



Number 132, August 2021

Holiday fever

This summer there is just a tiny, tiny hint of normality returning to our communities as the government, rightly or wrongly, loosens the coronavirus restrictions with which we have lived for some time. This has meant that, although many of the smaller agricultural shows have decided to cancel for a second year, some of the bigger more commercial shows have decided to get organised and go for it.

Agricultural shows first began to appear in the 18th and 19th centuries, they were established by farmers to promote best practice in breeding livestock and crop production. Nowadays the agricultural shows can be quite commercial (they have to be) and it is possible to buy a caravan or a canoe, but they also offer a rare and important insight into farming and rural life. An

opportunity for public and farmers alike to celebrate all things agricultural. It is also good for peasant morale to meet with like-minded people who understand that there is a crisis round every corner, and they can also gossip about their neighbours who got their hay rained on.

One of these is the Great Yorkshire Show which has been held in Harrogate for the last 183 years. Remarkable. We decided we could get to the GYS and even stay over in a nice little hotel to make it a two day event and therefore it would qualify as a holiday, everyone's a winner.

I find it interesting that even though farmers spend most of their time looking after animals, they can stand and watch various breeds of sheep being judged at a show nearly all day, even though they are usually the same breeds they have at home. I enjoy watching the judging and like most

bystanders I have an opinion on how the judge is doing. Comments like "I don't agree with that" or "he or she can't tell one end of a sheep from t'other" are bandied about just out of earshot of the judge. In my experience the judges are so busy concentrating on the job in hand they are not listening to idle chatter.

Whilst watching the judging we are able to catch



Masham sheep at the Great Yorkshire Show 2021

up with fellow sheep breeders from all over the country. We compare lambing times, new tups, the weather, the price of feed, even Harry and Meghan got a mention. Nothing is off the agenda.

When the judging is over for the day (more tomorrow) we take in a bit more of the show. Visitor numbers feel to be down, there is a touch more room to manoeuvre and the atmosphere seems

a little flat. We make our way for a cuppa at the National Farmers Union stand and had to make do with a slice of caramel shortbread as restrictions don't allow for the usual buffet. This was a pity as I like to take the opportunity to eat as much as possible in order to offset some of the scandalous cost of subscription. I had to buy a "99" to make up for the disappointment.

By now it is time to find the hotel and enjoy an evening walk reflecting on a pleasant afternoon. Luckily we washed the car before setting off and it doesn't look so out of place in the car park.

Morning brings a pre breakfast walk in warm sunshine before an enjoyable hearty breakfast of smoked salmon, scrambled egg and black pudding. Yes, the chef did query it...

continued on Page 3

Welcome to your newsletter

Welcome to the August edition filled with news, articles, notices and pictures. As always, we are grateful to all who have contributed articles and photographs, advertisers and sponsors.

We would encourage everyone to continue supporting all our local businesses.

If you want to contribute to the next edition due to be available in October, please do get in touch with news, views or announcements: claphamnewsletter@gmail.com

The Newsletter Committee



October 2021 edition

Deadline date: 20th September

Email: claphamnewsletter@gmail.com

Newsletter information

Editions are produced for February, April, June, August, October and December. **The next edition will be produced for October. Deadline: 20 September.**

Articles

If you want to submit an article it should be c300 words and, if possible, accompanied by a high resolution photo. We reserve the right to edit copy.

Contact Andy: claphamnewsletter@gmail.com

Advertising and Sponsorship

Advertising rates start from £10. We are able to print in colour thanks to sponsors. We would love to hear from you if you, or your business, would like to advertise or sponsor colour printing.

Contact Judith: claphamnewsletter@gmail.com

Distribution

If the printed edition is usually delivered to your home and you haven't received one by the 5th of the publication month - please collect a copy from one of our distribution points: Clapham Village Store, the porch at St James Church Clapham, the porch at St Matthew's Church Keasden, Newby Methodist Church, or the waiting room at Clapham Station. Distribution points will have copies available on the 1st of every publication month.

Distribution procedures may change during Covid, but newsletters will be available from the distribution points.

Website

For ongoing news updates and more see: clapham-news.net

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Lambing Service



Photograph: Stephen Dudley

St Matthew's Church Keasden hosted a Lambing Service with a difference on 27 June. Starting by gathering at the new burial ground being created adjacent to the church to see the good progress being made there, a congregation of around 50 people then reassembled in the churchyard for an enjoyable time of singing, thanksgiving and conversation, accompanied of course by the lambs and some dogs.

Here, John Dawson gives a reading whilst everyone, sheep included, listen on.

John Davies

Sheep gathering



Shepherds sort the gathered sheep by ownership at the Newby Cote sheepfold

The July edition of 'The Dalesman' magazine has an article on the Ingleborough Fell Gathers, by local photographer John Bentley. Last year John followed several of the sheep gathers on Ingleborough and has put together a collection of his photographs, plus a write-up of the events.

John also has a photo exhibition at The Folly in Settle scheduled for October this year: entitled 'Going to Market'. It is a collection of his photographs of livestock markets from the 1970s to the present.

Andy Scott

Holiday fever

continued from Page 1

Back at the show we make a tour of the superb entry of cattle. We are not allowed into the sheds but watch from a short distance. I have nothing but admiration for those who exhibit livestock in the shop window of the agricultural world, giving up their time to demonstrate to the world the knowledge and dedication that goes in to breeding such quality animals.

We take a turn of the machinery lines where we see the country's largest combine and the new electric tractors as well as some machinery that I have no idea as to what it does. Normally these stands are teeming with hospitality and people but not this year.

We visit the supermarket stands (free strawberries) and I am pleased that they all make much of the connection between the British farmer, their stores and the customer. I am confident that the stores benefit more from the relationship than either the farmer or the customer but at least they make an effort.

Prince Charles makes an appearance by helicopter in the afternoon which certainly gathers the crowds. He stops and chats regularly with many people as he makes a brief tour of the livestock. As usual he shows a little more interest in the native breeds but that is only my opinion.

We watch the Carriage-Driving for half an hour which is as impressive as ever. Those heavy horses have such a heritage on our farms, they were the powerhouses almost since time began. My Dad always said "you've never lived until you've galloped a heavy horse".

The Masham sheep are judged in the afternoon and we make our way to watch that. For some reason the numbers in each class are up considerably compared to previous years, as is the quality. Luckily we have an experienced judge in charge (the GYS is no place for a novice, it's a cauldron) and he works his way through the classes with a cool head on a hot day. I found myself disagreeing with him only once, which I will discuss with him in the mart café sometime.

We left the GYS having enjoyed our visit, we learnt a bit, met some interesting people and crucially managed to avoid buying either a caravan or a canoe ...

John Dawson

Keasden rainfall report

	2020	2021
May	Nil	15" or 38.1cm
June	8½" or 21.59cm	1" or 2.4cm

Crooklands, Newby

Rainfall - year to date 2021		
Jan 18.5cm	Feb 8.2cm	Mar 17.2cm
Apr 1.0cm	May 18.1cm	Jun 1.85cm



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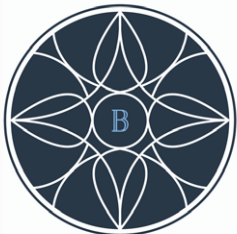
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Keeping a close check on the natives!

It seems a slightly incongruous sight, twelve adults paddling around in Clapham Beck, earnestly scouring the river bed, small blue nets in hand. “They look a bit old for playing at pond dipping,” I hear one bemused visitor remark.

