

Settle & District Community News



Produced & Distributed Free by Volunteers

No. 190 Dec 2025/Jan 2026



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



Walker Foster
Solicitors

For the very best in local legal expertise

Trusted by generations to deliver client-focused, expert legal services to the community for over 105 years

Legal services for individuals

- Dispute Resolution & Litigation
- Family, Matrimonial & Children
- Fixed Fee Divorce
- Residential Possession
- Residential Property
- Wills, Probate & Lasting Powers of Attorney + Trusts

Legal services for business

- Business Dispute Resolution
- Business Sales & Purchases
- Commercial & Business Contracts
- Commercial Property
- Employment Law

Support, advice & guidance when you need it.
Your best interests at the heart of everything we do.

Get in touch: The Old White Horse,
Market Place,
Settle, BD24 9EF

Tel: 01729 811240
Email: info@walkerfoster.com
Find out more at www.walkerfoster.com

FENSA
Registered Company



AIRE VALLEY
Glass



Manufacturers & Installers of quality, made-to-measure:

PVC Windows & Doors

Composite Doors

Sliding Sash Windows

Conservatories

Roofline



Also Garage Doors, GRP Roofing & Bi-Fold Doors in PVC & Aluminium



Bridge Road, Sutton-in-Craven, Keighley, BD20 7ES

01535 634788

Dalesview, Old Road, Clapham, North Yorkshire, LA2 8JH

015242 51705

www.airevalleyglass.co.uk

enquiries@airevalleyglass.co.uk

Editor's Welcome



I was asked recently to offer my fondest memory of a childhood Christmas, and I struggled for a while to think of a specific one. I grew up in the 1970s and my childhood Christmases were all completely magical to me. From helping with (or hindering) my mum's baking rituals, singing carols at school, flicking through the toy section of the shopping catalogue dreaming of what goodies Santa might bring, opening the doors on an advent calendar, finding it impossible to get to sleep on Christmas Eve but then waking up bright as a button on the most exciting day of the year to tell mum and dad "he's been!" and start opening the presents under the tree with my sister.

Looking back now, Christmas has become more of a feeling than a memory. It has changed as I've grown older, but there is something in the air at this time of year that makes me feel happier and more optimistic despite the colder weather and darker days.

Festive congratulations go to Mia Francis, a year 9 student at Settle College who has been chosen as the winner in our competition for local children to design the cover of *Community News*! We hope it gives everyone a warm glow as the Christmas season gets into full swing. You can see all the other entries on pages 28-31 and in our centre-pages you can find out about the many events taking place at churches across the district.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from all the *Community News* team. See you in 2026!

John Drake

Settle and District Community News

6 Townhead Croft
Settle, BD24 9LG

Email: contact@settlenews.co.uk
Website: www.settlenews.co.uk

Issue 190: Dec 2025/Jan 2026

PRODUCTION TEAM

Editor: John Drake
editor@settlenews.co.uk

News & Features: Mike Smith
features@settlenews.co.uk

Advertising: Phillip Hinde
advertising@settlenews.co.uk
Tel: 07484 174333
(see rates and terms on page 63)

Distribution: Annie Gammon
distribution@settlenews.co.uk

Treasurer: Paul Cochrane
treasurer@settlenews.co.uk

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

Printed by
Caric Press, Merthyr Tydfil,
CF48 3TD

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

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



Settle remembers

Crowds gathered at the Settle war memorial shortly before 11am on Sunday 9th November, as they did at the Cenotaph in London and at other war memorials in cities, towns and villages across the country.

A service held earlier at the parish church was followed by a march to the memorial by various uniformed groups, led by the Giggleswick and Settle brass band. The names of all the local service personnel who had died in the two world wars were read out, along with those of the US airmen who died in a wartime crash in this area, and that of the one local serviceman who died in 2010, serving in Afghanistan. Following the playing of the Last Post and the two minutes' silence, wreaths were laid and the UK and American anthems played. The ceremony concluded with the singing of 'Abide with me'.

Numbers attending the annual event have grown in recent years. Perhaps this has been prompted by the centenary of the end

of the First World War, marked in 2018, and the eightieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War this year. Or maybe, as one person remarked on the way back to the artisans' market held that morning in the market square, it is because we live in more uncertain times.

Settle's market place fountain decorated

How heart-warming to see Settle's historic fountain in the market place splendidly and appropriately decorated for November's Remembrance Commemoration. Equally heart-warming is the story behind the adornment of this Grade 2 listed monument.

The seeds for these particular poppies were sown by Susan Brookes, a resident of



Limestone View. Other residents and staff members joined in with enthusiasm and very soon knitting needles were clicking all around the residence. Friends and relatives joined in making it a real community effort for a very special cause.

The culmination of this combined effort came the day on which the carefully designed, calculated, measured and completed artefact was placed aloft on the

tall sphere-topped monument. This was no mean feat. Enter local farmer Chris Maudsley, his son Ryan and cherry-picker. Lo and behold! Mission accomplished!

The red poppies, as always, represent those who gave their lives for peace, the purple poppies represent the animals who died for the same cause whilst the orb of white poppies at the pinnacle signifies the peace to which the world aspires.

Gillian Walton

Band in the Mill

The Giggleswick and Settle Brass Band will be playing carols at the Watershed Mill on Tuesday 9th December as part of the retail outlet's late-night pre-Christmas opening that runs from 6pm-8pm. Also present will be local author Diane Allen, who will be signing copies of her books.



A day at the market

Settle-based photographer John Bentley has a rare ability to show people and places in images that capture a whole way of life. His books, *Hill Farming in the North of England* and *The Settle to Carlisle Line* have both featured in previous issues of *Settle and District Community News*.

His new work *A Day At The Market* is a photo study of nine different livestock markets photographed between 1976 and 1990. John explains the background to his work: "Until the 19th Century the selling of livestock generally took place in town

streets and marketplaces. However, the coming of the railways and the need to feed growing urban populations led to the development of specialised livestock markets, with sales being by auction rather than buyers and sellers arranging their own private sales. In 1963 there were 677 livestock markets in England and Wales, but today only around 80 remain". All the original markets photographed in the book are now gone, apart from Malton, while Skipton and Bakewell have moved to new sites.

The book takes the viewer back to these lost markets, observing aspects such as the dress of marketgoers and auctioneers and the vehicles of times gone by. Respected photographer Paul Hill says in his foreword to the book: "John's photographs ... 'say' something about the rural economy then and the people who drove it for centuries. From a photographic perspective they are an object lesson in how to use the medium to tell stories in single images."

Readers will be particularly interested in the photographs of the old Skipton Livestock Market, which is now the site of Morrison's supermarket. Older residents will remember, and newcomers be interested to see, that the main auction building was very ornate with lovely wood and iron fittings, and featuring a glazed cupola roof.

A Day at the Market is published by Fistful of Books, price £15. Copies are on sale at both The Folly and Limestone Books in Settle, as well as direct from the publisher.

What's on at the Folly

The Folly in Settle has several events in December, alongside their current exhibitions. These include:

Monday 1st December 6.30pm for 7pm:
Call My Bluff: an evening of fun when you

can see if you can guess the truth amongst the bluffs about some of the Folly's weird and wonderful museum objects. The panel will consist of community curator, Isobel O'Donovan, collections manager Carson Murphy and documentation officer Rebecca Bennio. The event will be chaired by heritage development officer, Caitlin Greenwood. Entry is £10/£7.50. Places should be booked in advance.

Tuesday 16th December 7pm: Octameron Christmas concert: Settle's favourite eight-part choir will perform a mix of Christmas music from classical to modern favourites in the Folly's atmospheric main hall. Mulled wine and mince pies will be available to purchase before the programme begins. £9.50/£7.50. Places should be booked in advance. The performance will last around 45 minutes.

Saturday 20th December: The night before Christmas with Molly at the Folly, a day of family activities from 11am – 4pm. Free, but places should be booked in advance.

Foot Clinic on the move

After 26 years caring for the feet and legs of the local community, Rebound and The Foot Clinic is relocating from The Sidings in Settle to Station Road, Giggleswick.

Since opening the doors in December 1998, Rebound and the Foot Clinic has built a strong reputation for providing expert professional and friendly podiatry care. Founder and podiatrist Andrew Stanley says: "The move will allow The Rebound Clinic to continue offering the same trusted services in a modern spacious setting designed with patient comfort in mind. From routine chiropody, sports injury management and lower limb treatments, patients can expect the same conscientious expertise that has defined the clinic for more than two decades.

Telephone numbers are 01729 825900 and 07496 838181

Playing field photo plea

An information board is due to set up next year at the entrance to the Harrison Playing Fields, celebrating the remarkable life of Dr William Harrison, after whom the park is named. Giggleswick parish council now has the funding for the board, but it is keen to hear from anyone who has photographs of the playing fields in use between the 1940s and 1970s, which could be used on the board. If you can help, please contact Mrs M Hill, Parishclerk8@gmail.com before 31st December 2025.



Prize for limestone pavement project

A project aimed at protecting biodiversity in rare limestone pavements has won the top £4,000 prize in a competition run by the international materials company that runs the Horton quarry.

The project, carried out by Dr Carly Stevens, Professor of Plant Ecology and Soil Biogeochemistry at Lancaster University, is looking at whether summer or winter grazing is more effective

in promoting the biodiversity of rare limestone pavement habitats found in the Yorkshire Dales National Park. It will run for several more years to provide further insight into how to best manage these pavements.

Dr Stevens, who was presented with the Heidelberg Materials' Quarry Life Award at a ceremony at the company's offices in Maidenhead, said: "Receiving this award is absolutely fantastic and will help us build the profile of the research we're doing on limestone pavements to protect this rare and vulnerable habitat."

The Quarry Life Award was first established in 2011 to support and increase biodiversity at quarry sites, strengthen communication channels with neighbours and educate and raise awareness about the importance of nature and habitats.

Marian Garfield, Sustainability Director at Heidelberg Materials UK, said: "We recognise that our sites are a valuable natural resource, and the study at Horton provides valuable information on how we can improve biodiversity through conservation."



Protecting birds of prey: the police perspective

Following on from its Eyes on the Skies campaign launch in October, which you can still watch at: www.youtube.com/@friendsofthedales, Friends of the Dales next campaign event will be an online talk on

protecting endangered birds of prey.

This takes place on Tuesday 27th January, 5:30pm – 7:00pm, when Detective Inspector Mark Harrison of the UK National Wildlife Crime Unit will give an insight into the real-world challenges of protecting vulnerable and endangered birds of prey in North Yorkshire.

In this exclusive online talk, Mark will share true stories from the frontline of wildlife crime policing, revealing the realities, challenges and successes faced by officers working to safeguard some of our most at-risk species.

He will also address common misconceptions on the role of policing in tackling birds of prey persecution. You can expect an honest and informative discussion about:

- The key challenges in investigating bird of prey crimes
- What's working well and where improvements are needed
- Future plans, strategies, and innovative policing tactics
- And a look at a few fascinating real-life cases.

You can book your free place at www.friendsofthedales.org.uk/events.

You can also sign up to Friends of the Dales monthly e-newsletter on its website homepage to be kept up to date with all Eyes on the Skies campaign developments and future events.

Restaurant owner stranded

A popular restaurant in the centre of Settle remains closed after several months whilst its owner, Matteo D'Ali, is stranded in France, unable to return due to what supporters describe as 'post-Brexit immigration complications'.

Matteo has lived in the UK for over 40 years, moving from Italy as a child with his mother, sister and brother. He was

educated here and is well known in the local community as the owner of Matteo's Italian Restaurant, based in The Shambles in Settle Market Place.

Paul Caffrey, one of the chef's many supporters, is raising funds to help Matteo, who faces ongoing rent, household bills and mounting legal fees as he works with an immigration solicitor to resolve his status and return home. His GoFundMe page is at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/to-help-and-support-matteo-dali>. This has already raised £2,000 towards the £2,800 target.

Paul says: "Matteo's generosity has long been known locally. During the 2021 lockdown he delivered pizza treats to children of key workers and school staff at Settle and Kirkby Malham primary schools, saying: 'I wanted to do something to show the children and staff that the community is thinking of them in these difficult times'".



Boss Moor by Katharine Holmes

Home is where the art is for three generations

Art by three generations of women who've lived and worked in the same North Yorkshire cottage is now on show together for the first time in 15 years in a wide-ranging exhibition at the Folly in Settle.

The artistic dynasty began with Constance Pearson (1886-1970), continued with her

daughter, Philippa (1921-1999), whose only daughter, Katharine, is now a full-time artist, still using her grandmother's studio at High Barn Cottage in Malham.

Their combined talents can be enjoyed in the exhibition entitled Katharine Holmes and three generations of painting and living in a Malham Cottage which runs at the Folly until 3rd January, 2026.

Entry to the exhibition is free and Katharine's work will be for sale.

Louise Bryning



Banking News

Barclays continue to offer their pop-up banking service from the Hub Offices in Commercial Courtyard every Tuesday and Friday from 9.30am-12noon and 12.30pm-3.30pm. The service will continue until at least the end of February 2027. Boxing Day falls on a Friday this year so there will be no pop up banking service that day.

Barclays staff are on hand to help you with a range of queries including setup with online and phone banking, how to use the Barclays app and post office transactions. However, they cannot handle cash or cheques.

Lloyds continue to offer their pop-up banking service from the Hub Offices on alternate Thursdays from 10am-12noon. This is now also available to Halifax and Royal Bank of Scotland customers. Staff can help you with a range of queries including using the banking app, online

banking and post office transactions. Again, this service cannot handle cash or pay in cheques. The forthcoming dates for the service are the 4th and 18th December, 15th and 29th January, 12th and 26th February and also the 12th and 26th March.

Please be aware that hub staff cannot take post, phone calls or messages for Barclays or Lloyds staff and if you want to talk to them you need to come in person.

Natwest provide a mobile van which is located in Whitefriars car park every Monday (except Bank Holidays) from 12noon-12.30pm. If these times aren't convenient then also on Mondays the van is located at Bentham Auction Mart from 10.45am-11.30am and the Wheatsheaf Car Park in Ingleton from 2pm-2.30pm.

A reminder HSBC do not provide any banking services in Settle.

