

# village news



February / March 2026

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# Dear Reader

The dust has settled, the lights and decorations have been stashed away for another year to be replaced by daffodils and tulips overspilling our vases.

The generosity of villagers over the Christmas period has been amazing, as you will see when you browse the pages of the magazine. It goes to show that fundraising and fun go hand in hand and bring us all together.

While we are talking about generosity, the Village News team would like to thank all those of you who have used the QR code to make a donation to our funds. Unfortunately, we are unable to thank you individually, due to the operational vagaries of the system. If you would like an acknowledgment that we have received your donation, a quick email to our treasurer, Vanda, at [vandamckenzie@gmail.com](mailto:vandamckenzie@gmail.com) would do the trick.

January and February always seem to be particularly dark, dismal months, especially without the lights and festivities of December, but with the arrival of March, Spring is just around the corner. Even now, if you look and listen very carefully you will find that the birds are already making love matches and staking out territory. They may even know that Valentine's Day is fast approaching.

Happy Valentine's Day to you all.

**L, C and L  
and the team**



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Cover photo: Kirkby Overblow's Ugly Sisters

**Linda Bullus, Caroline Henderson and Liz Barrett: joint-editors**  
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## News from St Peter's

### Christmas in Sicklinghall

The Annual Carol Service in Sicklinghall was held on 21 December. It was a joint Ecumenical Service held together with the Catholic Church. The service started at St Peter's Church at the top of the village and, after two readings and three carols, the congregation walked down the village to the Church of the Immaculate Conception, where the service continued. Fortunately the weather was fine.

At the end of the service the congregation were invited to the village hall for mulled wine and mince pies

The sum of £338 was raised and donated to St Gemma's Hospice in Leeds. This event has become a long standing tradition in the village, and a good way to start Christmas

### Community Service

A short, varied and informal service takes place at 10.30 on the second Tuesday in the month at St Peter's Church. The service may be led by Revd Stroma, Emma James or Jan Ali, and is followed by coffee and biscuits. Please do come and join us; perhaps you are new to the village and it would be a good way of meeting people and having a chat.

### Quiz Night

It's that time of year again! We are holding our annual quiz night and supper at the village hall in Sicklinghall on **Friday 27 February**. This is our main fund raising event and hopefully it will be well supported.

Mike Thomson is in charge of tickets at £18 per person; his mobile number is 07718 601333.

We have always had generous raffle prizes donated. If you have any suitable prizes, please take them to Peter Owthwaite's house.

So do come and have a fun evening out, with the possibility of a raffle prize, or even first prize in the quiz.

### Vacancy for a treasurer

Our treasurer, Peter Catton, will be retiring from his post as treasurer at the AGM in April. Peter has been an excellent treasurer for many years, but due to ill health he would like to retire. If there is anyone in Sicklinghall who is interested, please let me know. It is not an arduous job, it involves checking the church finances and paying bills, and would suit anyone who likes figures. You do not have to be a regular attender at church but it would involve going to some church meetings.

If you think it is important to keep the church going in Sicklinghall and have some spare time, perhaps you might consider this vacancy.

*Elizabeth Boyd*

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## Armistice Day Act of Remembrance

The Sicklinghall Village Act of Remembrance was once again held on Armistice Day, Tuesday 11 November. Whilst the intention was to hold it at the War Memorial in the Sicklinghall cemetery, due to the inclement weather it was held within St Peter's Church.

Once again it was excellently attended, with over 40 people in the congregation. Mrs Catherine Catton and Mr Peter Owthwaite were both resplendent wearing their fathers' military medals, and personal medals were worn by others.

The service was led by Mr John Barnes, who opened proceedings with some words of welcome and reflections on Armistice Day. Our formal service commenced with a *Prayer for Peace* delivered by Revd Stroma McDermott. The pupils of Sicklinghall County Primary School then recited *We Shall Keep the Faith*, a poem written by Moina Michael

Mr Derek Plows read out the names of the fallen, followed by the poem *For the Fallen* by Laurence Binyon. The Last Post was followed by a two-minute silence at 11:00 am and followed by Reveille, the music being supplied by Mrs Jean Brady.

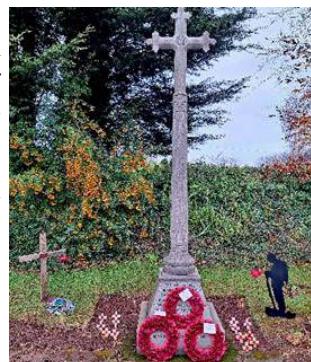
Wreaths were then placed in front of the altar by Mrs Mary Campbell on behalf of the Church of St Mary Immaculate, by Mrs Liz Boyd on behalf of St Peter's Church and by Mr John Leahy on behalf of the Sicklinghall Parish Council. The children of Sicklinghall School then placed their hand painted remembrance rocks, followed by those in attendance placing individual wooden remembrance crosses, many inscribed with the names of family members who gave their lives in the Great Wars or who served in them and are no longer with us.

The Lord's Prayer was recited by all, which was followed by some poignant closing words and blessing by Father Andrew Summersgill. The service concluded with the dismissal by Revd Stroma McDermott.

The wreaths, personal memorial crosses and remembrance stones were moved to the village War Memorial the following day, where they remain for all to view.

**There will be a similar service next year on Wednesday 11 November 2026 at 10:50am**

***John Barnes***



## News from All Saints'

February, March ..... it's an odd time of year. Already we're anticipating springtime, but our reality is winter still. With that in mind, I'm going to offer you a bit of both, a little 'backwards and forwards'.

Did you get tickets for the KODS November panto, Cinderella? You did? Then you don't need me to tell you that this winter's festive production was an absolute winner, the best costumes, the biggest laughs, and the world's cutest pantomime horse. They sang, they danced, they gave it their all. What a team they were! Bravo to everyone involved in this very successful production. We, the audience, loved it!

Mid-December, older residents enjoyed the village's annual Christmas lunch in church. It's a privilege to be invited to share lunch with neighbours and to be musically entertained by the children from our village school. I have no idea how Lucy Crack and her team of kitchen wizards managed to serve us a roast dinner, Christmas pudding and drinks, around 80 covers, in a church with no cooking facilities. What I can say is that pupils from the school carried hot plates to our tables with efficiency and charm. Many thanks to all concerned. We, the diners, enjoyed the event immensely. A collection to cover catering costs raised a surplus, which alongside funds raised from other village events, enabled the village to donate over £600 to the Food Mission at St Peter's, working to feed hungry people in the Harrogate area. What a great result, being able to share our good fortune in such a worthwhile way.

In addition, many of you responded to the appeal for little bags of treats to be handed out to clients at St Peter's following their own Christmas lunch. Twenty festive bags were delivered to St Peter's, along with generous grocery donations for the weekly mini-supermarket which is open at St Peter's to anyone in need. When you're in church, I hope you'll take a look at the letter of thanks from St Peter's - it's pinned on the notice board.

Our next and most-loved event on the Sunday before Christmas was All Saints' annual carol concert. Once again audience demand exceeded supply, seats were quickly taken. Whilst the concert's history extends over more than three decades, this year's concert was by general consensus one of the best ever. All credit to our musical director, Will Lewis, to the talented soloists, Chris Bigsby and Gerri Elliot, to visiting musicians, David Butcher (keyboards) and Cherry Bratkowski (percussion), and of course to the loyal choir members who rehearsed right through the autumn to bring us a well-paced and lively programme of seasonal music. The charity collection at the concert, combined with the on-line All Saints Christmas appeal, raised £1,700.00 for the Forget Me Not children's hospice. You donated most generously. Big thanks to you all.

And then there was the traditional Christmas Eve crib service, telling the Christmas story. However, it was far from traditional, with famous characters from the film *Wicked*, Glinda and Elphaba, adding colour (green), sparkle and glamour to the telling of the story, and not forgetting the talking donkey. A big thank you to all who took part and brought the story to life.

With the celebrations of Christmas now behind us, we enter a more reflective period in preparation for Lent. **Ash Wednesday** marks the beginning of Lent, and a special community service involving the school will be held in church on **15 February at 2.45pm**. Curate Emma James and Moira will lead us, and you're warmly invited. **Mothering Sunday** this year falls on **15 March** and Emma and Moira will be back with us again to lead Family Service on that day, starting at 11.00am, with refreshments from 10.30am. We all have a mother, and maybe you're a mother yourself. In any event please come and join us as we continue the age-old tradition of flowers picked for our church, and for and in memory of all our mothers.

