



Number 151, October 2024

Your Newsletter and how it happens

As we move beyond our 150th issue, perhaps it is time to reflect on your Newsletter and how it happens.

The simple answer is that the Newsletter is made possible by the generosity of our advertisers, sponsors, donors and, of course, the many different contributors who write articles, submit news stories and share their photographs.

If we lift the veil, however, there is also the team who plan, edit, produce and distribute the Newsletter while selling advertising space and managing the finances.

Each newsletter starts about four to five weeks before publication with a review of the last issue: what went

well, what could have been done better and did we manage not to offend anybody? A quick discussion as to likely articles in the next issue, a check on who might sponsor the edition and which advertisers are due to renew and the team goes off to do their respective jobs.

The Editor commissions some articles but mainly receives items unprompted from people and organisations across Clapham and district and sometimes further afield. We have our hardy regulars to whom we are particularly indebted: Farming news, Nature notes, Steam updates, Then and Now, Village Hall, Church and Parish Council news. All are received and checked that they comply with Newsletter standards.

Whilst the Editor works away, our Advertising chief is busy chasing any new advertisements and passing them to the Production Editor to check that they reproduce correctly when dropped into the Newsletter software.

The pivotal day is the 20th of the month, this being the deadline for all contributions. Text files and image files are uploaded to the cloud by the Editor so that the Production Editor can download them and begin the task of making whatever has been submitted fit exactly into 24 pages.

The picture here shows this edition of the Newsletter being prepared. We use Affinity software that was most generously paid for by the Village Shop community fund. The Production Editor uses a thousand tricks to make things fit: resizing and cropping pictures, sometimes adding an

extra image, or editing text to shorten items and, very occasionally, leaving items out. When things are omitted due to space then those that are less relevant to Clapham or are not timely are usually chosen.

The finished Newsletter is proof read twice and then gets a final check by the Editor and Advertising chief

before it is sent to the printer. A quick thank you to B4RN: the Newsletter file is huge but takes less than 10 seconds to send to the printer thanks to the hyperfast internet.

Our printer is Nigel at iPrint in Settle who does a sterling job checking our print file, fixing the rare glitch and turning out 350 copies in double quick time. Those copies are driven to our distribution team who then pound the pavements to deliver door-to-door or add to the display at the Village Shop or fill boxes for those in more remote areas to collect from.

So there you have it, your Newsletter and how it happens. You may be wondering how you can help. Please come along to our Coffee Morning on Saturday, 2nd November in the Village Hall: the money we hope to raise will just about pay for one issue. Also, we'd be most grateful if you could take out a Christmas Greeting, see page 11 for details.

Finally, you may want to get involved and join our team; if so, come along to our Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 7th November at 7pm in the Village Hall or get in touch by email.

Thank you for reading the Newsletter.

The Newsletter Team

Email: claphamnewsletter@gmail.com

Colour printing of this edition sponsored by
Clapham Village Store

Welcome to the October newsletter

Welcome to another edition of the Clapham and District newsletter that is filled with articles and information about the local area.

We thank all those who have contributed articles, pictures and advertisements to make this edition an informative read.

We are particularly grateful to Clapham Village Shop for sponsoring the colour printing of this October edition and for providing the Newsletter group with a grant from its Community Fund to purchase the software used to produce this newsletter.

The Newsletter Committee

Editions are produced for February, April, June, August, October and December.

Next issue: **December 2024.**

Deadline: **Wednesday 20 November.**

Articles

Articles should be c250 words and, if possible, accompanied by a high resolution photo (at least 300 dpi).

Contact Andy: claphamnewsletter@gmail.com

Please note that we reserve the right to edit copy, or to refuse to publish submissions, and that the Newsletter Committee's decision on such matters is final.

Advertising and Sponsorship

Advertising rates start from c£11. We print in colour. 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 a copy by 5th of the publication month, please collect a copy from a distribution point. These are: Clapham Village Store, the porch at St. James' Church Clapham, the porch at St. Matthew's Church Keasden, Newby Methodist Church.

If you would like to help us with distribution please get in touch.

Contact Andy: claphamnewsletter@gmail.com

The Newsletter is also available online on the village website, see: <https://claphamyorkshire.co.uk>



Next edition: **December 2024**
Deadline: **Wednesday 20 November**

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Autumn again

Upland farms such as Bleak Bank produce sheep and cattle for sale to the lowlands: this is known as the food pyramid. For instance, we often sell a newly calved cow to a more productive farm that has neither inclination nor capacity to rear their own dairy cattle.

Don't forget, for a herd of fifty adult milking cows, there can be another fifty at various stages of adolescence eating you out of house and home without contributing much. A bit like teenagers. Much better to milk eighty cows and pop along to Bentham mart to buy an occasional replacement. You also get to have dinner (luncheon if you are a bit posh) in the café without taking your wellies off. I always enjoy selling a cow but do feel a bit sorry as I pat her on the bum and wish her luck in her new home.

The breeding sheep sale season begins in September with the gimmer (girl) lambs. These are lambs born on farms such as Bleak Bank in April and sold to lowland farms nationwide in early September, where they should go on to have long and productive lives. We sell ours through the livestock auction at Bentham.

For the farms that only keep sheep, the gimmer sales are the first serious opportunity to begin making any kind of dent in the overdraft. With little to sell for the first half of the year, and plenty of outgoings, this has been slowly, but very steadily, increasing. This is much like the national debt, only more important because, unlike the national debt, at some point the overdraft must be addressed.

A lot of effort (and expense) goes into the sale, with lambs being dipped to darken the wool before faces are washed with lashings of soap and water. In order to achieve this, it is necessary to borrow the Fairy liquid from under the sink, use every last drop and leave the empty bottle in the sheep pens. Inevitably there is a public enquiry when the Fairy liquid is discovered missing and it might be necessary to plead the fifth amendment at this point, as well as keeping soft hands and ultra clean fingernails out of sight.

Lambs are drawn into lots (pens) and the first pen is usually the best ten gimmers the farm can produce. First

impressions are important and the first pen into the ring sets the tone. In my dreams it is imperative that the wealthy southern buyer is totally transfixed by that pen and determined to buy them whatever the cost. This draws attention to the run of lambs and, hopefully, helps the average price, which is the crucial factor.

If lamb trade is fast (good) then the market is an enjoyable place to be but if trade is slow (poor) the sale ring is a cold and unforgiving place where time stands still. As

Rudyard Kipling famously said "The trick is to treat those two impostors the same": not many people know he was referring to the gimmer lamb trade.

Early October sees the draft sheep sales. These are middle aged sheep who yearn for an easier life on a lowland farm having spent their formative years in the harsh environment of an upland farm. They still have plenty to give but would prefer to do it in the valley bottom.

Finally, but by no means least, come the

tup (daddy) sales where pedigree tups, both young and old, change hands, sometimes for exorbitant sums of money.

The auctioneer is integral to the success of any sale. They work on a commission basis, and it is not enough to just take bids, they must work the crowd into what could pass as a frenzy so that even the most reserved of shepherds gets caught up in the excitement and pays over the odds for an old tup with one testicle and no teeth. In the trade these are known as the two "Ts".