But natives of our parish will likely know that we share our river with another important native species, the White-Clawed Crayfish. The annual survey of Clapham Beck helps to establish that our shy, endangered aquatic residents are thriving. It is also a great opportunity for Paul Bradley, a specialist in ecological surveying, to train others. The survey usually takes place in July. The crayfish are carefully counted, measured and checked for any sign of disease. “Clapham’s population of white-clawed crayfish has remained pretty constant for nearly 22 years, and we need to keep it that way,” Paul tells me. “The more opportunities we have for education, the better our chances of ensuring their long-term survival.”

So what is the main threat? “Invasive species,” he says. “Like the impact of grey squirrels on our native reds, just one American Signal Crayfish can wipe out an entire population of native crayfish within a short space of time.”

And how do we keep invaders out? “Never bring any water creature back from elsewhere and certainly never release it into the Beck,” Paul advises. “You never know what you might be introducing.”

Every one of us can play an important part in becoming guardians to the crayfish, helping to maintain the diversity and sustainability of river life.



Paul Bradley and the white-clawed crayfish

Maria Farrer

Sustainability Group's Information-Exchange Day



Saturday 11th September 2021, 10am - 2pm
The Village Hall, Cross Haw Lane, Clapham LA2 8DZ
Following Clapham-cum-Newby Parish Council’s adoption of the group’s Climate Emergency Motion in December 2020, the group has been meeting to discuss how individuals and the community can respond to the challenges that face us. While acknowledging that a number of local ‘green’ activities have been taking place for some years, the group wanted current expert advice about many more ways with which we can reduce our carbon footprints, get used to living more sustainably, and how we can afford big domestic, local and national changes.

The programme for the event is still to be finalised but aims to include contributions on the following topics:

- Electric Cars and Electric Bicycles
- ‘Green’ replacements for oil-fired domestic boilers
- Gardening for wildlife
- Local experience of a domestic air source heat pump
- The installation of a small scale wind turbine
- Wood pellet-powered domestic boiler
- Installation of photo-voltaic panels
- The Yorkshire Rotters on ‘Reduce, Re-use, Recycle’, and home-composting

Other experts who hope to be present will represent:

Regenerative agricultural practices

Wild flower meadows

Tree-planting schemes and research into an alternative for plastic tree-guards

Parking is limited directly outside the Village Hall. Please leave access for those with limited mobility or equipment to unload. There is a signposted Yorkshire Dales National Park Car Park within walking distance of the Hall. If you have to park on the roadside, please respect access to dwellings, fields and farms.

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Village Hall news

The hall has been open this summer for limited hire and activities such as Yoga and Tai Chi which have been very popular in our well ventilated facility. Now that restrictions



have eased, we intend to reopen the whole hall, including the supper room, kitchen and toilet facilities. This will allow our regular groups to return and for us to take new bookings. We would expect hirers and group leaders to make their own assessments of the Covid risks for their events and advise attendees accordingly.



However, we now also want to take this opportunity to relaunch the hall as a community asset and are keen to find out what sort of activities people would like to see happening in the hall in the future. With that in mind, we have included a short questionnaire on Page 19 of this newsletter. Please do complete the cut out section which shows some ideas for potential activities and let us know your own thoughts. Completed questionnaires will be entered into a prize draw that will be made on 31st August with the lucky winners notified ASAP after that date. You can leave the form in the box at the Village Store. Alternatively, just email us with your own ideas. For more information on hire charges, discounts and availability contact Chris Horsewill or Angie Martin via claphamcumnewbyvillagehall@gmail.com

Finally, if anyone has a key to the hall that they no longer use could they please let us know so that we can issue them to any new users. Or perhaps your group would like to return to the hall and use it on a regular basis again? Do let us know!

Angie Martin

Macmillan coffee morning

September is around the corner and "THE BIG COFFEE MORNING" will be held in the Village Hall on Friday 24th September 10:00am until 12.00midday.

We are planning a Covid-Safe environment and will request that everyone would wear a face mask when not seated. A one way system will be in operation, entry from the back door exiting through the fire doors on Cross Haw Lane. We realise that not everyone is able to join us so we have enclosed an envelope for a donation to this worthy cause.

Annie Farrer has offered to do a POP UP CAFE outside her house on Riverside when the weather forecast looks fair. We will try to let as many people know when it is to happen.

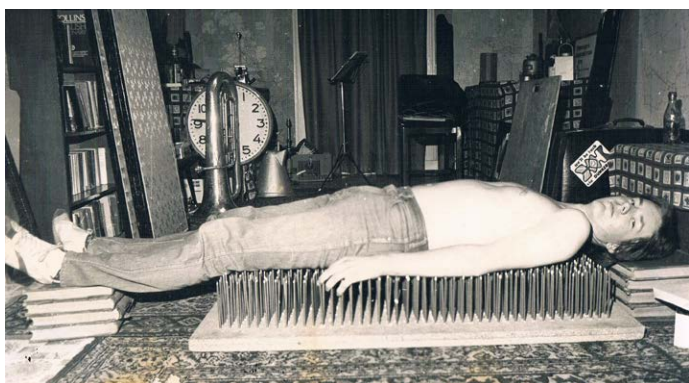
For both these events, we will need help. If you can either bake or be willing to help on the morning, can you let Liz Mason or me know.

We'd like to thank the Newsletter team for their help and in delivering the envelopes.

Last year we raised a record £1600. Let's hope we can do as well again this year. Thanking you in anticipation.

*Jackie Kingsley 015242 51240. Mob 07711730819
or Liz Mason 015242 51319*

Do you remember?



During lockdown we have sorted out the Village Hall archives, going back nearly 100 years. One of the things which came to light was a photograph of a young man lying on a bed of nails, presumably a fundraising stunt. But there is no caption, nothing written on the back, nothing to identify the young man or the event. Can you help? Do you remember this event? Do you know when it happened?

We have spoken to one or two of Clapham's long-time residents and they tell us that the young man is Michael Winstone, the son of Rev Peter Winstone who was Vicar of Clapham 1967-1984. We are told that Peter raised money for the church by lying on a bed of 2,240 six-inch nails for 12 hours in 1976 or 1978, wearing nothing more than a pair of swimming trunks. We are also told that son Michael repeated this brave stunt, but no-one seems to know when. Sadly Rev Peter Winstone died in October 2019 and we have no idea where Michael is now.

Does the photograph trigger any memories? If you think you can solve this mystery then please ring me on 015242 51816 or let the newsletter team know via claphamnewsletter@gmail.com

Ken Pearce



JOIN US AT OUR

COFFEE MORNING



FRIDAY 24th SEPTEMBER
10am-12.00
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Liz Mason (51319) or
Jackie Kingsley (51240)



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Wednesday 18th August 2021
6.30pm

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To register to take part in the Zoom meeting please email the CVS Secretary for details by

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Parish Council news

Parish Council Meeting of 22nd June 2021

The Parish Council met on the evening of 22nd June 2021 with five members of the public present. The meeting was held at Clapham Village Hall for the first time since February, 2020 under conditions of social distancing.

The police had submitted two reports which were read to the meeting. These set out details of 24 matters dealt with in the period between 27th April and 24th May 2021. These included an instance of graffiti at the A65 underpass, a sheep in a pothole involving a call out for Cave Rescue, a loose bull on the B6480 and a car rally reported as anti-social behaviour.

Highways matters were considered, the Council noting that a letter had been sent to North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) with regard to a long-standing application to convert Thwaite Lane into a byway open to all traffic. This requested that some progress be made in relation to the seventeen year old application and set out the Parish Council's opposition to it. The Council also decided to go ahead with replacing a waste bin near to Ivy Cottages Clapham with a larger dual purpose bin. Further, it asked the clerk to write again to NYCC with regard to the state of Laithbutts Lane and to report potholes in the Station Road and Keasden Road areas.