**Palm Sunday 29 March** brings a special Benefice Service, Family Communion, to be held at All Saints' at the **earlier start time of 10.00am**. If all goes well, Revd Stroma, Emma and Moira will have a donkey to help them re-enact the history as we reflect on Jesus' peaceful entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of Holy Week, the final week of Lent. (*NB We 'spring' forward into British Summer Time this weekend.*)

The church is open daily from around 10.00am until dusk if you'd like to enjoy a quiet moment. If on the other hand you prefer 'busy', homemade cake and coffee with company are served on the first Wednesday of each month 9.30am to 11.30am. It's a great opportunity to chat and relax, share and catch up with the news, all for the price of a voluntary donation in support of the upkeep of our lovely church.

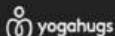
Before I sign off, may I enquire about New Year's resolutions? Did we manage to sort out the sock drawer? Are we eating more greens? Recycling more? Or did we simply resolve to be kind? Kindness is never wasted.

***Jill Gittins***

## **Once Upon a Slipper in Kirkby Overblow**

Think you know Cinderella? Think again! KODS' debut panto was so dazzling, it outshone anything on display in Tinsel Town - and probably the Christmas lights on Oxford Street.

- Cinderella (all charm and grit) swept floors, dodged siblings, and sang beautifully - managing to keep her shoes on until the plot demanded otherwise. (Rumour has it, the missing slipper was last seen rolling down Barrowby Lane).
- Buttons was relentlessly cheerful and always ready with a quip or two.



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- Prince Charming? As charming as the script required, with a hat that (almost) defied gravity, logic and possibly the Kirkby Overblow wind.
- The Ugly Sisters sashayed, strutted and delivered punchlines with such gusto that boos became a badge of honour. Their costumes could have powered the National Grid - or at least kept the village defibrillator charged.
- The Fairy Godmother appeared in a cloud of glitter and common sense, keeping the story (and cast) on track.
- The Baron and Baroness brought enough poshness to make the Parish Council jealous, and enough scheming to keep the Neighbourhood Watch on their toes.
- Hagan, in a career-defining role as the pantomime horse, kept the cast and the audience entertained, even when the plot threatened to gallop off in all directions.

And this year, the supporting cast brought even more local flavour:

- Bodgett and Leggett, sent in to dismantle Overbroke Hall, blundered on stage as the cowboy builders nobody had asked for, but everyone was glad to see. With timing straight out of the Chuckle Brothers' playbook, their attempts at demolition involved more arguing than measuring, more confidence than competence, and absolutely no agreement on whose fault anything was. Slapstick at its finest!
- The Fox, sly and quick, managed to steal the show (and escape the hunt!)
- The Ghost popped up just when you least expected, causing more shrieks than the last time the pub ran out of crisps.
- The Chorus, a whirlwind of energy, kept the show moving and the audience clapping - rumour has it they're still trying to get the glitter out of their hair.

The set? West End ambition, village budget. Thanks to the stage director (Georgina), our resident artist (Kim), all those involved in building (and dismantling) the stage, the creation of a truly fabulous coach to take Cinderella to the ball, together with arena quality sound and lighting (John and Graeme), All Saints' was transformed like magic. Costumes sparkled and shone, props appeared (sometimes even on cue) and singing and dancing was performed with unbridled enthusiasm.

The audience? Loud, supportive, and not shy about shouting advice - whether the cast wanted it or not. And thanks to all that goodwill (and possibly the wine), KODS raised a fairy-tale sum for charity.

Huge thanks to all the cast, directors, producers, costume magicians, backstage helpers, front-of-house heroes, and every single person who laughed, booed and shouted *Oh yes you did!* KODS proved you don't need a West End budget for a magical night out - just heart, humour and a very shiny slipper.

Can't wait for the next one? Oh no you can't... Oh yes you can!

***Mary Kelly***  
**Director**



## KO Village Christmas Lunch

On 11 December, a miracle occurred in our church. An amazing three course lunch for approximately sixty people appeared for us oldies without an oven in sight. It was such a joy to see all our long standing friends and to sit down and eat a very tasty Christmas dinner, with the children from All Saints' school serving us so expertly. I don't know how they managed it, but we did so enjoy it. Talking to the children on our table was so interesting, finding out about them, their likes and dislikes, their families, where they lived etc.



*The catering team*



That was not all, we had music as well. Children from the school sang Christmas songs and carols, the North Yorkshire music group brought along their instruments, explained a little about their history and development and demonstrated how they all worked individually and together. And we finished off with singing carols together.

Thank you to all who made this event possible.

*Bridget Bennett*

## Christmas Caroling with KO Locally Vocal

All Saints' was once again packed for the annual carol concert on the Sunday before Christmas. The audience warmed up with the traditional mince pies and mulled wine before enjoying a good sing along with the *Vocally Local* choir. The evening supported the village's appeal for the Forget Me Not children's hospice, so many thanks to all for your generosity.

Will Lewis again came up trumps with a varied and unusual programme of Christmas music, in many cases especially arranged and adapted for the choir. It's amazing where he finds them all! This year Vaughan Williams and Britten jostled traditional carols and we ended with a Muppets grand finale, interspersed with readings to complement the songs and frame the narrative of the evening.

Choir practices this year got off to a shaky start with a (temporarily) one handed pianist and no heating in the church. Luckily, singing is a very warming form of exercise and both problems were quickly resolved.

Although we welcomed some new faces to the choir this year, we struggled a little with a sudden scarcity of tenors. Those who remained more than rose to the challenge, but there may be press gangs out on the streets of Kirkby Overblow next autumn. On the night, we had a gratifying number of children coming forward to sing the first verse of *Away in a Manger*, and they sounded really lovely. We hope that some of them may be candidates for the choir in years to come.

The choir was ably supported as ever throughout the weeks of practice by David Butcher on organ and piano, joined for the evening by Cherry Bratkowski with some quite transformative percussion additions.

As ever with an enterprise like this, there are as many people in the wings as on stage (some of them actually erecting and dismantling said stage). Many thanks to everyone who mulled the wine, took the money, produced the programme, carried chairs and staging from and to the storage sheds, wielded screwdrivers or connected electric lights. But most of all, thanks to everyone for turning out to take part! If anyone has been inspired to join the choir next year, look out for the autumn *Village News* which will give the dates, and come along.



## Kirkby Overblow WI Group - The KO Girls

As we enter a new year, the WI Group looks ahead beaming with spirit and heaps of ideas for the year ahead, along with a full event calendar for 2026.

We have been reflecting on the progress we've made since starting our WI, the community we've built, and the positive impact we've had. There have been plenty of laughs along the way, lots of learning new things and new friendships made. The upcoming year brings inspiration by the same sense of purpose that guided us through from the beginning.

We finished 2025 with a special tree planting to celebrate 110 years of The Women's Institute. Thirty-five groups in the North West WI Federation sponsored trees, with 100 being planted on the day. We worked with our Federation head office and a local company 'Make it Wild', alongside members and local volunteers. It was an inspiring day filled with hope, collaboration, and a shared vision for a greener future.

### Looking Ahead: New Goals, New Opportunities

This year, we are committed to continuing the positive momentum we've built. There are plenty of exciting plans on the horizon, including our monthly meetings, see below for details of the next few...



- In January we have local author Simon Thomas coming to speak to us about his book *The Harbour Master's Secret*

- In February is a talk from a Tropic Skin Care ambassador
- March sees us getting ready for Easter with a crafty session led by two of our committee members.

We have ideas for projects throughout our community, as well as fund raising events for our chosen charity, Resurrected Bites.

### **Join us in the journey ahead**

As we kick off this new year, we invite all members, old and new, to be part of this exciting journey. Here's to a year of growth, connection and positive change. Let's make 2026 one to remember!

*Lizzie and the KO Girls Committee*

## **Putting the *FUN* into fundraising**

Over the past six months, our village has demonstrated once again that fundraising is best done with enthusiasm, imagination and a healthy sense of fun. From donning cowboy hats at Country Bound, navigating round the village at the Safari Supper and treading the boards for Cinderella, to rounding things off with a wonderfully festive Village Christmas Lunch, each event brought people together in true village style. With laughter, full tables and a great deal of goodwill, these occasions raised much-needed funds while reminding us that a good cause is even better when shared.

