



Number 160, April 2026

## Nature notes

These 'Notes' begin in a slightly odd way... by repeating the last two sentences of the piece for February:

'If you contributed to the *Big Garden Birdwatch* this year, thank you. I hope you were able to record lots of different visitors. Many familiar birds are experiencing challenging times and the information that the RSPB gleans from this long-running annual survey is invaluable in monitoring what is happening.' Bear with me. I have my reasons!

The first is that the expression of gratitude is sincere and warrants repetition; the second is that it gives me a chance to share my own experience of this year's watch. It didn't start well. I thought I might get it off my to-do list on the first morning but, when I looked out of my window, I saw that the feeders were deserted and the garden was eerily quiet.

It didn't take much detective work to understand what was happening: a scan of the lawn revealed a local Sparrowhawk standing in a circle of grey feathers with a look on his face that suggested he wasn't planning on sharing his breakfast with anyone. I decided I would have to change my plans. I don't think you're meant to include deceased birds in the count and, as the victim - a Collared Dove - had clearly shuffled off its mortal coil, my garden could only boast one feathered visitor. Perhaps there would be more to see tomorrow.

There was. Which brings me to my third reason for the repetition at the start of this piece. Is it time to question providing extra food for the birds that visit our gardens?

When I did finally complete my *Big Garden Birdwatch*, I recorded no fewer than 17 different Blue Tits and 9 Great Tits. I don't have an extensive garden, so this suggests that Blue Tits and their slightly bigger cousins are thriving. Indeed, it's a fact that the UK's Blue Tit population has increased by 21% since the 1970s and it is estimated that up to fifteen million birds winter here. If you can count five of them on your feeders at any one time, it is likely that there are twenty in your garden - and some of them may have travelled a mile or more to take advantage of your generosity.

They are doing so well that some conservationists are beginning to ask at what cost. Blue Tits produce large clutches and can lay up to 16 eggs so supplementary feeding can make a significant difference to hard-working parents. Peanuts and fatballs offer an easy means of boosting their energy levels and, if they are successful in fledging most of their brood, the overall population grows at quite a pace.



He's not for sharing! Photo: Brian Christian

So much so that studies have shown that other birds are suffering as a result. Blue Tits are a dominant species - they usually end up winning fights for food and quarrels over nest sites. Willow and Marsh Tits are subordinate species and invariably lose out. One of the reasons for the decline in the numbers of Willow Tits is that 40% of their nesting attempts fail because Blue Tits steal their nesting cavities. Similarly, migrant species such as the Pied

Flycatcher lose out to the more aggressive Great Tit as they compete for the same nest sites. By tipping the balance in favour of some of our familiar garden birds we may be jeopardising the chances of many summer migrants.

When we add concerns about spreading disease into the mix, there may be an argument for taking down our bird feeders and letting nature run its course. My own view, and I think that of the RSPB, is that we don't need to take such drastic action. Just offer a variety of food, change the position of your feeders, clean them regularly, and think carefully about pausing your supplementary feeding at times when nature is providing plenty. I think I am going to cut back on the peanuts and fatballs for a little while - there should soon be lots of caterpillars for the Blue Tits!

If you have news of any interesting sightings in the area, send me an email, drop a note into 2 Eggshell Lane, or stop and chat if you see me around the village.

Photographs are welcome and I will try to use any that are sent to me. I also post news of recent local sightings here: @bcroverside28.bsky.social

Brian Christian  
(bc.riverside28@gmail.com)

## Welcome to the April newsletter

Welcome to the April newsletter. The Newsletter Committee is delighted to bring you another edition packed with local news and articles of interest.

Thank you to the Bethel chapel for sponsoring the colour printing for this edition. Thank you to all who have contributed in any way - we couldn't have done this without you!

If you would like to contribute to the June edition, read the details below and get in touch. Please note our deadline for the June edition will be **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May** due to some of our volunteers being on holiday. Thank you.

*The Newsletter Committee*

Issue dates:

February, April, June, August, October and December.

Next issue: **June 2026.**

Deadline: **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2026.**

### Articles

Articles should be around 250 words and, if possible, accompanied by a high resolution photo (at least 300 dpi). Please email your contribution to Andy and make sure your text and image files are separate attachments.

Contact Andy: [claphamnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:claphamnewsletter@gmail.com)

*NB. We reserve the right to edit copy, or to refuse to publish submissions, and the Newsletter Committee's decision on such matters is final.*



### Advertising and Sponsorship

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Contact Judith: [claphamnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:claphamnewsletter@gmail.com)

### Distribution

If the printed edition is usually delivered to your home and you haven't received a copy by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the publication month, please collect a copy from a distribution point. These are: Clapham Village Store, St. James' Church Clapham, and the porch at St. Matthew's Church Keasden.

If you can help us with distribution please get in touch.  
Contact Andy: [claphamnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:claphamnewsletter@gmail.com)

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

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# Ann Sheridan 1958-2026

Ann was the only child born to Alfred and Isabel Bousfield. They lived in Russ Street, in the hamlet of Helmington Row, on the outskirts of Crook, 10 miles west of Durham City. Ann's granddad's smallholding consisted of 4 fields, and much of Ann's early years were spent roaming the fields, climbing trees and helping to look after the animals. There were always several cows and anywhere up to 400 hens, housed in 2 enormous hen crees, sometimes a few sheep and even a pig or two.



Ann's quad bike 'skills' are legendary: reversing the trailer was not a strong point, as many a gatepost or drainage ditch would testify as they "should never have bloody well been put there".

There is no doubt the B4RN project would not have been completed in the time frame it was without her sheer determination.

For many years Ann was a staunch Tory Party activist. Sir Julian Smith, our MP, says, "Ann challenged me with rigour and very robustly throughout my time as an MP. I have

Ann was adept at collecting the eggs by putting her hand under the hen and feeling about until she found one. She frequented the kitchen garden, a ready source of strawberries, apples, pea pods and pears waiting to be picked and eaten.

She attended the local primary school, during which time her granddad acquired a small pony for her and she learnt to ride. On attaining secondary school age, she attended Walsingham Grammar School.

In 1983 Ann studied for a Bachelor's Degree in a combined course of art, politics and history. She also worked as a political aide for the Conservative Party at Consett, and went on to work at the Conservative Party headquarters in London, much to the disappointment of auntie Belle, a firm Labour supporter.