I remember many years ago a renowned Dalesbred breeder let it be known around the sale ring that he had found a tup he liked and was going to buy it. His intention was to put off any would-be purchasers from bidding and this was his tried and trusted method for achieving this. He bought the tup but was forced to pay £4000 for him which was the top price of the day. Over a cuppa after the sale, he asked the auctioneer who was chasing to make him have to pay so much ... "Nay lad" said the wily old auctioneer "There was nobbut thee 'n me!"

It seems both pride and skiing trips can be expensive.

John Dawson



Saints, Sausages & Sparklers - Sunday 27 October

A celebration of light on a dark night
at St. Matthew's Church, Keasden

6.30pm - an informal service in church

7pm - a social time outside for the whole community
involving sausages, sparklers, and mulled wine!

For more info contact Angela 015242 51108 angela.peach@e-l-c.co.uk



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The New Inn



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Church News

John's Notes: Can Jeff Bezos save me?



Can Jeff Bezos save me? The Amazon oligarch is investing millions in anti-ageing research which aims to "make 90 the new 50 by 2030". His delivery service brings the world to my door in no time: which is wonderful, except when his courier leaves the package on my step in the rain, forcing me to go through the whole vexing 'returns' process again.

Maybe Elon Musk can save me? The Tesla billionaire is developing a self-driving car which will get me to Morrisons without my having to steer, accelerate, brake, or navigate. His Twitter once kept me in good conversations with friends, colleagues, and interesting influences: but now X embroils me in a chilling world of paranoid conspiracies about the NHS being part of a genocidal 'hygiene dictatorship'.

Or perhaps Richard Branson can save me? The Virgin magnate is funding spaceships which in future will let me escape this exhausted earth and take a trip to the Moon, or to live on Mars. I loved his early work, especially 'Tubular Bells': but my Virgin Broadband box keeps recording unrequested TV programmes from BBC Wales.

It resonates with me that Jesus never presented himself as a messiah. When his closest disciple Peter called him that name, Jesus said, 'Get behind me, Satan!' and described himself instead as a 'son of man', a 'suffering one'. Meaning that his affinity is far less with the tech oligarchs, and far more with the ones who feel - and are made - powerless in the face of all this invasive technology.

To me, this makes the 'son of man' one with the 17-year-old first-time driver whose insurance company threatened debt collectors when his car's black box reported him as driving his 18-year-old VW Polo at 540mph. It makes him one with the treasurer of the little rural church pressured to pay ridiculously inflated electricity bills because the smart meter readings bear no relation to reality.

Continued on p7

Anglican services

All Sundays, except where stated

October

6th Harvest Festival: 9.30 Eldroth; 11.00 Clapham; 6.30 Newby Evening Easy Church

13th Harvest Festival: 9.30 Austwick; Holy Communion: 11.00 Keasden

20th 9.30 Austwick Holy Communion; 11.00 Clapham Easy Church; 6.30 Eldroth Evening Prayer

27th Holy Communion: 9.30 Austwick; 11.00 Clapham; 6.30 Keasden Saints, Sausages & Sparklers

November

3rd *All Souls*: Holy Communion: 9.30 Eldroth; 11.00 Clapham; 4.00 Austwick All Souls; 6.30 Newby Evening Easy Church

10th *Remembrance*: 9.30 Austwick; 10.45 Clapham; 2.00 Keasden

17th 9.30 Austwick Holy Communion; 11.00 Clapham Easy Church; 6.30 Eldroth Taize Service

24th Holy Communion 9.30 Austwick; 11.00 Clapham; 7.00 Keasden Evening Service

Each Wednesday: (except 2nd October)

10.30 Austwick Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

Bethel Chapel, Cross Haw Lane, Clapham

Sunday services take place:

Each week at 11am and 6.30pm.

Weekday activities:

Fridays - Clapham Tots at 9.30am.

Alternate Fridays - Children's Clubs KMotion at 6pm & Encounter at 7.30pm.

3rd October and 7th November Thursday Friends at 2pm.

Coffee Evening 4th Thursday of the month at 7.30pm.

Saturday Coffee, Cake, & Chat (& food bank drop off) 10.30am - 12 noon 19th October and 16th November.

Special weekends:

Faith mission weekend 19th - 20th October.

Please see our Facebook page or website for further info.
www.bethelchapelclapham.org

Catholic Church - Benthams and Settle

St. Boniface, Robin Lane, Benthams, LA2 7AB

Usual service times: Sun: 9.15am, Wed & Fri: 10am.

St. Mary & St. Michael's, Tillman Close, Settle, BD24 9RA

Usual service times: Sat Vigil: 5.30pm; Sun: 11.15am, Tues & Thurs: 10am.

Parish Priest: Father Frank Smith

Tel: 01729 822525

Email: stboniface@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Website: www.ssmaryandmichael.co.uk

Methodist Church, The Green, Newby

Our services take place on:

First Sunday of the month - Easy Evening Church 6.30pm.
No previous church experience necessary, pop along, all are welcome;

Second Sunday of the month at 11am, and

Fourth Sunday of the month at 2pm.

For further information contact:

Revd Tim Broughton, Tel: 01729 554006 or

Email: tim.broughton@methodist.org.uk

Religious Society of Friends - Quakers

Worship in the manner of Friends (members of the Religious Society of Friends - Quakers) takes place on:

Sundays: 10.30 am at the Meeting House, Settle (opposite the Victoria Hall),

Sundays: 10.30am at the Calf Cop, Burton Road, Lower Benthams, and

Tuesdays: 12.30pm in Settle.

For anyone wanting to know more about Quakers the Settle Quakers are embarking on a series of three outreach sessions on Monday evenings in October. Quaker Quest at Settle on Mondays 18.30-20.00pm on October 14th, 21st, and 28th.

For any further information - please go to the website:

<https://settlequakers.org.uk/>



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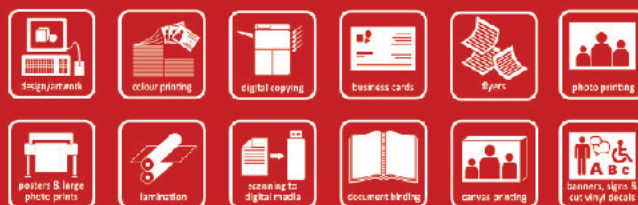
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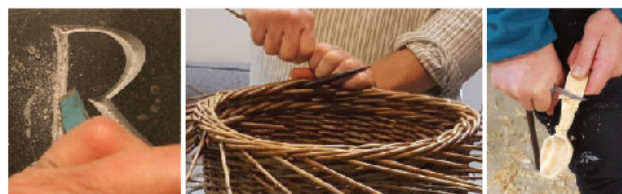
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Church News

Continued from p5

He's one with those exhausted by the ceaseless task of displaying their public face on social media to keep up appearances; and he's one with those who worry about what the corporations are doing with all the data about them extracted by their mobile devices, their Alexa or Siri, their TV set and digital doorbell; he's one with those troubled about which emails are genuine and which ones are 'phishing' to flush out our bank account.

