmoor Hall.
- Book accommodation early, especially for the popular area on the southern tip of Windermere.
- DON'T plan to arrive at the Station Inn at Ribbleshead on a Saturday, or you will be competing with Three Peaks walkers for a good pub meal!
- On the long leg along Oughtershaw Beck and over Cam Fell, it is essential to have enough to eat/drink. We came across several pop-up oases, including Nethergill Farm. Bring cash for the honesty boxes!
- If you want to save on accommodation, Days 1-3 can be done from home if you use a taxi or bus to get you to the start each morning. You can park a car at Gisburn, Hellifield and Malham Tarn for the finish of day 1-3 before setting off to the starting points. What you save here will balance out with the higher cost of accommodation in the Southern Lakes.
- The route is not specifically way-marked. There are finger posts and rights of way signs but map reading skills and an OS 1:25000 map is recommended for finding your way. Why not book yourself a navigation course with me at www.wolftracks.co.uk to open yourself up to new adventures and safer wanderings?

Jo Wulf

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Wee Wingy's Rescue



Allow me to introduce myself; I'm Pippa Hughes, a trained and experienced bat rescuer and rehabilitator. I aim to rescue, rehabilitate and where possible, release bats back to their natural environment. I am the founder of Ingleton and District Bat Rescue.

One of my recent patients was a small male, juvenile common pipistrelle, who found himself subjected to a cat's predatory curiosity. Fortunately, he was rescued by Suzanne, Paul and their children, Thomas and Aggie, before mortal damage could be inflicted; they named him Wingy.

On 4th August Wingy was carefully transported to me from Settle by compassionate members of the PBA Applied Ecology team, Izzy, Ben and Henry.

Upon examination, the prognosis for Wingy looked gloomy. He had suffered membrane damage to both his wings. The damage to his left wing was extensive. A gaping hole, a loose flap of membrane and a massive portion of membrane missing from between two of his fingers, leaving one finger isolated and partially denuded with exposed bone visible at the tip. This damage was considerably worse than his

right wing, which had a minor hole.

I was faced with two options, immediate euthanasia, or give him a chance? He didn't appear to be in any pain, so I opted for the latter. I quickly got to work thoroughly bathing both wings to eradicate any nasty germs and hopefully limit the risk of infection. I rehydrated him and made him comfortable in the warmth of an incubator, allowing him time to rest. As with many bats I've received into care who have encountered cats, Wingy was in shock and traumatised, he needed warmth and peace and quiet to recuperate.

He refused to eat any solid food, so I offered him special formula, gently warmed, which he readily took. A tiny step of progress had been made, at least he was taking some nourishment, which his body badly needed in order to begin repairing his damaged wing membranes. To feed Wingy nutritious food when he wouldn't eat anything solid was resolved by making up my special 'meaty milk' for him, appetising (to a bat) and easily digestible, he really enjoyed this and enthusiastically licked his chops after finishing each feed.

As Wingy recovered and regained his strength, he quickly progressed from meaty milk to solid food and began to feed himself. His injuries were healing nicely, showing silvery white scar tissue, which was new membrane regenerating. I marvel at how fantastic nature is in being able to heal such huge injuries so effectively. It was around this point that Wingy also developed a bit of attitude, it can be a helpful indicator with a wild animal! He would chitter-chatter at me, conveying his mild annoyance at being disturbed each time he was handled, which was kept to a bare minimum; although health checking twice daily to ensure he was staying free from infection was essential.

When he no longer needed heat, I moved Wingy into a larger enclosure where he could flit about. He soon discovered he could move more speedily from A to B if he flitted, rather than scuttled.



This provided mental stimulation and enrichment, whilst simultaneously building his strength. His growing strength and steady progress was a joy to witness, as was the sleek and glorious gloss to his beautifully soft, dark chestnut fur. He was a little bat in tip-top condition... apart from his injured wing.

One morning, I noticed Wingy had neatly nibbled off the tiny protruding finger bone tip. Was this in preparation for proper flight? I didn't dare raise my hopes that he could fly, let alone ever be released. I was acutely aware he could yet succumb to infection. He may never fly strongly enough to fend for himself.

Wingy had been in care for four weeks and continued to heal well, now it was time to see if he could fly. With some trepidation I collected him from his enclosure, making sure he was wide awake and nicely warmed up. Then in a safe, secure area, I held him on my hand. Without hesitation, he took off circled a couple of times and landed some distance away. Clearly he could fly, though not yet strongly enough for release, he needed to build up his stamina.

Wingy commenced twice daily flying exercise, each day marking an improvement on the previous day's effort. He was doing well and becoming quite adept at locating tricky to reach landing places. Once, in the early days he landed

on the floor and speedily scuttled under a nearby cupboard, only to emerge with equal speed sporting a 'new coat' of grey tumble weed dog hair, he didn't do it again! In case you're wondering, during the bat season, housework is not my priority!

He continued with his stamina building flights and as autumn gained momentum he began to gain weight. Now this would be perfectly natural and good for a wild, free bat, but not so good for a recovering in-care bat. He was already at an ideal release weight, I like them to have just a little in reserve, and now he was piling on even more! This extra weight could seriously hamper his stamina building care plan! Poor wee Wingy was put on a carefully managed diet to bring his weight down marginally, in the hope it would improve his ability to achieve sustained flight.

It worked. With his weight slightly decreased, he flew with renewed energy. Wingy was good to go! As far as his injuries were concerned, the tiny hole in his right wing had healed completely and the large gaping hole in his left wing had shrunk to a size that obviously no longer impeded his ability to fly. The missing portion between two of his fingers was slowly regrowing, knitting together from the top in a zip-like closure, although not totally repaired, this didn't affect his flight either. The final hurdle standing between Wingy and his freedom was a favourable weather forecast for his safe release, which would give him the best possible chance of success.

On the night of 6th September, after spending almost five weeks in care, Wingy flew free, up into the clear night skies over Settle, becoming a wild bat once more. He was cheered on his way by his finders, along with Izzy, myself and my husband; and with happy tears in my eyes. Stay safe Wee Wingy Bat!