Support the Community Fridge when you shop at the Co-op

This year the Community Fridge run by Settle Community and Business Hub is part of the Co-op Local Community Fund. Download the Co-op app, become a member and choose our cause, so we can receive a share of £5m. If you have a card and don't use the app, you can phone the number on the card and ask to select us as your good cause.

If you register to support us we receive a small percentage of what you spend on your Co-op shopping. We will use this money to support our Community Fridge and also the Public Living Room events at Settle Quakers. These both reduce food waste and enable local people to access fresh produce and enjoy healthy meals.

Whilst we are very grateful for the food donations we get from businesses and individuals we often need to buy extra food and also need money to pay the rent, bills and staff to enable these projects to run

which is why support from schemes like this is so important.

Settle College Diploma



At Settle College, we pride ourselves on character development by celebrating the achievements and determination of our students, both in and out of school. Through the Settle College

Diploma, we aim to ensure all students are given the opportunity to complete a variety of challenges to support their growth in this area. This is seen through academic challenges (to help students both academically and personally at each stage of education and prepare them for future success), community challenges (to develop responsible, respectful, and active citizens who contribute positively to society), extra-curricular challenges (for personal development beyond the curriculum, discovering their interests and talents and keeping both physically and mentally healthy), cultural challenges (to develop their understanding and appreciation of diversity) and careers challenges (to develop understanding of career routes, and own employability skills).

This year we have adjusted things slightly to set up a linear model for the diploma. This ensures that students complete challenges in a format that is bespoke to their stage of learning. For Year 7 and 8, the theme is 'participate' and students can work towards their bronze award by getting involved in as many different challenges across the five areas as possible. For Year 9, the theme is 'develop' and students can work towards their silver award by narrowing the range of challenges and being encouraged to develop their thinking

in areas that are bespoke and interesting to them. For Years 10 and 11, the theme is 'reflect' and students can work towards their gold award by again digging deeper to truly understand the importance of each area for their own growth and character development. For those in Year 11 who show true ambition, students can move to 'lead' as the theme, where students can both create and present a case study to peers and staff.

Students have started extremely well, and after an initial assembly from myself and Mr Lord, it has been fantastic to see students make excellent progress so far. I look forward to sharing excellent examples as the year goes on.

Joseph Fraser, assistant headteacher



Good News Year

The second of what are scheduled to become regular annual meetings for readers, contributors and distributors of *Community News* heard that the past year had been a good one for the magazine in all regards.

The meeting held at the Quaker Meeting House in Kirkgate on 7th October was attended by a dozen or so readers and

distributors of the magazine, as well as the management committee.

Editor John Drake reported that he was pleased with the way in which *Community News* was building up strong links with many local organisations so that the magazine became a way in which the community could have a conversation with itself. He cited, as an example, the link with Settle Stories that had contributed both the centrespread and cover artwork to the October issue in advance of its story festival that took place in November. He also praised the way in which other members of the group producing the magazine were now taking on more of the editing work, easing the burden on himself, something that had been a problem earlier in the year.

Phil Hinde, who chaired the meeting, stressed the importance of regular advertising from local businesses as both a way of ensuring the magazine covered its costs and as an important means by which enterprises could raise awareness among the local community.

Annie Gammon, who organises the distribution, praised the support received from all the volunteer deliverers and especially the lead distributors who organise delivery in different communities. Covering the whole of the area from Selside to Hellifield remained a big challenge, especially reaching some isolated dwellings. Suggestions made at the meeting, included getting support from local walking groups and raising awareness of the fact that the magazine was now available online soon after publication.

The financial report provided by Paul Cochrane showed that we covered costs in the past year but remain short of our ambition to ensure that there are sufficient reserves to cover any emergencies.

Tasks for the coming year include setting

**Could you help us to deliver copies of
Community News in your area? Email:
distribution@settlenews.co.uk**

up a 'style guide' to help the team that edits contributions ensure we are consistent in things like the use of capital letters and the way we set out dates; recruiting more contributors and distributors; and, especially, reaching out to potential advertisers, showing the real value that they get from promoting their businesses through *Community News*.

The current management team of Phil Hinde, John Drake, Annie Gammon, Mike Smith, Paul Cochrane and Barry White was re-elected by acclaim and a number of offers of help with production were gratefully received.

The *Community News* team were also due to take part in the big Christmas Lights Switch On in Settle Market Place on 29th November.

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

Settle Community Christmas Day Dinner & Tea

11.45am – 5pm on 25th December 2025 at

**St John's Methodist Church
& Hall, Settle** BD24 9JH

Come for the whole day, or if you prefer just part:- coffee - carols - dinner - party pieces and gentle games - tea - or relax in the Garden Room.



Donations welcome of £10 (adult) £5 (children) from both guests and helpers

Please book by filling in a form obtainable at one of:- Age UK Settle, The Place, Settle Hub or Judith Allinson 07950469545 & returning it before 15th Dec.

There will be a meeting of volunteers on Tuesday 18th November at 6pm at St John's Methodist Church

Settle Christmas Day Meal 2025 webpage: bit.ly/SettleCDM2025
email: hub@settlecommunityandbusinesshub.org

Settle and District Community News

**ISSUE 190
DEC 2025/JAN 2026**

CONTENTS

3	Editor's Welcome
4-11	News Round Up
14-15	Transport News
18	ACE News
19	At The Place
20-21	Town Council News
24	All gas and praises
26	Settlemas is coming!
27-31	Christmas cover entries
32-33	Christmas church events
34	Focus on Wellbeing
36	The Novice Gardener
37	Duke of Edinburgh Awards
38	Tuscan Cookery Adventure
39	Next stop: Nepal!
40-41	Viaduct Visits
42	Power to the People
44-45	The Elusive Millionaire
48-49	Book Review
50-51	A Matter of Taste
52	Rugby News
54	Letters / Quiz
55	Crossword
58-62	Community Directory
63	Advertise with us
63	Crossword & Quiz Answers
63	Next Issue Date / Deadline

Do You Love Cheese?

Come and visit Settle's
specialist cheese emporium!



A unique range you
won't find elsewhere:

- Hand made traditional cheeses
- Cheeses made on the farm
- Raw milk cheeses



Visit The Courtyard Dairy at Crows Nest Barn,
A65 (between Settle and Austwick), LA2 8AS

~ 01729 823 291 ~ Open 7 days a week ~

Buy online: thecourtyarddairy.co.uk



All aspects of pest
control covered –
Domestic and
Commercial work

NPTA member – DBS checked – Fully insured

5 ★ Google Reviews



Call 07718 429023 or mail Phil & Tracey
wharfedalepestcontrol@gmail.com
www.wharfedalepestcontrol.co.uk



TIMBERWORKS
JOINERY

Specialist Joinery Design, Manufacture & Installation



01729 825669

info@timberworksjoinery.co.uk
www.timberworksjoinery.co.uk

Unit 3 Sowarth Industrial Estate, Settle, BD24 9AF

**butler
interiors**

Designers, suppliers & installers
of quality German kitchens.

Call in at one of our beautiful showrooms in
Lower Bentham or Kirkby Lonsdale

Butler Interiors
Low Mills
Mill Lane
Low Bentham
Lancaster
LA2 7FL

Next125 Kitchens
Lane House Business Park
Kendal Road
Kirkby Lonsdale
Cumbria
LA6 2HH

015242 63388

015242 37747

www.butlerinteriors.co.uk



DALESBRED

INTERIOR DESIGN · CURTAINS · BLINDS · CUSHIONS
NEW UPHOLSTERY · RE-UPHOLSTERY



Find us at The Sidings, Cammock Lane, Settle, BD24 9RP
dalesbred.co.uk | 07923447672

Stannah
Dealer

Don't turn the page!

Turn to your LOCAL mobility specialists

Next day
installation on
STANNAH
STAIRLIFTS

FREE Home
Demos on
Scooters & Rise
Recliner Chairs



www.affordablemobility.co.uk



01200
444254

affordablemobility

40 YORK ST., CLITHEROE, LANCS. BB7 2DL

COVERING SETTLE
& ALL SURROUNDING AREAS

TRANSPORT NEWS



As I write, the curse of the autumn leaf-fall is well and truly upon us, perhaps slightly later this year. Whilst we often joke about ‘leaves on the line’ the truth is that the leaf mulch turns into a Teflon-like residue which coats the track making it very difficult to gain adhesion, or even worse, brake. Often, trains will be seen struggling to make progress out of Settle Station. In days gone by, the steel wheels were effectively ‘cleaned’ by the brake shoes and locomotives were a lot heavier. But these days, modern trains tend to be disc-braked and much lighter. The answer is high pressure water, often with some sort of proprietary additive, and the rail-head treatment train will be seen making its daily journey through Settle in each direction.

The adhesion problems have inevitably led to delays, in addition to which, we have seen a few infrastructure problems including a power outage at Blea Moor and a couple of stranded freight trains. But, for a change, it was the West Coast Main Line (WCML) which dominated the news with the recent landslide at Shap, the resultant

derailment showing just how easy it is for things to go horribly wrong. It could have turned out very differently, but fortunately the train came to a stand upright and there were no serious casualties. Meanwhile, on our line there is much evidence of works being undertaken to improve resilience, stabilising embankments and improving drainage.

In the previous article I made a passing reference to the prospect of the Settle-Carlisle route (S&C) being used for West Coast Main Line diversions following a successful test train on 20th August. I wasn’t allowed to say too much about it at the time due to a press embargo, but the news is now well and truly out and, indeed, for the first two weeks in January 2026, we will see a shuttle of up to eight Avanti Evero bi-mode trains operating each-way between Preston and Carlisle, these spaced between the normal stopping services. The initiative is DfT led and caused by the closures on the WCML which are ongoing for ten years for approximately 10 percent of that period. In this particular case it is due to the replacement of Clifton Bridge across the M6 near Carlisle.

The irony is that for one week, passengers will have to alight at Carlisle for a bus transfer to Lockerbie due to resignalling north of Carlisle. But, if successful, the diversions may be repeated over the remainder of the ten-year WCML upgrade programme. It will make for an interesting sight, particularly across Ribbleshead Viaduct.

Widely thought to be a good thing in securing the strategic importance of the S&C, it is also perhaps a double-edged sword. As we well know, things often go wrong on our line, particularly due to its exposure and remote location. The prospect of a signal failure or suchlike would be unthinkable. But a significant potential issue arises due to the fact that any diversionary paths created over the S&C might only be required for 10 percent of the time and therefore unused for the remaining 90 percent. This would inevitably be a constraint on the development of the existing passenger timetable or, indeed, the prospect of regular long-distance trains. Furthermore, it is perhaps unfortunate that upgrade works which might have permitted an increase in line speed or capacity were not implemented well in advance of the diversions as these might have had legacy benefit.

Moving on to our bus services, the long-anticipated Bus Services Act has finally received assent which will ultimately pave the way for local authorities to take greater control over their public transport. To what extent this might ultimately benefit the Settle area remains to be seen but it would be good to see evening and Sunday buses reinstated. Meanwhile, 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.

In addition, there are several excellent 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, Sedburgh 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.

For regular journeys on the Leeds-Settle-Carlisle and Morecambe lines, it may be worthwhile purchasing a Dales Railcard which saves 1/3-off a standard ticket purchased on the day. Even better, there is a winter offer which provides a 50 percent discount and runs until 29th March 2026. Unfortunately, these cannot be used for advance purchase tickets and have a pre-8.15am 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
Friends of the Settle Carlisle Line



**CASTLEBERG
OUTDOORS**
Gear For Adventure!

www.castlebergoutdoors.co.uk
Cheapside Settle North Yorkshire
BD23 9EW
01729 823751



Jacky Hickson
BOOKKEEPING SERVICES

Jacky Hickson provides confidential and affordable Bookkeeping Services which can be customised to suit your business. We can cover your business needs including Bookkeeping, Payroll, On-line Tax submission and Workplace Pensions.

- You only pay for the hours worked - no NI, holiday or sick pay costs.
- Office space and equipment not necessary.
- Offsite Data backup service - no lost data through computer crashes.
- Relevant financial reports from up to date IT software.
- Contact by phone, fax or email from where ever you are.

Please contact me for a FREE no obligation quote

IAB **HM Revenue & Customs** **sage** **STP** **Professional Bookkeeper Club**

Jacky Hickson MIA, Lupton Croft, Lawkland, Austwick, via Lancaster LA2 8AT
Phone: 01524 251182 Mobile: 07823 331512
email: info@jackyhickson.co.uk web: www.jackyhickson.co.uk

mpas

Martin Peacock Architectural Services Limited
Building Surveys to prepare plans for Planning and Buildings Regulations Approval
Project Management
Professional Service
Office: 01943 816 082 Mobile: 07765 224 261
email: mp-as@btconnect.com
Web: www.mp-as.co.uk

PR Number: F3249
Company Registration No: 10739145



Duncan Robinson
FUNERAL SERVICES

Unit 2, Kings Mill Lane, Settle, North Yorkshire. BD24 9BS
Email: enquiries@duncanrobinsonfuneralservices.co.uk
www.duncanrobinsonfuneralservices.co.uk
Telephone 01729 825444



Open
Prepaid Funeral Plans



An Evening with Octameron

Langcliffe Village Institute – 19th December at 7 p.m.

Tickets £10

Email jeanied56@yahoo.co.uk call 07908712294 or use the contact form on www.langcliffevillageinstitute.co.uk to reserve your ticket.

Complimentary glass of mulled wine or juice.

Brought to you by Langcliffe Village Institute Trustees
Charity No 1000359

Peter Allen

FLOOR COVERINGS LTD



- ◆ All types of Floor coverings.
- ◆ Amtico retailer of choice.
- ◆ Ted Todd Wood Flooring.
- ◆ Made to measure Blinds.
- ◆ Beds, Mattresses & Furniture.
- ◆ Wide selection of Rugs.
- ◆ Custom made Curtains.
- ◆ Interiors for the Home.