Digital technology now dominates education, the social security system, seeking job opportunities and signing up for cheaper gas and electricity. 'Digital poverty', not being able to afford to interact with the online world, is many people's everyday experience. Through groups like Church Action on Poverty and the APLE Collective (Addressing Poverty with Lived Experience), people at grassroots are seeking to redress this balance.

We can all benefit from the good side of digital tech, but it can cause people to feel alone in this world, it can separate us from others, it does make people vulnerable to the whims of the powerful forces of the corporations which rule our lives. Which is why it is good to see how many people, from the margins, are working hard to rebuild community, to unite with others to resist all which frightens or diminishes us.

*Revd John Davies
Vicar*

*Clapham with Keasden & Austwick with Eldroth
01524 805928*

john.davies@leeds.anglican.org

Churches' website: bit.ly/churches-clapham-austwick

John's talks: bit.ly/johndavies-talks

New defibrillator for Clapham



Until August this year, there were four registered defibrillators available for cardiac emergencies in the parish. These are at the Cave Rescue Organisation depot, the Sawmill Cafe, Clapham station and outside Newby chapel. Unfortunately, none of these is close enough to the collection of properties around Green Close to be of real use if needed there.

The Northern Pennine Club decided to fill this gap by installing another defibrillator as part of the recent extension project at the caving club hostel. The extension work is (finally) complete and the new defibrillator was registered in August and is now available. Of course, we hope it'll never be used. But residents who live around Green Close are encouraged to have a glance at it, so it can then be deployed without delay if ever anyone is in urgent need.

John Cordingley

Books and bacon butties



MEET



Come along to St. James' Church on Saturday, October 26th between 10am and 12 noon for a Coffee Morning.

There will be mouth watering bacon butties (whatever the weather) and an opportunity to browse around the new book corner we have been developing.

Of course, you can add to that tea, coffee and cake and an opportunity to have a catch up with friends and neighbours.

Can't be a bad way to spend a Saturday morning!

Sue Mann

Congratulations!



Huge congratulations to the regulars of The Old Manor House bar in Clapham for raising £1001 for the Cave Rescue Organisation in Clapham. The money was raised from our Monday night draw for charity which is run by our lovely ladies - Janet, Sue and Gloria.

Thank you everyone for taking part and raising this fabulous amount of money for such a good cause.

Steve, Elaine and Tog

Clapham and District Newsletter Annual General Meeting

Thursday 7th November at 7pm in the Supper Room at Clapham Village Hall

All welcome to attend

The AGM will be followed by a Newsletter Team Meeting

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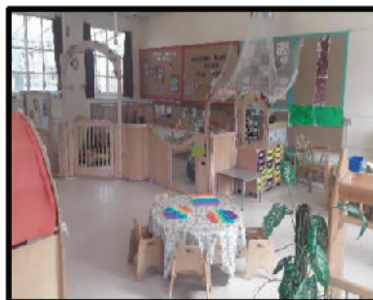
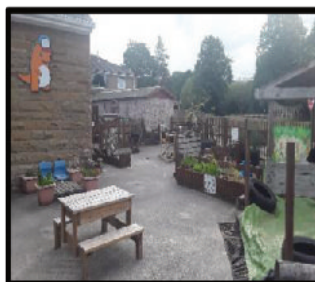
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In memory of Alice Morphet

Alice was born to James and Belle Foster of Benthams, in 1930, and was the younger sister to William. Born on his third birthday, William always said that Alice was his birthday present.

Alice attended the local primary school in High Benthams and moved to Low Benthams Primary School where she passed her school scholarship. She went on to attend (the then) Settle Girls High School where she passed all her exams, then attended Whitelands College in London where she trained to be a schoolteacher for infant children.

After Alice graduated, she stayed in London, teaching in primary schools, but she soon grew homesick and moved back to Benthams, taking a new post at The Marsh School in Lancaster. During this time, her brother William met his future wife, Hilda. Hilda had heard that Alice had been to Holland but that she had missed seeing all the spring bulbs in flower. So, she suggested that her own elder brother, Bill, should accompany Alice back to Holland when the spring flowers were out. This of course led to Alice and Bill meeting up and enjoying each other's company, and then romance blossomed and flowered, as it were.

Alice married Bill on 30th March 1959. She left her teaching profession to live at Ingelton and work alongside Bill, who had started his own business growing vegetables, tomatoes, bedding plants and flowers to sell locally and at wholesale markets. They also made wreaths for funerals, did wedding flowers, holly wreaths and flower arrangements. Their first son, Robert, was born the following year, followed two years later by a daughter, Jean, and Andrew completed their family six years later.

Alice worked alongside Bill until they reached retirement, at which time they moved to Newby. Sadly, Bill developed dementia, and Alice was widowed in 2001.

After Bill's death, Alice fulfilled her dream of travelling. She visited Egypt, Kenya, Spain, Turkey, Mongolia and China with Elizabeth - one of her relatives. In Turkey they toured the Great War battlefield sites of Gallipoli where another relative had fought, and Alice travelled alone to Jordan and the United States - Andrew dropping her off at the airport at an unearthly hour. Alice also had a love of art and visited art galleries and attended art classes, producing some really good paintings and drawings. She also enjoyed socialising, going to the coffee mornings at Newby Chapel, Age UK meetings in Clapham, trips with the Age UK group and the Women's Institute.

Alice was very proud of her grandchildren and always spoke warmly about their progress and achievements. When they were smaller there would be trips for all the generations together whether to Chester Zoo or further afield. In 2020, Alice moved to Ingelton to live with her daughter Jean and family. She enjoyed her latter years in Ingelton - going to 'Keep Fit', Bingo, the Dance Club, jumble sales and the over-70s trips. Alice loved to meet and chat with people when she was out walking. When she wasn't busy socialising, she spent a lot of time reading and she enjoyed knitting and cross-stitch. She also had a love of nature and enjoyed watching the birds, while pottering in her garden and sitting in her new summerhouse.

Alice possessed that rare gift, a gift of friendship, making new friends wherever she moved to, chatting with them, and learning more about people and sharing her ready smile. She would always say, 'hello'.

We can't say everything about Alice's 94 years in this short memorial but what we can say is that we will miss her deeply, for Alice has been such a presence and personality not only in her family but in the community.

Jean Wilson



Settle Orchestra: 2024-2025 Season

After their highly enjoyable 2023-24 season under their effervescent Columbian conductor, Maca Barbosa, Settle Orchestra is looking forward to another season of first-class music making. For this year they will be conducted by Harry Lai, another graduate student of the masters course at Manchester's Royal Northern College of Music. Harry is from Hong Kong and has already made his mark in the UK, collaborating with orchestras such as the Hallé, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and Birmingham Opera Company.

For this season, Harry has chosen an engaging and varied programme including symphonies by Haydn (number 103, the "Drum Roll"), Tchaikovsky (number 5) and Schubert (the rarely played number 3). Another comparative rarity will be Dvorak's darkly haunting tone poem "The Noonday Witch".