Pippa Hughes

Settle's first railway - still going after 175 years

In our enthusiasm for the Settle and Carlisle route it is easy to overlook Giggleswick station and the Bentham Line across to Lancaster – a railway opened 25 years before the S&C and giving some travel opportunities that you can't get elsewhere.

For a start, if you have to spend a day in London you can get there earlier, and leave London later, than if travelling from Settle through Leeds. Going from Giggleswick via Lancaster can get you to London as early as 9.15 with a return

from Euston at 6.30 in the evening. And then there's the scenery- you get the best views of Ingleborough, and Fountains Fell (which you can't even glimpse from the Carlisle line), as well as Penyghent of course, and Gragareth, the highest hill in present day Lancashire.

Lonely Planet's 'Best in Travel 2025' guide named the Bentham Line as one of the top ten best 'train-hopping' trips in the world. The guide says to, "enjoy the Bentham Line as a scenic day out in itself, or use it as a gateway to cosy pub stays and walks in the Yorkshire Dales National Park

from Clapham and Giggleswick stations."

And it's also the link to connections at Carnforth and Lancaster round the Cumbrian Coast. First stop from Carnforth is Silverdale, just a few yards from the entrance to Leighton Moss nature reserve which is not only beautiful and of outstanding importance regarding

conservation, but has an excellent café! Where else can you hear bitterns booming in the reedbeds while you sip your coffee?

And if you're worried about having to hang about for connecting

services, just visit the refreshment room on Carnforth station, used for filming the classic *Brief Encounter* movie, or the Tite and Locke craft beer bar on Platform 3 at Lancaster.

Most trains from Giggleswick go through to Morecambe, perhaps remembering the time when Morecambe was the seaside destination of choice for millworkers on holidays or days out from Bradford. Glory has faded maybe, but the view across the bay to the Lake District fells is undiminished and the café on the old steamer pier (once a route to the Isle of





*It's been going for a while!
That's the author's girlfriend (now wife)
with the backpack, catching a train
in 1978 at Benthams after a stay at
Ingleton Youth Hostel.*

Man) is worth a visit – or go posh with lunch at the Art Deco Midland Hotel. Eric Morecambe's statue (he took his stage name from the town) is another landmark and close by is the most amazing second-hand bookshop.

It has to be said that the timetable is a bit idiosyncratic with some large gaps in the daytime frequency, so it pays to plan ahead, but Giggleswick does also give options the other way, travelling to and from Leeds if the Settle line doesn't work.

The Benthams Line, once used to transport raw materials to local silk mills as well as livestock, coal and stone, celebrated its 175th anniversary earlier this year. Freight trains are now rare but passengers are still very welcome – remember that Giggleswick station was known as 'Settle' until the upstart Carlisle line came to town, so do support and benefit from this other really useful and enjoyable transport link.

Phil Hinde

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Beware of cold-callers and scammers

Down at old Rack and Ruin

This once in a while column takes a look at one of Settle's two allotments. If you don't know, Dog Meadow is situated along Watery Lane, otherwise known as Brockhole Lane. And if you are still not sure, follow the trail of people pushing wheelbarrows and carrying bags of produce to and fro.

The first thing you notice as you pass through the wide chain link gate onto the sacred soil is just how immaculate the plots are.

Visitors exclaim 'These are like market gardens!' I don't exaggerate - they are beautiful with an aesthetic all of their own. Even the controversial poly tunnels glow with mysterious energy in the moonlight.

My plot is one of the corner ones and is large, although it is a half plot. I am lucky indeed! Even though this allotment causes me no end of hard work, cost and disappointment, I am ridiculously excited when I manage to bring home something wholesome and edible. This year despite an early disaster of a late frost taking out my courgette seedlings I have the biggest courgette plants ever and a lot of courgettes. Armed with a good selection of recipes they are not going to go to waste. Writing this in July - the French beans are on their way. The onions are doing well, but cabbages are still a puzzle - everyone else's grow much faster than mine.

This year the warm and sunny spring has produced an incredible amount of fruit. My one gooseberry bush usually gives me about eight gooseberries and this year it has produced four kilos at least. My arms are scratched from threading them into the spiky dense bush to grab handfuls of the pale green globes.

On the downside, the rain we have had latterly has brought out the slugs. I am gradually moving as much produce

under nets to be able to safely use a tiny sprinkling of pellets. We are also experiencing a pretty plague of Cabbage White Butterfly. Last night I took a sharp knife and gently scraped eggs off each leaf of kale. Again, the nets over hoops are a helpful shield.

Amongst my pleasant and industrious fellow plot holders, there are noteworthy individuals at Dog Meadow. These vintage

gardeners are friendly and on request will impart all sorts of essential information to us relative newcomers.

It is sound advice, to be well heeded. Change is the only constant these days and things have changed a lot - different folks, different styles of plot management, different vegetables. The time of the chicken restrictions, resulting in the present days of much smaller flocks and no cockerels, has left scars, and an influx of newcomers as larger hen bearing plots were



given up.

This year I feel I have achieved a new status. I have bordered my area under cultivation with heavy duty timber planks. I have also built robust compost bins (actually made from the pallets this magazine is delivered on) It looks so much better - smart and ship-shaped and I do not spend all my time digging the encroaching weeds from the edges. I am definitely feeling the glow of approval from the vintage plot holders! I might even have to change the title of this article as my plot is no longer descending into the unmanageable plot hell of Rack and Ruin. Nevertheless, there is always much to do and many improvements to make.

Ann Rutherford

Our regular 'Novice Gardener' column is taking a break this issue.



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Children's Corner

Fund raising starts for memorial to children whose Victorian era graves were found in Settle church yard

For many years a compost heap in the oldest part of Settle Parish Church grounds has covered over a number of children's unmarked graves. Now there are plans for the dozens of children buried in the church's early days to be remembered in a memorial that will form an area where families who have suffered the loss of a child may find a quiet space to reflect on precious memories and find some peace.