Ann studied for a Master's Degree at Manchester and went on to lecture in politics at Queen Margaret college in Edinburgh. She moved on to lecture at Luton for the Open University and it was here that she completed her book for her Doctorate: "The Relationship between Liberalism and Conservatism: Competitive, Symbiotic or Parasitic?"

George and Ann met through a mutual interest in aircraft and their history. Their first date was a blind one at Duxford Air Museum, home of the Spitfire. They married in 2000. George worked for BAE systems and Ann continued lecturing in politics. George is not sure when Ann first became interested in the world of politics, but he thinks it was before she was born.

George and Ann moved to Old Town near Kendal, then to Dovenanter in Keasden, their 'forever home'. Ann joined Clapham cum Newby Parish Council and it soon became clear that she got stuff done.

Broadband for the Rural North (B4RN) is a classic example. Ann was a true believer in the project; she knew what it had to offer our community and she gave a terrific amount to make it happen. Her direct approach to the work meant that plans which had been drawn up with great care, she left at home, and cracked on. By sheer will and force of personality, all obstacles were overcome. Quite often B4RN lead Simon Peach, council officers and even B4RN workers went to lie down in a darkened room.

Ann bought a quad bike and trailer especially for the project, to carry the broadband duct up hill and down dale.

more memories of being shouted at by Ann than any other constituent, but she did it because of a passion for her country and commitment to politics. I genuinely valued her support."

Ann loved her politics and loved a debate: as Simon Peach said, "you won't ever win an argument with Ann, but that doesn't mean you are wrong."

The recently published Neighbourhood Plan for our parish benefited from her enthusiasm, and even in declining health she joined the Parish Council meetings by Zoom in order to answer any queries regarding it.

Ann loved her Finnish Lapphunds Loki and Evi, who competed at many dog shows including Crufts.

She cared deeply about this community and those who live in it, helping neighbours in many ways, keenly supporting local family farms, often appearing at local events to take photos for church or this Newsletter.

Ann has left us too soon. She leaves with our thanks and our blessing. It matters not if you agreed with everything she said or you questioned her quad bike piloting skills. Ann brightened our community and our lives with her passion and determination.

*Christine Jackson and John Dawson*

## Keasden rainfall report



	2025	2026
<b>January</b>	174mm or 6.86"	87mm or 3.43"
<b>February</b>	61mm or 2.4"	125mm or 4.92"

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## News from Brownies and Guides



Since Christmas, it has been a busy and rewarding time for the girls at 1st Clapham & Austwick Brownies and Guides. We have been focused on progressing through the Girlguiding programme, allowing the girls to work towards badges and awards. We are delighted that several girls have already achieved Bronze and Silver Awards, and a few are now getting very close to the Gold Award.

In February, Clapham Brownies and Guides joined with 1st Settle Brownies for a special overnight event celebrating 100 years of World Thinking Day. A total of 22 girls and 3 leaders took part in the North West England Region online celebration called *A Voyage Under the Stars*.

Activities included baking cookies, a virtual campfire, relaxation techniques and renewing our Girlguiding promises. The girls also enjoyed trying Tai Chi and finished the evening with calming breathing exercises and hot chocolate before bed.

More recently the girls have begun working on a litter awareness campaign. They have been learning about the impact litter has on our environment and why it is important to recycle or take rubbish home.

One fact that surprised many of the girls was that a plastic bottle can take around 500 years to decompose if it is not recycled. The girls are now designing posters and planning ways to spread their message around the community.

Inspired by their ideas, we are also planning a Charity Tea Afternoon on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June in Clapham Village Hall to raise money for Yorkshire Cancer Research. The girls will be baking in the morning and serving guests in the afternoon, and we hope the community will come along to support them. Please save the date and look out for further details nearer the time.

To keep up to date with our activities, please follow Clapham Brownies and Guides on Facebook.

Jill Crowson  
Leader

Tel: 01729 860595

Email: [claphamandaustwickguides@hotmail.com](mailto:claphamandaustwickguides@hotmail.com)

## Craft and Chat news



L to R: Natural fibres dyed with tansy, onion and madder.

Our Craft and Chat group learnt about the natural dyeing of fabric and yarn on 5<sup>th</sup> March when local crafter Charlotte Treglown came to the hall to take us through the steps of this fascinating process. We dyed our own samples using tansy flowers, madder root and onion skins. Our second class this summer (run by the same tutor) will be about botanical printing on paper.

If you would like to know more about what we get up to in Craft and Chat or would even like to join in with one of our workshops, do come along to the hall at 2pm on any 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. All welcome!

Angie Martin

## The Choral - a privilege



I applied to be auditioned to be in *The Choral* both because Joe Judge was the Musical Director and Alan Bennett was the writer. Alan's writing has spoken to me for 50 years, starting with TV plays in the 1970s such as 'Me, I'm Afraid of Virginia Woolf' which enabled me to see that I, son of a coal miner in a village near Pontefract, could have a normal and happy life as a gay man. Soon I began to see characters who were almost recognisable in my own life in West Yorkshire, using

phraseology and ways of seeing the world with which I was very familiar - particularly from my parents' and grandparents' generations - but now started to appreciate (ever more so, as they gradually fall out of use).

But the most important thing for me in Alan's writing is the way he enables me to see how and why individuals become the way they are, with all our ignorance and insecurity, stupidity, and selfishness. Such psychological insight provides a compassionate light on human behaviour and helps me tolerate other people. Surely such an achievement makes art worthwhile.

Also, I can imagine why Nicholas Hytner and Alan Bennett have had such a long, successful, professional relationship, given what I observed as Nick's humility and kindness as Director.

Despite the physical discomfort e.g. 14-hour days starting at 5 am and constantly feeling overheated, singing in *The Choral* was one of the most enriching things I have ever done. A privilege.

Clive Spendlove

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## Church News

### John's Notes: The church cannot bless war

Based on an article by C. Andrew Doyle and Stanley Hauerwas, *The Christian Century*, 27 June, 2025



At times of war, Christians turn to prayer, and yet, too often, that prayer is quiet enough to be mistaken for approval. The church is not the chaplaincy of empire. The church is the body of Christ. The church does not serve the interests of statecraft. The church serves the kingdom of God. And as such, we do not respond to war with worry or with nationalism. We respond theologically, with clarity, compassion, and a call to speak the truth about violence and our participation in it.

The Theological Declaration of Barmen, written in 1934 to protest the Nazi-influenced German Christian movement, begins this way: "Jesus Christ, as He is attested for us in Holy

Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death." The Word has not changed. It confronts every power that seeks to take the church's allegiance from Christ, even powers that come wrapped in a flag and quoting familiar scripture.