### **Country Bound – 7 June**

KO Events in conjunction with Friends of All Saints' put on a wonderful evening of country music in June. Events like these don't happen without a huge team effort, and we were incredibly grateful to everyone who helped behind the scenes, especially Mervyn & Lesley Liddle and their family for the generous use of their barn and all their hard work.

Thanks also to all the volunteers who cooked, served, pulled pints, set up and cleared away and of course to everyone who bought tickets on the night.

After costs, the event raised £3,400 which will be donated to charities, yet to be decided.

### **Safari Supper – 27 September**

Before the dark evenings rolled in, the Friends with the KO Events team rolled into action again to organise a fundraising safari supper for 71 keen KO villagers. Over £2,000 was raised on the night, thanks to the generosity of the 16 hosts, and the many donations of desserts and wine.

All the hosts deserve to be given many Michelin stars after presenting culinary delights from all over the world - such as beetroot risotto with prawns and horseradish foam, venison casserole with honey and mustard vegetables,

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The McKenzies generously offered to host the entire dessert course in their home (whilst the Ryder cup was being shown in another room, for those who may have been interested). We were treated to many sweet treats, including apple tarts, cheesecakes, brownies and Guinness cake.

Some of the money raised has been used to purchase safety rails, to be used with the existing staging which comes out time and time again for church, school and community events.

A donation was made towards the Village Christmas Lunch which was held on 11 December in church.

### **Cinderella – 27 to 29 November**

KODS really pulled out all the stops to put on a spectacular pantomime for the first time in its 43 year history. Mary Kelly, the director for the panto, has written a separate article on Cinderella (see page 9), but we can report that the show made just over £3,000. Details of the charitable contributions from the panto will be published in the next issue of the *Village News*.

### **Village Christmas Lunch – Thursday 11 Dec**

All Saints' Church hosted its annual Christmas Lunch for over 70 villagers to recognise our long standing residents and those who over the years have made a significant contribution to village life. It was the help of a wonderful team of local volunteers, along with the teachers and children from All Saints' school that made the event such an outstanding success, enjoyed by all. Monies raised at the event were added to sums raised from some of the above events which enabled a cheque for £615 to be sent to St Peter's *Feeding Hungry Families* project.

KO Events AGM will take place in February and on the agenda will be the allocation of money raised at the above fundraising events. Results of these deliberations and decisions will be included in the next edition of *Village News*.

In 2026 we are already planning a number of events. We have purchased a marquee and mobile bar/café, which will hopefully be going up in John Fairfield's field on Follifoot Lane during May/June. If you are interested in holding an event and wish to hire it, then please contact me on 07970 274658.

***Jim Bennett***

## Pool Primary school

It has been a busy start to the school year at Pool CE Primary School. Our pupils have all started the year with positivity, perseverance and a smile. Last term, our pupils represented our school at a range of community events, including running in the LSSA Cross Country competition, singing at the Otley Victorian Fayre and cheering Sara Cox through the village.

Only this week we have been privileged to be visited by England Rugby League champion, Jamie Peacock. He spoke to the whole school about the importance of self-belief and perseverance, which reflected our own school vision and values of *Believe and Achieve*.

If you have a child who is starting school in September 2026 and you have not attended one of our open mornings, please call the school on 0113 2843151 or email [info@poolprimarysch.org.uk](mailto:info@poolprimarysch.org.uk). We always look forward to showing new families around.

We also have places available in other year groups and always welcome new starters at our friendly village school.

*Claire Taylor*

## Squirrel and Beaver Scouts

A big Happy New Year to you all from Pool-in-Wharfedale Squirrel and Beaver Scouts. Our scouts have been squirreling away (pun absolutely intended) and working hard towards various exciting badges throughout 2025.

Beavers kicked off the year by igniting their passion for nature and the environment via bat detecting at the Old Mill Pond. They set off with their bat detectors and were successful in their mission in finding these fluffy, flying mammals. Our little Squirrels have also had a close encounter this year with a very prickly and rather cute hedgehog from Prickly Pigs. We learned all about the things we can do to help the dwindling hedgehog population and parents kindly donated much needed food for the rescue.

Beavers also had a visit from a charity. They got the chance to meet Jaegar, a working guide dog, and learned all about the things he does to help his owner. Meanwhile, Squirrels had a tour of Otley Fire Station and got to meet the amazing firefighters who volunteer there. They even got the opportunity to hold and squirt a water hose used to put out real fires. Lots of splishy splashy fun was had!

Squirrels also got the opportunity to visit the residents of Wharfedale Court, where they had a chat and sang the pirate song for them. Some of

the residents even joined in! A huge thank you to Dawn for allowing us to visit, we got a lot out of it and, judging by the smiles and laughter, the residents did too! The Squirrels also gained their Community Impact badge for this visit.

Beavers had a visit from St John's ambulance and learned some valuable skills including CPR and general first aid. They gained their Emergency Aid badge and now know what to do to help others in a medical emergency.

Towards the end of the year, our Squirrels were kindly allowed to use the Peace Garden at Pool C of E Primary School where we toasted marshmallows over a fire pit and made mud pies in the mud kitchen. A big thank you to head teacher, Mrs Taylor, for allowing us to use this amazing space.

Beavers ended the year with a Christmas party in the hall and Squirrels ended it by making some amazing centre pieces for their Christmas tables, as well as a disco with medals for the best dancers.

We've had an amazing year, learning some vital skills and gaining in confidence. We hope all of our Squirrels and Scouts have enjoyed the well thought-out sessions that our dedicated leaders have planned for them. We hope that Scouts continues to thrive in Pool and we continue to make a difference in our community.

## **St Wilfrid's Ladies**

What a year for us all.

Our Pool Feast at the end of September raised in excess of £500, which was great.

We then held our Macmillan coffee morning in November which raised more than £800 including gift aid and it was a wonderful day for us all. Lots of cakes and great donations for the tombola stall too. We were so happy to be able to send another large amount to this very worthy cause.



Early in December we had our annual Christmas luncheon at Otley Golf Club and this was a great day again, with some men able to join the ladies. In total there were 26 of us together.

Men meet up the first Thursday in each month and I hope and pray that the ladies will continue to meet up in the future, but for now my health has to come first and as such this will be my last bulletin.

***Kath Gamble***

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Please note that the views and contents in Village News are not the responsibility of the editors of the magazine but of the individual contributors.

# Pool Methodist Chapel

Dear friends,

It was such a joy to experience my first Christmas season in my new post as the Methodist minister for Bramhope and Pool-in-Wharfedale. The lighting of the Christmas tree was very special, despite soaking rain, and our Carols by Candlelight was a joyful experience for young and old. The team at Tiddlers put on a fabulous Christmas party which was thoroughly enjoyed by all the children, including my two year old daughter. Many thanks to all involved.

The Rainbow shop continues to serve our community as a hub filled with welcoming smiles and a wide range of affordable items, raising funds for all sorts of good community causes, whilst community programmes like Carousel, Crafty Bees and uniformed organisations keep young people engaged in healthy activities.

One of our most poignant moments was the *Blue Christmas* drop-in session for people who find the festivities difficult, whatever painful burdens they are carrying. Please keep an eye out next December if you could do with a quiet moment to pause for reflection, find a listening ear or light a candle in memory of someone special.

As we move into a new year, I would like to celebrate the spirit of community that binds us together across all faiths and walks of life. May this year be one in which we continue to look out for one another, share kindness in various ways and create spaces where everyone feels valued. Whether we find strength in worship, friendship, creativity and the beauty of our village – a place where people flourish through compassion and connection.

The congregation at Pool Methodist Church will be shifting our worship pattern with morning services taking place at 10.30am on the **second and fourth Sunday** of each month: **8 February, 22 February, 8 March, 22 March**. All are warmly invited to join our calm, warm and friendly gathering.