Rev. Julie Clarkson of Settle Parish Church explains: "In 2019, when I came to the parish, a group of volunteers were busy clearing the ancient part of the churchyard of its compost heap. It turned out that it was located on top of the unmarked graves of a number of children. I thought how sad that so many babies have been lost in time! We know that every churchyard will have its own 'Infants Corner' but here at Settle, we wanted to remember those 'forgotten' children, whilst providing a place where all 'lost' babies can be remembered."

Historian Sarah Lister whose Settle Graveyard Project researches and documents the lives of people buried in the graveyard says the unmarked children's graves date back to the 1840s. The exact number of children buried in the plot is not known, as documents suggest the gravedigger in later years was illiterate and therefore could not record each burial accurately.

However, Sarah's research shows that during the first 15 years after the churchyard opened 22 infants were buried there, their ages ranging from three days to three years old. At that time 42 per cent of all burials were for children aged five



Sarah Lister and Rev. Julie Clarkson

years old and under. She says the infants were from all classes — illegitimate children, children of cotton weavers, saddlers, carpenters, stonemasons, a mill overlooker (foreman) and the twin sons of a schoolmaster at Giggleswick School. During the building of the Settle to Carlisle Railway in the 1870s, 27 children of the railway navvies were buried in the graveyard, as were 24 navvies themselves.

Rev. Clarkson has been working on



Volunteers hard at work clearing the area



How the proposed memorial will look

designs for a memorial and seating area near to the infant graves. Due to the nature of the burial corner this will be an expensive project: a campaign to raise the necessary funding has begun. Sarah Lister ran a graveyard trail about the Children's Corner to start the fundraising and the church will be running several events over the coming months.

To sponsor a 'forgotten baby' send a cheque to 'Settle Parochial Church Council', c/o The Vicarage, 2 Town Head Way, Settle BD24 9RG. Further details of the project and fund raising can be found on the church website: <https://castlebergchurches.uk/the-childrens-corner/>

As well as the children's corner, Sarah Lister's research findings cover many aspects of social history. They are all recorded on Settle Graveyard Project's Facebook Page and on the Dales Community Archives website. Numerous

descendants have been in touch to share information and photos. Sarah has presented numerous talks and popular churchyard trails and has written three books, kindly published by the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. All the proceeds go to local charities.



Spotlight on Wellbeing - Pip Carr



This article is about resilience; what it means and how to become more resilient in life.

At the heart of resilience is the knowledge that we have a choice about our mindset, and that by learning to change this we can change how we respond to life's ups and downs.

When a person is resilient, they can bounce back from setbacks and perceived failures, learn from their experiences, change course, heal emotionally, and keep moving towards their goals. They thrive, and don't just survive.

Of course, building resilience may be harder for some than others; however people can effect positive psychological change even after having experienced very traumatic events or life challenging situations, coming out the other side with increased resilience.

In more detail, being resilient involves the following:

- The ability to adapt to changing situations and be flexible.
- Building and maintaining a strong support network.
- Fostering a generally optimistic attitude to life and a 'can do' attitude.
- Having the ability to laugh at oneself.
- Practising self-care – diet, exercise, relaxation and sleep.
- Having the confidence to set and achieve goals.
- Courage to put yourself out of your comfort zone and try new things.
- Understanding your own emotions and how they affect others.
- Viewing adversity as a temporary situation.
- Willingness to learn and grow from setbacks and perceived failures.
- Accepting that we are in control of our own destiny and can identify the goals, skills, knowledge and actions needed to achieve them.

How to improve, develop and maintain resilience:

- Actively build and maintain good relationships with family, friends and others. Accept support from this network.

- Seek and reflect on constructive feedback.
- Try to look for ways forward whenever possible when dealing with difficult situations; "what can I do, rather than what can't I do," what can I learn from this that will help me deal with things more effectively in the future."
- Where necessary, accept that certain situations are out of your control.
- Nurture a positive view of yourself and develop confidence in your ability to solve external problems.
- Maintain a hopeful and optimistic outlook, focusing on concrete goals, rather than worrying about possible future catastrophes.
- Start to learn how not to internalize criticism from others. If you always take things personally, you will find yourself in a spiral of self-doubt. Change the story about what the criticism means.
- Try to stick to your core values and morals, therefore maintaining personal integrity and confidence.
- Focus on not making the same mistakes again, not making excuses and accepting responsibility for your actions.

Remember: resilience is not a personality trait - like any other life skill, resilience is built through repetition, practice and positive intent.

"You are not what happened to you. You are what you choose to become."
(Carl Jung)

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**Laurence Binyon
(1869–1943)
War poet brought up in the
shadow of Ingleborough**

Burton in Lonsdale, the first or last village in North Yorkshire is but twelve miles from the Irish Sea by fast crow. My wife Pauline, myself and our growing family lived there for twenty six years before moving to Settle twenty years ago.

Its population has hovered around the 650 mark though in times past it boasted no less than nine pubs to slake the thirst of the thirsty potters who maintained several kilns using local very dark clay and coal both of which were available close by at the River Greta.

In the 1860s it became clear that spiritual guidance was required and a vicar, Frederick Binyon was appointed. The circumstances were unusual there being neither church nor vicarage in the village. While these were being constructed, he commuted from his home at No 1 High Street Lancaster, which is where his second son Laurence was born on 10th August 1869. A plaque still adorns the spot.

Laurence was christened in the newly completed parish church and lived for his first eight years in the village. Ingleborough, viewed from his home, made a lasting impression on him which he was to record later in his poem '*Inheritance*' written at an early age remembering 'a Bare Blue Hill'.

His father moved around several times to other parishes so it was not easy for his second son to put down roots. Laurence was educated at King Edward's Grammar School Chelmsford before eventually completing four years at Oxford gaining good classical honours. From there he obtained a post at the British Museum where his poetry soon met with acclaim.