Amtico
One Exclusive
Retail Partner

 TED TODD



UNIT 2, NEW ROAD, SOWARTH FIELD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, SETTLE, N. YORKSHIRE, BD24 9AG

7, DUKE STREET, SETTLE N.YORKSHIRE, BD24 9DU

01729 825122

info@peterallenflooring.co.uk

www.peterallenflooring.co.uk

Hydrotherapy, Rehabilitation & Fitness for Every Dog

Experts in:

- CANINE HYDROTHERAPY
- CANINE PHYSIOTHERAPY
- CANINE CONDITIONING

Find out more here:



www.peakcanineperformance.co.uk

PEAK

CANINE PERFORMANCE

HYDROTHERAPY, REHABILITATION & FITNESS CENTRE

Sarah Wiltshire, chair of the Settle and area Action on Climate Emergency (ACE) offers some tips on how to help wildlife this winter and reports on the group's future events.

EASY WINS FOR WILDLIFE

Winter food... and keeping birds healthy

- Put out bird food and water on a regular basis through the winter. In severe weather, you may find you need to feed twice daily. Birds need high-energy, high-fat foods during cold weather. Advice from the RSPB at: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/feeding-birds-near-you>
- With increased feeder activity hygiene is especially important to stop the spread of disease, so weekly cleaning of the feeders and the ground beneath is recommended - to stop the build-up of food waste and droppings. More information from the British Trust for Ornithology at: <https://www.bto.org/learn/helping-birds/feeding/best-practice>.
- Consider growing common ivy (Hedera helix). Ivy is a brilliant wildlife-supporting garden plant that will grow in spots where nothing else thrives. When ivy flowers in late autumn, you will hear an audible hum as bees, hoverflies and other insects feast on the nectar and pollen. Deeper into winter the nutritious berries provide an essential food source for native birds such as thrushes, blackbirds and blackcaps. Find out more at <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/plants/wild-flowers/ivy/>

SPOTLIGHT ON ENERGY INITIATIVES

- Energy Choices Tool - explore the Centre for Sustainable Energy's new information source for free, independent advice on, for example, reducing energy costs, low carbon technologies and retrofitting. You can check out the Tool at <https://ect.cse.org.uk/>
- Suggest locations for on-street electric vehicle charging points - North Yorkshire Council are seeking your feedback. Let them know if you have suggestions at: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/electric-vehicle-charging>

Saturday 13th December (10.30am-12.30pm) Green Cafe at St John's

Methodist Church Hall. Join us for a chat about topical issues including the outcomes of November's budget and UN Climate conference (COP30) for climate initiatives. Fairtrade tea, coffee, and mince pies available throughout the morning.

Saturday 10th January (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 throughout the morning. If you have climate and nature actions that you are involved in or have tips to share come along and tell us.

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

Thank you for all the climate and nature actions that you have taken throughout 2025 and very best wishes from us all at ACE for the New Year.

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



Get your Dancing shoes on!

The Place is hosting Settle Boogie Night at Settle Victoria Hall on 24th January 2026 7.30pm-11pm and tickets are now on sale at the box office 01729 825718 or online at

settlevictoriahall.org.uk. All money raised will help us continue to serve our local community. Get your dancing shoes on, dress up and join us for an evening of fabulous music from our two live DJs - a much-needed cure for the post-Christmas winter blues!

The digital divide continues

Some of you may remember we wrote an article this time last year about the importance of digital inclusion within our rural communities. Although we have offered lots of support and practical help over the last year, this continues to be a focus for us at The Place and we are determined to do more to bridge the digital divide.

Digital inclusion ensures everyone has equal access and the skills to use digital tech and services safely allowing everyone to join in with modern society. This involves addressing barriers such as lack of affordable devices and internet access, insufficient digital skills and a lack of support, confidence and accessibility. This is where we come in.

Affordable devices and internet access

We work with Craven Reboot, a collaborative project coordinated by North Yorkshire Council to help provide people across Craven with IT equipment. Individuals and businesses are encouraged to drop off their unwanted laptops/tablets at any North Yorkshire library and they will be collected and sent to a team who will wipe and refurbish them to be distributed back into the community. We can also access data sim cards from the Good Things Foundation for those struggling to afford to get online. If you, or anyone you know, needs support please get in touch.



Support, confidence and accessibility

Here at The Place we offer two digital support sessions; Mondays 9.30am-3pm and Tuesdays 9.30am-12 noon. Anyone can drop in for support with tech queries and use our computer and Wifi. We want to build confidence and no query is too big or small and if we can't help we will signpost you to someone who can.

Increased digital skills

At The Place we offer 1:1 sessions with our digital champion where you can learn whatever you need to know to improve your online experience and get better connected. These sessions can be booked in advance, please pop in or call us on 01729 842868.

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. Check out the *Community News* directory or website to see all our sessions.

Council sends thanks to Northern Gas Networks

Settle Town Council has sent a letter of appreciation and thanks to the staff and engineers of Northern Gas Networks following the rapid restoration of gas supplies to Settle residents and businesses. Supplies were disrupted to 3,500 properties in the Settle and district area on Saturday afternoon 1 November after accidental damage to a mains gas pipe was caused by a 'third party'. Within 24 hours supplies had been restored.

In a letter to Northern Gas Network's Chief Executive, Settle's Town Mayor Joe Lord said, 'Feedback from residents has been overwhelmingly positive, with particular praise for the team "on the ground" offering door-to-door support and reassurance. Comments on their friendliness and willingness to help have been shared in person and online, and our thanks go to them for a wonderful service.'

The decision to send the letter was taken by the Council at its meeting on 3rd November.

Suggest a location for an electric vehicle charging point

North Yorkshire Council is asking the public for suggested locations for possible on-street electric vehicle chargers. If you know a good point, they would like to hear from you.

You can submit your suggestion on-line, through the council's 'request tool' and they will consider it when planning future installations. All suggestions are subject to feasibility and available funding. You can submit your suggestion at: https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/electric-vehicle-charging?utm_campaign=2986667.

Christmas cheer from Settle Town Council

Although *Community News* went to press



Settle
TOWN COUNCIL

before the Christmas Lights display and Switch On held on Saturday 29 November, we would like to thank all those who provided

sponsorship, stalls, and entertainment. Special thanks to our existing sponsors Arla, Tarmac, Marshall Taylor Properties, Conservefor, Treetops Forestry and Rosa & Matteo's and a warm welcome to new sponsors: John Roberts Paper, Car & Kitchen and Walker Foster Solicitors. Your generosity allows this special community event to continue.

Also, thanks to the many local businesses who donated prizes to the well supported raffle and the volunteers who helped make the event run smoothly and provide an enjoyable Christmas 'curtain raiser'.

Future of Whitefriars toilets

Settle Town Council has come to the end of its cleaning contract for Whitefriars toilets. Any enquiries or queries regarding Whitefriars toilets should be directed to the North Yorkshire Council as owner and operator.

2026/27 budget and precept

Work is progressing on drawing up the budget for the next financial year and setting the town council's precept, which is collected as part of your North Yorkshire Council tax. Details will be finalised at the Council

meeting on Monday 8 December and will be published on the council's web site at: <https://settle-town-council.gov.uk/>. It will also be published in the February edition of *Community News*.

Seasonal Greetings and the best in 2026

Settle Town Council staff and councillors wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Please note the changes to the office opening times over the festive period will be published on the Council's website and social media pages.



**Community News special correspondent
Paul Cochrane reports on Settle Town
Council's November meeting.**

An inspector calls

At a time when many readers would have been TV channel hopping over to *Police Interceptors* on Channel 5, Inspector Crabtree entered the room.

Settle Town Council had been proceeding at a reasonable speed with due care and attention through the familiar agenda items, planning applications, budgets and reports. Unlike in the TV show, however, this policeman bought unexpectedly good news.

The mayor, spotting the uniform, pulled the meeting over for the inspector. He started by explaining that behind the bland enforcement statistics which the clerk had on the screen, in terms of crime, North Yorkshire was the safest area in the country. Most of the incidents here related to pockets of anti-social behaviour and matters of individuals' social care. Of the other crimes, 50 percent of house burglaries and 50 percent of thefts from vehicles could have been prevented if people kept their homes and cars locked.

Every new government, he continued, sets a new direction for policing. And under the *Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee*, the neighbourhood policing team in Craven was to be increased by a third: the number of police officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) was to be raised from six to nine of each, and Police Safety Officers increased from two to four. Having a larger team would not mean that the police would be able to send someone out to every call. However, no call was ever ignored the inspector assured everyone present, but often the most effective response was to investigate remotely. Every report adds detail to the overall picture, he said. Even suspicions of an attempted break-in could provide clues that help identify the perpetrator of a crime in another place at another time. "Report it! if there's a spike in the stats, we'll hit it" he added. After clarifying details about officer roles and recruitment timelines, the mayor thanked the inspector for his in-person report

and that the council looked forward to seeing him again at future meeting.

Parking ban opposed

In other business, the Council considered the proposed temporary traffic order on Lower Greenfoot from North Yorkshire Council. This was intended to discourage anti-social parking on match days at North Ribblesdale RUFC. A resident had read an impact statement, observing that the removal of on-street parking outside Limestone View would merely shift the access problems round to Ingfield Lane. The community library had submitted an objection too, stressing that banning parking would be detrimental to the library's users, people attending events and its volunteers. These arguments were picked up by the councillors, who observed that the proposed solution would not solve the problem on match days, and be detrimental to the local community for the other 300 plus days of the year. The council resolved to oppose the proposed order from NYC because it would not achieve its stated aim of 'preserving or improving the amenity' in that area.

Gimme Shelter

North Yorkshire Council's offer to install a bus shelter on the Market Place was on the agenda again. Cllr White reported that the council's Bus Shelter Working Party had received answers to the questions raised by the Market and Services Committee. The working party was to meet again in November to finalise the details of the preferred design, which was to be considered at the meeting of the full council in December. Three councillors queried the desirability of having a shelter, even though the full council had twice agreed to the principle of having one. One member felt that responsibility for the shelter's future maintenance and insurance was a showstopper, others were unconvinced that there was sufficient justification for it. As discussion turned to the electrical safety testing of the pump track lights, your reporter picked up his umbrella and went back out into the rain.

ABBEY SLATING & TILING

Traditional Roofing Contractor **Austwick**

- Roofing Contractor to Local Authorities and Charities
- No job too small and no call-out charges
- Over 30 years experience

**Safe Trader
Scheme**

Tel: 07934 802046



24 Hour Emergency Care
For Your Pets with Our Vets

Local, Independent Vet Practice

Healthy Pet Club with
Puppy & Kitten Plans

Registered Nurse Clinics



Station Road, Settle, BD24 9AA
Main Street, High Bentham, LA2 7LE

01729 823538
www.daleheadvetgroup.co.uk

SETTLE COAL CO. LTD

Station Road, Settle, N. Yorks BD24 9AB

01729 822534

info@settlecoal.co.uk



**DELIVERY OR COLLECTION OF
SOLID FUELS, LOGS AND KINDLING**

**WE ALSO SUPPLY A COMPLETE RANGE
OF BUILDING MATERIALS**



- WANEY LAP FENCING
- WOODEN AND CONCRETE POSTS
- NATURAL STONE & CONCRETE FLAGS
- DECORATIVE GRAVELS
- ROOF SLATES

Visit our shop for a wide range of
professional tools and engineering supplies.

including bearings, V-belts and
made- to-order hydraulic pipes

J.MURFIN

Plumbing and Heating Settle

Gas, Oil and LPG installations
and servicing
New boilers with up to 10 years
warranty included
Full bathroom installations
General plumbing
Competitive rates

Tel: 07870 164249

01729 825833



Scott Sanderson

Painter & Decorator

Estimates given



13 Ingfield Lane
Settle
North Yorkshire
BD24 9BA

07745 155871

01729 825670



Fresh produce:

Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables & Gifts

The Shambles, Settle, BD24 9EH

(Down the steps at the left)

Local deliveries Tel: 01729 824625

e-mail: vault1789@outlook.com



**WAYNE DUNN
HOMETECH**

07817 256290

INFO@WDHOMETECH.CO.UK

@WDHOMETECH

WWW.WDHOMETECH.CO.UK

- TV & AUDIO
- CCTV SYSTEMS
- INTRUDER ALARMS
- AERIAL & SATELLITE
- WIFI & NETWORKING



St Alkelda's Church, Giggleswick
Tea and Cake - 6pm
Evening Service - 6:30pm
On the 4th Sunday of the month

- All welcome
- Informal worship
- Worship band
- Modern songs
- Encouraging message
- An encounter with God

GOAD & BUTCHER

Solicitors

Please contact:-

Richard Bentley M.A. (Cantab.)

Anne Verhagen B.A., JD

J Leslie Fawcett F.Inst.L.Ex.

Local Lawyers – Personal Service

Midland Bank Chambers

Market Place,

Settle

North Yorkshire

BD24 9DR

Telephone

01729 823500

Fax

01729 822023

e-mail

info@goadandbutcher.co.uk

Registered by the Solicitors Regulation Authority
SRA Number 300457

All gas and praises

Gas workers and the local community have both received widespread praise for the way they responded to the loss of gas supply to thousands of homes in this area over the first weekend in November.

The problem arose late on the afternoon of 1st November when a farmer's contractor, or 'third party' as Northern Gas Networks described them, severed a gas main in the Gargrave area. There were reports of a strong smell of gas in the village and it appears that air got into the severed pipe resulting in a loss of supply to homes and business in an area from Hellifield to Langcliffe, including Long Preston, Giggleswick and Settle. Over the next few hours social media was alive with messages as people became aware of the scale of the problem.

For some the realisation dawned slowly. I, for one, spent some time trying to fix what appeared to be a lack of pressure in our boiler, before realising that lack of gas was the problem. Neighbours confirmed we were not alone in being gasless in Settle.

Those who have electric heating and cooking facilities were scarcely affected, and fortunately it was a comparatively mild November evening. But for the chip shops, restaurants and other businesses that rely on gas for cooking, the problem was much more serious, as it was for homes with no cooking facilities, heating or hot water.

It was then that Northern Gas Networks sprang into action with commendable speed. Their social media posts quickly explained the scale and cause of the problem. There were clear instructions to switch off all gas appliances and how to switch off supplies at the mains. People were asked to look out for vulnerable neighbours, as many were doing anyway, and most impressively a help centre was set up at the Falcon Manor within a couple of hours. People going there found not only Northern Gas Networks staff ready to provide advice and assistance, but also

a supply of equipment, including electric heaters of various capacities.