The Council was made aware of NYCC's response to its request that Children Playing signs be considered for Riverside. It was indicated that these could not be put up because there is neither a school nor a playground on the road concerned. There was some discussion of speeding and road safety issues in Clapham, particularly on Riverside. The Council urged careful and considerate driving on the part of all motorists and indicated its willingness to consider funding cycling proficiency training for children in the village subject to there being sufficient demand. Anybody who is interested should contact the Clerk to the Council (details below). Anyone wishing to raise particular concerns over speeding can do so via the following link <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/speed-limits-speeding-and-road-safety-concerns>

Plans to install a handrail in Clapham Churchyard have been approved. Also it was told that a recent safety inspection of the churchyard had taken place with no danger apparently being found to be posed by any of the memorials within it. The clerk was asked to make arrangements for possible safety issues with regard to two trees to be resolved.

An update was received about the Neighbourhood Planning initiative. The draft plan had been published thanks to the hard work of the team involved. There is to be a re-application for funding. It is hoped that focus groups will be formed in the autumn and that a referendum can be held next spring.

The Council was also informed that the Community Rail Partnership had made contact so plans for the installation of a defibrillator at Clapham Station can now go forward.

With regard to the climate emergency issue, the Council was informed that there has been contact with Clapham Church in connection with a proposed resource library.

Efforts are underway to find a place to store it. There is to be an event on 11th September 2021 with ten contributors involved so far.

The Council received its Internal Auditors report to members with no concerns being highlighted. Documents were approved and signed to comply with the External Audit process.

Planning matters were considered. The Council expressed its concerns over an application to create a timber wagon turning and timber stacking area and to maintain and improve a timber extraction route on Thwaite Lane because it felt there would be a threat to the safety and amenity of other users of the lane, an adverse effect on the surface of the byway and an adverse effect in Austwick from large vehicles using narrow roads through the village. There were no objections to other applications: tree works in the Clapham Station area, an extension at Giffords, Keasden and development of the former allotment site, Cross Haw Lane Clapham. Decisions by Craven District Council to approve an amendment to planning permission already granted for the Dairy, Hammon Head Hall and to vary a condition attached to planning permission granted for development at the Water Treatment Works were noted.

continued on Page 11

Clapham Lecture Group AGM

Tuesday 14th September at 7pm

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Photo: Andrew Fletcher

Parish Council news

continued from Page 9

Parish Council Meeting of 27th July 2021

The Parish Council met again on the evening of 27th July 2021 with seven members of the public in attendance.

As usual, a report from the police was received at the start of the meeting. This set out details of twenty-five matters that had required police attention during the period from 21st June to 26th July 2021. Included were two sudden deaths, highway obstruction, an alleged breach of the covid-19 regulations, suspicious vehicles, a missing dog, and an instance of alleged anti-social behaviour.

The issue of parking in Clapham village again came up for discussion. Among possible solutions discussed were residents parking zones and possible temporary off-road visitor parking, both of which, it was concluded, presented potential difficulties. For the time being, the clerk was asked to request clearer signage indicating to visitors the availability of and directions to the National Park Car Park.

With regard to other highways matters, the Council noted that potholes on Keasden Road and Station Road had been reported to North Yorkshire County Council as had the long grass obstructing the view from Station Road at its junction with the A65 and the poor state of the public right of way along Laithbutts Lane. It was also noted that the waste bin near to Ivy Cottages, Clapham had been replaced by a larger bin at the top of Riverside.

The Council received an update in relation to the Neighbourhood Planning initiative. It was informed that a further grant has been approved to provide funds for focus groups, leaflets and hard copies of the report and that a number of parishioners had expressed interest in participating in the focus groups. The Council was also told that the status of a site on Cross Haw Lane had been amended so that it is "red listed" as not for development.

Plans to install a defibrillator at Clapham Station were discussed.

The Council was informed that the order for the machine has been prepared. This will now be forwarded so that the machine can be made available for installation.

In relation to Climate Emergency matters, the Council was told that, at a recent event at Clapham Church, there had been some promotion of a forthcoming event scheduled for the 11th September 2021 and some promotion and sales of sheep fleece for use in gardens and allotments. The Council was also informed that Julian Smith MP will be spending some time at the Information-Exchange Day event on 11th September. Some form of community project is under consideration, the Council was told, although precise details have not yet been finalised.

Among other ongoing issues discussed was the provision of a handrail in Clapham churchyard. The clerk was asked to give the go-ahead to the contractor chosen to do the work. This is to be funded in part by the Parish Council, which is responsible for the maintenance of the churchyard and in part by the generosity of the church and its parishioners.

The Parish Council gave its support to a proposed donation of a memorial bench to be placed in Newby, it is hoped this will be by way of replacement of an existing bench, the condition of which has deteriorated.

In relation to planning matters, the Council noted that Craven District Council had approved an amendment of plans for development at the Water Treatments works. Plans for development at the former allotment site on Cross Haw Lane were discussed. Concerns had been raised in some quarters because of a proposed stone outbuilding at the rear of the property. The Council's resolution, in June 2021, not to oppose the plans stood but the Council undertook to communicate to Craven District Council that this is not to be taken as an inroad to development behind the current building line.

The Council also indicated its approval of two proposals for tree planting in the Keasden area.



*Clapham village
Photo courtesy of Clapham village Facebook page*

For more information on the work of the parish council please click on the parish council information link at www.claphamyorkshire.co.uk

Parish Council meetings will generally be on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The remaining meetings in 2021 will take place on the following dates at 7:30pm and should be held in the village hall.

Tuesday 28th September
Tuesday 26th October
Tuesday 7th December

The Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer Nigel Harrison can be contacted by email: njhar1957@gmail.com or telephone 015242 51165

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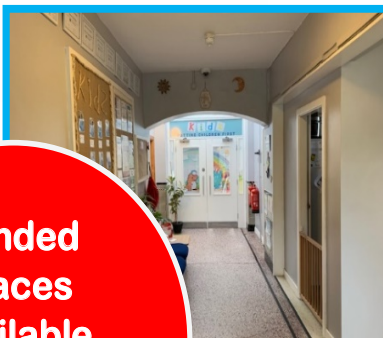
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Call: 01524 241903 for more information info@kidzdaynursery.co.uk

www.kidzdaynursery.co.uk

Church news



Shepherds meet on the top of Ingleborough prior to gathering the sheep, 28 June 2021
Photo: John Bentley

John's notes: How we long to be gathered in safety

*We have been wandering the wilds for some time:
how we long to be gathered in safety.
Out in all weathers from foulest to fair:
how we long to be gathered in safety.
Blown by the wind, scorched by the sun, soaked by the rain,
stuck in the mud:
how we long to be gathered in safety.
How we long to be gathered safely again with those who
lost track on the way.
How we long to be able to chew cud together once more,
and pass the time of the day.
How we long to be able to call and respond to all those
things we've been longing to say.*

John Bentley's very atmospheric photograph of some of our local shepherds 'gathering the mountain' on Ingleborough in June, illustrates something which is a deep part of our cultural heritage around here: the gathering-in of the sheep for shearing is one of those centuries-old shepherding practices which mark out our year, every year, and it resonates with our Christian scripture readings which so often invite us to see God as our good shepherd, and ourselves as the flock who he gathers - in safety. As surely as our local shepherds gather in their flock from the mountain each year, so also surely our God promises to bring his flock back to our fold, the place of safety, security, community. As coronavirus restrictions are lifted, this theme of gathering together again after a long time apart, is very current, and is both a relief and a cause of anxiety: reflecting on the meaning and the practices of our local traditions may just help us to approach this time with caution, and with particular care for others, especially those who are most vulnerable to Covid-19.