During 1904 he met and married Cecily Margaret Powell the daughter of a banker. The couple were to have three daughters. When World War One broke out Laurence



Binyon was 45 years old and well past the age for conscription. He might easily have stayed in England commenting on the conflict from afar. Instead, he opted for the civil service serving as a nursing orderly with his friend John Masefield, recalling on one occasion a surgeon washing his hands in a bowl of cider in lieu of water. His experiences are remembered in his poem '*The Healers*':

*With scrutiny calm and with fingers
Patient as swift
They bind up the hurts and the
pain writhen bodies uplift.*

He wrote movingly of 'Fetching the wounded' meeting in convoy a red cross train bringing soldiers from the front and the powerful effect it had on him.

After the war he wrote his volume *For Dauntless France* an account of British aid to the French and victims of the war published by Hodder and Stoughton. Back at the British Museum he became keeper of prints and drawings before crossing the Atlantic to teach poetry at Harvard. He did four such tours before visiting China and Japan. He was showered with honours including Companion of Honour (1932).

During 1939 Laurence was appointed

Byron Professor of English Letters at Athens and also a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honour in recognition of his work during the Great War. In 1940 at the height of the Battle of Britain he penned ‘*Airmen from Overseas*’ a tribute to all the Allied fliers.

Undoubtedly his most famous work was ‘*For the Fallen*’, the fourth verse of which is inscribed in stone by the doors of the British Museum. Here follows the full poem:

*For proud thanksgiving, a mother of her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea,
Flesh of her flesh they were, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.*

*Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.*

*They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow,
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.*

*They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again.

*They sit no more at familiar tables of home:
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.*

*But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night.*

*As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.*

On 10th March 1943 Laurence Binyon died in a Reading nursing home, the funeral taking place at Trinity College Oxford and he was buried close to the village church at Aldworth.



More recently the old vicarage in Burton in Lonsdale (*above*) became a residential home and my mum then in her nineties for four happy years had Laurence's old bedroom looking out on 'the Bare Blue Hill'.

Bob Swallow

*Drawing of Laurence Binyon
by William Strang, 1901*



CHANGING TACK

As someone who has had to write for a living – mostly business tracts, I admit – I have occasionally pondered whether people who make it to the top in one walk of life can also achieve success when they start writing fiction.

Some journalists-turned-novelists have certainly pulled it off: for example, Charles Dickens, Mark Twain, Ernest Hemingway, George Orwell, and in our own time Robert Harris. Another is Edmund de Waal, an accomplished ceramicist who achieved more than modest fame with *The Hare With Amber Eyes*. And the list goes on.

My scatty reading habits recently prompted me to do a little exploration of my own – I compared works by two people currently in the public eye who have turned away from the day-job to write novels. Of course, a survey of two is of no statistical significance but, such as it is, I offer it up to readers of *Community News*.

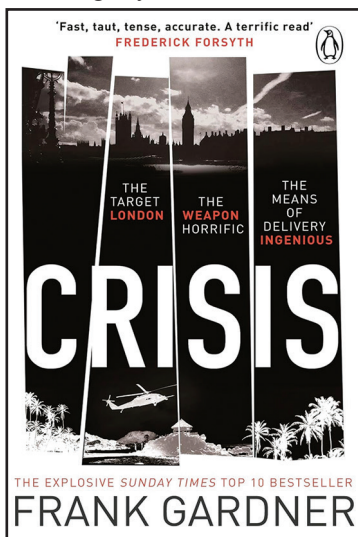
I chose first a thriller – *Crisis* by Frank Gardner, a man no doubt known to many as the BBC's senior security correspondent – he of the plummy voice, perfect diction and elegant turns of phrase that put other TV journalists in the shade. In 2004, in Saudi Arabia, Frank and his cameraman

were shot by Al-Qaeda gunmen; the cameraman was killed and Frank was so severely wounded that he is now confined to a wheelchair. Yet he still reports for the BBC and, on top of that, has gone on to publish four novels. *Crisis* is the first in a series that features lead character Luke Carlton, who is contracted ad hoc to MI6 for under-the-radar work. Here the plot

centres on an intended act of terror by a Colombian drug-lord, Nelson Garcia, who wants revenge upon the British for having repeatedly disrupted his activities. Garcia procures from North Korea a small 'dirty' nuclear bomb, to be detonated near the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day.

At first sight, *Crisis* might look like your ordinary, ho-hum thriller, with stock characters and plot. Luke Carlton is clever and tough (of course), he speaks

fluent Spanish, he is ex-SBS and has a girlfriend, Elise, who is of course beautiful. Betrayal occurs, and there is, again of course, some incompetence at MI6. So far, so predictable. Yet *Crisis* grips: the twists and turns in the narrative are original, the characters are solidly drawn and, whether in Colombia, London, or elsewhere, the settings strike the reader (this reader,



anyway) as utterly authentic. Best of all, Frank Gardner's prose is as beguiling as his spoken words. The fact that *Crisis* costs only 99p on Kindle suggests that its author has yet to make his way in the book world – but he will. I can wholeheartedly recommend Frank Gardner as a writer to watch.

The second book I chose could hardly be more different. It is *The Satsuma Complex* by Bob Mortimer, and I might as well admit up front that I was disappointed. Bob Mortimer is a hugely talented comedian, probably best known for his appearances with comedian Paul Whitehouse in the BBC's *Gone Fishing*, and as the doyen of liars on *Would I Lie To You?* he is an unrivalled spinner of impromptu anecdotes. In buying *The Satsuma Complex* I had expected that his extraordinary gifts would transfer to the printed page. Sadly, they don't.