After working all night, the engineers were able to restore the supply by Sunday afternoon and from then on into late Monday the area was awash with Northern Gas Networks vehicles and staff helping customers switch on the gas supply safely and fire up boilers. They also spent a long time actively seeking out those who might need help: no easy task in an area where house numbers and names can be confusing and second homes and holiday lets abound.

But again, it was businesses and organisations that faced the greater problems and reportedly received the greatest help. The Victoria Hall's two boilers took hours to fix as did that of Settle Area Swimming Pool, which had had to close early on Sunday, when the water temperature fell below 27C, but thanks to the engineers' efforts was able to reopen at 6am on Monday morning.

Praise for Northern Gas Networks staff was widespread on Facebook, with positive comments from many householders, as well as local MP Sir Julian Smith and Settle's mayor Joe Lord.

But equally significant was the response from the Northern Gas Networks staff drafted in to help. It was summed up by this Facebook comment from Michael Pendleton: "I'm a gas engineer from Northern Gas Networks. I've been in the industry for 20 years and I've never met such grateful and patient people. I'm blown away with your hospitality, understanding and resilience. You're a credit to the community." It was down to one respondent to point out that many of the elderly population have known far greater hardship. And, also, perhaps worth remembering that many of the villages and farms further into the dales have no mains gas supply at any time, but that is another story.

Mike Smith

Picture Framing

Professional, bespoke and inexpensive
service
a wide range of mouldings available

mobile: 07952177696

email: janewgraham@icloud.com

CHRIS ECCLESTON - Dairyman

01729 825567 or 07801 416316



Delivering farm fresh milk,
eggs, cream, yoghurts & fruit
juices to your doorstep daily.

Deliveries to Wigglesworth, Rathmell,
Giggleswick, Settle & Langcliffe,
Stainforth, Horton-in-Ribblesdale

Any orders, large or small competitively priced
e-mail: cecclestons@gmail.com



Fully Licenced Café & Restaurant

Serving home cooked meals with locally sourced ingredients

Specials Board available everyday

A choice of 3 local real ales available on the bar

We can cater for all kinds and sizes of function:

Function suite, training and meeting rooms available

**Open Mon, Wed to Sat 11am to 9pm (food bookings up to 8pm),
Sun 11am to 7pm. Closed Tue.**

Knight Stainforth Hall Camping & Caravan Park, Little Stainforth, Settle

01729 823387

e-mail: info@the-knights-table.co.uk

Website: www.the-knights-table.co.uk

Facebook: eat at the knights table

Twitter: @knights_Table_

HARRISON & CROSS LTD



Sidings Ind Est, Settle 01729 823423

harrisonandcross@gmail.com

www.harrisonandcross.co.uk



Electrical Contractors - full & part rewiring, electrical checking on existing
installations, small appliance testing.

Electrical Appliance Showroom - All types of household appliance from freezers
to cookers & microwaves from washing machines to tumble dryers, dishwashers,
vacuum cleaners, kettles, toasters etc. You need it - we supply it!



Matthew Alliston

General Contractor & Handyman



Matthew Alliston

• Kitchens, Bathrooms, Tiling and Grouting

• Painting, Decorating and Carpentry

• Gardening, Landscaping and Pointing

• General Handyman

07732067777

mattiewan@hotmail.com

This is not just Christmas, it's

SETTLEMAS



Settlemas is coming

The people who brought you the Settle Flowerpot Festival have now turned their hand to a different seasonal celebration. For the whole of December, and through to Twelfth Night in early January, a dozen prime spots in the town will be home to new flowerpot characters, that together become Settlemas.

A pair of agricultural workers playing violins in the window of the Tourist Information Centre will be designated 'farmers fiddling'. There will be bell-ringing robins, and many more besides. To find all 12 you will need to buy one of the £3 *flowerpot hunt* guides from places such as the Tourist Information Centre, Lamberts' newsagents and the House that Jack Built. Unlike the summer festival, there will not be a trail but clues as to where to find each of the characters - *Community News* can reveal that the railway station, Victoria Hall and the swimming pool will all feature in Settlemas.

The organisers are not necessarily looking for individuals to add their own creations to the festival this time though, of course, they say there is nothing to stop anyone decorating their garden with a seasonal flowerpot character should they feel inclined to do so.

The concept of Settlemas was developed by Steve Amphlett and Richard Handscombe, the men behind the flowerpot festival, and arose as they were putting away the festival characters for the winter. The volunteer team that worked on the

flowerpots, some of them attracted by an article in *Community News* earlier this year, have been working hard to come up with some witty and Yorkshire themed creations for the new festival.

'We did think about basing Settlemas on the original twelve days of Christmas,' said Richard Handscombe, 'but ten lords a-leaping, for instance, was just too much of a challenge!'



However, they do hope that Settlemas will become more than a collection of flowerpots, just as the flowerpot festival has grown over the years, and so will help to attract more visitors, and boost the tourist economy. The early signs are good. This year Victoria Hall will be promoting Settlemas and Gallery on the Green, home each December to the all-knitted traditional twelve days of Christmas, will be branding itself as part of Settlemas too. The town council and various local businesses are also interested in promoting the idea.

Income from sales of *flowerpot hunt* leaflets will help support the creation of new flowerpot characters for next year's festival and, as always, any surplus will be distributed to local community organisations and charities at the financial year end. With creative work due to start early in the new year in the potting shed at Watershed Mill, new volunteers to help turn common or garden pots into amusing character would be more than welcome.

Mike Smith

Langcliffe Village Institute

Christmas Coffee
Morning

Saturday 6th December
10am - 12.30pm

Tombola, Cakes, Church,
Craven Wildlife Rescue,
Local honey,
gifts & crafts.

All Welcome.
FREE entry



Reg charity: 1000359

SettleTech

Providing general technical help
and advice for computers,
smartphones, tablets,
TVs, websites.

No problem too small,
don't be afraid to ask.

Friendly one to one service
tailored to your needs.

No technobabble,
just straightforward solutions.

Email: john@settletech.co.uk
Phone: 07942 364445
www.settletech.co.uk



LAY OF THE LAND

SETTLE, NORTH YORKSHIRE

GARDEN CENTRE - CAFE - NURSERY



WWW.LAYOFTHELAND.CO.UK

LAY OF THE LAND, KINGS MILL LANE, SETTLE, BD24 9BS
01729 824247



BROCKLANDS

Woodland Burial

"Let our demise not in any way damage or
deplete the earth's resources, but rather
let it make a positive contribution
to the natural cycle of life."

Ring for a Leaflet

Visit Anytime

01729 840102

www.brocklands.co.uk



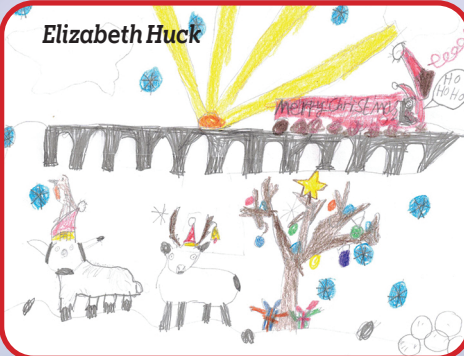
2019-20 Award Winner Best
Natural Burial site in North Britain

It's Christmas!

As seen through the eyes of children

**With thanks to Settle Primary School, Austwick Primary School
and Settle College for encouraging their students to take part in our
Christmas cover competition**

Elizabeth Huck



Sadie Moon



Sunny Rayner

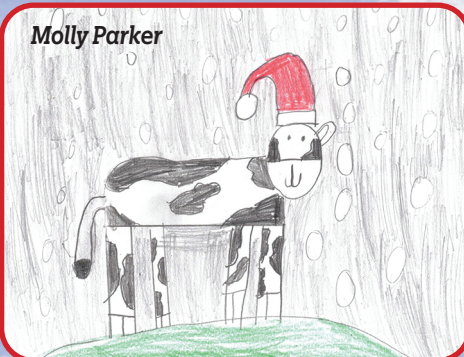


The ginger bread Slamy



Lilah

Molly Parker



Isaac Spenser





Eve Hampshire

Bentham Auction Mart

Hazel Garth

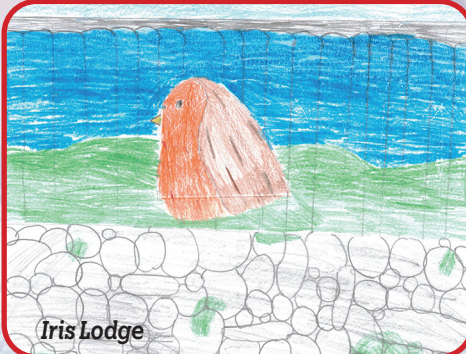


Ruby Richmond

Otto Hampshire



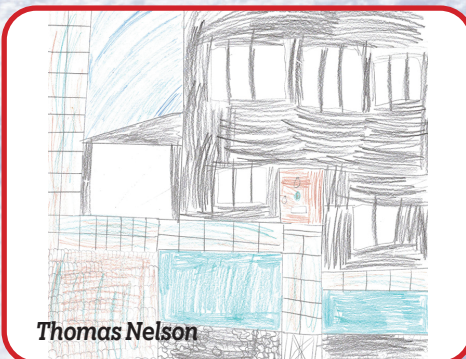
Eve Hampshire



Iris Lodge



Violet Lodge



Thomas Nelson



George Johnson

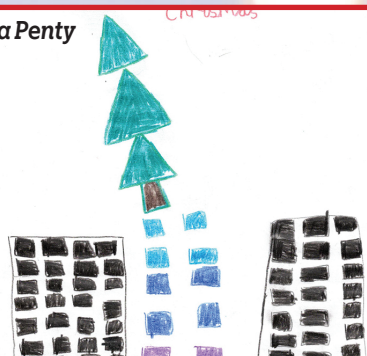


Olivia Parr

Toby Cowperthwaite



Sofia Penty

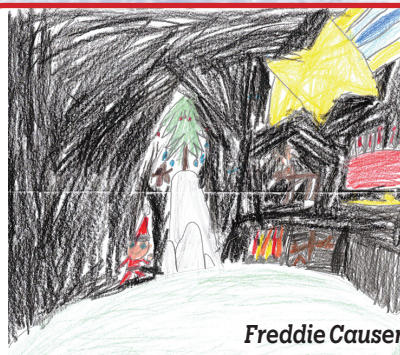
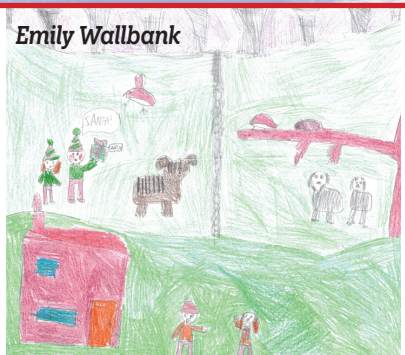


Emily Cliff

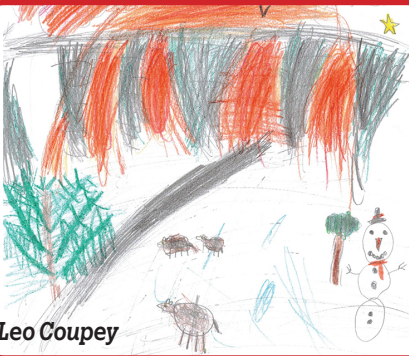
Daisy Latimer



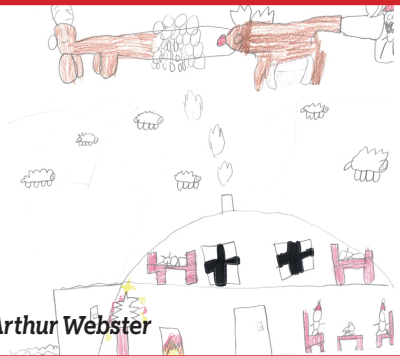
Emily Wallbank



Freddie Causer



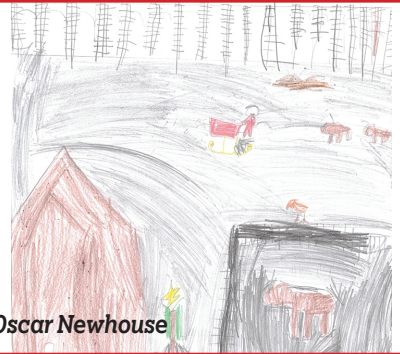
Leo Coupey



Arthur Webster



Isaac Lane



Oscar Newhouse



Walter Swinscoe



Oliver Wallbank



Lucas Reed



Ollie Brownlee

The Churches of Settle and District wish you all a Peaceful Christmas and New Year and invite you to their Services and events

Holy Ascension Parish Church Settle

- 14 Dec 5.00pm Festival of 9 lessons and Carols
24 Dec 3.00pm Crib Service
11.30pm Midnight Communion Service



St Alkelda's Giggleswick

- 30 Nov 6.00pm Evensong - Advent Carols
20 Dec 3.00pm Christingle
21 Dec 6.00pm Festival of 9 lessons and Carols
24 Dec 6.00pm Nativity Service
25 Dec 10.00am 3 Parishes Christmas Worship



Holy Trinity Rathmell

- 7 Dec 6.30pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
24 Dec 9.30pm 'Midnight in Bethlehem' Communion Service

St John's Langcliffe

- 21 Dec 3.00pm Village Carol Service. Special welcome to new residents
24 Dec 11.30pm Midnight in Langcliffe: Holy Communion
28 Dec 10.30am Holy Communion for our 3 parishes

St Peter's Stainforth

- 24 Dec 6.30pm Christmas Eve Carol Service
25 Dec 10.30am The Eucharist of Christmas Day

St Oswald's Horton in Ribblesdale

- 7 Dec 2.00pm Messy Advent: making wreaths/Christingles [Village Hall]
14 Dec 2.00pm Lessons & Carols, as we build the crib scene
23 Dec 6.00pm Live Nativity with Katie's flock - come dressed as a character in the story
24 Dec 10.00pm Midnight in Bethlehem & Jerusalem: Holy Communion