A prayer, then, for a time of re-gathering:

At this time of change in our society we pray for each other: for the vulnerable ones that they may be protected by all others; for the anxious ones that they may feel safe in the company of others; for those facing big decisions about their work, their finances, and other circumstances of life, that they may be well-supported and guided by those around them; for those keen to explode back into the fullness of

social life: that they do so safely and wholesomely; for those who need more time before venturing out, may they feel at ease in doing so. May we know the presence of Jesus the Good Shepherd in our lives as he gathers us and restores us to ourselves and each other. In His name we pray. Amen

John Davies

john.davies@leeds.anglican.org

01524 805928

Read the Churches Weekly Newsletter (online every Saturday): bit.ly/churches-newsletter

'How we long to be gathered in safety' and all my talks can be accessed at bit.ly/johndavies-talks

Church Services in August and September

All our churches are now open every day for individual prayer.

August

1st	9.30	Eldroth Combined Benefice Communion
	11.00	Clapham Pets Service
8th	9.30	Austwick Holy Communion
	11.00	Keasden Holy Communion
15th	11.00	Clapham Holy Communion
	6.30	Eldroth Evening Prayer
22nd	9.30	Austwick Holy Communion
	7.00	Keasden Forest Church
29th	10.30	Austwick Messy Church

September

5th	9.30	Eldroth Harvest Festival
	11.00	Clapham Holy Communion
12th	9.30	Austwick Holy Communion
	11.00	Keasden Holy Communion
19th	11.00	Clapham Holy Communion
	6.30	Eldroth Evening Prayer
26th	9.30	Austwick Holy Communion
	7.00	Keasden Harvest Festival

Also, each Wednesday, 10.30 Austwick: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer).

For up to date details of our services and events, see church noticeboards or our weekly newsletter.

Methodist Church, The Green, Newby

Services are taking place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 11am. More details available from the Revd Stephen Caddy - phone: 015242 61257 or by email: Stephen.f.caddy@gmail.com

Bethel Chapel, Cross Haw Lane, Clapham

Sunday services at our chapel at 11am and 6.30pm.

We are supporting Skipton Foodbank - open at the chapel on 4th Saturday of the month from 10am to 12 noon. Sportsreach (children's football and netball) takes place from 4th to 8th August.

For further updates, please visit us on Facebook or our Bethel Chapel website: www.bethelchapelclapham.org

Kennel cough in dogs

Kennel cough is caused by various viruses and bacteria which cause inflammation of the throat, lungs and airways. The illness also presents itself with a persistent, hacking cough that resembles the sound of choking.

Kennel cough is highly contagious and is spread via contact with another infected animal or by inhaling/ingesting secretions from an infected nose or mouth, e.g. sneeze/cough, food bowl/toys. Incubation period can be from 2 days to 2 weeks.

Symptoms:

Mild

- Dry, persistent, hacking cough
- Retching and gagging
- Runny nose
- Eye discharge
- Sneezing

Severe

- Loss of appetite
- Listlessness
- Fever
- Pus discharge from the nose
- Chesty cough that produces phlegm

While highly contagious the illness, in most cases, is not serious and symptoms will improve on their own within a few weeks. There are exceptions to this, however, and owners of elderly dogs, puppies and dogs with underlying health issues should monitor the condition closely as it can develop into pneumonia.

There's no specific test to diagnose kennel cough, but a vet can define the illness from the symptoms shown. In most cases no medication is prescribed for kennel cough.

Harriet Robinson

Dalehead Veterinary Group

Thank you!



We would both like to pass on our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped at the weekend at the end of June. It was such a worry when Bracken and Kestrel both disappeared, particularly as Kestrel is still a puppy. So many people came forward to help in many different ways from searching, to sharing on Facebook pages and creating and sticking up posters.

We were so relieved to find them on Sunday evening after the wonderful Lambing Service at Keasden. They were tangled up in the edge of a wood – we had both looked there before – it must have been the direction, or the light walking back from church, or maybe all the prayers offered up brought a result? Thank you everyone!

Jules and Simon Drummond-Hay

The saga of the nesting box

Back in early spring, I was just starting out on the nature trail when a beak, tentatively poking out of the nesting box by the lake, arrested my attention. Who was it?

I waited breathlessly to find out, together with a couple of visitors who joined my quest.

Much patient waiting and many peeks out of the nesting box later, a nuthatch finally emerged.

Delighted, I sat to watch it carrying short thick twigs for nest-building, occasionally encountering the challenge of a horizontal burden not fitting the width of the opening! Pecking resonated from within, reminiscent of a woodpecker.

At one point it chased off two blue tits in a nearby tree. A little touchy I thought. The nuthatch then disappeared off on other business. In its absence, the blue tits cheekily returned, not only landing on the nesting box, but actually going in and removing one of the thick twigs. Intrigued, I waited to see

what would ensue. That wait lasted another 2 months, with no other observable activity (I did go home in between!), and I concluded it was a stalemate.

At the beginning of June however, there was the nuthatch, busily searching for food, oblivious to outside observers, feeding its very hungry young in the nesting box. Just one, ravenous and highly curious about the outside world, poking its head out further and further, turning almost full circle as it gazed about in wonder. Two days later it had gone.

Then last week I saw it feeding on the nutholder by the edge of the trail. It had survived the outside world so far. After last year's tragedy, when the box came down in a storm just before fledging time, this year, success.

Keep an eye out for the fledgling on the trail. If you are really quiet and still, you might just see it.

Caroline West



Sustainability matters - how hard can it be?

Be it in the home or in business, trying to be more “sustainable” is never quite as easy as it seems. There are many complexities in the “net zero” equation: a conflict between actively striving for good practice in the reduction of carbon versus the amount of carbon produced in the process of achieving or realising that practice and, often, the cost involved in doing so. These are equations that are hard to balance and we need to end up on the right side and not the wrong side to be successful sustainability practitioners.

At Glencroft, Edward Sexton recognises the constant challenges of making a business more sustainable. Glencroft has always been keen on recycling, up-cycling and re-using and, more recently, have moved away from plastic packaging and tape. But going further is not always simple. Take switching from a polyester cap lining to sustainable organic cotton. “It’s taken us nearly a year,” Edward tells me. “There’s no point in using regular cheap cotton as it is often made in such a way as to produce a detrimental impact on the environment.

So we went for GOTS certified so we know people are paid a proper wage and it’s sustainable. But it’s also much harder to get hold of and the options are limited due to lower levels of demand.” He has also been trying to source woven cotton labels for his products. “Not possible at present. Wool ones are available but the price is extortionate and there is only so much you can pass on to customers. But I’m not giving up.” At Glencroft sustainability really does matter. “Watch this space,” Edward adds, “because we have plenty more interesting developments in the

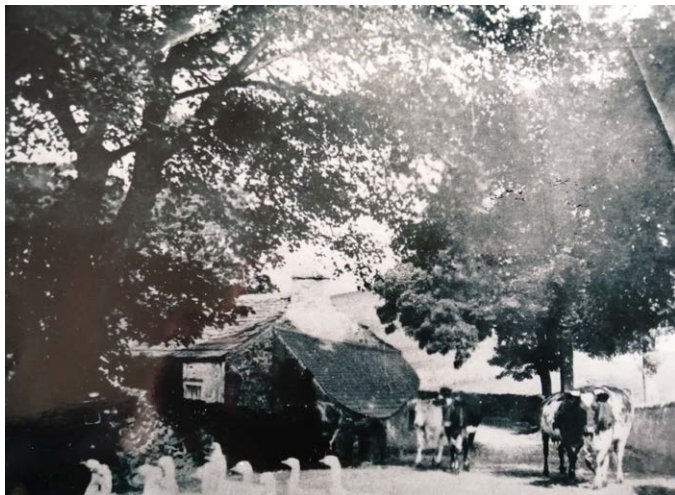


pipeline”. For Glencroft’s blog, please see: <https://www.glencroftcountrywear.co.uk/blog/>

There will be a chance for all of us to consider and discover more about some of the challenges and solutions with the new sustainability resource centre being set up in St James’s Church and at the SustainabilityGroup’s Information-Exchange Day at Clapham Village Hall on 11th September.