The central character is Gary Thorn, a junior employee in a firm of South London solicitors. On the lookout for a girlfriend to relieve the tedium of his life on a dreary housing estate in Peckham, Gary becomes entangled in a world of police corruption. He also begins to form a relationship with the lovely Emily, who lives on a similar estate nearby and turns out to inhabit the same shady world (knowingly? willingly?) that Gary has stumbled into. Apart from dodgy policemen, the cast list includes Emily's thuggish ex-boyfriend, the local barista and Gary's elderly, wacky neighbour, Grace, with her dog Lassoo (yes, two "oo"s). As the plot unfurls,

Brighton provides geographic relief from South London. All this has rich comic potential, but, sadly, it yields titters rather than guffaws. That said, there are some gems in the prose: for example, Gary describes a policeman who is squeezing tight against him while he makes a statement as having 'authoritative thighs'. That is delicious, but there is not enough

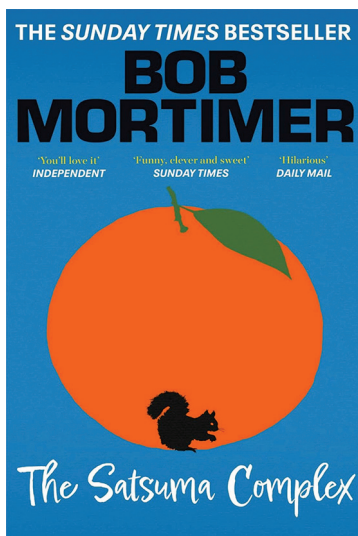
of it. The book is also infected with a linguistic misuse which drove me up the wall. Bob Mortimer writes (more than 70 times) "he was sat" when what he means is "he was sitting". "He was sat" indicates that someone put him there, not the intended meaning at all. Admittedly, some grammar books and style guides allow "sat" for "sitting", but only as a dialectal variation, not for written English. Why weren't Bob Mortimer's misused "sats" edited out? I like English

to be well written, so for me this needless failing spoiled the book.

So, what can we conclude from my tiny sample? Frank Gardner shows that dangerous life experiences and good spoken English can make for a well-written thriller (though the BBC's Foreign Affairs Editor, John Simpson, hugely experienced as he is, writes dreadfully muddy prose). And Bob Mortimer shows us that imagination and wit in the spoken word don't necessarily make it well on to the printed page.

So perhaps the lesson is – don't judge a book by the name on the cover.

Bob Young





Settle Juniors celebrate smashing cricket season

Settle Cricket Club Juniors have enjoyed a highly successful summer, helped by weather that was largely cricket-friendly. The club has seen a welcome rise in junior membership, with over 120 registered juniors playing across eight teams. Impressively, 14 junior players were selected for representative squads, namely, Upper Airedale Junior Cricket Association (UAJCA), Yorkshire, North Yorkshire, and Cumbria. The club are incredibly proud of all their achievements at district and regional levels.

Particular congratulations go to Betsy Caton, selected for the North Yorkshire U13 representative squad, and Libby Clarke, chosen for the Cumbria Girls U15 team.

This year, Settle CC bravely entered two U15 teams into the league. Manager, Ian Walker, said: "Both teams contained some of our very talented U13s, as they were split between the two squads, allowing the developing U15s to play across both teams, so maximising their opportunities. With 13 of the squad now playing senior cricket we hope the two-team structure has enabled more players to make the transition from junior to senior cricket."

Barry Hall, manager of the U15B team, praised his players for their consistent determination, highlighting how they set

both personal and team goals week after week. Despite regularly facing opponents who represented Yorkshire, North Yorkshire, and the UAJCA, the squad showed clear improvement throughout the season, delivering several standout performances.

In a historic achievement, the U13 Harts team secured a league and cup double by winning both the John Hindle Memorial Cup and the Upper Airedale Junior Cricket League (UAJCL) U13 First Division. This marks a first in Settle Cricket Club's history.

The U13 Stags have enjoyed a strong and positive season, finishing third, level on points with second place, in the Upper Airedale Junior Cricket League's U13 Second Division.

Reflecting on the year, coach Callum Wilson said: "Our goal this season was to develop our players and ensure everyone had the chance to play. Over 20 players, aged between ten and thirteen, took part in competitive matches. Hopefully, this experience has boosted their confidence and prepared them to take on the challenges of next season as they continue their cricketing journey."

The U12 Girls softball team finished runners-up in the UAJCL U12 Girls Softball Championship. Team manager Jenny Bousfield praised the team's rapid development, saying, "The girls have gone from strength to strength after every match, and we're very excited for the future." She also noted the phenomenal growth of girls' cricket at the club, with enthusiasm already building for next season.

The U11 team enjoyed an unbeaten run this season, winning all ten of their league matches and securing the conference title. Team manager Michelle Davidson said, "The camaraderie, encouragement, and teamwork on display in every game were a credit to every player. Each squad member played their part in what has been a truly special season."

Thanks to a steady stream of new young

players, the U9 mixed softball development squad made great progress, celebrating a few well-earned victories. Meanwhile, the Girls U15 hardball team competed in the West Yorkshire Women and Girls League and showed great commitment as they continue build their skills and experience in hardball cricket.

The continued success of the junior section reflects the club's core values: nurturing talent, encouraging sportsmanship, and fostering resilience, dedication, and teamwork. Junior chair Victoria Forrow said she would like to extend a huge thank you to all the volunteers and those who made this season such a success, from parents to players, grounds keepers to coaches. "Without their time, energy, and dedication, none of this would be possible," she added.

The club says it is always welcoming new members, so whether you're a complete beginner or already cricket-mad, come and join us. Settle Cricket Club is truly a club for everyone!

Victoria Forrow
Tel: 07876771251
Email: victoria@forrow.com



Thirty ninth step just too much for Ribb

And so the new season has begun, and what a start as local rugby club North Ribblesdale are now playing in the regional leagues for the first time since 1994 following back-to-back promotions.

The first game was 'offshore' on the

Isle of Man against the semi-professional Douglas Rugby Club. Almost 100 supporters made the trek across the Irish Sea to cheer on the lads, but alas, North Ribb's astonishing record of 38 consecutive league wins came to an agonising end as they were beaten in the last play of the match.

It is a sign of games to come at this level that they will play against bigger and fitter opposition, but there can be no doubt that the club and its players will meet the challenge head on. It was a long trek with a ferry journey on Friday afternoon, two nights in a hotel and then the ferry back to Liverpool on Sunday afternoon. Thankfully everyone made it home this time, as on a previous tour one member fell asleep on the ferry and when he woke he was on the way back to the island. He blamed sea sickness, but everyone else thought the local brewery may have had something to do with it.