The season also features concertos by two present or past younger members of the orchestra, Ellen Buller (flute) and Ewan Hudson (horn), in line with our policy of encouraging young musicians.

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

We give two concerts each term, one in Settle and one in Skipton. This season the dates are 23 and 30 November 2024, 22 and 29 March, and 21 and 28 June 2025.

Full details are on our website, <http://www.settleorchestra.org.uk/>

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Jill Gates



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Autumn Concert

Sat 23rd November, 3.30pm
Settle Parish Church

Sat 30th November, 3.30pm
Christ Church, Skipton

Schumann
Overture, Scherzo and Finale

Reinecke
Flute Concerto
Soloist - **Ellen Buller**

Haydn
Symphony No.103 'Drumroll'

Conductor - **Harry Lai**
Leader - **Anne Heaton**

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Parish Council news

The Parish Council met in Newby Chapel for an extraordinary meeting on the evening of **Wednesday 14th August** to discuss a planning application relating to the modern barn at Townhead, Newby. Three members of the public and the applicant were in attendance.

Numerous questions were raised and responded to and a short walk for a "site visit" was undertaken to see everything in detail. After the visit the Council was happy to support the application although it was resolved that the Clerk should mention that the relevant notices had not been posted at the site or to the neighbours (North Yorkshire Council has subsequently posted these).

The Parish Council met on the evening of **18th September 2024** and were joined by Cllr David Ireton of North Yorkshire Council (NYC) and one member of the public.

The Council had been advised that the inspector had made an interim decision regarding the request to turn Thwaite Lane into a Byway Open to All Traffic. The decision is that the route is to remain as a bridlepath and not become open to all traffic. The reason that this is only an interim decision is that, currently, part of the route in question is undesignated and as such will have to become redesignated as a bridlepath with the due consultation taking place. The arguments used by the Inspector in reaching this decision would appear to apply equally to Cragg Lane in Keasden and as such the Council is now hopeful for a similar outcome there.

The Council has also received notification that to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Forest of Bowland National Landscape it is looking to provide funding for six parishes to plant a "Landmark Tree". Applications will be judged on a number of criteria, including the visibility of the Landmark Tree from a public viewpoint. With that in mind the Council has proposed either the Keasden Crossroads, where a tree might provide some shelter for tired cyclists who often use this position for a "breather", or within the new graveyard at St Matthew's Church.

Should anyone have any further suggestions, please contact the Clerk before the beginning of November so that all suggestions can be considered prior to an application being made.

The Council has received details of the latest North Yorkshire Council's "Let's Talk" survey - Let's Talk Active. NYC would like to know if you are physically active, what is important to you about being active, and any barriers you face. This will help them to develop council leisure facilities and community-based sport and leisure services. The survey is open until 4th November.

Their next survey will be 'Let's Talk Money' which is the annual budget consultation and will run from 14 October until 9 December. Both surveys can be completed online at www.northyorks.gov.uk/LetsTalk.

Parish Council meetings are generally held in Clapham Village Hall at 7.30pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, with no meetings in either August or November.

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be Wednesday 16th October and Wednesday 11th December.

The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Steve Culver, can be contacted:

Tel: 015242 51862 or

Email: parishclerk.claphamcumnewby@gmail.com

Christmas greetings



Getting ready for Christmas? Let us help you. You can save time and money by sending a simple Christmas greeting via the newsletter instead of sending expensive Christmas cards. In the December edition we'll publish a page of greetings, similar to the extract shown above.

If you'd like yours to be included, please make sure we have your completed coupon by **Friday 15 November**. It will cost you **£5** - which will help continue to fund the newsletter production!

- You can complete a coupon at our **Newsletter Coffee Morning on Saturday 2 November**.
- Or you can complete the coupon printed below and pop it in an envelope marked 'Newsletter Christmas Greetings' along with your cash and leave it in the collection box at the Village Shop. The box will be available from Tuesday 1 October until Friday 15 November.
- Or you can email your name and the address details to be used with the subject line 'Christmas Greetings' to: claphamnewsletter@gmail.com and pay £5 online. Our bank details are a/c name: Clapham & District Newsletter, a/c no: 43740218, sort code: 20-98-98. Please use your surname as your reference.

We will only include greetings on receipt of a Christmas Greetings coupon or a Christmas Greetings email, and payment.

Thank you for your support!

The Newsletter Team

Christmas Greetings

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

Each greeting will consist of 2 lines.

Name:

(a maximum of 29 characters including spaces)

.....

House or Road name:

(a maximum of 29 characters including spaces,
if you want this line to remain blank – write BLANK
in the space provided)

.....

Mandarins come to Clapham

Back in May, I was walking round Clapham with my friend's collie. As we rounded the corner at the bottom of Clapdale Lane, she cocked up her ears and strained towards the grating of a storm drain. We heard cheeping and squeaking coming from the gloomy depths. Down at the bottom of the drain were six beautiful yellow and brown balls of fluff, trying to climb up the sides with their long claws. Clearly, they couldn't be left so I returned with my son and grandson but, by then, three had disappeared. We rescued the remaining chicks and took them home to be fed. They ate the food

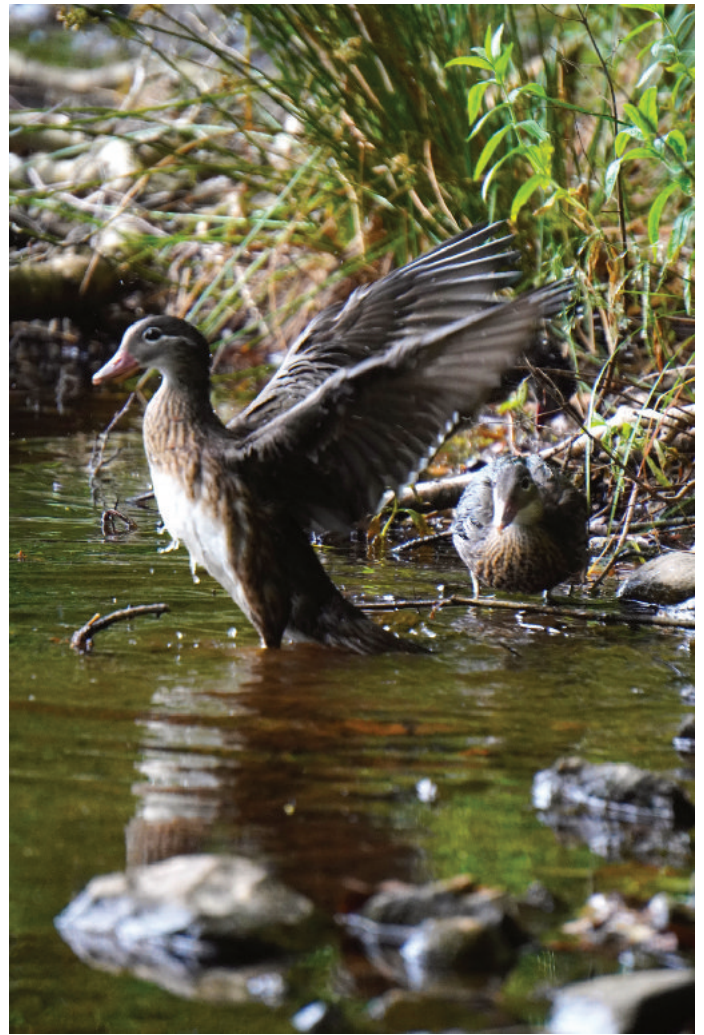


immediately and then snuggled down in the fleece bedding or sat preening their feathers. So young and yet knowing that eating and preening were both essential to their survival.