Maria Farrer

Then and now



Our predecessor in the house thought that it had originally been a detached kitchen for a larger building in the field - a building probably associated with the monastic grange in Newby. Given that dissolution of the monasteries happened in the mid-16th century, that time was some 150 years earlier than a date stone (1699) that was found above a blocked up doorway. The initials on the date stone are those of a family called Foster and there were several families of that name in Newby then.

We have photos of people who lived here in about 1911, when Crooklands was a farm and the “Then” photo was



taken in about 1928. The farm was sold off in the 1960s. At various times through the centuries, it has offered accommodation - the road was a turnpike.

When we ran it as a B&B, we had several guests who had stayed here previously. These included two gents who didn’t bring their wives in case they still had to use the “dunnie” down the garden! (So they said!).

We still get the occasional visits from Bleak Bank’s cows - but not the geese.

Diane and John Elphinstone

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- Two shops, our Age UK General Shop and Second Time Around, our Furniture shop.
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Office times Monday - Friday 9am - 1pm

Office Hours Mon-Fri 9am - 1pm

(A message can be left at other times)

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Cheapside

Settle

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T: 01729 823066

Web: ageuk.org.uk/northcraven

Second Time Around

8 High Street

Settle

E: info2@ageuknorthcraven.org

T: 01729 824009

School Art Project

St James' Church Clapham is very pleased to announce that three local artists have been selected to create artwork celebrating the historical relationship between Clapham Church and School.

The arts project received a number of applications and, having carefully reviewed them, the planning group agreed that three artworks should be chosen for development over the coming months. The artists involved are Juliet Klottrup, James Innerdale and Emily Crossley, whose chosen artworks are a photographic exhibition, an illustrated children's book and a cross-stitch wall-hanging.

It was agreed that they represent excellent levels of quality, originality and diversity. Organiser Steven Patten said that "It is a privilege to celebrate and reward the energy and creativity of these three local artists. The variety of these contributions will together create a wonderful display and lasting testimonies to the church-school relationship. We wish the artists every success."

The artists will spend the summer working on their projects and the church aims to 'unveil' them all around Harvest-time. All three artists plan to make contact with former pupils as part of the development phase and they look forward to working with local people on their contributions.

John Davies

Wanted!

Behind the scenes in Clapham church a number of art installations are being carefully crafted in memory of Clapham School and the historic links it had with the church.

If you are an **ex-Clapham Primary School** student and would like to be involved in an art installation that will be in or around the church for years to come, then please email me at the address below.

All that is required of you is your name and a treasured memory of your time at Clapham Primary. For example:

Name: Emily Crossley

Memory: Feeding mealworms to Hilda, the school chicken.

Your memory can be as long or as brief as you would like it.

If you know other people who you went to school with, and who may not receive this newsletter but would want to get involved, then please pass along my email. If you have children who went to Clapham Primary, however briefly, please get them to share a memory with you.

The more names and memories I can collect, the better and more impactful the art installation will be so please get involved and email me.

Emily Crossley
emilycrossley333@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Plan - 24 people needed to join focus groups

Before the Clapham-cum-Newby Neighbourhood Plan enters its official consultation stage we would like to invite 24 people from within the parish to join a focus group to scrutinise the Plan's policies. This will help us to identify any areas that need further work.

There will be three separate groups, each comprising a maximum of 8 people. To make the process as easy as possible, each group will discuss a different set of policies.

We anticipate that focus group sessions will take no more than two hours.

Depending on the Covid regulations, we hope to run the focus groups in Clapham Village Hall. They will be set up so that people can sit at a reasonable distance apart in a well-ventilated location. If preferred, people will also be able to join remotely by Zoom.

The focus group dates will be confirmed shortly and those that have applied to take part will be given the information as soon as it is available.

To participate you need to either live or work in Clapham-cum-Newby. Ideally, we would like people from across the parish including Newby and Keasden.

To secure a place on a focus group please email: info@claphamplan.net or

call Ann Sheridan on 07866 096215

no later than 30th August 2021. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Thank you.

Adrienne Robins
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Bentham Community Primary School

Is your child aged 3+? Are you looking for Nursery provision locally?

Bentham CP School has a Nursery class for children aged 3+, led by a qualified teacher

15 hour Universal Funding available (9.00am-12.00noon every day)

30 hour funded places available (9.00am—3.00pm every day, option to extend to 3.30pm)

Transition to a Reception class in any school will be accommodated, including to Bentham CP School.

Come and visit us in action 015242 61412

Interim Headteacher: Mr T Hiley



Park news



House-to-House tabletop sale
Saturday 28th August 2021
10am-2pm

All proceeds go towards helping
maintaining the park and the
purchasing of equipment.

Maps of the stall locations will be available on
the day from various places in the village.
Including the village shop and The Lakehouse.

For further details please contact Amy on
07402293326

As many of you might have seen, we have been awarded £6,300 from Groundwork UK – a charity that works alongside Tesco's Community Fund. This has got our fundraising up to a massive £13,000 – allowing us to start the ball rolling with getting the zip-wire installed. We would like to thank everyone for their efforts in raising the money needed, whether this has been baking and selling cakes, holding yoga classes or birthday parties in the park, or donating via GoFundMe. We are all grateful for your help.

We are also holding our house-to-house table top sale in August - for anyone interested in holding a stall at their front gate or in their garden, we are asking for a minimum of a £5 donation – all proceeds go to the park. If you would like to hold a stall or want more information please text me on 07402 293326 or via Facebook Messenger.

We look forward to seeing you all in August at the table top sale and we are so excited about getting the zip wire installed! We hope all the children enjoy the summer holidays and stay safe.

*Amy North-Johnson
Secretary
Clapham Park Association*

Hilarity, hard work and hot sun ...



or blood, sweat and tears (without the blood and tears!) AKA having fun at the allotments

The new allotments are thriving and, after the slow start to the growing season, everything is now making up for lost time. And the long awaited moment finally came when relaxed Covid restrictions allowed the 'allotmenters' to pick up our greatly anticipated shed, kindly donated by John and Tricia Hibbert. Last week, those of us who were available, laid the foundations amid much hilarity. It was hot, hard work shovelling sand and backfill to level and stabilise the concrete slabs, interspersed with lighter moments of doing a group shuffle dance round in circles to compact the sand. Should have taken a video! Many thanks to everyone who helped.

See the next issue for part two of the shed construction ...

Caroline West

Suzy the sheep



The original artwork of Suzy the Sheep - the children's project to promote railway safety that they completed shortly before Clapham Primary School's closure this time last year - is now on proud display in the Village Hall.