There are fixtures coming up against teams that were once at the higher echelons of English rugby such as Waterloo, Birkenhead Park and Vale of Lune. These are teams that a club such as North Ribblesdale could only have dreamt about playing some 20 years ago: it is testament to the progress being made down at Grove Park and reaffirms the fact that we have a once in a generation team packed with young local lads who want to play for each other in a friendly local environment. So please come down on a Saturday and support your local team.

By the time you read this we will have played Pontefract on 27th September in a Yorkshire Cup match and on 4th October, we faced our local rivals from Lancaster, a star-studded Vale of Lune team in the first ever league meeting between our clubs.

We hope to see many of you locals down cheering the lads on as the season progresses.

Gavin Davidson
Chair, North Ribblesdale RUFC

GOING GLOBAL



Anna and Alan Walker from Giggleswick sent us two photos taken during a Hurtigruten cruise north of Svalbard, Norway. The one above is outside Ny-Ålesund post office on Spitzbergen, the northernmost functional civilian settlement in the world at 78° 55' 30" North. Below, Anna is at 81° 00' 02" North amid the sea ice about 600 miles from the North Pole. All we can say is: Brrr!

Slightly warmer climes for Sylvia Shepley (bottom right) who took this photo in front of the Texas Capitol building in Austin, USA.

We love to see your photos from around the world so keep them coming! Email us at global@settlenews.co.uk



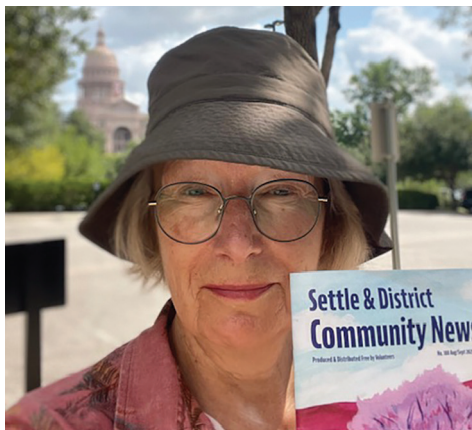
QUIZ TIME

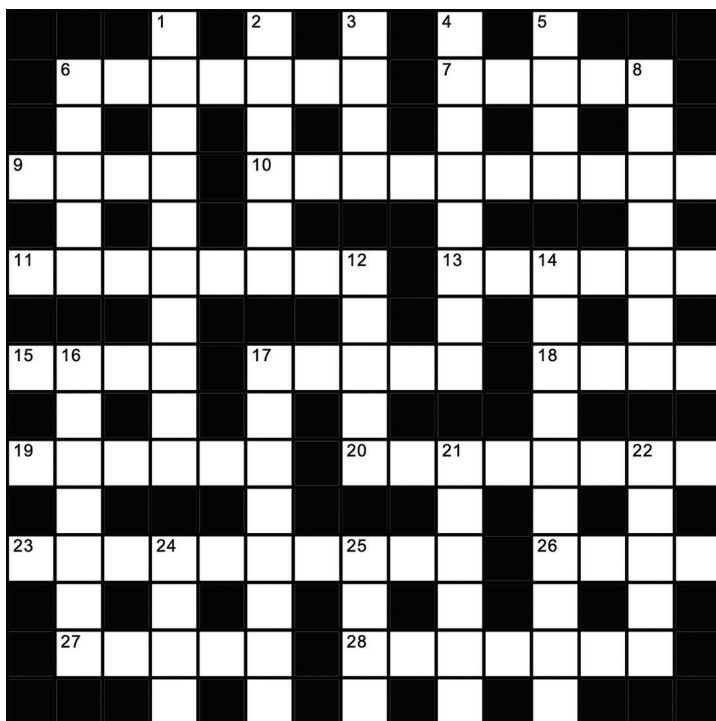
Yorkshire Battlefields

Test your knowledge of warfare and confrontation in Yorkshire. During which historical conflicts did the following events take place?

1. Battle of Flamborough Head
2. Battle of Myton
3. Siege of Skipton Castle
4. Bombardment of Scarborough
5. Battle of Boroughbridge
6. Battle of Towton
7. Battle of Marston Moor
8. Battle of Stamford Bridge
9. Battle of Orgreave
10. Battle of Stanwick

Check your answers on page 63





Across

6. Weakness (7)
7. Irish name eg ----- Keating (5)
9. Chanted (4)
10. Engine (10)
11. Cheap (8)
13. Supernatural (6)
15. Boring (4)
17. ----- Bulgaria (Womble) (5)
18. Playthings (4)
19. Body's important organs (6)
20. Manufacturing (8)
23. Frustrate; fail to fulfil (10)
26. Keen (4)
27. Bumpkin (5)
28. Precursors of GCSEs (1-6)

Down

1. Notes down the side (10)
2. Winding ski course (6)
3. In ---- = working well (4)
4. Brass instrument (8)
5. Small fly (4)
6. Old French coin (5)
8. Originality (7)
12. Plants of arid region (5)
14. eg Monaco, Vatican (4,6)
16. Usefulness; room in house (7)
17. Disturb; faze (8)
21. Convertible couch for sleeping (6)
22. Restraints (5)
24. Japanese alcoholic drink (4)
25. Study intensively (4)

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COMMUNITY DIRECTORY

Settle Town Council

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

Markets

Settle Market: Every Tuesday.

Artisan Market: Second Sunday each month.

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: Tuesdays, October 7th and 21st, November 4th, December 2nd at The Talbot, 8.30pm to 10.15pm. Sitters in welcome. Further info: www.talbotsettle.co.uk

Giggleswick and Settle Brass Band: Rehearsals every Wednesday at the Conservative Club, Station Road, Settle. 6.45pm for junior/training band and 7.30pm for the main band. All ages, all abilities are

welcome, and we may be able to provide an instrument if needed. Contact info@giggleswickandsettlebrassband.co.uk

Recreational

Art Group: Mondays 10am-12 noon at Tosside Community Hall. Tel: 01729 840272 or email info@tossidecommunityhall.org.uk. All abilities welcome.