Christianity demands more than private values or partisan identity. It requires a public witness. And in a time of war, that witness includes a refusal to allow the state to define righteousness on its terms. A Christianity that affirms the state's wars is not Christianity. It is idolatry.

War does not merely take lives; it reshapes moral communities. For Christians, formed by the Gospel of peace, the refusal to kill is not a sign of weakness but a witness. Yet war demands that we abandon this witness, that we exchange enemy-love for lethal obedience. It trains us to believe that killing can be virtuous, that moral formation must bend to national survival. In doing so, war exacts a deeper cost than death - it asks us to surrender a central claim of our discipleship. The most considerable sacrifice war demands is not the loss of life, but the loss of our reluctance to kill.

That moral break - the one that trains people to quiet their conscience, override their mercy, kill without hesitation - damages the soul. And those wounds don't stay on the battlefield. They come home with soldiers. They sit with us in the pews. They show up in stories of moral injury and spiritual fatigue. When we honour soldiers for taking life and expect silence for the toll it takes, we reinforce the lie that violence can be holy and has no individual or corporate spiritual costs. We sin against the Gospel.

So, we pray. But we pray differently. We pray as people who lament this war and the stories told to justify it. We

pray for those who have died and those who will die. We pray for soldiers, with genuine concern for their physical and spiritual health. And we pray for the church - that it would be a place where truth can be told, where wounds can be named, and where the peace of Christ is not just a word but a way of life.

This means that we, as the church, do not blame soldiers. It's quite the opposite. As one Christian body, we walk with them, we listen to them, we learn from them. We love them enough to tell the truth. We don't expect them to carry the weight of our silence. We expect the church to carry the weight of their healing.

We believe in a Gospel that does not need missiles to make it real. And we believe in a Christ who still calls his followers to love beyond borders, beyond fear, and beyond the rationalisations of empire. Christ for the world, we sing! War is a failure of imagination. The church is supposed to be an alternative. Let us live like it.

*Stanley Hauerwas is Gilbert T. Rowe Professor Emeritus of Theological Ethics and Law at Duke Divinity School and Duke Law School. C. Andrew Doyle is the bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas.*

*Revd John Davies  
Vicar;*

*Clapham with Keasden and Austwick with Eldroth  
01524 805928,*

*john.davies@leeds.anglican.org*

*Churches website: [bit.ly/churches-clapham-austwick](http://bit.ly/churches-clapham-austwick)  
Notes from a Small Vicar: <https://johndavies.org/wp/>*

### Anglican Services

Led by Revd John Davies, except where stated.

#### April

- 2 Maundy Thursday: 6.30 Eldroth Last Supper
- 3 Good Friday: 2.00 Austwick Reflections by the Cross
- 5 Easter Sunday: Holy Communion 9.30 Austwick (Revd Steve Rathbone); 9.30 Eldroth; 11.00 Clapham; 4.00 Keasden Easter Praise & Egg Hunt
- 12 Holy Communion: 9.30 Austwick; 11.00 Keasden
- 15 Wednesday: 10.30 Austwick School Easter Service
- 19 9.30 Austwick Holy Communion; 11.00 Clapham Easy Church; 6.30 Eldroth Evening Prayer
- 26 Holy Communion: 9.30 Austwick; 11.00 Clapham; 6.00 Keasden Spring Saunter

#### May

- 3 Holy Communion: 9.30 Eldroth; 11.00 Clapham; 6.30 Newby Chapel Evening Easy Church
- 10 Holy Communion: 9.30 Austwick; 11.00 Keasden
- 14 Thursday: Ascension Day 10.30 Austwick Holy Communion (replaces Wednesday service)
- 17 9.30 Austwick Holy Communion; 11.00 Clapham Easy Church; 6.30 Eldroth Evening Prayer
- 24 Pentecost Holy Communion: 9.30 Austwick; 11.00 Clapham; 7.00 Keasden Lambing Service
- 31 Benefice Holy Communion: (Revd Steve Rathbone) 10.30 Eldroth; 7.00 Church in the Pub - The New Inn, Clapham

Also, each Wednesday (unless otherwise stated)

At The Church of the Epiphany, Austwick:

10:30 Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer).

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## Church News *continued*

**Bethel Chapel, Cross Haw Lane, Clapham**  
See full information on p13.

**Catholic Church - Our Lady and St Boniface  
St. Boniface, Robin Lane, Bentham, LA2 7AB**

Usual mass times:

Sundays: 9.15am, Wednesdays & Fridays: 10am.

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

Usual mass times:

Saturdays: Vigil: 4.30pm; Sundays: 11.15am, Tuesdays &  
Thursdays: 10am.

**Parish Priest: Father Frank Smith**

Tel: 01729 822525

Email: office.ourladyandstboniface@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Website: www.ssmaryandmichael.co.uk

**Methodist Church, The Green, Newby**

Our usual services take place on:

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month - Easy Evening Church 6.30pm.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 11am, and 4<sup>th</sup> 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:

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

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

Tuesdays: 12.15-12.45pm in Settle, with soup afterwards.

Settle Quakers are hosting a photographic exhibition  
'Kehillah', by Nudrat Afza. A Muslim woman's poignant,  
elegiac record of Bradford's Jewish community.

Until 12<sup>th</sup> April 2026 c.9am-5pm. There may be 1-3 hour  
closures of one of the exhibition rooms while in use by local  
groups. All welcome.

For any further information - please go to the website:  
<https://settlequakers.org.uk>

## Keasden spring events



**Easter Praise**  
followed by  
**an Easter Egg Hunt**  
4pm Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April



**Spring Saunter**  
A short, circular walk, no stiles -  
sturdy footwear recommended  
6pm Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April



**Lambing Service**  
7pm Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May

All are very welcome to join with us at St. Matthew's Church,  
Keasden. Refreshments will be served at each event.

## Local farm in the news



Last year some of you may remember that we were hugely honoured to win the prestigious Tye Trophy, organised by the Yorkshire Agricultural Society. This was for all the conservation work we have carried out on our land in Keasden over recent years alongside running a commercial farm.

Part of winning this award involved Long Bank farm doing an article for the Farmers Guardian, which is the weekly publication for all with an agricultural interest.

Our article was in the issue that came out in March and we were very pleased with the three page article that was produced.

Not only that, but I never thought I would be on the front cover as well!