St John's Methodist Church Settle

- 8 Dec 7.00pm Soup-a-Carol - Carols & Christmas readings
21 Dec 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight
25 Dec 10.00am Christmas Day Service
11.45am-5.00pm Christmas Day Meal: Book 07950 469545
28 Dec 10.30am Relaxed Carols

Settle Christian Fellowship

- 21 Dec 10.45am Christmas Service followed by mince pies
28 Dec 10.45am Informal Worship Service + Communion

The Parish of Our Lady & St Boniface

- 20 Dec 4.00pm-4.15pm Confessions + 4.30pm Vigil Mass [SETTLE]
 21 Dec 8.45am-9.00am Confessions + 9.15am Mass [BENTHAM]
 21 Dec 11.15am Mass [SETTLE]
 23 Dec 10.00am Mass +10.30am Confessions [SETTLE]
 24 Dec 10.00am Mass +10.30am Confessions [BENTHAM]
 24 Dec 5.30pm First Mass of Christmas [SETTLE]
 25 Dec 9.15am Christmas Day Mass [BENTHAM]
 25 Dec 11.15am Christmas Day Mass [SETTLE]
 27 Dec 4.00pm-4.15pm Confessions + 4.30pm Mass [SETTLE]

Settle Society of Friends

- 21 Dec 10.30am Meeting for Worship
 25 Dec 10.30am All age Meeting for Worship

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

- 12 Dec 7.30pm A Christmas Concert by the HelliSingers [StA]
 14 Dec 2.00pm Carol Service [M]
 17 Dec 5.30pm Carols at Shed24H Hellifield Station [M]
 21 Dec 9.30am Family Communion/Messy Church team presentation [StA]
 6.00pm Traditional Service of Nine Lessons & Carols [StA]
 24 Dec 4.00pm Family Carols & Crib Service [StA]
 11.30pm Midnight Mass (Holy Communion) [StA]
 25 Dec 9.30am Holy Communion for Christmas Day [StA]

St Mary's Long Preston

- 30 Nov 4.00pm Music and readings for Advent, with local choir *Cantores Silicium*
 4 Dec 4.00pm Christingle: an informal service, esp suitable for children
 21 Dec 11.00am Informal Family Service for the Sunday before Christmas
 24 Dec 6.00pm Traditional Service of Nine Lessons & Carols
 25 Dec 11.00am Holy Communion for Christmas Day

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

- 14 Dec 4.00pm Carol Service [A]
 14 Dec 7.00pm Joint Clapham and Newby Carol Service [N]
 18 Dec 1.30pm Austwick School Christingle Service [A]
 21 Dec 7.00pm Nativity and Carol Service [E]
 22 Dec 7.00pm Carols around the crib [K]
 24 Dec 3.00pm Crib Service [A]
 24 Dec 5.00pm Crib Service followed by short Holy Communion [C]
 24 Dec 11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion [A]
 25 Dec 9.30am Family Communion [E]
 25 Dec 11.00am Family Communion [K]
 28 Dec 10.30am Benefice New Year Holy Communion [A]

Settle Community Carols: Tues 16 Dec 10am outside NatWest, Market Place
Beer and Carols: Thur 18th Dec 8.30pm Talbot Arms, High St, Settle

Spotlight on Wellbeing - Pip Carr



How much of your life is devoted to activities that nourish you and how much to those that deplete you?

Nourishing activities lift your mood, energise you, and make you feel calm and centred. They increase your sense of being alive and present rather than just existing. Depleting activities pull you down, drain your energy, make you feel tense and fragmented. They decrease your sense of being alive and present and make you feel that you are just existing or worse.

Try this exercise to explore what balance you have between nourishing and depleting activities.

Make a list of all your typical daily activities (including weekends) from getting up to going to bed and then ask yourself, which of these activities nourish me and which deplete me? Put an N or a D next to them. The balance is unlikely to be perfect, however if there are more D's than N's, it may be worth asking yourself this - how can I add more nourishing activities to my life, which help me keep doing the things I really have no choice about doing, or how can I make small adjustments to the depleting activities so they do not drain me as much?

Examples of these could be:

- leaving your phone at home when walking the dog so that you benefit from being fully in the moment.

- listening to music/radio/podcast whilst doing a tedious household task.
- getting away from your desk for at least a short break during the working day.
- phoning a friend rather than just texting.
- getting up 5 minutes earlier so your morning is not such a rush.
- having a bath before going to bed.
- setting some boundaries to protect your wellbeing.
- Writing down a series of small tasks that will allow you to achieve a goal.

The effect of an imbalance towards depleting activities can result in lack of motivation, depression, anxiety or stress, so it is vital for everyone to make at least some time for nourishing activities, however small they may be.

Activity and rest are two vital aspects of life. To find a balance in them is a skill in itself.

Wisdom is knowing when to have rest, when to have activity and how much of each to have. Finding them in each other – activity in rest and rest in activity, is the ultimate freedom (Sri Sri Ravi Shankar).

CHRIS MARKLEW JOINERY & CARPENTRY LTD

Est 1995

Local, Family run Joinery company
for all your Joinery
and Home Improvement Needs

Call Chris

07813 754540 01729 822826



REDHEADS COAL

YOUR LOCAL SUPPLIER KEEPING YOUR HOME FIRES BURNING

- MASSIVE RANGE OF SMOKELESS FUELS
- SEASONED AND KILN DRIED HARDWOOD LOGS
- KINDLING WOOD
- BOTTLED CALOR GAS
- BIOMASS WOOD PELLET SUPPLIER

WE WILL NOT BE BEATEN ON PRICE, QUALITY OR SERVICE - SO GIVE US A CALL

015242 41626

www.thomasredhead.co.uk

redheadscoal@outlook.com



MARK WATSON

GENERAL GARDENING AND LANDSCAPING

- Raised beds
- Mowing and strimming
- Hedge cutting
- Turfing
- Power washing
- Fencing

Also interior and exterior painting
and loft insulation

07759 680938 015242 62038



Bespoke Soft Furnishings

to suit you and your room

Home Consultations

Based in Long Preston: 07891 217188

THREE PEAKS DOG GROOMING

A Certified Level 3 Qualified Dog Groomer
Hannah Cook

07772006454

threepeaksdoggrooming@gmail.com



6 Bankwell Road, Giggleswick, Settle, BD24 0AN



Looking to give your home a
fresh new look?

*Transform Your Staircase in
less than 5 days!*

Get Your Free Quote Today!



craven staircase
renovations and joinery



077942 06897



Pip Carr Counselling

Please contact me if you need support
with:

Anxiety, depression, self-esteem,
bereavement, relationships, stress and
many other mental health issues.

07722072939 / piploucarr@gmail.com

www.counselling-directory.org.uk

MARTIN PETTIFORD

BUILDING & ROOFING CONTRACTORS

New Build – Conversions – Extensions

All Renovation Work Fireplaces – Plastering

Tiling – Re-pointing – Re-roofing

Landscaping and ground works.

Greystonber, Pant Lane,

Austwick, LA2 8BH

Tele 01524251677 07989 949 409

e-mail: martinpettifordbuilding@gmail.com

The Novice Gardener

Annie Gammon

Email: annie@settleneews.co.uk



I feel as though much of my October and November gardening has revolved around leaves. I've enjoyed watching them floating or whirling to the ground. When out and about I remember from time to time my childhood efforts to catch leaves falling from trees, in part for the satisfaction of catching



something, in part because of being aware of the ancient tale about catching leaves bringing good luck.

I have also been dealing with the leaves once they have fallen - usually soggy heaps of them. As I have gathered them together by brushing or raking I have also remembered the journey these leaves have been on. I wrote last April about the leaf buds on the trees and bushes. Since then these leaves have been on a journey - buds in spring, full leaf in summer, drying, detaching and departing in autumn. The living leaves have provided energy for the whole plant via photosynthesis. It is the same process in the multiplicity of leaves on tall trees, feeding their massive infrastructure, as it is in the tiny leaves on



bedding plants, or the elegant leaves on bulbs and grasses. The leaves also provide the energy to give us our home, allotment or farm-grown food. This process continues



whenever leaves are present, even in the diminished hours of autumn light. As leaves drop, the plants enter dormancy, ready to cope with the cooler, darker days.

Autumn has brought a number of tasks. The clearing of leaves, cutting back brown damp stems of perennials, lifting out the wilting stems and leaves of old annuals. I have bought some mini narcissi, iris and tulip bulbs from Lay of the Land, to add to those bulbs in the flower beds which have naturalised. I particularly wanted to get some early flowering bulbs to bring colour into the garden in February and March.



Alongside some evergreen plants, I am enjoying a variety of flowers carrying on into mid-autumn. Sedum, fuchsias, cyclamen and asters have all been providing some pink and purple colour. I can also see some berries and seed heads doing well - rose hips, holly and honeysuckle berries. The shapely ivy seedheads seem particularly prolific this year.

It feels to me as though there is a soothing hush to autumn as the garden settles into its winter rest.

Photos, in order: cyclamen, fuchsia, sedum, asters.

Settle College Duke of Edinburgh Award News



This term has been a very busy one so far for the Settle College Duke of Edinburgh candidates - with two qualifying expeditions already completed as well as lots of hard work on the

volunteering, skills and physical sections.

The silver group took on a challenging but rewarding expedition in the Buckden area at the end of September. They started in Arncliffe, walking to Buckden on the first day where they camped at the fantastic Buckden Camping. The following day was an exhilarating trek over the hills to Semerwater, taking in Fleet Moss en route, and then wild camping on a farm by the lake. The final day finished in Aysgarth with a well-deserved ice cream after almost 70 kilometres.

A huge congratulations to all of them - it was a real treat for the staff to hear their presentation the following week where they humorously discussed the highs and lows, as well as recounting the adventures of their 'mascot' Lego minifigure who accompanied them along the way.



The bronze cohort also successfully completed their qualifying expedition during October, in the Kettlewell area. Each of the four groups undertook two



days of tough walking, camping and cooking at Kettlewell Camping on the Saturday evening. On an exceptionally beautiful but very cold weekend, they threw themselves into the challenge and showed resilience and determination as well as fantastic teamwork across the two days. Well done to all those who took part, and we are looking forward to your silver adventures soon!

The camping season is now over for this year and so in preparation for the new season, the Year 10 bronze group will be taking on their first training activity, with a day walk from Settle College in November. In addition, the Year 9 cohort will be registering and getting started on their skills, volunteering and physical activities in preparation for their training after the Christmas break. Year 12 silver are underway with their activities too and are looking forward to making a start on their expedition training after the half term break.

Ruth Craig

A Tuscan Cookery Adventure



In March this year, I won the 2025 Rotary Young Chef of the Year title. Along with the amazing experience, meeting great chefs and people and, obviously, the trophy, the main prize was a trip for two to the Toscana Saporita cooking school, in Italy.

Firstly, I would like to say how thankful I am, both to the Rotary Club, to Filippo Berio, and to the team at the cooking school for providing me with this amazing experience. My mother and I set off from Manchester Airport and arrived at Pisa a few hours later. Immediately after leaving the airport to be driven to the school, we were both struck by the beauty of the city, and the surrounding countryside. There were olive groves stretching as far as the eye could see, breath-taking mountains



and cliffs, and beautiful orange and red buildings.

After a 20-minute drive, we arrived at the stunning 17th century villa, and were immediately introduced to Sandra Lotti, the owner of, and main teacher at, the school. After a few minutes to unpack, we were immediately thrown head-first into the cooking – and we both loved it. Everything from pizza dough, to ravioli and tortellini, to risotto. What ensued was two full days



of amazing food, brilliant people, and visiting amazing places, such as Pisa, San-Gimignano, Volterra, and many more both breath-taking and historically significant places.

As a whole, although we were only officially at the cooking school for two and a half days, we both came out as new people, with a new-found respect for traditional Tuscan food, the history, and the people. Furthermore, I can ensure all reading that I will be striving to cook as much traditional Tuscan food at home and otherwise as possible, much to the delight of my family.

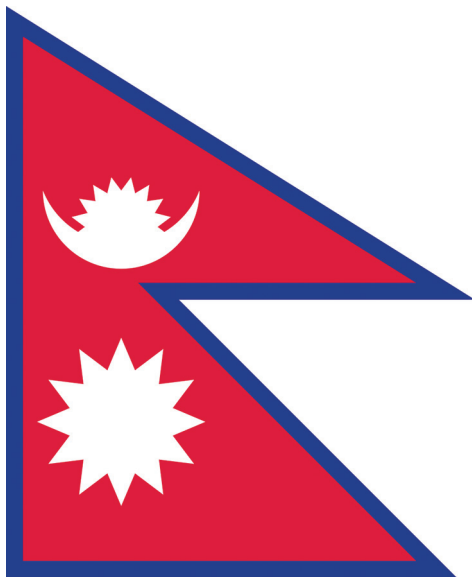
Sam Craig
Year 12 at Settle College

Next stop: Nepal!

At Settle College, we have been fortunate enough to pair with Projects Abroad and have organised an expedition to Nepal that fifteen of our students will be taking part in. This trip, due to take place in July next year, will be two weeks long and involves our students volunteering in Kathmandu schools and experiencing Nepalese culture.

The schools in which we will be volunteering do not have access to the resources and support that we are fortunate enough to benefit from. We hope to do some work to improve these conditions and even teach English to some of the students, which unlocks a whole new skill set for those we will work with - and for us. While in Nepal, we will also go on a three-day trek through the mountains, walking around sixteen miles per day. There will be some time for us to take a step back and spend time in Kathmandu and some of the surrounding area. Exploring this wonderful city will be undoubtedly beneficial for all of us and an extremely eye-opening experience.

Each student that is taking part requires just over £3000 to be able to go and we are trying our best to fundraise the money. So far, we have held a Halloween disco for the lower years in school which raised us around £400, two open evening stalls have been put up to advertise that we are going, and to help raise money, including games and selling Nepalese tea. We also organised a sponsored walk, dressed up as characters from Despicable Me, and this helped us to raise £500. We have contacted big businesses and asked for donations and an upcoming event that we are doing is our raffle that includes prizes such as:



a “Tropic” hamper and a voucher from the Traddock, containing a champagne afternoon tea worth around £75.