**Grace and Peace,**  
**Wendy**

REV WENDY WALKER she/her  
The Chevin Methodist Church  
Wharfedale & Aireborough Circuit  
Circuit Office 07544 165040



**The Methodist Church | Bramhope and Pool**

Thank you for your patience with replies to emails received from Friday – Sunday.  
I work part time and weekends are dedicated to chaplaincy, study and worship.  
I am available to schedule meetings or pastoral visits on weekdays from 3.30pm.

## Toy Service at Pool

On 7 December, a Toy Service was held at Pool Methodist Church. Following an appeal for new toys there was a wonderful response. At the end of the service a car full of toys, together with toys from Bramhope Methodist Church, was taken to the Salvation Army for distribution to families in need in Leeds.

The toys were gratefully received. The kindness and generosity of the many people who gave toys is appreciated. Thank you very much.

## **Rainbow charity shop, Pool**

The Rainbow shop wishes everyone a happy new year. We have lots of children's books and they are all free, in the hope we can encourage children to read. Also, lots of warm clothes for these cold days, and jigsaws etc to keep you occupied inside!

Shop open each Saturday 10am -2pm. Do call in and see us.

*Penny Gwilt*

## **Tiddlers Baby & Toddler Playgroup Christmas party**



Tiddlers Baby & Toddler Playgroup held its annual Christmas party on 12 December at the village hall and the morning was filled with festive cheer. We were delighted to welcome 36 children, including our youngest guest, tiny, week-old Daphne, proudly accompanied by her big brother Albie. With around 100 people in attendance, the hall was buzzing with excitement and community spirit.

❖ The children enjoyed a wonderful mix of activities, from pottery painting and dressing up in festive outfits to plenty of free play with friends. A surprise visit from Santa ❖ was the highlight of the day, as he handed out small gifts to each child and even led a heartfelt chorus of *Happy Birthday* for our much-loved Pam, who celebrates her 90th birthday this month. Happy 90th Birthday, Pam! Our thanks also go to House of Pottery for joining us and helping make the morning so special.



❖ Events like this are only possible thanks to the dedication of our fantastic volunteers, whose time and enthusiasm make every Tiddlers session a welcoming and joyful one. If you would like to get involved, please speak to Alexia, Becca or Mary. New helpers are always warmly welcomed.

❖ As we look ahead to the new year, Tiddlers is excited for more sessions filled with laughter, play and friendship. We look forward to seeing familiar faces, and hopefully welcoming some new ones too, at our upcoming dates in 2026.

# Tiddlers

Baby & Toddler Playgroup

Dates 2026

Fridays 9-11am

Term Time Only

Jan: 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>

Feb: 6<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

March: 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

April: 24<sup>th</sup>

May: 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>



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## From the Rector

At this moment, I'm hunkering down in the office trying to stay inside to avoid storm Goretti that's currently blasting in. Winter has certainly arrived. So I'm quite excited to be writing something for February and March and thinking about how seasons can change so quickly, and looking forward to Spring. If we look closely we see signs of hope; bulbs are already pushing through the cold ground, snowdrops appear almost unnoticed at first, lambing time edges closer, the Christmas decorations might be down but it's getting lighter in the afternoons.

It may be cold, icy and windy but already we are having conversations with couples about their summer weddings. Things move on don't they?

In the church calendar, February brings us Candlemas, the feast that marks the presentation of Jesus in the Temple. It's a moment that can easily be overlooked, but it holds something deeply precious. Simeon and Anna, two elderly figures who have waited faithfully for years, finally see what they have long hoped for: the light of God coming into the world. They welcome the child with gladness and I'm delighted that we are again celebrating Candlemas at St Wilfrid's, as we also have a new service there to welcome in families and children.

Light is such a powerful image at this time of year. We are all weary of darkness by February, dark mornings, dark evenings, and sometimes dark news that weighs heavily on our hearts. Yet Candlemas reminds us that God's light does not wait for perfect conditions. It shines into ordinary, imperfect, even difficult circumstances. God's light opens up new possibilities, allows things to grow and promotes new life. Hope doesn't arrive with a fanfare; it often comes quietly, held gently in waiting arms for those who have eyes to see it.

February and March are months of Lenten reflection as we pause and consider again Jesus' journey to the cross, a time to ask simple but important questions: Where have I noticed light recently? Who has helped me see hope when I struggled to find it myself? And how might I be a small bearer of that light to others? In our small communities, light often shows itself in very practical ways: neighbours checking in on one another, meals shared, lifts offered, conversations held at the gate or over a cup of tea, offering to pray for someone. These moments matter more than we sometimes realise. They are reflections of God's care, lived out in everyday faithfulness.

As we move towards Spring, my prayer is that we would have eyes to notice the light already among us, to see God's love at work in the small details of a friendly 'hello' or a glimpse of the first snowdrops and then the colour and bold bloom of the daffodils. And of course, there is and will always be a warm welcome and the promise of God's light for you across our benefice churches which we'd love to share with you.

God Bless,  
*Revd Stroma*

# Benefice of Lower Wharfedale church services

## FEBRUARY

### Sunday 1 February

Kirkby Overblow	BCP Holy Communion	8.30am
Sicklinghall	Parish Communion	9.30am
Kirkby Overblow	Celtic Service	11.00am
Weeton	Family Service	11.00am
Pool	Benefice Candlemas Service with St Mark's choir	3.00pm

### Sunday 8 February

Kirkby Overblow	BCP Holy Communion	8.30am
North Rигton	Parish Communion Family	9.30am
Pool	Family Service	9.30am
Kirkby Overblow	Family Service	11.00 am

### Thursday 12 February

Pool	Communion & Coffee Morning	10.30am
	at Wharfedale Court	

### Sunday 15 February

Kirkby Overblow	BCP Holy Communion	8.30am
Sicklinghall	Parish Communion	9.30am
Pool	Family Service	9.30am
Weeton	Parish Communion	11.00am
North Rигton	Peace and Praise	6.00pm

### Wednesday 18 February

Pool	Ash Wednesday service with Imposition of Ashes	11.00am
Kirkby Overblow	Ash Wednesday service with Imposition of Ashes	7.00pm

### Sunday 22 February

Pool	Parish Communion	9.30am
North Rигton	Family Service	9.30am
Kirkby Overblow	Parish Communion	11.00am

### Monday 23rd February

Pool School	Lego Church	3:30 pm
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## **MARCH**

### **Sunday 1 March**

Kirkby Overblow	BCP Holy Communion	8:30am
Sicklinghall	Parish Communion	9:30am
Pool	Parish Communion	9:30am
Kirkby Overblow	Celtic Service	11.00am
Weeton	Family Service	11.00am

### **Sunday 8 March**

Kirkby Overblow	BCP Holy Communion	8.30am
North Rigtion	Parish Communion	9.30am
Kirkby Overblow	Family Service	11.00am

### **Thursday 12th March**

Pool	Communion & Coffee Morning	10:30am
	at Wharfedale Court	

### **Mothering Sunday 15 March**

Kirkby Overblow	BCP Holy Communion	8.30am
Sicklinghall	Parish Communion	9.30am
Pool	Family Service	9.30am
Weeton	Parish Communion	11.00am
Kirkby Overblow	Family Service	11.00am
North Rigtion	Peace and Praise	6.00pm

### **Monday 16 March**

Kirkby Overblow	Lego Church	3.30pm
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### **Sunday 22 March**

Pool	Parish Communion	9.30am
North Rigtion	Family Service	9.30am
Kirkby Overblow	Parish Communion	11.00am

### **Monday 23 March**

Pool School	Lego Church	3.30 pm
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### **Sunday 29 March**

Kirkby Overblow	Palm Sunday Benefice Service	10.00am
	with donkey and	
	Family Communion	

### **HOLY WEEK**

### **Monday 30 March**

North Rigtion	Evening reflection	7.00pm
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### **Tuesday 31 March**

Weeton	Evening reflection	7.00pm
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**Wednesday 1 April**

Sicklinghall	Evening reflection	7.00pm
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**Thursday 2 April**

Pool	Tenebrae with Foot Washing	7.00pm
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**GOOD FRIDAY 3 April**

Kirkby Overblow	Meditations at The Cross and Good Friday children's workshops	10.30am
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Pool	Meditations at The Cross	2.00pm
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**Saturday 4 April**

Stainburn	Vigil of Light and Egg Hunt	2.00pm
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**EASTER SUNDAY****5 April**

Kirkby Overblow	Easter Day BCP Communion	8.30am
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Sicklinghall	Easter Day Parish Communion	9.30am
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Pool	Easter Day Parish Communion	9.30am
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Kirkby Overblow	Easter Day Parish Communion	11.00am
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Weeton	Easter Day Parish Family Communion	11.00am
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**From the Registers****Baptisms**

27 October	Kirkby Overblow	Rose Jacqueline Buckley
7 December	Kirkby Overblow	Poppy Jane Schofield

**Funerals**

11 November	Pool-in-Wharfedale	Alice Cawood
29 December	Kirkby Overblow	John Dawson
6 January	Weeton	Anthony Owen Hunt

## Village Christmas party

Our new format village Christmas event at The Square & Compass was held on 5 December. The Square was fully decorated for the season with lights and trees, and provided a warm welcome to our village community meeting new residents and catching up with others who had slipped by during the colder months.