So let's hope the weather dries up a bit and lets us get on with all the spring jobs as during April, here at Long Bank, lambing will be in full swing.

*Colin Price*



## Discover Bowland 2026



**A new guide**

The Forest of Bowland National Landscape team is delighted to announce the launch of the *Discover Bowland 2026* guide. Whether you're a local uncovering new paths or a visitor experiencing Bowland's magic for the first time, the guide is packed with ideas to help you make the most of your time here.

This year's guide features brand-new Eco Escapes itineraries, encouraging people to explore the area slowly and sustainably. Linked to the Clitheroe train line, these routes promote car-free travel and invite readers to discover Bowland's hidden corners, seasonal beauty, delicious local food, and outstanding places to stay.

The 'At a Glance' Festival Bowland listings are featured once again, and this year's programme puts 14 amazing Champion Species centre stage as well as offering a year-round programme of events celebrating nature, heritage, and culture. From star-filled skies to vibrant spring wildlife and hands-on activities, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

The *Discover Bowland* guide is available from Visitor Information Centres and will soon be stocked by hospitality businesses across the Forest of Bowland National Landscape. A digital edition will also be available at [www.forestofbowland.com](http://www.forestofbowland.com). Both the free printed guide and the companion *Discover Bowland* website are packed with practical information, local stories, and inspiration to help you explore and enjoy this beautiful area. The guide is free, but donations to Champion Bowland are warmly welcomed.

*Sandra Silk*

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## The gardener's apprentice



I've long wanted to visit Clapham but never managed it before last summer. It's because of a professional and personal interest in Reginald Farrer who, as I suspect many will know, was a great plantsman with a particular interest in alpine plants. He is regarded as "the father of rock gardening" and, to this day, it is the Farrer Medal which is awarded to the "Best plant in show" by the Alpine Garden Society of which I'm a member.

After graduating from Oxford, Reginald went on plant hunting expeditions to many of the world's more remote mountainous districts – from far afield such as Japan and Korea, to nearer to home such as The Alps – in a constant search for new and unusual species.

He was also a prolific writer and his book "My Rock Garden" was, and remains, very popular. Sadly, he died aged just 40 whilst on a plant-hunting trip to Burma in 1920.

It's easy to think of Reginald as having travelled alone but he didn't. On some trips he was accompanied by another important plantsman, Clarence Elliot, but on others he did what many travelling gentlemen did at that time which was to take manservants with him. Two of his under-gardeners at Ingleborough Hall were his most frequent companions, Michael Blakey and Tom Grandison, and they combined the roles of valets, footmen, cooks, collection managers, and apprentices. Tom was also an excellent rock-climber, and his skills were used when the subjects of Reginald's attention would otherwise have been out of reach!

But this is really the tale of Michael. After Reginald's untimely death, Michael Blakey got a new position working for Lord Dacre at his house in Westmorland. Rock gardens were all the rage by now, and every fashionable stately home wanted one. Dacre was no exception and he wished to include new and unusual plants that would have to be collected from source.

Unfortunately, he had been severely injured whilst serving in France during the Great War and was unable to travel, so Michael was sent off, with an assistant, to do the job. This would be a paid holiday for the two young men like no other. They visited the extreme western Himalayan mountains, the Hindurbar Hush in what was to become Pakistan, and it was there that he made a great discovery. This was the vivid blue-and-yellow-flowered Hush Poppy, which he named *papaver dacrensis* in honour of his patron.

The plant specimens themselves didn't survive the journey home, but Michael had also collected ample numbers of seeds. These were germinated only with great effort – it was found that they had to be deeply frozen in order to develop – and became much sought after. However, like all poppies, they would freely hybridise with other species, and the true line was largely lost.

The same had happened in Pakistan, with the huge numbers of cultivated poppies in the area – grown in that area for opiates, whether legal or otherwise – leading to *dacrensis* becoming extinct in the wild.

The last captive plant, which had been kept at Kew, died in 1955 but the Hush Poppy name was subsequently purchased by an American footwear company to become the brand familiar to this day. That, dear reader, is if you want to believe any of this!

Terry Bull  
Botanical Horticulturist  
Kew Gardens

## Steam update

Winter is hopefully behind us now and the railway excursion programmes are beginning to take shape. We've had one or two steamers go past us over the past couple of months, but they have been few and far between.

We did have a brief surge with locomotives moving to and from the Keighley and Worth Valley steam gala between 19<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March. These included a rare sighting of a Great Western Railway locomotive on our line when Castle-class 4-6-0 No 5029 *Nunney Castle* passed through in the company of 34046 *Braunton*. The pair were travelling from Crewe, but their return route was via Blackburn.



Headed by diesel class 37 "Loch Awe" in Scotrail livery, the cavalcade of Great Western Castle class no. 5029 "Nunney Castle" and Southern Railway West Country class no. 34046 "Braunton" head past Lawsings Brow en-route to Keighley whilst Ingleborough stands imperious above.

We may see steam through Clapham on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April as a Carnforth-based engine is booked to haul a York to Edinburgh tour. On 24<sup>th</sup> April, 34067 *Tangmere* is booked to haul a Liverpool-Carlisle and return tour, though its path has yet to be confirmed, and by mid-May more regular trips over the Settle-Carlisle line should be underway.

We did have an important non-steamer through the station in March. One of the brand-new class 93 tri-mode high-speed freight locomotives ventured from Crewe up to Edinburgh via the Bentham Line and the Settle-Carlisle as part of its running in and crew familiarity tests. These locomotives can run off overhead cable equipment on



The first class 93 tri-mode loco to cross Ribbleshead

electrified lines, battery power for short gaps or "last mile" workings, or using their diesel engines on extended non-electrified lines. The batteries can be charged from the overhead equipment, from the diesel equipment or by regenerative braking, adding to their green credentials, and with a 100mph top speed this technology should allow freight trains to be run at close to passenger train speeds making for more efficient working. More freight off the roads and onto the tracks must be a good thing.

Andy Scott

## The wellbeing benefits of a weekly art group



Our art group has been running for over 74 years - long before “wellbeing” became a familiar concept - yet its founders clearly understood something essential: that creating art together nourishes people in ways that reach far beyond the canvas. Decades later, that spirit remains at the heart of everything we do.

Taking part in a weekly art group offers much more than a creative outlet - it's a chance to nurture your mental, emotional, and social wellbeing. Making art helps quiet the mind, ease stress, and promote relaxation through gentle focus and self-expression. Working alongside others fosters connection and belonging, easing isolation, and building supportive friendships.