Overall, the purpose of this trip is simply to get as much out of it as possible. From trying new foods to building primary school playgrounds, to trekking through the Himalayas, our Nepal expedition will be educational for all involved. We are excited to be involved in such a compelling experience and are motivated to continue to fundraise for each aspiring student. Please lookout for opportunities to engage with us in our fund-raising in the coming weeks and months; working with our local community is very much appreciated. You can follow our journey via the Instagram page @settlecollegesixthform and support our efforts through our Just Giving page at: <https://tinyurl.com/3rc6d24t> or scan the QR code.

Lily C.
Year 12 at Settle College



Other viaducts are available ...

More walking adventures by public transport from Settle (and a visit to our local ski resort!)

Tourists visiting this part of the world get very excited about the prospect of seeing, or riding over, the famous Ribbleshead railway viaduct. However, we are quite well provided with railway viaducts in our neighbourhood, and a couple of recent car-free hikes have taken me past two other notable structures, and into some hitherto unexplored locations.

First though, a couple of questions for readers: could you put your finger on the map and point out Cotterdale, or tell me which local railway viaduct, crossed by trains from Settle, has almost twice as many arches as Ribbleshead?



Cotterdale, with Wild Boar Fell just peeping over the skyline

Let's start with Cotterdale. This involved another ride on The Little White Bus from Garsdale station, as far as Hardraw at the top of Wensleydale. Too early for a beer at the Green Dragon, so up along the Pennine Way out of the village, but instead of trekking up to the rather bleak summit of Great Shunner Fell (the Dales' third highest), I contoured left along a path on the east side of Cotterdale, which is a sort of feeder into the main valley that leads down past Hawes. I then had to descend through the trees into the pretty little community that takes its name from the dale. There are

two streams in the valley, the East Gill and West Gill which meet just below the hamlet. I was looking out for birdlife but had given up hope of seeing anything interesting when I realised a dipper was hurrying past me down the East Gill. My plan was to walk over the shoulder of Little Fell and head for a train back from Garsdale station. There is a public footpath, but it is poorly signed, overgrown and involves an airy leap across the West Gill. A better plan for anyone following my footsteps would be to take advantage of the fact that this is designated access land and use the adjacent landrover track up onto the moor. Here you can enjoy the splendid views down Mallerstang to the north, and across Garsdale to the south. I now had my eye (and stomach) on the Moorcock Inn by the very head of the Ure (Wensleydale's river). The Moorcock was originally a drovers' inn, popular (too popular perhaps) with the navvies building the Settle and Carlisle railway, and, sadly, used as a mortuary after the Hawes Junction train crash in 1910. Now, though, it just operates as a tea-room and the cake did not disappoint!



A northbound train passes the railwaymen's chapel at Dandry Mire

The walk from the inn round to the station passes below Dandry Mire viaduct, constructed when the original plan for an embankment failed because all the material for the earthworks just sank into the Mire. So they had to put in proper foundations

and build the structure we see today. The road also passes the little chapel funded by local churchgoers and built by the railway contractor to replace a temporary wooden structure that had served as a place of worship and a schoolroom for the railway builders and their families camped out here during the construction time. I just had time to pay my respects to the statue of Settle and Carlisle mascot, Ruswarp the dog, on the station platform, before a punctual train appeared to carry me home.

Now for that viaduct with all the arches. People overlook or forget the fact that the Dales Explorer train that brings the ‘Ramblers from Manchester Way’ that Ewan MacColl used to sing about, gives us an opportunity ride directly south via Clitheroe every Saturday. So I hatched a plan to travel though to Whalley, admire its extensive viaduct and inspect the remains of Whalley Abbey, before looping round over the western slopes of Pendle and back down to Clitheroe for the train home. I did have the number eleven bus as a fallback, but the train is more direct and less bumpy! Whalley viaduct is impressive not just for its length, but also for the fact that where it spans the approach road to the old Abbey

with its medieval gatehouse, three of the arches are infilled in an ecclesiastical style to match the architecture of the Abbey remains. Flowing past the Abbey site and under the viaduct, is the Lancashire River Calder, which flows off the Pennine Moors and into the Ribble, and is not to be confused with the Yorkshire Calder flowing east into the Humber. Curiously, the two start quite close together up on the hills above Todmorden.

Whalley has a tidy and busy little town centre, but on this occasion, I did not linger: I had a train to catch! A little road-walking up the Accrington highway was required before I was able to turn left beyond the golf club and follow a track, then a bridleway up beside Wiswell Moor. This is access land, but I couldn’t see a way across the intervening wall so had to do a little clambering, taking care to leave the wall as sound as I found it – it does fence in an area of sheep grazing. Then, a bit of a yomp across boggy ground to a trig point with fine views north across Bowland. Next, east on a clear path towards Pendle Nick, where a road crosses over before the ridge slopes up to become Pendle Hill proper. The Nick is also our local ski centre with tow lifts, and a dry slope for use pending the arrival of actual snow. Having recently climbed ‘Old Pendle’ on another outing, I was content to follow a footpath down towards the picturesque village of Pendleton and a quick half pint in the (deservedly) award-winning Swan with Two Necks pub. Tripadvisor says ‘People typically spend up to 2 hours here’, and one day I will, but the train was calling. The only remaining concern as I walked down through Clitheroe town to re-board the Dales Explorer, was that the air was thick with the fumes of 2-stroke mix. It was Day Two of the annual Scooterfest, with live music across the town and endless and eclectic processions of scooters heading in all directions. An interesting end to another very pleasant outing.



The viaduct arches leading to the Abbey gatehouse

Phil Hinde

Power to the People

'It's local power for local people' say founders of newly launched Settle energy club

Settle residents have launched a new energy club in the town with the aim of keeping power in local hands and challenging the grip of the big energy companies.

Settle Energy Local Club (SELC) allows electricity generated in the town to be used by local households and businesses, rather than being sold off cheaply to the grid and bought back at inflated prices.

"It's a community project," said former Craven College principal Robert Bellfield, who is the club's founding chair. "Its real purpose is that people can start to think about using or consuming energy at the same time as local energy is being produced. It may help them to reduce their energy bills, but it also assists them to use local energy."

The club already has its first business signed up as a producer: well-known local furniture maker Dalesbred, which has fitted solar panels on its workshop roof. When the panels generate more than the business needs, that electricity can flow straight to the properties of other club members.

"Dalesbred get a better price for their electricity than they would if they were selling it to an energy company," said Bellfield. "Even then club members

still get it cheaper than they would from their regular supplier – it's a win-win."

For Simon Robinson, who co-founded Dalesbred with his wife Sally three decades ago, being part of the club was about pride as well as practicality. He said: "The club approached me because they'd heard about us having solar panels on our roof, and I thought it was ideal that extra energy should go to the local community, where if anybody was going to benefit from a better deal it was a local."

Robinson believes the benefits extend beyond his own workshop. "I do mention it to most of our customers that we're almost neutral on the electricity," he said. "We also have a charge point outside for electric vehicles, which our customers can use if they've driven a long way to get here. They can't believe it when I'm not going to charge them for it. It's all part of our ethos."

For Robinson, the scheme makes good business sense. "It reduces costs, it starts to pay for the panels, and it's proving a major saving," he said. "But I'm basically in it for sustainability rather than money."

Setting up the club has required persistence. "The number of bodies involved in the generation and management of electricity is quite mind boggling," Bellfield said. "It has taken a lot of commitment from people and a lot of tenacity threading our way



Robert Bellfield (left) and Simon Robinson

through the barriers.”

Director Keith Waterson described the determination that drove the idea forward: “It came out of the Settle Action Climate Emergency group,” he said. “We looked at all aspects of energy and explored the possibility of setting up this local energy club with a view to making energy that we can generate locally available to local people.”

The club is now live, with its first producer and consumer members. More local generators are expected soon, including community sites and other businesses.

“One of the critical things is balancing the producers and the consumers,” said Bellfield. “You can’t have one producer and lots and lots of consumers, because otherwise they get minuscule amounts of electricity each. There must be a balance.”

Waterson added: “We have got a number of other generators who are in the pipeline and if we can get those on board we will be able to

expand the business into a wider set of consumers.”

Bellfield sees the club as part of a long tradition of local initiative. “I think it’s important that local areas are active and push things forward,” he said. “SELC will be one aspect of that. Equally, I’m proud to say that we managed to run our own swimming pool by raising money. I think those things are key features of a successful local town, that people do care and are prepared to push forward significant projects like that.”

Robinson wants other businesses to join him. “I’d like to see more businesses buying into the idea that we’re all responsible for the environment and what our grandchildren are going to inherit,” he said.

The Great British Community Energy Fund follows on from the Community Energy Fund which was established to help kickstart local energy projects including wind farms and rooftop solar on community buildings, as well as battery storage, heat networks, electric vehicle charging points, and fuel poverty alleviation schemes.

A pot of £5m is available to town and parish councils, community organisations, sports teams, charities and faith groups across England – helping to generate clean, homegrown energy which local people can benefit from.

More information can be found at: <https://www.neynetzerohub.com/great-british-energy-community-fund/>

Richard Thornton

The Elusive Millionaire

In the last issue I related the story of Laurence Binyon, who spent practically the whole of his first eight years in Burton in Lonsdale, near Ingleton.

This time let me relate the tale of Richard Thornton. Born in Burton in Lonsdale on 13th September 1776, the younger son of the village cobbler in a humble cottage on the site of which now stands the parish church of All Saints. Little is known of his early years though he was educated at Christ's Hospital London 1785 – 91, where his entrepreneurial skills became apparent.

During 1798 he was in business as a hop merchant in London and, during that same year at the tender age of twenty two, he was admitted to Lloyds. Richard and his elder brother Laurence set up as merchants at the time of difficult trading conditions due to the Napoleonic blockade forcing many companies to the wall. Richard thrived on just such a challenge.

During 1810 English shipping was excluded from the Baltic by a blockade, an entire division of the French Army being stationed at Danzig. The Royal Navy was desperate for hemp for rigging its ships. Thornton was commissioned by the Admiralty to get his hands on as much hemp as possible.

Richard armed a merchant ship,

sailed in her himself and after a furious battle with a Danish gunboat landed in Memel (now in Lithuania) under an assumed name, buying up hemp and returning to these shores a hero. (The King of Denmark had decreed that commerce of any kind with the English would be a capital offence).

Two years later his elder brother was in Memel when he heard of Napoleon's retreat from Moscow. This juicy titbit was relayed secretly to Richard before even the Government was aware of it. Realising the implications he went hot foot round the city striking bargains for the forward delivery of any goods coming out of the Baltic States. It is reckoned that he made £100,000 by this stroke, earning overnight the sobriquet, 'Richard, Duke of Danzig'.

Tallow for candles was another commodity in short supply, so Richard set sail again for the Baltic buying up vast tonnages at low rates before back in England he stored it in warehouses waiting for the price to rise while quite literally keeping folk in the dark.

He ventured into the colonial market, by 1813 being a person of great wealth, moving in the circles of the Rothschild's and Barings.

His elder son Laurence died during 1837 so two nephews joined the firm which then became known as

Thornton and West based at the Old Swan Wharf on the city side of the Thames. From here Richard turned his hand to shipping eventually owning over fifty vessels. This led to his next venture, almost a sideline as he became the largest underwriter of shipping in the world. His vessels regularly carried bullion sometimes as much as £100,000 worth on a single ship.

Surplus funds were used to bolster the finances of foreign powers. It was said of him that in many cases he was better able to wait than they were to pay! A frequent visitor to our Treasury when a loan was required he would haggle with other magnates from Lombard Street, the Stock Exchange and West End Banks. Once when Lord Melbourne was Prime Minister, the Government was of the view that they were not being dealt with liberally enough. Richard Thornton took up the cudgel in no uncertain manner remarking that if the Treasury wanted money then they must pay for it!

One would imagine that a man of such great power would seek to prolong his dynasty through marriage. Not so. He had a son Richard Napoleon by his housekeeper Lee plus three daughters by the same lady with whom it was said he lived a life of 'blameless irregularity'.

He had lived in Clapham (London rather than the Dales) until during 1855 when he moved to a mansion in Merton, Surrey. It was here at the age of eighty eight as the sun was setting on 20th June 1865 he commanded of his family grouped around, 'Stand

aside. let me see the sun go down, for I shall never see it rise again'. This as he lay dying of bronchitis. He was buried at his own request without pomp in Norwood cemetery.

Richard Thornton left a huge estate of over £2.8 million. He was at the time of his death the richest person in the country by some way, equating to 0.35 per cent of the net national income. The 2025 equivalent is £6.92 billion! In his will he left £10,000 in trust to maintain the village school at his birthplace Burton in Lonsdale for the poor children there, a mirror image of that which he had built in Merton Surrey. (The writer's 'poor children' were pupils there, and his wife Pauline was for many years the school secretary).

He left £20,000 each to his two faithful clerks John Brown and John Sugden. A more unusual bequest was to his son by his housekeeper on condition that he changed his name from Lee to Thornton. For £400,000 you may be sure he did, though Napoleon he remained!

After many other beneficiaries the huge surplus went to Thomas Thornton, the son of his elder brother. It was in excess of £1,000,000. From this he provided funds to build the parish church and vicarage of All Saints, Burton in Lonsdale, which is where Laurence Binyon comes into the story. Sadly, the village school closed some time ago.

Not bad for the son of a village cobbler!

Bob Swallow



EURO REPAR
CAR SERVICE

F.H. Ellis

EST 1914

CAR SALES & SERVICING



OIL CHANGE



SERVICE



TYRES



AIR
CONDITIONING



EXHAUST



BRAKES



TIMING BELT



MOT



MECHANICAL
REPAIRS



Tel: 01729 822529 www.fhellis.co.uk

The West Yorkshire Garage, Settle, BD24 9AL

The Foot Clinic

The Foot Clinic has been providing a full range of foot/leg care treatments,

Chiropody, Podiatry and Biomechanics in the Settle area since 1998.

Fully trained and registered, we offer the highest quality professional care.

- Corn and Callus (hard skin) removal
- Nail cutting
- In-growing toe nail treatment
- Full biomechanical treatment for leg and foot injuries
- Specialists in Sports/ running/walking injuries
- Concessions for senior citizens
- Chiropody on Fridays

Linden House, Station Road, Giggleswick

Get the treatment you need when you want it!