Welcome drinks were followed by sumptuous canapés and Christmas Pie. AVCA ran a raffle, many thanks to all who brought prizes to provide a magnificent spread, and we sold our Christmas quiz sheets. In total we raised £420 for our chosen charity, Young Carers.

We also received £100 donation from Katie Tyler who ran a Tropic event in November, lifting our fund-raising total to £520.

Thanks to the team at The Square for all their hard work to make us feel most welcome. A great time was had by all. Remember to book your place in 2026 as soon as the 2026 date is announced!

*Mary Hopkins*

## Almscliffe Villages Community Association (AVCA)

### Christmas quiz

The popular annual quiz competition, this year on the theme *Down on the Farm*, was well subscribed. The highest score this year was 55, with two entrants coming equal second, so the spelling of words was checked and double checked for accuracy. The winner was Huw Edwards. The money raised for AVCA through the entry fee, plus donations, will go to our chosen charity, Young Carers, so thank you to everyone who contributed.

The quiz questions were cleverly set and included some anagrams which some of the entrants just did not spot – *pea rust for grass* was of course *pasture* and *put into a male sheep* was *tup*. All good fun, so thank you very much to those who entered and I hope you enjoyed it.

Thank you to Mary Hopkins for supplying and organising the quiz papers and to anyone who sold copies.

I will email the entrants with the correct answers, for their interest, and should anyone else require a copy, please feel free to email me on [gjbarlow@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gjbarlow@yahoo.co.uk).

*Fiona Barlow*



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- Join the hall committee and help shape the future
- Or offer your support on an as needs basis

If you have a little time to help out in support of your village hall, can offer your skills to help maintain or advertise the hall, or would like to join the committee, we need your help and would love to hear from you. Please contact Charlotte Owers on 07597 630653 or email: [almscliffehall@gmail.com](mailto:almscliffehall@gmail.com)

# Support your village

## Almscliffe Villages Community Association (AVCA)

Warmest wishes for 2026, and here's to another year of appreciating life in our beautiful village. I have recently stepped into the role of chair of the Village Association, following fifteen years of dedicated service from John Hopkins. Thank you, John.

I wanted to use this first newsletter of the year as an opportunity to remind residents of the Association's role and, importantly, to encourage more of you to get involved.

The Almscliffe Villages Community Association was originally formed over fifteen years ago and holds charitable status. Its aim is: *To raise funds for the provision of facilities or other leisure-time activities for all age groups which improve quality of life and experiences, and promote social, cultural and heritage activities within a rural community.* AVCA was initially formed to support all the villages in our surrounding area. However, over time, activity has focused on North Rигton due to the continued interest and commitment of residents in our village.

The first project the Association undertook in 2010 was the successful fundraising of over £40,000 for the installation of a peal of six bells at St John's Church. Since then, the Association has led a range of fundraising activities to support our community garden, the village school and church, as well as local charities such as St Michael's Hospice and Harrogate Young Carers. The Summer Gala remains a key fundraising activity, closely partnered with the Parish Council, where Association members support the planning and delivery of this popular event.

We meet formally only once a year (at The Square and Compass pub), with additional meetings held as needed to manage specific projects or finalise planning for the Gala. Getting involved is therefore not onerous, but it *does* make a real difference - helping to strengthen community connections, supporting local initiatives and ensuring the Association continues to reflect the needs of village life.

We are especially keen to hear from both long-standing residents and those who are newer to the village. Fresh perspectives are invaluable, and getting involved is a great way to meet people, share ideas and play a small part in shaping the future of our community.

If you are keen to get involved, contribute to a specific project, have some great ideas or simply want to find out more, please email: [northrigtonevents@gmail.com](mailto:northrigtonevents@gmail.com) .

Many thanks, I look forward to working with you to help the Association create more connections and opportunities for our village.

***Clare Price***  
***Chair AVCA***

# St John 's Church

## Can you help us?

In early December, we decided it might be a good idea to attempt to provide a temporary toilet for our family Christmas services and events, and for the use of the school at their nativity practices and events. It certainly proved to be very useful but also came with its challenges!

The first challenge was to get the toilet near to the church door. We had worked out the distance from the road to the church, but had omitted to calculate the height of the toilet in relation to the height of the lych-gate roof! Not to be outdone, a valiant team, together with a few extras, managed to complete the task, but removing it would be a new challenge to face!

Revd Stroma was not convinced we hadn't installed Doctor Who's Tardis, she had to check it out, but a Tardis might have been easier to locate!

Following this excitement we, at St John's, appealed to our congregations for ideas about the church's future to enable us to have more useable space and to have more modern facilities. Needless to say, the provision of a permanent toilet came top of the list of suggestions, swiftly followed by comfortable seating.

Our church survives on the monies we raise through services, events and donations, and we have a large building to heat and maintain, together with a large graveyard which needs regular maintenance.



If you feel you can help us in any way by getting involved, attending our services and events and with fundraising, please do get in touch. As a first step you could use the QR code to make a one-off donation or regular payments to assist us in taking our church into the future, with some changes which will make it more useable for all.

Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

*Mary Hopkins*

## Magical Christmas

St John's started its 2025 Christmas celebrations early with a *Magical Christmas* event on 6 December. The church was decorated by a team of volunteers, ladder climbing being a critical part of the job. The event enabled us to fill the church with families and local residents to see the magic unfold, beginning with mulled wine and mince pies for the adults and the children being treated to hot chocolate with marshmallows and chocolate brownies. Poetry readings and carols then followed .



The *Magic* began with a reading of *T'was the Night before Christmas* and slowly all was revealed, with Christmas lights, a deer, a Christmas star and the tree. Adults and children all participated with the poetry readings and we were delighted to have Roland and Norman to accompany the carol singing.

What a treat it was to have a toilet, carefully located at the entrance to the church, as an example of what our church needs.

Thanks to all who helped us prepare the event and for their generous donations. Thanks also to those who attended, donated funds to the church and made the evening a very special one.

***Mary Hopkins***

### **For Good – A Nativity Story**

On the second Sunday of December, St John's Church, was visited by two famous characters from the film *Wicked Part Two: For Good*, Glinda and Elphaba. Our sparkly guests brought a spot of West End glamour to welcome people to our nativity and listened carefully to understand THE greatest story ever told ... Jesus coming to earth! Church looked beautiful (which was helped by having been lit up for the Magical Christmas the week before) creating a special set for our large congregation to thoroughly enjoy the event. We are very grateful to all our children and thespians and our very own talking donkey, who helped to bring the story to life, as well as our director Emma and all who helped to arrange the event. *Forever for good!*

***Francesca Jenkinson***

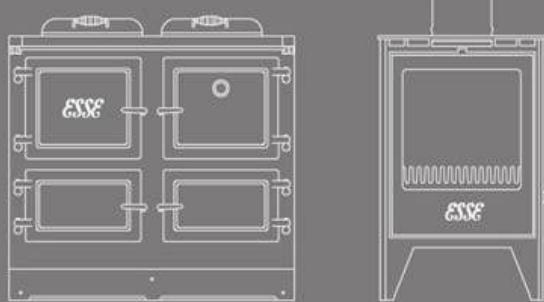
## **North Rington Parish Council**

### **Hall Green Lane/A658 junction**

Following the well-attended meeting in November, when lots of issues were discussed but without resolution (partly due to the unavailability of key individuals from NYC Highways and Network Rail), the Parish Council is proposing to hold a follow up meeting. It is hoped that all relevant parties will be able to attend, and several dates are being suggested in late March/early April. Once a mutually convenient date for all the relevant parties has been agreed, the timing and location will be published on the notice board and the community Facebook page.