Whether you're painting, drawing, or simply sharing ideas, the process brings mindfulness, confidence, and joy. Over time, these small moments of creativity build resilience, brighten mood, and add a renewed sense of purpose each week.

It's wonderful to meet with art friends and chat, but there is something truly special about the moment when a hush of concentration settles across the room. In that stillness, you can almost see the magic of art at work. Painting brings you fully into the present - no to-do lists, no checking your phone, no worries or aches tugging at your attention - just the grounding, calming interaction of paper, colour, and movement.

Of course, it's lovely to be pleased with the finished piece, but it is the act of creating itself where the wellbeing benefits truly shine.

One member, who has been very ill, described the power of painting beautifully:

*"I had a good play yesterday with inks, homemade brushes, and credit cards, and what was interesting was that I wasn't aware of any pain when I was really involved in painting!"*

*In the past I have painted when I had a really bad back and it's the power of art that takes over!*

*Isn't that amazing? I'm sure many of you will have experienced similar, and it's something to hang on to, isn't it?"*

Everyone leaves our weekly sessions with a lifted mood and a lighter heart - a wonderful way to continue the week.

And it isn't only the artists who benefit.

Our annual exhibition also supports mental wellbeing for those who come to see the work. Simply spending time looking at art - slowing down, absorbing colour, texture, imagination, and emotion - offers its own kind of calm and uplift.

Visitors often tell us they leave feeling inspired, soothed, or energised, and we love that our creativity can have that positive effect.

Our exhibition is both a celebration of our long tradition and an invitation for the wider community to share in the joy, reflection, and wellbeing that art brings.

Full details of our forthcoming May exhibition, which will be held in Clapham Village Hall, can be found in the advertisement below.

*Amanda Jones  
On behalf of  
Clapham Art Group*

### CLAPHAM ART GROUP EXHIBITION 2026



OPEN DAILY  
SATURDAY 23RD MAY  
TO  
WEDNESDAY 27TH MAY  
10 TO 5



PREVIEW  
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## Bethel Chapel celebrates 50 years - Then and Now



This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the building and opening of the Bethel Chapel in 1976. The fellowship, however, began in the early 1970s, when a number of families, predominantly from the Keasden area, began meeting for Sunday services in Clapham village hall.

In 1975 a plot of land on Cross Haw Lane was purchased from the Ingleborough Estate, and the building of the chapel began. Although a builder oversaw the project, the majority of the work and labour was done voluntarily by members of the fellowship, many of them being farmers, who worked at the site as and when farm work allowed.

The building work therefore progressed steadily over a period of 18 months, with professionals such as electricians, plumbers etc. being brought in towards the finish. With labour costs kept to a minimum, the project cost in the region of £20,000.

The first picture shows the work in progress, with some of the workers, from left to right, Allan Whitaker, William Fawcett, Brian Close, Ernest Townley, Ted Fawcett, and Joseph Ellershaw.

Note the absence of fluorescent jackets, hard hats, and scaffolding. Health and Safety was to be a thing of the future!

The opening was held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December 1976 and services followed on the Sunday and each evening for the following week.

The up-to-date photograph now shows, at left, the corner of Chapel House, which was added in the 1980s and, to the right, the gable end of the extension, built in 2005/6, to provide disabled access and new toilets.

Again, much of the building and labour was done by members of the chapel.

Today, the chapel is well used, for in addition to our Sunday worship and Bible studies, there are regular get togethers for babies, toddlers and their carers, youth clubs for primary and secondary school children, afternoon meetings, and coffee mornings.

During this year, many events are planned to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, including the May bank holiday (4<sup>th</sup> May) Open Day when there will be exhibitions of the chapel through the years, as well as light refreshments available throughout the day.

All are welcome.

*Alan Woodhouse*

## Bethel Chapel services and activities

Bethel chapel, Cross Haw Lane, Clapham LA2 8DZ



Sunday services at 11am and 6.30pm  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, Youth service at 6.30pm

Thursday Friends - 2<sup>nd</sup> April and 7<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm

Clapham Tots - Fridays at 9.30am

Easter Special Storytime - Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April at 10am

Children's Clubs - kmotion 6pm & Encounter 7.30pm alternate Fridays

Coffee, Cake, Chat & Jigsaws, Kids Crafts plus Food bank drop off at 10.30am Saturdays 18<sup>th</sup> April and 16<sup>th</sup> May.

Real Lives evening on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm with Piyush Jani, a surgeon from Addenbrookes Hospital.



May Open Day - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 10am - celebrating 50 years of Bethel chapel.

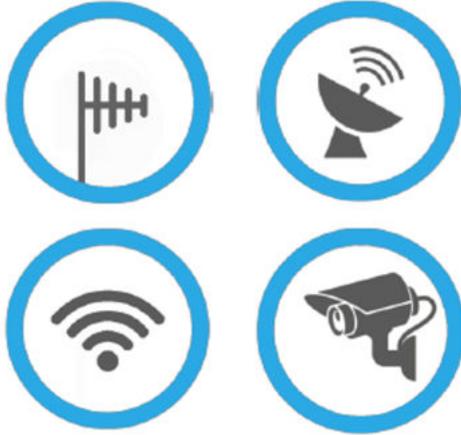
Christianity Explored course - if you would like to know more contact Matthew Fawcett - 07939 159808.

For further details and information go to our Facebook page or visit our website:

[www.bethelchapelclapham.org](http://www.bethelchapelclapham.org)

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## Settle Orchestra

Settle Orchestra brings its 2026 concert season to a sparkling close this June with a vibrant programme celebrating French elegance and classical vitality. Under the baton of conductor **Andre Chan**, the orchestra presents an afternoon of colour, charm and wit, performed in two beautiful Yorkshire venues: **Christ Church, Skipton** on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 3.30pm and **Settle Parish Church** on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 3.30pm.

The programme opens with Claude Debussy's *Sarabande*, heard in the luminous orchestral arrangement by Maurice Ravel. Originally written for piano, the work unfolds with quiet dignity and impressionistic beauty, its gentle harmonies and subtle colours setting a reflective tone for the afternoon. From French impressionism, the orchestra turns to classical exuberance with **Mozart's Symphony No. 31 in D major, "Paris."** Written during Mozart's time in the French capital, the symphony brims with energy, elegance, and theatrical flair. Its bold opening, graceful slow movement and dazzling finale capture the excitement of an 18th-century Parisian audience.