After a bit of research, I realised that their care would be better in specialist hands. I remembered that Craven Wildlife Rescue (CWR) were local to us, so I rang them, and they sent someone out to collect the ducklings. I then thought no more of it really, except that they were in a great place for surviving to adulthood. Then, in late July, I had a surprise: a message from CWR to say that the ducklings were ready for release in the area of their hatching.

We took the grandchildren to the CWR hospital at Horton School to see them. We were all very impressed by the set up there: owls, ferrets, a polecat, ducks, geese and ever so many injured hedgehogs (it turns out that strimmers are the main culprits) all recovering from their accidents before being released back into the wild.

After a wonderful tour of the hospital, the three adolescent ducks were caught and contained in a pet carrier. We drove them home to Clapham and then walked up the Nature Trail as far as we could go where there was an easily accessed beach and partially submerged branches. Then, gently placing the cage on the gravel, we opened the door. After a pause, three heads popped into view and one by one they waddled out of the cage and into the water where they began



splashing and dabbling in an excited frenzy. We got quite a wetting in the resulting shower. They then swam around quacking happily. Twenty minutes later they were sitting on a log in the sunshine preening their feathers.

The ducklings turned out to be extra special because they are mandarin ducklings - a particularly beautiful ornamental duck introduced from China. The distinctive red tips to the beak and long claws were the clue as to their breed (which I had missed). Mandarins were first seen on the lake in Clapham in Spring 2020.

Mandarins nest in holes in trees, often high up and well away from water. These ducklings must have got lost when they were on their first walk to the Lake with 'Mother Duck' after hatching and leaping from the nest site. They are rather shy and furtive and are not as easy to spot in comparison with the ubiquitous mallards. They like to hang around in small flocks under overhanging vegetation and low tree branches just above the water.

Jess Hart



Newsletter Coffee Morning - Saturday 2 November

10am to 12 noon at Clapham Village Hall

Coffee, home made cakes and bakes, books and a raffle

Please support us to raise much needed funds!

Nature notes



Elephant Hawk Moth caterpillar. Photo: Tim Hutchinson

‘Gran! Gran! Come and look. There’s a giant wrinkly worm on our path. It’s got big goggly eyes!’

This was my grandson a year or two ago, just before he was due to start Primary School. Having been summoned to investigate the cause of his excitement, my wife did as she’d been asked but wasn’t at all sure about what she was seeing. It was indeed a big wrinkly worm and its eyes – all four of them – were nothing if not *goggly*! Fortunately, she took a photo, and I was able to solve the mystery of the garden path monster. It was a caterpillar. An *Elephant Hawk Moth* caterpillar.

The Elephant Hawk Moth is one of our most striking native moths. Olive-gold with bold pink stripes and a wingspan of up to six centimetres it is fairly widespread in England and Wales and is gradually extending its territory further north into Scotland. Despite being quite common, it’s not a moth you’re likely to see very often. Given its size and bright colouring, its fondness for parks and gardens and the fact that it flies from May through to early August, you might think that it would be relatively easy to spot. Not so. This is a moth that’s specially adapted to fly in the darkest hours of the night – and one that’s very good at finding day-time hiding places.

Most flower-foraging insects land on the petals of their food source but the Elephant Hawk Moth hovers in front of the flower and extends its long, tube-like proboscis to suck up the nectar it needs to refuel. Even on a bright summer’s day this would be a difficult, energy-sapping manoeuvre; doubly difficult in the dark. One thing it can’t afford to do is waste time on the wrong flowers. Fortunately, there are a number of pale-coloured night-scented plants, such as honeysuckle, which value the Elephant Hawk Moth as a pollinator and seek to attract it. And it has another significant advantage. There are a lot of nocturnal animals that can see in the dark, but the Elephant Hawk Moth sees in colour; a genuine superpower when it comes to identifying flowers on a pitch-black night.

Although you might need a moth trap (or a lot of luck) to see the adult moth, in late summer there’s much more of a chance that you might come across its distinctive caterpillar: that wrinkly worm with four goggly eyes. It can grow up to eight centimetres long and the dark patterning

on its chunky grey body gives it a wrinkled look so that it does indeed resemble an elephant’s trunk. At this time of the year, you might spot it resting on a stem of rosebay willowherb or fuchsia but you’re more likely to see it inching its way along the garden path in search of a suitable flowerbed where it can bury itself to pupate through the winter months. If one does happen to cross your path, don’t be alarmed. It’s entirely harmless and those four unnerving eyes aren’t eyes at all – just clever body markings designed to deter predators.

Moths and butterflies of all kinds are vital to the health of our environment, but it seems that they are under threat as never before. This year’s *Big Butterfly Count* presented us with some alarming statistics: more than 85,000 citizen scientists recorded 935,000 butterflies and day-flying moths over three weeks from 12 July, down almost 600,000, equivalent to more than a third of last year’s total. In 9,000 counts, participants failed to see a single butterfly or moth, the highest number of zero-counts in the programme’s history. My own counts, in my garden and in two different local habitats, were similarly disappointing. Unseasonable weather will undoubtedly have been a factor, but this marked decline is demonstrably part of a worrying trend. Previous record lows were recorded in 2022, 2021 and 2020. Something has to change.

Let me finish with some good news. Much-appreciated September sunshine brought out a flush of late-season butterflies and warm south-east breezes seemed to encourage the swallows and house martins to stay with us a little longer. They may also have been instrumental in enticing a lone cattle egret to stray our way – according to Tim Hutchinson, the first ever sighting in our immediate area. There are some quite substantial flocks of them a little further to the south and west of us so this may be just the forerunner of a number heading our way. Fingers crossed!

As ever, if you have news of any interesting or unusual sightings in the area, please send me an email or drop a note into 2 Eggshell Lane or simply stop and chat if you see me around the village. Photographs are always welcome, and I will do my best to use any that are sent in to me.

Brian Christian

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BD24 9EX
T: 01729 824009

Friends of the Dales



The Yorkshire Dales environmental charity Friends of Dales autumn events programme of monthly online talks resumes in October.

Online talk:

An Inclusive National Park

Wednesday 23 October, 5.00pm



Trustee and Churchill Fellow, Mohammed Dhalech, will discuss the three challenges of organisational culture, representation and racism which must be tackled for everyone to enjoy our national parks.