### **Parish Council vacancy**

Following the resignation of Barbara Massey, who has left the village, a vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council. Any resident who has the interests of the parish at heart and who is willing to devote a small amount of time to the role, is encouraged to put their name forward, either by emailing the clerk (as below) or contacting any Parish Councillor, when further information will be made available.



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Councillors at the January Council meeting recorded thanks to Barbara for her years of service and work in the Community.

### **20mph speed zones**

The Parish Council is to request NYC Highways to implement 20mph speed limits on Church Hill (from the mini-roundabout down to the school play area) and on Rigton Hill (from the roundabout to the Village Garden).

### **Speed bumps**

Given the ongoing increase in traffic flow through the village, largely due to the public using it as a rat run, the Parish Council has now resolved to pursue with NYC Highways, the installation of speed bumps on Rigton Hill, Church Hill and Hall Green Lane.

*Mike Richards  
Parish Clerk  
Contact via [northrigtonparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:northrigtonparishcouncil@gmail.com)*

## **North Rigton Litter Picking**

**Saturday 14 March 10.30am for approximately one hour**

Teams of volunteers are needed to pick up rubbish from the verges and ditches around the village. Equipment is provided. Please consider helping us to spring clean the village and its environs.

We need as many volunteers as possible, including children. It's an enjoyable and rewarding job that makes a big difference to the village.

Meet at the War Memorial, where equipment is handed out and routes agreed.

**Just turn up or contact: Tim Bennett [timbennettbp@outlook.com](mailto:timbennettbp@outlook.com)**

## Weeton and Huby Players *Absent Friends* by Alan Aykbourne

When Colin, a friend who has been absent, comes back to his circle of friends, his friends are worried about how to approach him over the death of his fiancée, Carol, who has drowned. Diana organizes a tea party for Colin's arrival. The characters are shown to have inter-relationship tensions and this is near erupting when Colin arrives, heightening the tension when they all work to appear friendly towards him. However Colin seems euphorically happy while the rest of the party are near breaking point

Diana is concerned in Act I regarding whether her husband (Paul) is faithful or not. Deep down, she knows he is not and has a feeling he is having a love affair with Evelyn. Evelyn's husband, John, is in business with Paul and knows that Paul and Evelyn have slept together but doesn't say anything, in fear of damaging business relations. The play unfolds and Colin's arrival triggers Diana's confrontation. She ends up pouring the cream on Paul and breaking down at the end of the play.

The play premiered on 17 June 1974 at the Library Theatre, Scarborough, before opening in the West End the following year, and has been regularly revived since, making it one of the most popular plays in the Ayckbourn play canon.

### 103 years of history

The Weeton and Huby Players' first performance, Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, was performed to the local community in 1922. Whilst there are some gaps in our records from the first 30 years, this will be our 139<sup>th</sup> known play. Long may it continue.

**Tickets available at £10.00 from Mike Bidgood**

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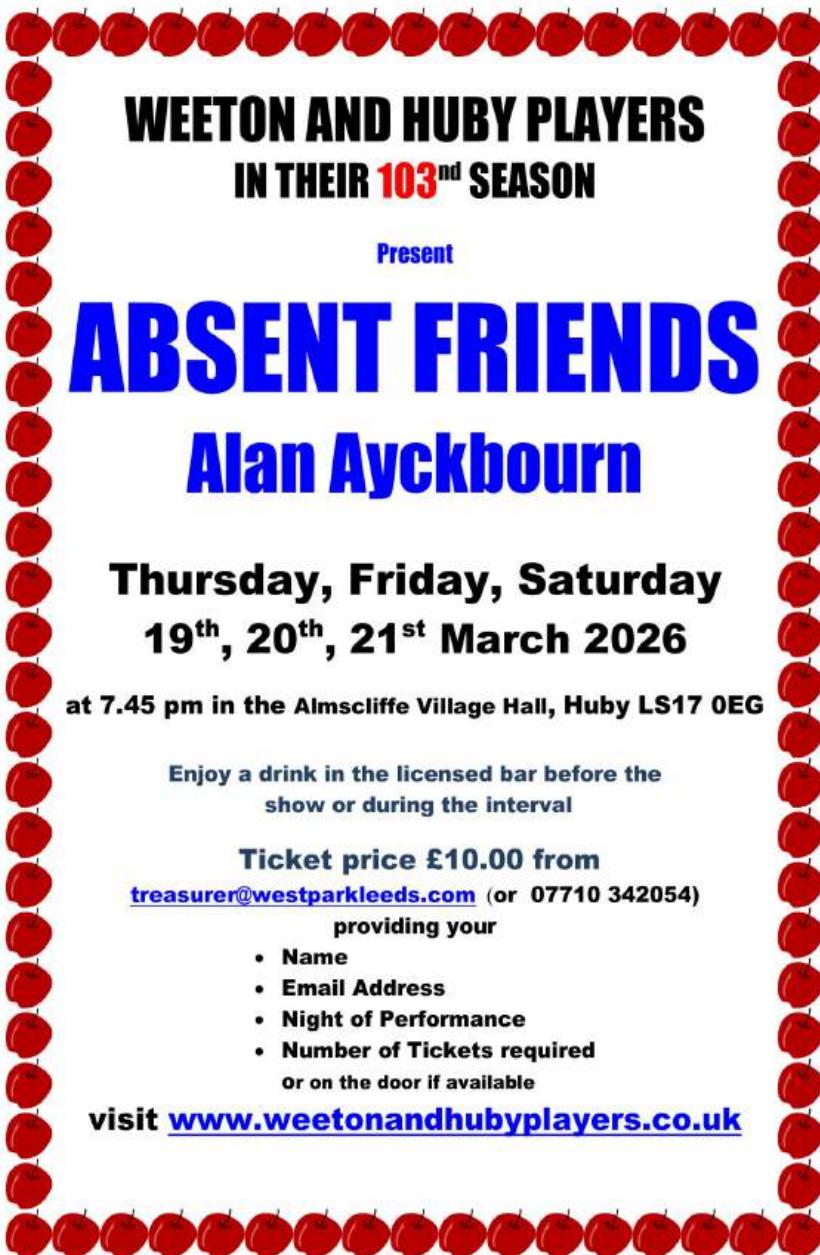
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## **Alan Ayckbourn**

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**19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2026**

**at 7.45 pm in the Almscliffe Village Hall, Huby LS17 0EG**

**Enjoy a drink in the licensed bar before the  
show or during the interval**

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- Number of Tickets required**

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## Weeton & Huby Cricket Club

Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year from all at Weeton & Huby Cricket Club!

Over the past year, some eagle-eyed villagers may have noticed the on-going improvements at the cricket ground, where a huge effort has gone into caring for the tired and uneven old turf to get it ready for future play. What may not have been quite so obvious is the work behind the scenes to get the club match fit!

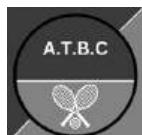
An application to register the title to the ground has been submitted by the Club's solicitors, and the Land Registry has agreed to expedite the process. A second application has been prepared to register the Club as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) - which will allow us to benefit from Gift Aid donations in the future.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of one local family, we look forward to welcoming everyone to the opening of a new pavilion next year. There is still much to do at the site, but the committee continue to push ahead enthusiastically.

We are grateful to the whole community for supporting the regeneration of the Club and, when the time comes, we'd love to celebrate with you all. In the meantime, everyone is invited to attend the AGM at Almscliffe Hall on **Wednesday 25 February**, 7.00 pm, where we will be able to share more of our plans for '**Cricket for All!**'

Please save the date! We hope to see you there.

If you can help in any way, please get in touch by email:  
[caroline.h15@btinternet.com](mailto:caroline.h15@btinternet.com)



## Almscliffe Tennis & Bowling Club *As the years fly by!*

New Year, new energy! I am not sure that the Club has ever had such immediate and direct response to an article in the Village News as we had to that submitted in December. **Padel** is obviously of interest to a great many in the community! By the time you are reading this, a small group will have met to kick-start the feasibility exercise into including a padel facility at the Club. Watch this space!