**01729
825900**



Come and experience

Reiki Energy Healing

A non-intrusive hands-on healing technique

Where at:

The Place

11 Commercial Courtyard
Settle

Call 07960 484823

for more information & appointments

Bubble Babes

LAUNDERETTE

Drop & Go Laundry Service

We wash, dry, fold -
you relax

Ironing

Crisp, clean &
ready to wear

Speciality Care

Duvets, delicates & more
treated with TLC

FIND US IN COMMERCIAL COURTYARD, SETTLE

www.bubblebabes.co.uk
hello@bubblebabes.co.uk

01729 821304

Heydays
Care & Support
Services

Choose the right home care for you & your loved ones.

A local, family-run home care agency, we offer a range of care packages tailored to our clients, including **live-in**, **dementia** and **palliative care** services.

www.heydayscare.co.uk | 01539 555 685

Kingsley Windows

windows | doors | conservatories

A service you can trust!



Call us on 07734 083074 or 01200 441066 for general repairs or competitive rates on new

- Conservatories
- Composite Doors
- Replacement Glass
- Patio Doors
- UPVC Windows
- UPVC Porches

SETTLE DIY 
at ASHFIELD

Paint - Colour Mixing
Key Cutting - Wallpaper
Timber - Hardware
Woodcare Products
Plumbing - Garden Tools
Power Tools
Bulbs - Electrical
Call in and See

Open Mon to Fri 8.30am - 5.30pm
Saturday 9.00 - 5.30pm
Tel: 01729 823002
Ashfield Car Park, Settle. BD24 9AA

BEST TYRES
AUTOCENTRES



The Best In

- Tyres
- Exhausts
- Batteries
- M.o.T.
- Brakes
- Servicing
- Alloy Wheels
- Air Conditioning

Unit 1B Hellfield Garage
The Sidings Main Street
Settle BD24 9RP Hellfield BD23 4HX
01729 825237 01729 851111



SHRINES OF GAIETY

The last Kate Atkinson novel I reviewed for the *Community News* (back in 2021) was *Transcription*, a spy thriller set in WW2 London. At the time I thought *Transcription* the best of her novels, and I still do, though for my money *Shrines of Gaiety*, her latest, runs it a close second. *Shrines of Gaiety* is a detective thriller and more besides, set partly in Atkinson's native city of York but mainly in London, and all within the year 1926. The First World War still casts its shadow and the General Strike is looming, but *Shrines of Gaiety* spends little time looking forwards or back: it is in fact an intense, in-the-moment recapturing of the period. Atkinson is sure-footed on everything 1920s: cars (Bentleys, a Hispano-Suiza and an Austin Seven), food, drink (especially cocktails), clothes, and living arrangements that range from the squalid to the Savoy. Her impressive research shows through.

The shrines of gaiety which give the book its title are six Soho nightclubs owned and ruled by the formidable Nellie Coker, who intends, in time, to bestow one club on each of her four daughters and two sons. As the book opens, Nellie is being released from Holloway Prison after serving a six-month sentence for breaking the licensing laws. She thought she had in her pay a reliably corrupt cop, Maddox, who would forestall raids on Nellie's clubs, but on this occasion he

failed because (as is later revealed) he has intentions of his own to unseat Nellie. She is also in the sights of another policeman, the upright and sensitive Detective Inspector John Frobisher of Bow Street station, who is determined both to run Nellie out of business and to clean up the corruption which is rife at his station.

So far, so straightforward you might think, but Kate Atkinson doesn't do straightforward: her characters are caught up in an expanding web of relationships that drive the plot forward. Unbeknown to Nellie, Maddox impregnates Nellie's eldest daughter-cum-accountant, Edith, and 1920s abortions do not end well. To shadow Nellie, Inspector Frobisher recruits as a civilian assistant the young, self-confident and attractive Gwendolen Kelling; she has sought his help on behalf of friends in York to track down two teenage girls who have disappeared to forge careers on the London stage. Frobisher, married to a mentally unstable French wife, begins to find Gwendolen attractive, both personally and professionally. Some sexual *frisson* goes on here – will they, won't they? In a further twist, Nellie comes across Gwendolen when she assists in containing a minor riot at one of her clubs; subsequently, and in ignorance of her connection with Frobisher, Nellie recruits Gwendolen to run one. The idea that any of Nellie's children would run her

clubs is clearly not on: her two youngest daughters, flappers in all but name, play little part in the narrative: they have brains and degrees from Cambridge (“doesn’t stop them being stupid, though”, says one of the other siblings) and no interest in Nellie’s nightclubs. Of the two sons, one is a failing would-be author who steals a manuscript and with complete success passes it off as his own; the other is gay and has acquired a cocaine habit. Nellie needs to be constantly wary of her family and, even more so, on her guard against those who aim to close her down (Frobisher) or supplant her (other criminals). None of the would-be wreckers succeeds, but how they fail is enthralling, and you must read it for yourselves.

Connecting the characters is where Atkinson’s skill is at its most breathtaking. To develop the plot she needs coincidences, and these she brings into play with so skilful a sleight-of-hand that *Shrines of Gaiety* never stretches your credulity. She is particularly good at getting unlikely personalities to meet and confront each other. Hilary Mantel wrote of one of Atkinson’s earlier novels that she must have “a game plan more sophisticated than Dickens”. I couldn’t agree more, and in my view Atkinson gets better and better at it with age (she is now 74). References to earlier classics remind me to mention also that *Shrines of*

Gaiety is peppered with literary allusions where you least expect them: look out for (among others) Euripides, Milton, T S Eliot and Edward Thomas.

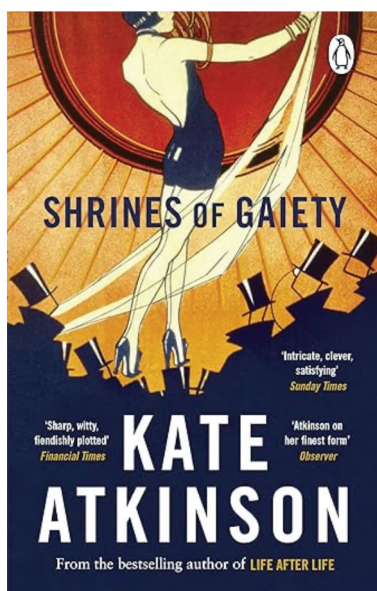
Some critics have criticised the novel’s ending; the *Guardian*, for example, describes it as “slapdash”. I don’t buy this. The plot and the number of characters in *Shrines of Gaiety* militate against any big bang form of conclusion.

What we get instead is a few short chapters that round off the lives of the main characters one by one. Together these strike me as entirely realistic and therefore satisfying. In effect they turn *Shrines of Gaiety* into a documentary, and that sits well with Kate Atkinson’s authentically portrayed period. In fairness to the *Guardian*, however, I applaud its critic’s neat summary of *Shrines of Gaiety* as a book to savour “for the energy, for the wit, for the tenderness

of characterisation” that Kate Atkinson brings to bear.

Finally, I am happy to report that *Shrines of Gaiety* is available (in multiple copies too!) through North Yorkshire libraries. And the small library reservation fee prompts me to quote from a 1921 song that adorns the book’s flyleaf: *Not much money, oh, but honey! Ain’t we got fun?* We have indeed.

Bob Young



Chacun à son goût! (each to their own taste)

She heard a knock. Seven o'clock. On the dot. She opened up and there he was.

'Wendy Roberts, I presume?'

'And you must be Simon Halstead?'

'The very same. Are you ready?' No small talk here then.

'Just got to grab my handbag. Do you want to pop in a minute?'

'No. Best be off. The table's booked for 7.20. I'll wait outside.'

Ex-military, she remembered. Precision. She was soon out of the door and being marched to the gate. His efforts to hold it open for her were hampered by the overgrown hedges either side, but he managed it without too much damage to his dignity or the hedge. It wouldn't have surprised her if he'd whipped out a Swiss army knife and given the privet a quick trim.

He moved to the road-side of the pavement, no doubt intent on protecting her from splashing mud, careering vehicles and scooterised footpads. Even in Little Driblington.

'Here she is', he proudly pronounced, as they approached a resplendent Rover.

'My...that's a fine specimen!' exclaimed Wendy in tones of expected admiration.

'I'm glad you like it. I thought it fitted the occasion. So, here we go'.

He opened the passenger door, helped her in, rounded the bonnet with a tender stroke en route, and settled behind the wheel.

'It's lovely and comfy' Wendy felt obliged to remark. And it was. She'd not been in a car like this since her daughter's wedding.

'It's not far' said Simon, as they purred out of the village.

'Where are we going? You didn't say, when you phoned. Just to dress up for an evening out. Have I got the right gear on?'

'Perfect!' But still no word of their destination.

It must be a restaurant. He'd booked a table. For 7.20. Can't be far. Simon let her enjoy the ride in peace. She was looking out of the side window, when they suddenly turned into the car-park of a chocolate-box country inn, 'The Staging Post'. She'd seen it before but never been in. When Bill was alive, they'd once looked at the menu outside, chuckled and left.

From what Simon had told her of his situation online, not to mention the Rover, Wendy knew she was in for an expensive treat. They parked up and made their way towards the building. Wendy was heading for a rear entrance by the bins, but Simon guided her towards the front of the inn where a gushing suit welcomed them at the open door.

'A very good evening, Mr Halstead! And to your charming lady-friend! I trust you are both well and ready to enjoy our splendid cuisine. The chef knows you will be dining with us this evening. He loves to cook for true connoisseurs.'

Wendy smiled, thinking this was all a bit OTT. She experienced a quick flashback to Fawltly Towers and Basil, whose fawning reincarnation now led them to a flower-bedecked table bearing Simon's name, at some distance from the other diners.

The suit - owner? Manager? -- assisted by a penguin look-alike, got them safely into their seats, supplied them with posh nibbles, a jug of water with ice and cucumber, stylish menus and wine-list. Quality napkins were ceremoniously spread on their laps. Half of the table decoration was removed to improve visibility.

She sensed Simon watching her study the menu. The dishes were listed in different sections, and, in one of them the descriptions were more recognisable. 'Line-caught cod on a golden bed of thrice-cooked French fries'. No mention of mushies.

'What are you having, Simon?'

'I'm torn between the Basque Piperade and the Duck Confit Parmentier. I think I'll go with the Piperade.'

'I'll go with the duck.' Even if it's foreign.

The waiter appeared to take their order. 'Duck, please' would be simple enough.

'Would madam like that with morel mushroom sauce or roasted apple?'

'Oh...er... apple, please.' Why roast an apple?

The waiter presumably knew Simon's preferences. Simon then chose a 2022 Irouleguy and hoped Wendy approved.

They chatted about this and that until the waiter delivered their food with a flourish.

'Enjoy your meals!'

'Ah....transitive verb with direct object! Splendid!'

Wendy smiled knowingly. She noted too that their meals were delivered faster than at other tables. Maybe duck and basques were easier to prepare.

The food was delicious and the conversation lapsed. Still vigorously tucking in, she heard Simon's sigh of satisfaction as he placed his cutlery on his plate with an air of finality. But he hadn't

finished his basque. He'd obviously been enjoying it. So why had he left some? Wendy wondered if it wasn't the done thing to scoff every last scrap. Did it appear greedy? Did it suggest the dish hadn't been big enough and she could manage some more? She gave Simon a smile of contentment and left a little half-eaten roasted apple.

'That was lovely.'

'Good. Now, would you like a little something for dessert?'

'Oh no, I'm really full. But what about you?'

'No, no, I couldn't possibly. Coffee?'

Wendy was pondering whether there was a coffee etiquette, when Simon called out 'Philippe, two medium arabicas, please.'

It tasted different from Nescafé but she succeeded in suppressing a grimace.

'Right, my dear, your carriage awaits you.'

Philippe rushed over to help her out of her chair. Simon managed it unaided and made for the exit.

'But we've not paid.'

'Oh, I have an account', said Simon, bade farewell to the bowing suit and led her out to the car.

They were soon back at Wendy's cottage, where previous formalities were performed in reverse.

'It's been a lovely evening, Simon. Will we go somewhere different next time?'

'Yes. I thought we might try The George and Dragon. How about a Kate and Sidney for a change? It's a real bind trying to keep up with the Cholmondeley-Featherstonehaughs of this world. Besides, it's time the Skoda had a run-out.....Well, maybe the BMW.'

Ian Gray



North Ribblesdale RUFC doing well in higher league

North Ribblesdale, after two successive promotions, are now in the heady heights of Regional 2 North West and playing against former giants of the game in Waterloo, Birkenhead Park, and Vale of Lune.

The first game of the season was an epic trip to Douglas on the Isle of Man, against a team with a playing budget of some £65,000. What an encounter it was with the North Craveners looking like winners until the very last second when the referee awarded the hosts a penalty try to vanquish Ribb by two points. It was a three-day trip but the club was supported by close to 100 locals who made the pilgrimage and had a weekend to remember.

Ribb then won their next three games to sit second in the league including beating the triumvirate of previously aforementioned 'giants' on successive weekends, a truly remarkable achievement given we are a small community club.

We then lost narrowly by two points at home to Widnes, followed by a resounding win at former senior club West Park St Helens, then only to lose in the last minute away to Warrington Park (former club of British Lion Dewy Morris).

At time of writing we now sit third in

the league having lost three games all in the last minute. We are making plenty of new friends as we travel the North West playing many clubs for the first time in our 102-year history.

One thing that is apparent is that as we go higher, the opposition are much larger and filled with Antipodeans (seven last week and eight against Northwich). That is not a criticism of other clubs' policies but something with which we cannot compete. We rely on local lads doing their best for the 'town team' and long may it continue. We play an exciting brand of rugby that is easy on the eye for both the purists and anyone wanting to support their local team.

The second team, the 'Stags', have had a great start to the season only losing one game thus far and the Ladies Team have had an encouraging start after suffering a shortage of numbers pre-season to now having over 30 registered players and have won one, drawn one, and lost one in their first three games. Anyone wanting to give playing a go, of whatever ability, should contact any of the coaches on the club website. I can assure you of a warm welcome and a lot of fun as well as making new friendships that may well last for years.