Angie Martin

About Your Village Hall

What is the purpose of the Village Hall? Your Village Hall is a charitable community facility, held in trust, for the residents of Clapham and Newby. It is for your use to provide a hub for social groups, classes and private events across all age groups.

building so in 1964 it was legally handed over to trustees, together with a scheme of management based on the original 1927 constitution. The kitchen was extended in 1999 with grant aid.

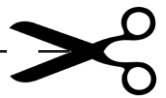


Where did it come from? In 1926 a barn, stables and loose box were given to the village by the Ingleborough Estate. These were converted into the present village hall using funds raised by the community and donations from the Farrer family. By 1946 the Estate wanted local trustees to take responsibility for the management and costs of the

Who runs it? It is run by a management committee who choose an executive from amongst their number. We encourage one member from each of the village's organisations to become a representative for their group and to join us. The committee meets quarterly and anyone in the community can attend. Our next meeting will be a

Continued overleaf

And it's over to you...!



Your ideas and suggestions are greatly appreciated. It's YOUR Village Hall - please help us to help you use it. Are you interested in any of the following? Please put a tick next to any activities you already attend in the hall or any that you might consider, should they become available. Perhaps you would like to include your own suggestions?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Keep Fit / Yoga / Pilates | <input type="checkbox"/> Self Defence / Tai Chi |
| <input type="checkbox"/> W. I. | <input type="checkbox"/> Knit & Natter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor Sports / Bowling / Table Tennis | <input type="checkbox"/> Dancing / Social or Classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Brewing / Wine Making | <input type="checkbox"/> Home Baking / Cake Decorating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nature / Sustainability Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge / Cards / Board games |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Club / Growing your Own | <input type="checkbox"/> Lectures / Talks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dressmaking | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts / Crafts / Flower arranging |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book Club | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kids' Club / Children's Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scouting / Guides etc | <input type="checkbox"/> Swap Shop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technology / Computer Club | <input type="checkbox"/> Age UK |

Continued overleaf

About Your Village Hall

Continued from p20

joint AGM and committee meeting which will take place in the autumn. Further details will be in the next newsletter.



What facilities does the Hall provide? We have two meeting rooms which can be hired independently or together and a fully equipped kitchen. The main hall can



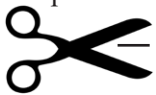
Who can use the Hall? Anyone can apply to book the hall but, in the main, our users are community clubs and groups, social events and fundraisers, classes or private hire. The executive tries to ensure that private and commercial use is carefully balanced with charitable community activities. Some hall activities are regular events whilst others are one-offs. If you want to book the hall, just contact the booking secretary (details below). Because of the impact of Covid, we have halved the cost of the room hire until the end of the year for some of our long standing regular non-commercial users to help encourage them get re-established and also to provide the opportunity for new community groups to start.

accommodate up to one hundred guests, and can be set up with a stage area or the fixed projector screen. The smaller supper room can accommodate groups of up to 18 seated. Chairs and tables can be arranged in the hall in a wide variety of layouts as seen in some of the photographs. We have a music system complete with amplifier, CD player, speakers and microphone along with a loop system for the hard of hearing. The building also has high-speed B4RN wi-fi which is free to use for attendees.

Village Hall Relaunch Working Party

Booking Secretary: 015242 51716

or email: claphamcumnewbyvillagehall@gmail.com



And it's over to you...!

☐ Any others? Please list

Please add any other comments below. We would particularly like to hear from anyone who wishes to help, advise, or be involved.

You can complete your form anonymously but, if you would like to be entered into the prize draw, please give your name and contact details.

Name

Contact Details

(email / phone / address)

Your completed questionnaire can be left in the box provided in Clapham Village Store or you can copy and email to: claphamcumnewbyvillagehall@gmail.com

Please return completed forms no later than 31st August 2021

Steam update

It's all slipped into a bit of a routine here at the station, with pretty regular excursions and engine movements in amongst the passenger service trains. There are now fairly regular "Dalesman" touring services over the Settle and Carlisle line, starting out from York, Chester or Lancaster, on Tuesdays and some Thursdays. Where these pick up, or leave, their steam engines at Hellifield then the light engines often run through Clapham as they head from or to Carnforth.

These are continuing into August and September. We also have the Scarborough Spa Express passing through on Thursdays, though this is most usually under vintage diesel traction for part of its journey. The weekends usually see "Fellsman" or "Cumbrian Mountain Express" services over the Settle and Carlisle too, though the nearest place to see steam on those is still to travel over to Helwith Bridge. There have also been a number of "Northern Belle" services through

Clapham, but these are always diesel-hauled throughout. "Flying Scotsman" passed through on Saturday 10th July, en-route to York from where it hauled a "Waverley" special the following day.



*Flying Scotsman approaches Ribbleshead Viaduct on Sunday 11th July
Photo: Katie Hawkins*

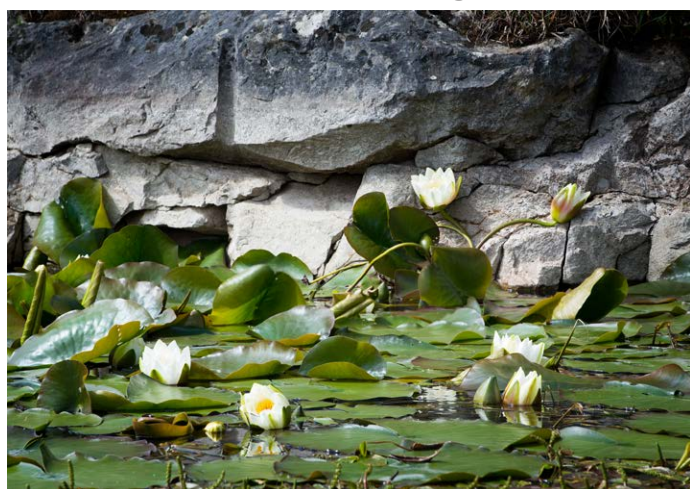
The first steam through the station in August is expected to be on Saturday 7th when an excursion from Norwich to Carlisle is currently booked to switch to steam at Hellifield, meaning that the engine is likely to have run through from Carnforth in order to get into position.

In other news, the work to install the CCTV and departure boards on the westbound platform has now been completed too, so the station is now fully equipped with its new technology. The

announcement tannoy do not appear to be operational as yet though. Or perhaps they've just been turned down to 'low' to avoid disturbing the natives!

Andy Scott

Settle Photographic Group 13th Annual Exhibition



*"Quarry Lilies"
Photo by Margaret Smith*

Covid-19 is not going to stop Settle Photographic Group from holding its thirteenth Annual Exhibition of members' images this year, but it will be online only. You can see all the photographs on the SPG website from 16th August from the comfort of your own home. Go to www.settlephotos.org, press a link and you will be there. You can also find them on YouTube and there's a selection on Facebook. There is no theme as members choose their favourites from the past year. The result is a wonderfully eclectic mix. Enjoy over 60 photographs covering all sorts of subjects from wildlife, the countryside, trains and much more.

Settle Photographic Group was formed in 2008, and now has well over 30 members drawn from Settle and surrounding villages. Meetings are held monthly throughout the year at Townhead Court in Settle with additional meetings during

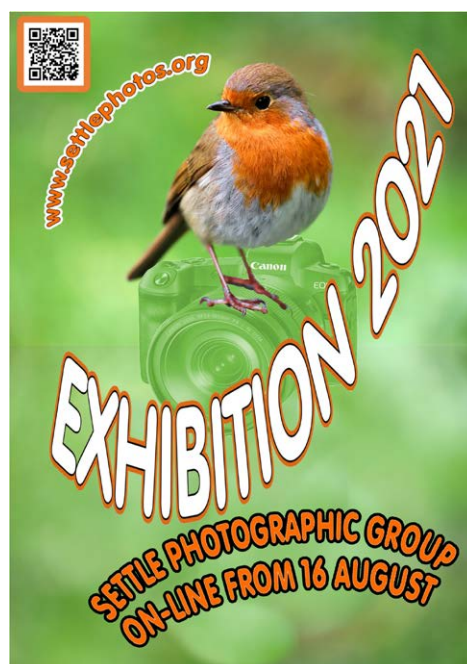
the winter months. Should it be impossible to meet face to face, meetings are held on Zoom instead.