Whilst sporting activities may be hampered by cold, rain and, as winter seems to have arrived in



January, ice, our social and fundraising activities continue. At the start of December, our well-established wreath-making workshop was held to herald the start of Advent. Great fun was had by all participants, as can be seen by the wide smiles on the previous page, and local doors have been suitably adorned throughout the festive period!



### Bowling

It may be that the green is closed for bowling, but maintenance continues swishing, brushing, tidying leaves etc, a never-ending job keeping the green one of the best in the area, according to other bowlers.

Our December dominoes afternoon was a Christmas get-together, starting with mulled wine and mince pies, before it was down to the serious business of dominoes. Tea and biscuits were available halfway through. A big thank you to all who brought mince pies, wine and Christmas decorated shortbread biscuits, and all who helped tidy up afterwards.

Our pre-season meeting is on **Thursday 5 March** in the pavilion. Look forward to seeing you all there. The green will re-open soon afterwards, depending on the weather.



### Tennis

Our Monday Ladies refuse to let anything other than a major weather front get in the way of their tennis. However, they managed to extend their usual snatched on-court chat time to a very convivial lunch on the second Monday in January, cementing inter-sport relations, as it was held at Pannal Golf Club! Sharing their cheery camaraderie is a great way to kick-start the week. They are always welcoming to new joiners, do venture down at 10am on a Monday.

All Junior and Adult coaching sessions resumed the week beginning 5 January. Members and non-members welcome.

Now is an ideal time to get into practice for the summer months so that you can come and have some fun on our beautiful courts, join us for social tennis or join one of our league teams.



Contact **Jamie Walters** on **07938 850558** for further information and a link to book your place, or see our Club website and Facebook page or email for information on all our tennis and bowling activities.

[www.atbc-huby.org.uk](http://www.atbc-huby.org.uk)

[atbcmembers@gmail.com](mailto:atbcmembers@gmail.com)

## **St Barnabas' Church**

Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas coffee morning in November. We had a very good number who came and we hope that this will carry on into 2026.

Our carol service was held on Saturday 20 December and again was very well supported. We had the Tewitt Well Junior Band playing, along with our regular organist, Peter, and it lent a lot of atmosphere and was greatly appreciated. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way, reading the lessons, decorating the church, serving the mulled wine and mince pies and clearing up afterwards. It was a lovely start to Christmas.

On Tuesday 6 January a memorial service was held for Mr Tony Hunt who lived in Weeton for many years. He used to have a Gavioli organ which he would play at the Weeton Show. At one time the organ was powered by a steam engine owned by George Dyson of Huby. Tony supported St Barnabas over a long period of time. He will be greatly missed.

Looking ahead we hope to hold a plant sale in the spring, so if you have spare plants that you would be happy to donate, please let me know. More details later.

*Sandra Moss  
email: aemoss@btinternet.co.uk*

## **Children's Society box opening spring 2026**

This is my usual request to those kind people in the village who have Children's Society boxes. Could you drop off your box with me for emptying anytime **after 5 February** please. Many thanks.

I have now been local secretary for the Children's Society for the past 25 years and I feel it is time to hand over the job to someone else. It is not an onerous job but does need time for a short period in the year. Over the past few years we have consistently raised in excess of a £1,000 a year for the charity and it would be sad to see it go. Now that there isn't the same usage of cash, it has made quite a difference, but some folk choose to give a cheque and we have managed to keep going. In the last couple of years we have lost quite a few folk who have died or moved, so the number is slightly lower than it used to be.

If you would like more information about taking this on, please give me a ring on 01423 734 877.

Many thanks,  
*Sandra Moss*

## **Community Coffee Morning**

Happy New Year to everyone. I hope you had a great Christmas and that 2026 is a good year for all.

Winter may be cold, but thanks to Anne and Rod we have a lovely warm place for our coffee mornings. In November we had a great coffee morning and raised £330. A huge thank you to all who helped on the day, baked or provided raffle prizes.

The next coffee mornings will be at Sleights Meadow, top of Crag Lane, Huby (where the coffee morning board is put out) between 10.00 and 11.30am on the following dates:

**18 February  
18 March**

**Great home baking with tea or coffee**

All proceeds to St Barnabas' Church, Weeton.

See you there.

***Ros Bodsworth  
01423 734627***

## **Craft Club and Almscliffe Talks**

It is with great regret and sadness that I have to announce that the above groups, which have met in Almscliffe Hall for a number of years, will be discontinued because of playgroup regulations.

They both added to village events and were popular in the beginning.

***Jenny Stacey***

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01423 883583



## Farnley Estate WI

Farnley Estate WI starts 2026 with a new venture, as we offer our members the opportunity to try something new which we have not included in our yearly programme before. In addition to our monthly meetings, our members can enjoy regular social outings.

We will be visiting places such as the Harrogate Club, Yorkgate at Adel, Skipton Castle or a canal trip. These are just some of the events we have planned for this year. They will all involve a tea or coffee stop with cake, or even a meal.

To view our programme for 2026 please visit:

<https://yorkshire-north-west.thewi.org.uk/find-wi/farnley-estate>

All our meetings take place on the second Wednesday of the month at Leathley Village Hall at 7.30pm, unless otherwise stated. In addition, on the fourth Wednesday of the month, our new social events begin and these have been chosen by our members.

If you would like to come to any of the events above or want to know more about our WI, please contact Diane Hanline, our President, by email: [farnleyestatewi@gmail.com](mailto:farnleyestatewi@gmail.com).

# Other News

## **Location of public access defibrillators (PADS) in the benefice**

<b>Sicklinghall</b>	Attached to the outside wall of the school on Main Street (visible from the road)
<b>Kirkby Overblow</b>	Attached to the wall on the left of the entrance to the Shoulder of Mutton carpark (visible from the road)
<b>Kearby with Netherby</b>	Attached to the outside wall (to the left) of the Family Room at Maustin Park
<b>North Rigtion</b>	Attached to the side wall of The Square & Compass on Rigtion Hill
<b>Huby</b>	In the doorway of Almscliffe Hall
<b>Pool</b>	On the wall outside Pool Post Office Outside Pool Sports and Social Club On the wall adjacent to the main entrance of Old Pool Bank village hall on Quarry Farm Road
<b>Weeton</b>	Phone box opposite village green
<b>Castley</b>	Next to the seat on Castley Lane at the junction of Chapel Hill Lane
<b>Wharfedale Grange</b>	In the lobby of the barn Open Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm

It would be helpful to our advertisers and Village News if, when responding to an advert, you could mention you saw it here!

Village News cannot accept responsibility for the quality of goods or services advertised in the magazine.

# Directory of village groups and organisations

Group and Contact	Telephone/email	Website
<b>All Saints' Church, Kirkby Overblow</b> Jim Bennett Jeremy Cross	<a href="mailto:enquiries@allsaintschurchko.org">enquiries@allsaintschurchko.org</a> 07970 374658 01423 879066	<a href="http://www.all saints churchko.org">www.all saints churchko.org</a>
<b>Almscliffe Villages Community Association</b>		<a href="mailto:northrigtonevents@gmail.com">northrigtonevents@gmail.com</a>
<b>Girlguiding Harrogate SW Division</b>		<a href="http://www.girlguidingnyw.org.uk">www.girlguidingnyw.org.uk</a>
<b>Kirkby Overblow Village</b>	<a href="mailto:info@kirkbyoverblow.org">info@kirkbyoverblow.org</a>	<a href="http://www.kirkbyoverblow.org">www.kirkbyoverblow.org</a>
<b>Kirkby Overblow Drama Society (KODS)</b>	Richard Gisborne <a href="mailto:gisborne.richard@gmail.com">gisborne.richard@gmail.com</a> 07710 511640	
<b>Pool in Wharfedale News</b>	<a href="mailto:poolinwharfedalenews@gmail.com">poolinwharfedalenews@gmail.com</a>	<a href="http://www.pool-in-wharfedale.com">www.pool-in-wharfedale.com</a>
<b>Weeton Show</b> Candy Waller	01423 733404 e-mail via the website	<a href="http://www.weetonshow.co.uk">www.weetonshow.co.uk</a>
<b>Sicklinghall Cricket Club</b> Andy Wood	07816 347789 <a href="mailto:andy.wood@bl.uk">andy.wood@bl.uk</a>	
<b>Yorkshire Flower Club</b> Sandra Harder	01943 877516 <a href="mailto:bobandsandraharder@gmail.com">bobandsandraharder@gmail.com</a>	
<b>North Riton Ladies Lunch</b> Doris Telford	01423 734617	