Book via: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DNLM>

Online talk:

The Yorkshire Dales National Park – 70 years on

Wednesday 20 November, 5.00pm



In celebration of the 75th anniversary of the National Park movement and 70th anniversary of the establishment of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, Mark Corner, our former Chair of Trustees and the current member champion for the natural environment for the National Park Authority, will review the achievements of the national park and consider the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead - especially in relation to nature recovery and community sustainability.

Book via: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DNLO>

Victoria Benn

Email: victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Website: <https://friendsofthedales.org.uk>

Thank you!



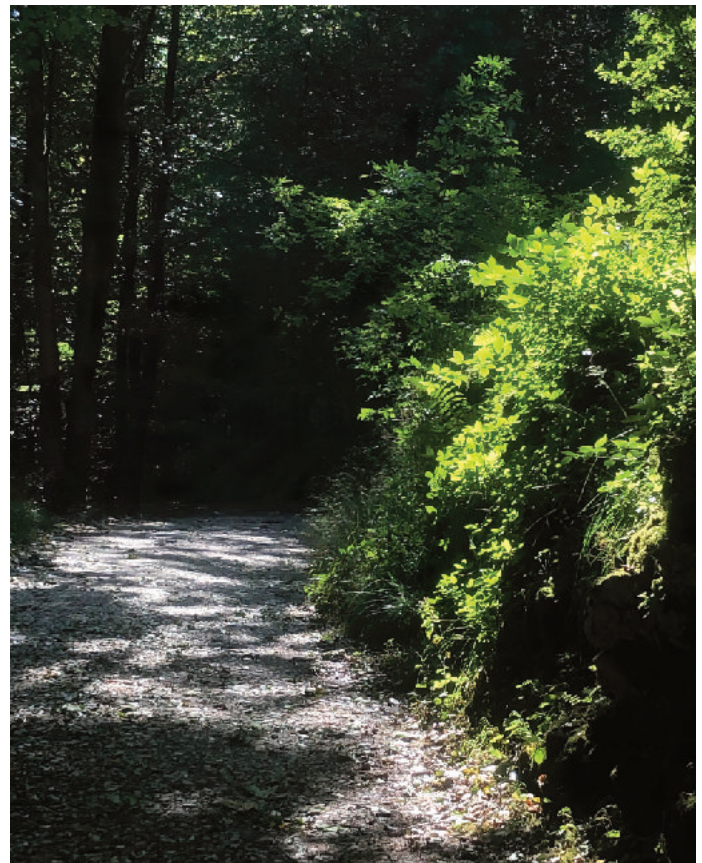
A big thank you from both of us to all the very kind people who baked, bought, and helped with our cake stall on the weekend of 17 and 18 August.

We can report that we raised the magnificent sum of £1,131.80 (one thousand one hundred and thirty-one pounds and 80p) for St. John's Hospice.

They are very pleased and so are we!

*Rosie Hull and
Annie Farrer*

Radiance and mystery



Radiance and mystery along the Trail. Photo: Annie Farrer

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Then and Now



Anyone wandering up Riverside might wonder how Yew Tree Cottages got the name? Our Then photo this time provides the clue – the magnificent pair of yews that once stood either side of the main entrance door. Their absence is perhaps the most visible of the changes that have occurred in the 100 years or so since the first photo was taken, though other greenery has sprung up to partially compensate for the loss. The second most visible change is almost certainly the cars!

Back in the early years of the last century, cars were very much luxury items.

When this photo was taken, there was perhaps only one in Clapham, owned by the Squire. I doubt many of the villagers of the time dreamed that, in the fullness of time, almost every family would own one and many would own two! And they would be parked everywhere.

Andy Scott

A remarkable coincidence



On Saturday, July 27th, Clapham Art Group was kindly invited to have a stall and display at the Parish Fete. We had a most enjoyable time, with friends old and new showing interest in the framed and unframed paintings and cards. There was also a raffle of a painting by Margaret Blackburne.

Amongst those who came to see us were Nick Ketchell, his wife Alice, and their two daughters, who have a cottage in Clapham. They told a fascinating “story” of their finding - among Alice’s late father’s papers in New York - an old catalogue for the Clapham Art Group Exhibition dated 1965. Inside was a portrait of her father, painted by Cyril Harrington, who was one of the founders of the Group.

Alice’s father, Allan Eady, had been a publisher and had met Russell Harty, either when Russell was lecturing in New York, or at a meeting in Manchester. It is thought that this led to Allan being invited to Yorkshire, where Russell was living, and meeting Cyril Harrington and hence the portrait!

Another remarkable coincidence was that Alice won the raffle on her birthday!

Kairen Bradley

Caption competition winner



Thanks to all who submitted their entries to the competition we held in the last newsletter. After careful deliberation, the photographer has chosen the winner. And the prize goes to – wait for it – Sheila Hull for her entry:

“Close shave?, nah, the blue raddle’s all ‘ewesed’ up!.... Chilly night ahead girls.” Would Sheila please contact us to collect her prize!

The Newsletter Team

Mysterious ways



St. James’ Church is investing in a new ‘Church Open’ sign. Unfortunately, it would appear that in error I ordered it in millimetres, not centimetres - as shown on the photo. This micro-sign could make a nice badge, perhaps; but we’ve re-ordered one in centimetres, the correct size, and you’ll soon see it on display outside church - which is, as it says, open every day for you.

Revd John



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**CLAPHAM & DISTRICT
NEWSLETTER**

Next edition: December 2024
Deadline: Wednesday 20 November



Forest of Bowland National Landscape

Festival Bowland autumn events

Experience the beauty of the Forest of Bowland this autumn with one of these guided events. Booking is needed for all of them and under eighteens must be

accompanied by an adult. Full details are available at: <https://www.forestofbowland.com/festival-bowland>

**All-Terrain Wheelchair Taster Day - Friday 18 October
12.30pm to 2.00pm - Gisburn Forest**



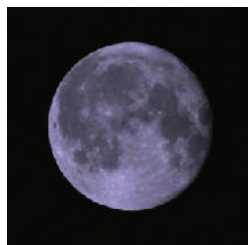
All-terrain wheelchairs are specially designed electric buggies, which can be used on country tracks, uneven ground, mud, and grass. They can help people who have difficulty walking, or who may be less mobile, to experience the countryside and to accompany friends and family in the great outdoors.

Around one and a half miles long, this circular woodland route follows the Birch Hills trail from Stocks Reservoir car park in Gisburn Forest. Two relatively level paths are linked by slightly steeper sections, so it's a great opportunity to try out an ATW, get used to the controls and see what they can do. First-time ATW users will receive a full induction before each guided session. Additional family and friends are very welcome. There is a minimum age for use of the ATWs. Toilets and a cafe are available at Gisburn Forest Hub - just under two miles away.

Free event. Donations to Champion Bowland welcome on the day.

**Bowland Dark Skies - Thursday 24 October
7.30pm to 9.30pm - Trough of Bowland**

Join Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team and Preston and District Astronomical Society for an opportunity to observe Bowland's fantastic dark skies.