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 by email at rosiesanderson19@gmail.com

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

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.

St Alkelda's Church Gardening Group: Meets in the New Churchyard at 1.15pm every Monday. Choice of maintenance of flowerbeds, grass cutting etc in the grounds of St Alkelda's.

Giggleswick Litter-Picking Group: Meets on the first Monday of each month at 9.45am in St Alkelda's Church porch.

Sport and physical activities

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 or email: ingleborougharchaeologygroup@gmail.com

Garden Club: Last Tuesday of each month, 2.30pm at Tosside Community Hall. Tel: 01729 840272 or email info@tossidecommunityhall.org.uk.

Stainforth Hookers meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month (dates may change dependent on how weeks fall) at Stainforth Village Hall for a warm and friendly dedicated crochet circle. 2-4pm and £5 per session with tea and biscuits, chatter and giggles included. We welcome those that are visiting and bringing their crochet along as well as regulars. For more information email: Stainforthhookers@gmail.com

Coffee Morning and Jigsaw Exchange: Second Wednesday of the month 10.00-12.00 Austwick Parish Hall, 8 October, 12 November, 10 December, 14 January, 11 February, 11 March. Bring a complete jigsaw for your first free exchange, after that return one and borrow another for £1. Refreshments on sale –meet friends, stay and share friendship over a puzzle. Everyone welcome.

North Craven Flower Club: 2nd Thursday of the month (except August) at Hellifield Village Hall 2pm. First class demonstrators do their stuff, and the arrangements are usually raffled. Tea and biscuits/cakes are served after the meeting. New members (£38 per year) and visitors (£6 per session).

Hatha Yoga: Tuesdays at 19:15-20:15 at Settle Primary School. Advance booking required: yogabyscarlett@gmail.com

1st Castleberg (Settle) Scout Group: For Boys and Girls 6-18 years old. The Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers meet weekly during term time at the Drill Hall Castleberg Lane, Settle. For further information contact settlescouting@gmail.com

Austwick Piccalillis Pickleball meet every Tuesday morning at Eldroth, Thursday evening at Catteral & Saturday mornings at Giggleswick. If you are interested in playing this exciting & fast growing sport, please contact us at austwickpickleball@gmail.com for times & further information. Equipment provided.

Austwick Bowling Club: Our friendly club is looking for new members. Everyone welcome, all ability levels. Open sessions on Mon, Wed and Thurs, Sats friendly matches/competitions. Season April-Sept. Green hire available. For more information on all aspects of the club contact John Jebson 01729 825786.

Table Tennis: Every Monday, Hellifield Village Institute 7.00pm–9.00pm. Contact Andrew Crabtree 01729 851806.

Line Dancing: Every Monday 1.30pm-3.00pm. 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 6.00pm–9.00pm. 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.

Exercise classes for Older Adults: Call Jo Wulf for further details on 07966 981985 or email jo@wolftracks.co.uk

Nordic walking: Mon 9am/Fri 10.30am. 'Racing Snails' Nordic Walking at a slower speed - Thurs 3.15pm. Please book in advance: 07966 981985 or email jo@wolfftracks.co.uk

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. www.settleswimmingpool.co.uk/ for times.

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

Settle Netball: Anyone 18+ is welcome (any ability) and we train every Tuesday (term time only) 6pm-7pm at Giggleswick sports hall and the cost is £5 per week (this is for court hire, I run the sessions not for profit). Contact Charlotte Orange charlotteorange@hotmail.com

Walking Rugby meet every Friday 2.00-3.00pm at North Ribblesdale Rugby Club in Settle. We are a friendly group of men and women of varied abilities and ages, so if you would like to find out more please contact Alan Simpon 07891322096 or drop in to one of our sessions.

Settle Harriers Running Club: Every Monday and Wednesday (seniors) at 7pm and every Tuesday (juniors). See www.settleharriers.org for more details.

Settle Wheelers Cycling Club: A friendly and inclusive cycling club holding regular rides :- 11am Saturday Steady ride from Settle swimming pool; 1pm Saturday fast ride from Settle Market Place; 9.30am (10am winter) Sunday club ride from Settle Market Place. There is also a junior Go-Ride session on Saturday mornings. Please see the www.settlewheelers.org.uk for further details or contact the membership secretary nigelbeasant@hotmail.co.uk.

Settle Bowling Club: Open all year round. All ages or abilities are welcome and crown green bowls can be provided, if needed. For further details, contact club secretary John Chambers on 01729 360112 or 07905 701824 or email john.chambers@gmx.com

Indoor Bowls: Mon & Thurs 2pm-4pm at Tosside Community Hall. Tel: 01729 840272 or email info@tossidecommunityhall.org.uk. New players welcome.

Fit as a Fiddle classes with Jo Wulf: Fri 2pm to 3pm, £6 per session at Tosside Community Hall. Tel: 01729 840272 or email info@tossidecommunityhall.org.uk.

Support Groups

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

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.

Settle Community Library: Stay and Play (under-5s) Fridays, 11am-12 (term time only); Knit and Natter first and third Thursday, 10.30am-12; Lego Club (age 5-11), Fridays from 3.30pm-5pm (term time only); Breathe Easy Asthma and Lung UK Peer Support Group, 2nd Wednesday 2pm (Meetings run from March to Dec). All groups are free, but donations very welcome. Visit www.settlelibrary.org.uk, check our Facebook page, or call 01609 534535.

Settle Area Refugee Support Group (includes Settle Supports Ukraine): We arrange talks & events, collect donated items and other support activities. Always looking for bicycles, phones, iPads etc. Contact Phil

07793 036745 or Angie angie.pedley@gmail.com

Settle and District Aid in Sickness Fund: Help with the extra costs that come with illness or immobility. Call 07709 252613 or email: janheap@hotmail.co.uk

Men's Groups

Men's Forum: Every second and fourth Monday in the month, apart from holiday periods. Friends Meeting House in Settle, 2pm to 4pm. Members with very varied interests living in the Settle area give or organise a talk about once a year on a very wide range of subjects. Good companionship and mental stimulation on offer. Contact 01729 823205.