## **BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

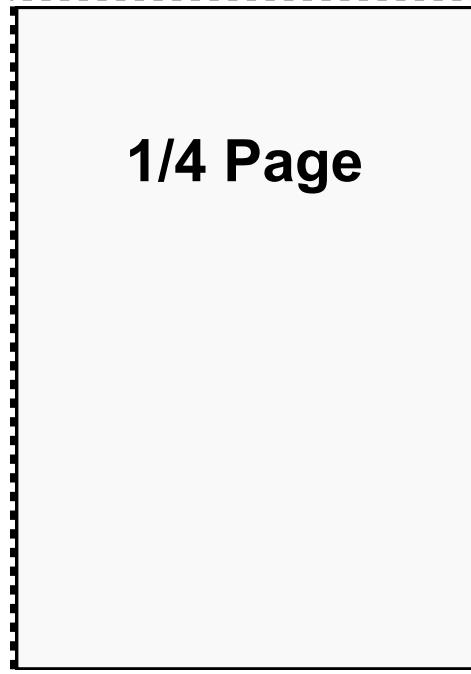
We are grateful to those who advertise in the business directory and ask our readers to support them whenever possible. Notice to advertisers - The charge per line for advertisements is £5.00 for a year's (6) issues, payable in advance.

**To place an advert contact Sarah Coughlan 0113 288 6310**  
**sarahecoughlan58@gmail.com**

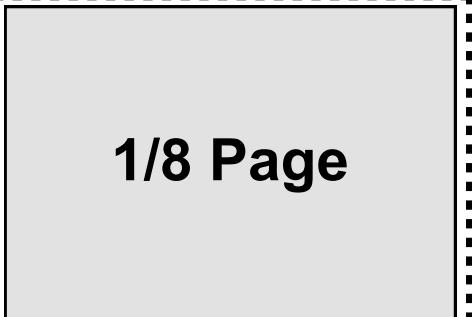
## **CHARGES FOR BLOCK ADVERTISEMENTS**

**PAYMENT IN ADVANCE PLEASE**

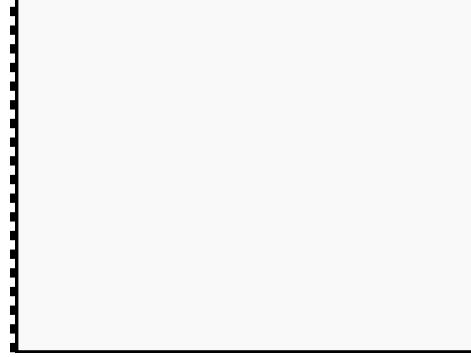
<b><u>SIZE</u></b>	<b><u>PRICE FOR ONE ISSUE</u></b>	<b><u>PRICE FOR YEAR (FOR SIX ISSUES)</u></b>
<b>eighth page</b>	<b>£12.00</b>	<b>£60.00</b>
<b>quarter page</b>	<b>£23.00</b>	<b>£115.00</b>
<b>half page</b>	<b>£43.00</b>	<b>£215.00</b>
<b>full page</b>	<b>£82.00</b>	<b>£410.00</b>



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**1/8 Page**



**1/2 Page  
(dotted  
outline)**

## THE CLERGY AND SUNDAY WORSHIP

**RECTOR:** The Revd Stroma McDermott  
Hayfield House, Strait Lane, Huby, LS17 0EA  
Tel: 01423 806878 email: [stroma.mcdermott@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:stroma.mcdermott@leeds.anglican.org)

**CURATE:** Emma James  
Tel: 07856 198293 email: [emma.james@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:emma.james@leeds.anglican.org)

**READER:** Moira Keith  
3 Park Way, Pool in Wharfedale, Otley, LS21 1LD  
Tel: 07794 488706  
email: [moirakeith2@gmail.com](mailto:moirakeith2@gmail.com)

**READER:** Jan Ali  
Tel: 07554 458131 email: [jan.ali@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:jan.ali@leeds.anglican.org)

**READER EMERITUS:** Lois Plows  
Ryeland House, Back Lane, Sicklinghall, Wetherby LS22 4BQ  
Tel: 01937 580632

**BENEFICE ADMINISTRATOR:** Davina Tyler  
email: [lowerwharfedalebeneficeoffice@gmail.com](mailto:lowerwharfedalebeneficeoffice@gmail.com)

**Methodist Church at Kearby** 3pm Sunday  
**PASTOR:** The Rev Gillian Robertson,

10 Whitsundale Close, Knaresborough HG5 0HX  
Tel: 01423 869730 email: [rev.g.r.robertson@btinternet.com](mailto:rev.g.r.robertson@btinternet.com)

**MINISTER:** The Rev Gordon Hay  
1, York Road, Knaresborough HG5 0AF  
Tel: 01423 863298 / 07852817475 email: [gordon.hay@methodist.org.uk](mailto:gordon.hay@methodist.org.uk)

**Methodist Church and Rainbow Centre in Pool**

**MINISTER:** The Rev Wendy Walker  
Circuit office: 07482 717810  
email: [wendy.walker@methodist.org.uk](mailto:wendy.walker@methodist.org.uk)

### Roman Catholic Church

Church of the Immaculate Conception administered by the Peter Middleton Trust  
Tel: 01937 581744

### CHURCHWARDENS

#### **Kirkby Overblow**

Jim Bennett 07970 374658  
Jeremy Cross 01423 879066

#### **North Riton**

Michael Bartlett 07740 741509

#### **Pool with Arthington**

Sue Ford 01132 842386

#### **Weeton**

vacant

#### **Sicklinghall**

Liz Boyd 01937 583893

#### **Kearby Methodist Chapel**

*Chapel Steward* Ivy Rogers 01423 869861

# village news

**Donations** Thanks to all those who have sent donations towards the cost of production. Such contributions are most welcome and should be sent to:

Mrs Vanda McKenzie  
The Old Rectory  
Kirkby Overblow  
Harrogate HG3 1HD  
Email: vandamckenzie@gmail.com

Or simply use  
our QR code to  
make donations  
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**Adverts** If you would like to place an advert in the magazine please contact:  
Mrs Sarah Coughlan

Mobile: 07890 039150  
Email: sarahecoughlan58@gmail.com

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**Deadline:** Material for the April/May issue by **Saturday 7 March**  
Please email: **lwparishnews@yahoo.co.uk**

## Parish Council Clerks

Sicklinghall  
Julie Clegg  
Tel: 07719 463328  
clerk@sicklinghallparishcouncil.org.uk

North Rigton  
Mike Richards  
Tel: 07885 768787  
northrigtonparishcouncil@gmail.com

Kearby with Netherby  
Julie Clegg  
Tel: 07719 463328  
clerk@kearbynetherbypc.org.uk

Kirkby Overblow  
Mike Richards  
Tel: 07885 768787  
clerk@kirkbyoverblowpc.org.uk

Pool in Wharfedale  
John Ryan  
Tel: 07766 547651  
clerk@poolparishcouncil.gov.uk

Weeton  
Situation Vacant  
clerk@weetonparish.gov.uk

**North Yorkshire Councillors**  
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c/o Democratic Services  
County Hall  
Northallerton DL7 8AD  
Tel: 07808 803667  
cllr.andy.paraskos@northyorks.gov.uk

**Leeds City Councillor**  
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Adel  
Leeds, LS16 8LG  
Tel: 0113 469 4785  
billy.flynn@leeds.gov.uk

Nathan Hull  
Quarry Farm Barn  
Pye Lane  
Burnt Yates, HG3 3EH  
Tel: 07577 031582  
cllr.nathan.hull@northyorks.gov.uk

**Sir Alec Shelbrooke MP**  
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London SW1A 0AA  
Tel: 0207 219 3000  
alec.shelbrooke.mp@parliament.uk

**Sir Julian Smith MP**  
(Skipton & Ripon)  
House of Commons  
London SW1A 0AA  
Tel 0207 219 7145  
julian.smith.mp@parliament.uk

## Local Councillors

## MPs