We have a wide-ranging programme of activities, including talks, demonstrations and regular photographic challenges which give the opportunity to discuss our work with other members. We also visit local places of interest to take photographs.

Further information about the Group can be found on Facebook or on our website (www.settlephotos.org).

New members and visitors are always welcome.

Gill Pinkerton



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News from Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust is calling on landowners across Clapham to help remove redundant plastic tree guards from the landscape. As part of its Plastic Free Woodlands project, supported by the European Outdoor Conservation Association (EOCA), the aim is to remove at least 38,000 tree guards from Dales' woodlands over the next 18 months. These will be collected at two central sites and then recycled.

Most new woodland creation schemes in the Dales will have been planted using plastic tree guards that provide essential protection from voles, rabbits, and deer. If a woodland is well managed, these guards will be removed after approximately 10

years once the trees are established. The concern is that if the plastic guards are left on site, over time they will disintegrate into smaller fragments that find their way into our soils and waterways.

We are working with landowners, community groups, other organisations and volunteers to collect redundant tree guards and sending them to be recycled and used to make new products. We're calling on landowners who want to remove these guards from their woods to get in touch. We

can help to get them recycled and, in some cases, enlist volunteers to help.

As well as removing redundant guards from woodlands and trialling alternatives, Plastic Free Woodlands aims to break the reliance on plastic and find sustainable alternatives in woodland creation. We're currently trialling alternative



guards at six sites across the Dales and Nidderdale. It is hoped that the results of the trials will enable landowners to make an informed choice when planning a woodland.

YDMT is also working as part of the Forestry Plastic Group made up of representatives within the forestry sector from across the UK. The

working group is taking a collaborative approach to address the use and management of plastic and aims to encourage a change in attitudes and behaviours and reduce the amount of single-use plastic within the industry.

If you are a landowner with redundant tree tubes then please contact me at tubes@ydmmt.org, call 015242 51002 or pop into the office.

Mike Appleton

What is a ghost broker?

We are not talking about things that go bump in the night! 'Ghost brokers' are fraudsters who sell fake or invalid car insurance documents for a policy that does not exist, or for a genuine policy that has been set up using false details.

How do 'ghost brokers' operate? Fraudsters lure victims in with the offer of cheaper insurance premiums, usually via social media or by word-of-mouth. These fraudsters pose as middlemen for well-known insurance companies, claiming they offer car insurance at a significantly cheaper price.

This type of fraud is typically carried out by forging insurance documents, falsifying your details to bring the price down, or by taking out a genuine policy for you but cancelling it soon after.

Often, the victim is not aware that they have been scammed until they try to claim on the policy.

Last year, Action Fraud received 694 reports of 'ghost broking'. The reported losses for these victims alone totalled £113,500, with each individual losing an average of £559. Figures also indicate that over half (58%) of all reports in 2020 were submitted by men.

What could happen if I drive without valid insurance? If a driver is technically uninsured you could face £300 fixed penalty notice, get six points on your licence and your vehicle could be seized and crushed.

There are simple steps that you can take to spot these scams.

- If a deal seems too good to be true, then it probably is. If you are not sure about the broker, check them out on the Financial Conduct Authority or the British Insurance Brokers' Association websites. You can also contact the insurance company directly to verify the broker's details. You can also check to see if a car appears to be insured on the Motor Insurance Database website.
- If you think that you have been a victim you can report your concerns to Action Fraud at actionfraud.police.uk or on 0300 123 2040.
- You can also contact the Insurance Fraud Bureau website or via its confidential Cheatline on 0800 422 0421.

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Ruthie Woodhouse

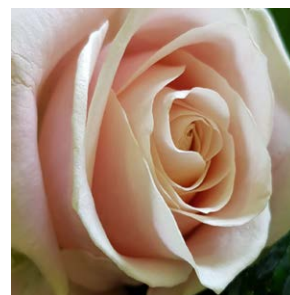
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Wordsearch

The challenge this issue is to identify the 40 birds whose names are hidden in the grid. All are birds you could reasonably expect to see if you were to take walks in the area across the seasons. There are two birds with 4-letter names but all the others are longer. As usual, they can be found across, down or diagonally, and forwards or backwards. No prize other than to get your name in print in the next issue: good hunting!

Andy Scott

T	S	V	M	H	O	R	T	N	X	N	V	K	L	A	Z	B	I	O	V	V	C	S	S	L
P	S	O	P	J	E	C	U	R	C	O	R	A	T	A	K	S	B	K	D	U	W	P	B	O
Y	E	L	N	D	M	T	G	F	T	R	E	B	I	E	P	J	Y	R	O	Z	Y	A	I	N
R	A	D	P	G	H	J	I	I	V	E	H	U	T	C	A	W	A	G	B	W	R	R	V	G
T	E	O	L	A	T	E	S	J	X	H	S	L	E	Q	G	Z	I	S	Y	N	J	R	X	T
B	L	P	T	D	L	H	X	A	N	Y	I	L	U	A	Z	X	R	N	O	V	B	O	O	A
L	A	C	P	D	R	G	R	D	L	E	F	F	L	U	X	G	Z	W	G	G	T	W	Y	I
D	H	L	F	I	Z	G	R	U	X	R	G	I	B	C	U	R	L	E	W	F	I	H	S	L
X	L	A	O	E	D	I	M	E	S	G	N	N	F	C	Q	A	V	E	I	Q	J	A	T	E
Y	R	Y	V	D	B	V	I	I	A	H	I	C	I	I	H	G	A	W	M	A	W	W	E	D
E	G	Y	R	K	H	B	S	W	R	T	K	H	K	T	U	A	S	Y	Z	G	R	K	R	T
R	U	Z	C	B	I	L	T	A	O	V	T	X	R	K	R	S	F	P	S	E	K	G	C	I
Q	O	A	W	R	E	N	L	Z	J	R	C	I	R	Y	M	A	F	F	L	Z	O	Z	A	T
S	L	Y	Y	J	K	J	E	Z	V	S	C	R	T	S	Y	G	M	B	I	L	T	V	T	Z
B	Y	J	G	Y	S	J	T	L	W	O	Y	N	W	A	T	G	R	E	D	N	D	K	C	W
G	N	I	W	D	E	R	H	C	B	P	F	M	O	V	T	A	L	F	S	R	C	X	H	O
W	A	D	K	C	A	J	R	R	D	C	L	F	N	I	W	N	I	N	A	U	C	H	E	L
N	I	K	S	I	S	L	U	Z	O	X	G	X	A	W	R	N	A	L	K	O	O	R	R	L
G	B	U	L	Y	K	F	S	R	O	B	I	N	O	H	C	R	L	S	Q	R	T	H	P	A
A	N	H	B	V	B	R	H	V	C	T	S	L	Y	H	C	A	A	H	A	M	L	E	C	W
L	G	A	R	D	E	N	W	A	R	B	L	E	R	C	M	F	R	C	M	E	Z	B	B	S
Q	G	R	E	Y	W	A	G	T	A	I	L	J	V	E	S	U	F	S	I	W	H	T	K	N
Z	A	Q	S	H	U	P	R	G	W	J	L	U	L	E	W	O	X	I	O	L	M	P	P	F
K	E	S	T	R	E	L	W	O	R	R	A	P	S	E	S	U	O	H	H	O	L	H	U	M
F	S	K	G	C	F	V	L	P	R	X	J	X	A	G	M	X	P	O	O	C	G	R	N	Y

Wordsearch - answers to last issue's puzzle

Firstly, congratulations to Martin Roxburgh for finding all 40 Yorkshire rivers: to him goes the winner's kudos on this occasion. Martin compounded this achievement by managing to find a river that I hadn't even intended to put in the puzzle - The Burn. I don't know what the chances are that a random letter generator could come up with a 4-letter river - and a Yorkshire one at that! - but I now very much regret not doing the lottery that day instead.