The second half returns to the refined world of French orchestral music. Ravel's beloved *Pavane Pour Une Infante Défunte* offers a moment of poised nostalgia, its flowing melodies and delicate orchestration evoking the grace of a distant courtly past. To conclude the season, Francis Poulenc's lively *Sinfonietta* bursts onto the stage with playful rhythms, bright orchestral colour, and irresistible charm. Written in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, the work perfectly balances wit and sophistication, providing a jubilant finale to the orchestra's summer programme.

With music that ranges from shimmering impressionism to sparkling classical brilliance, this final concert of the 2026 season with Andre Chan promises a joyful and uplifting celebration of orchestral colour to round off the season in style.

For more information visit:  
<https://www.settleorchestra.org.uk/>

Jill Gates

## Clapham litter pickers

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2026, 10.00 - 11.00  
Meet outside Glencroft



Spring is here and, unfortunately, so is a fair bit of litter!

Please come and join us for what is always a thoroughly satisfying and amusing hour of ridding the village of any litter.

Litter breeds litter so if we get on top of it, we can make a better environment for us all.

I will have spare litter pickers and bags but do bring your own if you have them. If you can only do 20 minutes or half an hour that is great.

All ages welcome! Look forward to seeing you.

Maria Farrer

## Spring entertainment

Spring brings 'Eyes Down' and 'Crumbs' to Clapham, our double-bill of comedy, chaos, bingo, murder and live baking.

Purchase tickets for both shows and you'll pay only £10 for Crumbs.

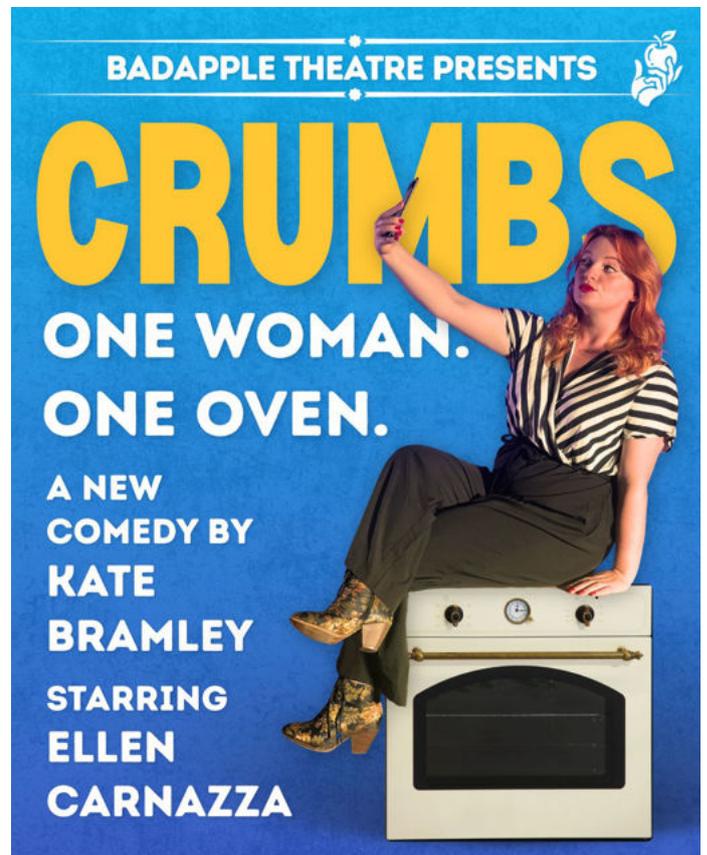
Tickets for both are available in the shop now – cash only please – and don't leave it too late or you'll risk missing out!

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April



"Bertie Bingo is ready to host an evening of dabbers, droopy drawers and death...tension mounts, whose number is up? Who will win Bertie's Big Box of Bon Bons? 3 games of bingo and prizes!

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April



"Ex-baking star Petronella Parfait is out of a job and out her depth....can she keep the lights and the oven on as her come-back show descends into delicious disaster? Expect big laughs, bold flavours and a tasty treat for the audience at the end".

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# Ahoy Shipmates!

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## THE SCRIM SHANKERS

An evening of rousing sea shanties and sailor's songs from the briny oceans

Clapham-cum-Newby Village Hall

7pm, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May

Tickets: £12.50

Available from Clapham Village Store

(from 16<sup>th</sup> April, cash-only please)

Price includes Jack Tar's supper (with veggie alternative)



## Austwick School



### Happy news and great views

In February, Beth McHardy was appointed as full-time headteacher of Austwick Primary School. During her time as interim headteacher, the Local Authority, Diocese and governors were very impressed by her inspirational and dedicated leadership, and her appointment has been warmly welcomed by all.

Mrs. McHardy and her exceptional staff team are taking the school from strength to strength. This academic year the school has welcomed more new children than for many years. Enabling children to flourish, both personally and academically, is always a priority and the school's strengths have been recognised by OFSTED and praised by advisers from the local authority. One adviser commented, "I wish I could have made a video of the children talking about how to keep themselves safe. It was amazing."

School life is about so much more than academic learning and is greatly enhanced by the opportunities that our beautiful surroundings provide. This is never more evident than in springtime! Forest school, running club, balance-bike sessions and opportunities to explore further afield are all better with a bit of sunshine! Chess club, Spanish, and choir are also on the menu and there are always plans and projects afoot!

Austwick School welcomes the support of the wider community and the chance to contribute to community events. Mrs. McHardy says, "Working together is the best way to ensure our children thrive, feel valued and enjoy every opportunity to learn, grow and achieve their best."

Find out more at <https://www.austwickprimary.co.uk/> or follow us on Facebook to see what we are up to!

Maria Farrer

Come join us for our new community group initiative....

## COFFEE & CHAT

And company and conversation and, of course, cakes!



All welcome! Just drop in if you fancy it!

Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month, from 10.30am, at Paul's Pedals

First session will be on Thursday April 16th



Next edition: June 2026  
Deadline: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May



Lake District Mobile Sharpening

# KingSharp

This excellent service will be in Clapham village, beside the beck, opposite the Cave Rescue Organisation on:

**Wednesday April 8<sup>th</sup> 2026**

**10am – 12 noon**

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Stuart Fogden does all the work on board his specially equipped van. Please label your items with your surname and a contact number or attach a distinct coloured tape to avoid confusion when collecting and paying. Cash OK, or there is a card-reader on board.