Starting with a short presentation on light pollution and the objects we may be able to observe in the night sky, we will then spend time observing Saturn, Neptune (our outermost planet) and some of the brighter deep-sky objects through the

Society's telescopes. In the event of cloudy weather there will be a presentation on the night sky, along with samples of meteorites to observe and handle. Advice will also be available on how to view the night sky from home, plus recommendations for telescopes and binoculars. Hot drinks and biscuits provided. £5 per person.

Funds raised donated to Bowland Pennine Mountain Rescue Team.

**Autumn Printmaking - Sunday 27 October
1.30pm to 4.30pm - Gisburn Festival Hall**



Bring out your creative colours on this autumn-themed workshop with print maker, Nita Burrows, who finds her own inspiration through the natural environment. This is a great opportunity to try out cyanotype printing - one of the earliest forms of photography. (Check out Anna Atkins, a pioneer in this process.)

We will use found plants, leaves, and other gathered items to make prints using a UV lightbox. There will also be an opportunity to have a go at making monotype prints using a small printing press.

All materials will be provided, just come along, and have some fun experimenting! £10 per person.

Mind, Body, Nature Connection Walk

Saturday 9 November 9.30am to 1.00pm - Barley

Join us for a lovely circular walk with Rewilding Outdoor Therapy.

Along the route we will experience forest bathing. Also known as Shinrin-yoku, this Japanese practice is the simple method of being calm and quiet amongst trees, observing nature, whilst engaging our senses. During the walk, participants will have the chance to explore how nature has impacted each and every one of us, how we have connected with the more-than-human world and how we hope to nurture this connection in the future.

This event is for participants aged 18 years old and over. £10 per person.

Sandra Silk

Newby Coffee Morning



A Coffee Morning was held at Newby Methodist Church in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

The fantastic sum of £362 was raised and the morning was much enjoyed by all who were able to attend.

Thank you to everyone who helped and supported.

Sue Mann



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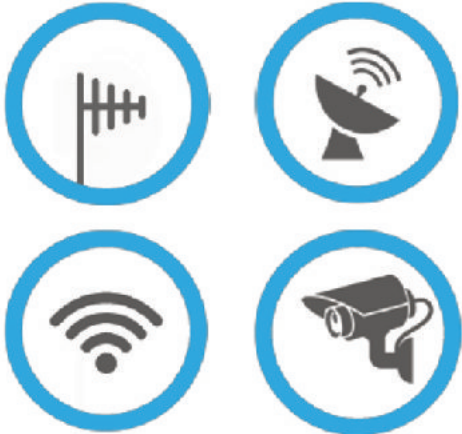
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Steam update



60103 Flying Scotsman and 60163 Tornado sit side by side at Barrow Hill.

Ninety years ago, on 30th November 1934, the *Flying Scotsman* gained a world record as the first steam engine locomotive to achieve a recorded speed of 100 miles per hour. The “ton” was reached whilst using a special test train to measure performance – a test which was designed to persuade the directors of the then London and North Eastern Railway that steam remained a practical alternative to their plan to move towards diesel engines for high-speed trains. It was sufficient – the LNER directors were satisfied, and it was not until the Modernisation Plan of the nationalised British Railways after the war that the switch to diesels began to be made.

But the 100mph record was not without controversy as, thirty years earlier, the Great Western Railway’s locomotive *City of Truro* was timed at 102.3mph by a journalist who had been invited along for the run. This was a time of fierce competition for the “Plymouth mails” traffic between the GWR and their rivals the London & South Western and the GWR were keen to publicise their superiority. The journalist, however, had used a stopwatch to measure the time taken to pass the mileposts along the line. Although his calculations are thought to have been accurate, they left no written record of the feat so the “ton” could not be truly claimed.

In more current news, many readers will be aware of the “new-build” locomotive *Tornado*. Even engines made recently and built to modern standards are still required to be taken out of service for maintenance and inspection from time to time. In *Tornado*’s case, this has provided the opportunity for the engine to be fitted with brand-new electronic signalling equipment – the first time this has been done in a steam loco. It reflects the move to introduce a new type of signalling to the UK’s railways – the European Train Control System – which does away with the familiar lineside semaphore and colour light signals, replacing them with direct communication to the driver’s cab. This system is being introduced onto the East Coast Mainline, working from Kings Cross northwards, and all trains using the converted tracks will have to be fitted with the necessary equipment. This includes heritage and steam locos so *Tornado* will, again, be leading the way. Unfortunately, the work on the loco has taken longer than was anticipated so all its planned excursions for 2024 have had to be postponed or cancelled. It has been running successfully on heritage lines but has simply not clocked up the necessary “running in” mileage that would permit it to be used on the mainline.

Hopefully, we’ll see this graceful loco passing Clapham sometime in 2025.

Andy Scott

Keasden rainfall report

	2023	2024
July	15.5” or 39.37cm	1.69” or 4.3cm
August	6.75” or 17.14cm	3.9” or 10cm

Settle Chess Club



Settle Chess Club meets weekly in Settle Social Club (10 Duke Street, Settle) on Monday evenings from 6pm to 8ish (Bank Holidays excepted).

We would welcome anyone in the Clapham area who is interested in playing at any level, socially and/or competitively.

James Annan

A right regal night out

Badapple Theatre Company will be back in Clapham again on Saturday, 12th October to give us another great evening of entertainment. Think of Hollywood meets Bottledale and celebrity visits rural life.

You can expect original comic theatre with a fusion of film, music and clowning.

See advert below for ticket details or you can buy them from Clapham Village Store.

Sue Mann

Badapple Theatre Company
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Clapham-cum-Newby Village Hall

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.30pm, Wednesday 9th October

Village Hall

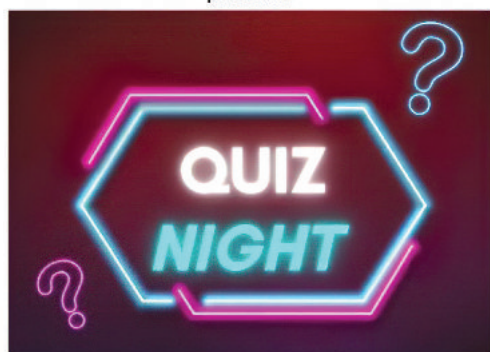
Open to all

- **Appointment of Community Group Representatives**
- **Election of Committee Members**

The hall belongs to the whole community, so this is your chance to have your say on how it is managed and run

Clapham-cum-Newby Village Hall

presents



with **Stuart and Barbara Marshall**

Saturday 19th October

7pm for a 7.30pm start

Tickets £10

Pie and Peas Supper included

- Bar -

Tickets available from the Village Shop (cash only please)
from 21st September or from Station House

Places limited – advance sales only

Reconnect to Nature with Rosie Johnson

These sessions are an invitation to connect more deeply with nature and with yourself. You will deepen your knowledge and apply the wisdom you gain to your everyday life through:

- ▶ Connecting directly to nature
- ▶ Meeting and working with your spirit guides
- ▶ Guided meditations
- ▶ Using shamanic practices and the Medicine Wheel
- ▶ Experiencing the healing powers of the drum and of community

Venue: Clapham Village Hall, LA2 8AE- free parking

Time: 7-9pm

Cost: £15/session

Sessions will be held on: 10th & 24th October,
14th & 28th November & 12th December

I have over 12 years' experience as a shamanic practitioner after completing a 2 year training with shamanic teachers- Jayne Johnson and Robyn Fell. I trained in Metatron colour healing in levels 1 & 2 with Amanda Ellis and in shamanic healing massage with Georgien Wybenga. For over 8 years I have facilitated art sessions.