Anyway, here is the list of not 40 but 41 Yorkshire rivers:

Aire, Bain, Burn, Calder, Colne, Cover, Dearne, Derwent, Dove, Foss, Greta, Hertford, Holme, Hull, Humber, Kyle, Laver, Leven, Loxley, Nidd, Ouse, Ribble, Riccall, Rivelin, Rother, Ryburn, Seven, Sheaf, Skell, Skirfare, Spen, Swale, Tees, Tutt, Twiss, Washburn, Wenning, Went, Wharfe, Wiske, Worth.

Andy Scott

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Nature notes

Barred Red, Burnished Brass, Beautiful Golden Y... Coronet, Coxcomb Prominent, Grey Dagger... Heart and Dart, Marbled Beauty, True Lovers Knot...

This can be a relatively quiet time of year for birdwatchers. Although we can look forward to seeing housemartins and swallows performing their aerobatics over the village for another few weeks, swifts are already feeling the itch to head south and will soon be on their way. At the same time, our more parochial feathered friends are catching their breath after the frenetic activity of the breeding season, perhaps enjoying the thought that their demanding offspring can finally start looking after themselves.

Bright-line Brown-eye, Common Footman, Dark Arches...

There are still plenty of fledglings about, of course. I doubt there's a single garden in the village without a young blackbird, dunnoek or robin scurrying around under the bushes and, if you look closely enough, you will certainly spot some scruffy-looking little blue tits already beginning to lose their baby feathers. But the buzzard and kestrel nests on the ridge on the northern edge of the village are silent and empty, adventurous juveniles already accomplished in the air and ranging far and wide – just like the single curlew chick, who has finally moved on from the roadside fields below Laithbutts Lane to make his way towards the coast. *Early Thorn, Garden Tiger, Smoky Wainscot...*

Our gardens and the fields and hedgerows around the village might be a little quieter than they were a few weeks ago but that doesn't mean that August is a month without natural highlights; many of them of the unfeathered flying variety. The late spring frosts certainly held back our native butterflies but, after a slow start, we are beginning to see many more meadow browns, gatekeepers and ringlets along the footpaths. I feel sure that by the time you read this, the buddleias will be in full bloom attracting peacocks, red admirals and small tortoiseshells – and the allotments will be proving irresistible to cabbage whites!

Mother of Pearl, Mottled Rustic, Riband Wave...

Less conspicuous but just as spectacular and much more diverse are the airborne night visitors to our gardens. July's warm weather has given a boost to the local moth population – many of them quite exotic or curious-looking, with equally exotic and curious names. Just before writing these notes, I was delighted when Tim Hutchinson invited me to see the outcome of his first foray with a newly acquired moth

trap. The results were astonishing – no fewer than seventy different species, including most of those mentioned above, and one more with an intriguing evolutionary story to tell. The peppered moth.

A mystery emerged in Britain during the nineteenth century. The Industrial Revolution was changing the landscape. Factories and foundries darkened the skies with smoke from burning wood and coal. The sooty pollution blackened buildings, trees and bushes. Before long, Victorian naturalists noted another change: among peppered moths a new, much darker form had emerged. In time it came to be known as the charcoal version.

Birds were now able to spot lightly coloured peppered moths as they settled onto blackened trees and buildings while their new, much darker cousins blended in. The result was inevitable: the newcomers were less likely to be eaten. Not surprisingly, numbers of lighter coloured moths plummeted as their sooty relatives thrived. By the nineteenth seventies, in some especially polluted industrial areas 99% of peppered moths were the colour of charcoal.

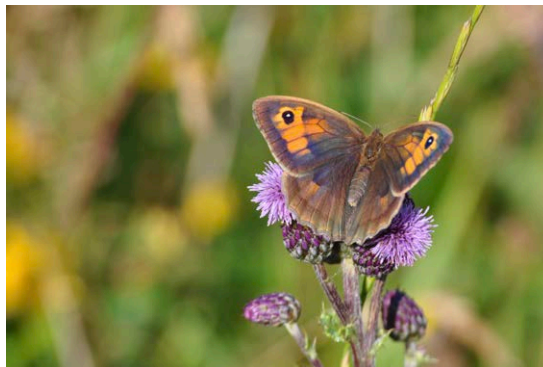
But there's a twist to the story. In the latter part of the 20th century, things began to change. Laws were introduced to reduce pollution. Factories could no longer belch quite so much soot and dirt into the atmosphere. It wasn't long before hungry birds began to pick out the black moths more easily. Today the charcoal version is quite rare and the lighter peppered moths dominate once more. Pollution didn't make the moths change colour. It just gave an advantage to any moths that carried the genetic change that turned their wings black. When the smoke and soot disappeared, so did the dark moths' advantage. Still the subject of extensive scientific research, the peppered moth is a prime example of rapid response to human-induced environmental change, driven by selective predation.

I'm certainly no expert on moths but it seems that this might be a good time to learn more. If you would like to see some day-flying examples or some of the butterflies to be found in this part of the Dales, a good option would be to sit for a while in the wildlife garden that Tim has established next to the River Wenning just below Clapham station. Anyone is welcome to re-charge their batteries in this tranquil riverside patch – do let me know if you come across anything interesting!

Brian Christian



Peppered Moth (*Biston Betularia*)
Photo: Brian Christian



Meadow Brown (*Maniola Jurtina*)
Photo: Brian Christian

St. James' church 'Open Day'

This year Clapham church held an 'Open Day' instead of the traditional Street Fair. This smaller event took place on Saturday, 24th July and was focused on the church and churchyard. Outside - there were stalls - the Sustainability Group plus books, cakes, plants, bacon butties and a trail around the churchyard had been arranged. Inside church - refreshments were served, there were beautiful floral displays, an exhibition featuring the 'Lockdown Thoughts' of people from the area and information about joining the 'Friends of St. James'. Thanks to Andy Scott and Ann Sheridan for the photos.



Those attending were serenaded with music provided by the Batty Moss Buskers. Earlier in the day the church choir provided a short musical interlude which was appreciated.



James Innerdale continued his work for the Clapham church and school art project. He is compiling a short illustrated children's story book from memories provided.



The Open Day provided a much welcomed opportunity for friends and neighbours to meet and catch up. Teas, coffees and delicious cakes and biscuits were enjoyed greatly.



Liz, Denise and their team of helpers worked throughout the day to keep everyone fed and watered. The generosity of all who baked provided a mouth-watering display of goodies.



The Sustainability Group was able to offer information and advice on a range of issues including the rewilding project. Further details about another event appear on page 5.



Folks from St. Matthew's church, Keasden were selling cakes and bakes to take away. They were also the welcoming faces encouraging passersby to come into the churchyard.