See [www.kingsharp.co.uk](http://www.kingsharp.co.uk) for more information and prices

If you know that you might have difficulty collecting your sharpened items before 12 noon, speak to Stuart on arrival and he will advise.



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## Parish Council news



The Parish Council met on the evening of **18<sup>th</sup> February 2026** and were joined by Cllr David Ireton, North Yorkshire Council (NYC), the Sustainability Group representative and four members of the public.

The **Police** report identified four incidents between 20<sup>th</sup> January and 16<sup>th</sup> February. These included:

- manner of driving,
- collision with sheep on the A65,
- concern for welfare (homeless man in a tent on Newby Moor), and
- a deceased sheep on the A65.

The **Sustainability Group** representative advised the Council of the following:

- Curlew Cluster – the seasonal worker will be employed from 7<sup>th</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> July.
- Wildlife Corridors – researching what could be done to link the North and South sides of the A65; and
- NYC are updating the Warm Home Plan to look at households with income below £36,000 and properties with EPC of Band D or lower.

Following the Clerk's resignation the Council resolved to advertise the post in the local village newsletters, see adjacent notice. Should anyone require additional details about the role, please contact the current Clerk (see below) who will be happy to provide any further information.

With regard to Newby streetlights - additional representations had been received by the Clerk following the mention in the last newsletter and further discussions were held about this matter. A quotation to upgrade the lights to part-night, LED down-lighters has been received and the Clerk is now looking at potential grant funding available to meet the costs prior to a final decision being made regarding the future of the lights.

Fly tipping appears to be occurring more often. Items dumped at the end of the cycle path along the A65 had been removed only for a television to be dumped in the same place two days later.

This has been reported to NYC (along with further dumping on Newby Moor). All residents are able to report any fly-tipping observed by posting a "What 3 Words" location and a photograph via:

<https://bit.ly/CravenFlyTipping>

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

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be: **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May** and **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June**.

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

Tel: 015242 51862 or

Email: [clerk@claphamcumnewby-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@claphamcumnewby-pc.gov.uk)

### Clapham Cum Newby Parish Council Vacancy for Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

20 hours per calendar month - £14.59 per hour  
Mainly working from home

Duties include preparing agenda, meeting minutes, correspondence, managing accounts, budgets etc

Skills needed include excellent communication skills, must be IT literate, and ability to work on own initiative. A laptop for Council work will be provided. Previous relevant experience would be an advantage. Training will be provided.

Full details of this vacancy may be found at:  
<https://bit.ly/ClaphamClerkJob>

Applications: covering letter and CV to the current Clerk and RFO: Steven Culver.

**By post:** Barnstead, Newby, Clapham, LA2 8HR

**By email:** [clerk@claphamcumnewby-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@claphamcumnewby-pc.gov.uk)

**Closing date: 9.00am Monday 18 May 2026**  
**Interview date: evening of Thursday 28 May 2026**  
**Job to commence: 1 July 2026**

## Settle Home Library Service

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We deliver books and audio books to people who find it difficult to get to the library, or to carry books themselves. Sometimes this is on a temporary basis but mainly it's a permanent arrangement.

Some customers give us lists of authors and genres that interest them, others which specific books they'd like, and others order online from North Yorkshire Council.

Every fortnight, or less frequently if preferred, you're able to have up to six books delivered to you.

We thoroughly enjoy choosing books for our customers, over time building up a good understanding of their tastes.

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\* The 01609 code is used by all libraries in North Yorkshire, but it will get you straight through to Settle Library





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## CLAPHAM LECTURE GROUP

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7pm, Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May - Clapham Village Hall

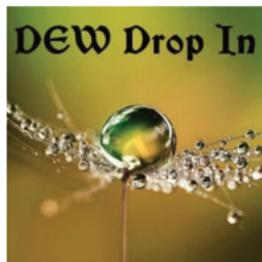
Including plans for our 2026 Field Trip to the Tan Hill Inn

To be followed by a short talk

**“An Introduction to Heraldry”**



Refreshments provided



**Wednesday  
6<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm,  
Village Hall**

### The end of the telephone landline – an update

A final date has now been announced for the country-wide decommissioning of BT's old “analogue” telephone service. The service will end in January 2027 by which time everyone will have had to move their landlines to “digital” connections using VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol).

This session picks up on one held in 2024 and explains the options for those who still need to make the switch, with some feedback from those who have already done so.

We'll be joined by representatives from B4RN who will be able to demonstrate their offering and compare it to what is being proposed by BT/EE, as well as answering any questions.

Refreshments provided –  
£3 donation please to cover costs.

## Recipe request

One of our readers has asked if we can include a seasonal recipe from time to time. We have found a cook book, ‘Clapham Cooks’, produced by Nicola Saward in 2012 on behalf of St. James’ Church and we have chosen a recipe for brownies ... just in time for Easter.



### Brownies

175g butter, softened, plus extra for greasing  
85g self raising flour, plus extra for dusting  
100g dark chocolate  
75g milk chocolate  
1 tsp instant coffee  
3 large eggs  
250g caster sugar  
½ tsp vanilla essence  
50g chopped walnuts (optional)

Preheat the oven to 150°C, gas mark 2.

Butter a 20cm x 20cm square tin and dust with flour, shaking out the excess.

Place the butter, chocolate and instant coffee in a mixing bowl and melt together in the microwave.

In a large mixing bowl beat the eggs and caster sugar with an electric hand whisk until pale and creamy, and then stir in the vanilla essence.

Stir the chocolate, butter and coffee mixture into the eggs and sugar mixture mixing well.

Sift in the flour and gently fold into the cake batter and add the walnuts if using.

Pour the mixture into the cake tin and bake in the oven for 20 to 25 minutes.

The outside should be firm and the centre soft.



Next edition: June 2026  
Deadline: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May

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## Village hall news



It was lovely to use our projection equipment for the first time when we screened our first film, 'The Choral', on 14<sup>th</sup> March. Tickets were in the village shop a month before the event but were sold out within two weeks, which just shows how popular this film has been within our community. Our thanks go to Clive Spendlove, who introduced this heartfelt film and gave us an insight into the work that went on behind the scenes, having spent many an hour on the set when it was filmed in the very familiar setting of Saltaire. The evening went very well as we all sat back to watch how the story unfolded.

It was sufficiently encouraging for us to consider setting up a new Clapham Film Group and, if you'd be interested in helping or getting involved with this, then please get in touch either through the village hall email or have a word with one of our committee members.