To book or for more information please contact on

healingpathofthedragonfly@gmail.com

Booking is essential as limited places

Village Hall news



As autumn has now begun and the nights are drawing in, the hall is getting busier again. Even the weekends are filling up – I don't think there is one free Saturday now until almost Christmas. Our regular events are picking up again too so do check the updated list to see where we are. Why not join one of the groups?

Autumn also sees the hall's fiscal year coming to a close, with our Annual General Meeting due to be held on Wednesday 9th October (see p22) when a new committee will be appointed. It is an open meeting so do please come along, especially if you would like to influence the way the facility is managed.

Our next events are a Rural Arts production, *The Regalettes*, jointly arranged with St. James' Church on the 12th October (see p21), followed by our ever popular Quiz Night with Stuart Marshall on the 19th October (see p22). Tickets for both of these are already available in the shop.

Further ahead, it's panto time on Friday 3rd January so get the date in your diaries now.

Other events are also in the various stages of planning for 2025 – watch this space!

Angie Martin

Clapham Lecture Group

AUTUMN SERIES PROGRAMME

Clapham-cum-Newby Village Hall, Tuesday Evenings

Sept 17th	Adrian Tayler	Curtain Up! A Brief History of British Theatre
Sept 24th	David Johnson	A Brief History of Settle
Oct 1st	John Bentley	Hill Farming in the North of England
Oct 8th	Peter Lewis	How the Cistercians Rebuilt Yorkshire
Oct 15th	Collin Philpott	Secret Wartime Britain
Oct 22nd	HALF TERM	
Oct 29th	Angus Winchester	Field Names and Landscape History
Nov 5th	Rebecca Bennion	Fossils and Finds in the Settle Area
Nov 12th	Adrian Shepherd	The Long Preston Floodplain Project
Nov 19th	Martin Lunn	The Sun and the Northern Lights
Nov 26th	Michael Winstanley	Life and Work in Cotton Lancashire

All lectures start at 7pm prompt and include refreshments.

Lecture fees: Full series £40, individual lectures (max of 3) £6 each.

Village hall regular events

Clapham & Austwick Guides & Brownies

Mondays 6 - 7pm

Karen Fielding

07748 164409

claphamandaustwickguides@hotmail.com

Clapham Lecture Group

Tuesdays 7pm – see our notice for more info

Andy Scott

015242 51749

andy@station-hse.co.uk

Age UK

Wednesdays 10.30am (1st Wed of the month)

Brenda Pearce

015242 51816

kenpearcela2@gmail.com

Clapham DEW Drop-In

Digital Equipment Workshop PC support group

Wednesdays 7pm (1st Wed of the month)

Andy Scott

015242 51749

claphamdewdropin@gmail.com

Clapham cum Newby Parish Council

Wednesdays 7.30pm (usually 3rd Wed of the month)

Steve Culver

015242 51862

parishclerk.claphamcumnewby@gmail.com

Tai Chi

Thursdays 9 - 10.30am

Tony Bennet

taichiqigongteacher@gmail.com

Craft & Chat

Thursdays 2 - 4pm (1st & 3rd Thurs of the month)

Angie Martin

015242 51749

angiemaxmartin@yahoo.co.uk

Reconnect to Nature

Thursdays 7.00pm (2nd & 4th Thurs of the month)

** Booking essential **

Rosie Johnson

healingpathofthedragonfly@gmail.com

Sustainability Group

Thursdays 7.30pm (2nd Thurs bi-monthly: Nov, Jan)

Jill Buckler

jillbuckler@mac.com

Board Games Group

Fortnightly on Fridays 2pm - 5pm,
see Hall website calendar or call Jackie Kingsley

015242 51240

jackieanddavid@yahoo.com

Cuban Salsa Dancing

Fridays 7.00pm

Anne Lawler

07990 633465

a.lawler@sky.com

For more details of the above, and for the latest on other events in the hall, please visit:

claphamcumnewbyvillagehall.org.uk

Clapham Shop - gifts & goodies galore



Throughout the summer months, when Helen and her team get a break from making sandwiches, their thoughts turn to winter. What tasty treats will tickle your tastebuds in the dark autumn evenings? What gorgeous gifts will help you tick off your Christmas shopping list? And what decorations do you need to bring a little extra festive cheer?

Here's a sneak peek of what'll be in store from October: Dark Chocolate Ginger, Dark Chocolate Brazil Nuts, Christmas Pudding Cookies, Lindt Teddies, Lily O'Brien Chocolate Collections, Georgie Porgie's decadent Chocolate Orange and Baileys Christmas Pudding and The Original Cake Company Fruit Cakes. And that's just for starters!

There are also lots of gift and decoration ideas, from fluffy gonks wearing the cutest slippers through to stunning snow globes and snow laden Christmas trees. It's gorgeousness overload – don't say we didn't warn you!

Late night Christmas shopping

This year Clapham has its very own Christmas shopping evening. From 4pm – 7pm on Thursday 28th November, we will be joining forces with some of the other outlets in the village to kick off the Christmas season.

At **Glencroft** you'll not only find fabulous jumpers, sheepskins and other woolly goodies but also a seasonal glass of mulled wine.

Then why not stroll along to **Badger in the Wall Gallery**? The shop is undergoing an Autumn refresh, but if finished in time, it plans to have some treats in store for the festive evening.

The third stop is **The Old Manor House bar and café** where you're sure to find a festive tippie and accompanying nibbles.

And last, but certainly not least, make sure you're at **Clapham Village Store** at 6pm to enjoy our Christmas Choir. We'll also have an early Christmas present for the village's children.

Put the date in your diary – it's going to be fun!



We need your help

There's no doubt, we're lucky here in Clapham to have our fabulous shop. But, to be honest, it's not luck that makes it what it is. It's teamwork, skill and a great attitude that make it so special.

If you're reading this and think you might like to get involved, come into the shop and have a chat to find out more about some of the roles which include:

- Baking
- Organising the newspapers
- Sorting out deliveries
- Helping with date checking
- Sandwich making (we sell so many!)
- Gardening
- Helping with marketing/social media
- Building maintenance
- Becoming part of the management committee

You don't have to have the skills or experience. All you need is a happy disposition and a desire to be part of something a little bit wonderful. Come and join us!

Winter opening hours

Remember – when the clocks go back, we switch to winter weekend opening hours. So, from 2nd November our weekend opening hours will be 8.30am to 1.30pm. Weekdays we will still be open from 8am until 5.30pm.