To close it is with regret that I have to report the passing of a 'North Ribb Legend' Dave Carr who passed away on the 7th November. Dave was a stalwart club supporter and a part of the Yorkshire Shield winning team in 1980. His acerbic humour and commitment to the club will be sadly missed.

The club's sincere condolences and thoughts go out to all his family at this sad time.

Gavin Davidson

MG HOLIDAYS

INDEPENDENT TRAVEL AGENT

One world, experience it, embrace it!

Having travelled extensively and worked in the travel industry for over 10 years why go anywhere else to book your next holiday! Based in Hellifield village we can offer many different types of holidays to suit all interests.



The types of holidays we offer are:

Beach Holidays

City Breaks

Cruise Holidays

Cruise

And many more!!

Group Holidays

UK Holidays

Long Haul



Do not hesitate to contact Simone today on:

☎ 07375938018

✉ info@mgholidaysltd.co.uk

🌐 www.mgholidaysltd.co.uk



Park Crescent, Hellifield, Skipton

H & M

CRAFTSMEN

Ingleton | Est. 1987

KITCHENS · BEDROOMS · STUDIES

High Quality, Bespoke Furniture With
Full Design And Fitting Service



Showroom: Ingleton Industrial Estate, LA6 3NU
015242 41535 · kitchensandbedrooms.co.uk



**Settle District u3a
Monthly Meetings**

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Come join
us for some
festive fun

(Members only!)



**Thursday 11th December
Victoria Hall, Settle**

Doors open at 10am for 10.30am start
Entrance Free Refreshments Free

Mark Wildsmith MSTAT Alexander Technique

Learn to move more easily with the Alexander Technique and improve your health and well-being.

This valuable skill can help manage back pain, improve co-ordination, breathing, posture and other problems associated with unnecessary muscular tension



Lessons available in Stainforth on a one-to-one basis.

For a half-price introductory lesson or more information please contact Mark

Tel: 01729 825841

email: at@markwildsmith.com

www.markwildsmith.com

LETTERS

While reading through the Oct/Nov 2025 *Community News* I noted a factual error in the piece on the Horton Quarry rail link (p5). Becky Murphy is quoted as saying the first rail freight ran on the line in August 1875. In reality the Craven Lime Company was sending off lime from their limeworks and quarry between Langcliffe and Stainforth from 1873, to the iron industry in the Bradford area, with the permission of the railway company. This was reported in *Wildman's Household Almanac* for that year. Perhaps she, and/or your readers, would like to know this.

Dr DS Johnson

The article about the banking hub on page 22 of the Oct/Nov 2025 *Community News* written by councillor Barry White was welcome. It was disturbing to hear from my bank Lloyds recently that cheque banking facilities at the post office and banking hubs were to be withdrawn at Christmas 2025. This seems to be a direct attack on the notion of banking hubs, and an attack on competition in the form of the post office. I trust that it will be opposed at the highest level, ideally on a cross-party basis. On a recent visit to Leeds, we bumped into a friend from Settle, who commented that the Halifax bank in Leeds had queues trying to access it.

Good luck in your campaign.

Martin Pearson

**Please send your feedback to:
contact@settlenews.co.uk**

QUIZ TIME

On the Map in Yorkshire

These words may appear in local place names or on maps of Yorkshire— but what do they mean?

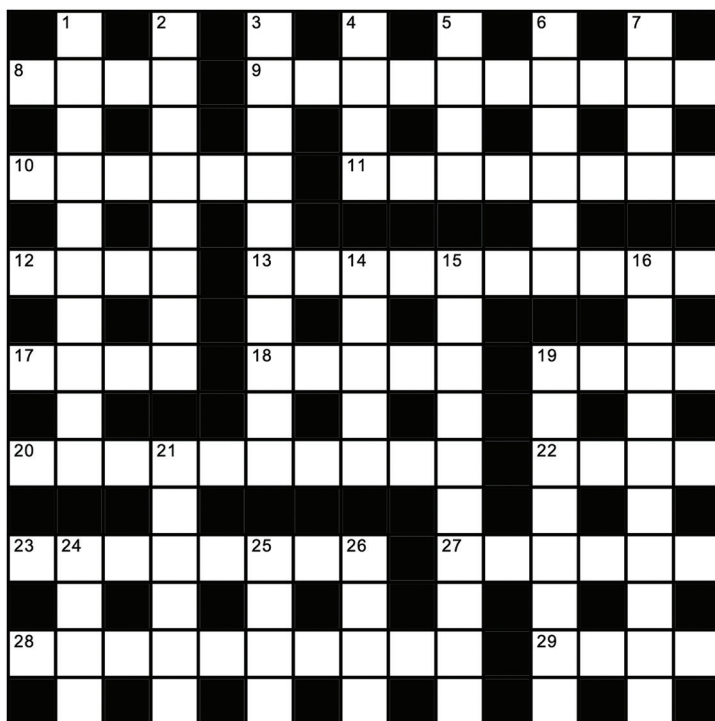
1. Thwaite
2. Laithe
3. Clough
4. Syke (or sike)
5. Seat (or side)
6. Gill (or ghyll)
7. Carr
8. Knott
9. Shaw
10. Foss

Check your answers on page 63

GOING GLOBAL

Unfortunately we haven't received any photos for this issue, but if you're planning a Christmas/New Year break, don't forget to pack a copy of *Community News* and send us a snap with the mag in front of a local landmark.

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



Across

8. Fish; Dad's Army character. (4)
9. Study of insects (10)
10. Game bird; complaint (6)
11. Very rapid (8)
12. Person with exaggerated sense of own worth (4)
13. Summoning; prayer (10)
17. Fit as a ---- (4)
18. Banishment (5)
19. Stink (4)
20. Requirement to change state without change of temperature (6,4)
22. Christmas ---- (4)
23. Wanderer (8)
27. Liberal leader, 1967-76 (6)
28. Denoting shapes sharing same centre (10)
29. As well (4)

Down

1. Fragrant oil, used in perfume/ insect repellent. (10)
2. Area of earth/moon during partial eclipse. (8)
3. Charitable (10)
4. Smallest part of chemical element. (4)
5. Leave out (4)
6. Nearly (6)
7. Fruit--not pretty? (4)
14. Soprano, alto, tenor or bass. (5)
15. In a ----- (a situation with inevitable adverse consequences) (5,5)
16. Allow too much light (photo') (10)
19. Logical (8)
21. Result (6)
24. ----'n' Andy (US 1950s radio sitcom) (4)
25. Torn; hire (4)
26. ---- McIlroy (golfer) (4)



**MATTHEW MARTIN
PLUMBING**

NEED PROFESSIONAL
**PLUMBING
SERVICES?**



-  Bathroom Renovations
-  Emergency Call Outs
-  Reliable and Punctual
-  No Job Too Small

City & Guilds

matthewmartinplumbing.co.uk

GET IN TOUCH - 07413 018 706




**CUSTOM CARPENTRY
& WOODCRAFT**

WORKSHOP IN
KIRKGATE
DEPOT,
SETTLE

- TRADITIONAL
OAK
FRAMING
- BESPOKE
FITTED
FURNITURE
- RECLAIMED
TIMBER
SPECIALIST
- 1ST & 2ND
FIX
CARPENTRY

 @twistedroot.uk  hello@twistedroot.uk

 www.twistedroot.uk  07450892442

I. D. Preston Electrical

(Est. 1988)

3 The Green, Settle BD24 9HL

All types of electrical work undertaken

Tel: 07971 856255

e: idpreston@aol.com




Hawes, DL8 3RN

Visitor Centre
open 7 days a week

*Cheesy Afternoon
Tea for Two*

Inspired by our cheese,
sweet & savoury dishes
for just £17 per person
in Calvert's Restaurant




Yorkshire Wensleydale Cheese Experience
Daily cheesemaking demos | 'A Taste of Yorkshire
Tasting Room | NEW 'Find Feathers McGraw'
Trail Quiz | Book online now

KIDS GO FREE AT WEEKENDS & SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

wensleydale.co.uk

philward43@hotmail.co.uk

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE

Treatment of soft tissue
muscular and joint conditions

**Sports Therapy
Lifestyle Injuries**

By appointment only with

PHIL WARD & ANN TOWLER

07857805494

07880940042

PHIL WARD
LCSP (Phys)
CNHC NHS Reg

ANN TOWLER
Msc,Bsc (Hons)
Dip SMRT. MSMA

01729 824169

Bracken Rigg Brackenber Lane Giggleswick
Settle North Yorkshire BD24 0EB



D.C HALSTEAD

Tarmacadam and Paving Contractors Ltd.

Find us on Facebook **Checkatrade .com**

All Work Guaranteed

Tel: 01282 843105 Mob: 07813 842363

Email: dhalstead@btinternet.com

Quality Work for all your surfacing needs
20 years experience in the Settle area

References available

DARRELL HALSTEAD

Beware of cold-callers and scammers



AV Rendering & Externals

avrenderingandexternals.co.uk

We specialise in

- Silicone texture
- Through coloured render systems
- Pebble Dashing

Email :

avrendering@outlook.com

Mobile : 07568 454917

HAB Hearing

Hearing Aids | Accessories | Ear Wax Removal

Helping you hear better for 20 years!



Diane

Helen

Christine

Paul

Competitive Prices – great value for money

Wide Choice – Best hearing aid technology

Aftercare – 100,000+ positive online reviews

Ear Wax Removal – Open weekdays in Silsden
and twice a month on Saturdays in Settle for
microsuction, irrigation and dry removal

At 22 Belton Road, Silsden BD20 0EE

and The Place in Settle, BD24 9RH

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

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, December 2nd and 16th, **Thursday** January 8th, and Tuesdays January 20th and February 17th at The Talbot, 8.30pm to 10.15pm. Sitters in welcome. Please note the Thursday session in January. 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. John's 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. settlechessclub.co.uk.

Settle Spinners and Knitters: Meet in the back room of St John's Hall 2-4pm every Tuesday All fibre crafts welcome. For more information contact settlespinners@gmail.com

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.

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

Sport and physical activities

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 welcom, all ability levels. Open sessions on Mon, Wed and Thurs, Sats friendly matches/competitons. 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@wolftracks.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: wigiggleswick@gmail.com. Follow us on our Facebook page.

Hellifield WI: We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7.15pm in Hellifield 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 John's 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 Community and Business Hub in Commercial Courtyard. Phone Jo for more info 07977 040329

Community Fridge: Bring what you can, take what you need. Come and help yourself to surplus fruit, veg, bread and dried or tinned food, or drop off any spare food you may wish to donate. Open Mondays and Thursdays 2.30-4.15pm and Wednesdays 10am-12 noon outside the small office in Commercial Courtyard.

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.

Business Networking and events: Informal business and charity networking is held on the last Wednesday each month from 8.30am in a pub or cafe in central Settle. These events are free, just buy what you want to eat or drink.

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

Langcliffe Village Institute : Friday 12th December - The Big Langcliffe Quiz Night. if you know your history, geography, music and current events join us at 7 p.m. at for a fun night of quizzing. Teams of up to 4 people, £5 per team. Prize for the winning team.

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

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.

Support Community News!

We invite readers to make a small donation to help sustain *Community News*. Although the magazine committee and our loyal band of distributors are all volunteers we still have to pay for the printing.

Just £5 will cover the cost of printing your annual personal set of six copies.

A larger donation or better still, a standing order, will maintain the magazine and reduce our reliance on the volatile advertising market.

How to donate

Preferred payment is
by BACS or Standing Order
(reference 'Reader Donor') to:
Settle and District Community News
National Westminster Bank
Sort Code: 01-07-93
Account No: 53002016

Quiz Answers

1. Paddock or field on land cleared from forest or moor; 2. Barn, or farm cottage with barn attached; 3. Ravine; 4. Small stream or ditch; 5. Pasture (usually as summer pasture); 6. Mountain torrent; 7. Wetland, swamp; 8. Small or rocky hilltop; 9. Thicket or small wood; 10. Waterfall.

Crossword Solution

Across: 8. Pike; 9. Entomology; 10. Grouse; 11. Meteoric; 12. Snob; 13. Invocation; 17. Flea; 18. Exile; 19. Reek; 20. Latent heat; 22. Tree; 23. Wayfarer; 27. Thorpe; 28. Concentric; 29. Also.
Down: 1. Citronella; 2. Penumbra; 3. Beneficent; 4. Atom; 5. Omit; 6. Almost; 7. Ugli; 14. Voice; 15. Cleft stick; 16. Overexpose; 19. Rational; 21. Effect; 24. Amos; 25. Rent; 26. Rory.

ADVERTISE WITH US

Ordinary commercial advertisements are charged at the rates below.

Charity Rates: No charge will be made to advertise charity events or matters of general social interest.

If participation in an event is to be charged for then our normal advertising terms apply.

ADVERTISEMENT SIZES & RATES

Full page

190mm tall x 128mm wide = £160

Half page

95mm tall x 128mm wide = £80

OR 190mm tall x 63mm wide = £80

Quarter page

95mm tall x 63mm wide = £40

OR 47mm tall x 128mm wide = £40

Eighth page

47mm tall x 63mm wide = £20

These rates are per issue.

10% discount for an annual contract
(6 issues)

ALL ADVERTS TO BE PREPAID

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

HOW TO PAY

Payments may be made by bank
transfer (reference 'Advertising') to:
Settle and District Community News
Sort Code: 01-07-93

Account Number: 53002016

Or, send a cheque payable to Settle
and District Community News to:
6 Townhead Croft, Settle, BD24 9LG.

**Next Issue (Feb/Mar 2026)
is published on 5th February**

The deadline for copy and
advertising bookings is
15th January

DRAKE & MACEFIELD



FAMILY BUTCHERS

Since 1898

presenting practical
GIFT VOUCHERS
available in-store or online



SKIPTON

11 Otley Street
Skipton, BD23 1DY
01756 792802

CROSS HILLS

49 Main Street
Cross Hills, BD20 8TT
01535 635916

SETTLE

Market Place
Settle, BD24 9EJ
01729 822392

SNAYGILL

The Pie Shop
Skipton, BD23 2QR
01756 790997

www.drakeandmacefield.co.uk