We have yet to decide on which film to show next – possibly in May/June - but we are aiming to show more new releases, so ideas would be greatly appreciated.

The projection equipment is not just for the sole use of showing films. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the projection equipment and wish to use it for other purposes, please get in touch with Andy Scott, who will be able to take you through the process. We have noticed on several occasions that the projector has been left turned on in the hall, and the screen left down, after hire sessions so can we encourage users to turn everything off fully when they have finished. We are very conscious that we need to take the utmost care in looking after our new equipment.

Some of you may have noticed that we are in the process of putting up two large, framed pictures in the main hall. These were done by local schoolchildren as part of the Curlew Project coordinated by the RSPB and have been exhibited at several venues in the Dales. Clapham Sustainability Group have managed to arrange for our hall to be their "final nesting place"!

Finally, on the subject of pictures, can I please remind our user groups to submit a photograph of their activities to the hall email address given below so that it can be included in our montage for our centenary year. Many thanks to those who have already done so. We aim to unveil the permanent display at the end of the year.

*Angie Martin*  
Hall Secretary  
[claphamcumnewbyvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:claphamcumnewbyvillagehall@gmail.com)

## Village hall regular events

### Indoor Bowls

Mondays 1.30pm to 4pm – restarts in October  
David & Jackie Kingsley  
07711 730819

### Clapham & Austwick Guides & Brownies

Mondays 6pm to 7pm  
Jill Crowson  
01729 860595  
[claphamandaustwickguides@hotmail.com](mailto:claphamandaustwickguides@hotmail.com)

### Age UK

Wednesdays 10.30am (1<sup>st</sup> Wed of month)  
Judith Holt  
015242 51817  
[jmh061@btinternet.com](mailto:jmh061@btinternet.com)

### Clapham DEW Drop-In

Digital Equipment Workshop PC support group  
1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays (Mar, May, Sept, Nov) at 7pm  
Andy Scott  
015242 51749  
[claphamdewdropin@gmail.com](mailto:claphamdewdropin@gmail.com)

### Clapham cum Newby Parish Council

Usually, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of month at 7.30pm  
Steve Culver  
015242 51862  
[clerk@claphamcumnewby-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@claphamcumnewby-pc.gov.uk)

### Tai Chi

Thursdays 9am to 10.30am  
Tony Bennet  
[taichiqigongteacher@gmail.com](mailto:taichiqigongteacher@gmail.com)

### Craft & Chat

Thursdays 2pm to 4pm (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs of month)  
Angie Martin  
015242 51749  
[angiemaxmartin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:angiemaxmartin@yahoo.co.uk)

### Reconnect to Nature

Selected Thursdays 7pm  
\*\* Booking essential \*\*  
Rosie Johnson  
[healingpathofthedragonfly@gmail.com](mailto:healingpathofthedragonfly@gmail.com)

### Board Games Group

Fortnightly on Fridays 2pm - 5pm,  
see Hall website calendar or call Jackie Kingsley  
015242 51240  
[jackieanddavid@yahoo.com](mailto:jackieanddavid@yahoo.com)

### Cuban Salsa Dancing

Fridays 7pm  
Anne Lawler  
07990 633465  
[a.lawler@sky.com](mailto: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](http://claphamcumnewbyvillagehall.org.uk)

## Support our Nepal trip - car wash fundraiser and more!



We are a group of seventeen students from Settle College who are excited to be working with Projects Abroad to volunteer at a school in Kathmandu, Nepal, this July. As part of the project, we are fundraising and working together to fully embrace the spirit and ethos of this incredible opportunity.

The schools we will be helping do not have access to the resources and support that we are fortunate enough to benefit from. We will have the opportunity to improve these conditions and even teach English to some of the students, which unlocks a whole new skill set for those we will work with and for us.

While in Nepal, we will also go on a three-day trek through the mountains, walking around sixteen miles per day. There will also be time for us to take a step back and spend time in Kathmandu and some of the surrounding area. Exploring this wonderful city will be undoubtedly beneficial for all of us and an extremely eye-opening experience.

We have currently raised over **£8,000** from a variety of different fundraising activities! These activities range from multiple stalls and raffles selling food and handmade gifts to organising a local bingo night, holding a film screening at our local primary school, and a fancy-dress sponsored walk.

One big event we are involved in is collaborating with one of our teachers here at Settle College: Mr Boatwright. On **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026**, Sam Boatwright will ride for **24 hours consecutively** on his Concept 2 bike, aiming to beat the current world record of 605km.

### How you can help:

- Come and ride with him for just **£5 per hour**.
- Immerse yourself in an exciting experience, meeting new people while cycling alongside him.
- The event runs from **8am on 16<sup>th</sup> May until 8am on 17<sup>th</sup> May**.
- There will be a raffle, food and snacks provided by Brown Bag Sports Café.
- Choose any time of the day to join in and ride for as many hours as you like.

**Book your slot:** Scan the QR code or use this link to our ticket shop:



<https://bit.ly/Settle24HourRecord>

**Or you can donate via our fundraising page:**  
<https://bit.ly/SettleCollegeNepal>

*Claire Bibby  
 Headteacher's PA  
 Settle College*

### Car Wash Fundraiser – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April

At Bibby's Yard in Ingleton from 10am to 4pm

What we're offering:

- Car wash for £10 per vehicle
- Complimentary tea or coffee (a 'brew and a loo'!)
- Toilet facilities available
- Homemade cakes for sale

Most of our Nepal team will be on hand throughout the day, so if you're curious about the trip - come along, ask questions, and show your support.

We hope to see you there!

## Do you fancy having a go at archery?

North Yorkshire Bowmen, an archery group who meet every week in Settle at the Drill Hall, and in a wood near Rathmell in summer, award two trophies.

The smaller trophy, shown on the right of our picture, is presented to the 'Archer of the Month' - the winner of the monthly handicap.

The larger trophy, shown on the left of our picture, is presented to the 'Archer of the Year' and is awarded for frequent and consistent high scores.

The 'Archer of the Year' trophy commemorates Wyn Roberts, who many in Clapham will have known and who sadly died a year ago. Wyn was a lifelong archer who had won national competitions and, with his partner, led the club.

Recently, I was fortunate to be awarded both trophies.

If you would like to give archery a try - we welcome all ages, but youngsters must be accompanied by an adult. If interested, please contact Cherry Flitcroft on 07969 984182.

*John Elphinstone*