Andy's Man Club: Free-to-attend peer-to-peer support group for men aged over 18. No fees, no registration and no pressure to talk. Every Monday, 7pm, excl Bank Holidays. Settle CofE Primary School, Bond Lane, Settle, BD24 9BW.

Women's Groups

Austwick WI meet in Austwick Parish Hall at 7.30pm every second Thursday. New members and visitors are welcome, £5 for visitors.

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 WI: We meet every first Thursday of the month with various speakers at 7pm at St Mary and St Michael Church, Tillman Close, Settle, BD24 9RA. New members and visitors are always welcome. Contact: wiggleswick@gmail.com. Follow us on our Facebook page.

Hellfield WI: We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7.15pm in Hellfield Village Hall (Institute). Visitors and new members are welcome. Contact

Aileen Alexander (President) Tel 01729 851318.

Long Preston WI: Every second Wednesday of the month, 7.30 pm in Long Preston Village Hall. New members and visitors always welcome. Follow us on Facebook.

Settle WI: First Wednesday of the month at 2.00 down at St Johns Church Hall - Not only do we have brilliant speakers but we also have a Book Club, Knitting Group and a Lunch Club every month too - Come as a Visitor for free to see what we offer.

Settle Business Hub (Commercial Courtyard). Contact hub@settlecommunityandbusinesshub.org.uk or call 07977 040329 for more info on any of the following activities.

Community Fridge: Open Mondays and Thursdays 2.30-4.15pm and Wednesday mornings from 10am-12noon.

Public Living Room at Settle Quakers: Mondays and Thursdays every week from 10.30am to 1.30pm. We offer hot drinks and meals (but please come before 1pm if you would like food), card and board games, jigsaws, craft activities, help with cooking or just join us for a chat and some company.

Knit (or Sew) and Natter: We meet every Wednesday in the Hub offices at Commercial Courtyard from 10am-12noon. 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.

Ink Recycling: Any sort of printer ink cartridges, big or small, used or unused. Please drop them off at our offices in Commercial Courtyard or the collection boxes at Settle Quakers and St John's. If you have a large amount please contact Jo on hub@settlecommunityandbusinesshub.org.uk or phone 07977 040329.

All the following groups/activities are held at The Place in Settle, BD24 9RH.

Citizens Advice Clinic: Held 1st or 2nd Thursday of the month. Appointments only. Call 01729 824868 to book.

Digital Drop In: Weekly on Mondays 9.30-3pm and Tuesdays 9.30am-12.30pm. Pop in for any Tech or mobile help. Appointments can be booked on Mondays, phone 01729 824868.

Settle Cancer Support Group: Held 4th Monday of the month 10-11.45am. For anyone affected by Cancer including patients, carers, families and friends.

Making Connections - Dementia

Art Group: Run by Pioneer Projects 10.30am-12.30pm every Tuesday. Must be accompanied by a carer/family.

Wellbeing Cafe and Safe Space: Every Tuesday anytime between 2-4pm at The Place activity room. Anyone welcome no need to book. Creative Art, Puzzles, brew and a chat.

Horton Housing Drop In: Every 2 weeks on Tuesdays from 3rd June 1-3pm. Help with Housing, Benefits, Drug and Substance Dependency, Mental Health and Budgeting. Drop in or phone 01729 824868 to book.

Age UK - Coffee and Chat: Every Wednesday 10.30-12.30pm. All are welcome.

Age UK - Movement to Music: Every 2 weeks on a Wednesday starting from 10th April 2-3pm.

'Better Days' Pain and Chronic Fatigue peer support group: Held on the 1st Wednesday of the month 1-2.30pm.

North Yorkshire Horizons - Adult Drug and Alcohol recovery service: Every Thursday by appointment. Phone 01723 330730 for more information or to book an appointment.

Gr8 Minds Counselling: For anyone aged between 5 and 18. Every Friday at 10am-1pm appointments only. For appointments self refer or via Townhead Surgery.

Community Activities

Cuppa and chat at Stainforth Village Hall. Come along to our community Village Hall for a cuppa, company and a chat. First and third Thursday's every month starting at 2.30pm. Donation for tea/coffee and biscuits greatly appreciated. Everyone welcome.

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 at www.acesettleandarea.org

Castleberg Masonic Lodge: Meet every Thursday before the full moon except July and August. Full dates at www.settlefreemasons.co.uk or by contacting Chris Maudsley on 07879 474786 or email info@settlefreemasons.co.uk

Three Peaks for Palestine: Sharing information and activity in support of justice for Palestinians. Vigils alternate Saturdays in Settle Market Square. A regular bulletin to keep you in touch. Contact us at threepeaksforpalestine@gmail.com

Please help us keep the Community Directory up to date

Notify any changes or additions to directory@settlenews.co.uk as soon as possible so we can ensure that all the information we include here is as accurate and useful as possible.

Please keep your listings brief so we can include everyone's activities.

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Quiz Answers

1. American War of Independence (1779); 2. Scottish War of Independence (1319); 3. English Civil War (1643-45); 4. First World War (1914); 5. Rebellion against Edward II (1322); 6. Wars of the Roses (1461); 7. English Civil War (1644); 8. Disputed succession to Edward the Confessor (1066); 9. Miners' strike (1984); 10. Roman occupation of Britain (71).

Crossword Solution

Across: 6. Frailty; 7. Ronan; 9. Sang; 10. Locomotive; 11. Economic; 13. Occult; 15. Dull; 17. Uncle; 18. Toys; 19. Vitals; 20. Industry; 23. Dissatisfy; 26. Avid; 27. Yokel; 28. O-levels.

Down: 1. Marginalia; 2. Slalom; 3. Sync; 4. Trombone; 5. Gnat; 6. Franc; 8. Novelty; 12. Cacti; 14. City states; 16. Utility; 17. Unsettle; 21. Daybed; 22. Reins; 24. Sake; 25. Swot.

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